***Table 1: Personal Characteristics and Family Demographics for Primiparous and Multiparous Mothers (Differences compared using Independent Samples t-tests and Chi-Square). Figures are no.s (%), unless otherwise stated***

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | *Primiparous*  *(n=105)* | *Multiparous*  *(n=85)* | *Average Irish Values* |
| Mean (SD) number of children | -- | 2.46 (0.78) |  |
| Lone parent | 23 (22) | 19 (22) | 18% a |
| Ethnic minority | 19 (18) | 17 (20) |  |
| Mean Age of Mothers (SD) | 31.1 (5.5) | 32.2 (5.2) | 32.3 b |
| Teen parent (at birth of first child) \* | 2 (2) | 13 (15.3) |  |
| Mean Age of Infants in weeks (SD) | 9.8 (3.3) | 10.6 (3.1) |  |
| Boys | 53 (50) | 33 (45) |  |
| Left school before finishing post primary \* | 5 (5) | 16 (19) |  |
| Employment **\***  Both parents working (full/part-time)  Lone parent/ both parents not working | 83 (79)  6 (5.7) | 51 (60)  14 (16.5) |  |
| At risk of poverty **\*** | 27 (26) | 35 (41) | 16.9% c |
| History of depression | 16 (15) | 23 (27) |  |
| Stressful life events † | 26 (25) | 21 (25) |  |
| History of criminality and/or drug abuse **\*** | 8 (8) | 19 (22) |  |
| **\* *p* < .05**  † Parent reported stress during pregnancy and major life events in previous year (e.g. bereavement, house move, separation, loss of employment)  a Data from 2011 census (CSO, 2012).  b Mean age of Irish Mothers (Mean age of Irish mothers at birth of first child is 30.5); (CSO, 2015)  c The Survey of Income and Living Conditions (2015) categorises an equivalised disposable income per individual of 228.13/week as the threshold for at risk of poverty (CSO, 2017) | | | |

***Table 2: Parent wellbeing, parenting attitudes and parent-child relationships (Differences compared using Independent Samples t-tests and Chi-Square).***

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | *Primiparous*  *(n=105)* | *Mulitparous*  *(n=85)* | |
| PHQ-9 a  No (%) scoring ≥ 5 (Minimal – Major depression) | 3.66 (3.6)  31 (30) | 3.68 (4.27)  22 (26) | |
| PSOC b  No (%) scoring ≥ 16 (Moderate – Low parental confidence) | 73.7 (8.6)  31 (30) | 75.9 (9.3)  22 (26) | |
| MPAS - Quality of Attachment Subscale c | 41.79 (3.3) | 42.04 (3.6) | |
| HOME Total | 14.05 (2.1) | 14.78 (2.24) | |
| HOME-SF Cognitive Stimulation subscale | 6.94 (1.4) | 6.55 (1.3) | |
| HOME-SF Emotional Support subscale | 6.01 (1.2) | 6.73 (1.3) | |
| ICQ Fussy-difficult subscale d \* | 26.06 (7.7) | 22.64 (8.14) | |
| **\**p* < 0.05**  Note: PHQ-9 = Patient Health Questionnaire 9; PSOC = Parent Sense of Competence; MPAS = Maternal Post-Natal Attachment Scale; HOME-SF = Home Observation for Measurement of the Environment – Short Form; ICQ = Infant Characteristics Questionnaire; a Range of possible scores=0-27;Cut offs: 5-9=Minimal depression; 10-14=Minor depression; 15-19=Major depression, moderately severe; >20=Major depression, severe; b Range of possible scores=16-96; Cut offs: 16-50=Low parental confidence; 51-69=Moderate parental confidence; 70-96=High parental confidence; c Range of possible scores=9-45; Higher scores indicate higher attachment.  d Range of possible scores – 1 – 63; Higher scores indicate more difficult temperament | | |

***Table 3: Social Support and Service Utilisation (Differences compared using Independent Samples t-tests)***

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | *Primiparous*  *(n=105)* | | *Multiparous*  *(n=85)* | | |
| Social Support Score †  No (%) <3/6  *M* (SD) score | 14 (13)  5.1 (1.3) | | 10 (12)  4.8 (1.6) | | |
| Parent service use  Mean (SD) contacts with health/social care professionals | 3.4 (3.5) | | 2.98 (3.2) | | |
| GP | | 1.58 (2.3) | | | 1.09 (1.04) | | |
| Nurse/Community Midwife | 1.09 (1.5) | | | 1.13 (2.3) | | |
| Other | 0.99 (1.6) | | 0.75 (1.9) | | |
| Infant service use  Mean (SD) contacts with health/social care professional\* | 6.06 (3.1) | | 5.28 (2.7) | | |
| GP  Nurse/Community Midwife | 2.17 (1.3)  2.88 (1.5) | | 2.07 (1.2)  2.59 (1.7) | | |
| Hospital/Consultant | 0.98 (1.4) | | 0.74 (2) | | |
| Other | 1.01 (2.2) | | 0.61 (2) | | |
| **\* *p* < .05**  † Interparent relationship quality, frequency of arguments, quality of relationships with family circle; involvement of father in childcare; level of support from social network range of scores. Lower scores indicate lower social support. | | | | | |

***Table 4. Comparison of Parent Outcomes by Risk Factors***

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | ‘Low Risk’  N=70 | ‘Medium Risk’  N=78 | ‘High Risk’  N=42 | **F** | Effect size |
| PHQ-9 | 2.16 (2.5) | 3.81 (3.6) | 5.93 (5.2) | 13.69\*\* | 0.13 |
| PSOC scale | 77.14 (6.9) | 74.42 (9.4) | 71.36 (10.1) | 11.79\*\* | 0.06 |
| MPAS-QA Subscale | 42.32 (2.8) | 41.92 (3.4) | 41.05 (4.3) | 5.64 | 0.02 |
| ICQ-F/D subscale | 24.22 (7.2) | 24.93 (7.99) | 24.13 (9.6) | 0.16 | 0.00 |
| HOME-SF Cognitive Stimulation subscale | 7.1 (1.2) | 6.64 (1.5) | 6.39 (1.5) | 3.38\* | 0.04 |
| HOME-SF Emotional Support subscale | 6.25 (1.01) | 5.81 (1.2) | 5.42 (1.6) | 4.93\* | 0.06 |
| Service utilisation † | 9.7 (5.8) | 8.37 (4.5) | 8.64 (5.1) | 1.29 | 0.01 |
| **\* *p <* .05*;* \*\* *p* < .01**  *Note:* Low Risk = 0 risk factors; Medium Risk = 1-2 risk factors; High Risk = 3+ risk factors; Risk factors include: single parenthood, teenage parenthood, family poverty, parental history of depression, substance abuse, criminality, stressful life events and low social support.  *†* Sum of reported use of health and social care services for both parents and infants | | | | | |