

# Accessing Growing Up in Ireland Data Information for researchers

**Contact Growing Up in Ireland:**  
**Website:** [www.growingup.ie](http://www.growingup.ie)  
**Email:** [Growing.Up@esri.ie](mailto:Growing.Up@esri.ie)  
**Freephone:** 1800 200 434  
**Twitter:** @GrowingUpIre  
**Instagram:** @growing\_up\_in\_ireland

Growing Up in Ireland (GUI) is the national longitudinal study of children, funded mainly by DCYA, and managed by DCYA in conjunction with the Central Statistics Office (CSO). GUI is carried out by a GUI Study Team at the ESRI.

A key priority of DCYA is to ensure the use of GUI data is maximised to enhance our understanding of the lives of children and young people and to help inform effective policy development and service provision. Two types of anonymised data files are available for research and analysis purposes: An Anonymised Microdata File and a Research Microdata File.

Growing Up in Ireland regularly hosts data workshops to introduce researchers to the datasets. Places are allocated on a first-come, first-served basis and are free of charge.

A full range of supporting documentation is supplied with each wave of the data, including:

- Summary Guide to the Data
- Questionnaires
- Summary Data Dictionary
- Codebook
- Sample Design and Response Rates (Wave 1 only)
- Variable Naming Conventions and Longitudinal Data Dictionary (Wave 2 only)
- Derived Variables (RMF only)



## Anonymised Microdata Files (AMF)

- The AMF is a basic set of variables, approved by the CSO for distribution by the Irish Social Science Data Archive (ISSDA)
- Available from ISSDA at University College Dublin
- Visit [www.ucd.ie/issda/data/guiinfant/](http://www.ucd.ie/issda/data/guiinfant/) or [www.ucd.ie/issda/data/guichild/](http://www.ucd.ie/issda/data/guichild/)
- Download the relevant application form (Research Purposes or Teaching Purposes)
- Complete all sections of the form. Sign the End User Licence by digital signature or by inserting a small image of your signature onto the form
- Finally, email your completed application to [issda@ucd.ie](mailto:issda@ucd.ie)
- Allow up to three working days for the application to be processed

Contact the Irish Social Science Data Archive

Website: [www.ucd.ie/issda](http://www.ucd.ie/issda)

Email: [issda@ucd.ie](mailto:issda@ucd.ie)

Twitter @issda



An Roinn Leanaí  
agus Gnóthaí Óige  
Department of Children  
and Youth Affairs



# Research Microdata Files (RMF)

## Contact the Central Statistics Office:

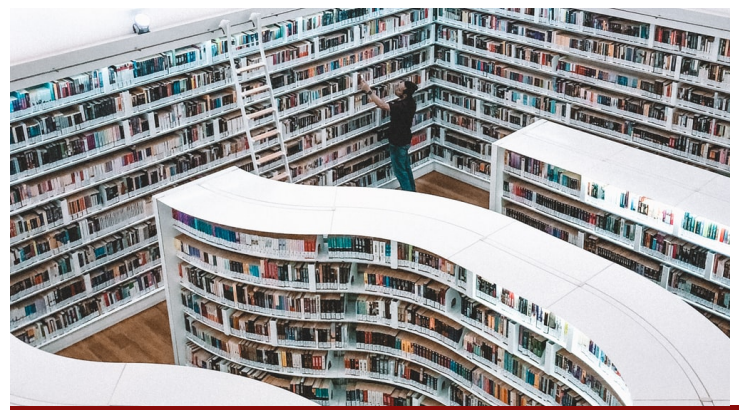
Website: [www.cso.ie](http://www.cso.ie)

Email: [gui@cso.ie](mailto:gui@cso.ie)

Telephone: 01 498 4153

Twitter @CSOIreland

- The RMF is a more detailed set of variables, available to researchers from Registered Research Organisations if the AMF does not meet the requirements of the research
- Access to RMFs for students will be restricted to those undertaking post-graduate work, at a minimum, and in all such cases their supervisor(s) must also apply and be appointed as an Officer of Statistics before access can be granted
- Requests for access to RMF data from researchers outside of Ireland or employed by, or otherwise related to, an unregistered Research Organisation will be considered on a case-by-case basis - following submission of an RMF Application Form and Researcher Registration Application Form - for onsite access to the RMFs at CSO buildings
- Access to the RMF is approved by the Director General (DG) of the CSO and, as it includes more detail than the AMF, access is subject to a stricter range of conditions. See the Policy on Access to the RMFs and Instructions on the use of GUI data for Researchers for more details (<https://www.cso.ie/en/aboutus/lgdp/csodatapoliciess/dataforresearchers/rmfregister/>)
- Access is approved on a project-specific, time-limited basis to researchers who are appointed Officers of Statistics on the basis of a successful application
- Visit <https://www.cso.ie/en/aboutus/lgdp/csodatapoliciess/dataforresearchers/applicationprocedure/>



- If not already registered, the organisation must complete the Research Organisation Registration Application Form and appoint a Research Organisation RMF Contact
- Lead researcher and RMF contact must complete the Research Microdata File (RMF) Application Form and return to the Research Coordination Unit ([rcu@cso.ie](mailto:rcu@cso.ie))
- Individual researchers who have not previously accessed a CSO RMF with their current organisation must complete the Researcher Registration Application Form
- All applicants must attend a researcher training course provided by the CSO
- If the application is approved by the DG, the CSO will issue the Standard Agreement to the applicant, which the applicant must sign and return to the CSO
- The CSO will then prepare a Certificate of Appointment (which will incorporate the Declaration of Secrecy) in duplicate and return them to the applicant, or the lead applicant of group applications, for the signature of all applicants
- When both copies of the signed Certificates are received in the CSO, the Certificates of Appointment will be signed by the DG
- Once the certificates are signed, the researcher is then appointed as an Officer of Statistics (maximum of 1 year appointment)
- Access to the RMF will be through the CSO's Researcher Data Portal (RDP) [<https://sara.cso.ie>]
- Aggregate data outputs will be released to researchers once they have been sanctioned as non-confidential by the relevant CSO Statistician
- Allow 6-8 weeks for the application to be processed