



# ***Growing Up in Ireland***

**-the National Longitudinal Study of Children**

***The Economic and Social Research Institute and Trinity College, Dublin***

## ***Infant Cohort Presentation 01:***

**Sample Design and Weighting**



# The Sample of 9-month-old infants

- 73,662 infants (less than one year old) in population
- Random sample of 11,000 9-month-olds resident in Ireland
- Child Benefit Register used as sampling frame
- Sampled over 7 month period
- Simple, systematic selection procedure, random start and constant sampling fraction



# Securing informed consent from families

- Information sent to family in advance of first contact from interviewer
- Face-to-face visit from interviewer to organise appointment
- Opt-out basis
- Consent forms signed by parents/guardians prior to start of interview
- Response rate was 64.3%



# Re-weighting the sample

- Differential response – higher ed, higher social class more likely to respond
- Data were re-weighted or statistically adjusted to account for any differences in structure of population and completed sample
- Statistical re-weighting is a standard procedure and should be carried out in respect of all sample surveys prior to analysis
- Minimum information loss algorithm used to generate the weighting scheme. System used in ESRI is called GROSS – similar to CALMAR and ADJUST. Iterative column marginal approach.