

DIFFERENT DRIVERS & VEHICLES. SAFETY FOR ALL



Does the country make a difference: risky driving of Lithuanians, Irish and Lithuanian emigrants living in Ireland?

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Background

- In a sense of globalization cultural differences and their societal impact become serious issue across the world and across different behaviours.
- Migrational flows affect the road user composition and their behaviour as well. Countries must deal with drivers that come from different background nurtured by different traffic culture and culture in general. Behavioural differences that emerge due to the cultural effects create the challenges for safety policy world-wide.

Background (2)

- There are significant variations in drivers' behaviour and perceptions of traffic culture across the countries.
 - Drivers from Western and Northern Europe seem to have less aggressive and violative driving style than Southern European residents (Özkan et al., 2006; Warner et al., 2011).
- Still, information on cultural differences on driving behaviour is rather intuitive than scientific.
 - It is little known how immigrants adapt to the traffic culture in foreign country.
 - It only might be guessed if they accept the driving style of new country or hold the old style of driving.

Background (3)

- Only one study that had compared driving behaviour of local and emigrant drivers was found in the literature.
- Results showed that domestic Iranian drivers had reported more emotional violations than Iranians living abroad (Nordfjærn, Hezaveh, & Mamdoohi, 2015).

Aim

- to compare the driving behaviour among Lithuanian, Irish, and Lithuanian emigrants living in Ireland.
- to assess relationship between driving behaviour and other forms of risky behaviour in these groups.



Participants



N=116



55 %

32.38±8.3 years



N=128



56 %

33.05±12.3 years

Highest
education



N=116



58 %

34.7±9.27 years

Living 5.8
years

Questionnaires

1. Driver Behaviour Questionnaire (Reason & Parker, 1990):
 - Driving errors Cronbach α - .64.
 - Violations Cronbach α - .75.
2. Alcohol Use Disorders Identification Test (AUDIT), developed by WHO, Cronbach α - .82.
3. Alcohol, Smoking and Substance Involvement Screening Test (ASSIST V3), developed by WHO, Cronbach α - .58.

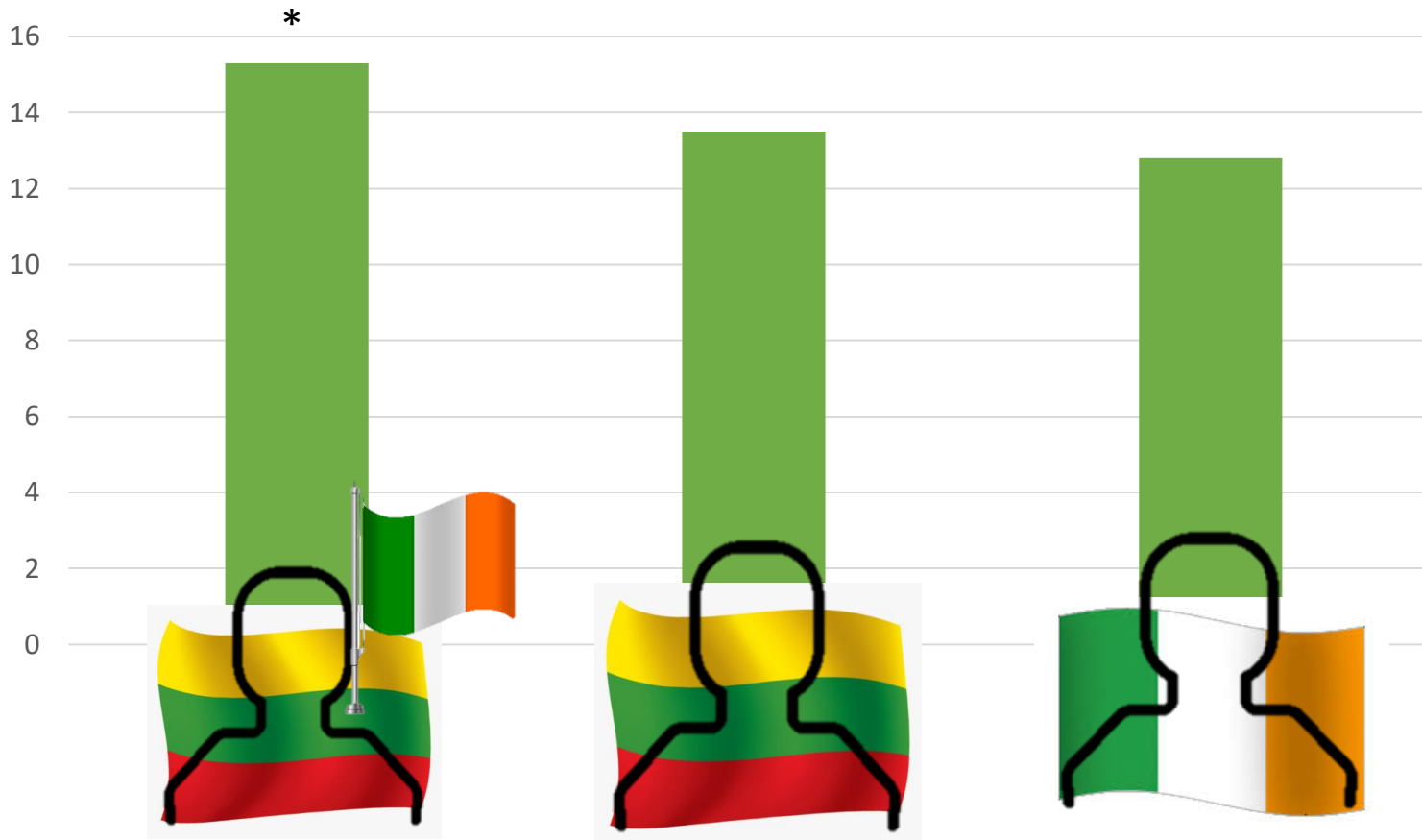
RESULTS



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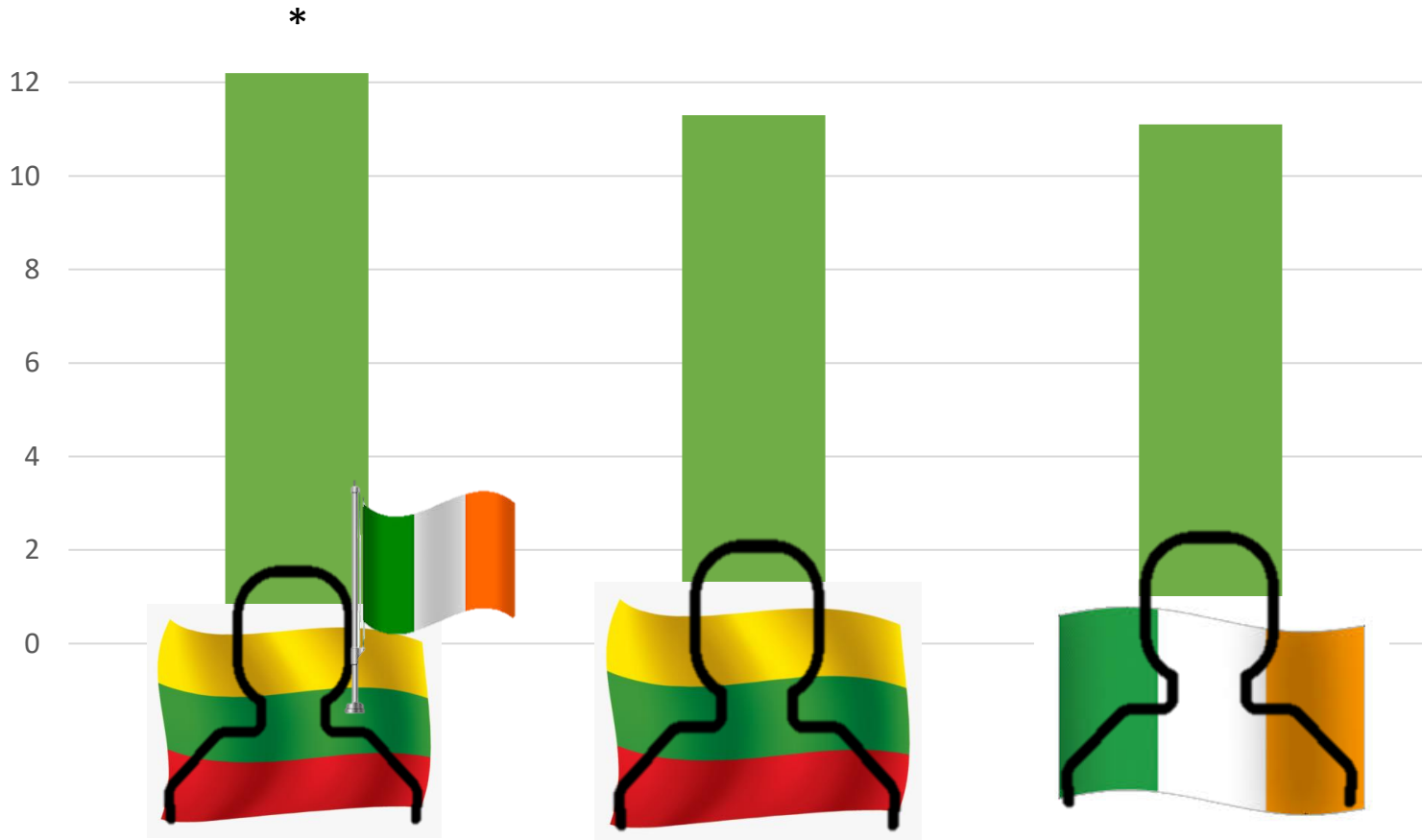
Results: intentional violations - males



Younger age
Lower education

Nagelkerke pseudo
 $R^2 = .208$; $\chi^2=34.568$;
df=10; $p<.001$

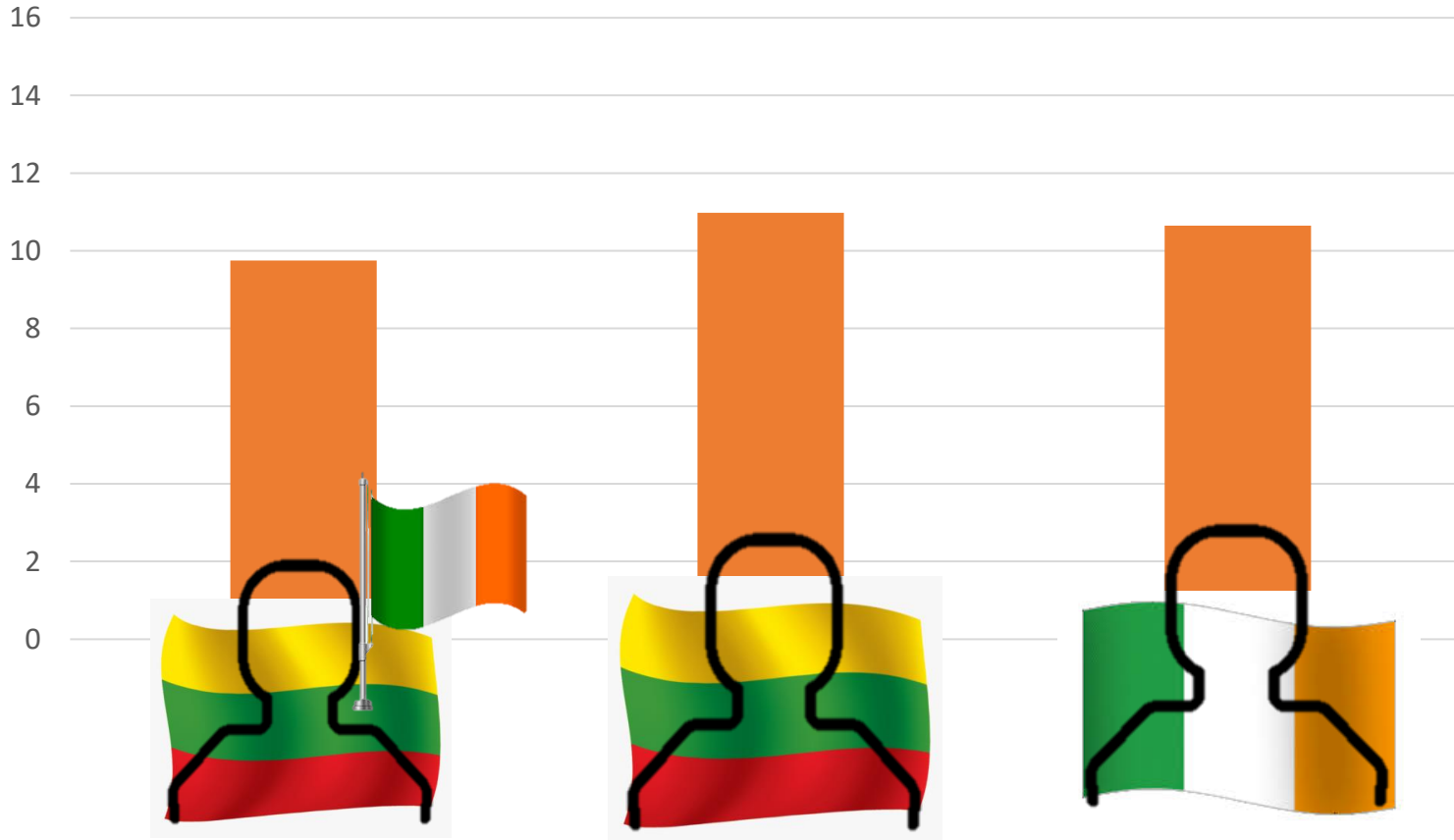
Results: intentional violations - females



Age ns.
 Higher education

Nagelkerke pseudo
 $R^2 = .189$; $\chi^2=25.304$;
 $df=10$; $p=.021$

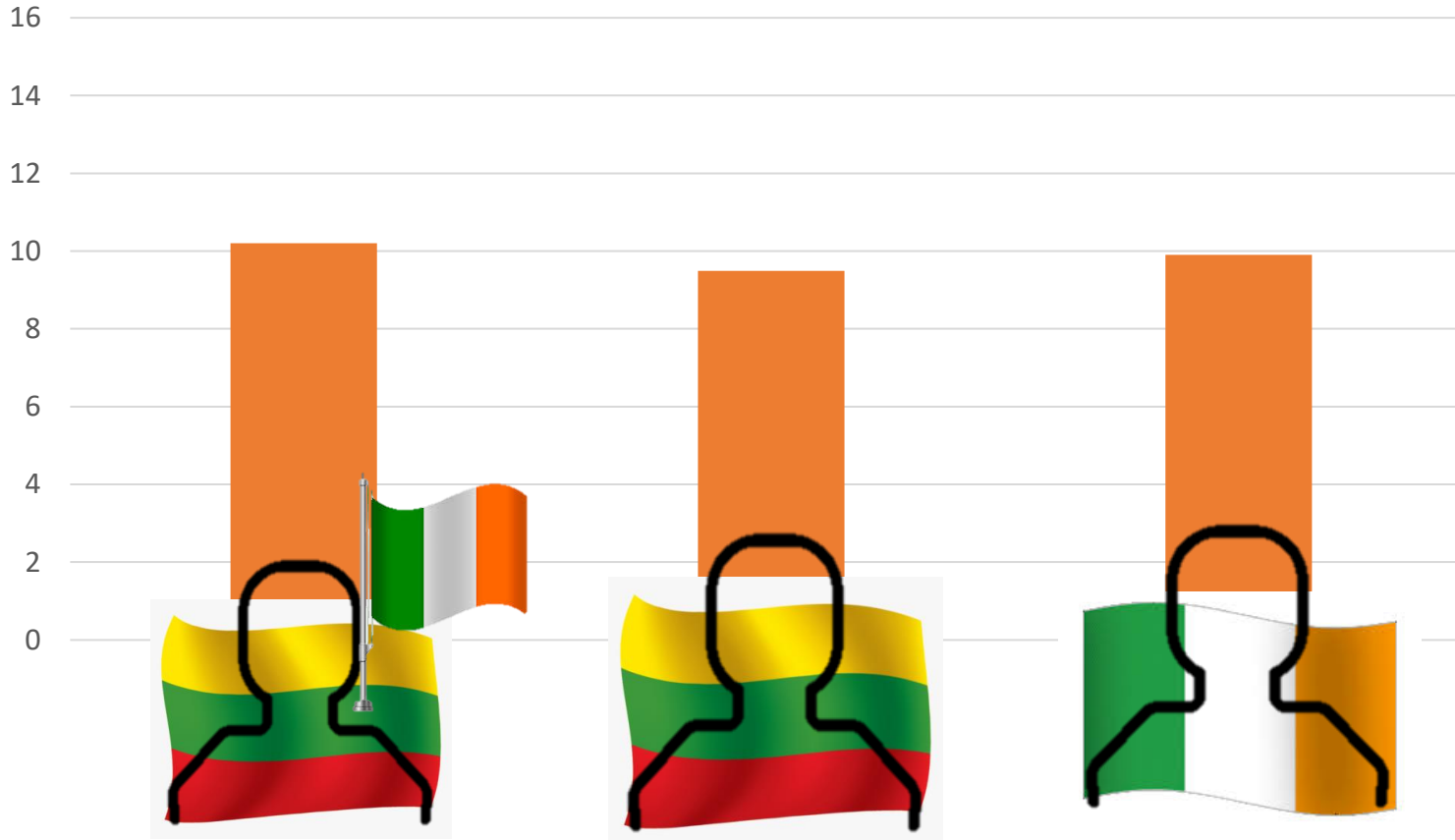
Results: driving errors - males



Age ns.
 Education ns.

Nagelkerke pseudo
 $R^2 = .065$; $\chi^2=10.044$;
 $df=10$; $p=.437$

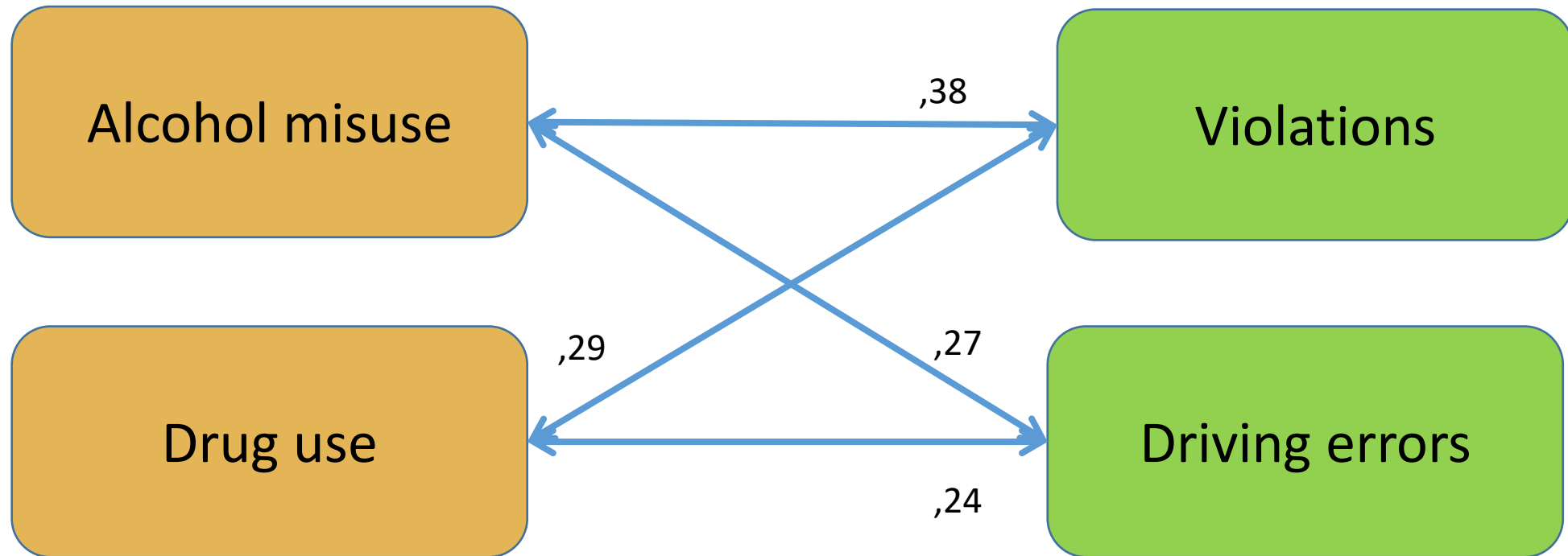
Results: driving errors - females



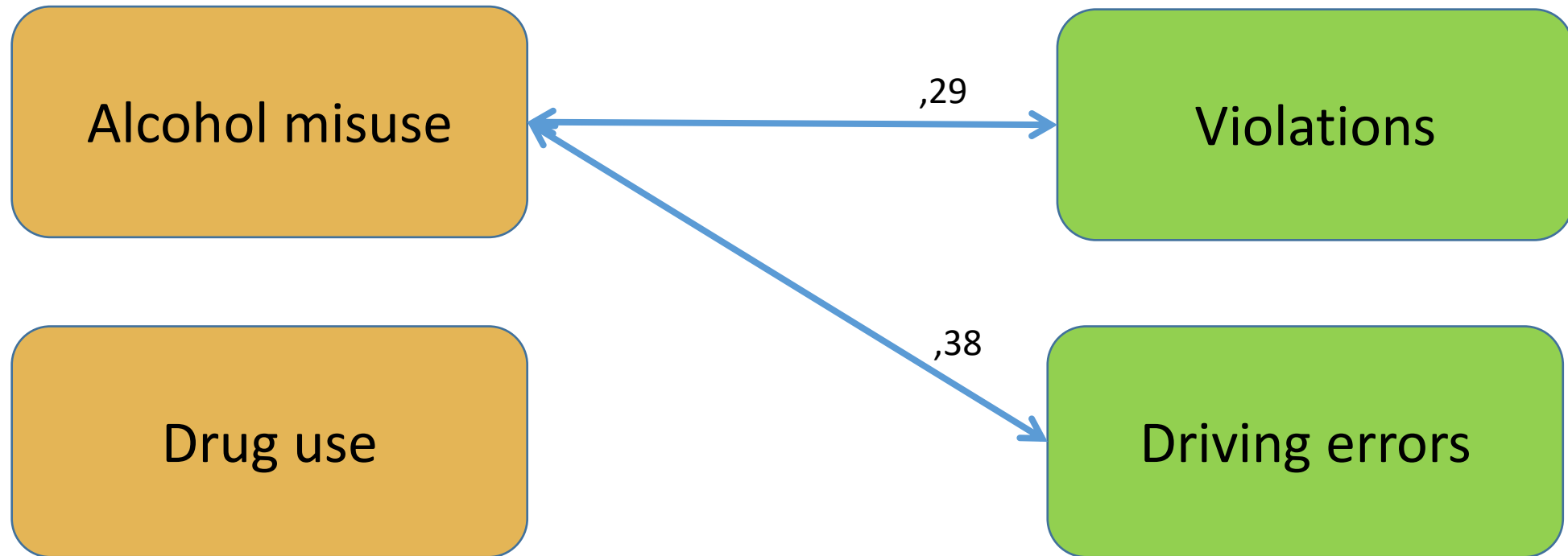
Older age
Higher education

Nagelkerke pseudo R^2
= .127; $\chi^2=22.593$;
df=10; p=.012

Results: relationships - males



Results: relationships - females



Conclusions

- Both male and female Lithuanian emigrants living in Ireland reported committing more driving violations than locals and Lithuanians living in own country after controlling for age and education differences.
- No significant differences among groups were found in driving errors, when age and education was taken into account. Only statistical tendency could be observed that male Lithuanian emigrants reported less driving errors than their counterparts.
- Driving errors and violations were positively related to alcohol misuse and illicit drug use for men, and only to alcohol use habits for women.

Discussion

- Lithuanian emigrants in Ireland, especially males, are seen as a special group of drivers in Ireland as they admit making more violations than locals. Men reported the lowest level of driving errors than other groups. This might indicate either higher self-confidence or difficulties to monitor and understand own behaviour.
- Data supported the hypothesis of self-selection for emigration and it manifests via driving as well as other risky taking behaviour. Groups differed in violations which have intentional nature, are related to personality. Most probably, emigration as well.

Limitations

- Small samples.
- Non-random selection.
- Self-reported measures.

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Have we ever thought about emigrants/immigrants?

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