

Gender and social class differences in smoking and e-cigarette use among teenagers with Intellectual Disability. A secondary analysis of Wave 3 of Growing Up in Ireland Cohort '98

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**We do not have any conflict
of interest to declare**



Background

Teenagers with intellectual disability (ID) are **largely absent** from literature on **teenage smoking**^{1,2}

Findings from the small number of studies that exist are **mixed in direction**³, prevalence being significantly higher/lower and similar

Almost nothing is known of **e-cigarette use** in teenagers with ID⁴

or of **gender or social class** differences in smoking/e-cigarette use this population⁵

Study Objectives

To compare **prevalence** of smoking and e-cigarette use in older **teenagers** (17/18 yrs) **with and without ID**

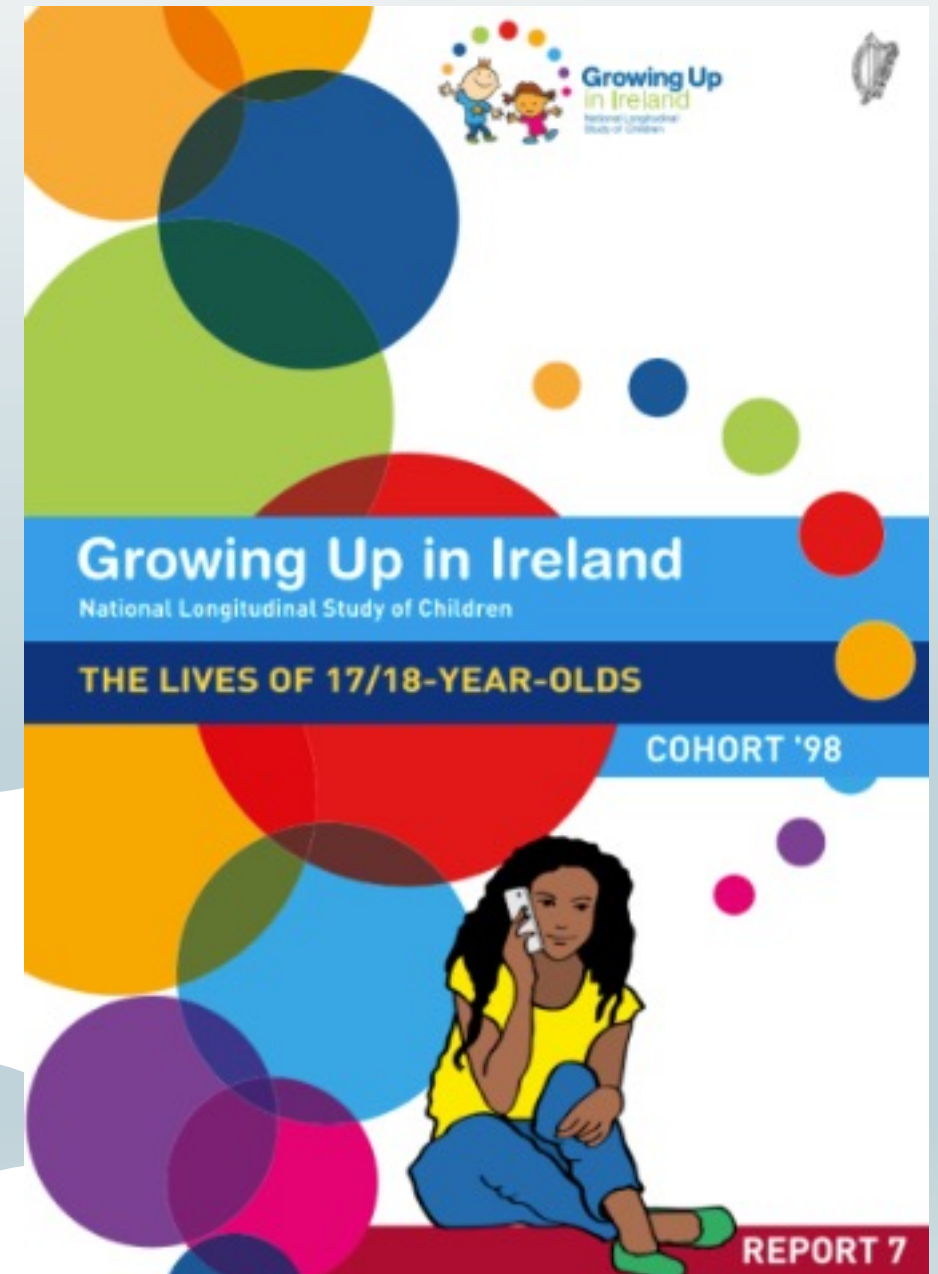
To describe **gender and social class** differences in prevalence of smoking and e-cigarette use in teenagers with ID

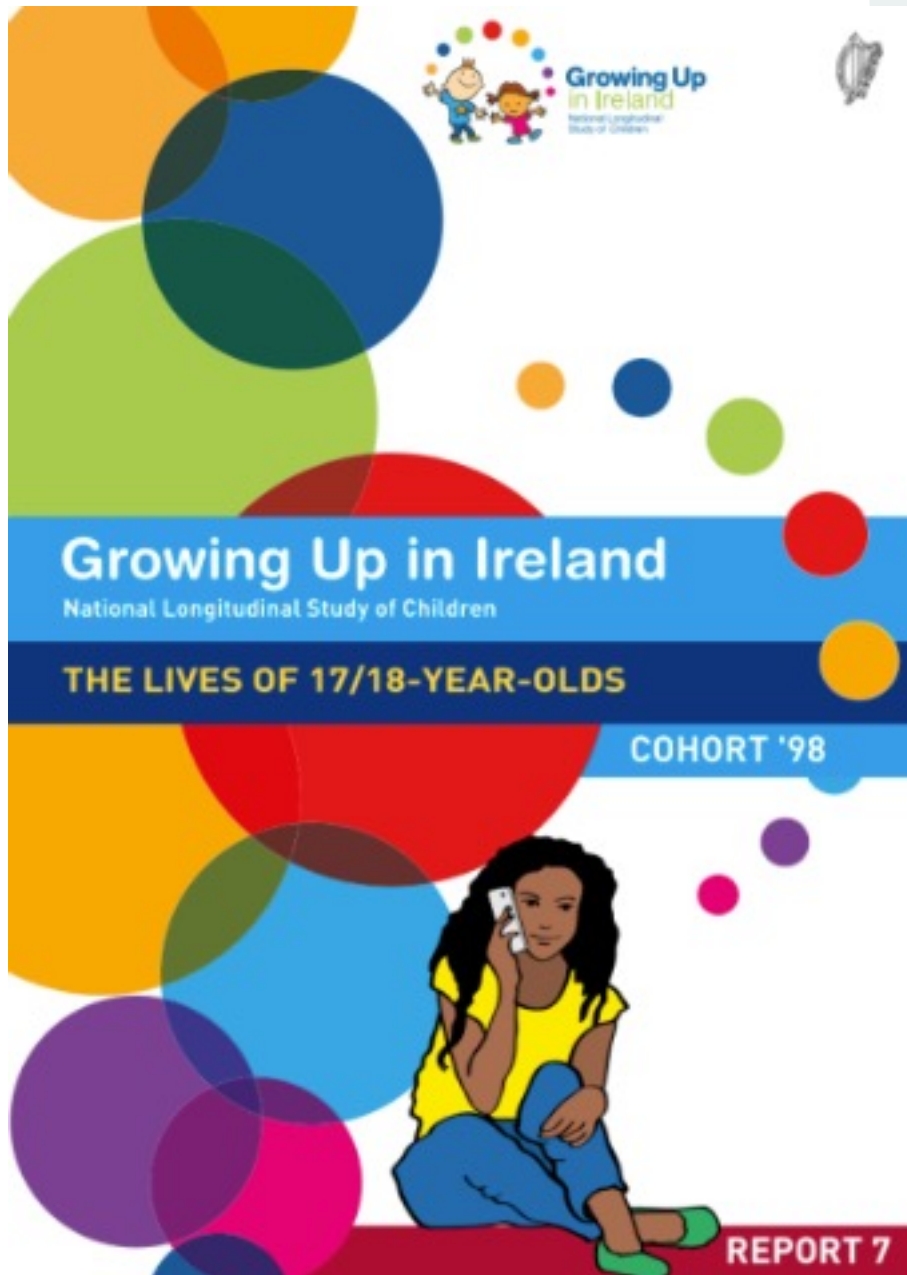
Methodology - Study

Source: Wave 3 of the national longitudinal study, Growing Up in Ireland Cohort '98 (Child Cohort) survey (2016)

Sample: 6,154 17/18-year-olds

Ethical Approval: granted by the GUI Research Ethics Committee, Department of Children and Youth Affairs (.rmf files)





Methodology - Variables

ID Intellectual Disability Yes/No

Gender M/F

Social Class Professional/Managerial vs Skilled/Semi/Unskilled

Ever-Smoked Yes/No

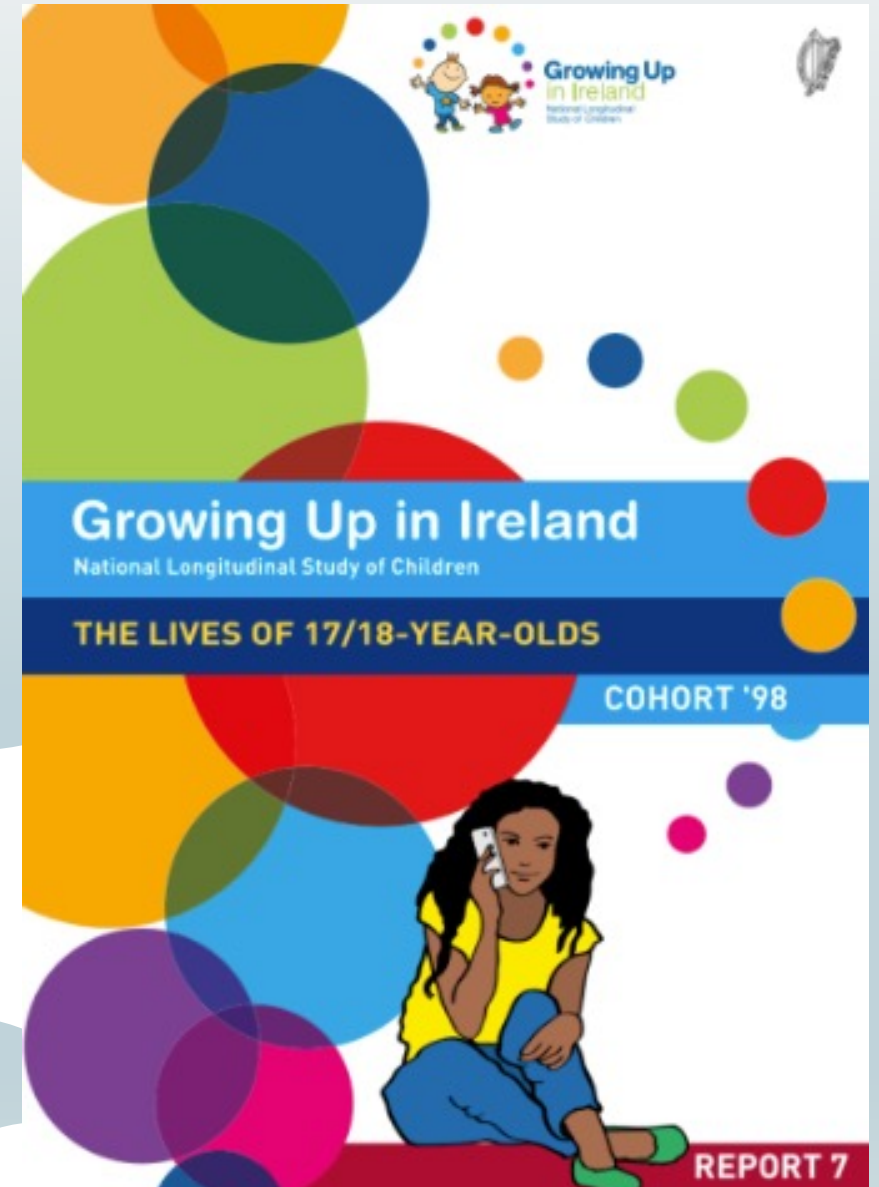
Current Smoking Yes/No

Ever e-cigarette use Yes/No

Methodology - Analysis

A cross-sectional approach was utilised, analysing the Wave 3 survey as a stand-alone dataset.

Descriptive and bivariate statistical techniques were employed using SPSSv.29.



Findings

Table 1 Prevalence of Intellectual Disability & Smoking/E-cigarette use

Intellectual disability prevalence, smoking and e-cigarette use

	No 6012 (97.7)	Yes 142 (2.3)	Total 6154 (100.0)	P-value
Ever-Smoked (Wave 3)				
No	3029 (50.6)	70 (64.0)	3098 (50.9)	0.01
Yes	2952 (49.4)	39 (36.0)	2992 (49.1)	
Current Smoking (Wave 3)				
No	4806 (79.9)	115 (81.5)	4921 (80.0)	0.63
Yes	1207 (20.1)	26 (18.5)	1233 (20.0)	
Ever used e-cigarettes (Wave 3)				
No	3949 (66.0)	80 (73.1)	4029 (66.1)	0.12
Yes	2036 (34.0)	29 (26.9)	2065 (33.9)	

Findings

Table 2 Intellectual Disability, Social Class and Gender

Social Class Differences ID				
	Total	Professional/ Managerial	Skilled/semi/ unskilled	P- value
	5179 (100.0)	2481 (47.9)	2698 (52.1)	
Intellectual Disability				
No	5077 (98.1)	2445 (98.6)	2632 (97.6)	0.12
Yes	99 (1.9)	35 (1.4)	64 (2.4)	

Gender Differences ID				
	Total	Male	Female	P- value
	6216 (100.0)	3170 (51.0)	3046 (49.0)	
Intellectual Disability				
No		3025 (97.5)	2944 (97.9)	0.22
Yes		79 (2.5)	62 (2.1)	

Findings

Table 3 Intellectual Disability, Gender and Smoking/E-cigarette use

Intellectual Disability	Total 6154 (100.0)	No 6012 (97.7)	Yes 142 (2.3)	
Intellectual Disability /Gender	Total 110 (100.0)	Males 62 (57.0)	Females 48 (43.0)	p
Ever Smoking				
No	70 (64.8)	44 (72.1)	26 (55.3)	0.07
Yes	38 (35.2)	17 (27.9)	21 (44.7)	
Current Smoking				
No	114 (81.5)	69 (88.5)	45 (72.6)	0.02
Yes	26 (18.6)	9 (11.5)	17 (27.4)	
E-cigarette ever use				
No	79 (73.1)	44 (72.1)	35 (74.5)	0.79
Yes	29 (26.9)	17 (27.9)	12 (25.5)	

Findings

Table 4 Intellectual Disability, Social Class and Smoking/E-cigarette use

Intellectual Disability, Social Class and Smoking/E-cigarette use				
Intellectual Disability /Social Class	Total	Professional/ Managerial	Non-manual /Skilled / Semi- /Unskilled	p
Ever Smoking				
No	54 (66.7)	22 (73.3)	32 (62.7)	0.33
Yes	27 (33.3)	8 (26.7)	19 (37.3)	
Current Smoking				
No	80 (80.0)	31 (86.1)	49 (76.6)	0.25
Yes	20 (20.0)	5 (13.9)	15 (23.4)	
E-cigarette ever use				
No	56 (69.1)	22 (73.3)	34 (66.7)	0.53
Yes	25 (30.9)	8 (26.7)	17 (33.3)	



Implications

Teenagers with ID smoke and use e-cigarettes, although prevalence is lower than in their peers without ID.

Teenagers with ID are less likely to try smoking but a higher proportion of those who do become current smokers, perhaps indicating an increased risk of addiction to nicotine and lower likelihood of cessation.

Girls with ID are particularly at risk.



Implications

Smoking adds an additional layer to inequalities experienced by this group.

Targeted smoking/e-cigarette prevention and cessation programmes with a gender sensibility are recommended.



References

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Thank You

This presentation is an output of the DISE project (*Disabilities, Inequalities, Smoking and E-Cigarette Use*) at the TobaccoFree Research Institute Ireland, TU Dublin.

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Source: Results are based on analysis of strictly controlled Research Microdata Files provided by the Central Statistics Office (CSO) Ireland.