



Irish Farmers Journal - Poll

February 2011



Job No: 03911



Methodology

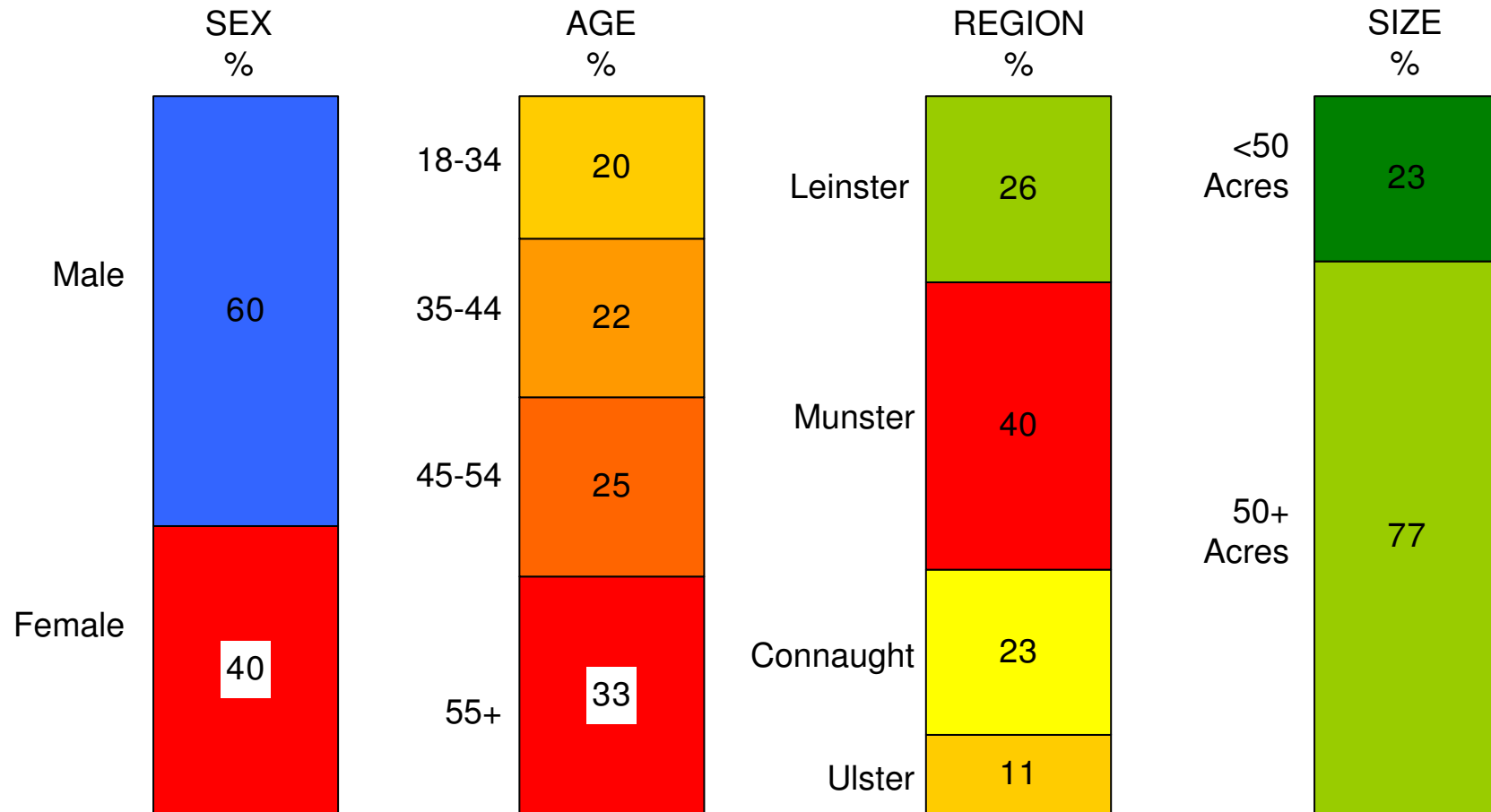
RED C interviewed a random sample of 507 IFA members aged 18+ by telephone between the 9th and 12th February 2008.

Interviews were conducted across the country and the results weighted to the profile of all Farmers.

The sample provides for a sample error of + or – 4.5%.

Profile of Sample

(Base: All Farmers aged 18+)



(Q AOS)



Poll Summary - I

1. Fine Gael secure by far the largest share of the first preference vote among the farming community in Ireland, with 60% some way ahead of the national share.
2. Despite being seen as generally having had a poor time in Government, Fianna Fail secure the next highest share with 19% first preference.
3. Independent candidates secure 10% share of first preference, just behind the share they have been obtaining nationally among all adults.
4. Labour are some way behind the share they achieve among the total population, with the party securing just 5% of the first preference vote – a poor return on the 20% they are reaching in the national polls among the population as a whole.
5. Sinn Fein also secure 5% share again a little behind their share among all adults, while the Green party secure less than 1% share.
6. Enda Kenny and Micheal Martin get equal support as the best choice for Taoiseach, putting party preference aside, suggesting Kenny still has work to do to persuade the farming community of his credentials, when compared to party support. Eamonn Gilmore receives support from just 11% of the farming community.
7. Despite overwhelming support for Fine Gael in the poll, it is interesting to note that the preference among the farming community is for a coalition of Fine Gale and Labour, with only 15% supporting at the time what looked like a Fine Gael minority.

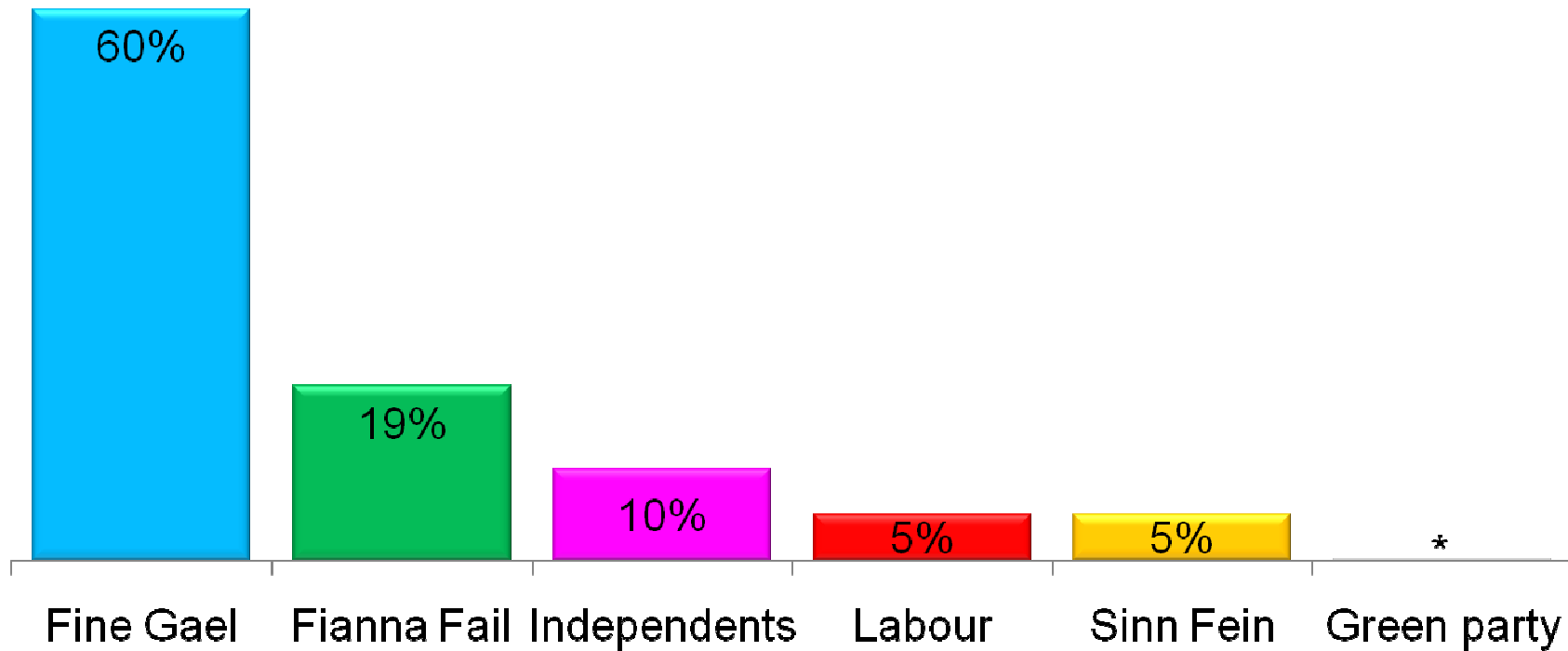


Poll Summary - II

8. Likewise most of the community see a coalition between Fine Gael and one of either Labour or Fianna Fail as being the government they would trust most to look after agriculture.
9. Simon Coveney is seen as the best candidate for the next Minister of Agriculture of those suggested in the poll, followed by Jimmy Denihan and Denis Naughton.
10. While the Green party is voted as having performed very poorly in Government, the current Minister for Agriculture, Brendan Smith performs better, with 21% giving him a score of 7 or more out of 10.
11. Control of government spending and reduced taxation is mentioned by the most people (34%) as the action that would have the biggest impact on farming, followed by the abolition of milk quotas (24%) and the re-coupling of payments for suckler cows (22%)

Voting Intentions – 1st Preference

(Base: All Farmers Likely To Vote – 507)



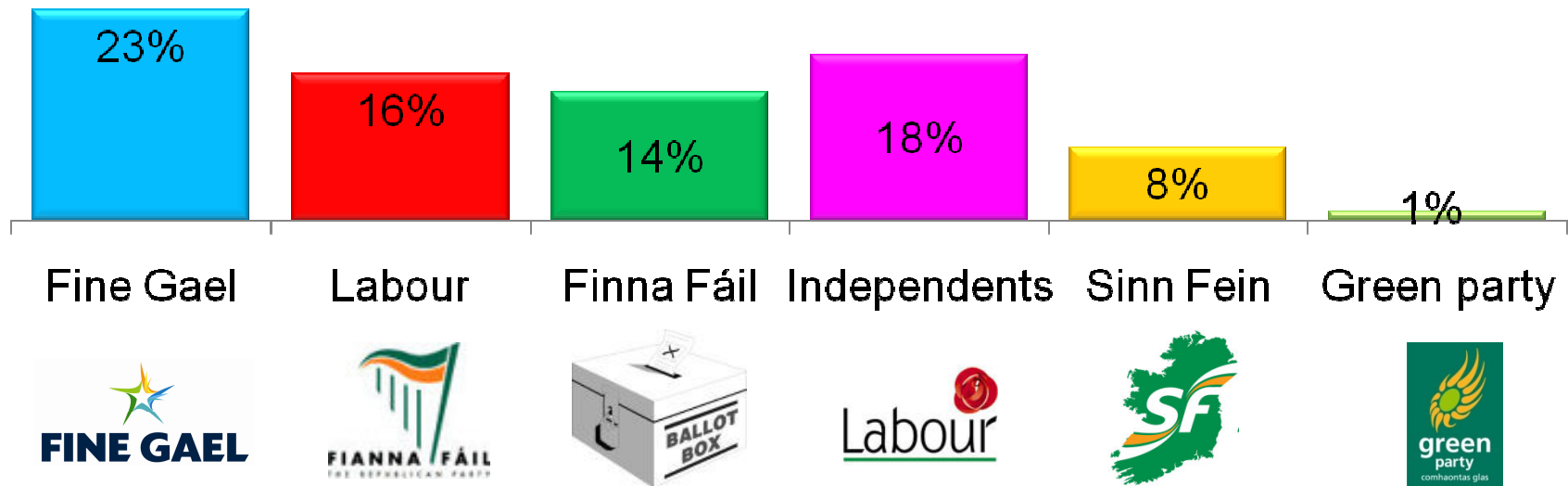
(Q No)

Voting Intentions – 2nd Preference

(Base: All Farmers Likely To Vote – 507)



14% No 2nd Preference

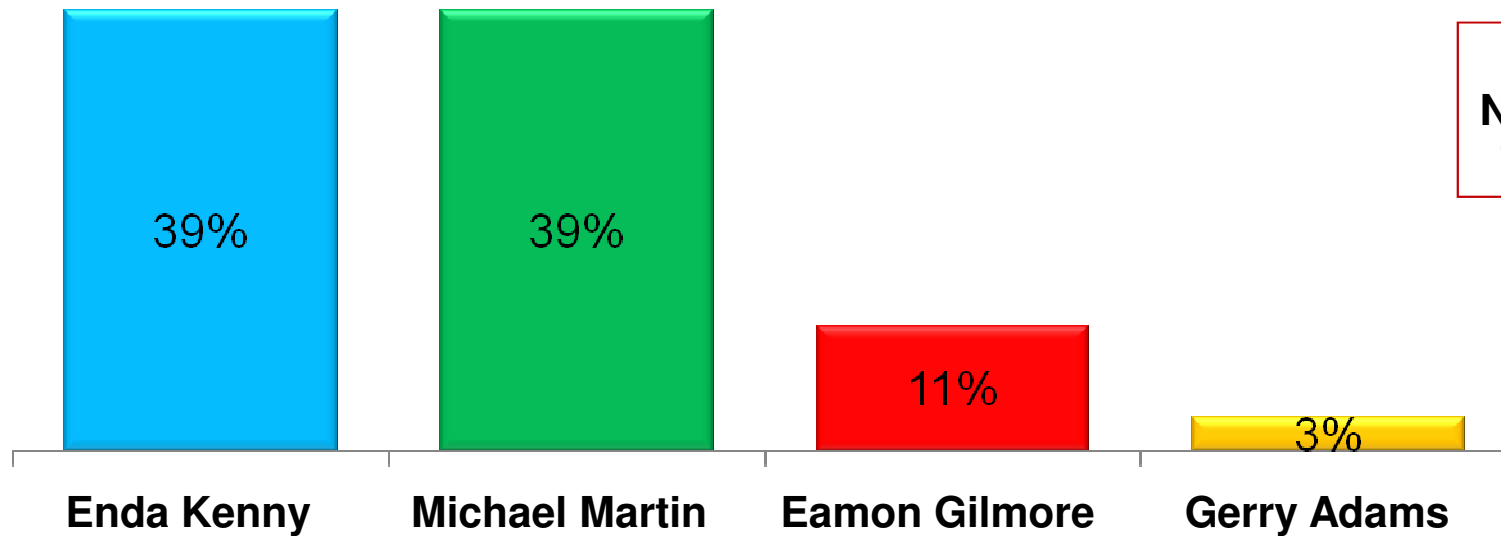


(Q No)

Best Taoiseach

Q. Irrespective of which party you support, which of the main party leaders do you believe would make the best Taoiseach for Ireland after the next general election?

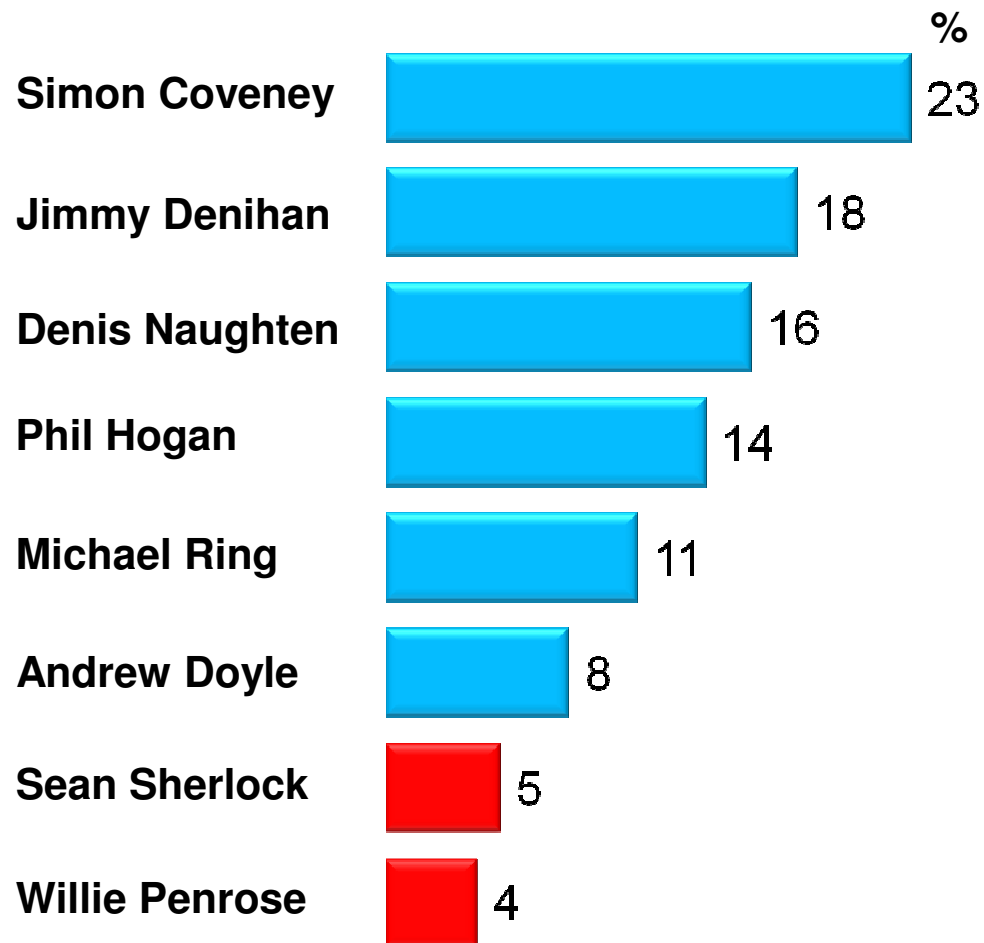
(Base: All Farmers Likely To Vote – 507)



(Q 4)

Best Minister For Agriculture

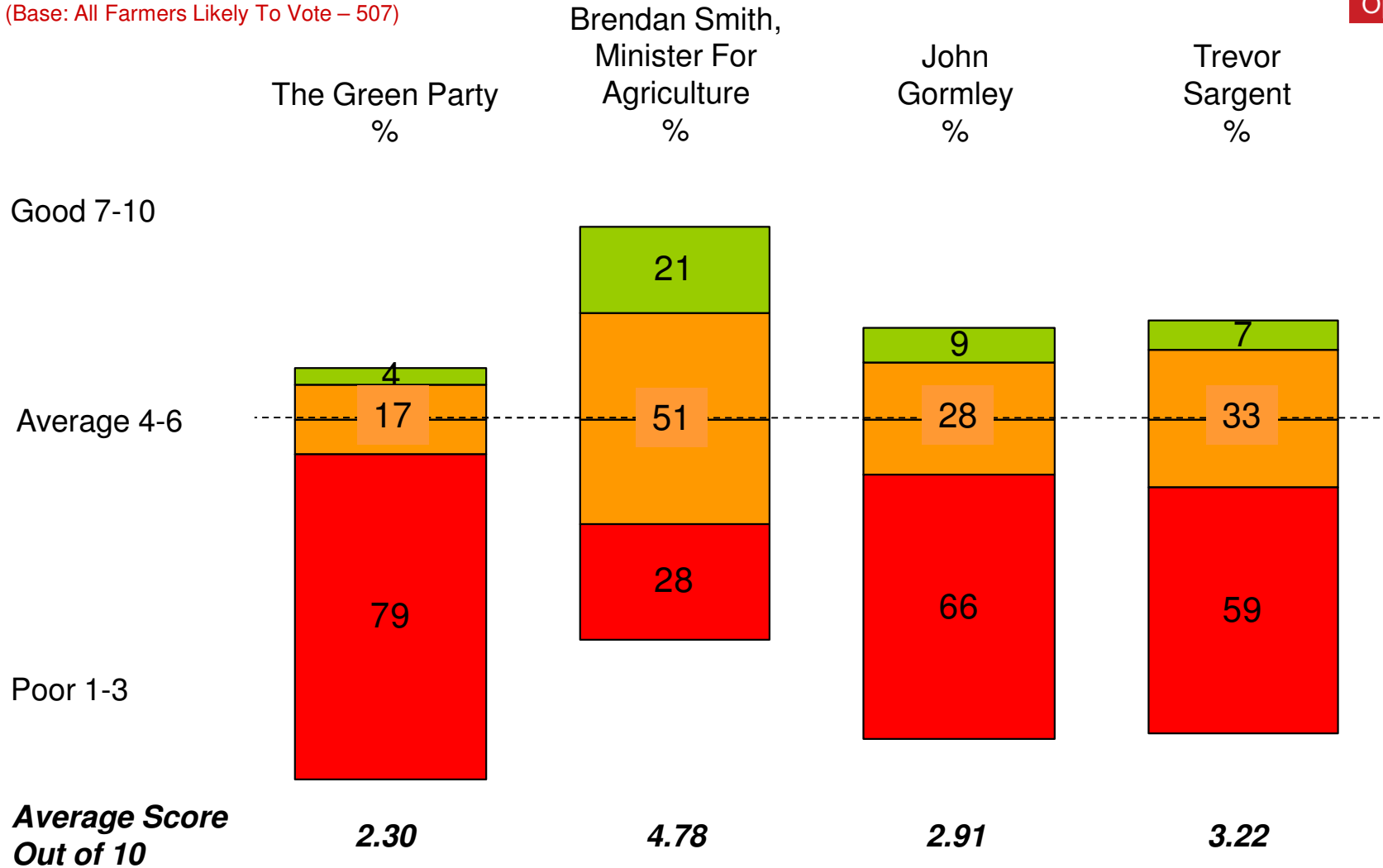
(Base: All Farmers Likely To Vote – 507)



Performance In Government

Now I would like you to rate the performance in government of each of the following, on 10 point scale where 1 in very poor and 10 is Excellent ?

(Base: All Farmers Likely To Vote – 507)

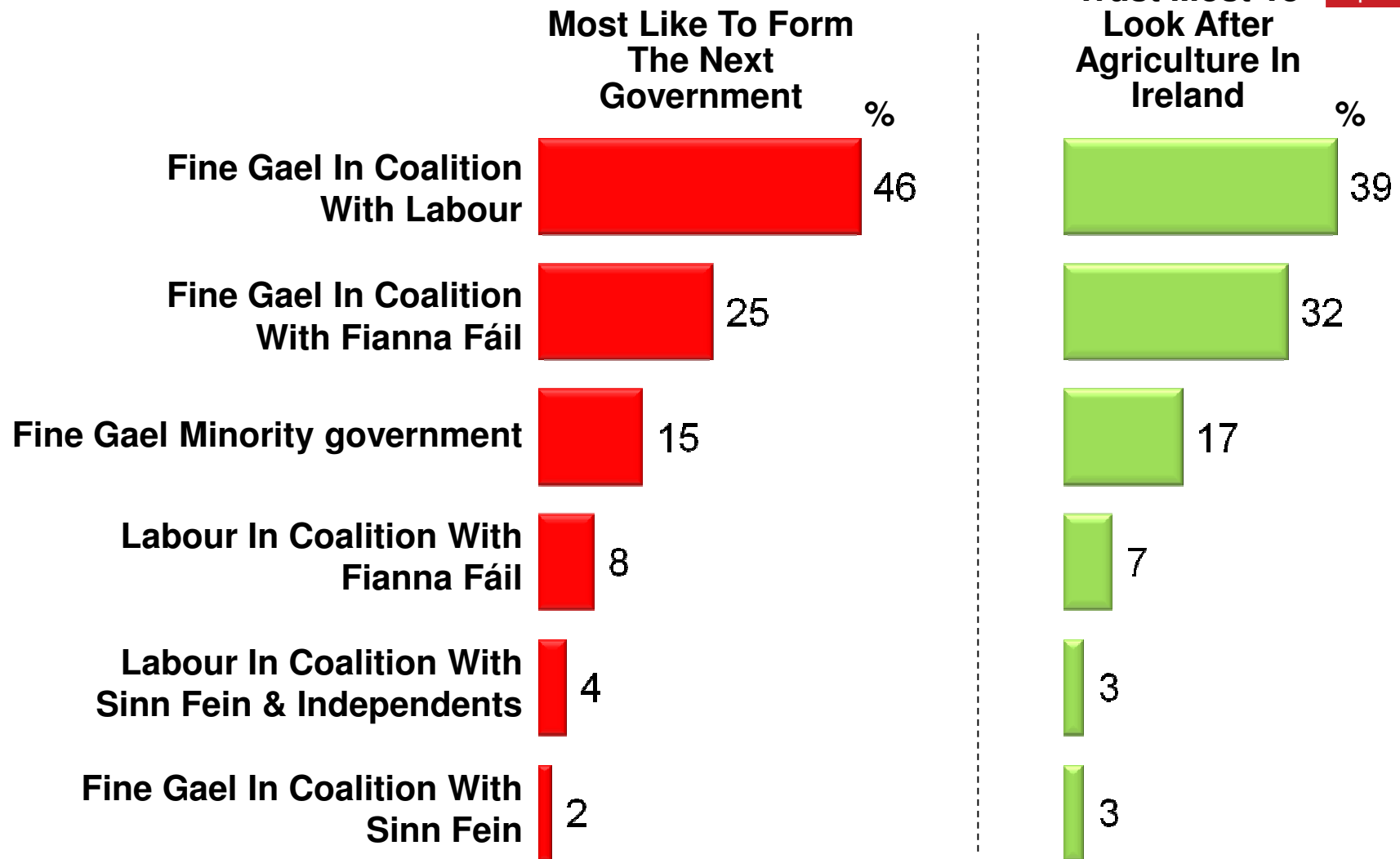


(Q 6)

(10)

Which Coalition Would You.....

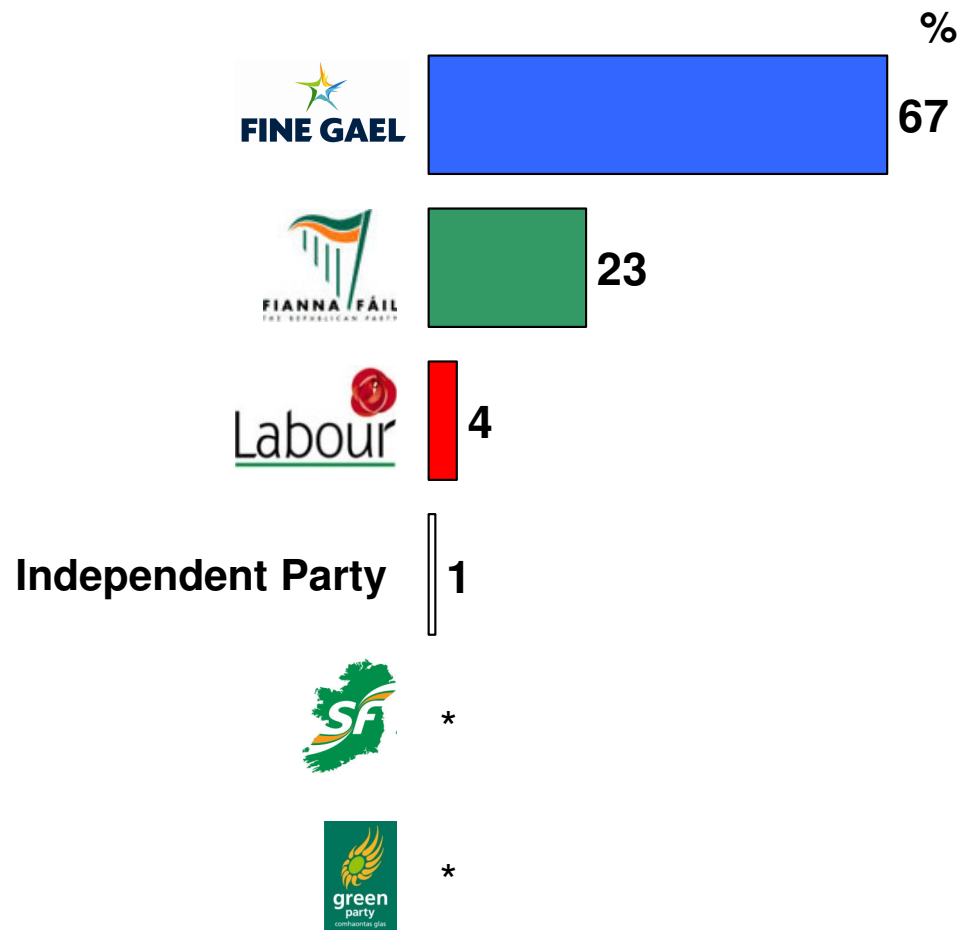
(Base: All Farmers Likely To Vote – 507)



(Q No)

Party Which Will Best Represent Interests Of Irish Farmers In Europe

(Base: All Farmers Likely To Vote – 507)

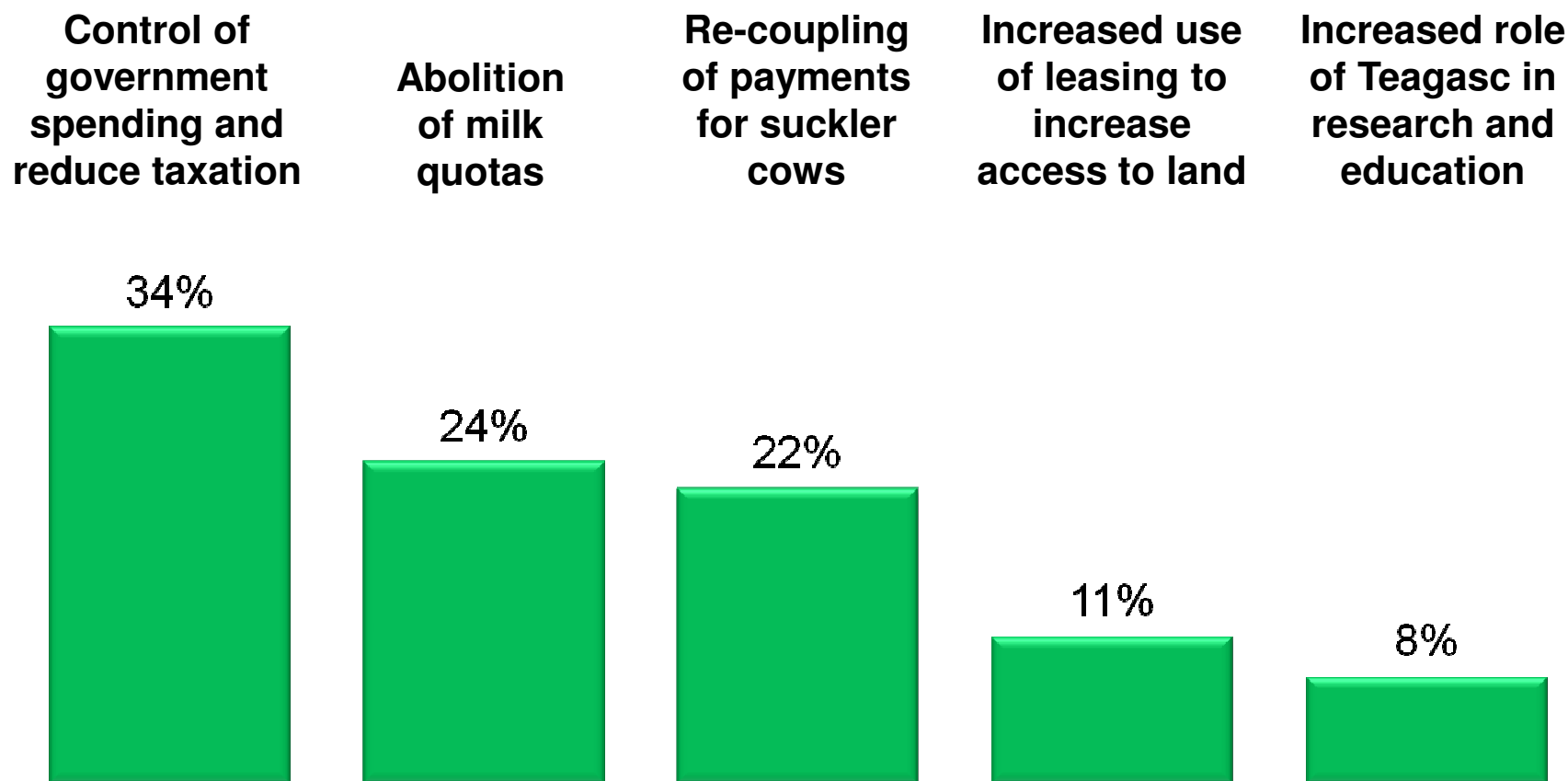


(Q 8)

Policy Initiative With Greatest Impact On Agriculture

Which of the following policy initiative over the next five years do you feel would have the greatest impact on Irish Agriculture?

(Base: All Farmers Likely To Vote – 507)



(Q 9)