



Growing Up in Ireland Policy-Maker Workshop

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Fás Aníos in Éirinn
Growing Up in Ireland

Housekeeping....

- Workshop will be 1hr long
- Q+A at end of each subsection
 - Please stay on mute at all other times
 - Technical issues:
eoin.mcnamara@equality.gov.ie
- Please complete short survey afterwards

Workshop Structure

1) Introduction to *Growing Up in Ireland*

- Study background
- Sample design
- Study design

2) Online resources

- Publications and technical documents

3) Intro to AMF Tables

- How to read tables
- What next?

1) Introduction to *Growing Up in Ireland*

- **Study Background**
- Sample Design
- Study Design

Examples of Topics in Research Using *GUI*

Trinity College

Digital media, screen time & mental health
Ethnicity & breastfeeding rates
Chronic illness and educational failure
Folic acid & cleft palate in infants

UCC

Individual, family and environmental effects
physical activity
Childhood obesity and the local food environment

NCI

home learning environments and disadvantage

Maynooth University

Children & grandparents
Effects of school age childcare on outcomes

Treoir

Unmarried and solo parent experiences

HEA/Trinity gambling and participation in sport over time

Mary I Limerick

Home learning environment and cognitive development
Gender and attitudes to maths
Determinants of active commuting to school

NUIG

Overweight, obesity and health
Socioeconomic profile of childhood disability

Dental Hospital, Trinity

Dental problems across GUI waves

ESRI

Attitudes to the Irish language
Ante natal care pathways
Access to GP services and GP fees
Energy poverty and child health
Primary to post primary transitions

DCU

Parent book reading at 9 months and vocabulary development at 3

History of the Study

- ***Growing Up in Ireland (GUI)*** is the national longitudinal study of children
- Established by the Irish Government in 2006
- Funded by the Department of Children, Equality, Disability Integration and Youth (DCEDIY)
- Initially carried out by a consortium of researchers led by the Economic and Social Research Institute (ESRI) and Trinity College Dublin – data archived by the CSO
- Now managed and overseen by DCEDIY, in association with the Central Statistics Office (CSO), as of 2023

Objectives of *GUI*

- to provide evidence for the creation of effective and responsive policies and services for children and families
- to study the lives of children/young people in Ireland
- to establish what is typical/normal, as well as what is atypical/problematic
- to identify the key factors that most help or hinder children's development

GUI design

- *Growing Up in Ireland* is a longitudinal study that conducts surveys with young people and their families at different ages
- It utilises a “fixed panel” design that tracks the same children with no additions in between waves (e.g., excludes recent immigrants)
- *GUI* was originally a dual cohort study (Cohort '98 and Cohort '08)
 - New cohort being added in 2024

Longitudinal design involves interviewing same sample of respondents on several occasions

- Cross-sectional studies use different respondents in each sample
- Tracks the progress of the same child and his/her family over a period of time

Data Collection

Cohort '98

Wave 1
8,500 9-year-olds recruited

Wave 2
Age 13 interview

Wave 3
Age 17/18 interview

Wave 4
Age 20 interview

Wave 5
Age 25 interview

COVID Survey

Start of *Growing Up in Ireland*

2006

2008

2010

2012

2014

2016

2018

2020

2022

Cohort '08

Wave 1
11,000 9-month-olds recruited

Wave 2
(3 yrs)

Wave 3
(5 yrs)

Wave 4*
(7 yrs)

Wave 5
Age 9 interview

Wave 6
Age 13 interview

COVID Survey

1) Introduction to *Growing Up in Ireland*

- Study Background
- **Sample Design**
- Study Design

Sample Representativeness

1 in every 6 children from each cohort is a GUI participant

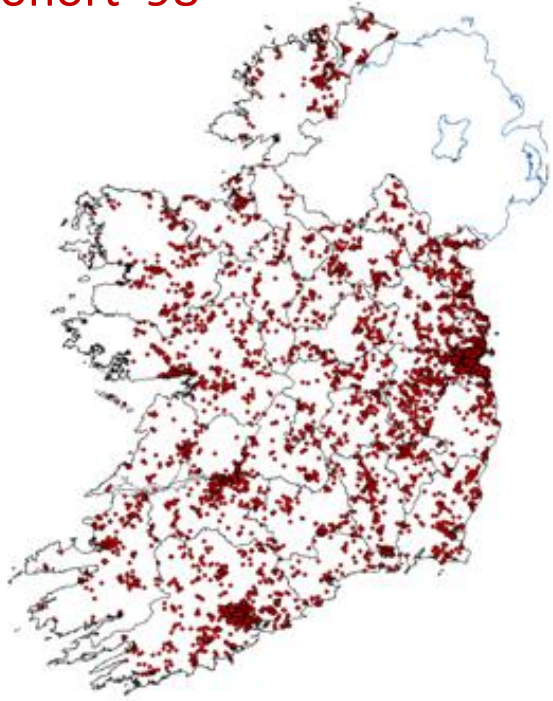


Infant Cohort: 11,134 out of 75,173 babies born in 2008

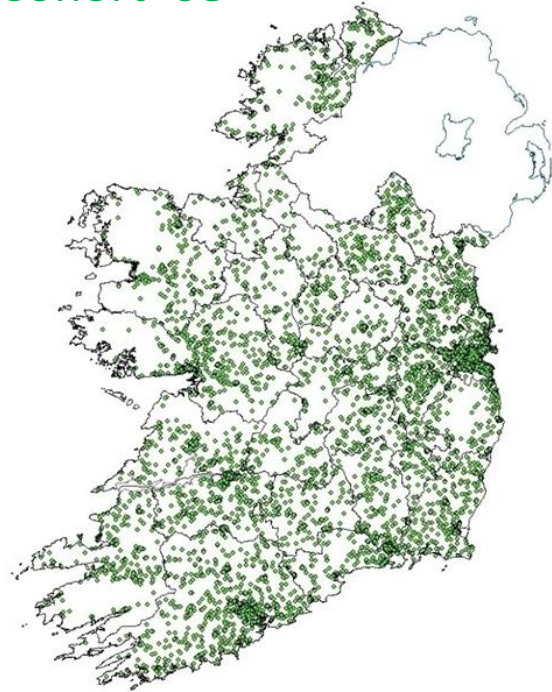
Child Cohort: 8,568 out of 53,969 kids born in 1998

Samples Distribution

Cohort '98



Cohort '08



Sampling

Cohort '98

56,500 9-year-olds in population

Random sample of 8,500 9-year-olds resident in Ireland

Represented 14% of all 9-year-olds

Two stage, clustered sample design

Stratified random sample of Primary schools, 82.3% response rate

Random sample of children within school

Cohort '08

73,662 infants (less than one year old) in population

Random sample of 11,000 9-month-olds resident in Ireland

Represented 15% of all 9-month-olds

Child Benefit Register used as sampling frame

CBR is very representative source

Sampled over 7-month period

Sample sizes at each wave

Cohort '08

Wave	1	2	3	4	5	6
Sample	11,134	9,793	9,001	5,344*	8,032	6,375

Cohort '98

Wave	1	2	3	4
Sample	8,568	7,525	6,216	5,190

In between waves, the sample size can change for 3 main reasons:

- the child has emigrated/deceased
- the child/family was unable to be reached
- the child/family gave a “hard refusal” to be included.

In the event of the latter case, those children are removed from any future waves, decreasing the total valid sample in between waves.

Re-weighting the Sample

- Data can be re-weighted to account for differential attrition across waves
- Differential attrition leads to differences between structure of completed sample (at any wave) and wider population
 - According to key socio-demographic indicators
- Re-weighting ensures sample is representative of the population (*at time of recruitment, Wave 1)
- Re-weighting should be carried out prior to any analysis

1) Introduction to *Growing Up in Ireland*

- Study Background
- Sample Design
- **Study Design**

What visit looks like

- Initial contact to child's home from Head Office
- Interviews conducted face-to-face in the home, where possible
- Main interview – administered by interviewer on Computer Assisted Personal Interview (CAPI) basis
- Sensitive interview – self-administered on Computer Assisted Self Interview (CASI) basis
- If possible, maintain same interviewer as Wave 1 moving forward

Respondents

Multiple sources of information:

- Primary Caregiver interview (PCG)*
- Secondary Caregiver interview (SCG)**
- Child interview
- Child cognitive tests
- Principal questionnaire
- Teacher questionnaire
- Physical measurements
- Time-use diaries

* PCG self-defined as person who provides most care to the child / knows child best – usually mother

**SCG self-defined as resident spouse/partner of PCG - usually father

Cohort '08 – Age 13 interview

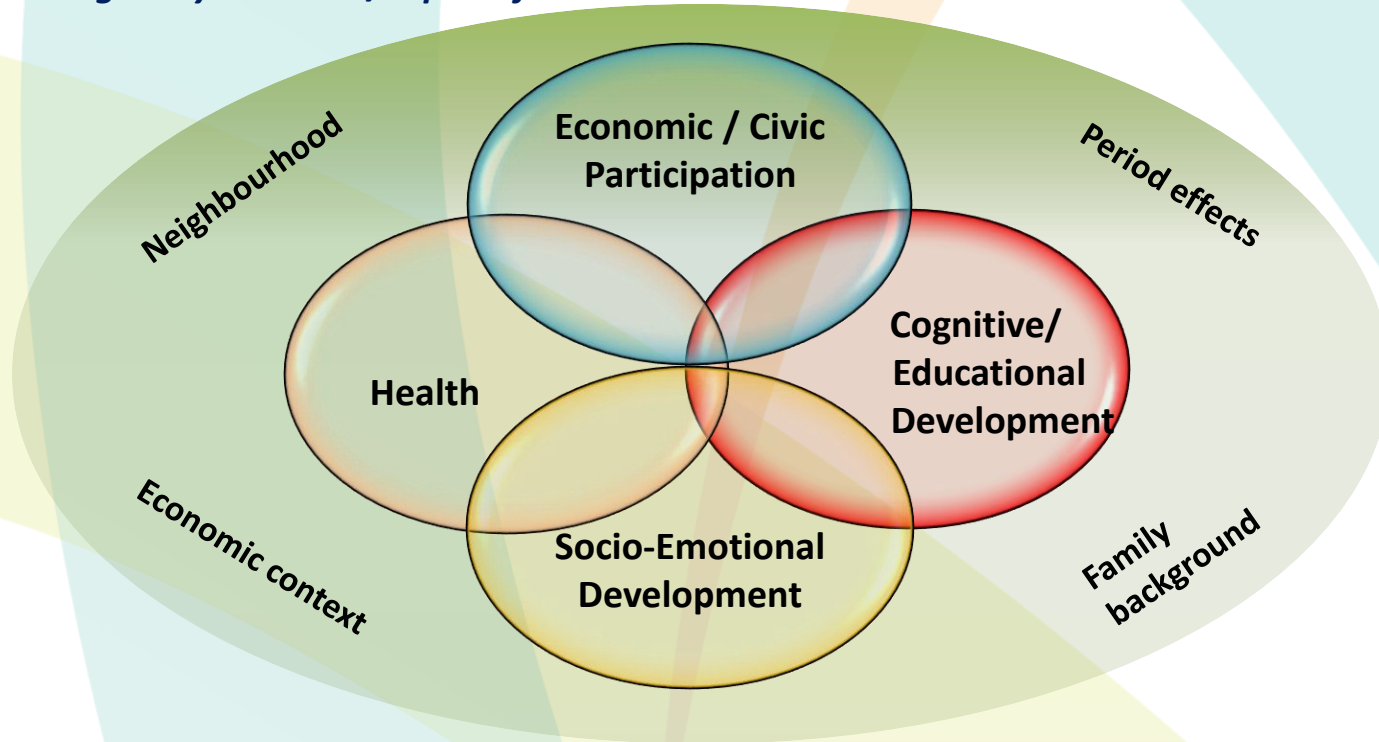
- Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, it was not possible to conduct in-person interviews and the interviews were administered by **telephone** and **online**
- As a result, the surveys were shorter than originally planned, leading to some loss in cross-cohort and longitudinal consistency
- The Primary Caregiver (PCG), Secondary Caregiver (SCG) and Young Person (YP) were interviewed, along with a Principal questionnaire
- All interviews were sensitive and confidential
- Topics included diet, physical activity, the transition to secondary school, mental health, pastimes, and screen time

Summary of information recorded

	Wave	PCG	SCG	Child	Cognitive Tests	Principal	Teacher	Physical Measures	Time Use
Cohort '98	1 (9yr)	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
	2 (13yr)	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y		Y	Y
	3 (17yr)	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y		Y	Y
	4 (20yr)	Y			Y			Y	Y

Multi-disciplinary Coverage

Fig – Key Domains/Topics of Research



Main Outcome Domains

- Socio-emotional, behavioural well-being
 - Physical health
 - Education / cognitive development
 - Economic and civic participation
 - Family background characteristics
- + Classificatory variables*

Questionnaire Topics

Socio-emotional Well-being	Physical Health	Education / Cog. Development	Economic & Civ. Participation	Family Background
Child's relationships	Pregnancy, birth, breastfeeding, etc.	Childcare arrangements	Young Person's economic status	Family social class
Child's lifestyle	Child's general health / longstanding conditions	Child's education / learning environment	Young Person's labour force experience	Family income
Child's socio-emotional development	Healthcare utilisation	Child's cognitive development	Young Person's Income	Sociodemographic information
Family context	Child's nutrition / diet	Child's attitudes to school	Political and community engagement	Parental education
Parenting	Child's physical activity levels/exercise	Educational performance	Religion and spirituality	Parental employment Family structure
Marital/Partner relationship	Physical measurements	Further/higher education	Confidence in state institutions	Family structure
Non-resident parent	Risky behaviours, parental health and lifestyle	School characteristics	Perceived discrimination	

Classificatory Variables

Themes:

- Gender
- Household composition
- Parental Health and lifestyle
- Socio-demographics
- Neighbourhood and community

2) Online resources

- **Publications and technical documents**

3) Intro to AMF Tables

- **How to read tables**
- What next?

Two Types of Data File

1. Anonymised Microdata File (AMF)

2. Research Microdata File (RMF)

- Both files made **available to researchers** after each wave of data collection
 - AMF from ISSDA
 - RMF from CSO
- Data are **confidential** and **anonymised**
- Substantial overlap between both file types
 - AMF easier to access
 - RMF provides more detailed and sensitive data

Frequency Tables: What are they?

- Basic breakdown of responses for each question
- Displays the number of people who selected each response option
- Also provides percentage breakdowns

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Junior Cert or less	814	12.2	12.4	12.4
	Leaving Cert	1016	15.3	15.4	27.8
	Non-degree	2756	41.4	41.9	69.7
	Degree or more	1989	29.9	30.3	100.0
	Total	6575	98.8	100.0	
No answer		80	1.2		
Total		6655	100.0		

3) Intro to AMF Tables

- How to read tables
- **What next?**

ISSDA and CSO Websites

ISSDA:

- www.ucd.ie/issda/data/guichild/ - Cohort '98
- www.ucd.ie/issda/data/guiinfant/ - Cohort '08

CSO:

- <https://www.cso.ie/en/surveys/householdsurveys/growingupinirelandsurvey/>
- How to apply for data
- Provide relevant technical documents and supplementary documentation

Anonymised Microdata Files (AMF)

- The AMF is prepared and approved by the CSO
- Distributed by Irish Social Science Data Archive (ISSDA)
 - www.ucd.ie/issda/data/guichild/
 - www.ucd.ie/issda/data/guiinfant/
- Fewer 'sensitive' variables included
 - i.e. questions from self-complete questionnaires
- Identifying variables removed
- Top & bottom coding
- Collapsed categories



The screenshot shows the ISSDA website interface. At the top is the ISSDA logo (Irish Social Science Data Archive) and a navigation menu with links for Home, Datasets in ISSDA, ICPSR Data Archive, Deposit Data, News, and About Us. Below the menu is a breadcrumb trail: "You are here: Home / ISSDA / Datasets in ISSDA / Growing up in Ireland Cohort '98 (Child Cohort) / Growing up in Ireland Cohort '98 (Child Cohort) Wave 1 - 9 years, 2008". The main content area is divided into two columns. The left column lists various datasets: "Adapting to Diversity: Irish schools and newcomer students", "Attitudes to Older People in Ireland", "All Ireland Traveller Health Study", "Benefacts", "Business in the Community's (BITC) 'Time to Read' Pupil Mentoring Programme", "CDI: Community Safety Initiative, 2010 & 2011", "CDI: Doodle Den Literacy Programme, 2008-2011", "CDI: Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE), 2008 - 2011", and "CDI: Mate-Tricks, 2012". The right column features the dataset "Growing up in Ireland Cohort '98 (Child Cohort) Wave 1 - 9 years, 2008" with study number 0020-01. It includes a "CITATION" section with the following text: "Central Statistics Office (CSO). (2010). *Growing up in Ireland Cohort '98 (Child Cohort) Wave 1 - 9 years, 2008*. [dataset]. Version 1. Irish Social Science Data Archive. SN: 0020-01. URL <http://www.ucd.ie/issda/data/GUIChild/GUIChildWave1>". Below this is an "ABOUT THE STUDY" section describing the survey's purpose and design, and a "MAIN TOPICS" section with a bulleted list: Families, Children, Child Health, Child Development, Education, Child Day Care, Leisure Time Activities, Hobbies, Parental Role, and Anthropometric Measurements.

Anonymised Microdata Files (AMF)

How to Apply for AMFs

1. Download the request form from ISSDA site
2. Identify data files (study number, SN)
3. Complete all sections of the form:
 - Personal / institution details
 - Short description of intended use of the data
4. Sign the End User Licence, email completed application to issda@ucd.ie
5. Allow up to three working days for the application to be processed (hopefully quicker)
6. Receive a link to download data + separate password

ACCESS INFORMATION

Accessing the data

To access the data, please complete a [ISSDA Data Request Form for Research Purposes](#), sign it, and send it to ISSDA by [email](#).

For teaching purposes, please complete the [ISSDA Data Request Form for Teaching Purposes](#), and follow the procedures, as above. Teaching requests are approved on a once-off module/workshop basis. Subsequent occurrences of the module/workshop require a new teaching request form.

Data will be disseminated on receipt of a fully completed, signed form. Incomplete or unsigned forms will be returned to the data requester for completion.

AMF – Data Request Form

Please provide a short description (approx. 100 words) of your intended use of the dataset/s, including title and details of your intended research project*:

Type of user *

- | | | | |
|---|--|--|----------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Academic Staff | <input type="checkbox"/> Post Doc | <input type="checkbox"/> PhD | <input type="checkbox"/> Masters |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Undergraduate | <input type="checkbox"/> Independent
Researcher | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Government/
Policy researcher | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other [please specify] _____ | | | |



Thank You

Questions?

Contact...

derek.nolan@equality.gov.ie

eoin.mcnamara@equality.gov.ie

***Please complete feedback form – check emails**

GUI Website

www.growingup.gov.ie

- First & best resource for study info & technical documents
 - Questionnaires
 - Design reports
 - Summary guides
 - Data dictionaries
 - Official GUI publications
 - Other publications
 - Conference archive
 - Data workshop archive

The screenshot shows the homepage of the Growing Up in Ireland website. At the top, there is a navigation bar with five buttons: 'Home' (grey), 'About Growing Up in Ireland' (green), 'Information for Participants' (red), 'Information for Researchers' (blue), and 'Publications' (orange). Below the navigation bar is the main heading 'Growing Up in Ireland' in blue. Underneath is a paragraph of text describing the study as a national longitudinal study of children and young people, a joint project of the Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth (DCEDIY) and the Central Statistics Office (CSO). It mentions that since 2006, the study has provided an evidence base for policy decisions. A second paragraph follows, detailing the two cohorts: 8,000 9-year-olds (Cohort '98) and 10,000 9-month-olds (Cohort '08). A 'Read more' link is provided below the text. At the bottom, there is a 'Quick Links' section with six orange buttons arranged in two rows: 'Questionnaires', 'Data Workshops', 'Conferences', 'Report Launches', and 'Contact us'.

Home About Growing Up in Ireland Information for Participants Information for Researchers Publications

Growing Up in Ireland

Growing Up in Ireland is the national longitudinal study of children and young people, a joint project of the Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth (DCEDIY) and the Central Statistics Office (CSO). Since 2006, the study has provided Government with an evidence base to make informed policy decisions on a wide range of issues based on data from children and young people living in Ireland.

The study follows the progress of two groups of children: 8,000 9-year-olds (Cohort '98) and 10,000 9-month-olds (Cohort '08). The members of Cohort '98 are now 24-25 years old and those of Cohort '08 are around 14 years old.

[Read more](#)

Quick Links

Questionnaires Data Workshops

Conferences Report Launches Contact us

Questionnaires – growingup.gov.ie

* Very useful resource for survey content

- All questionnaires available online
 - All waves, both cohorts
 - Respondents: PCG, SCG, child, teacher/principal
 - Questionnaires: main, self-complete (sensitive)
 - Online questionnaires reflect interviews
 - Instructions to interviewers
 - Routing
 - Exact question & response category wording
- * Minor redactions (if scales under copyright)

WAVE 6 QUESTIONNAIRES – AGE 13 YEARS

Parents/Guardian Questionnaires:

- [Primary Caregiver Main Questionnaire](#)
- [Primary Caregiver Self-Complete Questionnaire](#)
- [Secondary Caregiver Main Questionnaire](#)
- [Secondary Caregiver Self-Complete Questionnaire](#)
- [Primary Caregiver Twin Questionnaire](#)

Young Person Questionnaires:

- [Young Person Main Questionnaire](#)
- [Young Person Self-Complete Questionnaire](#)
- [Young Person Short & Proxy Questionnaire](#)

Teacher / Principal Questionnaires:

- [School Principal's Questionnaire](#)

Questionnaires – growingup.gov.ie

L5. How many bedrooms do you have in your home? _____ number of bedrooms

[INTERVIEWER IF A STUDIO APARTMENT RECORD AS ZERO BEDROOMS]

L6. Do you feel that your current accommodation (excluding location) is suitable for your family's needs?

Yes 1 No 2

L7. [CARD L7] Why is that?

Yes No

- | | | | |
|---|----------------------------|-------|----------------------------|
| a. Too small..... | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 | | <input type="checkbox"/> 2 |
| b. Not a child-friendly layout..... | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 | | <input type="checkbox"/> 2 |
| c. Poor conditions in the home (damp, drafts, leaks etc)..... | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 | | <input type="checkbox"/> 2 |
| d. Other (specify) _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 | | <input type="checkbox"/> 2 |

L8. [Card L8] Which of these descriptions BEST describes your usual situation in regard to work?

[INTERVIEWER: IF RESPONDENT IS ON MATERNITY LEAVE AND SHE HAS A JOB WHICH SHE INTENDS TO RETURN TO, SHE SHOULD BE CODED AS 0]

- | | | | |
|--|----------------------------|--|----------------------------|
| 0. Currently on maternity leave,
but have a job to return to..... | <input type="checkbox"/> 0 | 4. Student full-time | <input type="checkbox"/> 4 |
| 1. Employee (incl. Apprenticeship or
Community Employment) | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 | 5. On State training scheme - eg SOLAS,
Faite Ireland | <input type="checkbox"/> 5 |

External Publications – growingup.gov.ie

An up-to-date list of External Publications

- Journal articles, reports

* **Must use GUI data**

Home	About Growing Up in Ireland	Information for Participants	Information for Researchers	Publications	
External Publications Using GUI Data					
Search					
<input type="text"/>					
Authors	Year ↓	Title	Link	Journal/Book	Abstract
Ceatha, N., Gates, G. J., Crowley, D.	2023	LGBT+ Self-Identification Among Youth in Ireland Aged 17-18 Years: A Research Brief	Open	Population Research and Policy Review	Abstract
Laurence, J., Russell, H., Smyth, E.	2023	What Protected the Wellbeing of Mothers during the Pandemic?	Open	Economic & Social Research Institute	Abstract
O'Reilly, C., Mohan, G.	2023	Parental influences on excessive Internet use among adolescents	Open	Emerald Insight	Abstract
Sharma, V., Cassetti, O., Winning, L., O'Sullivan, M., Crowe, M.	2023	Protocol for developing a dashboard for interactive cohort analysis of oral health-related data	Open	BMC Oral Health	Abstract
Ceatha, N., Kosy, A. C. C., Kelly, A., Killeen, T., McCabe, K., Murray, J., Pope, J., Scully, N., Buggy, C., Crowley, D.	2023	LGBT+ Youth Perspectives on Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity Questions in the Growing Up in Ireland Survey: A Qualitative Study	Open	Youth	Abstract
Montero-Marin, J., Hinze, V., Mansfield, K., Slaghekke, Y., Blakemore, S.J., Byford, S.,	2023	Young People's Mental Health Changes, Risk, and Resilience During the COVID-19 Pandemic	Open	JAMA network	Abstract

BMC Public Health

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Research | [Open access](#) | [Published: 21 March 2022](#)

The clustering of physical activity and screen time behaviours in early childhood and impact on future health-related behaviours: a longitudinal analysis of children aged 3 to 8 years

Original Investigation | Public Health

September 21, 2023

Young People's Mental Health Changes, Risk, and Resilience During the COVID-19 Pandemic

Jesus Montero-Marin, PhD^{1,2,3}; Verena Hinze, PhD¹; Karen Mansfield, PhD¹; et al.

[Author Affiliations](#) | [Article Information](#)

JAMA Netw Open. 2023;6(9):e2335016. doi:10.1001/jamanetworkopen.2023.35016



ORIGINAL ARTICLE | [Open Access](#) | [Creative Commons License](#)

Exploring cumulative disadvantage in early school leaving and planned post-school pathways among those identified with special educational needs in Irish primary schools

Eamonn Carroll Selina McCoy, Georgiana Mihut

Conference Archive

- 15 Annual Research Conferences to date
- Showcase new research using *GUI* data
- 20-30 research presentations per conference
 - Ref: Book of abstracts, conference programme
- Useful resource for researchers:
 - What research has been conducted to date?
 - What topics / interactions can I explore?



Fás Aníos in Éirinn
Growing Up in Ireland

Growing Up in Ireland Annual Conference 8th Nov 2023

Room 1: Stratocaster A&B

9:00	Welcome – Laura McGarrigle, Assistant Secretary, DCEDIY		
9:10	Address by Minister Roderic O’Gorman TD		
9:25	Update on Growing Up in Ireland by Ciara Pidgeon, DCEDIY, and CSO		
9.45	Five-minute room change		
	Room 1: Stratocaster A&B	Room 2: Alhambra	Room 3: Stratocaster C
	Session A	Session B	Session C
	Chair: Dr Anne Nolan ESRI	Chair: Dr Eoin McNamara DCEDIY	Chair: Dr Jan Skopek TCD
9:50	Volunteering among young adults in Ireland Emer Smyth	Identifying high-risk subgroups for self-harm in adolescents and young adults: a longitudinal latent class analysis of risk markers David McEvoy	Impact of bullying and parent-child conflict on self-concept: Analysis using secondary data from waves 1 and 2 of Growing up in Ireland Survey Kayla O’Flaherty
10:10	Caregiving among young adults: antecedents and outcomes Helen Russell	Young adult functional outcomes of childhood psychopathology Niamh Dooley	The relationship between victimisation, depressive symptoms and self-concept in 9-year-old children Mary Bollard
10:30	Coffee break		
	Room 1: Stratocaster A&B	Room 2: Alhambra	Room 3: Stratocaster C
	Session D	Session E	Session F
	Chair: Dr Ciara Reynolds IPH	Chair: Dr Anna Visser , Dept. of An Taisceach	Chair: Marian Brattman Tusla
11:00	The association between gambling and mental health outcomes for young people in Ireland Gretta Mohan	Digital use and digital inequality among Irish children from different ethnic backgrounds Melissa Bohnert	A latent class analysis of mental health symptoms in primary school children: Exploring associations with school attendance problems Jane Sharpe
11:20	Use of pornography and sexual health and wellbeing in young adulthood: Evidence from Growing Up in Ireland Anne Nolan	Narrowing English language achievements gaps by migration background and the role of school Frances McGinnity	Externalising behaviour among primary school children Emer Smyth
11:40	Associations between parental and child drinking behaviours Eoin McNamara	Lone parent benefit reform in Ireland: beyond the labour market effects Claire Keane	Disruptions and discontinuities in child development: The impact of the pandemic on children’s psychological distress Ross MacMillan