



Roma in Ireland

**DATA +
ANALYTICS**



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Acknowledgements

The Department wishes to thank all colleagues who assisted in the collating of this Spotlight.

The challenges and barriers faced by those in the Roma community and other underrepresented communities in Ireland should be noted. Whilst this Spotlight details the available data on the Roma community, there are data limitations. The availability of disaggregated data across a wider range of areas would enable a fuller understanding of the barriers faced on a daily basis by the Roma community throughout Ireland.



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1. Introduction

This Statistical Spotlight presents some key data on people who are members of the Roma community in Ireland. Data sources include the Central Statistics Office (CSO) Census of Population 2022, Pobal, Department of Education, Pavee Point Traveller and Roma Centre, and Nasc Ireland, amongst others.

The most recent Census of Population 2022 marks the first time that Roma was included as a separate category in the ethnicity question. Prior to this, only unofficial statistics were available. This Spotlight focuses on data related to the Roma community in Ireland. For some tables and charts, data are also provided on the Traveller community and the general population for comparative purposes.

The Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth (DCEDIY) published the National Traveller and Roma Implementation Strategy II (NTRIS II) in July 2024.¹ The actions and strategies included in NTRIS II aim to change attitudes and remediate inequalities for Travellers and Roma living in Ireland.

Included in NTRIS II is a review of systems of data collection and available research across all State-funded organisations, processes and systems relevant to the Traveller and Roma communities: (i) to ensure compliance with the requirements of the Public Sector Equality and Human Rights Duty (where it applies); (ii) to support the monitoring and evaluation of actions under NTRIS II and of services delivered to the Traveller and Roma communities; and (iii) for any gaps identified, to propose ways to improve the quality of data collected, the variety of disaggregated data published, or new research, consistent with the upcoming National Equality Data Strategy.

¹ [National Traveller and Roma Inclusion Strategy II - gov.ie](https://www.gov.ie/en/publications-and-resources/publication/national-traveller-and-roma-inclusion-strategy-ii/)



1.1 Defining Roma

Roma constitutes the largest minority ethnic group in Europe. While it is widely acknowledged that Roma throughout Europe are dramatically undercounted, or in some cases not counted in official data at all, it is estimated that there are 10-12 million Roma across Europe.² Despite sharing common ancestry, Roma migration over centuries has produced many unique communities in various countries and regions.

The term 'Roma' used at the Council of Europe refers to Roma, Sinti, Kale and related groups in Europe, including Irish Travellers and the Eastern groups (Dom and Lom), and covers the wide diversity of the groups concerned, including persons who identify themselves as 'Gypsies'. 'Roma' is the preferred term used by Roma representative groups across countries including Romania, Czechia, Slovakia, Hungary, and Poland which are the main countries of origin for Roma groups in Ireland.³

The term 'Gypsy' in various languages has come to be seen by most Roma groups as pejorative.

The data and analysis in this report should be interpreted with some caution as the data sources may underrepresent the number of Roma in Ireland. It is also important to acknowledge that the data involve individuals self-identifying as Roma, which is, in all cases, optional. Readers should also be aware that some of the data presented are based on small sample sizes which limits any potential conclusions that can be drawn about the wider population. Furthermore, the relatively small population size means that there is a greater chance of outliers being observed.

² [Pavee Point Traveller and Roma Centre & Department of Justice and Equality \(2018\) Roma in Ireland - A National Needs Assessment](#)

³ *ibid*



2. Population Overview

2.1 Number of Roma in Ireland

In 2022, there were 16,059 people in Ireland who identified as Roma⁴, representing 0.3% of the total population of Ireland. There is very little recent, standalone data on the number of Roma in Ireland in earlier years. In 2018, the National Roma Needs Assessment⁵ estimated that there were ~5,000 Roma living in Ireland.⁶

2.2 Number of Roma in Ireland by Age Group

Table 1 provides a detailed breakdown of Roma in Ireland by age group. Looking at the composition of the Roma population, Roma children aged 0-14 years and Roma adults aged 25-44 years were the largest groups, with 4,223 and 6,908 respectively, accounting for over half of the total Roma population in Ireland. The smallest group was those over the age of 65, with 257 people.

Table 1 Total number of Roma in Ireland, by age group and percentage of total population

Ethnic or Cultural Background	Age Group (years)	Total	As a % of total population	As a % of all ethnic or cultural backgrounds
All ethnic or cultural backgrounds	0-14	999,885	19.7%	-
	15-24	628,805	12.4%	-
	25-44	1,395,955	27.5%	-
	45-64	1,276,199	25.1%	-
	65+	767,976	15.1%	-
Total		5,068,820		
Roma	0-14	4,223	26.2%	0.42%
	15-24	2,096	13%	0.33%
	25-44	6,908	43%	0.49%
	45-64	2,575	16%	0.20%
	65+	257	1.6%	0.033%
Total		16,059		

Source: Central Statistics Office Census of Population 2022

⁴ CSO Census Results 2022 – Ethnic Groups/Backgrounds

⁵ Pavee Point Traveller and Roma Centre & Department of Justice and Equality (2018) Roma in Ireland - A National Needs Assessment

⁶ The findings of the 2016 Census of Population question on ethnicity showed that 124,019 people did not state an ethnicity, with a further 70,603 stating “other, including mixed background”



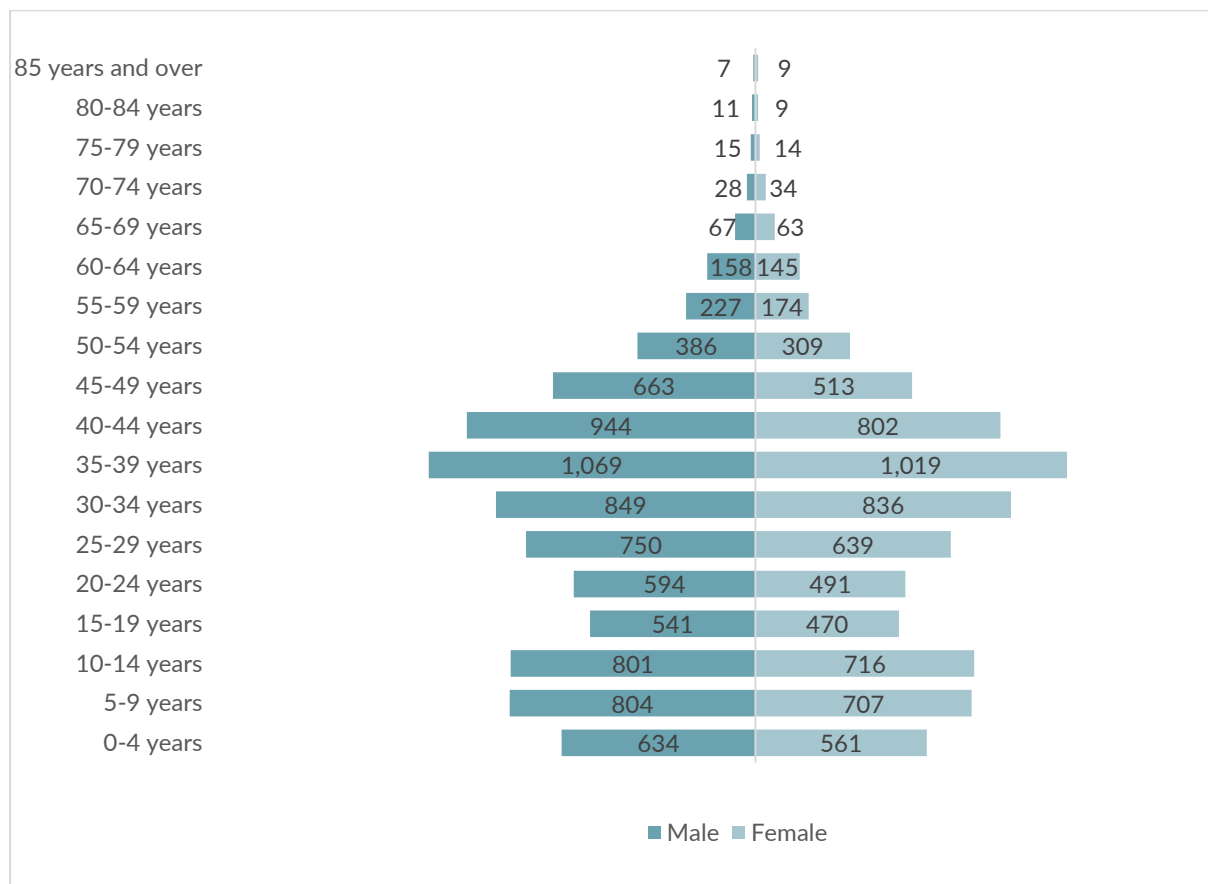
2.3 Number of Roma in Ireland by Sex

Figure 1 provides a detailed breakdown of Roma in Ireland by age group and sex. The split between male and female Roma is relatively even across all age groups, with there being slightly more male (8,548) than female (7,511). The only age groups where there are more females than males are in the 70-74 cohort and the 85+ cohort.

There were 6,319 young Roma⁷ living in Ireland in 2022, accounting for 39% of the total Roma population. The majority of Roma living in Ireland fall between the ages of 25 and 64, accounting for 59% (9,483) of the total Roma population.

There were a very small number of Roma over the age of 80 living in Ireland (<50).

Figure 1 Number of Roma in Ireland, by age group and sex



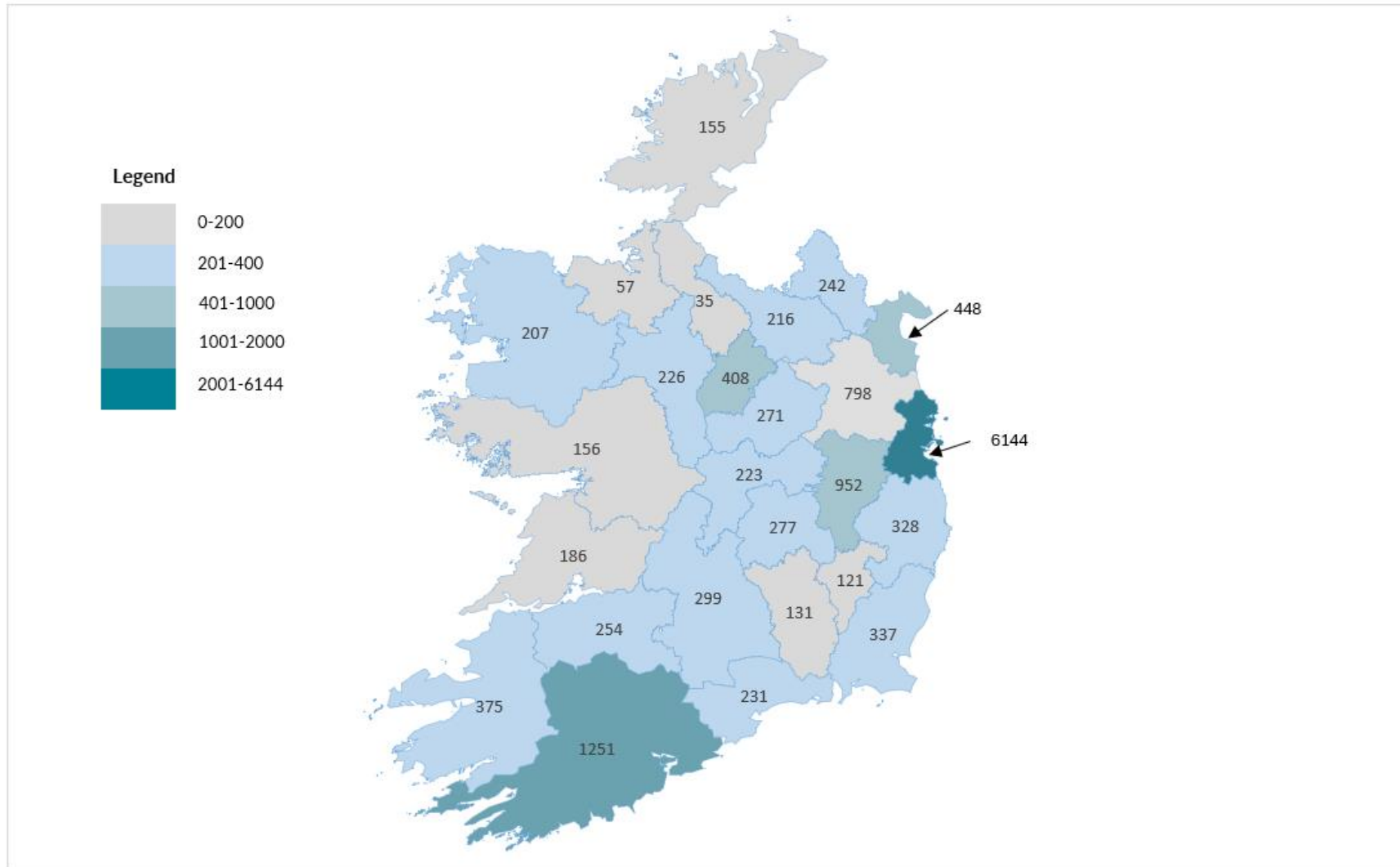
N = 16,059

⁷ "Young Roma" refers to Roma from 0-24 years of age



3. Location

Figure 2 Number of Roma in Ireland, by county





As per the most recent Census (2022), the vast majority of Roma in Ireland were located in Dublin, accounting for 38% (6,144) of the total Roma population. The county with the smallest population of Roma was Leitrim, with ~35 (0.2% of the total Roma population in Ireland).

With the exception of Cork, where 1,251 Roma were located (and Dublin as outlined above), each other county in Ireland had less than 1,000 Roma residents.

By way of comparison, roughly 1,500 people in Northern Ireland identified as Roma (0.07% of the total population of Northern Ireland),⁸ and around 101,135 people identifying as Roma live in England and Wales⁹ (~0.2% of the total population of both England and Wales combined). Comparable figures for Scotland were not available.

⁸ [Gypsy, Roma and Travellers: Statistics, House of Commons Library](#)

⁹ [Roma populations: England and Wales, Census 2021](#)

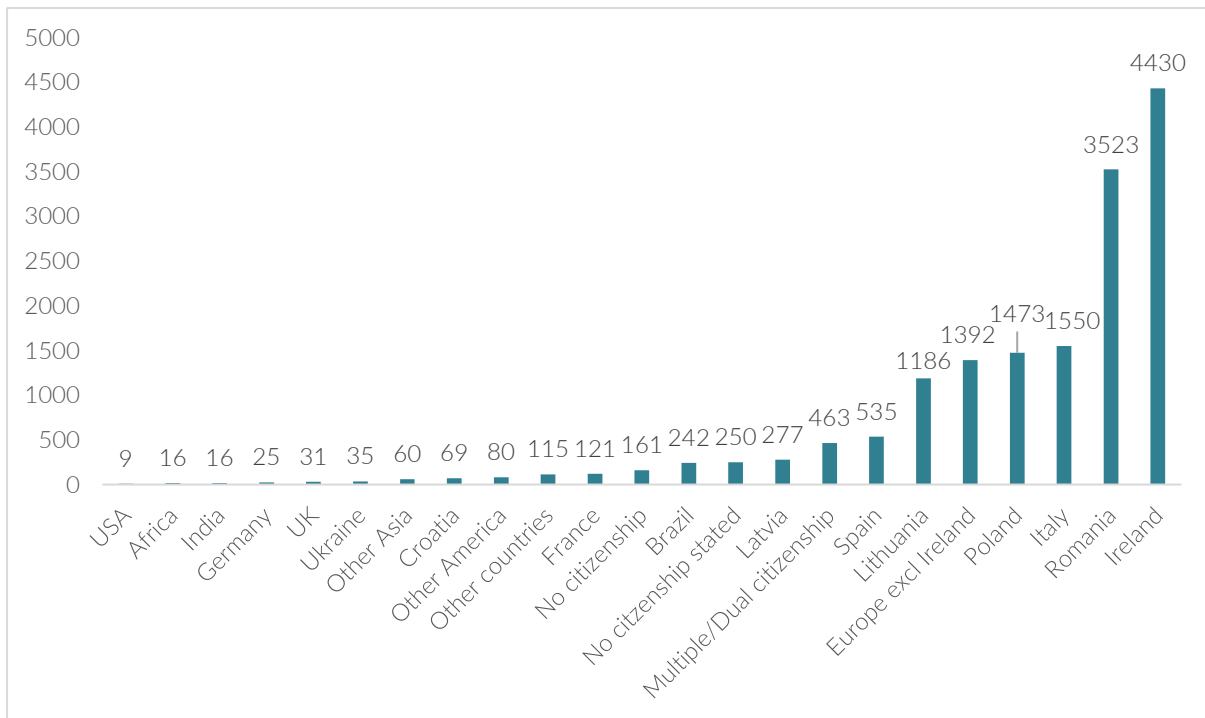


4. Citizenship

As can be seen in the below chart, the majority of Roma in Ireland define their citizenship as Irish (approximately 27.6%). Roughly 22% of Roma in Ireland define themselves as citizens of Romania. Italy is the next most common place for the Roma community to state they hold citizenship for, with slightly under 10% of the community stating such in the 2022 Census.

161 persons from the Roma community, or around 1%, stated that they had no citizenship¹⁰, with a further 1.6% not stating their citizenship on the Census forms.

Figure 3 Number of Roma in Ireland, by citizenship



¹⁰ The Immigrant Council of Ireland defines those as having no citizenship as “people who have no nationality, either through legal gaps or through discriminatory state practices”.



5. Health Status

In 2022, the majority of the Roma population in Ireland considered themselves to be healthy, with 14,302 (87%) noting that their general health was good or very good. A small proportion of the Roma population in Ireland noted that their general health was bad or very bad (2.6%; 423 persons). This is broadly in line with the general population of Ireland, where 83% of the population report their health as good or very good.¹¹

Table 2 Percentage and number of Roma population and general population in Ireland, by health status

Health Status	% of Roma population	Number	% of general population	Number
General Health – Very Good	47.8%	7,689	75.14%	2,698,235
General Health – Good	38.3%	6,163	8.50%	305,686
General Health – Fair	8.03%	1,290	12.20%	439,446
General Health – Bad	2.13%	343	1.99%	71,707
General Health – Very Bad	0.49%	80	0.46%	16,645
Not Stated	3.07%	494	1.67%	58,919
Total		16,059		3,590,638

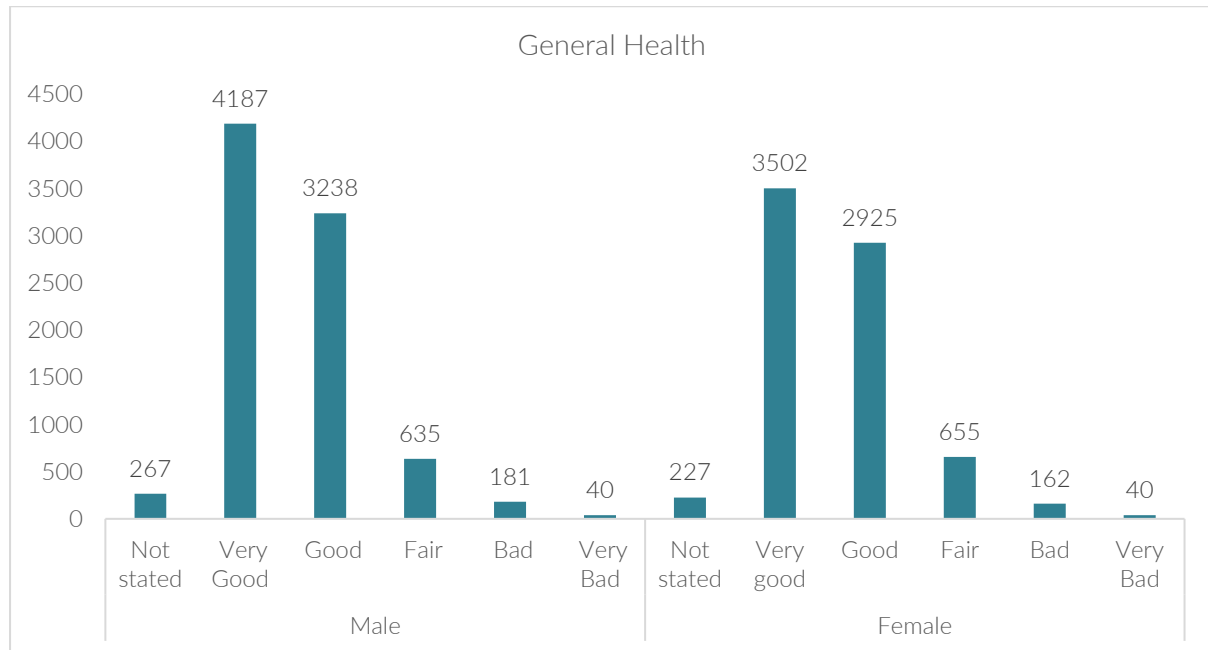
49% of Roma males described their general health as very good in 2022, with less than 1% describing their health as very bad and 2.1% describing their health as bad. In contrast, 46.6% of Roma females described their health as very good. As with males, less than 1% of Roma females described their health as very bad, and 2.1% described their health as bad.

Overall, the majority of males (86.8%) and females (85.5%) in the Roma community in Ireland in 2022 described their health as good or very good.

¹¹ [Census of Ireland 2022 Profile 4 - Disability, Health and Carers](#)



Figure 4 Number of Roma in Ireland, by health status and sex



5.1 Smoker Status

As per the Census of Population 2022, approximately 23% of Roma smoke daily or occasionally. This is higher than the 13% of the general population who smoke daily or occasionally. 880 members of the Roma community in the 35-44-year-old age group smoke tobacco products every day, the highest of all the age cohorts. A similar number in the same cohort, 893 don't smoke tobacco products, having given up. These people account for roughly 16% of the cohort.

The majority (approximately 78% or 4,996) of young Roma noted that they have never smoked tobacco products. This is mostly on par with the general smoker status of youth in Ireland, whereby 88% of youth in Ireland stated that they have never smoked tobacco products.¹²

While the majority have never smoked, 343 young Roma noted on the Census that they smoke tobacco products every day, accounting for roughly 5% of the total young Roma population in Ireland.

¹² Central Statistics Office, Census 2022 – Smoking Tobacco Products



In Section 4 of NTRIS II, Health & Wellbeing, DCEDIY commits to developing a Roma Health Action Plan, incorporating mental health actions and relevant lessons from Roma health pilot advocacy projects currently underway. This action plan is expected to be completed in Q4 2025.¹³

Table 3 Number of Roma population and general population in Ireland, by smoker status and age group

Smoker Status	Age Group	Number of Roma Population	Number of General Population
Smoke Tobacco Products Daily	0-14 years	4	561
	15-19 years	82	8,164
	20-24 years	257	30,103
	25-29 years	355	38,872
	30-34 years	429	43,406
	35-44 years	880	101,318
	45-54 years	492	91,332
	55-64 years	167	71,607
	65-74 years	37	40,675
75 years and over	15	16,743	
Smoke Tobacco Products Occasionally	0-14 years	0	273
	15-19 years	55	11,534
	20-24 years	126	31,334
	25-29 years	165	31,102
	30-34 years	167	27,628
	35-44 years	329	49,760
	45-54 years	133	32,553
	55-64 years	41	20,831
	65-74 years	10	11,672
75 years and over	1	5,502	
Don't Smoke Tobacco Products – Have Given up	0-14 years	39	7,097
	15-19 years	42	9,011
	20-24 years	121	20,261
	25-29 years	174	33,675
	30-34 years	270	54,153
	35-44 years	893	184,829
	45-54 years	474	198,466
	55-64 years	170	179,629
	65-74 years	44	158,454
75 years and over	12	116,648	

¹³ [National Traveller and Roma Inclusion Strategy II \(2024-2028; NTRIS II\) – gov.ie](https://www.gov.ie/en/publications-and-resources/tables/2024-08-13-national-traveller-and-roma-inclusion-strategy-ii-2024-2028-ntris-ii/)



Never Smoked Tobacco Products	0-14 years	3,689	895,772
	15-19 years	776	279,826
	20-24 years	531	192,281
	25-29 years	654	162,510
	30-34 years	753	172,340
	35-44 years	1,631	384,835
	45-54 years	727	336,967
	55-64 years	288	267,873
	65-74 years	89	200,041
	75 years and over	34	171,401
Smoking Status not Stated	0-14 years	491	96,182
	15-19 years	56	22,634
	20-24 years	50	23,657
	25-29 years	41	22,346
	30-34 years	66	27,635
	35-44 years	101	61,546
	45-54 years	45	45,254
	55-64 years	38	31,687
	65-74 years	12	24,346
	75 years and over	3	22,914



6. Disability

6.1 Disability – Young Roma

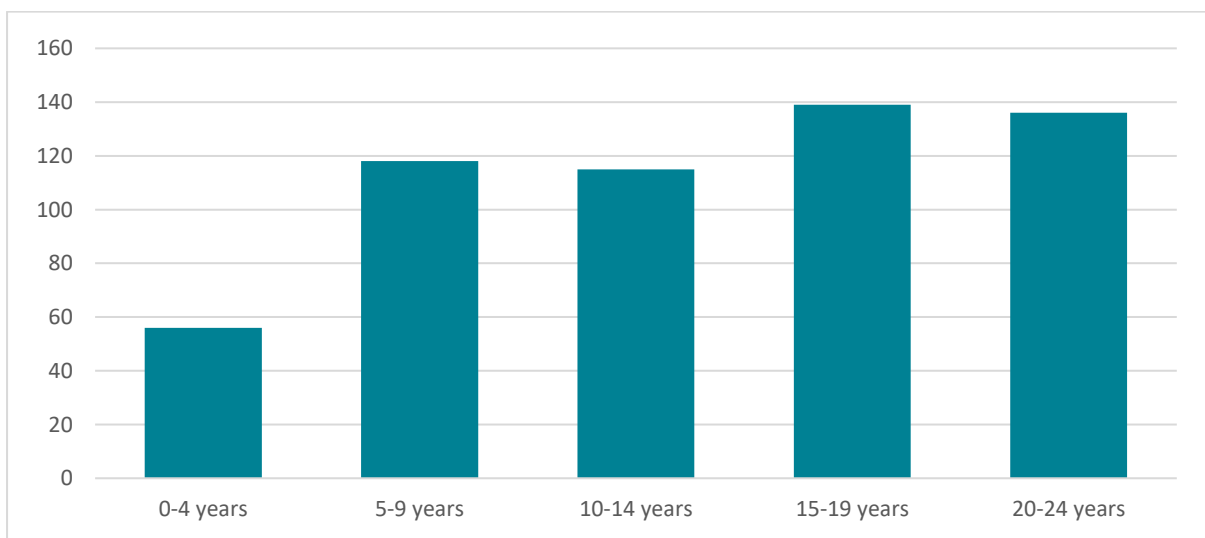
Overall, in 2022, roughly 14.4% of the Roma population in Ireland had a disability. In the general population, approximately 21.1% stated that they had a disability in the 2022 Census.

In 2022, there were 564 Roma aged 0-24 years old with a disability. This comprised of 311 males and 253 females.

In 2022, around 11% of males with disabilities were aged 0-4 years old, compared to 8% of female Roma within the same age bracket. For both males and females, the proportion with a disability mainly increased with age. For example, in the same year, roughly 24% of male Roma with disabilities were aged 20-24 years old; with a comparable figure of roughly 29% for females of the same age.

In terms of the overall young Roma population, the highest proportion of those with a disability was in the 15-19-year-old age bracket, with around 13% of Roma in this age group having a disability.

Figure 5 Number of young Roma (0-24-year-olds) with a disability, by age group

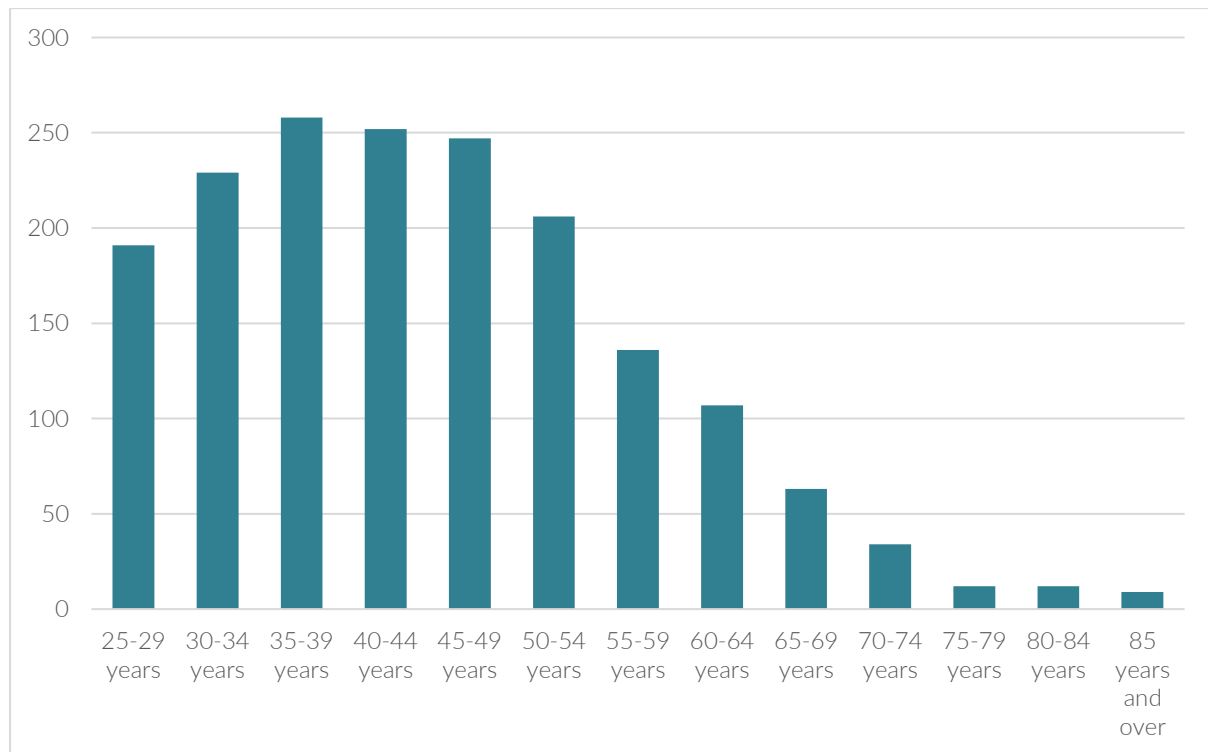




6.2 Disability – Adult Roma

In 2022, there were 1,756 Roma between the ages of 25 and 85+ years old with a disability, equating to 10.95% of the Roma population in this age bracket. This comprised of 893 males and 863 females.

Figure 6 Number of adult Roma (25-85+-year-olds) with a disability, by age group



As can be seen from Table 4 below, the percentage of those with a disability increased with age, similar to the young Roma cohort. For example, roughly 14% of Roma females between the ages of 25 and 29 had a disability, with males having a similar percentage (approximately 13%). However, the majority of Roma females in the 80-84 age bracket indicated they had a disability (roughly 78%), compared with approximately 45% of males of the same age.

It must be noted that the actual population of Roma in these age brackets is in and of itself small and therefore these numbers may not necessarily be indicative.



Table 4 Percentage of adult Roma with a disability, by age group and sex

Age Group	Male	Female
25-29 years	13%	14%
30-34 years	14%	14%
35-39 years	12%	13%
40-44 years	14%	15%
45-49 years	19%	23%
50-54 years	31%	28%
55-59 years	31%	37%
60-64 years	32%	39%
65-69 years	42%	56%
70-74 years	54%	56%
75-79 years	27%	57%
80-84 years	45%	78%
85 years and over	29%	78%

Percentages above are rounded to the nearest whole number



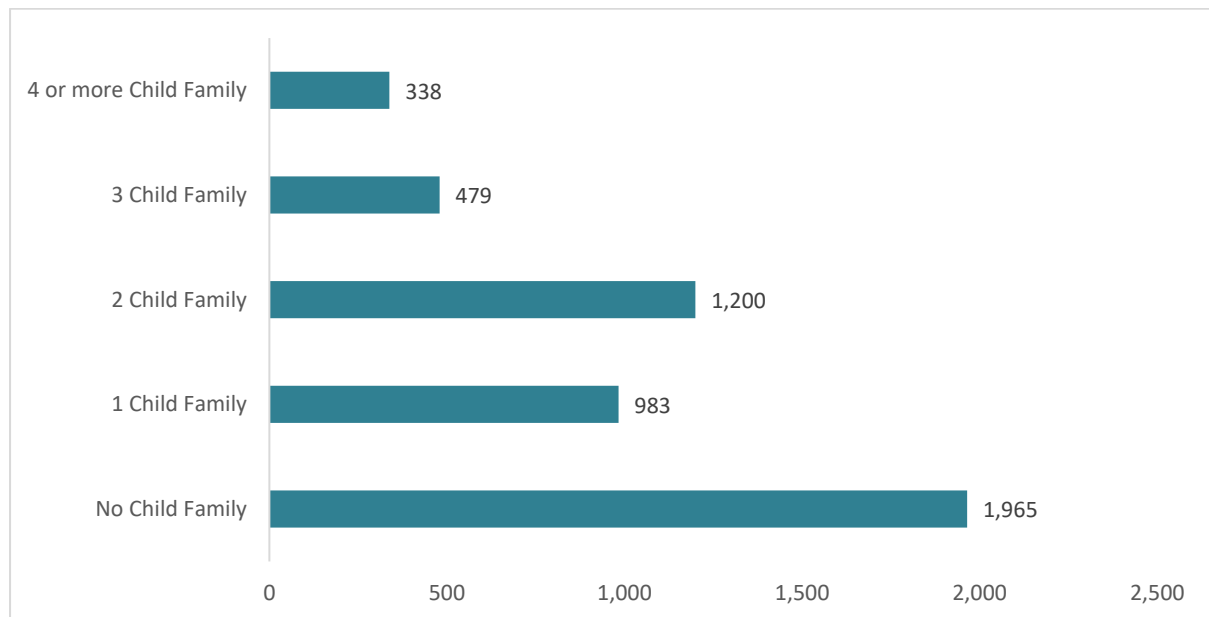
7. Household Composition

In 2022, there were 4,965 Roma families living in Ireland. Approximately 40% of these families had no children, 20% had one child, 24% had two children, 10% had three children and 7% had four or more children.

By comparison, approximately 52% of families in the general population had no children, 18% had one child, 17% had two children, 8% had three children, and 3% had four or more children.

In the “Roma in Ireland – A National Needs Assessment” report (2018), the average household size in the Roma community was 5.5, higher than the average household size in the general population of 2.75.

Figure 7 Number of Roma families in Ireland, by number of children





7.1 Marital Status

In 2022, 5,558 members of the Roma community aged 15 years and over in Ireland were married, including those in a same-sex civil partnership. This accounts for 46% of those in this age group. Figures for those specifically in a same-sex partnership were unavailable.

8.2% of Roma between the ages of 15 and 24 years were married, significantly higher than the same age range in the general population (< 0.5%).

Over half of Roma between the ages of 25 and 44 years were married, compared with 42% of the general population in this age range.

Around 44% of Roma in Ireland between the ages of 15 and 65+ years were single, with 5,232 members of the Roma community stating such in the 2022 Census.

The highest number of those who were separated or divorced was in the 25-64-year-old age bracket, accounting for 801 persons or 8% of those in this age group.

Table 5 Number of Roma in Ireland, by marital status, age group and sex

	Single	Married (including same-sex civil partnerships)	Separated (including divorced)	Widowed	Total
Male					
15-24 years	1,075	57	3	0	1,135
25-44 years	1,612	1,815	178	7	3,612
45-64 years	278	934	196	26	1,434
65 years and over	24	76	19	9	128
Total	2,989	2,882	396	42	6,309
Female					
15-24 years	836	116	8	1	961
25-44 years	1,188	1,848	236	24	3,296
45-64 years	207	668	191	75	1,141
65 years and over	12	44	23	50	129
Total	2,243	2,676	458	150	5,527



8. Attitudes towards Roma in Ireland

A survey conducted by Ipsos on behalf of DCEDIY in June 2023 focused on people in Ireland's attitude towards diversity¹⁴, with the Roma community being mentioned specifically. An outline of some of the responses in this survey is below.

Over half of those surveyed (53%) would be comfortable living next door to a member of the Roma community. This was the same (53%) as those surveyed who would be comfortable living next door to a member of the Traveller community.

It was noted that 55% of respondents would not be comfortable with a child of theirs being in a love relationship with a member of the Roma community, the second lowest of the ethnic groups in the survey; being comfortable with a child of theirs being in a love relationship with a member of the Traveller community was the lowest at 43%. The highest level of comfort was with a person who is Irish (95%).

The majority of those surveyed (80%) would be comfortable with their child(ren) being in the same school class as a child from the Roma community. All ethnic groups included in the survey had high levels of acceptance and people were very happy to have a person from these groups in the classroom with their child(ren).

In terms of employability, it was noted that 63% of those surveyed believed that identifying as a member of the Roma community would put a person at a disadvantage when being hired for a role. The Roma community was the second highest ethnic group that those surveyed believed would face disadvantage when being hired for a role (members of the Traveller community was the highest ethnic group, with 67% of those surveyed believing identifying as a member of the Traveller community would put a person at a disadvantage when being hired for a role).

In NTRIS II, Action 61 endeavours to understand the general population's knowledge and appreciation of Roma and Traveller culture and heritage, aiming to recognise the equal status that Roma and Traveller communities hold in Irish society.¹⁵

¹⁴ [Survey on People in Ireland's attitude towards diversity, June 2023 - gov.ie](#)

¹⁵ [National Traveller and Roma Inclusion Strategy II \(2024-2028\) Action Plan 2024-2026](#)



9. Homeless Persons

As per the Census of Population 2022, 652 Roma people identified as homeless, accounting for 4.06% of the Roma community in Ireland. There was a relatively even split between homeless males and homeless females, with males accounting for approximately 52% of the homeless Roma population. It should be noted that homelessness as defined by the Census of Population differs to other data sources on homelessness.

Figure 8 Number of homeless Roma in Ireland, by sex

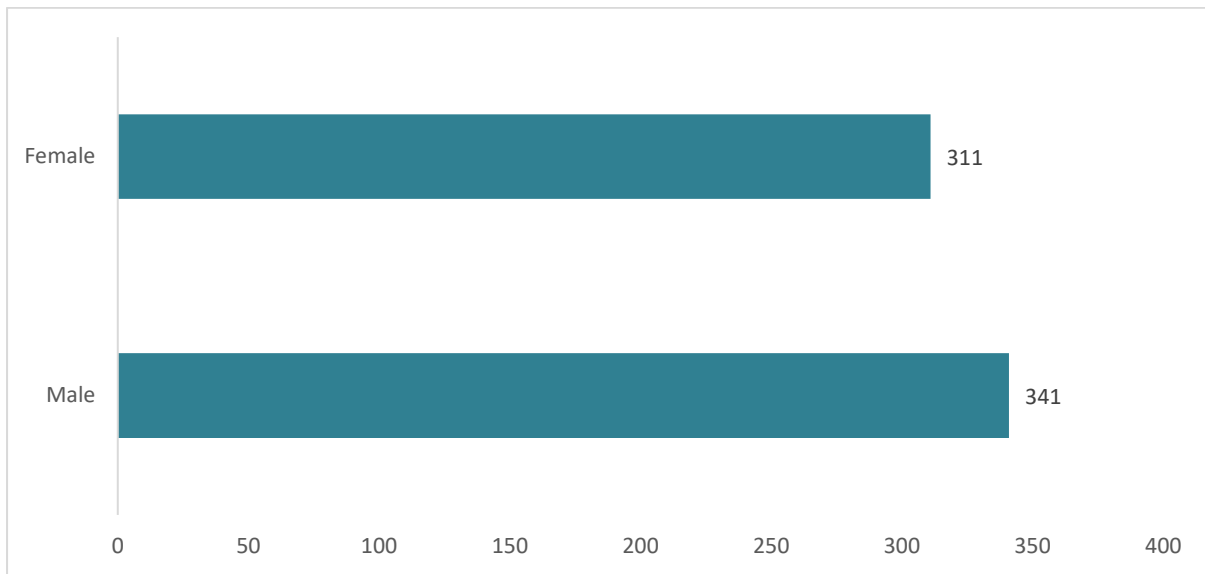


Table 6 Percentage of homeless Roma in Roma population and homeless population, by sex

Homeless Roma by sex	% of Roma population	% of total homeless population
Male	2.12%	5.51%
Female	1.93%	7.54%
Total	4.06%	13.05%

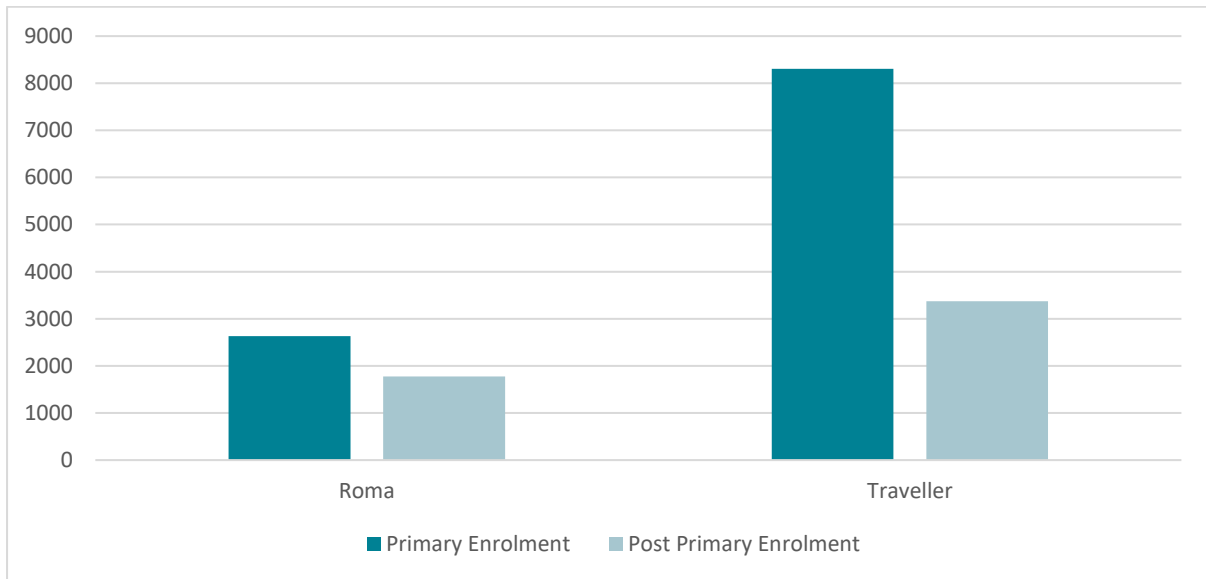


10. Education

10.1 Early Education

In the academic year 2022/2023, there were 3,404 Roma children enrolled in primary and post-primary schools (2,629 in primary school and 1,775 in post-primary school). This equated to approximately 88% of all Roma aged 5-14 years old.

Figure 9 Number of Roma and Traveller enrolments in primary and post-primary schools

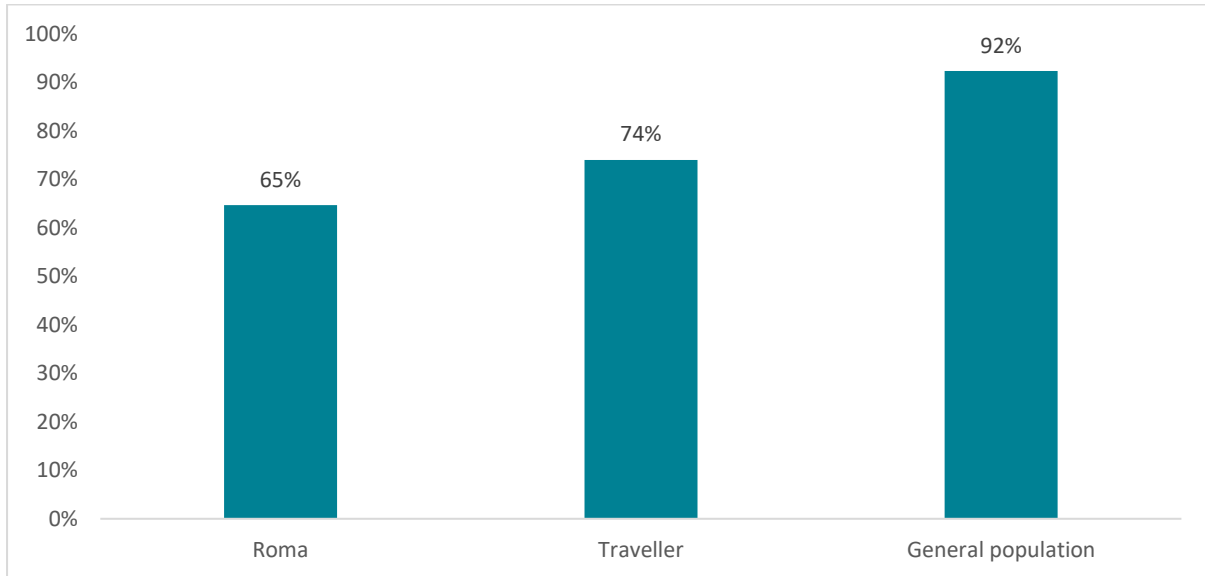


10.2 Primary Level

In 2022/2023, 64.7% of Roma children entered Junior Infants classes in primary school from the Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) Programme or another pre-school setting. In comparison, approximately 74% of Traveller children entered Junior Infants classes from the same route. In terms of the general population of Ireland, 92.3% of children entered the primary school system from either the ECCE Programme or another pre-school setting.



Figure 10 Percentage of Roma, Traveller, and general population commencing Junior Infants from pre-school/ECCE Programme



10.3 Secondary Level

The rate of transfer from primary school to post-primary school for Roma children in 2022/2023 was approximately 89%. The average rate of transfer in the same period for Travellers was lower at around 83%. The national average rate of transfer was ~96%.¹⁶

In 2022, there were 332 Roma enrolled in further education programmes in Ireland. This number increases to 345 when combining further education and adult literacy programmes.

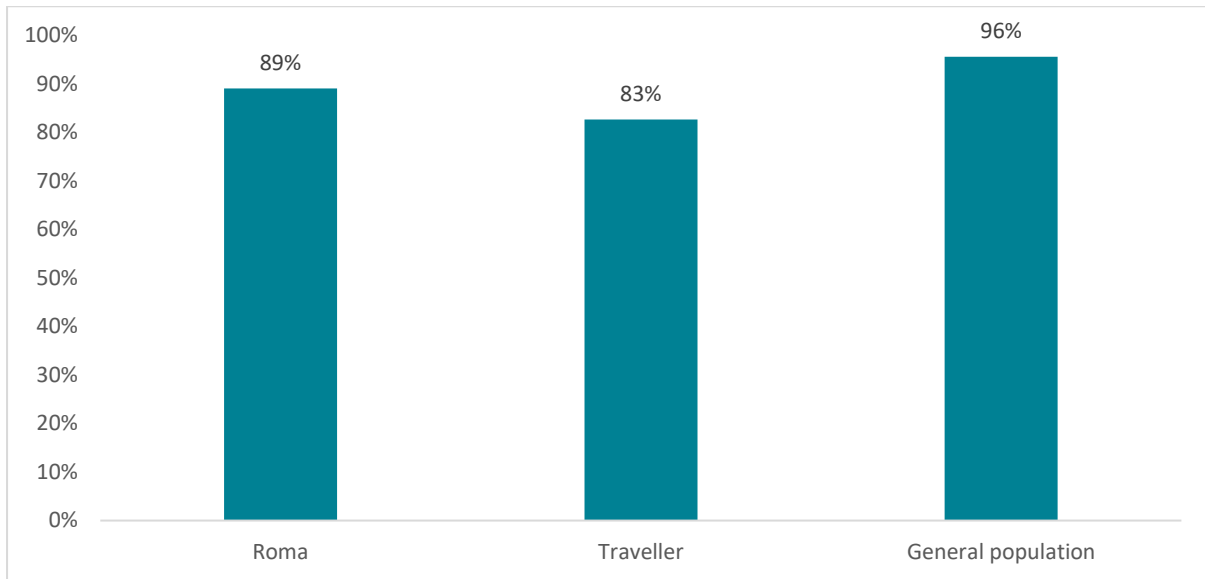
It should be noted that the numbers and percentages mentioned below are based on the number of people who have self-identified as Roma or Traveller and may not be a full representation of the actual numbers.

The Traveller and Roma Education Strategy, published in June 2024, aims to meet the needs of children, young people and adults from the Roma and Traveller communities in terms of education, by enhancing their educational experiences and successes. This strategy takes a whole-of-education approach by bringing three departments together across early learning and childcare, school (primary and post-primary) and further and higher education, to make targeted changes.

¹⁶ [Traveller and Roma Education Strategy 2024-2030](#)



Figure 11 Rate of transfer from primary to post-primary education of Roma, Traveller, and general population





11. Overall Educational Attainment

In 2022, the most common level of education amongst the Roma population aged over 15 years was upper secondary, with 11.2% of the Roma community in this age range completing education to this level. A small proportion of the Roma population in this age range in Ireland had no formal education, accounting for 4.43%.

Only a small proportion of Roma over the age of 15 years had received a Doctorate/PhD, accounting for 0.32% of the population in this age range.

The Higher Education Authority Race Equality in the Higher Education Sector Implementation Plan 2022-2024¹⁷ included several recommendations supporting equality and diversity in student recruitment for higher education institutions.

These recommendations included organising intercultural activities for both staff and students so people can become more understanding and respectful of other cultures, targeted support programmes to facilitate ethnic minority students' access to placement and training opportunities, and targeted support programmes to improve the uptake and experience of ethnic minority students with regard to applying for scholarships and funding.

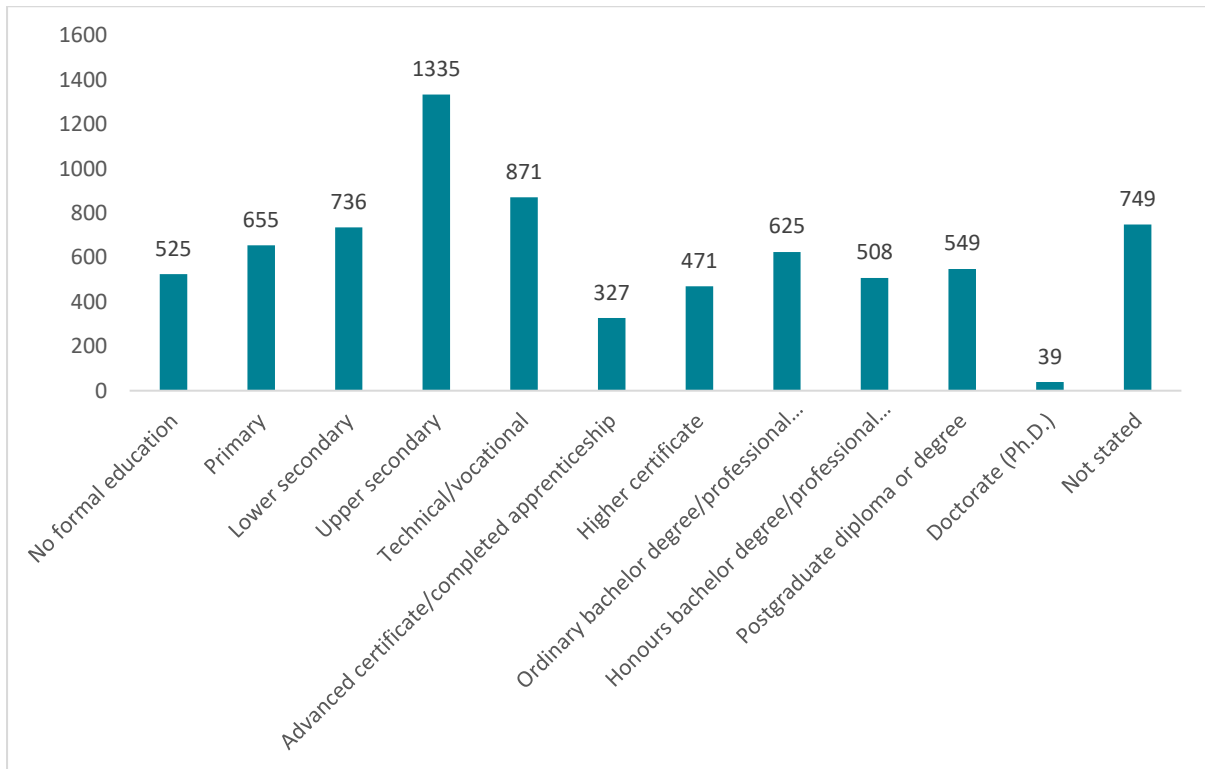
By way of comparison, in England in 2021, 30.9% of the Roma community over the age of 16 years old reported that they had no educational qualifications, compared to 18.9% of the total population. Those who identified as Roma were less likely to report Level 4 or above qualifications across all age groups except 16 to 19 years. For those who identified as Roma aged 25 to 29 years, 35.2% reported holding Level 4 or above qualifications. This compares with 48.0% of the England and Wales population in this age group.¹⁸

¹⁷ [Race Equality in the Higher Education Sector Implementation Plan 2022-2024](#)

¹⁸ [ONS Census 2021, Roma Populations, England and Wales](#)



Figure 12 Number of Roma in Ireland, by level of educational attainment





12. Young Carers

In 2022, there were 69 young Roma aged 0-24 years old providing unpaid personal help for people with a long-term illness or disability. For the purposes of this Spotlight, these individuals will be referred to as ‘young Roma carers’.¹⁹ This figure may be broken down to 38 males and 31 females. By way of comparison, there were a total of 18,118 young carers aged 0-24 years old in 2022 in Ireland overall. The male/female split was 8,837 to 9,281.

Figure 13 Percentage of young Roma carers, by age group

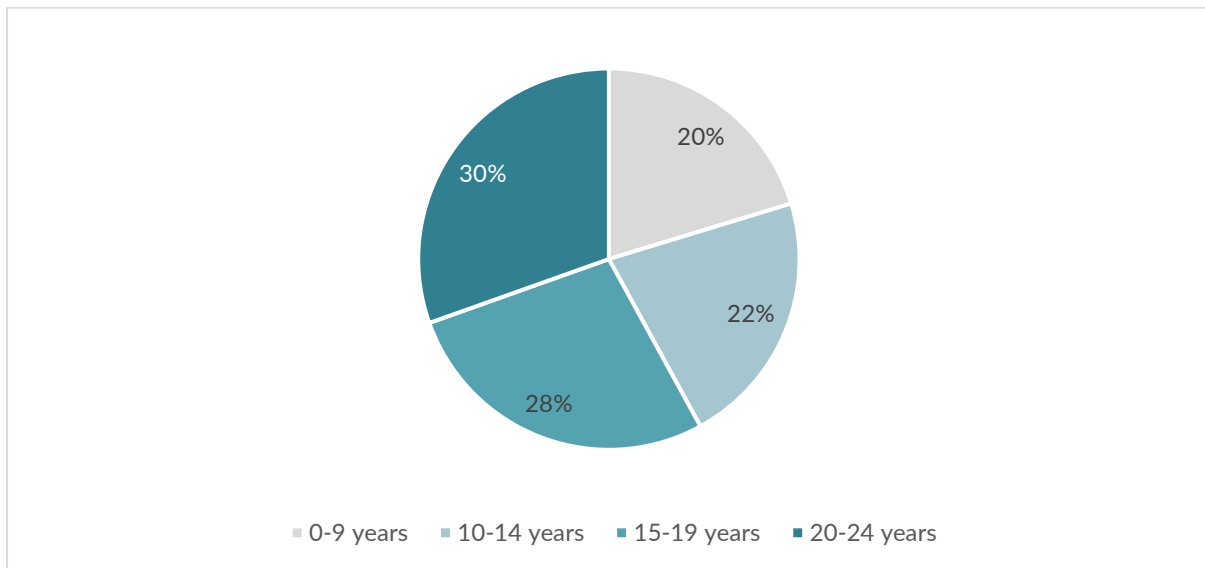
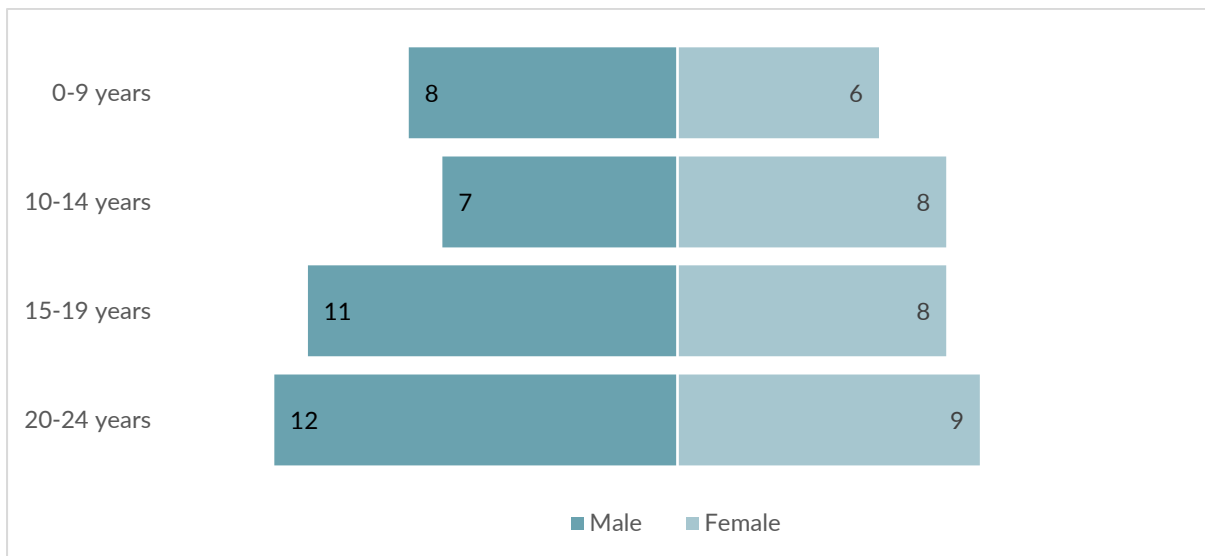


Figure 14 Number of young Roma carers, by age group and sex



¹⁹ The CSO defines a “carer” as an individual providing unpaid assistance to another.



The below table focuses on the proportion of Roma aged 0-24 years old acting as young carers. As observed in the below table, the percentage of young Roma acting as carers was broadly in line with that of the general population. There were marginally more male Roma carers in the 15-24-year-old age range than in the general population, however there were slightly more 15-24-year-old female carers in the general population than in the Roma population. The proportion of 0-14-year-old young carers in the Roma population was higher than the proportion of 0-14-year-old young carers in the general population.

Table 7 Percentage of young Roma carers and general population carers, by age group and sex

	Age Group	Young Roma Carers as a % of Roma Population	Total young carers as a % of all ethnic and cultural backgrounds
Both Sexes	0-14 years	0.68%	0.47%
	15-24 years	1.9%	2.07%
Male	0-14 years	0.66%	0.45%
	15-24 years	2.02%	1.97%
Female	0-14 years	0.70%	0.48%
	15-24 years	1.76%	2.16%



13. Economic Status

In 2022, the majority of Roma in Ireland over the age of 15 years old were persons at work, accounting for 61% of the total Roma population in this age range. Of these 7,254 persons at work, 4,383 were male and 2,871 were female.

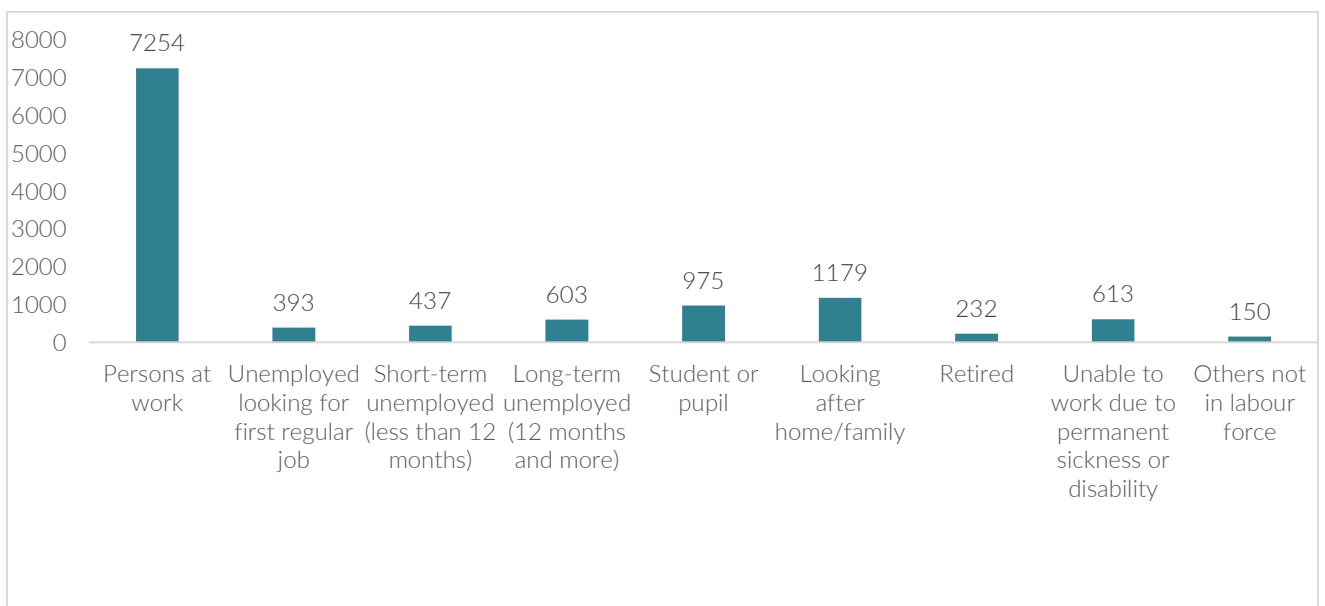
Less than 10% (9.96%) of the Roma population over the age of 15 years old were classified as having a main economic status of looking after the home/family. This is higher than in the general population, where 6.6% of those over the age of 15 years old classified their main economic status as looking after the home/family. Most of the Roma population who were classified as looking after the home/family were female (86%).

5% of the Roma community over the age of 15 years old in Ireland were long-term unemployed (12 months or more), accounting for 603 people. The split between long-term unemployed males and females was relatively even – 49% female and 51% male.

8% of the Roma population over the age of 15 years old in Ireland were students or pupils – 486 males and 489 females.

In comparison, 57% of persons in the general population aged 15 years old and above were persons at work, with a long-term unemployment percentage of 2.6%, half that of the percentage of long-term unemployed in the Roma community.

Figure 15 Number of Roma in Ireland, by economic status





14. Conclusion

This Statistical Spotlight collates data collected on the Roma community in Ireland, which was asked as a separate category of the ethnicity question in the Census of Population 2022 for the first time.

Prior to the 2022 Census, there was no official figure available as to the population size of the Roma community in Ireland. From the Census in 2022, there were 16,059 Roma living in Ireland, with the majority residing in Dublin and Cork, with smaller groups of Roma in each of the other 24 counties of Ireland. The Roma community made up a very small percentage of all ethnic and cultural backgrounds in Ireland in 2022.

There was a relatively even split of male and female Roma living in Ireland, with the majority being between 35 and 39 years of age. There was a very small number of Roma over the age of 85 living in Ireland.

The majority of Roma in Ireland reported that they were in good health, with less than 3% of the Roma population stating that their health was bad or very bad. Alongside this, 60% of the Roma population in Ireland had never smoked tobacco products. 5% of the young Roma in Ireland reported that they smoked tobacco products every day. These figures were broadly in line with the general smoker status of youth in Ireland in 2022.

In 2022, 8.2% of Roma between the ages of 15 and 24 years were married, which was significantly higher than the same age range in the general population (< 0.5%).

A small percentage of Roma in Ireland reported that they were homeless, accounting for 4.1% of the Roma population. There was a relatively even split between male and female Roma who were homeless. 89% of Roma children transferred from primary to post-primary education, which was lower than the general population rate of transfer of 96%.

Approximately 61% of the Roma community over the age of 15 years old were persons at work. Almost double the number of males over the age of 15 years old were working compared to females. Roughly 5% of the Roma community over the age of 15 years old were long-term unemployed.



While the data presented here are not exhaustive, they provide some insight into the Roma community in Ireland and highlight several aspects of Roma community, education, and life in Ireland.

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Data and Analytics Unit | January 2025



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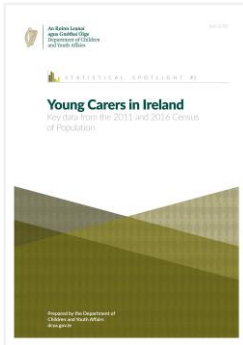
Appendix

Table 8 Number of Roma in Ireland, by age group and health status

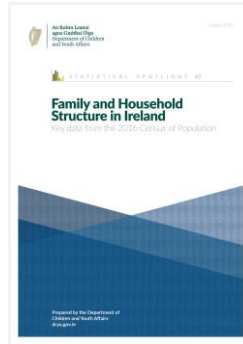
Age Group	General Health – Very Good	General Health – Good	General Health – Fair	General Health – Bad	General Health – Very bad	Not stated
0-4 years	801	259	15	4	5	111
5-9 years	1054	362	27	3	4	61
10-14 years	1058	372	35	2	4	46
15-19 years	612	313	49	9	1	27
20-24 years	618	371	53	13	2	28
25-29 years	726	549	75	10	2	27
30-34 years	787	707	116	24	2	49
35-39 years	819	1018	167	33	4	47
40-44 years	592	897	181	43	5	28
45-49 years	314	603	177	51	10	21
50-54 years	165	318	140	43	16	13
55-59 years	73	176	94	37	7	14
60-64 years	37	126	91	33	5	11
65-69 years	13	59	36	17	4	1
70-74 years	7	12	20	11	5	7
75-79 years	7	8	6	4	2	2
80-84 years	2	9	5	2	1	1
85 years and over	4	4	3	4	1	0
Total	7689	6163	1290	343	80	494



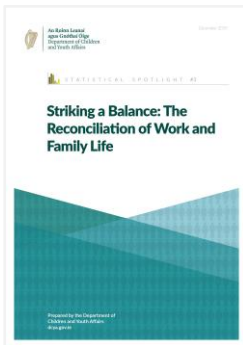
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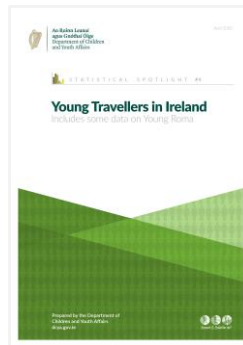
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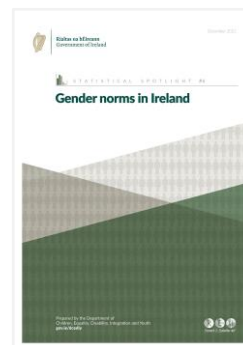
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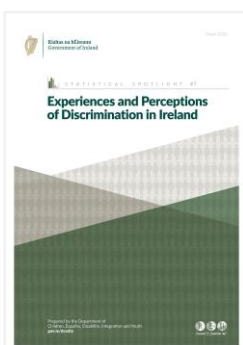
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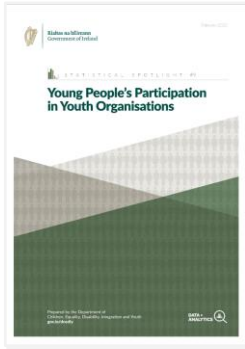
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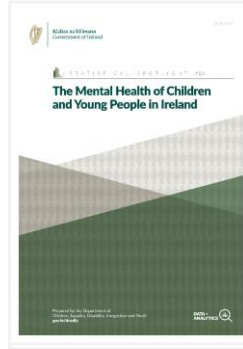


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