

# School and professional careers in individuals with 22q11.2 deletion syndrome

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7-8 october 2017  
22q11-Europe



**UNIVERSITÉ  
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**FACULTÉ DE MÉDECINE**



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# Introduction

- School and professional careers are one of the main preoccupations for parents of affected individuals
- Most of children and adults with the 22q11DS have **mild intellectual disability** (approximately 55% have an IQ >71)
- **School and professional careers are very challenging** for individuals with 22q11DS.
- Potentially factors influencing school and professional careers :
  - Social functioning
  - Global functioning
  - Psychiatric diagnosis

# Examples

**When to make  
the decision  
about change in  
a specialized  
school**

**Will my child be  
able to find a  
job?**

**Will my child  
be able to stay  
in the ordinary  
school  
system?**

# Aims

**1. Describe school careers of individuals with 22q11DS**

⇒ regular school/specialized education school

**2. Describe professional careers of individuals with 22q11DS**

⇒ regular, sheltered job or unemployment

➔ **Propose advices to parents to guide them in the school and professional career of their child**

# Participants

- Two sites, Geneva and Tel Aviv :

	Sample Geneva	Sample Tel Aviv	Total
Number	<b>n=118</b>	<b>n=142</b>	<b>n=260</b>
Female/ Male	63/55	63/79	126/134
Age	18.5 ± 8.4	23.5 ± 11.9	21.3 ± 10.8
FSIQ (SD)	70.4 ± 12.7	74.4 ± 12.3	72.5 ± 12.6

# Method

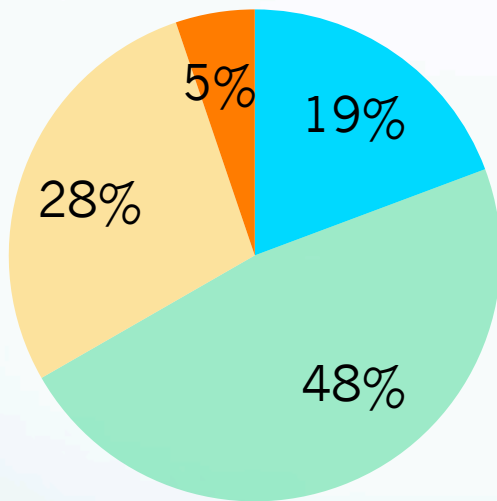
- Previous and current career school/work status : semi structured questionnaire
- Full IQ
- Adaptive functioning
- Presence of psychiatric diagnosis

# Legend for school career

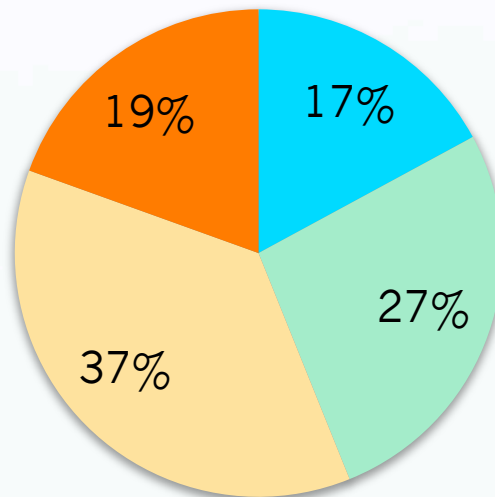
- Regular school in normal class
- Regular school with assistance like a need for personal assistant, additional time for exams...
- Specialized class (limited number of children, adapted program)
- Specialized education (in specialised school)

# Results : school career

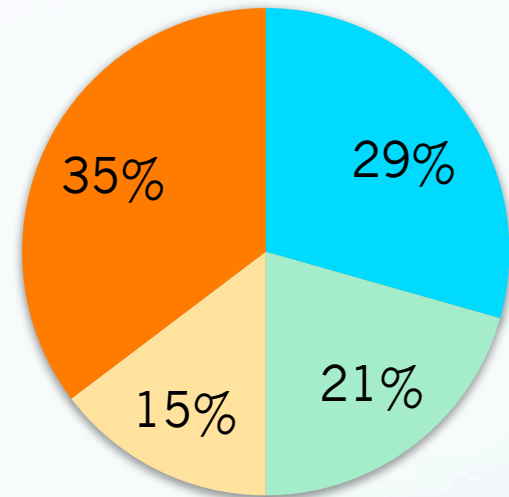
**5-12 years**



**13-16 years**



**17-21 years**



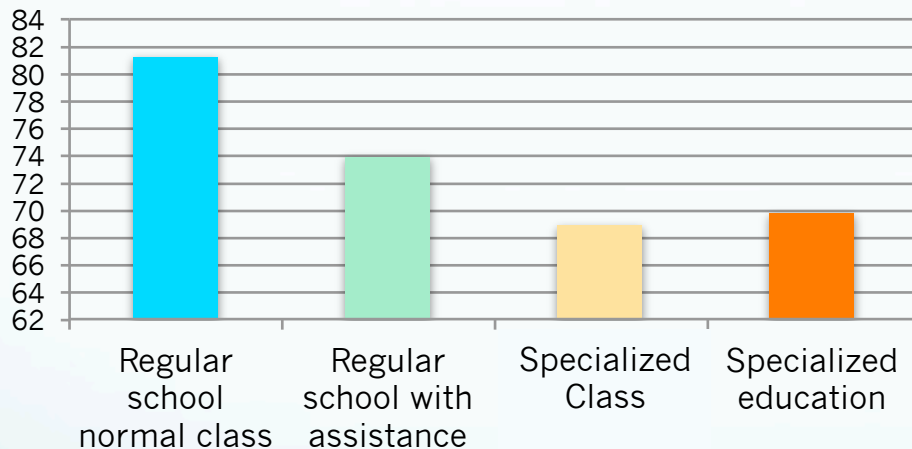
- Regular school normal class
- Regular school with assistance
- Specialized class
- Specialized education



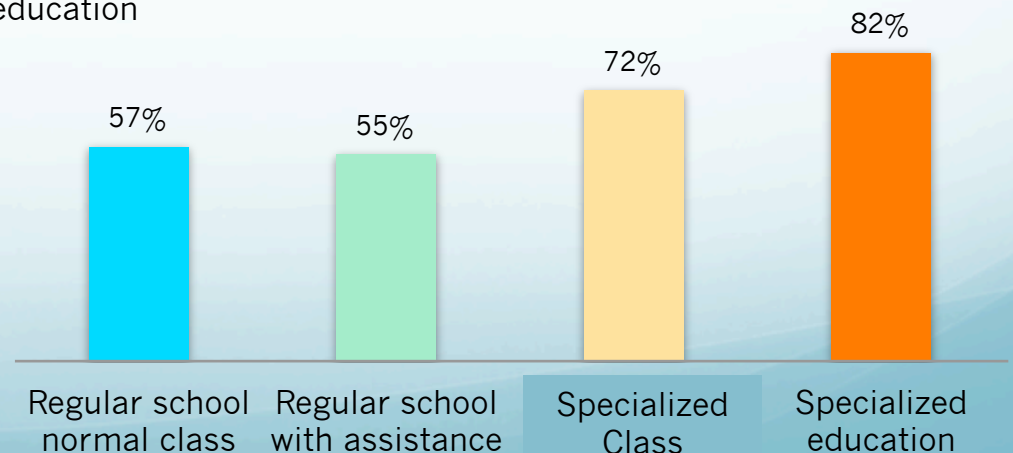
# Results : School career (2)

Characteristics of the sample according to current education groups

**FSIQ**

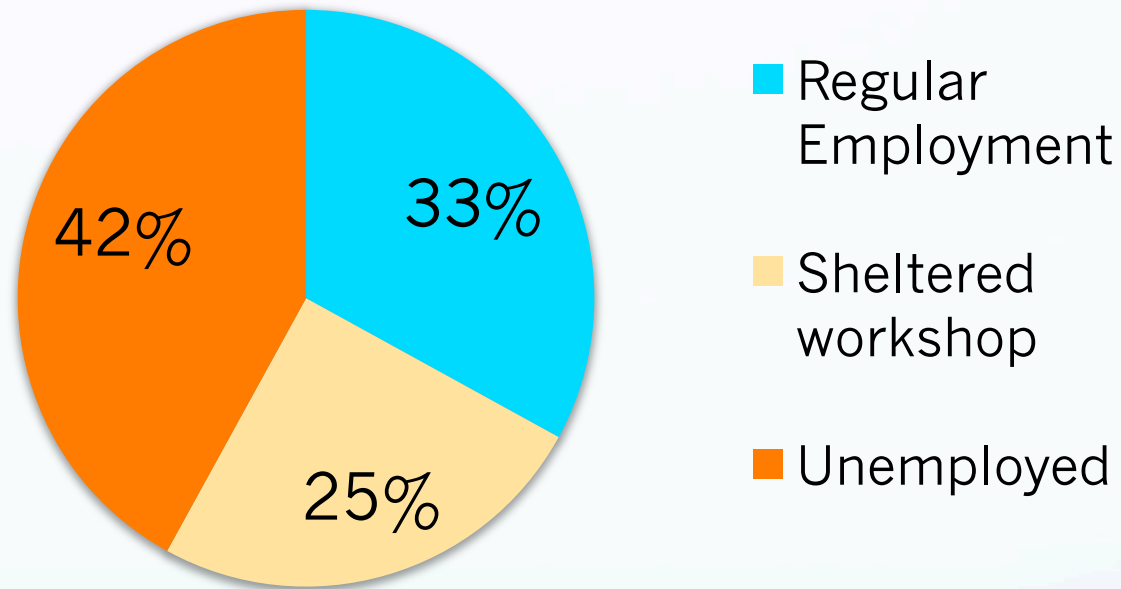


**Any psychiatric diagnosis**



# Results : professional career

## Characteristics of employment



- Group characteristic
  - Regular Employment > Sheltered workshop/unemployed  
=> Higher IQ, Higher adaptative functioning, better living situation and better autonomy

# Take home message

- Majority of individuals in ordinary school during primary level
- More adaptations needed in the secondary level
- Influence of IQ and psychiatric disorder on the school career
- Half of the individuals have a professional occupation at least (most with a sheltered job)
- High proportion of individuals unemployed
- Cognitive remediation and early intervention of psychiatric disorders represent a therapeutic target to improve outcome of individuals with 22q11DS

# Thanks

Families and Associations Families

Israël Team and my colleagues for Geneva

**And thank you for your attention.**

**connect22.ch**

**Relais**  
Syndrome de microdéletion 22q11.2

**GÉNÉRATION22**  
VIVRE AVEC LA MICRODÉLÉTION 22Q11.2

**22q11**  
IRELAND



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