

## Background

This report describes the methods used and the main findings for the National Children's Food Survey. The survey investigated habitual food and drink consumption, health and lifestyle characteristics and assessed body weight status in 594 children, aged 5-12 years, from the Republic of Ireland. The electronic database which has been compiled from the survey is one of the most comprehensive in Europe. It represents a valuable resource which will be used by agencies concerned with public health policy and planning and by the food industry.

The survey was carried out by the Irish Universities Nutrition Alliance (IUNA – a formal alliance of the academic nutrition centres at University College Cork (UCC), Trinity College, Dublin (TCD) and the University of Ulster (UU), Coleraine, which is committed to joint initiatives in research and teaching). The survey was carried out by the following teams at TCD and UCC, and consultation was also sought from researchers from the IUNA centre at UU

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