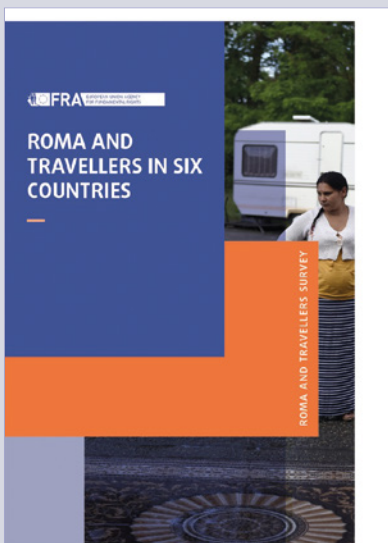


ROMA AND TRAVELLERS IN SIX COUNTRIES

TECHNICAL REPORT

ROMA AND TRAVELLERS SURVEY



The report on 'Roma and Travellers in Six Countries' can be accessed on the FRA website at:

— <https://fra.europa.eu/en/publication/2020/roma-travellers-survey>

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COUNTRY CODES

BE	Belgium
FR	France
IE	Ireland
NL	Netherlands
SE	Sweden
UK	United Kingdom

ABBREVIATIONS

AAPOR	American Association for Public Opinion Research
All	Agentschap Integratie en inburgering (BE)
CAPI	computer-assisted personal interviewing
CCT	Central Coordination Team
DEGURBA	degree of urbanisation
DP	data processing
ECS	electronic contact sheet
EU	European Union
EU MIDIS	European Union Minorities and Discrimination Survey
EU-SILC	European Union Statistics on income and Living Conditions
FRA	European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights
Franet	European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights's multidisciplinary research network
GDPR	General Data Protection Regulation
HHID	household identifier
IA	Interviewer answers
ID	identification
INR	item non-response
IQR	interquartile range
IR	individual register
ISCED	International Standard Classification of Education
LE	Life expectancy
MOM	Modified orphanhood method
MPS	Multipurpose Survey
NEET	not in education, employment or training
NGO	non-governmental organisation
NSE	national survey expert

OM	Orphanhood method
PID	personal identifier
PPS	probability proportional to size
PSU	primary sampling unit
QAP	quality assurance plan
RFU	Roma Foundation Utrecht
SSU	secondary sampling unit
TAAF	translation, adaptation and adjudication follow-up form
TRAPD	translation, review, adjudication, pretesting and documentation
VSRWN	Association for Sinti, Roma and Travellers Netherlands (Vereniging Sinti, Roma, woonwagenbewoners in Nederland)

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Introduction

The mandate of the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA) is to provide the relevant institutions, bodies, offices and agencies of the EU and its Member States with independent, evidence-based assistance and expertise relating to fundamental rights¹. Data collection, including comparative data collection in the form of survey research, on the situation of fundamental rights in the EU provides the basis for FRA's assistance and expertise.

Roma and Travellers have a long history of experiencing discrimination, persecution and exclusion in Europe². 'Roma are still being deprived of their basic human rights in Europe,' as the European Parliament underlined in its 2019 resolution on the post-2020 Strategic EU Framework for National Roma Inclusion Strategies and the fight against antigypsyism³.

Following the first and second waves of the European Union Minorities and Discrimination Survey (EU-MIDIS I and II)⁴ in 2018, the aim of the Roma and Travellers Survey 2019 is to collect representative data on the situation of Roma and Travellers in six western European countries that have (with the exception of France) previously not been covered in a multinational comparative survey: Belgium, France, Ireland, the Netherlands, Sweden and the United Kingdom⁵. The outputs of the survey will provide a baseline for the new EU Roma strategic framework for equality, inclusion and participation⁶ and help in advising the EU and its Member States on measures to effectively ensure the fundamental rights of Roma and Travellers, and their equal social inclusion and participation, and tackle institutional discrimination. Altogether, the results of the upcoming Roma Survey 2020 in seven countries previously covered by EU-MIDIS II, the national data collections on Roma in Slovakia and Bulgaria, and the Roma and Travellers Survey 2019 provide baseline data for the new strategic framework to be evaluated at the end of the next decade.

Following an EU-wide open call for tenders, FRA commissioned Ipsos MORI, a large international survey company based in the United Kingdom, to carry out the Survey on the Rights and Living Conditions of Roma and Travellers 2018/2019 (Roma and Travellers Survey) in the six survey countries. FRA staff supervised the entire project closely, monitored compliance with high quality standards and followed strict quality control procedures. The project

¹ See, Inter alia, European Commission (n.d), '**Role of the Fundamental Rights Agency**'; FRA (n.d.), '**What we do**'.

² Council of Europe, **Roma history factsheets**.

³ European Parliament (2019), Resolution on the need for a strengthened post-2020 Strategic EU Framework for National Roma Inclusion Strategies and stepping up the fight against anti-Gypsyism, 2019/2509(RSP).

⁴ FRA (2007), **European Union minorities and discrimination survey**. FRA (2017), **Second European Union Minorities and Discrimination Survey – Main results**.

⁵ The United Kingdom officially ceased to be an EU Member State on 31 January 2020.

⁶ European Commission (2020), Commission communication – A Union of Equality: EU Roma strategic framework for equality, inclusion and participation (COM(2020) 620 final), Brussels, 7 October 2020.

was, however, only possible thanks to the extensive participation of the Roma and Traveller organisations in each country. They supported the preparation and implementation of this survey in their respective countries, making the survey not only *about* Roma and Travellers but a piece of research that was developed and conducted *together with* the Roma and Travellers.

Interviews were conducted face to face, with trained interviewers using a computerised questionnaire. The survey targeted individuals aged 16 or over who self-identified as having a Roma or Traveller background (or any group subsumed under these umbrella terms), who lived in private households and whose usual place of residence was the survey country for at least six of the 12 months before the survey. The survey collected information from 4 659 respondents in Belgium, France, Ireland, the Netherlands, Sweden and the United Kingdom and concerning 8 234 individuals living in the respondents' households (i.e. 12 893 Roma and Travellers in total) and about the infrastructure of the halting site or neighbourhood⁷. The fieldwork took place from December 2018 until July 2019 through face-to-face interviews. The results of the survey are published in the main results report, *Roma and Travellers in Six Countries*⁸.

All survey tools were set up to ensure comparability between survey countries, between target groups and with the data of the previous survey (EU-MIDIS II) and in view of the upcoming Roma Survey in 2020–2021.

Sampling and survey strategies had to be tailored to each country, in the absence of comprehensive sample frames; i.e. reliable data on the population sizes, sociodemographic characteristics and places of residence were lacking, leading to difficulties in reaching the populations and to the necessity to build these frames, limit the target population or adapt the sampling methodologies.

Extensive country-specific background research was conducted, which included mapping and constructing sample frames of Roma and Traveller subgroups in consultation with national Roma contact points, experts from academia, national and local civil society organisations, and administrative bodies, as well as secondary research. The methodology of the background research is outlined in Chapter 1. The main methodological results and key findings are incorporated in the descriptions of the corresponding project steps (e.g. sampling, fieldwork, weighting).

The questionnaire was developed, reviewed and finalised as described in Chapter 2, and supporting survey materials were drafted. The translation process (Chapter 23) was followed by the pilot survey, which was conducted

On terminology

'Roma' and 'Travellers' are used as umbrella terms according to the definition of the Council of Europe. They encompass Roma, Sinti, Kale, Romanichals, Boyash/Rudari, Balkan Egyptians, Eastern groups (Dom, Lom and Abdal) and groups such as Travellers, Yenish and the populations designated under the administrative term Gens du voyage, as well as people who identify themselves as Gypsies. The Agency, like the Council of Europe, adds the term 'Travellers' as necessary to highlight actions that specifically include them.

See Council of Europe (2012), Descriptive glossary of terms related to Roma issues, Strasbourg, 18 May 2012.

⁷ Roma and Travellers in the UK living in bricks-and-mortar housing, Roma living in camps or houses and Travellers living outside halting sites in France were excluded, as it was not possible to obtain a representative sample.

⁸ FRA (2020), *Roma and Travellers in Six Countries*, Publications Office of the European Union (Publications Office), Luxembourg, doi:10.2811/30472.

between August and October 2018, resulting in 52 interviews in total (Chapter 5). The pilot provided crucial insights into the feasibility of the survey and sampling approaches in each country and with each target group, and helped to define reasonable sample sizes and to design appropriate and workable approaches for the main-stage fieldwork. These insights are reflected in the chapters on sampling and fieldwork (Chapters 4 and 6, respectively).

While the sampling approach at household and respondent levels differed between countries – taking into account the challenges of unavailability of registers and unknown population sizes – all applied a random probability sampling approach when selecting the locations (primary sampling units (PSUs) and, if applicable, secondary sampling units (SSUs)) where the fieldwork took place. Within PSUs and SSUs, random selection of households and respondents was implemented in France, the Netherlands (Traveller/Sinti) and the United Kingdom. In Belgium, Ireland, the Netherlands (Roma) and Sweden, a non-random approach based on quotas was employed (see Chapter 4).

The technical aspects of the fieldwork are explained in detail in Chapter 6, and the data processing and weighting in Chapters 7 and 8.

Chapter 9 sheds light on the quality of the data, and reviews critically the quality but also the limitations of the data, along five quality dimensions. Chapter 10 sets out the lessons learned during the project.

1. DEVELOPING THE SURVEY

1.1. BACKGROUND RESEARCH AND STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATION

Given the specific nature of the population surveyed, and the lack of data on the number and geographical spread of Roma and Travellers across the selected six countries, the initial stage of the project consisted of thorough background research and stakeholder consultations to collect information on possible sampling frames and survey approaches and to gain insight into the local Roma and Traveller communities.

The background research consisted of:

- the country teams reviewing any publicly available papers and reports on the relevant populations, including reports already prepared by Franet⁹, in order to conceptualise the overall survey design and to collect information on possible sampling frames and approaches;
- identifying key organisations, experts and stakeholders with different areas of expertise to be consulted;
- exploring available data that could be used for sampling (a list of sources to be consulted in each country was provided by the Central Coordination Team (CCT))¹⁰;
- setting up group discussions and/or in-depth interviews in each country with experts and stakeholders;

The objectives of the stakeholder consultations were:

- to raise awareness and explain the purpose of the survey;
- to explain the methodology to be used;
- to understand if peer interviewers could be recruited to maximise response rates;
- to build rapport, trust and cooperation with these experts and Roma and Traveller community representatives, and identify key players who could help with implementing the survey, as their support in the implementation of the survey was critical to its success;
- to identify further experts if the previous consultations could not answer all the research questions.

1.2. METHODOLOGY AND MATERIALS FOR STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATIONS

In total, 221 experts and Roma and Traveller community representatives across all survey countries were identified and invited to participate in the

⁹ Franet is the Fundamental Rights Agency's multidisciplinary research network, consisting of contractors in each Member State, the United Kingdom and observer status countries who provide FRA with relevant national data upon request.

¹⁰ The CCT included the management team from the main contractor, Ipsos MORI, and three external experts supporting the project. The CCT was responsible for the management of the survey as well as the communication between FRA and local survey teams.

consultation. Of those, 81 experts actively participated, face to face, by telephone or over email. Experts from a wide range of organisations were consulted, including academics and representatives from non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and central and local governments. FRA and the Ipsos MORI CCT also participated in some of the consultations. It was very difficult to align the experts' schedules with the time frame available for the background research, which led to organising one-to-one consultations instead of focus group meetings more often than was originally foreseen. However, these one-to-one meetings still proved to be very useful, as specific topics, relevant to the experts consulted, could be discussed in more detail.

In Sweden, recurrent meetings with community representatives were required, in order to build trust, before valuable information on the target population could be obtained and further cooperation secured. Wherever necessary, after the initial meeting or telephone consultations, the national survey experts (NSEs)¹¹ followed up with further written correspondence to clarify outstanding queries.

For the stakeholder consultations, the following materials and protocols were prepared to ensure that all the necessary information was captured and recorded systematically and consistently across countries:

- a protocol for contacting stakeholders and experts including a log for recording contact and outcomes with each stakeholder approached, and detailing:
 - ★ the steps to be undertaken when making contact,
 - ★ an overview of the information to be collected,
 - ★ general guidelines for communication with Roma and Travellers,
 - ★ data protection-related issues;
- background information to be provided to the stakeholders, which included:
 - ★ a letter introducing the survey and the purpose of the consultation,
 - ★ a one-page overview of the questionnaire,
 - ★ a consent form to store stakeholder contact details and share them with FRA,
 - ★ a set of slides to be used during the consultations to provide further information about the survey;
- a meeting guide providing:
 - ★ a comprehensive set of questions and discussion points for the consultations, covering sampling, sampling approaches, engaging local communities, engaging respondents and questionnaire design considerations,
 - ★ the objectives to be achieved from each section, and some background information, followed by the detailed discussion points;
- a template for recording the notes from each consultation;

¹¹ Each local agency was supported and led by one or two NSEs who provided input into the mapping of the target group(s) and survey approaches, and submitted the deliverables, fieldwork updates and translations of survey materials to the CCT.

1.3. HUMAN RIGHTS PRINCIPLES IN DATA COLLECTION

The preparation of the survey needed to take into account the particularities of the target population and ensure that ethical and cultural aspects and specific needs or vulnerabilities of the Roma and Travellers were addressed. To reach out to these often called 'hard to reach' groups, the survey tried to apply a set of principles the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights has formulated to ensure the respect of human rights-based principles in data collection:¹² participation, self-identification, transparency, privacy and accountability in the design, collection and use of data in line with Agenda 2030 to leave no one behind.¹³

Participation: The survey paid particular attention to the principle of participation, one of the EU's 10 common basic principles on Roma inclusion¹⁴, by including communities in the preparation, sampling and implementation of the survey. Moreover, the survey either recruited and trained interviewers with Roma and/or Traveller backgrounds or worked with mediators with Roma or Traveller backgrounds or strong ties to the communities involved. In France, access to halting sites was organised through municipalities and halting site managers.

Self-identification: Roma and Travellers in the survey countries are hard to identify or might even be reluctant to self-identify. This might be due to experiences of historical persecution as well as mistrust in authorities or experiences of discrimination and exclusion due to ethnic, racial or religious origin. In some countries, legal restrictions prevent data collection on ethnic or racial origin (e.g. French law prohibits the collection of data based on race, ethnicity or religion). The principle of self-identification can overcome these barriers, and it should always be applied to populations with sensitive personal identity characteristics. It can also help to overcome mistrust and reluctance to participate. The target population was therefore consulted beforehand about how they would like to be identified.

The concepts of **privacy, transparency and data protection** are inherent to the principles of statistical data collections and were applied with particular emphasis to overcome mistrust and reluctance to participate.

1.4. PROJECT MANAGEMENT

FRA managed the survey in close cooperation with the contractor, Ipsos MORI. The CCT was responsible for the coordination and management of the Roma and Travellers Survey 2019 and functioned as the link between FRA and the local survey teams.

The CCT members were carefully selected based on their expertise in coordinating and designing multi-country surveys with hard-to-reach groups, particularly experience obtained through the implementation of FRA's EU-MIDIS II. To complement the team's expertise, three external experts supported the project:

- Dr David Smith (University of Greenwich) as Senior Survey Expert, who was involved in the questionnaire design and implementation phase and the training of the NSEs (see below);

¹² United Nations (2018), *A human rights-based approach to data*, Switzerland, Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

¹³ Transforming our world: *the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*

¹⁴ European Union (2010), *The 10 Common Basic Principles on Roma Inclusion – Vademecum*, Luxembourg, Publications Office.

- Professor Peter Lynn (University of Essex) as Senior Sampling and Weighting Expert, overseeing the sampling and weighting designs and the sampling plans for each survey group;
- Gergely Hideg (international consultant – survey statistician and methodologist) as Sampling Consultant, developing the overall and country-specific sampling designs.

FRA was supported by the sampling and weighting expertise of Dr Francesca Gagliardi and Professor Gianni Betti from the University of Siena in the capacity of senior consultants on sampling and weighting. They were involved in the review of the sampling and weighting scheme, the checking of the calculations, and the documentation of the sampling and weighting procedures. They also did a final quality assessment of the chosen methodology and formulated recommendations for future research.

Country-based partner agencies were selected based on their continuous successful work with Ipsos MORI for other projects, and their experience with surveying Roma and Travellers or other hard-to-reach populations. These agencies were IRB Europe (BE), Efficienc3 (FR), Ipsos MRBI (IE), Labyrinth (NL), Ipsos Sweden (SE) and Ipsos MORI (UK). The local teams were responsible for the data collection and overseeing fieldwork in each country. The local agencies were supported and led by NSEs: Peter Willis and Tena Lavrencic (BE), Alexandre Riffaud (FR), Kieran O’Leary (IE), Nathan Rozema and Debberah ten Velthuis (NL), Hans Tjernberg and Eva Ohlsson (SE) and Kully Kaur-Ballagan (UK). FRA participated in debriefings and coordination meetings with the NSEs as needed.

Local teams worked closely with community members, support organisations and other mediating persons to introduce the survey to communities and potential respondents. The community members and Roma and Traveller organisations helped to set out the sampling frames, developed and provided training, and helped to recruit interviewers and mediators from the communities or related organisations. Most importantly, their support helped to overcome mistrust and pessimism of Roma and Travellers about ‘surveys from institutions’ and encourage them to participate. Without their contribution this survey would not have been possible. It showed that active participation and partnership increase the quality of such a project.

The project was commissioned in December 2017 with a view to delivering all outputs within 21 months of the contract signature date. The contract was extended for 1 month, until October 2019, to complete all the activities, because of the additional time needed to develop and adapt the sampling strategies.

A quality assurance plan (QAP) was agreed with Ipsos MORI at the beginning of the project (see Annex 12.2). This outlined the procedures, indicators and targets that would be used to monitor quality at all stages of the survey life cycle, and detailed how these targets’ achievement would be documented. The QAP in the annex of this report, and the relevant chapters of the report, describe the quality assurance procedures relevant to various activities, such as sampling, translations and interviewing.

2. DEVELOPMENT AND TRANSLATION OF FIELDWORK MATERIALS

This chapter provides an overview of the development of the questionnaire and other survey materials, the translation process and the production of the computerised version of the questionnaire for use in the field.

The Survey on the Rights and Living Conditions of Roma and Travellers 2018/2019 was implemented through face-to-face interviewing with computer-assisted personal interviewing (CAPI) in all countries. The questionnaire was developed in Excel format before being scripted in Ipsos's bespoke CAPI software, iField.

In addition to the CAPI questionnaires, the other materials used for the implementation of the survey were:

- contact sheets for screening respondents and monitoring fieldwork (these included a PSU contact sheet to record activity at the PSU level and an electronic contact sheet (ECS), which was administered at the household level);
- a training manual issued to all interviewers;
- a set of briefing slides to train the NSEs and interviewers in each country;
- show cards for interviewers and respondents to use during the interview;
- a letter and an information postcard to help interviewers introduce the survey to potential respondents;
- a short introductory video for each country/language to be used by interviewers and mediators to introduce the survey to respondents;
- a privacy notice to be provided to respondents at the end of the interview in line with the requirements of the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR).

The contractor worked closely with FRA on the development of all materials. Further details about the development and content of each item are provided throughout this chapter. In addition incentives were used to thank respondents or their communities for their time and participation in the survey.

2.1. QUESTIONNAIRE DEVELOPMENT

The questionnaire from FRA's Second European Union Minorities and Discrimination Survey (EU-MIDIS II) was used as a basis for the Roma and Travellers Survey, with a number of questions deleted and some new questions added in order to ensure that it was the appropriate length and relevant to the survey respondents as well as the stakeholders. Overall, the final questionnaire was shorter than the questionnaire fielded for EU-MIDIS II. The structure of the questionnaire ¹⁵ followed a modular approach and was divided into sections as shown in Table 1.

¹⁵ The main source questionnaire is available in FRA (2020), *Roma and Travellers in Six Countries – Questionnaire*, Luxembourg, Publications Office. An overview of the subchapters is presented in a flowchart in the Annex, Section 1.

TABLE 1: OVERVIEW OF THE QUESTIONNAIRE STRUCTURE

Section	Topics covered
Introduction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Household information (household grid) • Child information (child grid) • Housing and living standards • Respondent and their family life
Rights awareness, perceptions and attitudes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prevalence of discrimination • Awareness of support organisations, equality bodies, existing anti-discrimination legislation in the country • Worry about being discriminated against when out in public • Avoidance behaviour
Employment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Employment situation • Experiences of discrimination on any ground, and specifically related to ethnic or immigrant background when looking for work and at work • Reporting of the last incident of discrimination to any organisation
Experience of discrimination in the following areas: • health • housing • education • other services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Subjective assessment of own health condition • Unmet medical care needs • Discrimination experiences while using healthcare services, when trying to rent/buy an apartment/house, or when in contact with school authorities • Child(ren)'s experiences of discrimination in school • Discrimination experiences while using various other services such as entering a bar or a restaurant, a shop; at administrative offices or public services; in public transport • Reporting of the last incident of discrimination to any organisation • Level of satisfaction with the way the complaint was handled • Reasons for not reporting an incident of discrimination • Awareness of discrimination experiences among friends and family
Corruption experiences Police stops experiences	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expectations of paying a bribe • Government official involved • Police stops experiences in different situations • Reasons for being stopped • Level of police respectfulness • Prevalence of physical assault by the police • Reasons for not reporting an incident of physical assault by the police
Victimisation: experiences of harassment and violence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prevalence of harassment and victimisation incidents • Characteristics of the last incident (forms, frequency, perpetrators, reporting, reasons for non-reporting, satisfaction with handling of complaint by police)
Societal participation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Religion • Political and civic participation • Group relations, collective identities
Socioeconomic background	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Household income and financial situation • Exclusion from society • Life possibilities
Sampling information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reference to other areas where the survey could be conducted or people who could take part in the survey
Interviewer questionnaire	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interviewer's observations concerning the setting of the interview (e.g. presence of other people, language of the interview and respondent's fluency, interest in the topics of the interview)

Ipsos MORI worked closely with FRA on the development of the final questionnaire based on the draft version provided by FRA. The Senior Survey Expert ¹⁶ was consulted during the development of the questionnaire. The background research and country- / target group-specific considerations were also taken into account. The questionnaire was piloted in all countries prior to main-stage fieldwork, and a number of changes were made following this to reduce the questionnaire length, improve the flow of questions and clarify some questions.

Collecting a valid response on age and gender for all respondents and household members was mandatory (i.e. no refusals or don't know responses allowed). To aid this, if a respondent did not know or preferred not to give their exact age or that of any other household members, an estimate was asked for. The response categories were provided to determine whether the respondent/household member was a child, a young person, of working age or older than working age. The age bands provided were also aligned with the quotas that were set in certain countries (see Chapter 4).

A number of country-specific questions/categories were required in order to accurately capture the population group, and personal and household-related details. In the data, these are presented as single harmonised variables, but the country-specific questions and categories are also provided. The country-specific codes for each of these questions can be found in the questionnaire.

Ethnicity

One element of the survey that needed careful consideration was the method of screening for eligibility. Respondents needed to self-identify as being Roma, Travellers or Gypsies, using any of the locally employed terms associated with these umbrella terms. FRA and experts advised the fieldwork teams to provide a detailed list of the different ways in which Roma and Travellers might identify themselves in each country. This was important to ensure that the human rights principles concerning self-identification were taken into account, to guarantee that groups were not stereotyped in any way and that individuals neither declined to participate nor were excluded because they did not recognise themselves within the categories provided. The question on belonging to the target group was tailored to the country, based on the information collected during the background research stage (and updated following the pilot). The list of terms used in each country is provided in the questionnaire.

Umbrella terms

While it was important to use a detailed list of ethnicities when asking potential respondents which Roma, Traveller or Gypsy group they identified with, it would not have been practical or possible to use these narrower categories in all the survey materials or throughout the questionnaire. Given this, an umbrella term was used when referring to the survey and when asking if respondents had had certain experiences because of their Roma or Traveller ethnicity. These umbrella terms were suggested by the NSEs based on findings from the background research. Table 2 provides the survey title and umbrella term used in each country (in the national languages, and other languages used in Belgium).

¹⁶ Dr David Smith has extensive experience of quantitative and qualitative research and specific expertise related to Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities. He provided insight into the questionnaire design and implementation phase, trained the NSEs and signed off the interviewer-training manual and central briefing slides.

TABLE 2: SURVEY TITLE AND UMBRELLA TERMS USED IN SURVEY LANGUAGES

Country (and language)	Survey title	Umbrella term
Belgium – French	Enquête sur les droits et les conditions de vie des Roms et des Gens du voyage 2018/2019	Roms et Gens du voyage
– Dutch	Onderzoek naar de Rechten en Leefomstandigheden van Roma en Woonwagenbewoners 2018/2019	Roma en Woonwagenbewoners
– Bulgarian	Изследване за правата и условията на живот на Роми и пътуващи произход 2018/2019	Роми и пътуващи произход
– Romanian	Sondaj cu privire la drepturile și condițiile de viață ale romilor 2018/2019	De origine romă sau călători
– Slovak	Prieskum O Právach A Životných Podmienkach Rómov A Kočovníkov 2018/2019	Rómovia a kočovníci
France	Enquête sur les droits et les conditions de vie des Roms et des Gens du voyage 2018/2019	Gens du voyage
Ireland	Survey on the Rights and Living Conditions of Travellers and Roma 2018/2019	Traveller background
Netherlands	Onderzoek naar de Rechten en Leefomstandigheden van Roma, Sinti en Reizigers 2018/2019	Roma, Sinti of Reizigers
Sweden	Studie om Rättigheter och Levnadsförhållanden för Romer och Resandefolk 2018/2019	Romer och resandefolk
United Kingdom	Survey on the Rights and Living Conditions of Gypsies, Roma and Travellers 2018/2019	Gypsy or Traveller

Housing

During the preparatory phase, different kinds of accommodation were identified for each target group and country. This was important for sampling and analysis purposes and also to filter or adapt the wording of certain questions that concern respondents' living arrangements. This was coded by the interviewer for interviews that were conducted at the respondent's home. In countries where the interviews were conducted somewhere other than the respondent's home, respondents were asked to indicate what type of accommodation they lived in from a list provided. A further question, related to the ownership of the halting sites that Caravan dwellers and Travellers lived in, was also included and tailored as appropriate, by country.

Education

The questions regarding the highest level of education gained within the survey country were based on the internationally comparable International Standard Classification of Education (ISCED) 2011¹⁷ categories. The NSEs provided the country-specific categories for use in their respective countries along with how they would be mapped onto the harmonised code frame, which were approved by FRA prior to their use.

¹⁷ ISCED 2011 is an instrument to compile, present and compare education statistics at national and international levels. More information can be found in UNESCO Institute for Statistics (2012), *International Standard Classification of Education – ISCED 2011*, Quebec, UNESCO Institute for Statistics.

Respondents who were not born in the survey country were also asked about the highest level of education completed in another country. Given that the respondents might have previously lived in a variety of countries, it was not possible to provide country-specific categories for each of these. Therefore, a generic code frame was developed to capture the highest level of education that may have been obtained outside the survey country, based on ISCED 2011.

For children in the household, the survey asked if they attended any educational institution. Categories were again based on ISCED 2011, adapted to the national context. The compulsory school age varies between countries. This was also taken into account when finalising the final code frame for each country.

Income

The questionnaire asked the household's combined net monthly income. In case of non-response, standardised income bands were used across all countries. The original code frame was taken from the EU-MIDIS II questionnaire. The original scale was in euro. For countries that do not have euro, the exchange rate from the European Central Bank on 10 July 2018 was used to convert the income into national currencies. Some adjustments and rounding were done to make the eventual code frames more user-friendly for respondents.

Equality bodies

Respondents were asked about their awareness of country-specific equality bodies dealing with discrimination issues and if they had reported any experiences of discrimination to these bodies. The list of equality bodies for each country was provided by FRA.

Health

The translations of the three questions regarding respondents' assessment of their overall health, the Minimum European Health Module, originate from the EU Statistics on Income and Living Conditions (EU-SILC). Names of national basic health insurance schemes were used in the questions.

Poverty threshold

For the question measuring if a household could afford an unexpected but necessary expense, the amount specified was set at one twelfth of the national at-risk-of-poverty threshold for a one-person household in 2016 (60 % of the yearly median income) according to Eurostat.

Scripting

All interviewing was conducted face to face using CAPI on interviewers' touch-screen devices (tablets). The same CAPI software was used in all countries (iField data collection platform) to field the questionnaire. The ECS (see Section 2.2.1) and questionnaire were scripted by Ipsos MORI once the Excel versions of both documents were finalised. The Excel documents contained the scripting instructions necessary for the scripters who developed the iField tool based on the Excel documents (e.g. taking note of the conditions for questions to be skipped, whether questions allow single or multiple answers, if certain text should be underlined, etc.).

The ECS and the questionnaire were set up so that the relevant information collected during completion of the ECS was pulled through to the questionnaire, for example the names/initials and gender of eligible household members, to help ensure that the questions in the questionnaire could be tailored to respondents' household composition and so that the respondent would not need to be asked the same questions twice (once in the ECS for screening purposes and again in the questionnaire).

The ECS and questionnaire scripts went through extensive checks. These involved:

- Ipsos MORI manually checking the questionnaire for accuracy and completeness;
- Ipsos MORI flooding the script with dummy data and checking the data output files to ensure that all questions were being asked and that all routing was correct based on the expected base sizes for each question if the routing had been accurately implemented;
- FRA checking and providing detailed feedback with suggestions for improving the overall appearance of the scripts as they appeared on the interviewers' tablets; a log of all requested corrections and changes was maintained.

Once the main source script was approved it was then exported into an MR Translate file. This is an Excel file that contains the full questionnaire and any necessary code that affects the appearance of the script on the CAPI devices (for example if text should start on a new line or be a certain font colour or style). This is the version of the questionnaire that was used for translation.

Once the translated/adapted versions of the ECS and questionnaire were approved, the main source script was overwritten with the country/language versions of the scripts. The translated ECS and questionnaire scripts were provided to the NSEs to check that the country/language versions of the scripts had been correctly uploaded, before again providing these to FRA for its own checks and approval.

2.2. DEVELOPMENT OF OTHER SURVEY MATERIAL

2.2.1. Electronic contact sheets

Instead of recording details of interviewers' contact with the households on paper, ECSs were used, allowing easier administration and integration with the main survey interview and data. The ECS was used to manage the sample, screen households, make appointments, select the respondents for interviews (if applicable) and start the interview. The ECS was managed through the same iField application that was used for the survey questionnaire.

There were essentially two versions of the ECS: one for random selection of respondents and one for non-random/quota sampling. Both versions of the contact sheet included an introduction to the survey and a self-identification question (this was asked even when respondents were pre-recruited by mediators in some instances of non-random/quota sampling). They collected information on the address or place where the interview was carried out, the number of visits to each household/respondent and the outcome of each visit. Where the outcome of the visit was a refusal, the ECS also required the interviewer to state the reason for refusal.

The random selection version of the ECS was used, in the end, in France, the Netherlands (Travellers and Sinti) and the United Kingdom. This version also collected information on the type of accommodation of the selected household, the number of eligible household members and (if there were any) the name/initials and age of each of the eligible household members. The application then randomly selected the respondent for the interviewer to attempt an interview with, and it was possible to select a respondent directly in the Netherlands (Travellers and Sinti) and the United Kingdom¹⁸. For these two groups, a separate ECS could be opened to interview a second eligible household member (who was treated as living alone in order to avoid the repetition of, for example, collecting information on other household

¹⁸ Given the feasibility of random selection of respondents in France, the option of direct selection was not applied in France as in the Netherlands and the United Kingdom.

members). The second interview was then linked to that of the first respondent by means of a household identification (ID) code generated during the first interview.

2.2.2. Sampling unit contact sheets

The PSU contact sheet provided interviewers with details about the PSU (or where applicable SSU) they would be working in and helped them to keep a log of activity at the PSU (or SSU) level – for example on the type of PSU, sampling unit, and outcomes of visits to the PSU.

Two types of PSU contact sheets were used: one for random sampling and one for quota sampling. The PSU contact sheet for random sampling contained information on how to complete a listing of households and to calculate the interval for selecting households from the list. The PSU contact sheet for non-random (quota) sampling provided details of pre-set quotas.

Table 3 summarises the final structure of the two PSU contact sheets including the changes that were made based on the experiences from the pilot study.

TABLE 3: STRUCTURE OF THE PSU CONTACT SHEETS

Section	PSU contact sheet random	PSU contact sheet non-random/quota
A	<p>PSU details:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> This section included details about the PSU including the PSU ID and interviewer ID numbers; PSU name; target group; type of PSU; if there was a mediator / site manager / representative at this PSU; and if permission had been sought and received in advance for interviewers to visit the PSU. It was also to confirm whether there was a list of households already available or not 	<p>PSU details:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> This section included details about the PSU including the PSU ID and interviewer ID numbers; PSU name; target group; type of PSU; barriers to accessing the PSU or to fulfilling quotas; if there was a mediator / site manager / representative at this PSU; and if permission had been sought and received in advance for interviewers to visit the PSU
B	<p>Household selection:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> how to make a list or mark the PSU map with households (if no list could be made); when to use random route; how to calculate the sampling interval; which should be the first household to select if working from a list; when a 'full census' of the PSU should be conducted 	<p>Total number of interviews and minimum quota:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> minimum quotas for age/gender and other 'soft' quotas¹⁹; maximum number of interviews that could be recruited through one support organisation / mediator; maximum number of interviews that could be achieved from a single extended familial unit (several households); one or two respondents could be interviewed per household
C	<p>Contact record:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the date and time of each visit to the PSU; whether the interviewer spoke to a site manager/mediator/traveller or not; if random walk was implemented; why no random walk was implemented; why it was not possible to contact any household; any other information 	<p>Any other information:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> any useful information about the PSU not covered by earlier sections

¹⁹ Minimum quota by age and gender set up to 75 % of the sample, soft quota to less than 75 %; see Section 6.7.

2.2.3. Interviewer manual

The interviewer-training manual was largely based on the one used for EU-MIDIS II, but was adapted and tailored by Ipsos MORI. The input of experts and Roma and Traveller representatives was also incorporated to give special recognition to the sensitivities around interviewing these target groups. The manual was used to accompany interviewer training and served as a comprehensive reference for interviewers once fieldwork had started. Country versions of the manual were tailored as necessary according to the sampling method being implemented and target group considerations. It covered the following topics:

- introduction to FRA and its work;
- background to and aims of the Roma and Travellers Survey 2019;
- information on who are Roma and Travellers, including country-specific and group-specific background information;
- ethical and cultural considerations for interviewing Roma and Travellers and conducting a survey on this subject matter;
- working with mediators;
- the sampling method for each country / target group, how to make contact with and select respondents;
- advice on how to introduce the survey and maximise response rates;
- the fieldwork materials;
- administering the questionnaire and use of show cards;
- quality control and interviewer feedback.

Following the feedback from the pilot, summary sections were added to the manual, providing a short overview for each section to make it easier for interviewers to use in the field. In addition, in France, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom, some pictures of halting sites were included to help familiarise interviewers with the areas in which they would be interviewing.

2.2.4. Other survey materials

Show cards, an introductory video, an introductory letter, an information postcard/leaflet, a list of support organisations and a privacy notice were also produced for use in the survey.

- **Show cards** – sheets listing the available answer categories for a specific questions – were based on the final approved questionnaire translations and used in paper format. For some questions the codes on the show cards were presented alternately in standard (e.g. codes listed A–E) and reverse order (e.g. E–A) to help mitigate any order effect, that is, codes from the top or bottom of the list being selected because of their position on the show card. Each pack of show cards included only one version – either standard or reverse – and interviewers were given one or the other to use for all their interviews. Respondents only needed to state the number or letter from the show card that corresponded to the item they selected. If the respondent, owing to poor literacy, was unable to read in any of the languages offered in the country, the interviewer read out the answer options for them. The interviewer was instructed to also read out the answer options if the respondent was showing difficulties with reading without officially admitting it.
- The **introduction letter** to be handed out to all respondents was drafted and translated into all survey languages used. It provided a brief overview of the objectives, context and administration of the survey and provided a contact in the national fieldwork agency to whom the respondent could turn with further questions. If the respondent was unable to read in any of the languages owing to poor literacy, the interviewer read out the letter for them.

- The **introductory video** ²⁰ was prepared by FRA, translated into the relevant national languages ²¹ and provided on the CAPI devices for interviewers to show to respondents when first making contact. It briefly described the purpose of the study, the methodology and how the results would be used. It was provided in the relevant national languages for each country. Based on a mediator's advice, a second video by the NSE was produced for use in Belgium to try to encourage Roma living in the Wallonia Region, specifically, to participate. In agreement with FRA, this video was also distributed via selected social media channels.
- The **postcard/leaflet** provided a visually appealing informative document, containing the most important information from the introduction letter and the privacy notice in a concise format. The postcard was used by both interviewers and mediators to inform people about the survey.
- The **privacy notice** was designed in line with national implementation of the GDPR. It contained more information about the survey, how respondents' data would be used and their rights to amend or delete it. It also provided details on whom respondents could contact should they have an enquiry or a complaint.
- Interviewers were also provided with a **list of support organisations** in the relevant survey country. This was handed out to respondents at the end of the interview, unless interviewers felt it to be more appropriate earlier on during the interview, for example if the respondent requested such a list, or if they had emotional reactions, triggered by remembering upsetting or frustrating events while answering the questions.

2.3. INCENTIVES

Incentives in the form of low-value gift vouchers and cash, conditional on completion of the survey, were offered in all countries but Ireland and the Netherlands as a way of thanking the respondents for their time. No incentives were handed out to the respondents in Ireland and the Netherlands, as it was agreed with the community organisations that the incentives would go directly to the entire community.

2.4. TRANSLATION

2.4.1. Overview

All interviewer- and respondent-facing materials were translated into the relevant national languages ²² for use in each country, other than Ireland and the United Kingdom, where the main source version (English) was used as the basis for national tailoring of the materials. Following the background research, FRA, the CCT and the NSEs reviewed which non-national languages would be required in each country. Additional languages were deemed necessary only in Belgium, where all of the respondent-facing survey materials were provided in Bulgarian, Romanian and Slovak as well as French and Dutch. In the other countries, either the groups that would speak the non-national languages were dropped from the survey design (e.g. immigrant Roma in France) or it was felt that too few respondents would participate to warrant country-specific non-national language versions to be produced. Romani,

²⁰ The experience of NSEs suggested the explanatory video in addition to the introductory letter could help to gain the trust of target populations, and could also address the potential problems with literacy.

²¹ In Belgium, versions with subtitles in Bulgarian, Romanian and Slovak were also provided.

²² Dutch (separate versions for Belgium and the Netherlands), French (separate versions for Belgium and France), Swedish.

the common language of Roma, has a lot of variations depending on country of origin, and its codification is not standardised yet. Therefore, it was not feasible to produce the survey materials in Romani.

The CCT worked with the linguistic quality control agency cApStAn for the translation component. Located in Brussels, cApStAn specialises in the translation and verification of research instruments for high-quality cross-national/cross-cultural surveys. cApStAn had already worked on the EU-MIDIS II project and was therefore familiar with the questionnaire.

Each team of translators, appointed by cApStAn and the national survey agencies, consisted of two linguists, who each produced an original translation of new questions in the source questionnaire (translation 1 and translation 2), and an adjudicator responsible for the merging and adjudication of the two translations.

2.4.2. Questionnaire translation and adaption steps

Step 1 – briefing

All translators and adjudicators were required to attend a briefing session, held as a webinar, led by Ipsos MORI and cApStAn. Participants were briefed on the survey's background, purpose and intended use; the meaning of any complex terms or concepts were explained; the translation environment was presented; and Ipsos MORI and cApStAn prepared hands-on exercises. There was also time for questions from translators. Sessions were held separately depending on the role of each participant (translator or adjudicator) with clear instructions on what was expected at each stage.

This briefing was supported by written notes in the form of an annotated questionnaire, to which the translators could refer. In addition, a bilingual glossary and a set of item-by-item translation and adaptation notes was provided. The glossary explained key terms used in the survey instruments.

Channels of communication were kept open throughout the translation process so that if the translator had a question concerning a term or phrase in the source text they could ask for clarification.

Step 2 – translation

Where translations already existed from EU-MIDIS II, these were kept but nevertheless reviewed by the translators. Furthermore, for questions that feature in EU-SILC the translations available from that were used. New or adapted questions that did not appear in either of the aforementioned surveys were translated. The English main source questionnaire was also reviewed and adapted to ensure that the terminology was appropriate and local differences were accommodated.

The adapted translation, review, adjudication, pretesting and documentation (TRAPD) approach was used for translation of the new and adapted parts of the questionnaire. For around 50 % of new content, two independent professional translations were produced in parallel by different translators (translator 1 and translator 2) which were then merged (reconciled) by an adjudicator. For the national languages, translator 1 and the adjudicator were appointed by cApStAn while translator 2 was appointed by the local fieldwork agency. For Bulgarian, Romanian and Slovak, the whole team was appointed by cApStAn. The translated questionnaires were provided to FRA for approval. The other 50 % of the new content was identified as less sensitive or very straightforward to translate and thus marked for single translation; such parts nevertheless were reviewed by the adjudicator to ensure overall consistency.

For languages that are shared by two or more countries (e.g. French for Belgium and France), typically a first version would be prepared and then adapted in the review and adjudication stage. Given the high percentage of already localised/adapted content to be recovered from EU-MIDIS II and EU-SILC, it was decided to skip the adaptation step and directly produce a national version for each country.

A simplified translation approach was adopted for the other survey materials²³: single translation and proofreading by two separate linguists, before providing the translation to FRA for final approval. The NSE in each country was responsible for overseeing the translation and independent proofreading of the survey materials in the national language(s) of each country, while Ipsos MORI appointed cApStAn to translate and proofread the materials in the non-national languages.

Step 3 – review and adjudication

For each language version, an adjudicator was appointed. The adjudicators all belonged to cApStAn’s network of experienced verifiers of data collection instruments and were familiar with state-of-the-art linguistic quality assurance documentation practices. All had one or more higher education qualifications, and all were native speakers of the target language and highly proficient in English. They were all accustomed to explaining the rationale behind their choices in English and to adjudicating in accordance with the ‘ask the same question’ approach, whereby the final version must be fit for purpose, linguistically correct and equivalent to the source.

As explained under ‘Step 1 – briefing’ above, adjudicators joined a web-based training session provided by cApStAn. This helped them to familiarise with the survey and the monitoring tool.

The adjudicators were instructed to:

- carefully read the source document, the translation notes and the adaptation notes;
- read through the translations proposed by translator 1 and translator 2 and consult their comments;
- provide a reconciled version, in which consistency in terminology and repeated elements needed to be guaranteed, taking the best elements from each translation;
- report any doubts, challenges in making choices or adaptation issues in their comments column;
- highlight the issues to discuss during the team review meeting.

No segments were marked for discussion by the adjudicator in any language version. The adjudicated version was shared with the translators, who had the opportunity to challenge it and mark segments for discussion. The translators agreed with the adjudicated version for all languages. No team review meetings were held.

Step 4 – proofreading

The adjudicated version was proofread to ensure that no typographical errors, errors related to punctuation or grammar, accidentally omitted items and the like were present. The proofreader did not consult the source version as far as content was concerned, except for a ‘completeness check’ of the target version.

Step 5 – preparation of the final version

The proofread and quality-checked version was sent to the local agencies to do a final check on translations in terms of suitability for the target groups

²³ Show cards, PSU contact sheet, interviewer manual, introduction letter, postcard, privacy notice.

and for preparation of the final online implementation version with all local tailoring. This version was provided to FRA for final comment/approval before overwriting the main source script.

2.4.3. Tools and instruments used for the translation of the questionnaire

All translations were performed in OmegaT, a translation program for professional translators to assure the security and confidentiality of each translation. Each linguist received personalised access to the translation project (hosted on a cApStAn server) and processed it in OmegaT. The item-by-item guidelines and the key terms were available in OmegaT for the linguists to consult and apply in the translation. The linguists benefited from the bilingual glossaries and used an active translation memory in the tool.

All the translations and documentation were recorded in a centralised monitoring tool in Excel format, prepared by cApStAn and referred to as the translation, adaptation and adjudication follow-up form (TAAF). This tool contained the source version of the questionnaire as exported from the scripted main source version (this allowed efficient overwriting of the main source script with the translated versions once they were approved). It also contained the agreed item-specific translation and adaptation notes. The TAAF contained separate columns for each contributor: translator 1, translator 2, adjudicator, proofreader, Ipsos MORI and FRA. It also included details on where translations of the new/changed questions differed or not and the outcome of the review process plus any details on suggested amendments to existing questions. The names of the adjudicators and the NSE or project manager signing off each translated version were provided in the file.

3. INTERVIEWER SELECTION AND TRAINING

This chapter provides an overview of the field force and its training in each country, and a summary of the mediators with whom each local agency worked throughout the implementation of the main-stage fieldwork. Interviewers were responsible for conducting the interviews in all countries. The mediators assisted with the recruitment of respondents in all countries. Details of the country-specific arrangements are described in each section of this chapter.

3.1. CENTRAL PROJECT BRIEFING

Three NSE briefing sessions were held prior to any interviewer training and followed a ‘train the trainer’ approach (Table 4). The NSEs were briefed on their responsibilities during the fieldwork period and how they should communicate specific components of the fieldwork and interview process to the interviewers. The NSEs’ briefings also provided an opportunity for FRA, the CCT and the local agencies to meet and discuss sampling and survey approaches in the main-stage fieldwork and experiences from the pilot.

TABLE 4: OVERVIEW OF THE CENTRAL PROJECT BRIEFINGS

Location	Date	Duration	Attendees
Utrecht, Netherlands	19–20 November 2018	2 days (16 hours)	Labyrinth (NL), CCT, FRA, Roma and Travellers organisations (for a part of the briefing)
Stockholm, Sweden	19–20 November 2018	2 days (14 hours)	Ipsos Sweden (SE), CCT, FRA
London, United Kingdom	28–29 November 2018	2 days (14.5 hours)	IRB Europe (BE), Efficienc3 (FR), Ipsos MRBI (IE), Ipsos MORI (UK), CCT, FRA, Dr David Smith

It had originally been intended that the project teams from all six countries would attend the same central briefing. As the preparations for the fieldwork in the Netherlands and in Sweden were ahead of other countries and the plan was to start the fieldwork in these countries first, briefings for these two agencies were held separately ahead of the others. The briefings covered the following topics: an introduction to the survey and its background; historical and cultural information on Roma and Traveller subgroups in the participating countries; sampling and contacting the respondents; ethical and cultural considerations; interviewers' behaviour during fieldwork; strategies to maximise response rates; the questionnaire; and the responsibilities of the local teams/NSEs.

3.2. INTERVIEWER SELECTION

Given the complexity of the survey, it was preferred that all interviewers working on it had experience of interviewing respondents on sensitive topics and (where relevant) of working on random probability surveys. In addition, interviewers (and those from the community where possible) were also required to have at least 3 months' active interviewing experience, experience in conducting interviews using CAPI, fluency in the national language(s) of the survey country and, if possible, experience of interviewing Roma and Travellers. In Belgium fluency in the language of the target population (Bulgarian, Romanian or Slovak in addition to Dutch or French) was also required of selected interviewers. The possibility of working with interviewers who were from the Roma or Traveller communities (also referred to as community interviewers in this report) was also discussed with FRA and with the NSEs. It was thought that working with Roma or Traveller interviewers would help with engaging the relevant communities, and in the Netherlands it was considered essential. The main issue with working with community interviewers was that there are generally not enough of them who are already trained and working as professional interviewers. Thus, they did not have the requisite experience or would have to undergo more extensive training and supervision before they could be employed. For the main-stage fieldwork, community interviewers were employed in four of the six countries ²⁴.

Table 5 provides an overview of the number of interviewers who were briefed on the survey, the number who eventually conducted at least one interview and some basic profile information on the ages and backgrounds of the interviewers (where available).

²⁴ The local agencies in France and Sweden opted not to engage community interviewers but still used the mediators for getting access to target populations.

TABLE 5: REVIEW OF INTERVIEWERS TRAINED AND PARTICIPATING IN THE SURVEY

Country	Number of interviewers briefed		Number of interviewers who conducted at least 1 interview		Profile of interviewers who conducted at least 1 interview	
	Total	Out of whom Roma or Traveller interviewers	Total	Out of whom Roma or Traveller interviewers	Age	Gender
Belgium	28	10	27	10	4 aged 18-24 7 aged 25-34 7 aged 35-44 2 aged 45-54 2 aged 55-64 5 aged 65 +	12 women 15 men
France	87	0	71	0	1 aged 18-24 6 aged 25-34 9 aged 35-44 21 aged 45-54 20 aged 55-64 14 aged 65 +	44 women 27 men
Ireland	73	45	30	16	4 aged 65 + 26 no information	23 women 7 men
Netherlands	23	23	21	20 ²⁵	8 aged 18-24 6 aged 25-34 4 aged 35-44 3 aged 45-54	11 women 10 men
Sweden	16	0	16	0	1 aged 18-24 1 aged 25-34 1 aged 35-44 5 aged 45-54 2 aged 55-64 6 aged 65 +	16 women
United Kingdom	53	2	46	2	2 aged 25-34 4 aged 35-44 6 aged 45-54 20 aged 55-64 14 aged 65 +	26 women 20 men

²⁵ There was one interviewer working within the Travellers/Sinti group who was not an agency interviewer nor have the same background as the respondents, but they had close connections with the Travellers/Sinti community.

3.3 WORKING WITH MEDIATORS

One of the outcomes of the background research and the discussions between FRA, the CCT and the local agencies was that the use of mediators could help ensure access to some of the Roma and Traveller communities and advance the fieldwork in other ways. Mediators could be members or representatives of the Roma and Traveller communities or persons who worked closely with the communities, such as social workers. As part of the survey fieldwork, mediators were used in all countries and with all target groups, except in France with Travellers (Gens du voyage). Halting site managers were contacted there to facilitate access.

Contact with mediators was established during the first phases of the project (background research and stakeholder consultations, pilot phase). The role of the mediators varied a little between countries, but in general they were responsible for promoting the survey within the relevant communities, recruiting respondents in the case of non-random selection and accompanying interviewers in the field. They played a key role during the main-stage fieldwork. Mediators received remuneration from the local agencies for their services (usually as a part-time engagement alongside their main job). Because they were important interlocutors with the target communities, FRA also engaged with them during the follow-up activities. They were also given a privacy notice detailing how their personal data would be securely handled.

Despite the benefits that mediators brought to the survey, each country also identified some challenges. In all countries, this included the time it took to engage mediators, and delays in responding, which often led to substantial fieldwork delays. Feedback from each of the countries is provided in Table 6.

TABLE 6: OVERVIEW OF MEDIATORS PARTICIPATING IN THE SURVEY IMPLEMENTATION

Country	Number involved	Profile	Engaging and working with mediators
Belgium	30	12 women 18 men	Mediators who were consulted during the background research recommended colleagues and associates who could perform the role of mediator. These were then contacted and recruited. The local agency met with each potential mediator before working with them and were in regular contact throughout fieldwork. Mediators liaised directly with interviewers and helped to promote the survey, recruit respondents and arrange interviews
France	199	Personal information not collected	The local agency worked with halting site managers rather than mediators. Names and contact details were sought via Communauté de communes ²⁶ , and then individuals were contacted directly. Halting site managers provided information on the community, and introduced the interviewer where possible, but were not involved in arranging interviews
Ireland	9	8 women 1 man	Pavee Point, an NGO, consulted its network to recruit mediators. The local agency then briefed the mediators on the survey and their role. Interviewers and mediators communicated directly, with mediators helping to recruit respondents and gain access to the sites
Netherlands	3	1 Roma 2 Travellers/Sinti	Supervisors from the Roma Foundation Utrecht (RFU) worked with community interviewers to introduce the survey, recruit respondents, schedule interviews and accompany interviewers. Supervisors from the Association for Sinti, Roma and Travellers Netherlands (VSRWN) helped to facilitate the random selection of halting sites, promote the survey and accompany interviewers
Sweden	30	Personal information not collected	Mediators were recruited from several organisations, including some that were involved in the background research and consultations. The NSEs met with or spoke with all of the mediators to persuade them to participate. Mediators were briefed on the survey and were involved in recruiting respondents and arranging appointments
United Kingdom	12	Personal information not collected	Mediators were referred by academic consultants or members of the local council, or identified using a free-find approach, such as searching advocacy group websites. Mediators were contacted by email with details of the survey and their proposed role. Recruitment of each mediator required three or four telephone meetings before engaging with fieldwork. Mediators then liaised directly with interviewers and helped access sites and gain trust and buy-in to the survey

In all countries, mediators were provided with the fieldwork introduction materials (introduction letter, postcard, one-page presentation of the questionnaire) and were shown the video prepared by FRA. In the Netherlands, where the mediators played an important role in the fieldwork coordination, they were provided with the interviewer-training manual, while in Ireland and in the United Kingdom they received a summary version of the document.

²⁶ Federation of municipalities in France. It forms a framework within which local tasks are carried out together. It is the least integrated form of intercommunality.

3.4 INTERVIEWER TRAINING

All interviewers had to attend two days of training before conducting any interviews. On the first day, the project background, objectives, practising the use of the questionnaire, etc. were covered and then, after completing the first interviews, the interviewers attended a second day to go through their experiences and receive further training as necessary. The training sessions were organised and conducted by the NSE(s) of each country. The structure of the sessions followed the agenda of the central project briefing, with special focus on cultural and ethical considerations, behaviour when interacting with respondents (for non-community interviewers), the questionnaire and how to use the CAPI software. As was encouraged after the pilot, mediators, experts and support organisations were present at the training in some countries and provided insights and advice on conducting fieldwork that were more local and specific to the community.

A FRA representative participated in at least one training session in each of the survey countries and, upon request, provided clarifications directly to the local teams as necessary regarding the fieldwork implementation and the rationale of the survey questions. FRA also provided feedback to the CCT if no CCT member participated in the training session. The number of training sessions varied between the survey countries (Table 7), reflecting the size of the country, the possibility of finding a commonly suitable date and the number of participating interviewers, as well as the need to flexibly react to fieldwork development.

TABLE 7: OVERVIEW OF VENUES AND DATES OF THE INTERVIEWER-TRAINING SESSIONS

Country	Training venues (number of training sessions)	Dates of interviewer-training sessions
Belgium	Brussels (33), Antwerp (1)	4 ^A , 6 ^A , 10, 13, 19 December 2018; 8, 9, 10, 14, 16, 22, 24, 31 January 2019; 4, 6, 11, 13, 22, 28 February 2019, 1, 6, 13, 19, 26, 28 March 2019; 4, 8, 11, 14, 18, 29 April 2018
France	Paris (2), Reims (4), webinar (11)	18–19 December 2018 ^A ; 25 February 2019; 6–7, 11, 26–27, 29 March 2019; 1, 2, 9–10, 11, 23, 24–25, 30 April 2019; 6, 7, 10, 21–22 May 2019
Ireland	Athlone (2), Dublin (1)	6–7 February 2019 ^A ; 1–2 April 2019 ^A ; 30 April–1 May 2019
Netherlands	Utrecht (6), webinar/phone	23 ^A , 26 November 2018; 6, 9, 11 December 2018; 10 January 2019; throughout March 2019, instructions via video-conference and telephone
Sweden	Stockholm (3), Gothenburg (2), Malmö (1)	21–22 November 2018 ^A ; 20–21 February 2019; 18–20 March 2019; 18, 24–26 April 2019; 6 May 2019
United Kingdom	London (4), Birmingham (1), Manchester (1)	4–5 December 2018 ^A ; 30–31 January 2019; 31 January–1 February 2019; 6–7, 13–14 March 2019; 3–4 April 2019

^A Training attended by FRA.

4. SAMPLING

This chapter provides an overview of the sample design for each country. The sampling was developed based on extensive background research, as in none of the countries was a sampling frame available. The choice of the actual sampling and survey design depended on the availability of information about where the Roma and Travellers live and the feasibility of implementing the survey for a specific group. As a first step, the NSEs identified the different Roma and Traveller target groups in each country, estimated the population size and assessed if groups should be distinguished in terms of sampling and how a group could be accessed. The experiences from the pilot survey contributed to the final decision regarding the target group and sampling design in each country.

4.1. TARGET POPULATION AND SAMPLE REQUIREMENTS

The survey targeted members of the population who:

- self-identified as being Roma or Travellers or belonging to one of the subgroups in the survey country;
- were aged 16 years or older and had been living in private households within the survey country, irrespective of language, nationality or legal residence status;
- were resident in the survey country for a total of at least 6 months ²⁷ of the 12 months prior to the interview;

The groups surveyed in each country during the pilot and the main survey are listed in Table 8.

²⁷ This decision was taken in order to accommodate the non-sedentary lifestyle of the target groups, e.g. in cases of cross-country travel by Caravan dwellers.

TABLE 8: ROMA AND TRAVELLER GROUPS IN EACH COUNTRY AND THEIR COVERAGE IN THE SURVEY

Country	Roma and Traveller groups identified in the background research and stakeholder consultations	Included in the pilot survey?	Included in the main survey? ^A
Belgium	Caravan dwellers	Yes	Yes
	Long-term resident Roma	Yes	Yes
	Recently arrived Roma	Yes	Yes
France	Travellers (Gens du voyage)	Yes	Yes, only those living in halting sites
	Recently arrived Roma	Yes	No
	Autochthonous Roma	No	No
Ireland	Travellers	Yes	Yes
	Recently arrived Roma	No	No
Netherlands	Travellers	Yes	Yes, only those living in halting sites
	Pre-war Sinti and pre-war Roma	Yes	Yes, Sinti only those living in halting sites
	General Pardon Roma (1960s/1970s) ^D	Yes	Yes
	Balkan Roma (1990s)	Yes	Yes
	New Roma (since 2000)	No	No
Sweden	Swedish Roma	Yes	Yes
	Swedish/Finnish Roma (Kali)	Yes	Yes
	Non-Nordic Roma	Yes	Yes
	Balkan Roma	Yes	Yes
	Travellers	Yes	Yes
	New Roma	No	No
United Kingdom	Romany Gypsies or English Gypsies and Irish/Scottish Travellers ^B	Yes	Yes, only those living in halting sites ^C
	Recently arrived Roma	Yes	No

^A 'Included in the main survey' means that the sample frame was built on data or estimations for these particular groups and therefore only representative for these groups. However, interviewers were instructed not to exclude respondents if they identified with any other group not explicitly targeted through the sampling frame.

^B Referred to as Gypsies and Travellers in this report.

^C Only halting sites in England and Wales are covered.

^D The General Pardon group of Roma (GP Roma, also often referred to as the 1970s Roma or 1960s/1970s Roma) who arrived in the Netherlands during the 1960s and 1970s without passports or any other official documents. In 1978, the Dutch government offered the 'generaal pardon' (i.e. general pardon, also called amnesty) to this growing group of Roma. At the time they were about 550 families. Not all Roma have been able to make use of the general pardon, therefore, some of the members of this group are now stateless.

The pilot fieldwork (see Chapter 5) encountered difficulties with applying the standard definition of ‘private household’²⁸ to the target groups, especially those living in caravans/mobile homes. To overcome those problems, the definition was extended and the interviewers were provided with a variety of examples. The same definition was used for all the countries and target groups:

- A household included either one person living alone or a group of people, not necessarily related but who knew each other, living at the same address/in one or several caravans with common housekeeping, i.e. sharing at least one meal per day or sharing a living or sitting room. It had to be the individuals’ main place of residence, excluding holiday homes.
- A household included children, newborns, older persons, and persons who were temporarily absent (maximum three months) for work, education or health reasons. Temporary household members (e.g. visiting family members, friends) were included if they had lived in that household for at least six months or intended to stay six months or longer. A private household excluded business addresses, and collective and institutional accommodations such as student homes, residential homes, workers’ hostels and shelters for homeless persons.

It could also occur that several distinct households and caravans would share one pitch and it might be difficult to establish the household setting.

4.2. SAMPLING METHODOLOGIES, SAMPLE ALLOCATION AND COVERAGE

4.2.1. General sampling methodology approaches

The general approach was multistage area-based sampling. Sampling units in the first stage (PSUs) for each group covered by the survey were selected randomly or all of them were used.

A **single-stage approach** was used when the required information (the number of occupant target group members per unit, and the contact and access details of the sites) was already available at PSU level across the areas to be covered by the survey. This was applied in the case of Ireland, for Caravan dwellers and Roma in Belgium, in Sweden, and for Roma in the Netherlands, mostly because household screening was not necessary, as quota sampling was used for household selection.

The local agency still needed to consult various sources in order to obtain details of specific locations where the target population live, and their population estimates. For the populations that do not live in high concentrations (Roma in Belgium, Roma in the Netherlands, and Roma and Travellers in Sweden), it was only possible to identify municipalities where the target population resides and obtain rough estimates of their population numbers. The estimates relied on various publications and on the opinions of experts and organisations consulted.

A **two-stage approach** was taken when the concentration levels of the target group members at primary level (municipalities or regions) were too low to use directly for random selection of households. After a random selection among PSUs, information on smaller units (locations and estimated population sizes) was gathered from knowledgeable persons and organisations within the

²⁸ A ‘private household’ usually means “a person living alone or a group of people who live together in the same private dwelling and share expenditures, including the joint provision of the essentials of living.” Eurostat (2017), ‘Glossary: Household - social statistics’.

selected PSUs (mapping). Then a random selection of SSUs was undertaken. This was the case in France and the United Kingdom, and for Travellers and Sinti in the Netherlands. The procedure for the random selection of PSUs in the single-stage approach was the same as in the second stage of SSU selection, and involved two steps.

1. Small SSUs/PSUs were grouped into larger units based on geographical proximity prior to selection. PSUs/SSUs are small if the number of interviews expected to be obtained in the PSU/SSU based on the response rate and size of the PSU/SSU is below the target number set per SSU/PSU (on average, 10 interviews).
2. The number of SSUs/PSUs to be selected was determined based on the required sample size and the average number of interviews to be conducted per SSU/PSUs (set as 10). This allowed a probability proportional to size selection, and stratification by agreed variables (see Table 11). Larger SSUs/PSUs were selected multiple times, meaning that a larger number of interviews was allocated to them at the next stage to deliver an equal probability sample (e.g. if selected twice, then 20 interviews were allocated).

Two approaches were then developed for the selection of households and individuals within the selected sampling units. A random probability approach was used where the Roma and Traveller population lives in higher concentrations or in more disparate areas than can be indicated in a sample frame. The non-random quota approach was applied where a detailed sampling frame that would make a random selection feasible (by random walk, from lists, etc.) could not be established because the information was not available or because the Roma and Travellers do not live in selected concentrated areas.

4.2.2. Sample sizes, allocation, selection of sampling units and coverage

Various sources were used for the estimation of the total population sizes for each group. In order to establish sample frames, the background research (see Chapter 2) in each country included extensive mapping of available data sources that could enable the creation of sample frames for each target group. Various experts were also consulted in order to evaluate the quality of the available data or provide estimates if no other data were available. The initial estimation of the total population, the data sources used and the sample frame population, with the corresponding data sources used for the estimation, are listed in Table 9.

TABLE 9: INITIAL ESTIMATED POPULATION SIZES, SAMPLE FRAME POPULATION AND DATA SOURCES USED FOR THE ESTIMATIONS AND THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE SAMPLE FRAMES^A

Target group	Initial estimated population size	Sample frame population
BE Roma	30 000 persons Estimates by the experts consulted during the background research	28 400 persons Estimates provided by experts at municipality level
BE Travellers (Caravan dwellers)	2 300 persons in the Flemish Region and Brussels Estimated by Agentschap Integratie en inburgering (All) in the Flemish Region and Brussels Total population unknown for the Wallonia Region, list of official sites in the Wallonia Region consulted ^B	989 Traveller families Numbers provided by the All, additional sites identified during fieldwork
FR Travellers (Gens du voyage)	250 000–300 000 persons Estimates obtained during the background research	190 118 persons Based on the data of the Schéma départemental d'accueil; 60 000 after the extensive mapping of all sites in the selected PSUs, conducted by the local agency
IE Travellers	40 000 persons All Ireland Traveller Health Study	41 345 persons Based on the Traveller count by the Department of Housing (for the numbers of Travellers and their housing situation) combined with Census 2016 (for the geographical spread of Travellers, but according to the experts consulted it underestimates their number by around 50 %)
NL Roma	13 000 persons Estimates by the Roma Foundation Utrecht (RFU) during background research	16 700 persons Estimates obtained by RFU at municipality level
NL Travellers and Sinti	30 000 persons Estimates obtained through various sources and expert consultations during background research	9 600 Traveller houses Estimates based on 2018 data from Centre of Big Data Statistics collected after background research period and corrections by the VSWRN; Mapping of sites, conducted by the local agency and VSWRN
SE Roma and Travellers	50 000 persons Estimates based on the 2010 report from the Delegation for Roma Issues	43 050 persons Estimates at municipality level based on the Franet report and Eurocities report ^C
UK Gypsies and Travellers	120 000 persons Estimates based on Census 2011 and expert opinions discovered during the background research, stating that the Census undercounts the population by 50 %	24 633 caravans The Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government count of Gypsy and Traveller caravans was used for an indication of the dispersion and for the PSU selection. Population size was estimated by mapping the sites conducted by the local agency (this number was used for the SSU selection)

^A In the absence of comprehensive sample frames in the countries, they had to be established by the project team during the background research based on more detailed estimations at regional and local levels. The sum of these more detailed estimations was considered to be the newly established sampling frame population, which deviated from the initial estimates.

^B For the Wallonia Region: 11 municipalities (out of 262 municipalities in the Wallonia Region) that agreed to be part of a regional initiative of welcoming and accommodating Caravan dwellers in their territories.

^C Eurocities (2017), *Roma Inclusion in Cities. Mapping of the situation of Roma in cities in Europe*, Brussels.

The following factors influenced the decision on the sample size allocation (target sample size) across the groups:

- overall estimated population size,
- envisaged minimum sample size per country / target group (400 per country and 200 per target group),
- feasibility of achieving the minimum sample size,
- sampling approaches planned for a group,
- budget available.

Taking all factors into account resulted in target sample sizes per country and group that in some cases were significantly larger than the minimum sample sizes set per country.

The minimum sample size requirement per country was fulfilled for each country. The minimum size of 200 for a group was neither planned nor reached for Caravan dwellers in Belgium, owing to its small population size, and the findings from the pilot survey (see Chapter 5) on the success rate. Interviewers had significant difficulties achieving the number of planned interviews.

Table 10 provides the target sample sizes, as well as the coverage with regard to the originally estimated population size and the population size included in the sample frame. It also gives an overview of the numbers of PSUs and SSUs for each target group.

In **Belgium**, a total of 115 **Caravan dweller** sites or groups of sites (PSUs) were identified. Owing to the small population size, an attempt was made to approach all sites in the sample frame, reaching a coverage of 100 %. However, as a result of inability to obtain final access, ineligible populations, refusal by the site population or closure of the site, cooperation could only be established with 24 sites. The initial population size was estimated as 2 300 persons in the Flemish Region and Brussels (unknown for the Wallonia Region). The sample frame provided slightly different numbers. Moreover, during fieldwork some estimates were corrected, and additional sites were discovered and added to the sample frame list. Hence, the final population number in the sample frame is higher.

The total population size for **Roma in Belgium** was estimated as 30 000 persons based on the experts consulted during and after the background research. The sample frame estimations of 28 400 persons was derived from estimations at municipality level. The five cities of Brussels, Ghent, Antwerp, Charleroi and Sint-Niklaas were included, covering an estimated 95 % of the total Roma population of Belgium. Where the remaining 5 % live is unknown, so they were excluded from the sample frame. As was found during the pilot stage, sampling temporary sites could potentially provide higher coverage than the sample frame figures suggested, given the limited duration of stay of a maximum of several weeks, limited numbers of visits per year and therefore a high turnover. Multiple visits by the interviewers with three to four week breaks in between, would guarantee coverage of different families and could potentially also include Travellers from the Wallonia Region ²⁹. Of the target population in the Flemish Region and Brussels, 30 % was expected to go through temporary sites during the fieldwork period. Hence, the sample design targeted 30 % of interviews to come from the temporary sites in this region.

In **France** the sampling approach changed in the course of the preparatory and pilot phases from partly non-random selection to full random selection.

²⁹ Legal sites allow Caravan dwellers only outside the winter months.

Since this comes with higher costs but also higher quality, the target sample size was reduced (from 1 600 to 1 500). After the selection of the PSUs (departments, 62 out of 96, covering 94 % of the Traveller population), it turned out that the data at municipality level provided by the Schéma départemental d'accueil³⁰ was outdated and the local team had to complete an extensive and time-intensive mapping of halting sites in the selected PSUs including the updated sizes. All existing sites were mapped, so no losses in coverage due to the mapping were assumed. However, this resulted in a substantially lower number of Travellers (around 60 000) than assumed based on the data of the Schéma départemental d'accueil (around 190 000, used for the sampling frame) and originally estimated (250 000–300 000, estimate obtained during the background research). Following the mapping, the local team combined the small sites in order to create 420 SSUs of suitable size. Sites with fewer than 20 standing places, according to the sample frame information, that did not have neighbouring sites with which they could be grouped were dropped, which caused a coverage loss of 1 %. Mapping the population who lived outside halting sites and on private land locations proved to be less successful, so it was not possible to cover this population.

In **Ireland**, the All Ireland Traveller Health Study was used for the initial estimation of the population size of 40 000, because of suspected undercoverage of Travellers in the 2016 Census. This undercoverage was taken into account and combined with data from the Traveller Count at local authority level identifying 41 345 persons. Using the electoral divisions, 291 PSUs were identified. PSUs with fewer than 100 Travellers in close proximity to each other were combined in order to maximise the coverage. The units created in this way resulted in excluding only 7 % of the target population.

In the **Netherlands**, the background research obtained initial estimates of 13 000 Roma. For the sample frame, new estimations based on Roma Foundation Utrecht (RFU) data at municipality level were undertaken and reached 16 700 persons. All municipalities with a small number of **Roma** (fewer than 100) were excluded from the selection, with 222 PSUs remaining. It was estimated that this corresponds to a loss of 3 % of the coverage. Regarding the **Traveller population in the Netherlands**, the various sources and literature consulted during the background research indicated a population of 30 000. For the sample frame, only Travellers living in halting sites were considered and the estimates dropped to 9 600 based on Centre of Big Data Statistics data from 2018 and Association for Sintj, Roma and Travellers Netherlands (Vereniging Sintj, Roma, woonwagenbewoners in Nederland, VSRWN) estimates about Traveller houses. All municipalities with fewer than 40 Traveller houses were excluded from the sample frame, as they were considered to be too small to provide the 10 interviews required in each municipality. This resulted in an estimated reduction of 26 % of coverage among the Travellers. Furthermore, Traveller sites with fewer than 11 standing places that did not have neighbouring sites with which they could be grouped were excluded from the coverage. This caused another 3 % of coverage loss. The overall coverage of both sampling stages is 72 %. In total, 146 SSUs (halting sites) were selected within the PSUs selected in the first stage of sampling. In the Netherlands, the split of the target number of interviews between Roma (200) and Travellers and Sintj (500) was in part based on the estimates of population size that could be obtained at the time of deciding the allocation and in part based on what was considered feasible by the local fieldwork team and the supporting Roma organisation. The eventual sample frame population sizes were different from the estimates, and after the coverage losses they were actually very similar for the two groups, but

³⁰ Direction Départementale des Territoires (n.d.), 'Schéma départemental d'accueil pour les gens du voyage'.

it would still not have been possible to increase the number of interviews completed with Roma.

The originally estimated 50 000 Roma and Travellers (based on the 2010 report from the Delegation for Roma Issues) in **Sweden** live mostly dispersed, and there are no particular areas with higher concentrations. The sample frame population was estimated to be at 43 050 in the Franet report and Eurocities report ³¹ estimates at municipality level. The following cities were initially included: Stockholm, Malmö, Gothenburg, Helsingborg, Linköping and Borås. Lund, a municipality close to Malmö, was included within Malmö. Similarly, Haninge is a part of greater Stockholm and was included within the Stockholm PSU. During the fieldwork implementation stage, the local team established a good relationship with the community in Uppsala, and eventually covered it by fieldwork. This resulted in an increase of coverage to 99 %.

In **United Kingdom**, the 2011 Census estimated that the population size was around 63 000, which was discovered during the background research to be a significant underestimation of at least 50 %. Following the advice of the experts consulted, the total population was estimated to be 120 000. The governmental count of Gypsy and Traveller caravans was used for the sampling frame, and the local authorities were considered PSUs and provided a sample frame population size of 24 633. In a first step, all local authorities with fewer than 50 caravans were excluded from the coverage (16 % of the caravan-dwelling population). Consequently, the local fieldwork teams identified the caravan sites within each local authority and discovered that the number of pitches identified on sites represented only 64 % of the number of pitches reported by the local authorities. Smaller neighbouring sites were combined. Small caravan sites that did not have neighbouring sites were still included in the selection. Mapping the population who live outside caravan sites was not successful, so it was not possible to cover this population. This partly explains the difference between the initial population estimates and the sample frame figures. However, the sample frame numbers are still lower than suggested by the original estimates of the proportion of the population outside caravan sites.

³¹ Eurocities (2017), **Roma Inclusion in Cities. Mapping of the situation of Roma in cities in Europe**, Brussels.

TABLE 10: SUMMARY OF POPULATION AND SAMPLE SIZES PER COUNTRY AND TARGET GROUP

Target group	Target sample size (revised)	Coverage among sample frame population (%) ^A	Covered population (based on the sample frame data in Table 9 and the coverage) ^B	Number of PSUs and SSUs in the sample frame	Number of PSUs and SSUs in the sample
BE Roma	478	100	28 375	5 municipalities (PSUs)	5 municipalities (PSUs)
BE Caravan dwellers	122	100	2 471	115 Caravan dweller sites or groups of sites (PSUs)	24 Caravan dweller sites or groups of sites (PSUs)
FR Travellers (Gens du voyage)	1 500	100	60 910	96 departments (PSUs) 420 SSUs (within sampled PSUs)	62 departments (PSUs) 176 halting sites or groups of sites (SSUs)
IE Travellers	650	93	38 380	291 electoral divisions (PSUs)	65 electoral divisions (PSUs)
NL Roma	200	97	16 159	26 municipalities (PSUs)	10 municipalities (PSUs)
NL Travellers and Sinti	500	74	16 665 ^C	222 municipalities (PSUs) 146 SSUs (within sampled PSUs)	23 municipalities (PSUs) 58 halting sites or groups of sites (SSUs)
SE Roma and Travellers	400	99	42 838	9 municipalities (PSUs)	7 municipalities (PSUs)
UK Gypsies and Irish Travellers	1 100	84	29 103 ^C	379 local authorities (PSUs) 209 caravan sites (SSUs) (within sampled PSUs)	39 local authorities (PSUs) 200 caravan sites (SSUs)

^A The coverage is calculated as the proportion of the population living in units included in the sample selection to the population of all units in the sample frame (sample frame population). This relies on the PSU sample frame; see Table 9.

^B Sum of the population living in units in the sample frame.

^C The sample frame population was estimated based on pitches/households; after the data collection this number was multiplied by the average household size recorded.

4.2.3. Stratification

At the first stage of the selection, stratification was applied if feasible: Table 11 provides a summary of the stratification variables used when selecting sampling units for each of the target populations, and an indication of whether the stratification was implicit or explicit. Explicit stratification assumes explicitly the number of sampling units (PSUs) to be selected in each stratum. Implicit stratification sorts the sample frame by strata and selects PSUs systematically with probability proportional to size (PPS), i.e. larger PSUs have a greater probability of being sampled.

TABLE 11: SUMMARY OF THE STRATIFICATION VARIABLES AND TYPE OF STRATIFICATION USED

Target group	Stratification variables	Type of stratification
BE Roma	Not applied – all units were selected	
BE Travellers (Caravan dwellers)	Not applied – all units were selected	
FR Travellers (Gens du voyage)	Region (NUTS 1)	Implicit
IE Travellers	Region (NUTS 3)	Implicit
	Region (NUTS 1)	Implicit
NL Roma	Urbanity (DEGURBA)	Implicit
	Predominant Roma group	Implicit
	Categories of municipality sizes ^A	Explicit
NL Travellers and Sinti	Region (NUTS 1)	Implicit
	Urbanity (DEGURBA)	Implicit
SE Roma and Travellers	Not applied – all units were selected	
UK Gypsies and Travellers	Region (NUTS 3)	Implicit
	Type of accommodation ^B	Implicit

Notes:

DEGURBA, degree of urbanisation; NUTS, Nomenclature of Territorial Units for Statistics.

^A *Sizes of municipalities measured in terms of the number of Traveller houses. Categories: 40–99, 100–159, 160 and more Traveller houses.*

^B *Set up as a continuous variable as the proportion of caravans that were ‘socially rented’.*

4.2.4. Selection of households and respondents within sampling units

Households and respondents were selected either with random probability or with quota sampling within the selected sampling units (PSUs/SSUs). Table 12 summarises the sampling approaches and reflects the revisions made following the pilot survey and the first stages of the main fieldwork period ³².

³² The sampling approach was changed for France (removing the option to change to quota sampling) and the Netherlands (Travellers and Sinti – option for non-random selection of respondents in case of refusal was added).

TABLE 12: SUMMARY OF APPROACHES FOR HOUSEHOLD AND RESPONDENT SELECTION BY COUNTRY AND TARGET GROUP

Target group	Household and respondent selection within the sampling units	Number of respondents interviewed per household	Optional non-random selection of respondent (when random selection is refused)
BE Roma	Non-random (quota)	1	N/A
BE Travellers (Caravan dwellers)	Non-random (quota)	1	N/A
FR Travellers (Gens du voyage)	Random probability	1	No
IE Travellers	Non-random (quota)	1	N/A
NL Roma	Non-random (quota)	1	N/A
NL Travellers and Sinti	Random probability	2	Yes
SE Roma and Travellers	Non-random (quota)	1	N/A
UK Gypsies and Travellers	Random probability	2	Yes

N/A, not available (non-random selection of household and respondent).

Random selection of households and respondents within PSU/SSU

The selection of ‘households’ was defined according to the information available centrally at each site (families, accommodation units, etc.). If it was not feasible to make a random selection from lists because of unclear size of site, refusal or non-availability of this information, random walk was used instead. In smaller SSUs/PSUs this involved taking a census of all available households, in case the calculated random walk interval was less than 2.

Secondly, sufficient household units were selected to deliver the required number of interviews, factoring in the expected response rates. The response rates that could be achieved were highly uncertain, so only rough estimates could be used for deciding on the number of addresses to issue per PSU/SSU in the first phase of the fieldwork. This could result in more households than originally foreseen in an SSU, and the unequal probabilities of household selection had to be corrected during the weighting process.

Within households, random selection was a particular challenge. To facilitate fieldwork, it was possible to select two respondents per household among the Travellers in the Netherlands and in the United Kingdom (16 % and 15 %, respectively, of the respondents are second respondents). In addition, in cases of hard refusals the non-random selection of persons was allowed; this was used in 8 % of the interviews in the Netherlands and 21 % in the United Kingdom. A minimum of two visits per site and per household (in total four minimum), if possible on different days of the week and at different times, needed to be made before the outcome could be classified as non-contact.

The selected addresses were released for fieldwork in a staggered approach in order to evaluate and potentially modify the approaches if necessary.

The majority of municipalities in **France** had only one halting site, which was often very small. These sites had to be grouped with neighbouring municipalities into SSUs often covering larger geographical areas. This created difficulties in linking a specific household to the degree of urbanisation (DEGURBA) classification and to a municipality, and information concerning the DEGURBA had to be added later manually through GPS data coding. Moreover, the sample frame information at PSU level was not always accurate, as the number of Travellers identified in the selected departments differed significantly from the population figures reported in the Schéma départemental d’accueil des Gens du voyage. Hence, the results of the mapping of halting sites, conducted by the local agency, had to be used for reallocating the sample.

Unless an alternative reliable data source on the department level becomes available, a recommendation for any future surveys with Travellers (Gens du voyage) in France is to conduct mapping of all halting sites in the country before sample selection, in order to avoid unequal selection probability and to be able to plan fieldwork more systematically. The selection within the site was done with the help of maps, if available, or through random walk.

Among the **Netherlands Travellers**, all halting sites were identified using Google maps, and on a first visit to the site an enumeration of all caravans was made before selecting the households.

In the **United Kingdom**, random walk was used in case household selection was necessary within the halting sites.

Non-probability quota sampling approach within primary sampling unit

Within each randomly selected sampling unit, the respondents were purposively selected, using a quota sampling approach. This method assumed a convenience sample reaching out to members of the target group and inviting them to the survey by any means possible³³, including chain referral, recruitment through organisations or persons that interact with the target group, or any other method that ensures access to members of the target groups. However, the sample was constrained by quotas based on individual characteristics (such as age by gender, Roma/Traveller group, type of housing) and geographical distribution to ensure heterogeneity and prevent apparent sample biases. It was also assumed that controlling for biases in the quota variables would also control for potential biases on survey variables, via their correlations with the quota variables.

The regional (or municipality) targets were set based on the sample frames covering 100 % of the sample. Only in Ireland at the first stage was a random sample with PPS drawn, being representative of the country. The minimum quota on gender/age and a soft quota were based on the (estimated) composition of the target population and on the number of interviews expected for the sampling unit. In order to provide some tolerance – given the lack of data about the actual distribution in the population – quotas on age by gender were set as minimum targets, adding up to 75 % of the total sample size. Other quota criteria, such as type of housing and Roma groups, were set as ‘soft’ quotas, owing to the lack of knowledge on the population proportions of the quota parameters. The actual distribution of the quota can be found in Section 6.7.

Information on age and gender was collected for all household members of each respondent. The data were then used for evaluating the population structure in general and for weighting, when it was necessary to correct the demographic profile of the achieved sample. In addition to these quotas for individual’s characteristics, the subgroups of Roma in the Netherlands, and Roma and Travellers in Sweden, the accommodation types in Ireland were set as ‘soft’ quotas to promote further heterogeneity and balancing of the sample (Table 13).

³³ Some constraints still applied: the maximum number of targets a single entry point could provide, the maximum number of interviews that could be achieved from a single extended familial unit, only one respondent to be interviewed per household, direct family members of a respondent not to be recruited by the mediators, etc.

TABLE 13: OVERVIEW OF QUOTA AND REGIONAL TARGETS USED BY TARGET GROUP (COUNTRIES WHERE NON-RANDOM QUOTA SAMPLING WAS USED)

	BE Roma	BE Travellers (Caravan dwellers)	IE Travellers	NL Roma	SE Roma/ Travellers
Regional targets (up to 100 % of the target sample size)	X	X		X	X
Age/gender quota (up to 75 % of the target sample size)	X	X	X	X	X
Type of site (up to 73 % of the target sample size)		X			
Type of accommodation (up to 60 % of the target sample size)			X		
Groups of Roma/Travellers (up to 43 %/55 % of the target sample size)				X (43 %)	X (55 %)

Beyond the control provided by the quotas, respondents were recruited purposively by mediators or interviewers using any means available to them. Given that in the instance of the Roma and Travellers Survey the quotas were imprecise, for lack of available data on target group characteristics, this approach contained a higher risk in terms of sample quality. Therefore, the following further constraints were placed on the sample recruitment process to ensure heterogeneity and increase variance.

- A large number of support organisations, persons or interviewing venues ('entry points') were involved in recruiting respondents. A maximum was set for the number of respondents a single-entry point could provide. However, this rule needed to be flexible, and allowed for particular circumstances when only a few support organisations existed in an area, and most of the respondents needed to be recruited by them.
- A maximum of three interviews could be achieved from a single extended familial unit, except for Caravan dwellers in Belgium, where, given their small population size, the maximum was set as five.
- Only one person was interviewed per household.
- Direct family members of a respondent (father, mother, children, sister and brother) could not be recruited by the mediators (where this information was known to them).
- If a household was approached for an interview and there were two or more people who fulfilled a specific quota (e.g. women aged 16–29) then the one whose first name began with the earliest letter in the alphabet was asked to participate. Efforts were made for this person to be included (e.g. if not immediately available, then interviewers tried to arrange for interview at another time). This was introduced to avoid including only the most easy-to-reach persons in the sample.
- Within age groups it was aimed to achieve a variety of ages, and this was checked throughout the fieldwork.
- Interviewers were available to conduct interviews in the evenings and at the weekend to ensure that persons in employment or those not available during daytime hours were included in the sample.
- Because of protection of personal data, referral contacts could not be provided directly to the interviewer by the respondent or mediator. The mediator or respondent had to establish the initial contact and ask for consent to share the contact details.

5. PILOTING

This chapter provides an overview of the pilot study, in terms of objectives of the exercise, number of interviews, target groups interviewed in each country, fieldwork details (dates and locations where the interviews were conducted) and key challenges encountered. Pilot fieldwork took place between August and October 2018 in all six countries where the survey was conducted. The aim of the exercise was to test the survey approach (sampling methods, target groups, collaboration with mediators) as well as the questionnaire and survey tools (introduction letter, postcard, video and show cards) in order to identify the amendments needed prior to launching the main-stage survey. Table 14 provides an overview of the number of interviews conducted in each country by target group, along with information about the location in each country.

TABLE 14: OVERVIEW OF PILOT FIELDWORK

Country	Total number of interviews per country	Target group: number of interviews	Location (city/province): number of interviews
Belgium	11	Roma in Brussels and the Flemish Region: 2	Brussels: 2
		Roma in the Wallonia Region: 1	Charleroi: 1
		Caravan dwellers in Brussels and the Flemish Region: 5	Provinces of Limburg and Flemish Brabant: 5
		Caravan dwellers in the Wallonia Region: 3	Amay (province of Liège): 3
France	6	Travellers (Gens du voyage): 5	Paris: 2 Reims: 3
		Immigrant Roma: 1	Paris: 1
Ireland	6	Travellers: 6	Priorswood, Dublin: 6
Netherlands	10	Roma: 4	Utrecht: 4
		Sinti/Travellers: 6	Utrecht: 6
Sweden	10	Roma and Travellers: 10	Gothenburg: 5 Helsingborg: 5
United Kingdom	9	Gypsies and Travellers: 6 Roma: 3	Central Bedfordshire: 5 Isle of Sheppey, Kent: 1 Luton: 3

All pilot interviewers by the NSEs were briefed in advance of the pilot fieldwork. Interviewers were required to provide detailed feedback on the pilot interviews using a standardised template. The NSEs summarised the feedback in individual country reports (again using an agreed template to ensure that each country considered all relevant aspects of the pilot in its feedback). The individual country reports contributed to the overall pilot report prepared by the CCT.

The key recommendations from the pilot are reflected in the corresponding chapters of this report. The main outcome from the pilot was that more time should be taken to facilitate the collaboration of mediators and interviewers and to access sites or find respondents. It became clear that local agencies would need to work flexibly and adapt to the mediators' and respondents' schedules.

Various challenges were encountered during the pilot exercise – particularly in Belgium, France, Ireland and the United Kingdom – which led to extending the overall fieldwork duration to over six weeks (rather than two weeks as originally foreseen). Still, the pilot fell short of the target number of 10 interviews in France, Ireland and the United Kingdom. Some of the main challenges encountered were related to reaching certain target groups, communicating with mediators (lack of availability of mediators during August, meetings being cancelled or rescheduled in order to follow mediators' schedules, or mediators withdrawing support), reaching and cooperating with association/organisations (owing to a lack of resources), and cancellations by and suspicion on the part of respondents.

6. FIELDWORK

This chapter provides an overview of the main-stage fieldwork, detailing the fieldwork progress, procedures, size and composition of the final samples achieved, and other outcomes. Owing to the challenges involved in surveying a hard-to-reach, partly mobile population without comprehensive sample frames, the assumptions made concerning the achievable sample size had to be revised several times during the project, as described in this chapter.

6.1. FIELDWORK DATES AND PROGRESS

The fieldwork started in December 2018 in Belgium, the Netherlands, Sweden and the United Kingdom. In France fieldwork started in February 2019, and in Ireland in March 2019. The fieldwork was originally scheduled to take place between 24 October 2018 and 14 March 2019. This start had to be delayed because the pilot fieldwork period needed to be extended by four weeks, after which the final survey design was discussed and changes were made to the survey materials.

Table 15 shows the fieldwork dates and the distribution of the number of interviews planned, achieved (before applying the quality criteria) and accepted (after applying the quality criteria) across survey groups and countries. The number of interviews originally requested by FRA in the technical specifications of the survey³⁴ could not be fully reached. Each country encountered various challenges in the implementation of the survey, as detailed later in this chapter (in Sections 6.1.2, 6.2.3 and 6.7). Some of the difficulties encountered could not be fully followed up and remedied in the time available for the fieldwork. The indicative target sample sizes identified in the technical specifications for each country were revised following the contractor's technical offer, input from the background research, findings from the pilot (numbers not included in this table) and, finally, assessment made after the first interviews of the main-stage fieldwork had been completed ('Revised sample size'). A total of 4 715 interviews were achieved; out of those, 4 659 interviews were accepted and included in the final data set, providing information on 12 893 respondents and members of their households.

³⁴ FRA (n.d.), '**Annex A – D-SE-17-To2 – Roma and Travellers Survey 2018 – Tender specifications**',
FRA (n.d.), '**Annex A – D-SE-17-To2 – Roma and Travellers Survey 2018 – Tender specifications amended**',.

TABLE 15: FIELDWORK DATES AND INDICATIVE, REVISED, ACHIEVED AND ACCEPTED SAMPLE SIZES

Target group	Fieldwork start	Fieldwork end	Indicative sample size (FRA's technical specification)	Revised sample size estimated as achievable during fieldwork ^A	Achieved sample size	Accepted sample ^B	
						Total respondents ^C	Respondents and household members ^D
BE Roma	10 December 2018	13 June 2019		478	485	482	1 624
BE Travellers (Caravan dwellers)	11 December 2018	28 May 2019	750	122	124	124	324
FR Travellers (Gens du voyage)	9 February 2019	4 July 2019	1 500	1 500	1 549	1 544	4 247
IE Travellers	12 March 2019	15 July 2019	500	650	541	518	2 104
NL Roma	1 December 2018	10 April 2019		200	205	201	586
NL Travellers and Sinti	11 December 2018	22 June 2019	750	500	528	511 (430 first, 81 second respondents)	899
SE Roma and Travellers	9 December 2018	25 June 2019	500	400	404	404	1358
UK Gypsies and Travellers	12 December 2018	30 June 2019	1 200	1 100	878	875 (746 first, 129 second respondents)	1 751
Total	1 December 2018	15 July 2019	5 200	4 950	4 714	4 659 (4 449 first, 210 second respondents)	12 893

^A Expected sample sizes were revised in the light of the fieldwork outcomes, assessed at an early stage of the main-stage fieldwork.

^B These figures exclude interviews that were achieved, but later removed because they did not meet the quality criteria in terms of interview length and item non-response (see Section 7.2).

^C The numbers in brackets show the numbers of first and second respondents for Travellers and Sinti in the Netherlands and for Gypsies and Travellers in the United Kingdom.

^D Respondents and household members in the households of accepted interviews.

6.1.1. Fieldwork progress

The progress of the fieldwork was monitored on a weekly basis using a number of indicators including the number of interviews achieved, the response rate, and the number of PSUs/SSUs issued and started. The revised main-stage fieldwork period was planned from December 2018 to the end of March 2019. Because of several challenges, which are described in this chapter, the fieldwork period was extended and interviews were finally completed in mid-July 2019 (Table 16).

In **Belgium**, the winter months contributed to a slow start to the fieldwork with both Roma and Caravan dwellers. It also took a long time for the fieldwork teams to establish trust in the community. On some occasions the fieldwork had to be paused until mediators were available to facilitate access to respondents, as the mediators had regular work to do in parallel and were engaged in the survey in their leisure time. At times, mediators struggled to find people willing to participate in the survey, particularly among the Roma community in Charleroi and the Caravan dwellers in the Wallonia Region, where the halting sites were closed during the winter months. In both groups it was

not possible to reach the target sample size set for the Wallonia Region, and the planned interviews were shifted to other municipalities, where possible (Brussels and Ghent). The local team in Belgium attended celebrations for International Roma Day in Antwerp on 7 April 2019 to build relationships with mediators and the local community, who were able to share referrals. In May 2019, there was a large police operation in the camps in Belgium, during which many Roma and Travellers were arrested³⁵. This created further concern among the community and made it even more difficult to reach the Travellers living in the Wallonia Region.

In **France**, there were some delays in the start of the full fieldwork, since the sampling process took longer than expected owing to the need for extensive mapping of the halting sites and the differences found in the population sizes when comparing different data sources. The full fieldwork started in April 2019. Travelling through France was more challenging (particularly on Saturdays) because of protests by the 'yellow vest' movement, although interviewers tried not to schedule interviews during the protests. In one French department there was a small protest by Travellers against the local authorities, so the fieldwork continued only when the situation had calmed down. In one region the local authority, which plays a decisive role in managing the halting sites, was not willing to support the survey and did not give its consent for interviewers to visit the sites.

In **Ireland**, it took longer to establish trust and cooperation with the Traveller communities. The fieldwork started with non-Traveller interviewers and was delayed until mid-March. To improve reach, the contractor started recruiting interviewers with a Traveller background from late March onwards. Traveller interviewers started their part of the fieldwork in May. Work with mediators was sometimes slow and, in Cork, not all interviews could take place because the mediators were not available.

In the **Netherlands**, despite the close involvement of respected community organisations, the fieldwork with both survey groups was hampered by the communities' mistrust of participating in a survey conducted (as it seemed to the respondents) on behalf of the government or any other official institution. For the **Roma**, the leaders of the community organisation (RFU) were responsible for recruiting all respondents. It proved difficult to find respondents to fulfil the set quotas, because information was lacking on where Roma live in the Netherlands. To obtain this information, substantial efforts were needed to build relationships with local Roma organisations in each municipality (where one existed), and in other cases mediators' or interviewers' own social connections had to be used to find eligible respondents.

For **Travellers and Sinti** in the Netherlands, the sampling process was time-consuming. This was in part the reason for the slow progress throughout fieldwork. The VSWRN visited each sampled site to introduce the survey, secure access for the interviewers and gather additional information for random selection of the pitches. During the first few months of fieldwork the refusal rate among respondents (25 %) was much higher than expected. To achieve a sufficient number of interviews, interviewers were given the option of non-random selection of respondents (in case of refusal or absence of the randomly selected person) in March, and further SSUs were issued.

In **Sweden**, a well-known member of the Roma community who was employed as a consultant for the project, to provide advice, mediation

³⁵ The large-scale police operation 'Strike' took place on 7 May 2019 in various residential car parks.

and recruitment assistance, could not work on the survey, as a result of unforeseen circumstances. This happened in the beginning of the fieldwork phase and the NSEs then took on this role, but had to take time to travel to the different municipalities, build relationships with the communities and identify new organisations that are in contact with Roma, to support the fieldwork activities. Slow progress (especially in Malmö) led to the addition of the Uppsala municipality to the fieldwork in the week commencing 27 May 2019.

In the **United Kingdom**, the fieldwork started slowly, as it coincided with Christmas and New Year, but also because of a lack of fieldwork capacity. To mitigate this, more interviewers were identified and allocated to the survey. Several other factors also contributed to the slow progress.

- Samples were prepared in batches. Interviewers could not always start working on the project immediately after training, because some delays occurred when a new or reserve sample had to be issued.
- Throughout the fieldwork the interviewers faced issues with accessing sites, i.e. being refused entry or aggressive behaviour from residents. This had an adverse effect on interviewer motivation.
- Some of the sites were located in areas with only few interviewers, so the team had to recruit interviewers who were willing to work in areas that were a considerable distance from their own homes.
- A TV channel in the United Kingdom aired a show that was ill received by the Traveller communities. In some sites, rumours spread that the survey was affiliated with the show. This made it more difficult for interviewers to gain access.
- In the later months of the fieldwork, in the spring and early summer, interviewers started to report that the Travellers had started to leave the sites, which resulted in the sample being less productive than expected.

TABLE 16: NUMBER OF INTERVIEWS (ACCEPTED, AFTER QUALITY CONTROL) EACH MONTH OF THE FIELDWORK PERIOD BY SURVEY GROUPA

Target group	December 2018	January 2019	February 2019	March 2019	April 2019	May 2019	June 2019	July 2019
BE Roma	8	38	50	89	191	90	16	0
BE Traveller (Caravan dwellers)	10	18	48	31	10	7	0	0
FR Travellers (Gens du voyage)	0	0	97	362	533	231	319	2
IE Travellers	0	0	0	28	108	152	53	177
NL Roma	33	38	58	49	23	0	0	0
NL Travellers and Sinti	4	37	37	118	120	171	24	0
SE Roma and Travellers	15	3	74	34	50	73	155	0
UK Gypsies and Travellers	13	8	37	156	257	110	294	0

^A Figures are based on the accepted interviews.

6.1.2. Meeting sample size targets at survey group level

Targets were met in Belgium, France, the Netherlands and Sweden, but not in Ireland or the United Kingdom. The additional efforts required to achieve the required sample came at a financial cost, with expenditure on fieldwork and communication with mediators exceeding the expected budgets.

The final sample size in **Ireland** was 518, below the target sample size of 650, but not below the minimum in-country sample size of 400 set in the technical specifications. The fieldwork progress varied in different areas of the country. The fieldwork started first, and proceeded well, in the areas where it was planned from the beginning that Ipsos MORI's (non-Traveller) interviewers would work alone. Work in the areas where Traveller interviewers worked alone started later in fieldwork and were also completed on time. In the areas identified where mediators would be needed to support the non-Traveller interviewers, the progress was variable. It took several months and a lot of effort to appoint the mediators and introduce them to the respective interviewers. In 13 PSUs, the mediators were only allocated in July 2019, resulting in a delayed start to the fieldwork in these areas. In the Cork area, it was only possible to conduct a very limited number of interviews because mediators were not available. In seven PSUs in other regions, support could not be secured and some PSUs could not be accessed. This, coupled with the delay to starting fieldwork in those areas, meant that fieldwork had to be closed before the target sample size could be reached.

The final sample size for **Gypsies and Travellers in the United Kingdom** was 875, below the target sample size of 1 100. During the fieldwork it became apparent that the sample was less productive than expected, since the Traveller caravan count and local authority Gypsy and Traveller accommodation lists were not comprehensive, often out of date and very variable in the quality of information. Backup sites were added and the number of interviewers working on the project was increased, but the backup sites also turned out to be less productive than expected, or not productive at all, so fieldwork was not efficient. In many cases, interviewers had further issues accessing sites because there was no dedicated site manager, or there were security gates preventing access. Moreover, it took a considerable amount of time to build trust with the mediators and local communities.

6.2. MAKING CONTACT AND CONTACT SHEETS

This section details the experiences interviewers had making contact with respondents, working with mediators and using both contact sheets.

6.2.1. Visiting primary sampling units/sites

On average, sampling points or sites ³⁶ were visited four times; efforts to reach the sites exceeded the minimum requirement of two visits per site. The number of visits varied between groups, with interviewers in Belgium (Roma) carrying out at least six visits and interviewers in the Netherlands carrying out a maximum of four visits to meet their quotas. Interviewers in the countries with the largest sample sizes (France and the United Kingdom) completed fewer visits per sampling point / site on average.

6.2.2. Contact sheets

For the main fieldwork, different types of contact sheet were used:

- the PSU contact sheet for collecting information at the PSU level;

³⁶ Halting sites in France and sampling points (PSUs or SSUs) in the other countries.

- the ECS for collecting data at the household/respondent level and to screen for and select eligible respondents;

The interviewer was required to collect information about each PSU that they visited in the PSU contact sheets (on paper). The PSU contact sheet also provided interviewers with details about the PSU they would be working in, for example on the type of PSU and the sampling unit.

A number of challenges were encountered in practice because the information was collected on paper (e.g. empty fields, or missing or wrong entries that could be avoided with automated checks). For the future, electronically integrated PSU contact sheets in the CAPI software are recommended for faster, automatised and more accurate administration.

The use of the ECSs was relatively straightforward for experienced interviewers. The ECS could be completed offline in case internet connection was not available. The completion was more challenging for newly recruited interviewers from the community, since it took them longer to fill in the answers, which created tension when they were completing the ECS in front of a respondent. Further guidance by the NSE and the CCT was provided to the community interviewers.

6.2.3. Making contact with respondents

Interviewers in all countries were required to make contact with respondents face to face to invite them to participate in the survey. The ease of gaining respondents' participation varied between and within countries, and was often dependent on the involvement of mediators and how trusting the target group were. Regardless of the presence of mediators, additional time was often needed to build trust with individual respondents.

In the countries using **random sampling** (France, the Netherlands (Travellers/Sinti) and the United Kingdom), interviewers were required to make a minimum of two visits to each address before it could be assigned a final non-contact outcome code. Interviewers were encouraged to revisit at different times of the day and during different days of the week, wherever possible, in order to help maximise the response rate. Around a quarter of visits occurred in the evening and around one fifth during the weekend (24 % and 18 %, respectively). In the final contact sheet data, 12 % of addresses in the random sample have the final outcome 'non-contact'. On making contact at a household, interviewers had to establish if there were any eligible people within the household, randomly select one or two people (two in the Netherlands and the United Kingdom only) and attempt to interview them. Screening on self-identification for Roma and Travellers worked well, and respondents were able to answer the screening questions easily.

In Belgium, Ireland, the Netherlands (Roma) and Sweden, a **quota sampling** approach was used so there were no minimum requirements on the minimum number of visits to be made. Mediators (and in Ireland in some cases also interviewers) were mainly responsible for recruiting respondents and making the initial contact. After the mediator secured an interview, they passed the contact details on to the interviewer so that they could finalise the arrangements and conduct the interview. After the information had been passed from the mediator to the interviewer, it took an average of one contact attempt (as recorded in the ECS), this means contact with the first respondent at one address, to secure an interview (in rare cases up to three were needed).

Belgium

Caravan dwellers were found to be easier to approach than the Roma; they have lived in Belgium for a longer time, over several generations, had good relationships with the mediators and speak the national languages well.

They also tended to show more interest in the survey and trust than the Roma. The involvement of mediators was essential for the willingness of the respondents to participate in both groups. The mediators introduced the interviewers and the survey to the communities, showing them that they trusted the interviewer and the survey. This impact was even greater when the mediators were known to the respondents.

The time it took mediators to arrange interviews varied from one phone call to multiple face-to-face meetings.

The willingness of the interviewers to spend extra time with respondents seemed to increase the success rate. Regarding the survey material, the video and postcard were deemed most useful; respondents showed very little interest in the other materials (introduction letter, list of supporting organisations, etc.).

France

Travellers (Gens du voyage) were often suspicious of interviewers entering the halting site, not welcoming them or considering them to be working for the police or social services. However, once the interviewer was able to clearly explain the purpose of the survey, they were welcomed, and many households were willing to take part. The average number of contact attempts made per address was 1 (ranging from 1 to 12).

Working alongside a site manager was helpful for the interviewer, and halting sites with site managers were around 10 percentage points more often productive (that is, leading to at least one interview) than those without site managers. It also had a positive impact if interviewers introduced themselves to the respondents together with the site managers, as it reduced suspicion and the site managers could advise the interviewers how best to approach potential respondents. The interviewers stated that the postcard was the most useful material for establishing contact. The day or time of the visit did not seem to have a great effect on the response rate.

Ireland

In Ireland, there were no reports of respondents being unwilling to self-identify as a Traveller. The non-Traveller interviewers did report experiencing some mistrust from the community. The video and the postcard were most helpful for establishing contact.

Regarding the use of mediators, it was agreed with the country's main Roma and Traveller organisation, Pavee Point, that interviewing would be conducted using a mix of:

- the contractor's (Ipsos MRBI's) interviewers working alone in areas where Pavee Point did not have a network of interviewers or mediators;
- Ipsos MRBI interviewers working together with Pavee Point mediators in areas where this cooperation seemed necessary to gain access and where Pavee Point had a network of mediators;
- Traveller interviewers working alone (from May onwards).

The involvement of mediators in the project was essential for facilitating access to halting sites, assisting with recruitment and providing general support to the interviewers in Galway, Cork and Kerry. However, it was challenging to make contact with mediators from these regions. In the end it was not possible to reach mediators in Cork in time and interviewing could only take place in a few cases. Interviewers were able to work without mediators in Dublin, as they had experience working with communities in the area on other surveys. The main barrier to accessing sampling points was a lack of mediator support in certain areas. In 10 out of 65 PSUs in Ireland it was not possible to conduct the survey because mediators were not available to assist in the fieldwork owing to operational problems.

Netherlands

For Roma (quota sampling), it would not have been possible to approach and to recruit respondents for the survey without the cooperation of the RFU. The RFU has sufficient knowledge and connections to approach Roma communities throughout the Netherlands and was able to encourage specific groups among the Roma (e.g. older people) to participate. Personal knowledge of a member of the RFU was very beneficial for persuading respondents to participate in the survey. In general, it proved to be more difficult than the RFU expected to prevail on people to participate. This was because of mistrust of the government and research. Many people refused to take part, while those who arranged appointments often did not show up at all. Information concerning missed appointments was not systematically recorded; however, it seemed that women were more difficult to recruit than men.

Some of the topics included in the questionnaire (income, health and home facilities) proved to be sensitive within the community, which also showed in high levels of item non-response.

For Travellers/Sinti (random sampling), the average number of contact attempts made per address was 1. However, very rarely more attempts were necessary; the maximum was eight.

The interviewers' arrival at the sites was at times met with suspicion and mistrust, as well as concerns about privacy, and about the usefulness of the research and participating in it. This contributed to the higher than expected refusal rate among Travellers/Sinti in the Netherlands. Arranging interviews at the majority of sample points required at least two separate visits to the halting sites: one visit for handing out flyers and establishing contact by the representatives from the VSRWN or the interviewer, followed by one or more visits to the selected households to ask them to participate. The survey benefited from the initial visit by the VSRWN or the interviewer to the selected halting sites. This enabled easier access to the sites for the interviewers and secured better cooperation with the community members. Many halting site dwellers know the VSRWN, which had a positive effect on their willingness to participate. In addition, the personal networks of the community interviewers positively affected recruitment. In general, the best time to visit halting sites of the Travellers/Sinti was the evening, around 19.00 or 20.00.

Some respondents reacted positively to the possibility of an interview with a second person from the household, while others did not want to take part in a second interview. The reasons given for refusal were the time and the types of questions asked (sensitive issues, repetitive patterns of questions on discrimination, etc.).

For both target groups, face-to-face communication was found to be more important than any kind of written materials when establishing contact. Respondents rarely read the materials provided at the time of the visit. The video was better received. For both target groups, no barriers to accessing sampling points were reported.

Sweden

Roma in Sweden are often suspicious of strangers and of people from authorities, as a result of past negative experiences. It was difficult to establish contact, and the recruitment of respondents could only be undertaken by the mediators. This was the only way to reach a relatively large number of Roma and Travellers in Sweden, as there is limited interaction of Roma and Travellers with people outside the communities. It took a significant amount of time and effort to establish the relationships with the mediators in the first place and, as a result of the mediators' importance to the fieldwork, the work of the interviewers was entirely reliant on the availability of the

mediators. They were in direct contact with each other, with mediators informing interviewers about appointments that had been arranged, which worked relatively well. No specific differences in recruiting different types of respondents were reported.

United Kingdom

The average number of contact attempts made per address was 1; the maximum number of contact attempts made was 10.

Reactions were very mixed when interviewers approached the sites. Many residents mistrusted them and their aims and were sometimes even hostile, telling the interviewers to leave. It was challenging to obtain site permission. Private owners would be reluctant to give permission because they perceived no benefit in taking part. With public sites, local authorities were often uncommunicative or unresponsive and it was hard to find the right person to speak to. Interviewers also faced a number of practical barriers to accessing sites (locked gates, loose dogs, etc.). Once one individual on site had completed the interview, it tended to be easier to gain buy-in from others on site. Interviewers also found mediators very helpful in gaining trust on site and encourage participation, especially when mediators knew somebody on the site. During the pilot it was found that respondents were reluctant to provide information about other household members, which prevented random selection of respondents. After interviewers were given more training on how to elicit information on all household members, and with the support of mediators, random selection of respondents within households was possible for the main stage of fieldwork.

Owing to variations in literacy levels, interviewers did not tend to use the written survey materials, but would read out the introductory letter. The video was seen as useful, especially for those with lower literacy levels. An article was published in the online magazine *Travellers' Times* to help establish the legitimacy of the survey.

Based on the findings of the background research, interviewers were advised not to visit in the evening, as this was family time.

The interviewers' experience of completing a second household interview was mixed. Interviewers found that sometimes other members of the household volunteered to take part, wanting their opinion to be heard, and found it difficult to understand why the interviewer needed to adhere to random selection.

6.3. INTERVIEW ADMINISTRATION AND LANGUAGE

6.3.1. Language in which the interview was conducted

Interviews were mainly conducted in the national language and the language of the questionnaire script in CAPI. However, in some cases, the respondent spoke another language more comfortably, and, if the interviewer or mediator spoke the same language, questions were read in both languages and the respondent could answer in the language they felt more comfortable with. In France, Ireland, the Netherlands, Sweden and the United Kingdom, the interviews were conducted in the national language and no language issues were reported. In the Netherlands, and very rarely in Ireland and the United Kingdom, the interview process was sometimes supported with on-the-spot interpretation into Romani. For Roma in **Belgium**, a substantial proportion of the interviews was conducted in Bulgarian (11 %), Romanian (10 %) and Slovak (23 %). Several interviews in Belgium were conducted with on-the-spot interpretations into Serbo-Croatian and into unspecified Romani languages. The category 'Other' in Table 17 refers to 13 interviews that were conducted in two languages (e.g. Slovak and Romani or English and Romani).

TABLE 17: LANGUAGE THAT THE INTERVIEW WAS CONDUCTED IN (NUMBER OF INTERVIEWS)^A

Language	BE Roma	BE Travellers (Caravan dwellers)	FR Travellers (Gens du voyage)	IE Travellers	NL Roma	NL Travellers and Sinti	SE Roma and Travellers	UK Gypsies and Travellers	Total
Albanian	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Bulgarian	53	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	53
Dutch	114	57	0	0	200	510	0	0	881
English	1	0	0	518	0	0	0	866	1 385
French	130	67	1 544	0	0	1	0	0	1 742
Romani	6	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	8
Romanian	49	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	50
Slovak	113	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	113
Swedish	0	0	0	0	0	0	404	0	404
Turkish	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Multiple ^B	13	0	0	0	0	0	0	7	20
Total	482	124	1 544	518	201	511	404	875	4 659

^A Based on accepted interviews, answers to question IA07, n = 4 659.

^B Interview conducted in more than one language.

6.3.2. Respondents' literacy levels

Interviewers working across all countries and target groups reported that low literacy levels were an issue, as the survey used written introductory materials and show cards. In order to avoid uncomfortable tension when handing out the written materials, the interviewers read out the information on the advance materials, as well as the show cards. In all countries the interviewers also used the video to convey information about the survey when they suspected a respondent had difficulties reading.

6.3.3. Comprehension of the questionnaire

At the end of the questionnaire, interviewers provided their own assessment of the extent to which the respondent understood the questions. The results are illustrated in Table 18. The numbers suggest that Caravan dwellers in Belgium (8 %) had the most difficulty in fully understanding the questionnaire.

TABLE 18: COMPREHENSION OF THE QUESTIONS PER TARGET GROUP (%)^{A,B}

Target group	The respondent was able to understand...			
	all of the questions	most of the questions	only some of the questions	none of the questions
BE Roma	59	35	5	0
BE Travellers (Caravan dwellers)	71	21	8	0
FR Travellers (Gens du voyage)	60	34	5	0
IE Travellers	70	24	6	0
NL Roma	50	44	6	0
NL Travellers and Sinti	75	25	0	0
SE Roma and Travellers	86	14	0	0
UK Gypsies and Travellers	68	27	4	0
Total	66	29	4	0

^A Figures based on accepted interviews, answers to question IA10, n = 4 659.

^B Category 'don't know' is included in the calculation but it is not reported in the table. Due to this and to rounding errors the cell counts do not always add up exactly to the row totals of 100%.

According to interviewees, 66 % of respondents were able to understand all the questions, and 29 % understood most of them. However, overall, 34 % encountered at least some difficulties in understanding the questions. The way the questions or items were phrased was the most common reason why respondents did not understand questions. This could mean the length of the questions, the vocabulary used and/or the concepts included. Table 19 shows the prevalence of reasons in each target group.

TABLE 19: MAIN REASONS WHY RESPONDENTS DID NOT UNDERSTAND QUESTIONS (%)^{A,B}

Target group	Language difficulties	Lack of required knowl- edge	The way the questions/ items were phrased	Other reason
BE Roma	52	18	17	12
BE Travellers (Caravan dwellers)	33	11	42	11
FR Travellers (Gens du voyage)	23	9	59	8
IE Travellers	5	28	53	7
NL Roma	21	4	60	13
NL Travellers and Sinti	4	22	61	13
SE Roma and Travellers	29	22	41	7
UK Gypsies and Travellers	6	31	50	13
Total	21	17	51	10

^A Figures are based on accepted interviews in which question IA11 concerning the reasons why respondents did not understand the questions was answered. The question was asked only if question IA10 was answered with 2, 3 or 4, i.e. the respondent was able to understand most (but not all), only some or none of the questions. As shown in Table 18, the majority of respondents (66 %) did not have difficulties in understanding the questions; n = 1 564.

^B Category 'don't know' is included in the calculation but it is not reported in the table. Due to this and to rounding errors the cell counts do not always add up exactly to the row totals of 100%.

6.3.4. Respondent and interviewer perceptions of the questionnaire

Overall, the questionnaire worked well and respondents appreciated the interest shown in their living conditions and experiences. However, a number of difficulties were encountered while interviewing. Respondents' feedback was collected by open text question at the end of the interview. Interviewer feedback was collected in a special section of the interview (interviewer answers (IA) questions). The fieldwork agency also debriefed interviewers separately once they finished their fieldwork. Then there was also a debriefing session between the local agency and FRA. The results of the sessions and the country visits conducted by FRA are summarised in Table 20 and described in further detail following the table. The issues raised were raised by a very limited number of respondents/interviewers and should not have a significant impact on the data quality.

TABLE 20: SUMMARY OF RESPONDENT AND INTERVIEWER FEEDBACK ON THE QUESTIONNAIRE

Question/section/topic	Issues raised	Country that the comment is applicable to
Entire questionnaire	Respondents felt that the questionnaire was long and repetitive. It was difficult to keep respondents engaged	All countries
Discrimination and harassment across the domains	Respondents with limited experiences of discrimination or harassment found these questions repetitive	UK
Discrimination and harassment across the domains	Respondents found questions that contained 'because of your [ROMA BACKGROUND]' repetitive and difficult to understand	BE
Questions that use human rights language	Respondents had difficulties understanding specific terms, concepts or phrases, e.g. 'human rights', 'ethnic minority background', 'NGO' and the definitions provided	BE, FR, NL
Personal questions or taboo subjects	Interviewers noticed that respondents did not want to discuss questions about their household items, family income, health or sexual orientation	FR, IE, NL, UK
Open field verbatims in the category 'Other' in the questions on current job/occupation, languages spoken at home, language the interview was conducted in (Question codes EA01, PBo6, IA07)	The review of the verbatim responses when respondents were asked to specify what they meant when selecting 'Other' as their answer showed that the interviewer could have used a pre-existing code for some of the responses	All countries
Number of rooms in household (HLS01)	During an interview observation in Ireland, an interviewer had difficulty understanding what to include in the count of number of rooms in the household. The local agency was asked to clarify the definition with the interviewers	Ireland, but may be relevant for all countries
Education scales	In some cases, the high number of answer options overwhelmed the respondents	BE
Type of accommodation (Question code C1)	Respondents had difficulties classifying chalet, log cabin, shed and bungalow into the given categories	FR, NL (Traveller and Sinti), UK
Self-identification (Question code IN09)	The verbatim comments show some respondents feeling that the available answer categories did not describe them well	BE (Roma), FR, SE, UK
What is your religion? (Question code PBo1)	A few respondents stated whether they were practising their religion in the verbatim comments. A differentiation between non-practising and practising religion could help in future surveys	FR
Main language spoken at home (Question code PBo6)	Some respondents (e.g. Gitanes, Manouche) were not able to find their spoken language in the list and did not identify with the category 'Romanes' or 'Romani' that was offered	BE, FR, NL

Question/section/topic	Issues raised	Country that the comment is applicable to
Missing situation of discrimination in the questionnaire	Some respondents in Belgium stated that the situations in which they feel discriminated against are not covered by the questionnaire (e.g. the absence of Roma history in the school curriculum)	BE
Lack of knowledge in order to answer some questions on household / place of residence	Some respondents were not in a position to answer questions because they did not know the answer. This may have been the case (especially for younger respondents) when asked about their household, place of residence or household (parents') income	All countries
Impression of respondents that questions were asked to confirm stereotypes	Question S101 (sources of income) was perceived as to some degree problematic in Ireland. Question D024 (asked to pay bribe) was considered inappropriate and offensive by some of the respondents in the Netherlands and the United Kingdom, as it was considered to paint the community in a negative light	IE, NL, UK
Suggestion for additional items/questions	The verbatims revealed a number of items respondents missed among the answer options given to adequately reflect their responses. In Sweden, it was suggested to ask if respondents were open about disclosing their ethnicity to people who are not Roma or Travellers	All countries, SE

For five out of eight target groups, the interviewers report that 90 % or more of the respondents were (very) interested in the topics of the survey (Table 21). Only in France, among Roma in Belgium and among Travellers and Sinti in the Netherlands is the share lower (81 %, 85 % and 89 %).

TABLE 21: RESPONDENTS' INTEREST IN THE TOPICS OF THE SURVEY BY TARGET GROUP (%)^{A,B}

Target group	Very interested	Somewhat interested	Not very interested	Not at all interested
BE Roma	29	56	13	2
BE Travellers (Caravan dwellers)	51	44	6	0
FR Travellers (Gens du voyage)	26	55	15	4
IE Travellers	59	35	4	1
NL Roma	67	28	4	0
NL Travellers and Sinti	60	29	10	2
SE Roma and Travellers	74	24	2	0
UK Gypsies and Travellers	48	42	9	1
Total	44	43	10	2

^A Figures are based on the accepted interviews, answers to question IA12, 'How interested, if at all, was the respondent in the topics of the study?', answered; n = 4 659.

^B Category 'don't know' is included in the calculation but it is not reported in the table, and as a result the cell counts do not always add up exactly to the row totals of 100%.

The presence of other people during the interview may affect some responses of the interviewee, for example in cases of experience of harassment/physical violence when the perpetrator is a household member. It could, however, also be beneficial for data quality in cases of the estimation of household income by younger respondents. In most cases, respondents were alone throughout the whole interview, as illustrated in Table 22.

TABLE 22: ABSENCE OR PRESENCE OF OTHER PEOPLE DURING THE INTERVIEW BY TARGET GROUP (%)

Target group	Respondent alone throughout the interview	Someone else present at least some of the time	Someone else present half of the time	Someone else present most/all of the time
BE Roma	72	11	2	15
BE Travellers (Caravan dwellers)	76	8	2	14
FR Travellers (Gens du voyage)	74	13	1	12
IE Travellers	76	14	2	7
NL Roma	100	0	0	0
NL Travellers and Sinti	64	21	2	14
SE Roma and Travellers	79	4	2	14
UK Gypsies and Travellers	55	20	2	22
Total	71	14	2	14

Notes: Figures are based on the accepted interviews with question IA03, 'Was the respondent alone throughout the interview?', answered; n = 4 659.

Table 23 provides an overview of who was present during part or all of the interview, in cases when the interviewer and the respondent were not alone the whole time. This could be relevant because the other person present could have an influence on the answering pattern of the respondent in order to avoid socially undesirable situations or repercussions that could derive from their answers. The table also shows the number of interviews during which a mediator or another interviewer was present throughout the interview. The presence of a mediator during the interview varies across countries. While having mediators was key to accessing the target groups, once trust had been built the respondents were happy to complete the interview without the presence of the mediator. It should be noted that mediators make up a large proportion of the persons present during the interviews in Sweden.

TABLE 23: PERSONS WHO WERE PRESENT DURING (PART OF) THE INTERVIEW BY TARGET GROUP (%)^A

Target group	Husband/wife/partner	Child/children	Friend(s)	Other ^B	Other interviewer, mediator
BE Roma	25	34	46	19	28
BE Travellers (Caravan dwellers)	40	50	13	17	20
FR Travellers (Gens du voyage)	61	30	12	26	3
IE Travellers	38	51	15	27	25
NL Roma ^C	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
NL Travellers and Sinti	62	30	8	33	13
SE Roma and Travellers	4	4	33	13	41
UK Gypsies and Travellers	35	37	17	34	26
Total	44	33	18	28	18

^A Figures are based on the accepted interviews with all respondents who were not alone during all or part of the interview and that have non-missing values in the question used to determine the presence of other people during the interview; n = 4 659.

^B Other family member(s), neighbour(s), guest(s).

^C N/A, not available: All respondents among Roma in the Netherlands were alone during their interviews.

6.3.5. Respondent cooperation

The interviewers assessed the cooperation of the majority (88 %) of respondents as good, very good or excellent (Table 24). The percentage of respondents who agreed to participate and then cooperated poorly is low (1 %).

TABLE 24: COOPERATION OF RESPONDENTS BY TARGET GROUP (%)^{A,B}

Target group	Poor	Fair	Good	Very good	Excellent
BE Roma	1	13	39	29	18
BE Travellers (Caravan dwellers)	1	11	27	30	31
FR Travellers (Gens du voyage)	2	17	32	26	22
IE Travellers	0	4	22	35	38
NL Roma	2	10	51	29	7
NL Travellers and Sinti	0	6	30	34	29
SE Roma and Travellers	0	3	5	29	63
UK Gypsies and Travellers	1	8	17	24	51
Total	1	11	27	29	33

^A Figures are based on the accepted interviews, answers to question 'A09, 'How would you rate respondent's cooperation?'; n = 4 659.

^B Category 'don't know' is included in the calculation but it is not reported in the table, and as a result the cell counts do not always add up exactly to the row totals of 100%.

6.4. INCENTIVES

In Belgium, France, Sweden and the United Kingdom, respondents were offered an incentive in the form of low-value gift vouchers and cash, conditional on completion of the survey, and used as a way of thanking the respondents for their time. These incentives were mostly appreciated by respondents and seen as a valuable means of recruiting respondents or thanking them for their time. Around 20 % of the respondents in France, 22 % in the United Kingdom and 6 % in Sweden declined the incentive (Table 25); some felt that the low amount offered was offensive or they did not feel it was necessary because they appreciated having their views heard. No incentives were handed out to the respondents in Ireland and the Netherlands; it was agreed with the community organisations that the incentives would go directly to the entire community.

TABLE 25: INCENTIVES PROVIDED BY COUNTRY AND PROPORTION OF RESPONDENTS WHO ACCEPTED IT

Country	Incentive	Percentage who accepted
Belgium	Cash, EUR 20	100
France	Cheque, EUR 5	80
Ireland	None	-
Netherlands	None	-
Sweden	Gift card, SEK 250	94
United Kingdom	Cash, GBP 5	78

6.5. INTERVIEWERS' FEEDBACK ON THE FIELDWORK SUPPORT MATERIALS

The **introductory letter** was handed out to all respondents in all countries, but it was not often read by the respondents (for various reasons, including in some cases low literacy levels). Interviewers started by either reading the letter or explaining the content to the respondents before handing it over. The letters may have had limited efficacy in this context.

The **postcard** with brief information on FRA, the survey objectives, the sample size, types of questions, methodology and the indication of when the results would be available was handed out to all respondents in all countries and was received more positively than the letter, with respondents more likely to read or attempt to read it. The interviewers felt that the postcard was useful to demonstrate the legitimacy of the survey, explain the purpose succinctly and help to start a relationship with respondents. Mediators also sometimes used the postcards for recruitment purposes.

The **introductory video** was produced for each country/language to be used by the interviewers and mediators in order to introduce the survey to respondents. It briefly described the purpose of the study, the methodology and how the results would be used. The video was well received and is recommended for future use (and again could be seen as a replacement for the letter).

The **privacy notice** was handed out to respondents in all countries, and interviewers made efforts to explain the contents where necessary. While interviewers acknowledged the importance of the privacy notice, respondents rarely read the (long) document or did not understand the concept. Less technical language would have been more useful.

6.6. FIELDWORK OUTCOMES – RANDOM SAMPLING

This chapter provides an overview of the fieldwork outcomes where random sampling was used to approach the target group, i.e. in France, the Netherlands (Traveller/Sinti) and the United Kingdom.

6.6.1. Response rate

Table 26 provides a summary of fieldwork outcomes by country and the associated response rate. This is based at household level and is only provided for target groups where a random probability approach was used.

The final outcome 'Ineligible household' describes a resident household that is not eligible for the survey (e.g. no self-identified Roma or Travellers living in the household, ineligible for other reason). The final outcome 'Unknown eligibility' was used if all information was refused, or if screening was not possible because of language barriers or because the whole household was away or in hospital during the fieldwork phase. Eligible households include completed interviews (the calculations include only accepted interviews), partial interviews, interviews refused by the target respondents before their interview, refusal by proxy (other household member) after the respondent selection, refusal during the interview, broken appointment, no recontact, screened out (respondent was identified as eligible but refused to participate or provide essential information during the interview) or the respondent was away or in hospital during the fieldwork period. Interviewed households include only those where at least one interview was completed.

TABLE 26: FIELDWORK OUTCOMES AT HOUSEHOLD LEVEL FOR RANDOM PROBABILITY SAMPLES BY COUNTRY^A

Country	Total sample	Confirmed ineligible households (CIH)	Unknown eligibility (UE)	Confirmed eligible households (CEH)	Interviewed households (I)	Interviewed persons (including second respondents) (IR)	Eligibility rate (e) (%)	Response rate (%)
FR	3 607	57	1 651	1 796	1 544	1 544	97	45
NL Travellers/Sinti	851	11	299	453	430	511	98	57
UK	1 665	82	597	880	746	875	93	51

^A Figures are based on the accepted interviews.

The **eligibility rate** *e* is calculated as follows:

$$e = \frac{CEH}{CEH + CIH}$$

The **response rate** is calculated at household level in accordance with the definition of Response Rate 3 by the American Association for Public Opinion Research (AAPOR) ³⁷:

$$Response\ rate = \frac{I}{CEH + e(UE)}$$

6.6.2. Number of second interviews

In the Netherlands (Travellers and Sinti) and in the United Kingdom, interviewers were allowed to interview two respondents per household. In the Netherlands, 81 out of 511 (16 %) accepted interviews with Travellers/Sinti were conducted with a second respondent. In the United Kingdom, 129 out of 875 (15 %) accepted interviews were carried out with a second respondent.

6.6.3. Random selection of respondents

In the Netherlands (Travellers and Sinti) and in the United Kingdom, the interviewer did not have to conduct the random selection of the respondent if the household refused this element but otherwise agreed to take part. In the Netherlands, 42 (8 %) accepted interviews were conducted with Travellers/Sinti who were not randomly selected. In the United Kingdom this was the case for 185 (21 %) accepted interviews. How this is dealt with during weighting is described in Section 8.1.3.

There is no difference between the percentages of women and men among the non-randomly selected respondents in the Netherlands. In the United Kingdom the distribution is very imbalanced with an overrepresentation of women (71 % versus 29 %); however, this largely matches the gender distribution among randomly selected respondent (67 % versus 33 %). There are no large differences in the patterns of the age distribution between randomly and non-randomly selected respondents (Table 27).

³⁷ AAPOR (2011), Standard Definitions: Final dispositions of case codes and outcome rates for surveys, 7th edition, AAPOR, p. 46.

TABLE 27: GENDER AND AGE DISTRIBUTIONS OF RESPONDENTS BY TYPE OF RESPONDENT SELECTION WITHIN HOUSEHOLDS (%)^A

Respondent selection within household		NL Travellers/Sinti		UK	
		Random	Non-random	Random	Non-random
Gender	Women	55	50	67	71
	Men	45	50	33	29
Age	16-29 years	17	21	33	28
	30-44 years	26	36	21	30
	45 + years	58	43	46	42

^A Figures are based on the accepted interviews.

6.6.4. Number of primary sampling units where a full census was done

A full census was completed in 106 out of 160 (partially) productive SSUs (66 %) in France and in 146 out of 152 (partially) productive SSUs (96 %) in the United Kingdom. This indicates that sites were smaller than expected. In the Netherlands, sites were expected at the outset to be small, so it was decided to do a full census in each site and not use a sampling interval.

6.6.5. Age and gender distribution of respondents and household members

Table 28 shows that gender distribution is more or less balanced for household members in all three survey groups with a random household selection approach. Among respondents there is a slight overrepresentation of women in France and the Netherlands, and a significant overrepresentation of women in the United Kingdom.

The age distribution of respondents does differ quite significantly in the Netherlands, where young respondents are less represented in the sample. Background research indicates that this might reflect the actual age distribution, as younger Travellers progressively stop living at a mobile home location, because of the 'extinction policy' (*uitsterfbeleid* – a policy aimed at reducing the number of mobile houses and pitches per municipality)³⁸.

TABLE 28: GENDER AND AGE DISTRIBUTIONS OF RESPONDENTS AND HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS IN SURVEY GROUPS WITH A RANDOM SAMPLING APPROACH (%)^A

Respondent and household member selection		FR Travellers (Gens du voyage)		NL Travellers and Sinti		UK Gypsies and Travellers	
		Respondent	Household members	Respondent(s)	Household members	Respondent(s)	Household members
Gender	Women	53	51	55	49	68	50
	Men	47	49	45	51	32	50
Age	16-29 years	32	41	17	35	32	38
	30-44 years	29	28	26	21	23	24
	45 + years	38	31	56	43	45	39

^A Figures are based on the accepted interviews.

³⁸ See Blaakman et al. (2017), 'Woonwagenbewoner zoekt standplaats', Nationale Ombudsman.

6.6.6. Productivity of sampling points

Sampling points in the Netherlands were the most productive, with no issues hindering fieldwork reported, as illustrated in Table 29. Two SSUs in the Netherlands were replaced because the local supervisors advised that potential respondents would be suspicious of the research. In France and the United Kingdom, halting sites were less productive than expected. In both countries, the main issue was that sites were empty, destroyed or not populated. This eventually contributed to not being able to reach the full sample size in the United Kingdom. In a few cases in France, a site was not accessed because it was considered too dangerous for the interviewer to go there.

TABLE 29: PRODUCTIVITY OF SAMPLING POINTS BY TARGET GROUP

Productivity codes		France	Netherlands (Travel- lers and Sinti)	United Kingdom
Total SSUs		176	58	200
Unproductive	Does not exist	0	0	1
	Empty / not populated / non-residential / destroyed	5	0	36
	Access denied	7	0	11
	Considered dangerous	4	0	0
Partially productive – not fully completed		7	0	24
Productive – fully completed		153	58	128

Notes: Total number of SSUs in the PSU contact sheet data set, n = 434.

6.7. FIELDWORK OUTCOMES – QUOTA SAMPLING

Quota sampling was used in Belgium, Ireland, the Netherlands (Roma) and Sweden. This subsection provides an overview of the regional targets, minimum quotas on age by gender and other ‘soft’ quotas set for each target group, the performance against these targets and quotas, and any reasons for deviations from these. It is not possible to calculate a response rate for the quota samples. These are non-probabilistic samples, so the AAPOR concepts of response rates are not applicable. The eligibility rate is unknown, and the denominators cannot be calculated.

6.7.1. Quotas set and achieved

For each sampling unit a quota was set on the total number of interviews expected. Within this target, interlocked quotas on gender by age (six categories in total, with three categories used for age) were also set. In order to provide some degree of tolerance – given the lack of local-level data available – the gender by age quotas were set as minimum quotas, totalling 75 % of the total sample size. In addition, targets on regional distribution (or the distribution across selected municipalities) were set in all groups, proportional to size in the sample frame distribution. Therefore, they totalled 100 % of the target sample size (as described in Table 13). Further ‘soft’ quotas totalling less than the 75 % threshold used for age by gender quotas were used in Ireland for type of accommodation (up to 60 % of the target sample size), in the Netherlands for the various Roma groups (up to 43%) and in Sweden for the various groups of Roma/Travellers (up to 55 %), and in Belgium (Travellers) for the type of sites (73 %) to promote further heterogeneity and balancing of the sample. The tables in this subsection show the targets and quotas that were set at the beginning of fieldwork and the revised targets/quota that were determined during data collection, after experiences gained in the early stages of the fieldwork.

Belgium (Caravan dwellers)

Owing to the unavailability of mediators and therefore difficulties in reaching respondents during data collection, the sample from the Wallonia Region needed to be reallocated across the Brussels Region and the Flemish Region, and the overall sample size needed to be reduced (Table 30). The additional interviews were allocated to the Roma community instead (see Section 6.7). Following the reallocation of the sample from the Wallonia Region to the Roma target group, the regional targets were met. Quotas for age by gender were recalculated accordingly and met for almost all subgroups. There was a slight shortfall of men aged 30–44 (three interviews short) and women aged 30–44 (two interviews short) vis-à-vis the quotas. The quotas for the type of site were exceeded for those living on private sites. There was a slight shortfall in those living on temporary and residential sites (three and four interviews short, respectively). While the number of interviews for private sites was exceeded, given that interviewing was only possible in 9 % of identified sites of this type it is likely that this part of the population is underrepresented in the data.

TABLE 30: QUOTAS AND REGIONAL TARGETS (AS NUMBER OF INTERVIEWS) FOR CARAVAN DWELLERS IN BELGIUM

		Target	Revised target	Achieved ^A	
Regions ^B	Brussels and the Flemish Region	120	120	122	
	Wallonia Region	30	2	2	
	Total	150	122	124	
		Quota	Revised quota	Achieved ^A	
Age and gender ^C	Women	16–29	22	17	18
		30–44	22	18	16
		45 +	11	9	23
		Total	55	44	57
	Men	16–29	22	18	23
		30–44	22	17	14
		45 +	11	9	30
		Total	55	44	67
Type of site ^D	Temporary	35	N/A	32	
	Residential	60	N/A	56	
	Private	25	N/A	36	

N/A, not applicable.

^A Figures are based on the accepted interviews.

^B Regions were not set as minimum targets, the numbers add up to 100 % of the targeted sample size.

^C Quotas for age by gender were set as minimum targets adding up to 75 % of the target sample size.

^D Soft quotas for the types of site were set as minimum targets adding up to 73 % of the target sample size.

Belgium (Roma)

During data collection, the sample from Charleroi had to be reallocated across Brussels, Ghent and Antwerp because it became increasingly difficult (because of mediator inavailability) to conduct any research in the Charleroi region. The quotas for age by gender were recalculated accordingly. Similarly, because of difficulties with fieldwork in Sint-Niklaas, the sample was, where possible, relocated to Brussels and Ghent.

Following the revision of the regional quota targets in Belgium, the fieldwork team reached the minimum target in all regions except for Sint-Niklaas and met or exceeded the revised quotas for age by gender (Table 31).

TABLE 31: QUOTAS AND REGIONAL TARGETS FOR ROMA IN BELGIUM

		Target	Revised target	Achieved ^A	
Regions ^B	Brussels	170	175	177	
	Ghent	110	168	184	
	Antwerp	80	95	90	
	Charleroi	70	20	21	
	Sint-Niklaas	20	20	10	
	Total	450	478	482	
		Quota	Revised quota	Achieved ^A	
Age and gender ^C	Women	16-29	68	72	72
		30-44	68	72	103
		45 +	34	35	45
		Total	170	179	220
	Men	16-29	68	72	130
		30-44	68	71	86
		45 +	34	35	46
		Total	170	178	262

^A Figures are based on the accepted interviews.

^B Minimum quotas were not set for regions. The numbers add up to 100 % of the target sample size.

^C Quotas for age by gender were set as minimum targets adding up to 75 % of the target sample size.

Ireland

Because of difficulties in organising the timely support of mediators in some regions and the delayed start of the fieldwork, the total target sample size of 650 was not reached (518 accepted interviews) and regional targets were not achieved (Table 32). In the South-West region around Cork it was only possible to conduct a very limited number of interviews. Quotas were set for age by gender and for the type of accommodation (halting site or other type of accommodation). Some quota targets were not met because the total sample size was not reached. The quotas set for both accommodation types were exceeded. Despite the final sample size being below the target sample size upon which the minimum quotas were set, the sample can still be seen as representative (with the exception of Cork).

TABLE 32: QUOTAS AND REGIONAL TARGETS IN IRELAND

		Target	Achieved ^A	
Regions (NUTS 3) ^B	Border (IE011)	60	58	
	Midland (IE012)	80	83	
	West (IE013)	110	84	
	Dublin (IE021)	120	101	
	Mid-East (IE022)	50	49	
	Mid-West (IE023)	80	48	
	South-East (IE024)	80	87	
	South-West (IE025)	70	8	
	Total	650	518	
		Quota	Achieved ^A	
Age and gender ^C	Women	16-29	103	90
		30-44	82	95
		45 +	69	99
		Total	254	284
	Men	16-29	100	84
		30-44	73	64
		45 +	63	82
		Total	236	230
Type of accommodation	Halting site	83	105	
	Other type of accommodation	307	413	
	Total	390	518	

NUTS, Nomenclature of Territorial Units for Statistics.

^A Figures are based on the accepted interviews.

^B Minimum quotas were not set for regions. The numbers add up to 100 % of the target sample size.

^C Quotas for age by gender were set as minimum targets adding up to 75 % of the target sample size.

^D Types of accommodation quotas were set as minimum targets, adding up to 60 % of the target sample size.

Netherlands (Roma)

In the Netherlands, with the exception of Lelystad, all of the regional targets and gender and age quotas were met (Table 33). The soft quotas for types of Roma were met except for Roma from the 1960s/1970s (11 short).

TABLE 33: QUOTAS AND REGIONAL TARGETS FOR ROMA IN THE NETHERLANDS

		Target	Achieved ^A	
Regions ^B	Lelystad	20	17	
	Enschede	20	20	
	Oldenzaal	20	20	
	Diemen (Zuid)	20	21	
	Nieuwegein	20	21	
	Capelle aan den IJssel	20	20	
	Amsterdam (Bijlmer)	20	20	
	Veldhoven	20	20	
	Den Bosch (Rosmalen)	20	20	
	Den Bosch	20	22	
	Total	200	201	
		Quota	Achieved ^A	
Age and gender ^C	Women	16-29	25	40
		30-44	25	32
		45 +	25	27
		Total	75	99
	Men	16-29	25	32
		30-44	25	38
		45 +	25	32
		Total	75	102
Type of Roma ^D	Pre-war Sinti and Roma	10	16	
	Roma (before 1980)	56	44	
	Roma (from the 1980s)	10	34	
	Roma (from the 1990s)	10	20	
	Total	86	114	

^A Figures are based on the accepted interviews.

^B Minimum quotas were not set for regions. The numbers add up to 100 % of the target sample size.

^C Quota on the age by gender were set as minimum targets adding up to 75 % of the target sample size.

^D Quotas on groups of Roma were set as minimum targets adding up to 43 % of the target sample size. The groups used for quota are less detailed than the groups presented in Table 8.

Sweden

In Sweden, to improve slow fieldwork progress, a further municipality, Uppsala, was added to the fieldwork at the end of May 2019. Following these changes, the targets were reached in all municipalities with the exception of Uppsala (Table 34).

Quotas were reached for age by gender. Minimum quotas for each type of target group were reached with the exception of Travellers and Roma from the Balkans.

TABLE 34: QUOTAS AND REGIONAL TARGETS IN SWEDEN

		Target	Revised target	Achieved ^A	
Municipalities ^B	Stockholm + Hanninge	140	140	141	
	Malmö	85	75	78	
	Gothenburg	85	85	85	
	Helsingborg	45	45	48	
	Linköping	25	25	25	
	Borås	20	20	20	
	Uppsala	-	10	7	
	Total	400	400	404	
		Quota	Revised quota	Achieved ^A	
Age and gender ^C	Women	16-29	51	N/A	63
		30-44	51	N/A	70
		45 +	51	N/A	71
		Total	153	N/A	204
	Men	16-29	51	N/A	84
		30-44	51	N/A	55
		45 +	51	N/A	61
		Total	153	N/A	200
Target group ^D	Travellers	70	N/A	46	
	Roma from the Balkans	50	N/A	32	
	Non-Nordic Roma	40	N/A	209	
	Swedish Roma	40	N/A	48	
	Finnish Roma	20	N/A	64	
	Other	-	N/A	4	
	Total	220	N/A	403	

N/A, not available.

^A Figures are based on the accepted interviews.

^B Minimum quotas were not set for regions. The numbers add up to 100 % of the target sample size.

^C Quotas for age by gender were set as minimum targets adding up to 75 % of the target sample size.

^D Quotas for groups of Roma/Travellers were set as minimum targets adding up to 55 % of the target sample size.

6.7.2. Age and gender distribution of respondents and household members

Table 35 shows that the gender distribution is more or less balanced for respondents and household members in the Netherlands (Roma) and Sweden, and for household members in Belgium (Roma) and Ireland. Among respondents, women are underrepresented in Belgium (46 % versus 54 % for both Roma and Caravan dwellers). Among Caravan dweller household members, however, they are overrepresented (56 %). Respondents in Ireland are more often female than male (56 % versus 44 %).

The age distribution of respondents does not differ much from the distribution among household members in Belgium. The age profile of respondents seems to be more balanced than the profile of the other household members in Ireland, Sweden and the Netherlands (Roma).

TABLE 35: GENDER AND AGE DISTRIBUTION OF RESPONDENTS AND HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS IN SURVEY GROUPS WITH A NON-RANDOM SAMPLING APPROACH (%)^A

		BE Roma		BE Travellers (Caravan dwellers)		IE Travellers		NL Roma		SE Roma and Travellers	
		Respondents	Household members	Respondents	Household members	Respondents	Household members	Respondents	Household members	Respondents	Household members
Gender	Women	46	49	46	56	56	50	49	50	50	48
	Men	54	51	54	43	44	50	51	50	50	52
Age	16-29	42	49	33	39	34	47	36	27	36	44
	30-44	39	31	24	24	31	25	35	31	31	30
	45 +	19	20	43	37	36	27	29	42	33	26

^A Figures are based on the accepted interviews.

6.7.3. Productivity of sampling points

For countries that used a quota sampling approach, sampling points (PSUs or SSUs, see Table 10) could be unproductive if it was not possible to recruit respondents in these locations and no contact was established ('access to the site denied'). The productivity of sampling points varied by target group for those using quota sampling (Table 36).

TABLE 36: PRODUCTIVITY OF SAMPLING POINTS PER TARGET GROUP^A

		BE Roma	BE Travellers (Caravan dwellers)	IE Travellers	NL Roma	SE Roma/Travellers
Sampling points (PSUs/SSUs) ^A		13 PSUs	24 PSUs	65 PSUs	10 PSUs	21 SSUs
Unproductive	Does not exist	0	0	0	0	0
	Empty/not populated/ non-residential/destroyed	0	0	0	0	0
	Access denied	0	3	10	0	4
	Considered dangerous	0	0	0	0	0
Partially productive - not fully completed		3	5	10	0	4
Productive - fully completed		10	16	45	10	13

^A Total number of PSUs in the PSU contact sheet data set, n = 434.

6.8. FIELD FORCE

6.8.1. Proportion of fieldwork completed per interviewer

A total of 219 interviewers worked on the survey, of whom 211 successfully completed at least one interview. Table 37 provides details of the number of interviewers who worked on the Roma and Travellers Survey 2019 in each country along with the average, minimum and maximum percentages of fieldwork that interviewers conducted when carrying out the interviews with each group.

TABLE 37: NUMBER OF INTERVIEWERS AND AVERAGE PERCENTAGE OF INTERVIEWS CONDUCTED

Target group	Accepted interviews	Interviewers ^A	Maximum limit set at the beginning of fieldwork for interviews per interviewer	Interviews conducted by a single interviewer		
				Median	Minimum	Maximum
BE Roma	482	24	30	32	2	42
BE Travellers (Caravan dwellers)	124	11	25	30	4	39
FR Travellers (Gens du voyage)	1 544	71	50	36	1	73
IE Travellers	518	30	33	20	6	40
NL Roma	201	6	35	35	18	45
NL Travellers and Sinti	511	15	45	43	5	50
SE Roma and Travellers	404	16	30	27	13	33
UK Gypsies and Travellers	875	46	50	36	1	91

^A Interviewers who completed at least one interview.

For each target group different limits were set for the total number of interviews one interviewer could conduct. Any deviations from this were to be discussed with the CCT in advance. This rule was largely adhered to, but in some cases it was not possible to do so. Reasons for going over the target included the following, for example.

- It was difficult to recruit interviewers with certain backgrounds (Roma, Traveller or Sinti) or with certain language skills (for Bulgarian-, Romanian- and Slovakian-speaking respondents in Belgium).
- Some interviewers were the only ones who could cover a certain area.
- Some interviewers needed to work all of the addresses issued in a PSU. It would not have made sense for a different interviewer to take over the PSU, even though it meant the interviewer exceeding their interview quota.
- Mediators scheduled more interviews than needed in case one or more respondents did not show up. In cases where all respondents did arrive for their interviews, these were not cancelled even if the target number of interviews had been met.

6.8.2. Fieldwork control

This subsection provides an overview of the measures put in place to ensure that high quality standards were met during the fieldwork.

The local agencies were in regular contact with the interviewers and mediators in the field, as well as with the CCT, to ensure that the sampling approach was applied, that any deviations from the protocol were agreed in advance,

and that interviewers were performing well and understood the project requirements.

As specified in the quality assurance plan (see Annex 12.2), every national agency was required to re-contact a minimum of 10 % of respondents to validate the interviewers' work. Local agencies were required to use one of two methods to carry out the callbacks:

- by telephone: respondents were contacted by a member of the validation team and asked to confirm details of their interviews;
- by post: a postage paid card was given to the respondent, who was asked to confirm demographic and survey details.

It was not possible to conduct telephone back-checking with Roma in the Netherlands and Sweden because interviewers were not able to collect the names, telephone numbers or addresses of individuals. This was because respondents were very cautious about giving out personal details. Instead interviewers handed out postage paid cards that included some demographic and survey questions, which could be mailed back to the NSE for verification. In addition, the local teams verified with mediators/supervisors that interviews took place and the respondent did not raise any issues about working with the interviewer. The local team in the Netherlands also regularly checked the GPS coordinates of the interviews to compare them with the coordinates of the sampling point.

Table 38 provides an overview of the back-checking approach in each country along with the outcomes.

FRA conducted fieldwork observation visits to France, Ireland, the Netherlands (Travellers and Sinti), Sweden and the United Kingdom. FRA shared feedback and suggestions with the local agencies as well as with the CCT, for example that a variable should be included in the ECS that records who arranged the interview, that specific questions should be rephrased for better understanding by the respondent, or that show cards should be shown for all long scales. Further instructions or reminders were sent out to the local interviewers as appropriate.

TABLE 38: BACK-CHECKING APPROACH AND OUTCOMES

Target group	Method	Number of cases selected for back-checks	Number of back-checks completed (% of sample)	Reasons further back-checks could not be completed	Outcomes
BE Travellers (Caravan dwellers) and BE Roma	Telephone	58	58 (10 %)	N/A	No interviews were deleted as a result of back-checking
FR Travellers (Gens du voyage)	Telephone	973 ^A	157 (10 %)	Many telephone numbers did not work or were not provided. The NSE also called halting site managers to confirm interviewer attendance	No interviews were deleted as a result of back-checking
IE Travellers	Telephone	105	31 (6 %)	74 telephone numbers did not work or nobody answered the phone. In 28 cases the outcome was fine. In 3 cases the person refused to answer the questions or the person who participated was not available	No interviews were deleted as a result of back-checking
NL Roma	Reply card	N/A	0 (0 %)	Interviewers handed out the printed back-check card to the respondents after interview but no filled cards were returned	No outcome possible
NL Travellers and Sinti	Telephone	111	46 (9 %)	Telephone numbers did not work, or respondents did not answer in 59 % of the selected cases	No interviews were deleted as a result of back-checking
SE Roma and Travellers	Reply card	N/A	0 (0 %)	In total 15 postcards were returned. However, they were blank, so further back-checking could not take place	No outcome possible
UK Gypsies and Travellers	Telephone	185	94 (11 %)	Telephone numbers did not work, or respondents did not answer	No interviews were deleted as a result of back-checking

N/A, not available.

^A Attempts to back-check interviews at the early stages showed that phone numbers were often missing or unattainable. The local team in France selected a large number of interviews for back-checking.

7. DATA PROCESSING AND DATA FILES

7.1. DATA FILES

All data files were delivered to FRA without personal details such as names or addresses. There are three main data sets for the Roma and Travellers Survey, each with its own codebook:

- the individual register (IR);
- the ECS;
- the PSU file;

The **IR** includes data from the questionnaire for all productive interviews. It contains a row for each respondent interviewed and for each household member recorded in the household grid.

Each household has a unique identifier (HHID), which enables members of the same household to be linked. The HHID is a 13-digit number, starting with 1, continuing with two digits denoting the country, and ending with ten digits denoting a unique household.

For the purposes of the survey, each individual was assigned a unique personal identifier (PID). This is a 15-digit number formed of the HHID plus two digits. The first respondent who took part in the survey is always listed first, having a PID ending with 01. The remaining household members are then listed in the order they were listed by the respondent when completing the household grid, and the PIDs are allocated in sequential order. If a second household member was interviewed, they appear in the order that they were listed by the first respondent, and their PID will end in the corresponding two digits.

The variable 'Resp' denotes whether the individual was the first respondent interviewed, the second respondent interviewed or a household member who did not participate.

Household-level data provided by the first respondent were copied across for all household members (variables HHo1³⁹, HLSNo1⁴⁰ to Slo9⁴¹ and Slo1_01⁴² to Slo6⁴³).

³⁹ Number of household's members.

⁴⁰ How long have you (your household) been living here in this neighbourhood (place)?

⁴¹ In the past month, have you or anyone in the household ever gone to bed hungry because there was not enough money for food? IF YES, how often did this happen in the past month?

⁴² Kinds of income that household has received in last 12 months.

⁴³ Thinking of your household's total income, is your household able to make ends meet?

The IR file also includes the interviewer demographics ⁴⁴ (where consent was given by the interviewers to include these) and the weighting variables.

Furthermore, the IR file includes the following variables:

- metadata, for example sampling group (variable SGR), criteria of eligibility (variable INo9), sampling frame (variable CNo1), sampling method (variables STYP and SSEL),
- paradata, for example interviewer feedback on each interview (IA variables), interviewer characteristics including sociodemographic characteristics (variables interviewer_sex, interviewer_age and interviewer_ethnic).

FRA provides anonymised microdata for further research. A detailed codebook will be made available together with the data set and accessible on the project's website (<https://fra.europa.eu/en/publication/2020/roma-travellers-survey>).

The **ECS file** includes data from the address-based sampling contact sheet for all survey groups. This file includes all sampled or selected addresses, contact attempts made by the interviewers, and interim and final outcome codes, and can be linked by the unique HHID and the unique PID for productive cases.

The **PSU** file includes data from the sampling points such as the number of households visited, availability of mediators, barriers to the sampling point, the sampling interval and the total number of visits. This information was primarily collected through the PSU contact sheets.

7.2. DATA PROCESSING AND QUALITY CONTROL

In all countries, the ECS and questionnaire were administered on tablets using Ipsos MORI's iField platform. For each case, the interviewer would first open an ECS to complete some initial details about their visit. Where applicable, they would then enter the questionnaire on iField. Once they had finished the interview, the iField script would take them back to the ECS to record an outcome code of the visit. Any data collected would be automatically saved to the device, and data were transferred to the Ipsos MORI data-processing (DP) team once the device had an internet connection. Once received, the DP team would process the data into SPSS format in accordance with the data structure defined in the codebook.

The PSU contact sheet was not managed using iField but was administered separately either on the tablet or on paper. Local teams were required to perform quality checks on the PSU data and to submit these data to the CCT in Excel format, in accordance with a standardised template. These Excel files were then merged and converted into SPSS format.

The questionnaire contained a number of questions, which had an 'other – specify' response code. When a respondent selected this option, their verbatim response was captured. During the DP, these responses were translated into English, and where possible they were back-coded into the existing code frame. In some instances, the back-coding brought questions on route, which were not on route during the interview with the original answers by the respondents. In these cases, the data are recorded as missing (code -92).

To keep an overview of the data-related observations and issues and systematically provide explanations and verification, a data quality control

⁴⁴ For Ireland, the variable interviewer_ethnic indicates whether the interviewer was from Ipsos MRBI or Pavee Point ('Traveller interviewer') because the local agency does not collect or hold information on whether interviewers are from the target population or not.

log was established. It was updated and exchanged between FRA and the CCT on a rolling basis during and after fieldwork, until the data set was considered final. An ID code that was allocated to each issue was also included in the IR data set if the issue related directly to an interview that was under investigation or needed to be flagged in the data.

Four interim data deliveries were sent to FRA for additional quality checks. The final weighted data were sent on 22 November 2019 (IR, ECS and PSU contact sheet files).

The ECS data were regularly checked for logical errors during and after completion of fieldwork, including for consistency, missing values and completeness vis-à-vis the IR file.

PSU data were centrally checked for completeness, correct routing and consistency vis-à-vis the ECS file to verify the final status (unproductive, partially productive or fully productive). In instances where the routing had not been followed, the local agencies were required to source and amend any missing data ⁴⁵.

Various quality checks and DP steps were undertaken on the main interview (IR) data throughout main-stage fieldwork and after completion.

- Local agencies were required to follow up on short interviews with the interviewers, verify GPS coordinates and back-check 10 % of interviews. Any irregularities were automatically flagged on iField for the local agencies to review, by inspecting the case in more detail, and occasionally liaising with the interviewer. The validation script ran on a daily basis and checked that the data matched the data map, the ID numbers were unique, only permitted values were inputted, no duplicate records were included, the routing was correct, and the information in the household grid and demographic information were consistent.
- The data files were also checked for implausible answers, outliers and accuracy of derived variables. If unusual patterns or responses or issues across or within target groups were discovered ⁴⁶, the local agency, the survey experts or sampling experts concerned were consulted for possible explanations or confirmation of plausibility.
- The IR data set was also checked for duplicate and near duplicate observations using the statistical software Stata, first looking for any duplicate PIDs or duplicate interviews ⁴⁷. Secondly, a measure of similarity ⁴⁸ based on

⁴⁵ Checks against the ECS data proved to be complicated for France, since the PSU contact sheets contained records for each caravan site in the sampling points. It was possible to detect logical errors but not to fully confirm the data in the PSU file, because the ECS only collected information for the whole sampling point, not per site.

⁴⁶ A univariate outlier identification procedure was used in Stata. This approach ensures that the number of cases flagged is not inflated for skewed or heavy-tailed distributions by adjusting the conventional values for the whiskers in a boxplot (e.g. lower threshold = $Q_0.25 - 1.5 \text{ IQR}$ (interquartile range) and upper threshold = $Q_0.75 + 1.5 \text{ IQR}$). For more detail see V. Verardi and C. Vermandele (2018), 'Univariate and multivariate outlier identification for skewed or heavy-tailed distributions', *Stata Journal*, Vol. 18, No 3, pp. 517–532.

⁴⁷ Duplicate and near duplicate observations can be defined as where an entry in the data set has been duplicated (copied) or is very similar to other entries across the survey variables. A duplicate entry in the data might indicate that the responses of one respondent have been double-counted. Near duplication can be accidental or a result of an intentional effort by interviewers in the data collection stage. If the duplicates or near duplicate interviews are due to intentional effort, the internal logic of the survey is less likely to hold.

⁴⁸ For further details see N. L. Kuriakose (2015) 'PERCENTMATCH: Stata module to calculate the highest percentage match (near duplicates) between observations', <http://econpapers.repec.org/software/bocbocode/s457984.htm>.

a range of substantive survey variables (questions HHO1-WBo6, excluding demographic variables, interviewer questions and open-ended questions) was calculated. A number of near duplicates were expected as a result of questionnaire routing, item non-response (INR), second respondents' answers, and generally similar living conditions and experiences of respondents living in the same sampling point (especially among those living on caravan sites). Overall and country distribution of the percentage matched, indicating how similar two observations in the data set are to each other, did not indicate any obvious fraud⁴⁹. The highly similar interviews were further evaluated case by case, by looking at a number of other quality indicators (e.g. level of item non-response and the results from back-checks) No obvious fraud was identified, and no interviews were selected for removal as a result of the checking for duplicate observations.

- INR was regularly checked during fieldwork and appropriate measures were taken to address and minimise its occurrence. The local agencies contacted interviewers and enquired about any problems they had encountered while interviewing. Interviewers were given tips on how to encourage the respondent to give an answer to reduce the INR (that is, an item being coded with 'Refused', 'Don't know' or a similar code). Overall, INR was more likely if respondents did not fully trust how their answers would be used, they considered it a social taboo to talk about the topic (for example income and health), they did not understand the question/terms/concepts or they did not know the answer (for example, someone living with their parents was less likely to know the monthly net income of the household). In total, 54 interviews had INR rates⁵⁰ equal to or more than 25 %, ranging from 0 interviews (0 %) in both Belgium and Sweden to 12 interviews (5.9 %) among the Roma in the Netherlands. France had 28 such cases (1.8 % of sample), Ireland 7 (1.3), Travellers/Sinti in the Netherlands 4 (1.8 %) and the United Kingdom 3 (0.3 %).
- Owing to the generally higher levels of missing data on income and the importance of having information on household income for all household members for calculating social inclusion indicators, respondents who were unable or unwilling to indicate the exact available household income were offered country-specific income bands. The income imputation for all survey groups was done by first imputing the income from income bands (done for all cases where income was not stated but the income band is available). More than 40 % of the respondents in France, Ireland, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom did not report their income in any way, and were therefore not considered for the full imputation process. For Roma and Travellers in Belgium and Sweden (fewer than 30 % of missings), the K nearest neighbour methodology imputation was applied.
- In the Roma and Travellers Survey, no non-response was allowed for the questions on age and gender for all household members. If respondents were unable or unwilling to indicate the exact age, they were given the opportunity to indicate an age band. This was the case for fewer than 50 household members (out of 12 893, see Table 15); their exact age was imputed by using a random selection of household members (with exact age indications) within the same age band and country. Given the small number of imputed cases, the impact of the imputation was very small.

⁴⁹ Mean percentage matched was 88 %, and the distribution did not peak at the right end of the scale, which is similar to the distributions from other social surveys. Overall, 4 % of interviews resulted in a maximum percentage match higher than 95 %.

⁵⁰ Percentage of all questions that were answered by the respondent. A value was seen as a missing value if it was coded as -96 (refusal), -97 (doesn't understand the question), -98 (not applicable) or -99 (don't know) in the IR file.

Following internal quality checks on interview length and INR, 55 interviews were selected for removal. All interviews with more than 45 % of INR, and those in which the average time spent per variable was less than 4.34 seconds, were selected for exclusion⁵¹. The final decision to remove an interview took into account the challenges in the fieldwork: technical issues in measuring time, which led to shorter interview lengths than interviewers and respondents recalled; sensitive questions leading to higher numbers of ‘don’t know’ and refusal responses; and lower education levels leading to higher number of ‘don’t know’ responses. Where interviews were flagged as potentially suspicious or failing the quality criteria, they were also checked through additional callbacks to respondents and discussion with the interviewer. Table 39 shows the breakdown of excluded interviews by target group.

TABLE 39: INTERVIEWS THAT ARE EXCLUDED BECAUSE THEY DO NOT MEET THE SURVEY’S QUALITY STANDARDS

Target group	Number of excluded interviews	Reason for exclusion
BE Roma	3	Short interview length
BE Travellers (Caravan dwellers)	0	Not applicable
FR Travellers (Gens du voyage)	5	4 short interview length, 1 high INR
IE Travellers	23	18 short interview length, 5 high INR
NL Roma	4	Short interview length
NL Travellers and Sinti	17	Short interview length
SE Roma and Travellers	0	Not applicable
UK Gypsies and Travellers	3	2 short interview length, 1 high INR
Total	55	48 short interview length, 7 high INR

7.3. DATA PROTECTION

Data protection measures were taken in line with the GDPR and Regulation (EC) No 45/2001 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 December 2000 on the protection of individuals with regard to the processing of personal data by the Community institutions and bodies and on the free movement of such data.

Respondents were informed of their rights as data subjects in the privacy notice form and had to give consent to participate in the survey. Participation in the survey was on a completely voluntary basis, and eligibility for the survey was based only on self-identification. Respondents were able to request the deletion of data until a few weeks after the end of the fieldwork in the country. After that date, which was given in the privacy notice, the NSE were responsible for deleting and destroying all the respondents’ personal data, such as name, telephone or addresses, which were kept if available during fieldwork to administer back-checks. The local fieldwork agencies had to fill in and sign data destruction protocols, which were shared with FRA. Data files were transferred through a safe data share system.

⁵¹ The lowest percentile of the average time per variable. The average time spent per variable is calculated as a ratio of `IntLength` and the total number of variables answered by the respondent (`variable all_valuesT`).

8. WEIGHTING

This chapter provides an overview of the overall weighting procedures applied to data and the weighting efficiency achieved across countries. Weighting adjusts the statistics produced in accordance with the sample selection process, and corrects for potential deficiencies due to non-response.

The weighting included several weight types, which were calculated respecting the differences between target groups and depending on sample designs. The three weights that were calculated are:

- design weights
- non-response weights and
- post-stratification or calibration weights.

The weighting procedures sometimes resulted in large variations between weights. Large weights can result in substantial losses in sample efficiency, so it is common practice to trim weights. Weights were therefore trimmed at several stages during the weight construction process. Since the distribution of weights in this survey was skewed towards lower values, the trimming was applied only to larger values.

8.1. DESIGN WEIGHTS

Design weights are used to equalise differential selection probabilities arising from the sample design. In the Roma and Travellers Survey 2019, random probability sampling methods were used in three countries/target groups (France, the Netherlands (Traveller and Sinti population) and the United Kingdom), so that is where design weights were applied.

The sample design for these three groups included the following three stages (for more information see Chapter 4):

- selection of sampling units (PSUs and SSUs), using a two-stage approach;
- selection of addresses/households; and
- selection of one or two individuals to participate in the interview.

The product of the probabilities calculated at each stage provided the overall probability of inclusion for each case in the sample, and the overall design weights were calculated as the inverse of this probability. Design weights were not calculated for the non-probability samples, even though it would have been possible to calculate them for the stage of sampling units' selection. However, it would not have been possible to calculate design weights for the second stage of selection (the selection of households) in the non-probability samples, meaning the weights would not have reflected the full design; therefore, the target groups with non-random (quota) sampling design approach were considered self-weighting in terms of the design, and adjustments were made at later stages of weighting, to correct for any regional or demographic imbalances against the population profiles.

8.1.1. Sampling unit selection weight

The sampling units were selected in a two-stage process for all three countries/target groups using random probability sampling methods. The units were selected with PPS. The sampling unit selection probability, p_{PSU_i} , was calculated as follows:

$$p_{PSU_i} = n_{PSU} * size_i / \sum size_i * n_{SSU_i} * size_j / \sum size_j$$

where:

n_{PSU} = number of PSUs sampled

$size_i$ = size of PSU i

n_{SSU_i} = number of SSUs sampled in the i th PSU

$size_j$ = size of SSU j

The sampling unit selection weight DW_{PSU_i} was calculated as the inverse of its probability, p_{PSU_i} :

$$DW_{PSU_i} = 1/p_{PSU_i}$$

8.1.2. Addresses selection weight

Within each sampling unit in the three countries/target groups using random probability sampling methods, addresses (households) were selected randomly either from the list or by random walk. Addresses had different selection probabilities across sampling units, given the sampling units were of different sizes, and the numbers of addresses selected were designed to deliver similar numbers of interviews in each sampling unit. The probability of selection of each address (conditional on selection of its sampling unit) was:

$$p_{unit1} = n_{unit1} / N_{unit1}$$

where:

n_{unit1} = number of addresses selected and used in the sampling unit (i.e. the number visited, whether interviewed or not).

N_{unit1} = total number of addresses/households in the sampling unit. This figure was counted or estimated by the interviewer/mediator during the first visit to the sampling unit.

The address selection weight DW_{unit1} was calculated as the inverse of its probability, p_{unit1} :

$$DW_{unit1} = 1/p_{unit1}$$

The samples were designed to be self-weighting up to this stage. That is, the product of the sampling unit selection weight and address selection weight was supposed to give similar weights across cases. Using the number of addresses found in the field (N_{unit1}) as the denominator in the address selection probability calculation meant this combined weight would vary. In effect, it corrected for inaccuracies in the sampling frame in terms of the number of the target population households expected in each sampling unit.

8.1.3. Individual respondent selection weight

The survey protocols permitted one respondent to be selected per household in France, and up to two respondents per household in the Netherlands and

the United Kingdom. The selection was random in France, while a non-random selection was permitted in the other two countries, when the random selection was refused. The method of selection was recorded in the data. However, the same adjustment was used irrespective of the approach, in order to give individuals equal weighting irrespective of the selection method. This meant that equal treatment was given to both types of approaches at the design stage. The alternative, not applying a respondent selection weight where the respondent selection was non-random, would be equivalent to treating each of these households as single-person households. This would result in them receiving a larger weight than randomly selected individuals in households of two or more persons, and therefore a greater share in the weighted data. Hence, this was not considered an acceptable approach.

The probability of a respondent being selected (conditional on selection of their household) was:

$$p_{ind} = n_{ind}/N_{ind}$$

where:

n_{ind} = number of individuals selected (1 or 2)

N_{ind} = total number of eligible individuals in the household

The individual respondent selection weight DW_{ind} was calculated as the inverse of its probability, p_{ind} :

$$DW_{ind} = 1/p_{ind}$$

The overall design weight (W_{dw}) was the product of each of the weights that were required for the applicable sample design:

$$W_{dw1} = DW_{PSU1} * DW_{unit1} * DW_{ind}$$

The full address selection weight (sampling unit and address unit selection weights combined, $DW_{PSU} * DW_{unit}$) was trimmed when the ratio of the largest to the smallest weight was greater than 10, at maximum 95th percentile of the distribution. This was the case in the United Kingdom, while in France and the Netherlands trimming the 99th percentile was applied, since the ratio of the largest to the smallest weight could be brought under 10 with less trimming.

The individual selection weight, DW_{ind} , was trimmed when the ratio was above 5. In accordance with this rule, the trimming was applied only in France, at the 99th percentile. This was not necessary for the Netherlands and the United Kingdom, as the selection of two individuals per household was allowed. This meant that the probabilities of selection were higher, and hence the variation in weights lower. The maximum weight was 2.5 in the Netherlands and 4.5 in the United Kingdom.

8.1.4. Alternative design weights

The random probability samples were designed to be self-weighting up to the address selection stage – that is, the product of the sampling unit selection weight and address selection weight was supposed to give similar weights across cases. However, as the sampling frame information proved to be inaccurate in many cases, the resulting weights had greater variation. Namely, the population sizes across SSUs identified during the mapping stage often differed from the sizes expected in the PSU sample frame. Then, the sizes identified during fieldwork sometimes differed from the expected

SSU sizes. Even using population figures corrected for inaccuracies on the sampling frame, it did lead to large variations in weights. In an attempt to decrease the variation, two alternative options for calculating the sampling unit and addressing selection weights were considered.

The first option assumed only PSU selection probabilities ($p_{PSU_2} = n_{PSU} * size_i / \sum size_i$) when calculating the sampling unit selection weight ($DW_{PSU_2} = 1/p_{PSU_2}$), and consequently used the number of addresses selected in the PSU (n_{unit_2}) and the total number of addresses found in the PSU (N_{unit_2}) when calculating probabilities of address selection ($p_{unit_2} = n_{unit_2} / N_{unit_2}$) and the address selection weight ($DW_{unit_2} = 1/p_{unit_2}$).

The second alternative option also assumed only PSU selection probabilities ($p_{PSU_2} = n_{PSU} * size_i / \sum size_i$) when calculating the sampling unit selection weight ($DW_{PSU_2} = 1/p_{PSU_2}$), and then used the number of addresses selected in the PSU (n_{unit_2}) and the PSU size ($N_{unit_3} = size_i$) when calculating probabilities of address selection ($p_{unit_3} = n_{unit_2} / N_{unit_3}$) and the address selection weight ($DW_{unit_3} = 1/p_{unit_3}$).

The alternative versions of the overall design weight were then calculated:

$$W_{dw2} = DW_{PSU_2} * DW_{unit_2} * DW_{ind}$$

$$W_{dw3} = DW_{PSU_2} * DW_{unit_3} * DW_{ind}$$

The next stages of weighting also included all three (the original and two alternative) options, and three versions of the final weight were consequently calculated. The second design weight option (W_{dw2}) proved to have the lowest variation across all three random probability samples, and it was hence decided to use this option as the final version of the design weight (W_{dw}).

8.2. NON-RESPONSE WEIGHTS

Non-response weights were applied to all samples in order to reduce the non-response bias by adjusting the interview sample to the gross sample on the basis of information available from the sampling frames about the units in the gross sample. Non-response weights are effective to the extent that (a) the weighting variables chosen correlate with sample members' likelihood of responding, (b) they correlate with key survey variables and (c) key survey variables take the same mean values for respondents and non-respondents within weighting cells. Conditions (a) and (b) can be tested empirically on survey data whereas condition (c) cannot.

The survey collected data on the age, gender, main activity and education level of each household member in responding households. This information was used to derive the profile of all eligible household members in these households (the gross household member sample) and use it for the non-response weighting. Logistic regression was used to fit a model with response to the survey as the dependent (binary) variable, after applying the overall design weight (W_{dw}). The non-response weight, W_{nr} , was calculated as the reciprocal of the probability of response generated by the model.

When the selection of individual(s) to participate in the survey was made at random, it was expected that the interview profile and gross profile would be similar on the available variables. Slight deviations were noticed in France, and the non-response weight was used to correct this. In the Netherlands and the United Kingdom, the selection was not always made at random, and both random and non-random methods were used in the same samples. In these samples the adjustment was made to align the interview and gross

household member samples, to reduce bias caused by the non-random selection of individuals. The approach was not different for households where two respondents were interviewed. Each of these individuals was a part of the interviewed sample, which was adjusted to the gross sample of all individuals in the households. The adjustment was made for the full samples in the Netherlands and the United Kingdom, including both randomly and non-randomly selected respondents, in order to maximise the sample size and the stability of the adjustment.

As households were not selected randomly for the non-probability quota samples, these household samples could not be considered unbiased. Therefore, it cannot be claimed that the gross household member sample would provide reliable information on the target population profiles. However, there was value in reviewing the gross household member profiles against the interview profiles, and applying the non-response weighting for these samples; hence, the adjustments described above were made for the non-random samples, too.

The within-household non-response weight, W_{nr} , was trimmed when the ratio between the smallest and largest weights was greater than 10. This was necessary for Belgium (Roma)⁵², France and the United Kingdom, where trimming at the 99th percentile was applied.

8.3. POST-STRATIFICATION WEIGHT

In order to ensure that the samples accurately reflect the structure of the target populations, a post-stratification or calibration weighting procedure was carried out on a country-by-country basis. This was applied to all types of samples. These weighting adjustments depend on reliable population data covering the survey population. Since the target groups represent small proportions of the overall country populations, sociodemographic profile data about the population were generally limited to Ireland and the United Kingdom where the census captures Roma and Traveller backgrounds. However, even in these countries the census is not believed to capture the total target population. Moreover, in some countries the survey did not cover the full target group population in the country, meaning any profile data that could be found were likely to cover a slightly different population.

For these reasons the main variables considered for post-stratification weighting were those found in the survey sampling frames, specifically region and urbanisation (where available⁵³). The sampling frames also provided information on estimated target population sizes, which could be used for weighting to the gross population. If there was a good reason to believe that the sampling frame counts were inaccurate, then other options were considered. This was the case in France, as explained in Chapter 4, where the weighting profiles were based on the population covered only, and there was no attempt to use the weighting to correct for coverage. This approach is advised, since weights are not able to correct for gaps in the sample where there are no similar cases that can be used to represent those that are missing.

Post-stratification or calibration weights were calculated using a suitable approach, either rim weighting (raking) or cell weighting. Rim weighting

⁵² The variation of non-response weights for Roma in Belgium was high because the proportion of non-response to the education questions was higher for household members than for the individuals interviewed.

⁵³ DEGURBA was not available in the sample frames for France and the United Kingdom.

was used for France, as population profiles by region and urbanity were only available independently. In all other countries the two variables were interlocked⁵⁴, so cell weighting could be used.

The final weight was trimmed when the ratio between the smallest and largest weights was greater than 15, at maximum 90th percentile of the distribution. For Belgium (Caravan dwellers⁵⁵ and Roma) trimming was done at the 98th and 99th percentiles, respectively. For the Netherlands (Roma), trimming was done at the 98.5th percentile, while France, the Netherlands (Travellers and Sinti) and the United Kingdom were trimmed at the 90th percentile.

8.4. FINAL RESPONDENT WEIGHT AND ITS GROSSING OR SCALING

Initial final individual weights were calculated as the product of design weights (where applicable), non-response weights and post-stratification/calibration weights. In the final weighting stage, the weights were then grossed to the population size in each country, as this means that a single weight can be used to provide weighted estimates for within-country or between-country analyses. Total populations were taken from the sampling frames, based on the populations covered.

The sample frames for Belgium (Roma), Ireland, the Netherlands (Roma) and Sweden provided the sizes of the total target populations (individuals of all ages). The sample frames for Belgium (Caravan dwellers), France, the Netherlands (Travellers and Sinti) and the United Kingdom provided the total number of households. The average household sizes reported in the data (after the final weights) were applied for calculating the total target population size, i.e. population of individuals of all ages.

In Belgium and the Netherlands, two different target groups were covered by the survey. These groups were sampled independently, and their respective weights reflect the designs implemented. The weighted samples are hence representative for each group. Grossing the weights to the total target population meant that the proportions of groups within the country are properly represented. Hence, the final weights can be considered representative of both groups combined within the country, and can be used for reporting at country level.

Given the differences in the population sizes of the groups covered in Belgium and the Netherlands relative to their sample sizes⁵⁶, grossing the weights meant that different mean values of the final weights were obtained for these groups⁵⁷. This consequently meant that the ratio of the minimum to the maximum value of the weight within a country was higher than ratios within samples for each group. The trimming was not applied at country level,

⁵⁴ Only region was available for the United Kingdom.

⁵⁵ Only two interviews were completed in the Walloon Region, while, based on the information available in the sample frame, 11 % of the covered population was expected to live there. This caused the use of a wide range of post-stratification coefficients; however, trimming the final weight at the 98th percentile decreased the ratio of the minimum to the maximum weight to below 15.

⁵⁶ The sample of 124 Caravan dwellers in Belgium represented 2 471 persons, while the sample of 482 Roma represented 28 375 persons. The sample of 511 Travellers and Sinti in the Netherlands represented 16 665 persons, while the sample of 201 Roma represented 16 159 persons.

⁵⁷ The average value of the final weight is 19.9 for Caravan dwellers, and 58.9 for Roma in Belgium. In the Netherlands, the average value of the final weight is 32.6 for Travellers and Sinti, and 80.4 for Roma.

as it would contradict the goal of grossing the samples, i.e. representing the population sizes of each group covered by the survey.

8.5. HOUSEHOLD WEIGHT

Another weight was produced for reporting at the level of all household members. The household weight was derived from the final weights for respondents, described in the previous sections. In households with one respondent the weight was calculated by dividing the final respondent weight by the household size, while in households with two respondents the sum of the final weights for both respondents was divided by the household size. In this way the weighted population sizes for the respondent sample and for the household member sample are the same.

8.6. WEIGHTING EFFICIENCY

Table 40 provides the range and ratio (largest to smallest) of the final weights⁵⁸ for each country and target group (standardised to a mean of 1 for each sample). It also provides the weighting efficiency of the samples. This was calculated as the ratio of the effective sample size to total sample size. The effective sample size was calculated using the standard Kish formula (sum of weights squared divided by sum of squared weights). The efficiencies therefore do not take account of the impact of clustering or stratification.

TABLE 40: RANGE, RATIO AND EFFICIENCY OF THE FINAL WEIGHTS^A

Target group	Range	Mean	Standard deviation	Ratio	Efficiency (%)
BE Roma	0.40-4.06	1.00	0.587	10.1	75
BE Travellers (Caravan dwellers)	0.37-4.43	1.00	0.656	11.8	70
FR Travellers (Gens du voyage)	0.13-2.00	1.00	0.530	15.5	78
IE Travellers	0.47-2.75	1.00	0.354	5.8	88
NL Roma	0.23-2.82	1.00	0.494	12.4	81
NL Travellers and Sinti	0.15-2.43	1.00	0.699	15.8	67
SE Roma and Travellers	0.49-1.54	1.00	0.223	3.2	95
UK Gypsies and Travellers	0.16-2.36	1.00	0.668	15.0	69

^A The weights are standardised to a mean of 1 in this table (not in the data set) for comparability reasons.

⁵⁸ As described in Section 8.1.4, the second design weight option (Wdw2) was used for constructing the final weight.

9. SURVEY QUALITY ASSESSMENT

The quality assurance plan (QAP I for stage 1 of the project up until and including the pilot, QAP II for stage 2 after the pilot survey; see Annex 12.2) for the Roma and Travellers Survey 2019 provided detailed targets for monitoring quality across the pilot and the main stage of the project. Providing monthly reports with the revised risk status helped in identifying where remedial measures would be required.

This chapter, however, now looks more closely at the quality of the data collected along five quality dimensions: relevance; accuracy and reliability; timeliness and punctuality; coherence and comparability; accessibility and clarity. For the most part, the details of the survey and its outcomes that are discussed in this chapter have also been described in earlier chapters of this report, but the presentation of the information in this chapter follows the specific dimensions of survey quality, as indicated by the headings used below.

9.1. RELEVANCE

Roma and Travellers have a long history of experiencing discrimination, persecution and exclusion in Europe⁵⁹. ‘Roma are still being deprived of their basic human rights in Europe’ as the European Parliament underlined in its 2019 resolution on the post-2020 Strategic EU Framework for National Roma Integration Strategies and the fight against antigypsyism⁶⁰. In 2013, the European Parliament urged Member States ‘to produce disaggregated data with the assistance of the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA) and to develop, in cooperation with the Commission, the baseline indicators and measurable targets that are essential for a robust monitoring system in order to ensure reliable feedback on the progress made in the implementation of the National Roma Integration Strategies and in improvement of the situation of Roma’⁶¹.

A first step in monitoring progress was made in 2015–2016 with the completion of the second wave of EU-MIDIS survey, which collected data on Roma in the nine EU Member States with the largest Roma populations. The objective of the Survey on the Rights and Living Conditions of Roma and Travellers 2018–2019 was to collect representative data on the situation of Roma and Travellers in six countries with smaller Roma populations, which have (with the exception of France) previously not been covered in a multinational comparative survey. In conjunction with the results of the upcoming Roma Survey 2020 the two surveys will provide the baseline indicators for the evaluation of the national Roma inclusion strategies at the end of the 2020s.

⁵⁹ Council of Europe (n.d.), [Roma history factsheets](#).

⁶⁰ European Parliament (2019), [Resolution on the need for a strengthened post-2020 Strategic EU Framework for National Roma Inclusion Strategies and stepping up the fight against anti-Gypsyism, 2019/2509\(RSP\)](#), 6 February 2019, recital B.

⁶¹ European Parliament (2013), [Resolution on the progress made in the implementation of the National Roma Integration Strategies 2013/2924\(RSP\)](#), 12 December 2013, recital 12.

In order to ensure the relevance of the data, and of the project as such, to the national Roma communities, efforts were made to include their views in all stages of the project. By involving national community stakeholders and experts in the background research, the target populations were defined and approached, the questionnaire adapted and translations tailored to the communities' needs. Community interviewers and mediators were involved in the data collection, and stakeholders and experts were consulted on the interpretation of the results.

9.2. ACCURACY AND RELIABILITY

This section elaborates on the definition of the target groups for the purposes of the survey, the different sample designs, and an analysis of the sampling error and the standard deviation. The assessment of the accuracy and reliability of the data covers the following types of errors that occur in statistical surveys:

- coverage and sample frame errors;
- non-sampling errors:
 - ★ productivity of sampling points,
 - ★ unit non-response,
 - ★ biases due to under-/overcoverage;
- measurement errors (from the questionnaire, data collection method, interviewer or respondent);
- processing errors (in data cleaning and weighting).

Given the lack of statistical data on the Roma and Traveller populations in the survey countries, survey design decisions had to be taken and revised in an iterative process of assessing the available data and expert consultations throughout the project. The background research and stakeholder consultations at the beginning of the project were needed to provide the solid basis for all of the following steps and decisions.

Definition of the target groups for the purposes of the survey

The full-scale survey did not explicitly cover all target groups identified during the background research in France, Ireland, the Netherlands, Sweden and the United Kingdom. Recently arrived or 'new' Roma were included only in Belgium, while they were excluded from the survey's target population in France, Ireland, the Netherlands, Sweden and the United Kingdom. In France, the indigenous Roma were also excluded. In addition, the Traveller/Caravan dweller population was reduced to those living in halting sites, in France, Belgium, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom. Those living outside official halting sites or in bricks-and-mortar housing (such as regular houses/apartments) were not included in the survey ⁶².

Respondents were eligible if they were aged 16 years or older, self-identified as being Roma or Traveller, and had lived in a private household within the survey country for at least six months of the 12 months prior to the interview.

Sample design

In all countries and survey groups, the PSUs were selected randomly or fully covered. For Travellers in France, Travellers and Sinti in the Netherlands, and Roma and Travellers in the United Kingdom, the available data on halting sites and the higher level of concentration in certain areas of the targeted Roma and Traveller groups allowed random probability household and respondent selection. In the Netherlands and the United Kingdom, the sample design

⁶² It was not possible to obtain a sampling frame for these target groups and they do not live in high concentrations or designated areas throughout the countries. Quota sampling might have been possible but of lower quality than the random sampling approach for a restricted target group.

eventually provided for interviewers to opt for non-random within-household selection of respondents if random selection was refused, and allowed up to two interviews per household in order to meet the target number of interviews. In all other groups, non-random (quota) selection was laid down at household and respondent levels given the lack of available data on the target population, and their geographical dispersion throughout the country and municipalities.

9.2.1. Sampling errors

All sample surveys are affected by sampling error, given that the survey interviews only a fraction of the total population. Therefore, all results presented are point estimates with underlying statistical variation. Small differences of a few percentage points between groups of respondents have to be interpreted with caution because there may not be a statistically meaningful difference between the groups compared. Only more substantial differences between population groups should be considered actual differences in the total population. Results based on small sample sizes are statistically less reliable and are flagged in figures and tables (for example by putting the results considered less reliable in brackets in the figures) and not interpreted substantially. These include statistics that are based on samples of between 20 and 49 respondents in total; this could be the case, for example, when analysing the results for a specific category of respondents based on their sociodemographic characteristics, or when analysing a question that only a small set of respondents was asked to answer. Results based on fewer than 20 respondents are not shown. Results based on cell sizes with fewer than 20 persons are flagged as well.

Table 41 provides an overview of confidence intervals for selected indicators of the survey. The confidence intervals reflect the uncertainty in the estimates due to sampling and are mainly influenced by the sampling design and the sample size. The commonly used 95 % confidence intervals are shown. This means that, if the sampling were to be carried out repeatedly, in the long run 95 % of the intervals in the repeated samples would contain the true value in the population.

The confidence intervals were calculated using two methods. In the cases of Travellers in France, Travellers and Sinti in the Netherlands, and Gypsies and Travellers in the United Kingdom, the confidence intervals were computed in a standard manner taking into account the clustering and survey design. These intervals provide a general indication of uncertainty based on the sample size.

However, for quota sampling – which was carried out for Roma and Travellers in Belgium, Travellers in Ireland, Roma in the Netherlands, and Roma and Travellers in Sweden – the theory of statistical inference using confidence intervals does not apply. To compute **indicative** confidence intervals a replication method (bootstrap repeated sampling) was used. This approach is expected to provide a good estimate of the sampling variability if the observed sample is representative of what would be observed in repeated samples using the same design.

The confidence intervals calculated for groups with quota sampling are only suggestive. The lengths of these confidence intervals are not comparable to the lengths of the confidence intervals for the groups with random sampling. The length of intervals may differ between the two methods because for random sampling the confidence intervals are based on the probability theory. In contrast, the confidence intervals for quota sampling groups are based only on the actual data observed within the sample.

TABLE 41: CONFIDENCE INTERVALS (95 %) OF ESTIMATES FOR SELECTED INDICATORS, BY SAMPLING GROUP (%)

Sampling group		Overall discrimination rate because of being Roma or Travellers (12 months) ^A				Percentage of Roma and Travellers living in a household in severe material deprivation ^B			
		Lower bound	Mean	Upper bound	Standard error	Lower bound	Mean	Upper bound	Standard error
Random	FR Travellers (Gens du voyage)	29.0	35.1	41.2	0.0312	18.1	22.4	26.7	0.0218
	NL Travellers and Sinti	33.9	40.5	47.1	0.0337	1.4	3.2	4.9	0.0088
	UK Gypsies and Travellers	36.0	42.0	47.9	0.0302	9.0	13.6	18.1	0.0231
Quota sampling ^C	BE Roma	17.0	20.7	24.4	0.0190	27.7	29.9	32.2	0.0113
	BE Traveller (Caravan dwellers)	11.8	19.1	26.4	0.0374	18.1	23.0	27.9	0.0249
	IE Travellers	60.9	64.8	68.7	0.0199	29.0	31.0	33.1	0.0103
	NL Roma	70.3	76.0	81.6	0.0288	15.4	18.4	21.4	0.0153
	SE Roma and Travellers	45.5	50.5	55.5	0.0254	25.2	27.5	29.9	0.0120

^A Indicator: overall discrimination rate because of being Roma or Travellers in the 12 months before the survey, by survey group and age (%).

^B Indicator: percentage of household members and children aged 0–17 living in households where at least one person had to go hungry to bed at least once in the last month because there was not enough money for food.

^C Quota sampling was carried out in this sampling group. In such cases, the theory of statistical inference using confidence intervals does not apply. The published confidence intervals are indicative.

Source: FRA, Roma and Travellers Survey 2019

Albeit the description of the sampling stages in the report has been assessed as accurate and clear by external consultants, the sampling and weighting experts from the University of Siena made suggestions for a different kind of sampling for future surveys. In their view, there is insufficient detailed knowledge of sampling frames and the distribution of the reference population by several indicators required for quota sampling and probability sampling. Thus, they suggested using other sampling methods for elusive populations, such the ones described by Vijay Verma ⁶³. A sampling methodology such as respondent-driven sampling could be, in their opinion, well suited for collecting data on Roma and Travellers. However, the experiences gained during the fieldwork showed that Roma and Travellers are (to varying degrees between countries) not very willing and open to disclose information and are distrustful of the survey. This could make respondent-driven sampling impossible, since the method depends on people recommending others to take part in the survey.

9.2.2. Non-sampling errors

Coverage and sample frame errors

Within the abovementioned limitations to the target groups within each country, the coverage (among the sample frame population data) included 100 % of the population in Belgium and France, 99 % in Sweden, 97 % of Roma in the Netherlands and 93 % of Travellers in Ireland. Among Travellers and Sinti in the Netherlands, and Roma and Travellers in the United Kingdom, the coverage was 74 % and 84 %, respectively.

There were some (larger) discrepancies found between the initial population size estimates made during the background research and the estimates made when building the sample frame (and doing the mapping) in all countries.

⁶³ V. Verma (2013), *Sampling Elusive Populations: Applications of child labour*, Geneva, International Labour Office.

The coverage of the final sample, based on the sample frame information, is around 100 % of the initially estimated population size among Roma in Belgium (95 %) and Travellers in Ireland (96 %); in Sweden it is 86 %. The population covered based on the sample frame is larger than originally estimated among Caravan dwellers in Belgium (107 %) and among Roma in the Netherlands (124 %).

Productivity of sampling points

The productivity of sampling points (for the random selection countries) was lowest in the United Kingdom (64 % fully completed, 12 % partially completed), which means that almost one in five sampling points (i.e. halting sites) were determined to be empty, not populated, non-residential or destroyed. The interviewers were denied access to 6 % of the halting sites. In France, the share of (partially) productive halting sites is 91 % (87 % fully productive, 4 % partially productive) of all sites in the sample. The rest of the sites were either empty (3 %) or considered dangerous (2 %), or the interviewers were denied access to them (4 %). Among the Traveller sites in the Netherlands no issues were reported and all could be accessed.

For countries which used a quota sampling approach, sampling points could be unproductive if it was not possible to recruit respondents in these locations and no contact was established ('access denied'). This was the case for 12 % of the sampling points (where cooperation could be established) for Caravan dwellers in Belgium, 15 % for Travellers in Ireland and 19 % for Roma and Travellers in Sweden. All other sampling points were at least partially productive for all target groups.

Unit non-response

The response rate (based at household level and only for target groups where a random probability approach was used) is 46 % in France, 51 % in the United Kingdom and 57 % in the Netherlands (Travellers). The eligibility rates are more than 90 %. For the groups with non-probability sampling, no meaningful response rates can be calculated.

Biases due to under-/overcoverage

Given the lack of any official statistics regarding the target population in most countries and strong reliance on various experts and community representatives to build the information on which to base the sampling designs in the majority of cases, it is very difficult to detect biases in the data, and it is also not possible to be conclusive about what impact any potential biases in the unweighted samples achieved have on the data quality. For the detection of biases by age and gender, the analysis had to rely on the comparison between the age and gender profile of the interviewed sample and that of all adult household members as reported in the survey data. Sizeable undercoverages were observed in Belgium due to the low number of interviews among Roma and Travellers in the Wallonia Region and in South-West Ireland. A gender bias with an undercoverage of men occurred in the United Kingdom. This was due to underreporting of men, which was predicted by the experts consulted before the field phase. In almost all countries, small and remote locations were excluded from the sample. Table 42 also indicates whether or not the targeted number of interviews was achieved or any other biases occurred for each survey group. The fieldwork period was initially planned to be during the winter months. Background research showed that some of the sites would not be occupied during winter.

TABLE 42: POTENTIAL BIASES IN THE SURVEY DATA REGARDING THE REGIONAL DISTRIBUTION, GENDER OR AGE DISTRIBUTION, OR OTHER, BY TARGET GROUP

Target group	Regional distribution	Gender/age distribution	Other potential issues observed
BE Roma	Roma in the Wallonia Region are underrepresented owing to difficulties in reaching respondents	Target gender balance almost matched: women aged 16–29 are somewhat under-, those aged 30–44 slightly overrepresented. Age profile of men differs from the target, but almost matches the profile of all adult male household members; corrected for during weighting	
BE Travellers (Caravan dwellers)	Underrepresentation of Travellers in the Wallonia Region due to a lack of occupation of the sites. Slight overrepresentation of cities due to census approach, corrected for during weighting	Slight gender imbalance (there were more men interviewed, but the profile of all adult household members matches the estimations); older male adults are somewhat overrepresented; corrected for during weighting	Successful cooperation established in around one fifth of the halting sites in Belgium. Especially, the Travellers living in private sites could be underrepresented, even though the quota for this group was exceeded. It is, however, unknown if the population in successfully contacted sites differs from the population in other sites
FR Travellers (Gens du voyage)	Some variation regarding the productivity of sites at PSU level. This can most likely be explained by differences in the yield rate within SSUs that were productive, and suggests no systematic bias; corrected for during weighting	Minimal difference in the gender distribution between the profile of those interviewed and the profile of adult household members. Age profile for women matches the household member distribution; for men a bias towards older men among the interviewees was observed, corrected for during weighting	
IE Travellers	Slight overachievement in 2 regions; however, very few interviews in the South-West (Co. Cork, Cork City, Kerry), resulting in high underrepresentation of Travellers living in this area. They are potentially different from Travellers living in the rest of the country and are not sufficiently covered by the survey data because of non-response	Underrepresentation of both younger men and women (those aged 16–29) and overrepresentation of older men and women (those aged 45 +); corrected for during weighting	Coverage for Travellers in rural locations is only 83 % owing to the exclusion of small and remote locations; corrected for during weighting
NL Roma	By region, the targets were largely met; a small shortfall occurred in Lelystad	No gender bias observed. The unweighted sample achieved is somewhat biased towards younger people (those aged under 45) for women and men; corrected for during weighting	Building the sample frame focused on municipalities with the largest populations; locations with small populations may have been excluded from the sample frame, but there are no data to prove it. Further municipalities with fewer than 100 Roma were also excluded (3 % of the target population)
NL Travellers and Sinti	There are deviations in the regional structure of the selected sample due to oversampling municipalities with higher numbers of Traveller houses. The unweighted sample achieved follows closely the profile of the selected sample	No gender bias observed. Overrepresentation of older men and women, partially corrected for during weighting	Municipalities with fewer than 40 Traveller houses were excluded from the coverage (26 % of the target population). Traveller sites with fewer than 11 standing places that did not have neighbouring sites that they could be grouped with were excluded from the coverage (3 % of the target population)
SE Roma and Travellers	Targeted distribution largely achieved; Malmö slightly underrepresented	Slight underrepresentation of younger women, corrected for during weighting	Soft quota for type of Roma/ Traveller (55 % of sample): Non-Nordic Roma and Finnish Roma were over-, Travellers and Roma from the Balkans were underrepresented in comparison with what was expected by the expert estimations, but there are no official data to confirm any bias

Target group	Regional distribution	Gender/age distribution	Other potential issues observed
UK Gypsies and Travellers	Variations in the regional distribution, because of high numbers of unproductive sites (due to closure/destruction, rather than denial of access), variable numbers of second interviews and non-response in different areas. No systematic undercoverage by region due to sample design suspected. Discrepancies were corrected for during weighing. Slight overrepresentation of rural areas due to higher productivity than urban and suburban areas, in contrast to the selected sample profile	Gender and age bias, with young men in particular underrepresented, corrected for during weighting using the profile of all adult household members. However, there seems to be a general issue with underreporting of men by (female) respondents in the United Kingdom, resulting in a manifest underrepresentation of men in the weighted UK sample	Sample frame included 24 633 caravans; estimations were between 27 600 and 60 000 people. Limitation of sample frame to England and Wales (no lists available for Scotland and Northern Ireland). Local authorities with fewer than 50 caravans were excluded, resulting in coverage of 84 % of the sample frame population. Only two thirds of the sites could be identified in the field; there is no information on the other third

9.2.3. Measurement errors

Measurement errors can occur in multiple areas: (1) when looking at the design, content, phrasing, etc. of the questionnaire, (2) when developing the data collection method (training of the interviewers, mediators, etc.), (3) during the interview, caused by the interviewer (e.g. through influencing), or (4) during the interview, caused by the respondent, through misunderstanding some questions, lack of command of language, low literacy levels or low levels of interest, etc.

The questionnaire of the Roma and Travellers Survey 2019 was not fundamentally changed from EU-MIDIS II, but still underwent extensive technical pretesting and was also tested in the field during a pilot study and adapted afterwards. The translation process was extensive, using the adapted TRAPD method and certified pre-existing translations, and local agencies were consulted on the wording of the questions and answer categories.

The data collection was done using CAPI, which minimises some data entry errors by the interviewers (by routing or plausibility checks during the data entry, e.g. for open fields). CAPI furthermore eliminates data entry errors, since this is done electronically. The interviewers selected for the survey were highly experienced (except for the community interviewers), well trained and guided by means of a field manual, and in constant contact with the local agencies. In addition, the local agencies were required to carry out back-checks by phone or postcards to validate the interviews. FRA also conducted fieldwork observations in France, Ireland, Netherlands (Travellers and Sinti), Sweden and the United Kingdom. The order of some answer categories on show cards was randomised in order to minimise mode effects.

The interviewers were asked to provide an assessment of the interview situation and the respondents at the end of each interview. In general, respondents were interested in the topics of the questionnaire and cooperated well, even though the questionnaire was perceived as repetitive and too long. A low literacy level was common across all target groups, and some terms or concepts were not well understood. Some topics were sensitive for respondents and they were reluctant to answer.

The majority of interviewers felt that respondents were cooperative and that they were being honest in their answers. Overall the majority of respondents were willing and able to complete the survey alone. This suggests that interviewers were able to build trust with the respondents and that they had the facilities to accommodate this. In all countries, except for the Netherlands (Roma), there were instances when a mediator, halting site manager or supervisor was present during the interview.

Item non-response

INR was more likely if respondents did not fully trust how their answers would be used, considered it a social taboo to talk about the topic, did not understand the question/terms/concepts, or did not know the answer (for example, someone living with their parents was less likely to know the monthly net income of the household). 54 interviews had INR equal to or more than 25 %, with the highest values among Roma in the Netherlands and Travellers in France (6 % and 2 % of the sample, respectively). INR was also used as a criterion for the elimination of cases.

At respondent level, only 1 % of the respondents have more than 10 % INR across the (numeric items of the) questionnaire. No valid interview had more than 20 % INR.

Sensitive topics such as income and health show higher shares of INR. INR for the questions on income was above 40 % in France, Ireland, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom. INR for health-related questions was above 40 % for Roma in the Netherlands.

Very high proportions of INR were observed for the question on the hours worked per week (25 %) and the question concerning the person(s)/organisation(s) to whom/which victims of discrimination reported the incident or made the complaint (20 %). The questions on trust in institutions such as the European Parliament (19 %), the national parliament (12 %), national politicians and the national legal system (both 9 %) also produced more INR than most other questions in the survey. A total of 16 % of the respondents did not answer the question asking if they were aware of an anti-discrimination law in the survey country.

Questions on arrears in payments such as debts, loan, utility bills and rent were also less well understood and/or less often answered (14 % to 8 % non-response per item). Furthermore, it seemed more difficult for respondents (10 % or more INR) to answer questions on the ethnic background (other than Roma) of the perpetrators of incidents of harassment and violence. In Belgium and the Netherlands, the question on the expected level of education also produced quite high percentages of INR (18 % and 13 %, respectively). The years spent in education and the year of arrival in the country were also difficult to answer for all groups and resulted in INR for 12 % and 8 % of the respondents, respectively.

Furthermore, 12 % did not specify the type of official who asked or expected a bribe from them, 11 % could or would not indicate if they did not have a washing machine because they could not afford it, and 7 % did not indicate when they had last felt discriminated against at work. The question on discrimination experiences while trying to rent or buy accommodation was not answered by 6 % of the respondents; for the assessment of police stops regarding ethnic profiling, INR added up to 6 %; and for the question about whether or not they think that there are enough places for travellers in the country it was 6 % as well. The rest of the questions produced 5 % or less of INR.

9.2.4. Processing errors

Data cleaning and plausibility

Two main criteria are specified for excluding interviews:

- very high INR, for a high number of question refusals or 'don't know' answers;
- very short interviews, where it seems unrealistic that it is possible to read out questions in such a short time.

Interviews with high INR are excluded. Given the challenges of the survey (high illiteracy rate, etc.), and after reviewing the qualitative information, only those with INR of 45 % or above are excluded from the data set.

Across all countries and target groups, the average interview length overall (excluding outliers and implausible interviews) was 42 minutes, while the median was 38 minutes. The median ranges between 30 and 34 minutes in Ireland and the Netherlands, and between 47 and 49 in Sweden and Belgium (Roma). Interviews with an average time spent per variable of less than 4.34 seconds were also excluded from the final data set. This corresponds to the lowest percentile of the average time per variable.

In total, 55 interviews were excluded: 48 because of short interview lengths; 7 because of high INR. The highest number of excluded interviews was in Ireland (23 interviews – 18 excluded because of short interview lengths, 5 because of high INR) and among Travellers in the Netherlands (17 because of short interview lengths). In the other survey groups only five or fewer interviews were excluded.

Checks on duplicates or near-duplicates did not detect any obvious fraud. The checks on outliers, unusual patterns or responses that could be indicative of interviewer error or implausible answers resulted in consultations with the local field teams, but no edits were made to the data file following these checks.

Checks between the PSU and ECS data were successfully performed for all target groups. They only proved to be problematic for France, since the PSU contact sheets contained records for each caravan site in the sampling points. This produced contradicting information within one PSU/SSU.

Owing to the higher levels of missing data on income and the importance of having information on household income for calculating social inclusion indicators, missing data for the exact household income have been imputed. The full imputation was only done for survey groups with fewer than 30 % of values missing in the income question in the data set (Roma and Travellers in Belgium and Sweden). Fully imputed data normally should not affect the data distribution significantly; however, taking into account the high number of missing cases, for this survey some changes in the data distribution needed to be accepted.

Weighting accuracy

The sample frames in France, the Netherlands (Traveller and Sinti) and the United Kingdom were designed to be self-weighting; however, the final samples were in fact far from that. Firstly, the population identified in the mapped locations (SSUs) often did not correspond to the numbers expected based on the PSU information. Secondly, once the SSUs were visited, the numbers of Traveller households identified were often different from what was expected based on the mapping information. Finally, in France and the United Kingdom conducting a full census of addresses in SSUs where the sampling interval was between 1 and 2 meant that the addresses were selected with unequal probabilities. These eventually led to large variations in the design weights, and alternative weighting options were introduced in order to decrease these variations.

No population data that would allow use of sociodemographic variables such as age, gender, main activity and level of education in post-stratification weighting were available for most of the groups covered. Hence, the sample profile needed to be adjusted by means of within-household non-response weighting. For the random probability samples, the households were selected randomly, and the profile of household members could be considered representative. This was not the case for the non-probability quota samples,

of which it cannot be claimed that the gross household member sample provides reliable information on the target population profile. However, an assumption was made that the gross household sample profile was still a better reflection of the population than the interview profile, and hence the non-response adjustments were made for the non-random samples as well.

The post-stratification weighting step relied on the sample frame information. The PSU sample frame information was considered reliable in all countries except France, where the SSU sample frame information had to be used for the calibration weighting. Since the sample frame in the United Kingdom was available at a larger territorial level, it was not possible to derive the population targets based on DEGURBA and to use it for the post-stratification weighting. This was, however, possible in France, since the mapping of sites (units for which DEGURBA could be determined) was done for almost the entire country, and the population targets could be derived. It was possible to obtain this information for all other countries as well. Deriving DEGURBA in the United Kingdom would be possible in future surveys only if the mapping of sites were completed for all local authorities in the country.

The large variations of the design weights, although controlled by using an alternative option for the weights, still led to the final weights being less efficient in the random selection countries. The weighting efficiency for the non-random quota samples was higher in Ireland, the Netherlands (Roma) and Sweden, but not for Belgium owing to the adaptations of the sample during fieldwork.

The description of the weights provided in Chapter 7 was deemed accurate and clear by the external sampling and weighting experts. For future surveys, they recommend constructing a unique weight from the beginning for the countries where, in this survey, a separate weight has been implemented for each of the two subpopulations (Belgium and the Netherlands).

9.3. TIMELINESS AND PUNCTUALITY

The project was commissioned in December 2017 with a view to delivering all outputs within 21 months of the contract signature date. In the face of various challenges encountered during the fieldwork period, in early June 2019 a contract extension for one more month until 14 October 2019 was agreed to allow more time for interviews to be conducted. The data were collected between December 2018 and July 2019, which was somewhat longer than originally planned.

Following the internal quality assurance plan, there were some delays caused by the extended pilot and finalising the sampling approach, which had knock-on effects on the time available to finalise the materials and conduct the fieldwork. When fieldwork proved challenging, a further extension to the fieldwork period was required. The timetable was updated to provide achievable dates for deliverables, and the deliverables were submitted within these revised deadlines. FRA published the main results report of the survey in the second half of 2020. The results of the survey were published in time for the development of the Communication of the European Commission as a 'portfolio of indicators' on the strategic EU framework for Roma equality, inclusion and participation.

9.4. COHERENCE AND COMPARABILITY

The developed main source questionnaire follows mostly the EU-MIDIS II questionnaire with a few exceptions (changes after pilot, etc.), but it also

included new questions. The translation processes following the adapted TRAPD method ensure comparability across all six survey countries as well as the validity of the translations.

Comparability issues could occur based on the different sampling methods employed. However, because of the elusive populations and the lack of data on the survey's target population in the survey countries, the sampling methods employed in this project were considered more or less without alternative.

Since there are no comparative administrative data sources on this population available and no extensive research has been done in the survey countries, it is not possible to assess the coherence of the data.

The questionnaire design and DP of selected concepts and indicators calculated within the scope of the project allow for partial and full comparability with the indicators available for the general population.

- Full comparability was achieved for the concepts of material deprivation, housing deprivation, overcrowding, health-related activity limitations (Global Activity Limitation Indicator) and subjective health assessment.
- Partial comparability of indicators calculated within the scope of the project was achieved for the following concepts.
 - ★ The paid work rate in the Roma and Travellers Survey is based on the questions 'Please look at this card and tell me which of these categories describes your current situation best?' (HH04) and 'Did you do any work in the last 4 weeks to earn some money?' (HH24). The Eurostat employment rate is based on the International Labour Organization concept: persons who during the reference week did any work for pay or profit for at least 1 hour, or were not working but had jobs from which they were temporarily absent.
 - ★ NEET (not in education, employment or training): the Roma and Travellers Survey NEET rate is based on the paid work rate (see above) and excludes non-formal activities, whereas the Eurostat NEET rate is based on the International Labour Organization employment rate and includes non-formal education or training.
 - ★ Early school leavers: the Roma and Travellers Survey concept is based on the highest level of education achieved and main activity status (without specifying the 4 weeks preceding the survey and excluding non-formal education or training). Eurostat includes persons who were not in education and training (neither formal nor non-formal) in the 4 weeks preceding the Labour Force Survey.
 - ★ Early childhood education: the respondent answered the survey question taking into consideration all children in the household and indicated if they regularly attend public or private childcare (including nursery, preschool, etc.). Age is calculated on an annual basis, so the figures do not consider an individual child's early or delayed start to primary education, which limits comparability with EU-SILC data.
 - ★ At-risk-of-poverty rate: the Roma and Travellers Survey counts all persons with an equivalised current monthly disposable household income below one twelfth of the national at-risk-of-poverty threshold 2018 (published by Eurostat). The equivalised disposable income is the total income of a household, after tax and other deductions, divided by the number of household members converted into equalised adults, using the modified Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development equivalence scale (1-0.5-0.3). By contrast, the Eurostat indicator provides information about annual household incomes. This might result in an overestimation of the at-risk-of-poverty rate in comparison with the general population.

- ★ Life expectancy of Roma and Travellers is based on indirect estimation with the orphanhood method based on survey information on maternal and paternal survival, i.e. whether respondents' mothers and fathers were still alive at the time of the survey (see Luy, Marc, 2009 and 2010)⁶⁴. The estimates refer to the forecast trend of 2016 (latest available data for the general population); the total is weighted based on the survey group totals and sample sizes. Low case numbers are problematic and require the application of specific inclusion criteria, which are to some extent arbitrary, and estimates should therefore be interpreted with caution. Possible differences in infant and child mortality between Roma and Travellers and the general population are not taken into account, which could potentially underestimate the difference in life expectancy between Roma and Travellers and the general population in the current estimates. More details can be found in the Section 3 in the Annex of this report.

9.5. ACCESSIBILITY AND CLARITY

FRA plans to disseminate the results in multiple written and visual formats. The main report was published in the second half of 2020. In addition, relevant country results will be published in the form of country briefs.

Headline and secondary indicators, which were developed in cooperation with the European Commission's Directorate-General for Justice and Consumers and the Roma Working Party, are published in conjunction with the Communication of the European Commission as a 'portfolio of indicators' on the strategic EU framework for Roma equality, inclusion and participation.

The data will be made available on the FRA website through the data explorer, and anonymised microdata will be archived and made available for researchers.

The questionnaire, data collection process and data themselves are documented in detail, including the published questionnaire⁶⁵, this technical report and the codebook (made available along with the microdata file).

⁶⁴ Luy, M. (2009), 'Estimating mortality differentials in developed populations from survey information on maternal and paternal orphanhood', European Demographic Research Papers No. 2009-3, Vienna Institute of Demography;

Luy, M. (2010), 'Estimating mortality differentials in developed populations from survey information on maternal and paternal orphanhood', Supplement to European Demographic Research Papers No. 2009-3, Vienna Institute of Demography.

⁶⁵ FRA (2020), *Roma and Travellers in Six Countries – Questionnaire*, Luxembourg, Publications Office.

10. LESSONS LEARNED

This chapter uses the experience and knowledge gained from working on the survey to draw important lessons for conducting future surveys among Roma and Travellers, including the most appropriate sampling and interviewing methods. The chapter also highlights any difficulties that research projects focusing on hard-to-reach groups may face.

10.1. BACKGROUND RESEARCH, STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATION AND PILOT SURVEY

The background research, stakeholder consultation and pilot survey were necessary stages to undertake in order to inform the final survey and sampling design. However, given that much was unknown about surveying Roma and Travellers in the selected countries, it would have been beneficial if a feasibility study (or a more extensive pilot survey) consisting of these phases had been conducted separately, giving each more time.

10.2. DEVELOPMENT AND TRANSLATION OF QUESTIONNAIRE AND FIELDWORK MATERIALS

A collaborative approach was taken to the development of the materials, and good use was made of the various documents that had been previously used for EU-MIDIS II. There was a relatively small number of questions (or rather words in questions) that required double translation, and the majority of those items needing double translation had to follow the conventions of the previously used translations from EU-MIDIS II and EU-SILC. As a result, following the entire adapted TRAPD approach was not always necessary.

- The importance of allocating sufficient time to the questionnaire development phase and a systematic approach to the checking of the scripts cannot be emphasised enough. Specific attention should be paid to the visual presentation of questions (formatting, layout, etc.) prior to the translation and scripting of the language versions.
- Feedback from the NSEs and interviewers about the questionnaire, the supporting materials and contact sheets raised certain issues such as the following.
 - ★ The length and repetitiveness (similar questions for each of the domains of potential discrimination) of the questionnaire had already been raised as an issue in EU-MIDIS II, and in consequence the questionnaire for the Roma and Travellers Survey was shortened and adapted to avoid such repetitiveness. Nevertheless, it was an issue that came up during the interviews.
 - ★ Shared language versions (languages used in more than one country) need to be adapted, particularly when working with minority audiences that have specific language requirements, and language and terminology need to be simplified.
 - ★ Further involvement of community members should be sought for the identification and rephrasing of sensitive questions. For example,

household finances and facilities produced high levels of INR, even though the interviewer training specifically addressed these issues, and even though these questions worked better in some countries than in others.

- ★ The amount of paperwork (introductory letter, privacy notice and postcard) should be reduced, keeping the introductory video for future surveys, maybe posting it on web-based or social media.
- ★ Electronic versions of contact sheets are preferable and recommended.
- ★ Less experienced interviewers, however, need more training on how to fill in the contact sheets with the device.

— The PSU contact sheet should be adapted to be able to capture more than one halting site (such as in France) within a PSU or SSU in future surveys, to be able to process paradata at halting site or location level. Contact sheets at the level of the location/site could be a solution and would also reduce the amount of information collected at PSU level.

10.3. INTERVIEWER SELECTION AND TRAINING

While the feedback from the training sessions for the interviewers was generally positive and essential, interviewer briefings should be brought closer to the start of the fieldwork if this is delayed. The interviewer manual (deemed useful overall) needs to be further shortened.

Roma and Traveller interviewers are vital for securing access to respondents and building trust (in particular in Ireland and the Netherlands) and it is recommended to use them in future surveys as well. However, they can be expected to have less interviewing experience than professional interviewers, and resources should be allocated for additional, tailored training with a particular focus on practical sessions and data quality procedures.

If it is not possible to use community interviewers, there are clear benefits to using mediators from the community in a survey such as this. The mediators can open up networks, spread a positive word about the survey and connect the local teams with respondents. It also helps with reassuring the respondents about the objectives of the survey. In addition, it is beneficial for interviewers, who can learn from the mediators about the community, making them better prepared for the interviews. It is therefore recommended to use mediators in future waves of the Roma and Travellers Survey, ensuring, however, sufficient resources to recruit and manage the mediators' limited time resources. It would also be advisable in future to spend more time explaining to mediators why it is important for interviews to be conducted in privacy.

The number of interviews per interviewer was limited at the beginning of the project. However, owing to limited interviewer availability and issues with the interviewers in accessing or connecting with the communities, the maximum number of interviews per interviewer was exceeded in most countries. While tighter control of the number of interviews conducted by interviewer is needed in the future, it is recommended to relax this rule to some degree and rather control for potential bias introduced by interviewers.

While the use of incentives in these countries did not appear to have a detrimental effect on fieldwork, it did not appear to be key to securing participation, either. It is therefore recommended that experts be consulted in the future to advise on whether or not incentives are necessary or appropriate.

10.4. SAMPLING AND FIELDWORK

Sample frames for most of the groups covered by this survey were not readily available, and constructing them was resource intensive. Still, the population data collected were not always reliable, and revisions to the frames and sample designs needed to be made in later stages of the project. Sufficient time and budget resources should be planned for implementing the (random) sampling approaches in future surveys. In any country where it is necessary to map specific sites where the target population live in high concentrations, sufficient time should be allowed for this process. At the same time, collecting details for specific sites needs to happen shortly before the fieldwork starts, so that the most accurate population numbers are recorded. One way of organising this could be through issuing the sample iteratively, as soon as all the sites for a certain area (selected in the first stage) are mapped. This, however, would require a longer period for fieldwork implementation.

For France, unless an alternative reliable source of data at department level becomes available, it is recommended for any future surveys with Travellers (Gens du voyage) to conduct mapping of all halting sites in the country before the sample selection. It is also recommended that identification numbers should be assigned at location/site level, not SSU level, in order to link DEGURBA or other characteristics to the sites, not the whole sampling unit.

In Ireland, Traveller representatives should be involved in the process of constructing PSUs, so that the Electoral Divisions can be combined in a way that suits their organisational structure (in larger territorial units following the health board regions). Moreover, they would be able to provide useful information on whether or not the population numbers in certain areas have changed since the last update of the sample frame, and possibly on the predominant type of accommodation of Travellers in some areas.

For future surveys, it cannot be expected that larger sample sizes can be reached for either of the target groups in Belgium, or for Sweden (assuming the same sampling methodologies). Including more local authorities in the sample for the United Kingdom could potentially result in completing more interviews there; however, increasing the sample size requires adding a larger number of local authorities with smaller population sizes.

The random probability approach, even with random selection of respondents (while allocating more budget and expecting lower response rates in the United Kingdom and the Netherlands) are deemed possible in future surveys in France, the United Kingdom and the Netherlands (Traveller and Sinti). Future surveys could also consider implementing a random probability approach in Ireland. This seemed to be feasible in the pilot survey; however, testing this approach again with a larger sample size is recommended before a final decision is made.

The implementation of fieldwork and the sampling methodologies required extensive involvement of the support organisations and mediators, making the local teams reliant on the willingness of these organisations to cooperate. Ongoing and close liaison with the support organisations and mediators should be accounted for in the planning of future waves of the survey, as they proved necessary to successfully implement the chosen sampling methods.

Allowing a longer fieldwork period would enable the fieldwork to be implemented in phases, with more time to reflect on the outcomes, and changes due to necessary country-based revisions to be introduced in a systematic way. However, this could also be challenging in terms of interviewer engagement, if the work is not continuously distributed throughout the fieldwork period and does not leave breaks between phases.

The planned winter schedule for the fieldwork limited the possibility of reaching full coverage and some of the halting sites. Despite the prolongation of the fieldwork it was not possible to adapt the samples *ex post* to include the halting sites previously classified as empty. Recommendations on the ideal fieldwork period were mixed, as summer time and holiday periods can create barriers to reaching out effectively to halting sites.

The full census applied when selecting addresses in the majority of sampling units in France and the United Kingdom (66 % and 95 %) effectively meant that addresses were selected with unequal probabilities, which consequently introduced higher variation in design weights. Maintaining equal probabilities when selecting addresses, by issuing the same number of addresses per sampling unit, could be considered for future surveys. However, this would require a random selection of the starting points in each sampling unit, so that each address in a sampling unit has an equal chance of being selected.

Standard back-checking processes by phone were not successful with these target groups because of the reluctance of respondents of marginalised communities to provide contact details. Alternative measures put in place in the Netherlands (Roma) and Sweden did not produce any reliable results, so further investigations and additional training of interviewers in reassuring respondents are recommended.

10.5. DATA PROCESSING

Codebooks should receive more attention earlier in the project cycle in terms of how answers will be presented in the data files. In particular, it should be thoroughly considered which paradata to collect and how to convey them in the data files. It is also recommended to consider thoroughly, already at design stage, which information besides the questionnaire answers should be included in the data sets and how the data should be represented in the different data files (e.g. by household member, household, address, sampling point).

A flagging variable indicating suspicious cases should be included in the data set from the beginning, and it should be agreed before the start of fieldwork which cases to flag.

It is further recommended to use numeric IDs for sampling points and interviewers across all documents and coordination points (FRA, the CCT and local agencies) to facilitate communication and administration as well as the matching of different files.

Data-related issues, questions and solutions were documented in a data quality control log, which should be kept for future surveys. The data files were sent at pre-specified dates, rather than once a specific percentage of the target sample size was reached (e.g. 10 %, 30 %, 50 %). The latter is recommended for future surveys.

10.6. QUALITY ASSURANCE

Internally, the quality assurance plan (QAP I for stage 1, until the pilot survey, and QAP II for stage 2, after the pilot) for the Roma and Travellers Survey 2019 was comprehensive and provided detailed targets for monitoring quality across the two (pilot and main) stages of the project. It would have been preferable to have one overarching quality assurance and monitoring plan to cover the entirety of the survey.

10.7. TIMETABLE

Overall, the timetable for the Roma and Travellers Survey 2019 proved to be challenging at times. Although only a 1-month extension was required overall, there were periods that were very busy and required extraordinary efforts by all parties in order to limit the delays or keep on track with the timetable.

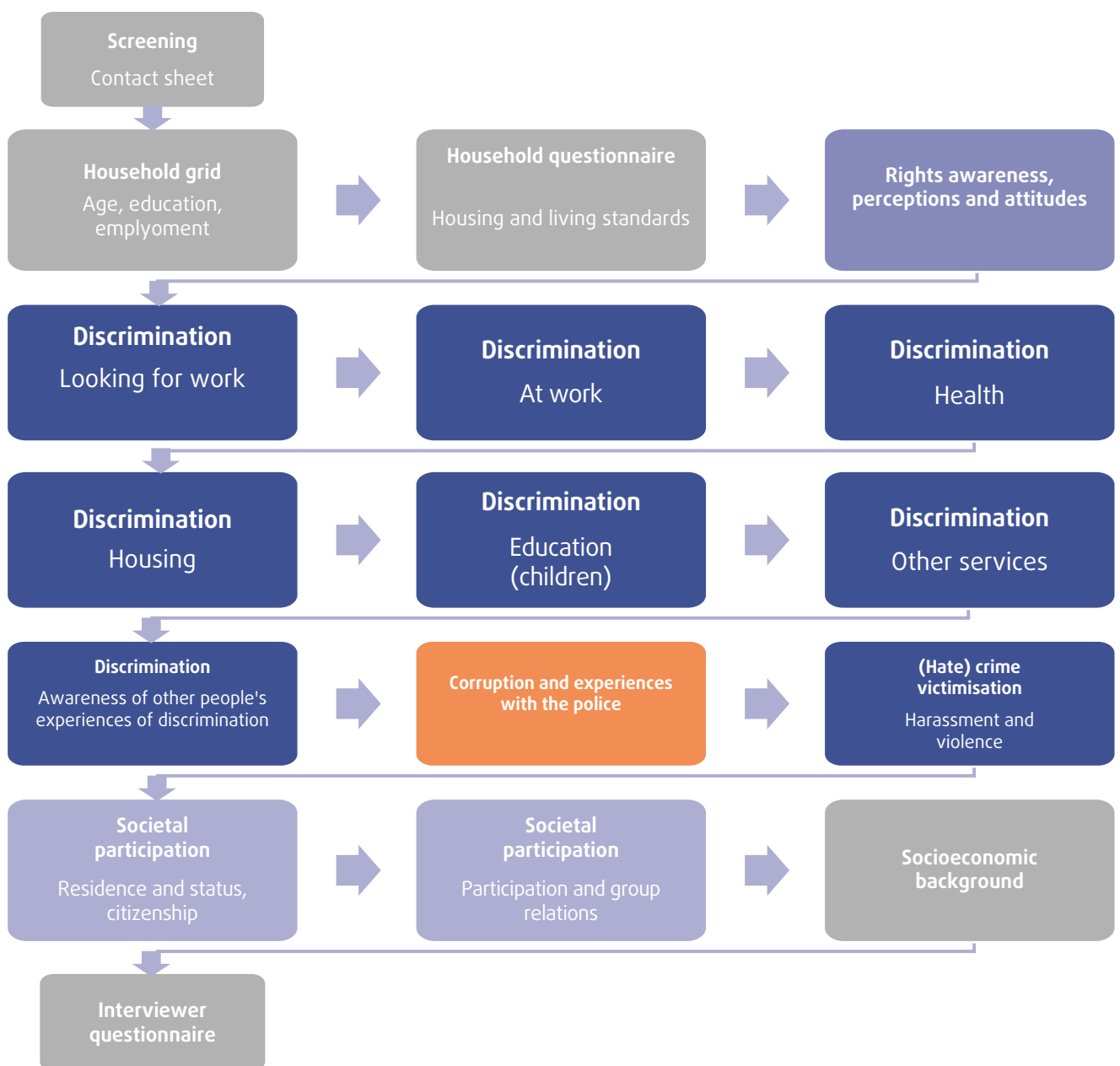
It is recommended to not start the fieldwork shortly before Christmas, or in winter in general, given that daylight hours are reduced, potentially affecting interviewers' ability to visit certain areas or sites and the likelihood of Traveller sites being occupied.

Annex

1. QUESTIONNAIRE FLOWCHART

Figure 1 gives an overview of the topics covered by the questionnaire. ⁶⁶

FIGURE 1: QUESTIONNAIRE FLOWCHART



⁶⁶ FRA (2020), *Roma and Travellers in Six Countries – Questionnaire*, Luxembourg, Publications Office.

2. QUALITY ASSURANCE PLAN (INTEGRATED QAPS I AND II)

TABLE 43: PROJECT MANAGEMENT

Quality objective	Quality indicators (actions to be taken to ensure quality)	Quality target
Effective management of the project from inception through to delivery of the data set and final technical and quality report	Clearly defined timetable that identifies key stages, tasks and responsibilities, and allows room for contingencies	1a. All deliverables submitted on time
	Sufficient resource (staff) available to complete required tasks to high standard and in keeping with timetable	1b. No period of time without sufficient staff cover for central coordination activities and within six EU Member States
	Quality indicators and targets specified; quality and risk monitored throughout development phase; project management protocols specified at outset and adhered to throughout development phase	1c. Quality and risks monitored throughout project life cycle with monthly updates provided to FRA
	Systematic documentation of tasks, action points and issues throughout the lifetime of the project	1d. All action points, decisions and issues documented on a weekly and monthly basis 1e. All important documents stored on a SharePoint, accessible to FRA/CCT/NSEs
	Regular contact/follow-ups with the NSEs, ensuring that tasks are understood and undertaken correctly and on time	1f. No period of time without sufficient communication/follow-up on the local agencies
	Inception meeting between client and contractor to discuss offer and agree direction of project	1h. Meeting attending by key personnel from Ipsos MORI and FRA, actions agreed that facilitate the project moving forward

TABLE 44: BACKGROUND RESEARCH AND MAPPING OF SAMPLE FRAMES

Quality objective	Quality indicators (actions to be taken to ensure quality)	Quality target
Collecting comprehensive, reliable and comparable data, to inform size characteristics and geographic distribution of target groups in each country; sample design; questionnaire design; translation requirements	Thorough briefing of NSEs regarding the background information collection task	2a. Instructions for background research and consultations provided to NSEs
	Clearly defined template of information with written guidance so that NSEs know what information to collect and how to do so	2b. Information collected to enable decision on target groups that are feasible to be included and sampling design for each country/target group 2c. Feedback on specific elements of questionnaire that need to be tailored to target group 2d. Identification of experts/stakeholders for consultation
	Mapping of sample frames undertaken by NSEs with guidance from CCT	2e. List of sources to be consulted provided by CCT. This can be further augmented following expert/stakeholder consultations
	Systematic recording of information from mapping exercise	2f. Agreed fields to be filled for each sample source (as per p. 24 of technical specifications) 2g. Metadata and paradata that can inform sampling and weighting to be collected 2h. Coding of regional information so that data can be linked to external contextual/auxiliary data (e.g. NUTS 3, DEGURBA)
	Assessment of sampling frame provided for each country/target group	2i. Sufficient information collected to enable assessment of sampling frames (by factors including access, timeliness, coverage, size of territorial units and population estimates provided)
	Report provided for each country, all following the same template	2j. The reports from all countries document the outcomes from the background research and consultations in a standardised way (in terms of structure and content)

NUTS, Nomenclature of Territorial Units for Statistics.

TABLE 45: EXPERT CONSULTATION AND SETTING UP COOPERATION WITH NATIONAL ROMA EXPERTS, ORGANISATIONS AND STAKEHOLDERS

Quality objective	Quality indicators (actions to be taken to ensure quality)	Quality target
Establish links with national Roma contact points and other relevant national and local experts/stakeholders to collect information on the target groups covering available sample frames, securing access to communities and embracing cultural considerations	National Roma contact points and national/local experts identified and consulted on available sample frames and characteristics of target groups	3a. Sufficient effort made to contact experts and other stakeholders by telephone and email 3b. At least one expert consultation held in each country or several bilateral meetings with experts who represent different Roma and Traveller groups 3c. Where required, face-to-face and telephone consultations will be followed up with email/written consultations
	Community leaders / stakeholders who can help encourage participation and access to locations/PSUs identified in each country	3d. Variety of sources identified and used to identify potential community leaders / stakeholders
	Clear guidance provided to NSEs for contacting experts	3e. A clearly defined, common protocol for contacting experts for all six countries
	Experts provided with sufficient background information about the survey	3f. Experts in each country provided with standardised information about the survey and consultation process
	Standardised agenda agreed for use at expert consultation meetings. To cover areas as listed on p. 24 of technical specifications	3g. Comprehensive record of meeting created (minutes) in a standardised format
	Interview/topic guide/agenda agreed for use in stakeholder interviews. To cover areas as listed on p. 24 of technical specifications	3h. Interview/topic guide accurately reflects agreed topic areas
	Standardised notes made from each consultation	3i. Comprehensive record of interviews created – detailed notes provided in standardised format
	Consent asked and recorded (by email or on signed consent forms) from all experts/stakeholders to pass contact details to FRA	3j. All experts/stakeholders used to obtain consent (by email or on signed consent forms) for all those approached
	Continued mapping of mediators and information on potential mediators is collected in the field	3k. NSEs keep a record of mediators for their use in supporting the fieldwork

TABLE 46: SURVEY LIFE CYCLE STAGE: OVERALL SAMPLE DESIGN AND COUNTRY-SPECIFIC SURVEY AND SAMPLING DESIGNS

Quality objective	Quality indicators (actions to be taken to ensure quality)	Quality target
Tailored sample design developed for each country / target group – aiming for a random probability design where possible, and a fully justified alternative where it is not	Comprehensive sampling plan per country / target group provided with details as per pp. 24-25 of technical specifications with input from sampling expert	4a. Plans provide sufficient and accurate details of how to implement sampling method for each target group
	Selection of a suitable frame for each target group / country with full description of coverage, recency, sampling units. Where official sample frames do not exist, lists of PSUs created in consultation with relevant local experts	4b. 100 % – overall, a suitable frame will be identified, or built where unavailable
	Monitoring the sample realisation, and implementing adjustments if the initial sample design cannot be fully implemented	4c. Revised sampling plans developed and implemented (if necessary)
	Weighting approach incorporating input from sampling expert and applied to data set. Weights applied to data to correct for design differences etc.	4d. Weighting approach developed including all relevant dimensions – design weights, non-response/post-stratification weights (where information available), household and respondent selection

TABLE 47: FINALISATION OF THE QUESTIONNAIRE

Quality objective	Quality indicators (actions to be taken to ensure quality)	Quality target
<p>Develop a high-quality questionnaire that provides conceptual and measurement equivalence across all countries, and continuity from and comparability with EU-MIDIS II; adapt specific questions to each target group; identify relevant areas and develop specific new questions for target groups that were not surveyed in EU-MIDIS II such as Travellers</p>	<p>Questionnaire content that is of relevance to FRA and its stakeholders now and for expected usage in the future. The final questionnaire should allow for the collection of all information relevant to calculation of indicators used by the relevant stakeholders when assessing progress on the ground in the implementation of the national Roma integration strategies</p>	<p>5a. Relevant questions from EU MIDIS maintained with minimal change 5b. All questions relevant for comparisons with EU-MIDIS II data regarding important dimensions for Roma inclusion should be kept in the final questionnaire 5c. Newly inserted questions should follow the logic of the already existing questionnaire, i.e. they should be integrated in such a way that the flow of the questions is smooth and not disruptive 5j. All recommendations from background research and consultations assessed and, where relevant, adopted for the data collection</p>
	<p>Recommendations from background research and consultations are taken into account when designing the questionnaire</p>	<p>5d. Stakeholder input fed into development of content by FRA 5e. Questionnaire is adapted to the target groups (in terms of terminology, complexity and length of the questions) 5f. Questionnaire includes questions that are specific to each target group</p>
	<p>Questionnaire signed off at agreed date to facilitate scripting and other activities on time</p>	<p>5g. Only critical amendments made to the source questionnaire following sign-off</p>
	<p>No errors/technical issues detected in script once ready to start fieldwork</p>	<p>Central scripting for all countries – defining all requirements to prevent missing values and the entry of non-permitted values. Technical testing of scripted questionnaire in all languages including scenario testing (at least one per country / target group) and dummy data flooding conducted by CCT. Checking log maintained with details of errors found</p>
<p>Test the survey instrument and approach in each of the six countries to identify any problems with the questionnaire (understanding, language, length, as well as technical issues such as routing)</p>	<p>Pilot testing of survey instrument – conducted according to best practice principles and results used to inform subsequent development of the survey instrument that will facilitate comparable data collection in all countries</p>	<p>5i. All recommendations assessed and, where relevant, adopted for the data collection (includes questionnaire and logic checks in CAPI script)</p>

TABLE 48: REVIEW OF THE TRANSLATIONS AND TRANSLATION OF ADDITIONAL ITEMS

Quality objective	Quality indicators (actions to be taken to ensure quality)	Quality target
Carefully assess the language(s) required for each target group in each of the 6 countries (e.g. national language(s) and/or other(s))	Outcomes of background research and consultations taken into account when deciding the appropriate target language(s) – national language(s) for each country and/or other language(s)	6a. Questionnaire translated into the appropriate language(s), to make sure it is understandable by the target groups
Review and compare existing translations of questions used for EU-MIDIS II that will be included in the questionnaire with any changes implemented to these, to ensure accuracy in the source instrument (English) and all translated or adapted versions	Guidance materials for translation phase provided to countries and translators; all countries to implement a rigorous multistage process for the translations; translation manager overseeing all phases in all countries; use of cApStAn in translation process. Additional check of translated questionnaires by FRA	6b. All amendment requests to existing questions from EU-MIDIS II documented, reviewed and signed off by Ipsos MORI translation manager before implementation
Translate all new questions and fieldwork materials accurately and consistently following best practice procedures	Country teams and linguists informed of timetable required for translation process; dedicated translation manager in the CCT assigned to monitor progress against the timetable	6c. All countries to complete translation process within specified time frame 6d. Translation of new questions follows team-based TRAPD procedure including use of glossary for key terms 6e. Translation of other survey materials follows single translation and proofread procedure 6f. FRA approves translated materials
Ensure cultural sensitivity and appropriateness, taking into consideration the specificities of each target group	Outcomes of background research and consultations taken into account during the translation process	6g. Translated and adapted versions are adapted to the target groups, in terms of both language and cultural/sensitive aspects
Questionnaire translation tested through the pilot study	Recommendations based on the pilot study taken into account when reviewing questionnaire translations	6h. Translations are understandable and adapted to the target groups, in terms of both language and cultural/sensitive aspects

TABLE 49: PILOT SURVEY

Quality objective	Quality indicators (actions to be taken to ensure quality)	Quality target
Carry out test of fieldwork procedures in all countries – to encompass survey tools and interviewing practices, access to communities and, where possible, sampling approaches (note: small sample size and potential for sample designs to be not finalised at this stage may limit extent to which last element can be tested)	Pilot of 10 interviews per country conducted in each country using approved survey tools and agreed contact procedures	7a. All pilot interviewers fully briefed in advance of pilot fieldwork, to include session on cultural sensitivity 7b. Comprehensive feedback received from pilot interviewers and NSEs in standardised template 7c. All recommendations assessed and, where relevant, adopted
Deliver pilot report summarising findings from pilot and providing recommendations for main-stage fieldwork	Structure and content of final report agreed with FRA in advance; to cover requirements listed on p. 26 of the technical specifications	7d. Delivery of final pilot report on time and with agreed structure and content

TABLE 50: DATA COLLECTION

Quality objective	Quality indicators (actions to be taken to ensure quality)	Quality target
Monitor implementation of sample design	<p>Monitoring the sample realisation, and implementing adjustments if the initial sample design cannot be fully implemented.</p> <p>For random probability designs: indicators include response rate and sample profile by age and gender.</p> <p>For quota designs: indicators are the age by gender quotas + other soft quotas assigned to each country as per sampling design</p>	8a. Sample realisation monitored on weekly basis
Monitor and collect information on activity at PSU level	<p>PSU contact sheets provide necessary information to interviews, capture relevant information to be able to update information about sample frame where possible and provide overview of what happened in the PSU for context</p>	<p>8b. PSU contact sheets issued, completed and collected for each PSU</p> <p>8x. Information from PSU contact sheets incorporated into data file or technical report as relevant</p>
Implement optimal design for CAPI (and Paper Assisted Personal Interviews - PAPI) data collection	<p>Assess the quality of the survey design by systematic monitoring of fieldwork progress and reporting on suitable indicators as outlined in the fieldwork progress update. Please refer to the fieldwork progress update for all indicators reported on during fieldwork.</p> <p>Assess the quality of the questionnaire in terms of length, quality of the translation and understanding of content</p>	8c. All QC checks carried out in all countries
Identify and use the most experienced interviewers in each country in order to facilitate successful data collection	<p>All interviewers to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - have at least 3 months' active interviewing experience, - have experience in conducting interviews using CAPI, - have experience in conducting surveys on sensitive issues, - be fluent in the national language(s) of the survey country, - where possible have experience of interviewing Roma and Travellers. <p>To the extent possible include Roma and Traveller interviewers in field force</p>	8d. All interviewers to meet required standards (in all countries)
Work efficiently with interviewers from Roma and Traveller communities (where applicable)	<p>Interviewers from Roma and Traveller groups will need to undertake the same training as the interviewers from the local agencies, and read all training materials.</p> <p>If needed, interviewers from Roma and Traveller groups will undertake additional training, particularly on technical or administrative aspects (e.g. on use of CAPI system, quality control or internal procedures); the project managers in each country will evaluate the need for further training for interviewers from the Roma and Traveller groups.</p> <p>Note: Community interviewers are employed only in the Netherlands</p>	8e All interviewers – including those from Roma and Traveller groups – are fully familiar with all aspects of their task (including technical and administrative aspects)

Quality objective	Quality indicators (actions to be taken to ensure quality)	Quality target
Develop standardised materials and training that conveys the purpose/objective of the survey as well as all requirements for interviewers in all countries	Standardised training materials are developed and include information on background and context to the survey; cultural and ethical considerations; sampling strategy; contacting procedures and respondent selection; structure and content of the questionnaire; ensuring confidentiality and privacy; use of fieldwork materials; quality control; etc.	<p>8f. Source materials contain required content and are finalised on time</p> <p>8g. All NSEs attend 'train the trainer' session prior to main-stage fieldwork</p>
	Provide uniform and detailed face-to-face interviewer-training session lasting 2 days (14 hours). Session with PowerPoint training slides to cover every aspect of the survey and fieldwork procedures for data collection to ensure consistency across countries. Relevant sections tailored to country/target group as necessary. All non-target group interviewers receive cultural awareness training	<p>8h. All interviewers attend 2-day (14-hour) training session, tailored as necessary to target group-specific methods</p> <p>8i Where possible, target groups' representatives / experts assist in delivery of training</p>
	All mediators involved provided with a briefing, to include background and context to the survey; sampling strategy; contacting procedures and respondent selection; structure and content of the questionnaire; ensuring confidentiality and privacy; use of fieldwork materials; quality control	<p>8j. All mediators briefed</p>
Where possible (and advised by experts), work with local mediators or facilitators who can help establish cooperative relations with groups/communities	List of local mediators/facilitators collected during background research and fieldwork	<p>8k. NSEs approach and secure local mediators/facilitators for assistance during fieldwork</p>
	Personal/contact details of mediators held securely, and privacy notice issued to each mediator working on the survey	<p>8l. Details of mediators held securely by NSEs. Privacy notice issued to each</p>
Regular, accurate monitoring of suitable indicators during data collection to allow for early intervention and remedial action if necessary	Fieldwork-reporting template reviewed and agreed with FRA; assignment of dedicated CCT members to monitor progress against projections within countries; CCT in constant contact with the NSEs; fieldwork reports provided on time and on a regular basis to FRA	<p>8m. All fieldwork reports provided on time and containing accurate, relevant information</p>
	Regular back-checking of interviews to monitor the quality of the interviewers throughout fieldwork	<p>8n. 10 % of all interviews conducted back-checked by local field agency. To start at beginning of fieldwork. Remedial measures put in place where issues identified, and critical or suspicious interviews are investigated in further detail</p>
Cap on number of interviews to be conducted by each interviewer to avoid introducing interviewer bias	Number of interviews per interviewer monitored. A maximum of 5 % of sample per interviewer has been set, with specific targets noted in column E. Remedial action is taken if an interviewer exceeds this target or exceptions to the rule are agreed with FRA	<p>8o. Limit set on number of interviews to be conducted by each interviewer. To vary by country / target group BE: Roma, 25 interviews; Travellers, 25 interviews FR: 50 interviews (less than 5 % of total sample) IE: up to 5 % of total sample NL: Roma, up to 35 interviews. Note there are a limited number of Roma interviewers available to work on the survey Sinti/Travellers: up to 45 interviews. Note there are a limited number of Sinti/Traveller interviewers available to work on the survey SE: 30 interviews UK: 50 interviews (less than 5 % of total sample) If there are specific reasons for an interviewer to exceed this (such as language or cultural sensitivities) this will be reviewed by the CCT before approval is given</p>
Cap on number of interviews to be conducted by one interviewer in a day to ensure quality of data collected	Number of interviews per interviewer per day monitored	<p>8p. In each country, interviewer activity will be monitored to ensure that each interviewer does not carry out more than 5 interviews in 1 day</p>

TABLE 51: DATA PROCESSING AND DELIVERY

Quality objective	Quality indicators (actions to be taken to ensure quality)	Quality target
Deliver a detailed interim technical, fieldwork report and interim data set	Structure and content of report agreed with FRA in advance but including requirements on pp. 26–27 of technical specifications	9a. Delivery of interim reports and data sets on time and with agreed structure and content
Achieve consistency and accuracy in data files per country and overall by following logic and plausibility checks	Data coding, entry and processing checks set up. All steps will be defined and conveyed to FRA clearly and early; there will be an ongoing process of monitoring, cleaning and validating the main-stage data; systematic automated checks implemented at country level executed on a regular basis. Interviews with more than 25 % of INR are not considered complete. Full details of all of the quality control checks taken are provided in the data quality control log	9b. All data checks set up, errors identified and solutions proposed
Data editing and cleaning documented with respect to quality criteria by the provision of SPSS syntax code used for quality checks	Workflow with quality control checks specified at the outset; data reflects agreed structure/codebook	
A complete anonymised data file in electronic format (SPSS-compatible files and comma-separated values files) to be delivered alongside a codebook containing variable names and variable labels (in English) and with reference to the relevant question numbers	Clear link between all files. Data quality controls for the consistency, completeness, validity and reliability of the data	9c. Delivering error-free data files to FRA on time
Weights, and variables used to estimate them along with the code to calculate them, included in the data file	Weighting approach incorporates input from sampling expert and is applied to data set	9d. Weighting approach developed and applied

TABLE 52: CALCULATION OF SELECTED INDICATORS AND TABULATION OF RESULTS

Quality objective	Quality indicators (actions to be taken to ensure quality)	Quality target
Provide accurate, clearly labelled tables presenting the results for carefully selected indicators as well as a short informative description of calculation procedure	Workflow with quality control checks specified at the outset; data reflect agreed structure	10a. Delivering error-free tables and syntax to FRA on time
Provide SPSS syntax used for calculating and tabulating these results		

TABLE 53: DELIVERY OF FINAL TECHNICAL AND QUALITY REPORT

Quality objective	Quality indicators (actions to be taken to ensure quality)	Quality target
Deliver a comprehensive final technical and quality report	Structure and content of final report agreed with FRA in advance but including requirements on pp. 28–29 of technical specifications. Content includes information on activities undertaken, description of samples achieved and recommendations for future survey research on the Roma and Traveller population	11a. Delivery of final technical report on time and with agreed structure and content
	Report for each country provided, all following the same template	11b. The reports from all countries document the outcomes from the main-stage fieldwork in a standardised way (in terms of structure and content) so that all required information is in the final technical report

3. TESTING AND MEASURING LIFE EXPECTANCY OF ROMA AND TRAVELLERS ⁶⁷

3.1. Introduction

Several studies suggest that the population of Roma and Travellers is severely disadvantaged in health compared with the non-Roma population and faces a range of barriers in accessing healthcare ⁶⁸. According to the most widely cited and generally accepted data from the Council of Europe, the life expectancy (LE) of this subgroup is between 10 and 15 years lower than that of the general population. However, all existing reports about levels and trends of Roma and Travellers' LE are substantially limited in the comprehensiveness and quality of the available data. As a consequence, it is not clear if the disadvantage in the number of life years is actually that high. The aim of the present work was therefore to provide additional estimates derived by a different approach and for subpopulations of Roma and Travellers for which no such estimates exist so far. For this purpose, FRA included particular questions in the 2019 Roma and Travellers Survey that allow the application of a specific indirect approach to estimate LE on the basis of proportions of still living mothers and fathers, known as the orphanhood method (OM) ⁶⁹. The data turned out to be a reliable basis for applying the OM.

Indirect techniques are different approaches of demographic tools for estimating LE of populations that lack population statistics, typically applied in less developed countries where conventional demographic data are either

⁶⁷ This work was commissioned under contract with Dr Marc Luy, Austrian Academy of Sciences, to test and develop an estimator for life expectancy. The goal is to provide timely and accurate information. If errors are brought to our attention, we will try to correct them. However, the European Agency for Fundamental Rights accepts no responsibility or liability with regard to the information in the following part of this document.

⁶⁸ E.g. D. Bogdanović, D. Nikić, B. Petrović, B. Kocić, J. Jovanović, M. Nikolić and Z. Milošević (2007), 'Mortality of Roma population in Serbia, 2002–2005', *Croatian Medical Journal*, Vol. 48, No 5, pp. 720–726; P. de Graaf, D. Rotar Pavlič, E. Zelko, M. Vintges, S. Willems and L. Hanssens (2016), 'Primary care for the Roma in Europe: position paper of the European forum for primary care', *Zdravstveno varstvo*, Vol. 55, No 3, pp. 218–224; N. Parekh and T. Rose (2011), 'Health inequalities of the Roma in Europe: a literature review', *Central European Journal of Public Health*, Vol. 19, No 3, pp. 139–142.

⁶⁹ The questions for the application of the OM are 'Is your natural (biological) mother/father still alive?' and 'How old is your natural (biological) mother/father now?' They were included in FRA (2020), *Roma and Travellers in Six Countries – Questionnaire*, Luxembourg, Publications Office.

non-existent or too deficient to be usable ⁷⁰. In rare cases, these methods have also been applied to analyse mortality in developed populations when the required data were not available from population registers.

The basic strategy of indirect estimation techniques is to reconstruct a time series of survivorship estimates and thus to analyse time trends in LE from survey information on the proportion of respondents of different ages with still living children (own children method), parents (orphanhood method), siblings (sibling survival technique) or spouses (spouse survival technique). The OM is seen to be the most promising and therefore the most frequently used of these approaches because the survival status of respondents' parents can be expected to be reported more adequately than the survival status of other family members ⁷¹. For this reason, the OM approach was used to estimate LE for Roma and Travellers in Belgium, Ireland, France, the Netherlands, Sweden and the United Kingdom, given that no register data are available to estimate life tables for this subpopulation with the standard direct techniques.

3.2. Orphanhood method

The basic idea of the OM is that the age of respondents represents the survival time of the mother/father. Consequently, the proportion of respondents of a given age whose mother (or father) is still alive approximates a survivorship ratio from the average age at childbearing to that age plus the age of the respondents ⁷². The OM converts the proportions of those with a surviving parent into life table survivorship probabilities for predefined adult ages by controlling for the prevailing pattern of childbearing ⁷³. These survivorship probabilities are then used to derive a complete survival function for estimating LE without having a set of age-specific death rates on which the classic life tables are based.

Three approaches have been developed for converting proportions of still living parents into life table survivorship probabilities from the information of one survey ⁷⁴. All three conversion methods require the same input data:

⁷⁰ D. Bradshaw and I. M. Timæus (2006), 'Levels and trends of adult mortality', in D. T. Jamison, R. G. Feachem, M. W. Makgoba, E. R. Bos, F. K. Baingana, K. J. Hofman and K. O. Rogo (eds), *Disease and Mortality in Sub-Saharan Africa*, World Bank, Washington, DC, pp. 31–42; M. Luy (2010a), 'A classification of the nature of mortality data underlying the estimates for the 2004 and 2006 United Nations' World Population Prospects', *Comparative Population Studies – Zeitschrift für Bevölkerungswissenschaft*, Vol. 35, No 2, pp. 315–334; United Nations (2006), *World Population Prospects: The 2004 revision*, Vol. III, Analytical report, New York, United Nations.

⁷¹ Bradshaw and Timæus (2006); United Nations (2006).

⁷² For instance, if one surveys a hundred 30-year-old people and asks them if their mother (or father) is still alive, one receives the information that, for example, 90 % of the mothers (or fathers) have survived until the time of the interview. Let us assume that the average age at childbirth of respondents' mothers (or fathers), i.e. the age they were when the respondents were born, was 25 years; then one can interpret the 90 % still living mothers (or fathers) at the time of the survey as the survivorship ratio from age 25 (= average age at childbirth) to age 55 (= average age at childbirth plus age of respondents).

⁷³ Methodological descriptions can be found in, for example, K. Hill (2006), 'Indirect estimation methods', in G. Caselli, J. Vallin and G. Wunsch (eds), *Demography: Analysis and synthesis*, Vol. IV, London, Academic Press, pp. 619–631; K. Hill, Y. Choi and I. M. Timæus (2005), 'Unconventional approaches to mortality estimation', *Demographic Research*, Vol. 13, No 12, pp. 281–300.

⁷⁴ W. Brass and K. Hill (1973), 'Estimating adult mortality from orphanhood', in *Proceedings of the International Population Conference, Liège 1973*, Liège, International Union for the Scientific Study of Population, pp. 111–123; M. Luy (2009), *Estimating mortality differentials in developed populations from survey information on maternal and paternal orphanhood*, Vienna Institute of Demography; I. M. Timæus (1992), 'Estimation of adult mortality from paternal orphanhood: a reassessment and a new approach', *Population Bulletin of the United Nations*, Vol. 33, pp. 47–63.

(i) proportion of respondents with still living mother/father by 5-year age groups of respondents and (ii) estimates of the average age at childbirth of respondents' mothers/fathers for the same age groups of respondents.

For this report the modified orphanhood method (MOM; Luy, 2009) approach was used to estimate the LE of Roma and Travellers because of its empirical (instead of theoretical) basis of transformation parameters and its proven functionality according to a comparison of MOM estimates with data from life tables for the total Italian population ⁷⁵. Moreover, the MOM tools also include parameters for estimating the age at childbirth of all parents based on information on still living parents (as available in in the 2019 Roma and Travellers Survey) and for the estimation of reference periods on the basis of the empirical data mentioned. The MOM was developed to provide estimates for LE at age 30. The subsequent sections demonstrate in more detail the functionality and application of the MOM and how the estimates of LE at age 30 were used to estimate LE at birth too for Roma and Travellers.

3.3. Data and methods

Basic information and completeness of data

Table 54 shows the data of the total 2019 Roma and Travellers Survey sample on which the estimates of LE are based; the corresponding tables for the national subpopulations can be found at the end of this annex (see Tables 59–64). Separated figures by sex of respondents revealed no systematic differences in reporting between women and men. The completeness of information on parents' current survival status is high, being 98.9 % for mothers and 98.0 % for fathers. The proportion of respondents stating the current age of their still living parents is also relatively high for mothers (95.6 %), but somewhat lower for fathers (84.5 %). All analyses were based on cases with valid information only. Because proportions of respondents aged 65 and older with still living parents are too low to apply the MOM, the age groups 65–69 and 70+ were excluded from the analyses.

⁷⁵ M. Luy (2012), 'Estimating mortality differences in developed countries from survey information on maternal and paternal orphanhood', *Demography*, Vol. 49, No 2, pp. 607–627.

TABLE 54: NUMBER OF RESPONDENTS, AVERAGE AGE OF RESPONDENTS, NUMBER OF RESPONDENTS WITH MOTHER/FATHER ALIVE/SURVIVAL STATUS UNKNOWN, CURRENT MEAN AGE OF RESPONDENTS' MOTHERS/FATHERS STILL ALIVE AND NUMBER OF RESPONDENTS WITH UNKNOWN AGE OF PARENTS BY 5-YEAR AGE GROUPS, 2019 ROMA AND TRAVELLERS SURVEY (TOTAL SAMPLE)

Age	Respondents		Respondents' mothers				Respondents' fathers			
	Total no	Ø Age	Survival status		Actual age		Survival status		Actual age	
			Still alive	Unknown	Ø Age	Unknown	Still alive	Unknown	Ø Age	Unknown
15 ^(a) -19	417	17.6	380	9	43.1	12	346	21	45.2	26
20-24	524	22.0	486	4	47.1	27	465	12	48.8	54
25-29	560	27.1	505	7	51.9	21	447	12	53.3	42
30-34	534	31.8	466	3	56.3	20	404	10	58.5	46
35-39	431	37.0	346	7	61.3	14	264	12	63.0	39
40-44	399	42.0	262	8	66.6	15	215	7	67.1	58
45-49	363	46.9	206	6	70.8	5	135	6	71.5	36
50-54	338	51.7	140	5	75.0	7	88	7	76.0	32
55-59	308	57.0	73	0	79.2	2	38	1	78.4	24
60-64	244	61.8	35	1	82.7	2	17	0	86.9	10
65-69	221	67.2	17	2	87.2	1	5	3	—	5
70+	319	75.8	2	0	91.0	1	3	1	—	3
Total	4 658	40.8	2 918	52	56.8	127	2 427	92	55.9	375

^(a) Includes only ages 16–19. – No data available because no valid cases.

Assessment of data quality

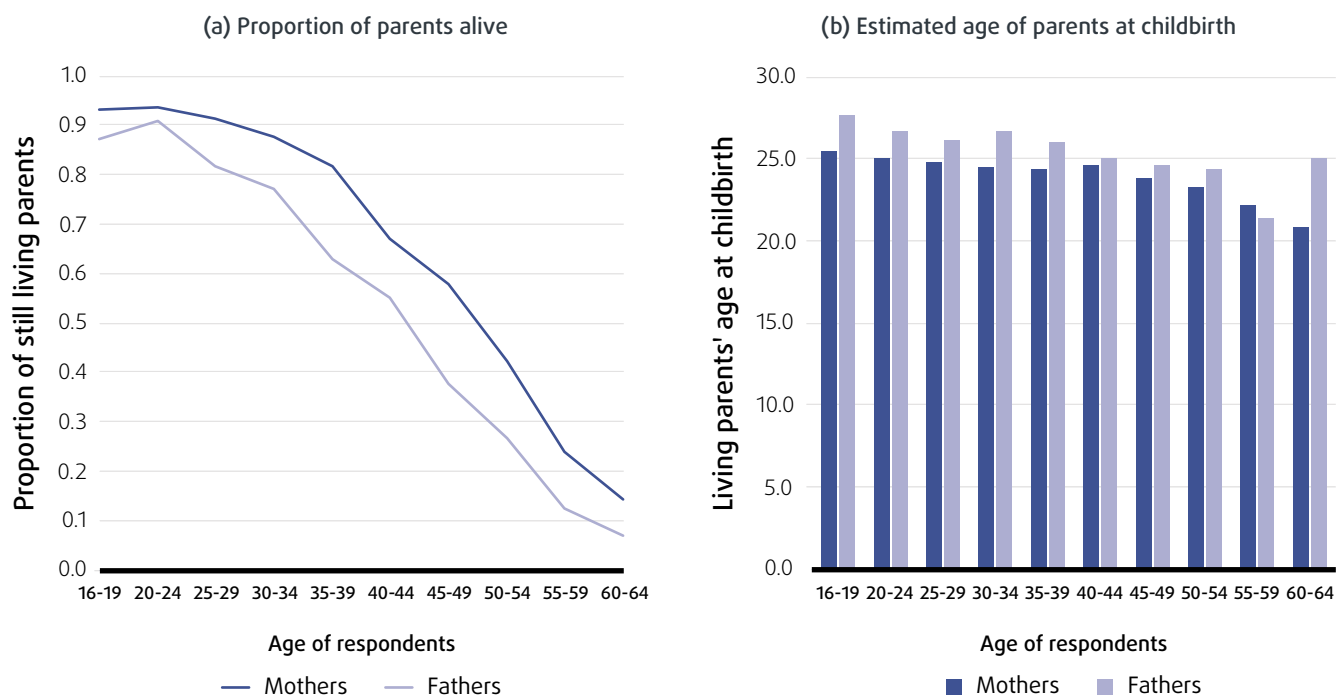
The suitability of the data for applying the MOM (see Table 55) was tested by descriptive analysis of the central information from the survey, i.e. the reported percentages of mothers and fathers alive and the ages of respondents' parents at the time of respondents' birth. The latter were estimated from the average ages of respondents by 5-year age groups and the reported average ages of still living parents, by subtracting the former from the latter (see Table 54).

TABLE 55: ASSESSMENT OF DATA SUITABILITY

Criteria used	Assessment
Because mortality increases with age, the proportion of still living parents should decrease as the age of respondents rises	In Figure 2, the overall trends reflect the expected decrease by age of respondents, with two known exceptions: lower reported proportions of still alive parents for the youngest age group and the levelling off of the decline in proportions of still living parents between respondents aged 55–59 and 60–64 ^(A)
Because mortality of men is generally higher than female mortality and because fathers are usually some years older than mothers, the proportion of still living mothers should exceed those of fathers in all age groups of respondents	Figure 2 shows that the proportions of still living mothers are higher than those of still living fathers in all age groups of respondents. Estimates can be based on data for 5-year age groups of respondents for both fathers and mothers
Expectations regarding the average age at childbirth of respondents' parents are not as clear, but according to the observed trends around the world the age at childbirth of respondents' parents can be expected either to stay approximately constant or to decrease as the age of respondents' parents rises, i.e. to be lower for older respondents	For mothers and fathers the data are in line with the assumptions for respondents until age 54. The changes in the average age of childbirth for respondents in the age groups 55–59 and 60–64 do not fit into the picture. Therefore, the usability of estimates derived from the age groups 55–59 and 60–64 has to be assessed in the light of the estimated time trend in LE for both sexes. This is the only way to evaluate whether the apparently irregular ages at childbirth lead to plausible or implausible estimates in combination with the stated proportions of respondents with deceased mothers and fathers
Fathers should have a higher average age at childbirth than mothers in all age groups of respondents	The exception is the age group 55–59. Hence, this and the age group 60–64 need specific assessment

^A Closer analysis of these phenomena does not identify direct problems with the data, but suggests that the analysis should start with information from respondents aged 20–24 (Luy, 2012).

FIGURE 2: REPORTED PROPORTIONS OF STILL LIVING PARENTS BY AGE OF RESPONDENTS AND ESTIMATED AGE AT CHILDBIRTH OF STILL LIVING PARENTS BY AGE OF RESPONDENTS



Source: Own calculations based on data from the 2019 Roma and Travellers Survey

The restriction of the analyses to respondents aged 20–64 reduced the 2019 Roma and Travellers Survey sample to 3 701 respondents. The completeness of information on parents’ actual survival status is similar to that of the total sample, being 98.9 % for mothers and 98.2 % for fathers. The proportions of respondents stating the actual age of their still living parents decreased slightly to 95.5 % for mothers and to 83.6 % for fathers.

Naturally, the age patterns of respondents with still living parents and the parents’ ages at childbirth are more variable in the national subsamples than in the total sample because of the lower case numbers (see Figure 7, Figure 8, Figure 9). The same assessments as described above were carried out for each of the national subsamples to decide which age groups can be used for the estimation of LE with the MOM. Two additional inclusion criteria were used:

- the number of still living and deceased parents must be five or more;
- the age patterns of proportions with mother/father alive and the parents’ ages at childbirth must agree with the plausibility criteria described.

In cases where these criteria were not fulfilled, visual inspections of estimated LE values were carried out, and those age groups were excluded that biased the LE trend depicted by the estimates derived from the age groups fulfilling the inclusion criteria.

Estimation of life expectancy

The estimation of LE for Roma and Travellers on the basis of information on the survival of respondents’ parents required the following analytical steps:

1. estimation of the average age at childbirth of all respondents’ parents (M_n^*) based on the available information for still living parents only, for each age group n of respondents, with $n = 20$ for age group 20–24, $n = 25$ for age group 25–29, ..., and $n = 60$ for age group 60–64;
2. estimation of respondents’ mothers and fathers’ survival probability from age 30 to $33 + n$ (l_{33+n}/l_{30}) for each age group of respondents;

3. estimation of the reference periods for the survival probabilities from step 2, i.e. the calendar year to which these survival probabilities refer;
4. derivation of complete life tables from age 30 for Roma and Travellers on the basis of (i) the survival probabilities from step 2, (ii) the reference periods from step 3 and (iii) corresponding reference life tables for the total reference population;
5. calculation of LE at age 30 (e_{30}) for respondents' fathers and mothers for each life table derived in step 4;
6. adjustment of estimates from step 5 for respondents' parents to estimate LE at age 30 for all women and men (i.e. not only for parents);
7. estimation of the time trends in LE at age 30 for women and men with extrapolation to the most recent period;
8. estimation of LEs at birth for women and men based on the relative difference in LE at age 30 between Roma/Travellers and the corresponding reference population.

The results of steps 1–6 are summarised in Table 56 for women and men separately. Steps 1–3 were carried out with the MOM estimation tools provided by Luy ⁷⁶. These tools include, for each step of the calculations, sets of parameters that can be applied directly to the data of the 2019 Roma and Travellers Survey. The life tables for Roma and Travellers in step 4 were derived from predefined standard life tables with the logit life table model ⁷⁷. The logit life table model is a tool to construct a complete life table through reshaping a predefined standard life table by varying two parameters, α (level of mortality) and β (age pattern of mortality) ⁷⁸. Because no information on the age pattern of mortality is available for Roma and Travellers, parameter β was set to 1.0, thus assuming the mortality pattern to equal that of the total population. The parameter α of the logit life table model was determined by the estimated survivorship probability for Roma and Travellers from step 2, with the life tables for the corresponding total populations as standard. For the total sample of the 2019 Roma and Travellers Survey, these standard life tables were constructed from the (unweighted) averaged probabilities of dying for single ages from 30 to 100 for the six countries in which the survey was conducted (the corresponding values for LE at age 30 for this reference population can be found in Table 56, column e_{30} Ref.) ⁷⁹. For the national subpopulations of the 2019 Roma and Travellers Survey, the reference life tables were constructed from the age-specific probabilities of dying of the corresponding national populations.

Figure 3 illustrates this decisive procedure for the estimation of LE for Roma and Travellers with the example of data for mothers from respondents

⁷⁶ M. Luy (2010b), *Estimating mortality differentials in developed populations from survey information on maternal and paternal orphanhood: Supplement*, Vienna, Vienna Institute of Demography. In particular, the MOM tool set developed on the basis of the Italian 2003 Multipurpose Survey (MPS) was used. Tests were also done with the tool set developed for MPS 1998, which differs only slightly from the version for 2003. The MPS 2003 tools were chosen because they refer to mortality and fertility conditions of cohorts closer to those of the 2019 Roma and Travellers Survey. Moreover, the final results differed slightly only for the estimates derived from data on respondents aged 50 and older, where the estimates derived with the MPS 2003 tools appeared more plausible, in particular for women.

⁷⁷ W. Brass (1975), *Methods for estimating fertility and mortality from limited and defective data*, Chapel Hill, University of North Carolina.

⁷⁸ The calculation formula of the logit life table model is $\logit lx = \alpha + \beta \cdot \logit lx(S)$, with $lx(S)$ being the age-specific survival probabilities to age x of the standard life table and lx the age-specific survival probabilities of the estimated life table.

⁷⁹ The probabilities of dying were calculated for each reference period determined in step 3 with data from the Human Mortality Database, University of California, Berkeley (USA), and Max Planck Institute for Demographic Research (Germany), available at <https://www.mortality.org> or <https://www.humanmortality.de>.

aged 40–44. In step 2 the survival probability of these mothers from age 30 to age 73 was estimated to be 0.617, i.e. 61.7 % (orange dot at the end of the orange dashed line in Figure 3). In step 3 the reference period for this survivorship probability was estimated to be mid of the year 2004 (2004.6 precisely). The blue solid line in the graph represents the life table for the total reference population of this time. The survival probability from age 30 to age 73 of this life table is 0.829 (blue dot at the end of the blue dashed line in Figure 3), and the LE at age 30 derived from the survival function is 52.6 years (see Table 56). Estimating Brass's α from the relation between the two survival probabilities from age 30 to age 73 for the standard population and Roma/Travellers and setting Brass's $\beta = 1.0$ yields the orange solid life table for Roma and Travellers. In simple words, the logit life table model transfers the standard life table for the total population into a life table for Roma and Travellers by relating the empirically derived estimate for the survival probability of Roma and Travellers from age 30 to 73 to that of the standard population (indicated by the blue arrow in Figure 2)⁸⁰.

The resulting life tables for Roma and Travellers led to the estimates for LE at age 30 for each reference period (step 5; see Table 56, column e_{30} Roma). Because parents have lower mortality than childless people⁸¹, an additional adjustment to estimate LE for the total population of Roma and Travellers (step 6) was undertaken. This adjustment was done by applying the overestimation of total LE in orphanhood-based estimates for Italy, identified by Luy (2012), by reducing the estimated LE at age 30 for mothers by 1.5 years and those for fathers by 0.75 years (Table 56, column e_{30}^* Roma). In step 7, the resulting point estimates for e_{30} Roma and e_{30}^* Roma were smoothed by linear regression modelling. These trends were used in the final step, 8, to estimate LE at birth for Roma and Travellers by applying the relative difference between e_{30} of the total reference population and Roma/Travellers – i.e. e_{30}^* Roma divided by e_{30} Ref. – to LE at birth for the reference population.

⁸⁰ Therefore, the Brass model is also known as the 'relational' life table model. (see Brass, W. 1971. "On the scale of mortality." Pp. 69-110 in *Biological Aspects of Demography*, edited by W. Brass. London: Taylor and Francis.)

⁸¹ See for example E. Grundy and Ø. Kravdal (2008), 'Reproductive history and mortality in late middle age among Norwegian men and women', *American Journal of Epidemiology*, Vol. 167, No 3, pp. 271–279; E. Grundy and Ø. Kravdal (2010), 'Fertility history and cause-specific mortality: a register-based analysis of complete cohorts of Norwegian women and men', *Social Science & Medicine*, Vol. 70, No 11, pp. 1 847–1 857.

TABLE 56: PARAMETERS FOR THE ESTIMATION OF LIFE EXPECTANCY AT AGE 30, e_{30} , OF ROMA AND TRAVELLERS WITH THE MODIFIED ORPHANHOOD METHOD, BY AGE OF RESPONDENTS

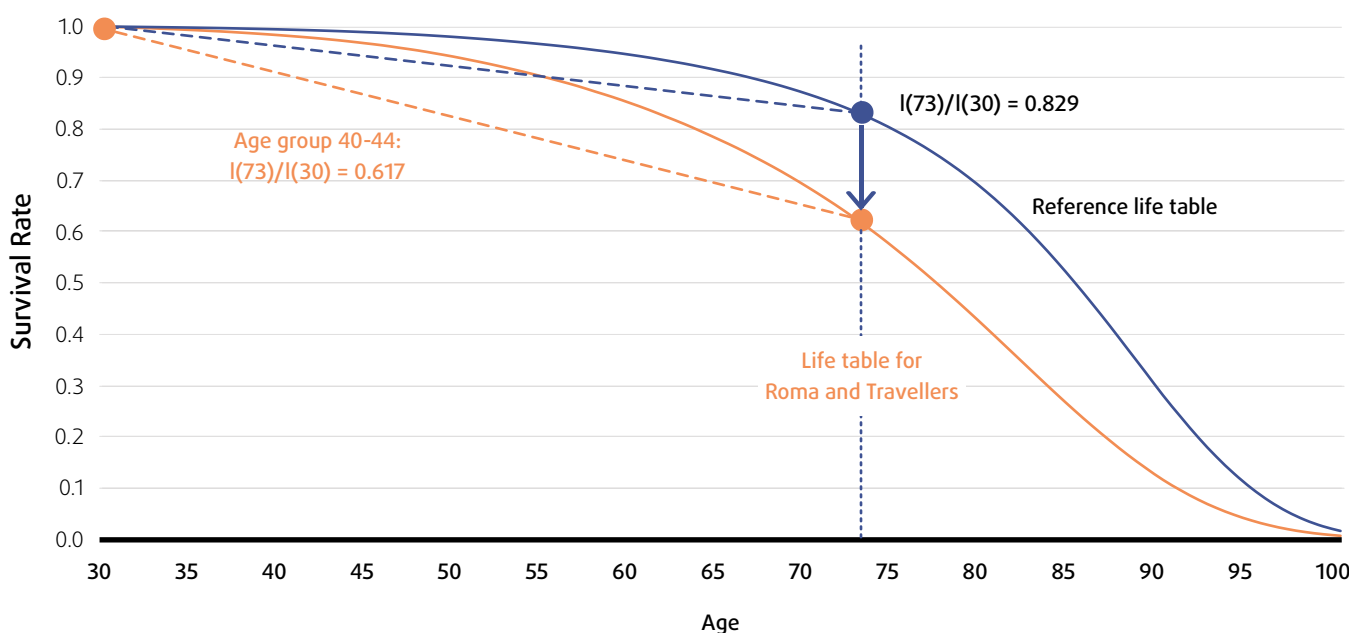
Age groups	Estimates for women from maternal orphanhood						Estimates for men from paternal orphanhood					
	Estimated ACB	Rel. survival	Ref. period	Life expectancy at age 30			Estimated ACB	Rel. survival	Ref. period	Life expectancy at age 30		
	M_n^*	l_{33+n}/l_{30}	Year	e_{30} Ref.	e_{30} Roma	e_{30}^* Roma	M_n^*	l_{33+n}/l_{30}	Year	e_{30} Ref.	e_{30} Roma	e_{30}^* Roma
20-24	25.2	0.9249	2010.2	53.7	45.6	44.1	26.8	0.8917	2009.9	49.3	41.7	40.9
25-29	24.9	0.8976	2009.0	53.4	47.1	45.6	26.2	0.7877	2008.5	48.9	39.5	38.8
30-34	24.6	0.8541	2007.6	53.2	47.5	46.0	26.9	0.7357	2007.5	48.7	41.1	40.4
35-39	24.4	0.7762	2006.3	53.0	47.0	45.5	26.1	0.5703	2005.8	48.3	39.2	38.4
40-44	24.8	0.6166	2004.6	52.6	44.9	43.4	25.2	0.4537	2004.4	47.9	39.8	39.0
45-49	24.1	0.4906	2003.5	52.3	45.4	43.9	25.0	0.2825	2002.2	47.1	38.9	38.2
50-54	23.8	0.3043	2001.5	51.9	44.8	43.3	24.7	0.1629	2000.3	46.7	39.5	38.7
55-59	22.7	0.1187	1996.7	51.3	42.5	41.0	24.0	0.0469	1995.0	45.4	36.9	36.2
60-64	22.0	0.0363	1993.4	50.8	41.9	40.4	26.4	0.0121	1991.8	45.1	36.5	35.7

Notes:

Each row refers to a 5-year age group of respondents. ACB, average age at childbirth; M_n^* , estimated ACB for all mothers/fathers; e_{30} Ref., life expectancy at age 30 for the reference population; e_{30} Roma, life expectancy at age 30 for parents of Roma/Travellers; e_{30}^* Roma, life expectancy at age 30 for all Roma/Traveller women/men.

Sources: Own calculations based on data from the 2019 Roma and Travellers Survey; data for reference population, own calculation.

FIGURE 3: ESTIMATE OF THE FEMALE LIFE TABLE FROM AGE 30 FOR ROMA AND TRAVELLERS WITH THE LOGIT LIFE TABLE MODEL FROM DATA OF RESPONDENTS AGED 40-44



Notes: The life table of the reference population is derived from age-specific probabilities of dying, averaged for the populations of Belgium, Ireland, France, the Netherlands, Sweden and the United Kingdom for the years 2004 and 2005 (reference period: 2004.6).

Source: Own calculations based on data from the 2019 Roma and Travellers Survey and the Human Mortality Database (2020).

The decision was taken to estimate LE at birth on the basis of e_{30}^* , which includes the additional adjustment for the total population (i.e. not only parents). An argument for using e_{30} instead of the e_{30}^* estimates was the typical U-shaped pattern of mortality by parity, taking into account the fact that the average number of children of Roma and Travellers is reported to be higher than that of the total reference population⁸². Typically, mortality is lowest for women and men who have one or two children and then increases with the number of children. However, it is unknown to what extent this holds true for Roma and Travellers as well. Moreover, it can be assumed that Roma and Travellers have an even higher excess mortality in infancy and childhood, which would increase their relative disadvantage in LE at birth compared with their disadvantage in LE at age 30⁸³. It was therefore concluded that an overestimate of Roma and Travellers' LE at birth based on the trends in e_{30} is more likely than an underestimate based on trends in e_{30}^* .

3.4. Results

The estimates of LE at 30 for the total sample of the 2019 Roma and Travellers Survey are illustrated in Figure 4 for women and men separately. The bold solid line shows the annual values for LE at age 30 for the reference population from 1990 to 2016 (the most recent available data in the Human Mortality Database). The reference population's LE increased more or less steadily from 50.5 to 54.2 years among women, and from 44.7 to 50.3 years among men. Estimates of LE at age 30 for all Roma and Travellers (e_{30}^* Roma) are shown in dots for the estimated reference periods. The blue dots represent the estimates derived from data on respondents aged 20–24 to 50–54 (from right to left) and the orange dots those for respondents aged 55–59 and 60–64. These last two are highlighted because these age groups appeared as outliers in the descriptive analysis of percentages of respondents with mother/father alive and parents' age at childbearing (Section 3.3, Annex), and therefore require a particular plausibility check. All estimates of LE at age 30 for Roma and Travellers lie distinctly below the values for the reference population in both sexes. The differences range from 7.2 to 10.4 years among women, and from 8.3 to 10.1 years among men. The linear trends derived from the point estimates indicate that Roma and Travellers also experienced an increase in LE during the last decades (see dashed lines in Figure 4, in orange including the estimates derived from respondents aged 55–59 and 60–64, and in blue without these estimates). In fact, the trends suggest that the increase in LE was stronger than in the reference population. As a consequence, the extent of Roma and Travellers' disadvantage in LE decreased for both sexes, more quickly among women than men.

Note, however, that the increase in LE of female Roma and Travellers according to the orange trend line in Figure 4 is most likely overestimated. According to this trend, LE of female Roma and Travellers at age 30 increased on average by 0.31 years per annum, whereas the value for the female reference population is 0.14 years. Excluding the orange point estimates from respondents aged 55–59 and 60–64, the annual LE increase among Roma and Travellers is 0.22 years. This value is more plausible given observed trends in LE in developed populations⁸⁴. The corresponding annual increases among men are 0.22 years for the reference population and, based on the orange trend line including all point estimates,

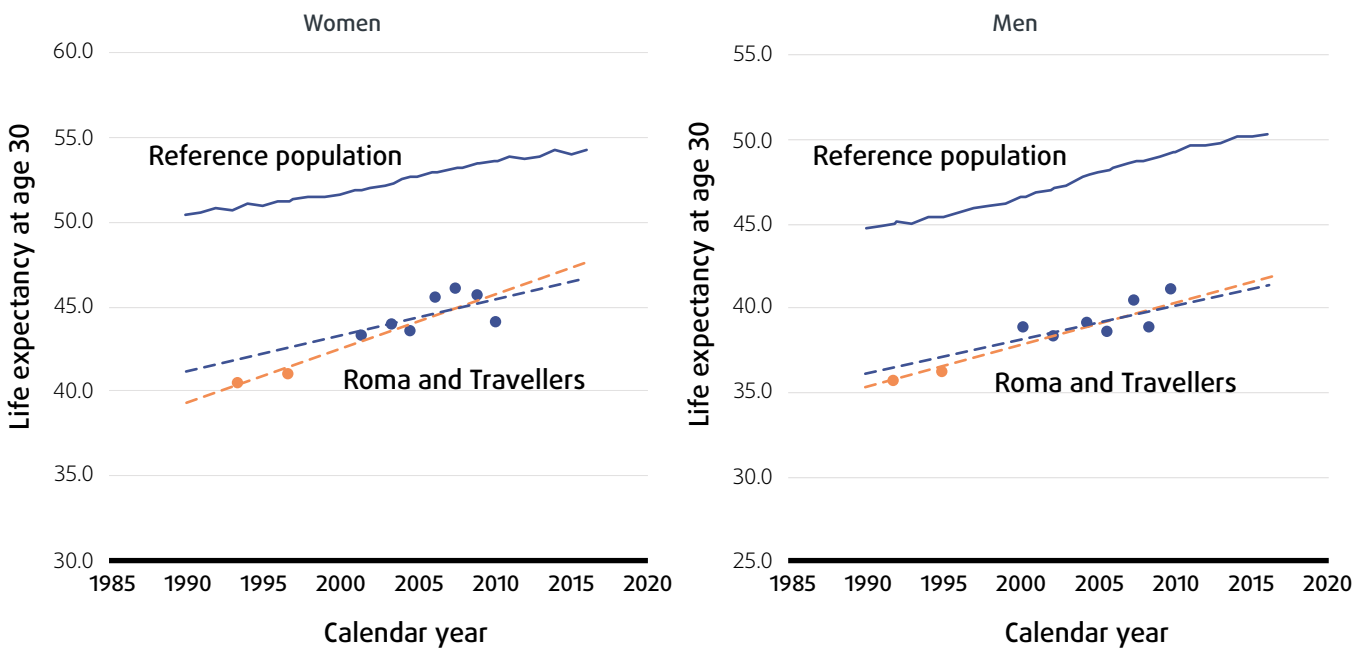
⁸² European Commission (2014), *Roma Health Report: Health status of the Roma population – Data collection in the Member States of the European Union*, Brussels, European Union.

⁸³ European Public Health Alliance (2018), *Closing the life expectancy gap of Roma in Europe: Roma Health and Early Childhood Development Study*, Brussels, European Public Health Alliance.

⁸⁴ G. Caselli, S. Drefahl, C. Wegner-Siegmundt and M. Luy (2014), 'Future mortality in low mortality countries', in W. Lutz, W. P. Butz and S. KC (eds), *World Population and Human Capital in the Twenty-First Century*, Oxford, Oxford University Press, pp. 226–272; J. Oeppen and J. W. Vaupel (2002), 'Broken limits to life expectancy', *Science*, Vol. 296, No 5570, pp. 1029–1031.

0.25 years for Roma and Travellers. The trend derived from the reduced number of point estimates leads to a slightly lower annual LE increase of 0.20 years. Because the LE of men is known to have increased faster than the LE of women in all populations in developed countries since at least the early 1990s⁸⁵ it was decided to exclude the estimates from respondents aged 55–59 and 60–64 for the estimation of LE for the female population of Roma and Travellers, but to use the complete series of point estimates for the male population of Roma and Travellers. In this way, the estimates for Roma and Travellers are most in line with the general trends in LE of women and men across Europe.

FIGURE 4: ESTIMATES FOR FEMALE/MALE LIFE EXPECTANCY AT AGE 30 OF ROMA AND TRAVELLERS WITH THE MODIFIED ORPHANHOOD METHOD, POINT ESTIMATES AND LINEARLY SMOOTHED TREND, IN COMPARISON WITH THE TOTAL REFERENCE POPULATION, 1990–2016



Notes: Estimates for life expectancy of Roma and Travellers refers to all women (e30*). Orange dashed line, linear trend derived from estimates of age groups 20–24 to 60–64; blue dashed line, linear trend derived from estimates of age groups 20–24 to 50–54.

Sources: Own calculations based on data from the 2019 Roma and Travellers Survey; life expectancy of the reference population is derived from age-specific probabilities of dying, averaged for the populations of Belgium, Ireland, France, the Netherlands, Sweden and the United Kingdom with data from the Human Mortality Database (2020).

The estimates for LE at birth from 1990 to 2016 can be found in Table 57. Naturally, the differences between Roma/Travellers and the reference population are larger for LE at birth than for LE at age 30 (by 4.4 years for women and 5.5 years for men on average). The estimated disadvantage of Roma and Travellers compared with the reference population decreased from 14.8 years in 1990 to 11.6 years in 2016 among women, and from 15.6 years in 1990 to 13.5 years in 2016 among men. The average disadvantage across the overall time span was 13.2 years for women and 14.4 years for men. Note, however, that these are only crude estimates based on the additional assumptions for transferring the relative differences in LE at age 30 between Roma/Travellers and the reference population to LE at birth as described in Section 3.3 in the Annex.

⁸⁵ F. Janssen (2020), 'Changing contribution of smoking to the sex differences in life expectancy in Europe, 1950–2014', *European Journal of Epidemiology*, Vol. 35, No 9, pp. 835–841; M. Luy and C. Wegner-Siegmundt (2015), 'The impact of smoking on gender differences in life expectancy: more heterogeneous than often stated', *European Journal of Public Health*, Vol. 25, No 4, pp. 706–710.

Equivalent estimations of LE at age 30 and LE at birth were carried out for all national subpopulations of the 2019 Roma and Travellers Survey for which the data allowed the application of the MOM. This included the subsamples of Belgium (here the total Belgium subsample only; the data for the separate subsamples of Roma and Caravan dwellers were not reliable for estimating LE; see Figure 7), Ireland, France, the Netherlands (here only the subsample of Travellers and Sinti provided reliable data for the estimations; the data for the Roma subsample and for the total sample of the Netherlands did not provide reliable data for estimating LE; see Figure 8), Sweden and the United Kingdom. The single point estimates of LE at age 30 for these subsamples that fulfilled the reliability criteria, and the derived trends, are shown in Figure 5 for women and Figure 6 for men.

TABLE 57: ESTIMATED LIFE EXPECTANCY AT BIRTH OF ROMA AND TRAVELLERS, DERIVED FROM e_{30}^* ROMA, IN COMPARISON WITH THE TOTAL REFERENCE POPULATION OF BELGIUM, IRELAND, FRANCE, THE NETHERLANDS, SWEDEN AND THE UNITED KINGDOM, 1990-2016

Year	Women			Men		
	Reference population	Roma	Difference	Reference population	Roma	Difference
1990	79.5	64.7	14.8	73.2	57.6	15.6
1991	79.6	65.0	14.6	73.4	58.0	15.4
1992	79.9	65.3	14.6	73.7	58.4	15.3
1993	79.8	65.7	14.1	73.6	58.8	14.8
1994	80.3	65.9	14.4	74.1	59.1	15.0
1995	80.2	66.3	13.9	74.1	59.6	14.5
1996	80.4	66.6	13.8	74.4	59.9	14.5
1997	80.6	66.8	13.8	74.7	60.2	14.5
1998	80.7	67.2	13.5	74.9	60.5	14.4
1999	80.7	67.5	13.2	75.0	60.9	14.1
2000	80.9	67.7	13.2	75.3	61.1	14.2
2001	81.2	67.9	13.3	75.6	61.4	14.2
2002	81.3	68.3	13.0	75.9	61.7	14.2
2003	81.4	68.6	12.8	76.2	62.1	14.1
2004	82.0	68.7	13.3	76.8	62.3	14.5
2005	82.1	69.0	13.1	77.0	62.6	14.4
2006	82.4	69.2	13.2	77.3	62.8	14.5
2007	82.6	69.5	13.1	77.6	63.1	14.5
2008	82.6	69.8	12.8	77.8	63.5	14.3
2009	82.9	70.0	12.9	78.1	63.8	14.3
2010	83.1	70.3	12.8	78.4	64.1	14.3
2011	83.3	70.6	12.7	78.7	64.3	14.4
2012	83.3	70.9	12.4	78.8	64.7	14.1
2013	83.4	71.2	12.2	79.0	65.1	13.9
2014	83.8	71.4	12.4	79.4	65.3	14.1
2015	83.6	71.8	11.8	79.4	65.7	13.7
2016	83.7	72.1	11.6	79.6	66.1	13.5

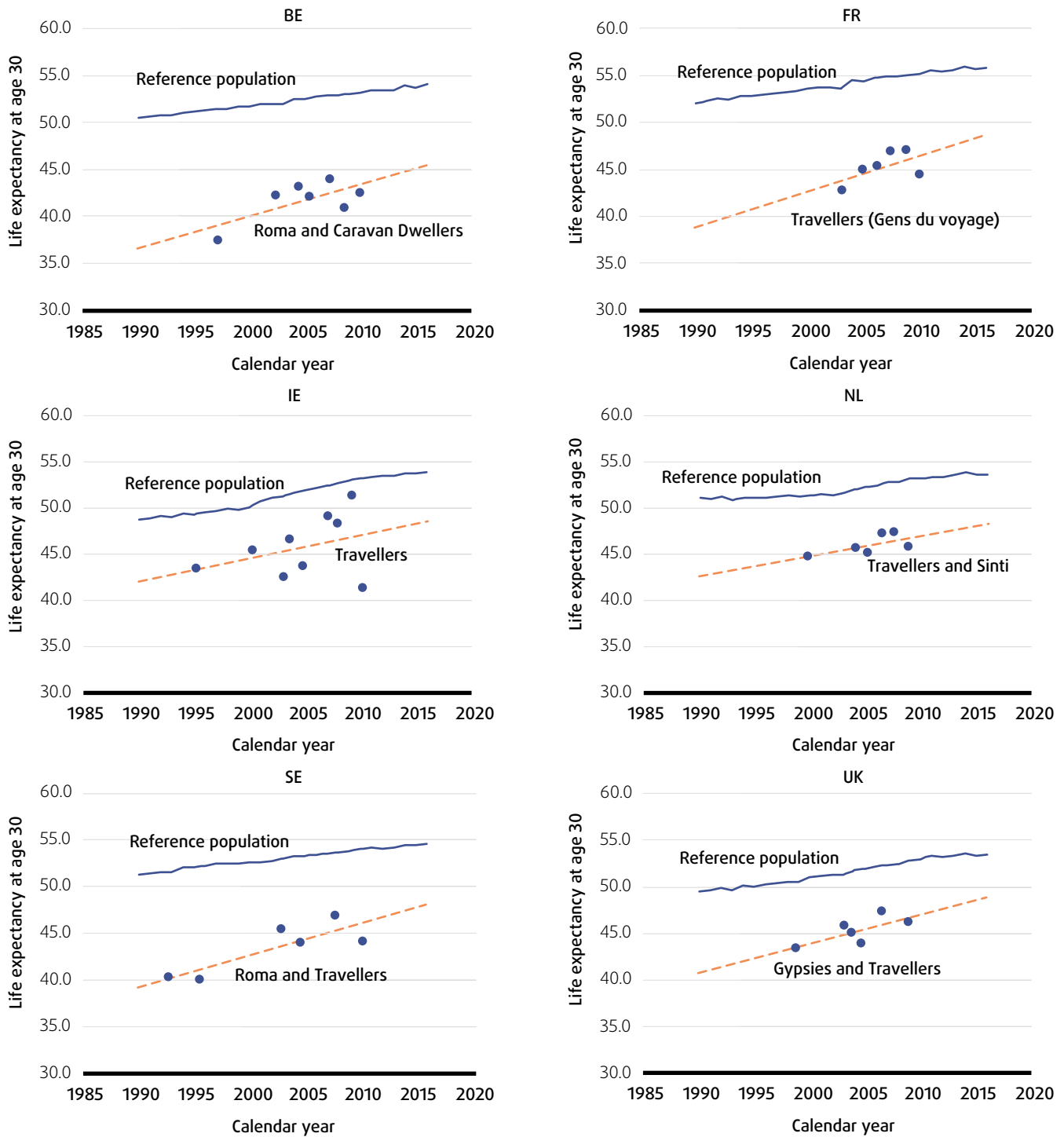
Notes:

Estimates for life expectancy of Roma and Travellers derived from trend estimates for e_{30}^ from estimates of age groups 20-24 to 50-54 for women and age groups 20-24 to 60-64 for men.*

e_{30}^ Roma: life expectancy at age 30 for all Roma/Traveller women/men.*

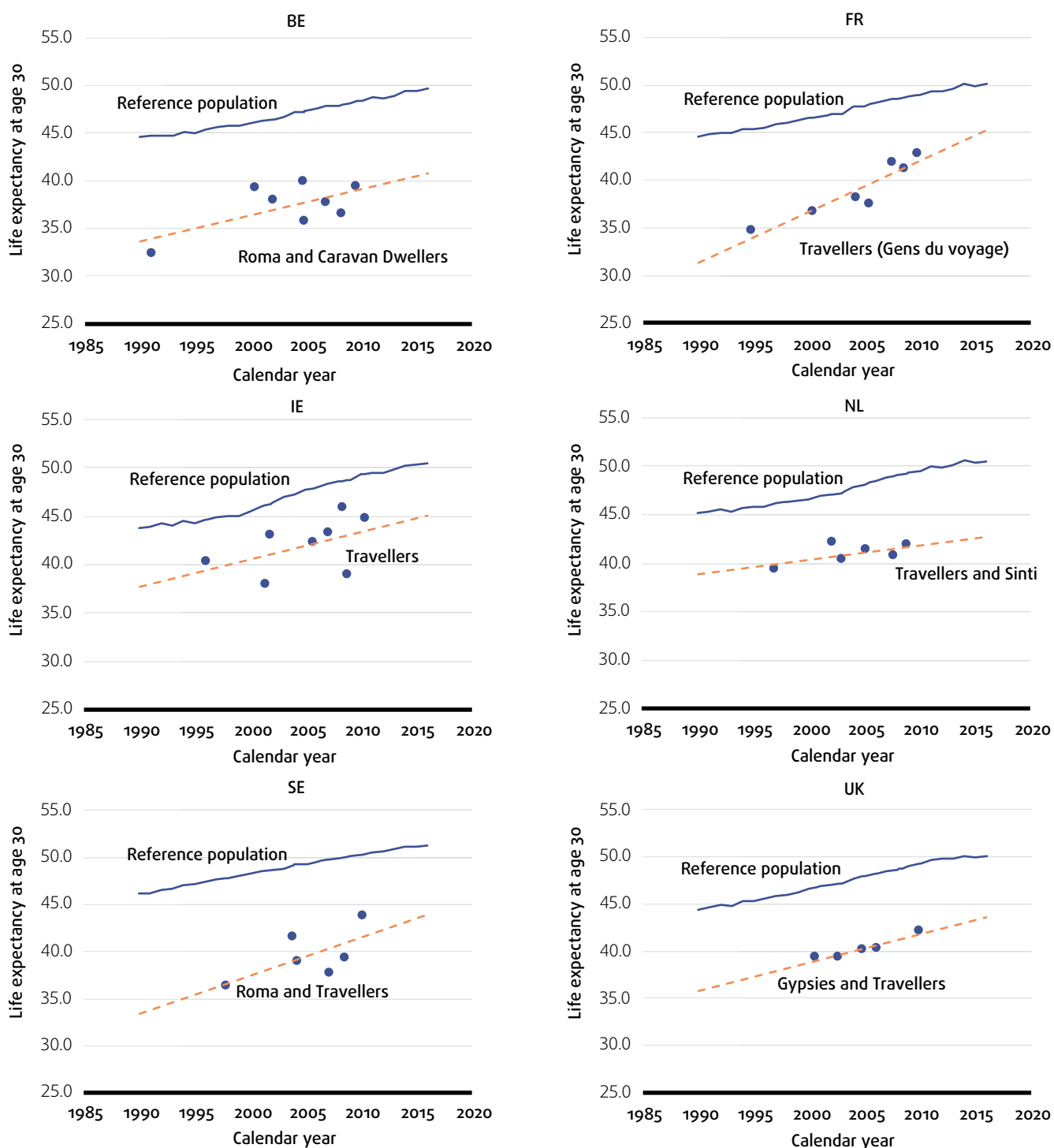
Source: Own calculations based on data from the 2019 Roma and Travellers Survey and the Human Mortality Database (2020).

FIGURE 5: ESTIMATES FOR FEMALE LIFE EXPECTANCY AT AGE 30 OF ROMA AND TRAVELLERS WITH THE MOM, POINT ESTIMATES AND LINEARLY SMOOTHED TREND FOR THE NATIONAL SUBSAMPLES IN COMPARISON WITH THE TOTAL REFERENCE POPULATIONS, 1990–2016



Notes:
 Estimates for life expectancy of Roma and Travellers refer to all women (e30*);
 Sources: Life expectancy of the reference population is derived from age-specific probabilities of dying for Belgium, Ireland, France, the Netherlands, Sweden and the United Kingdom with data from the Human Mortality Database (2020).

FIGURE 6: ESTIMATES FOR MALE LIFE EXPECTANCY AT AGE 30 OF ROMA AND TRAVELLERS WITH THE MOM, POINT ESTIMATES AND LINEARLY SMOOTHED TREND FOR THE NATIONAL SUBSAMPLES IN COMPARISON WITH THE TOTAL REFERENCE POPULATIONS, 1990-2016



Notes: Estimates for life expectancy of Roma and Travellers refer to all men (e30*);

Sources: Life expectancy of the reference population is derived from age-specific probabilities of dying for Belgium, Ireland, France, the Netherlands, Sweden and the United Kingdom with data from the Human Mortality Database (2020).

Because the sum of the national samples differs from the total sample of the 2019 Roma and Travellers Survey, estimates for the total of countries, consistent with the country-specific estimates, were derived by averaging the national LE values for the reference populations as well as for Roma and Travellers, both weighted by the proportions of the national subsamples of Roma and Travellers in the 2019 Roma and Travellers Survey on the basis of cases with valid information on survival status of parents (presented in two variants, labelled as EU-6 for the combination of all six country-specific estimates and EU-5 excluding the United Kingdom). Note that these values differ from those presented for the total of the 2019 Roma and Travellers Survey sample not only because of the exclusion of the Roma subsample of the Netherlands, but also because of the different weighting of the country-specific values in the averages for the reference population.

Table 58 gives the estimated LE at age 30 in 2016 – the most recent year for which estimations were possible – disaggregated by sex, for each of the national subsamples in comparison with the corresponding total populations. Among the female populations of Roma and Travellers, the estimated LE at age 30 ranges between 45.4 and 48.8 years, and among men between 40.7 and 51.3 years. All these values are distinctly lower than those for the corresponding total populations. The disadvantages of Roma and Travellers in LE at age 30 vary from 4.6 years for female Gypsies and Travellers in the United Kingdom to 8.9 years for male Roma and Caravan dwellers in Belgium. The differences in LE at age 30 between the reference populations and Roma and Travellers for all EU-6 countries combined are 6.3 years among women and 6.5 years among men. For the EU-5 countries the differences are 6.7 and 6.4 years, respectively.

TABLE 58: LIFE EXPECTANCY AT AGE 30 AND AT BIRTH OF ROMA AND TRAVELLERS IN BELGIUM (BE), IRELAND (IE), FRANCE (FR), THE NETHERLANDS (NL), SWEDEN (SE) AND THE UNITED KINGDOM (UK) IN COMPARISON WITH THE NATIONAL GENERAL POPULATIONS, 2016

Survey group	Roma/Travellers		General population		Difference		
	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	
LE at age 30	BE Roma and Caravan dwellers	45.4	40.7	54.1	49.6	8.7	8.9
	FR Travellers	48.7	45.2	55.8	50.2	7.1	5.0
	IE Travellers	48.6	45.1	53.9	50.4	5.3	5.3
	NL Travellers and Sinti	48.3	42.7	53.6	50.6	5.3	7.9
	SE Roma and Travellers	48.0	43.9	54.5	51.3	6.5	7.4
	UK Gypsies and Travellers	48.8	43.5	53.4	50.0	4.6	6.5
	EU-6 average (weighted)	48.2	43.8	54.5	50.3	6.3	6.5
	EU-5 average (weighted)	48.0	43.9	54.7	50.3	6.7	6.4
LE at birth	BE Roma and Caravan dwellers	70.1	64.6	83.7	78.8	13.6	14.2
	FR Travellers	74.4	71.4	85.3	79.3	10.9	7.9
	IE Travellers	75.2	71.3	83.4	79.7	8.2	8.4
	NL Travellers and Sinti	74.8	67.4	83.1	79.9	8.3	12.5
	SE Roma and Travellers	74.0	69.0	84.1	80.6	10.1	11.6
	UK Gypsies and Travellers	75.7	68.9	82.8	79.2	7.1	10.3
	EU-6 average (weighted)	74.2	69.2	84.0	79.5	9.8	10.3
	EU-5 average (weighted)	73.9	69.3	84.2	79.5	10.3	10.2

Notes:

Estimates for life expectancy of Roma and Travellers derived from trend estimate for e30; averages for EU-6 and EU-5 weighted by sample sizes of Roma and Travellers.*

Source: Own calculations based on data from the 2019 Roma and Travellers Survey and the Human Mortality Database (2020).

Table 58 also summarises the corresponding estimates of LE at birth in 2016 (the estimates for each year from 1990 to 2016 can be found in Table 59 to Table 64). For the female national subpopulations of Roma and Travellers, the estimates for 2016 range between 70.1 and 75.7 years, and for the male national subpopulations of Roma and Travellers between 64.6 and 69.0 years. The differences from the total national populations are between 7.1 years for female Gypsies and Travellers in the United Kingdom and 14.2 years for male Roma and Caravan dwellers in Belgium. The differences in weighted averages are 9.8 years among women and 10.3 years among men for all EU-6 countries, and 10.3 years among women and 10.2 years among men for the EU-5 countries. These gaps in LE between Roma and Travellers and the general populations correspond to the existing estimates for earlier years, thus confirming the existence of an extraordinary disadvantage of Roma and Travellers in the total number of life years.

3.5. Summary and assessment of the estimation approach used

Because no data on age-specific numbers of deaths and living population are available for this subpopulation, LE of Roma and Travellers in these six European countries could not be derived by the classic life table methodology on the basis of directly calculated age-specific death rates. Therefore, an alternative indirect approach to estimate LE on the basis of proportions of still living mothers and fathers was employed, the OM, which is based on information on the survival and age of respondents' parents. According to the estimates presented here, the extent of Roma's and Travellers' disadvantage varies between countries. For 2016, the estimated differences in LE at birth from the total national populations vary between 7.1 years for female Gypsies and Travellers in the United Kingdom and 14.2 years for male Roma and Caravan dwellers in Belgium.

Although these figures fit well with previous reports and estimates of Roma and Travellers' mortality⁸⁶, the results must be interpreted with caution. Indirect methods such as the OM always entail several drawbacks (see, for example, Luy, 2012; Timæus, 1991). Most importantly, they can provide only broad measures of the overall level of and trend in mortality and are inherently unable to detect short-term trends or abnormal age patterns of mortality, such as temporary decreases in LE or particular age ranges with excess mortality. A further limitation of the OM is that it yields estimates of mortality that refer to dates well before the survey was conducted. Deaths of parents occur over a period extending back to when respondents were born in the case of mothers and about nine months earlier for fathers. The younger the respondents, the more recent are the derived mortality estimates. But even the estimates based on respondents aged 20–24 refer to a period about 9 years prior to the survey. This problem may be overcome when two or more surveys containing the necessary information for the OM and spaced by approximately 5 or 10 years are available so that the cohort-change parental survival methods can be applied. Nonetheless, a particular problem of indirect estimation is that not all estimates derived from the different age groups provide meaningful results. This difficulty is mainly related to the low case numbers. This requires the application of specific inclusion criteria, which are to some extent arbitrary.

Further potential problems of the OM are a possible adoption effect (respondents whose parents have died are likely to have been reared by

⁸⁶ The results presented here confirm previous estimates for other countries regarding the extent of differences in LE between Roma/Travellers and the total national populations, and similar trends in increases in LE. Furthermore, they are in line with previous reports, which suggest smaller differences in LE between Roma/Travellers and the total national population in the United Kingdom than in other European countries.

another adult and may not even know that this person is not their biological parent), multi-reporting (the frequency of reporting about each parent depends on their number of surviving children and thus is connected to both mortality and fertility levels of the family), selection effects (regarding fathers and mothers if there is a relationship between parity and mortality, and regarding respondents if there is a relationship between parental and child mortality) and wrong age reports by the respondents. It is not clear, however, to what extent these issues apply likewise to the population of Roma and Travellers. Moreover, the biases caused by multi-reporting and various kinds of selection are to some extent mutually offsetting and thus considered to be small and rather unimportant, as demonstrated by Palloni et al.⁸⁷

Another critical issue is the specific choice of theoretical fertility and mortality models underlying the traditional approaches to convert a proportion of non-orphaned respondents into life table estimates that do not necessarily reflect the real prevailing demographic conditions of the population studied⁸⁸. To reduce this problem when the OM is applied to European (sub)populations, Luy (2009) developed the MOM, in which this conversion is based exclusively on empirical data for the Italian population. Although the fertility and mortality patterns of Roma and Travellers are likely to be different from those of the Italian population, the MOM approach used in this study seems more appropriate for application to the population of Roma and Travellers than the traditional OM approaches, which were developed to fit fertility and mortality patterns expected to be prevailing in developing countries. Note that the European Commission (2014, p. 36) reports indications that 'the Roma population is mirroring the decline in birth rate that took place in the European non-Roma population several decades ago'. Last but not least, it should be noted that the quality of estimates derived with the OM depends strongly on the quality of the underlying data. If the data are of low quality or not representative of the investigated population, the method cannot provide reliable or representative results. However, this problem applies to all kinds of empirical analyses and is not related to indirect estimation techniques in particular.

On the other hand, the OM and other indirect methods have some advantages over direct methods for the analysis of survey data. First, they permit the deriving of life tables and thus the estimation of LE. Years of life represent the most easily understandable unit of measurement of mortality levels and differentials. Variations in more frequently used standardised death rates or relative risks are more difficult to assess because large differences in these measures do not necessarily reflect large differences in actual lifespan. In addition, a life table provides the possibility of also estimating the number of healthy life years if information about health is available. Second, indirect methods typically provide trends in demographic conditions that are derived from a single cross-sectional survey, whereas direct methods usually provide only one estimate from cross-sectional data for a specific year. A third advantage is that the information used is based on respondents' lifetime experience and, thus, fairly precise estimates of the proportions of respondents with living parents (or other relatives) can be obtained even from surveys of moderate size. Knowing the general functionality of this

⁸⁷ A. Palloni, M. Massagli and J. Marcotte (1984), 'Estimating adult mortality with maternal orphanhood data: analysis of sensitivity of the techniques', *Population Studies*, Vol. 38, No 2, pp. 255-279.

⁸⁸ K. Hill (1984), 'An evaluation of indirect methods for estimating mortality', in J. Vallin, J. H. Pollard and L. Heligman (eds), *Methodologies for the Collection and Analysis of Mortality Data*, Liège, Ordina Editions, pp. 145-177; I. M. Timæus (1991), 'Measurement of adult mortality in less developed countries: a comparative review', *Population Index*, Vol. 57, No 4, pp. 552-568; I. M. Timæus and W. Graham (1989), *Measuring Adult Mortality in Developing Countries: A review and assessment of methods*, Washington, DC, World Bank.

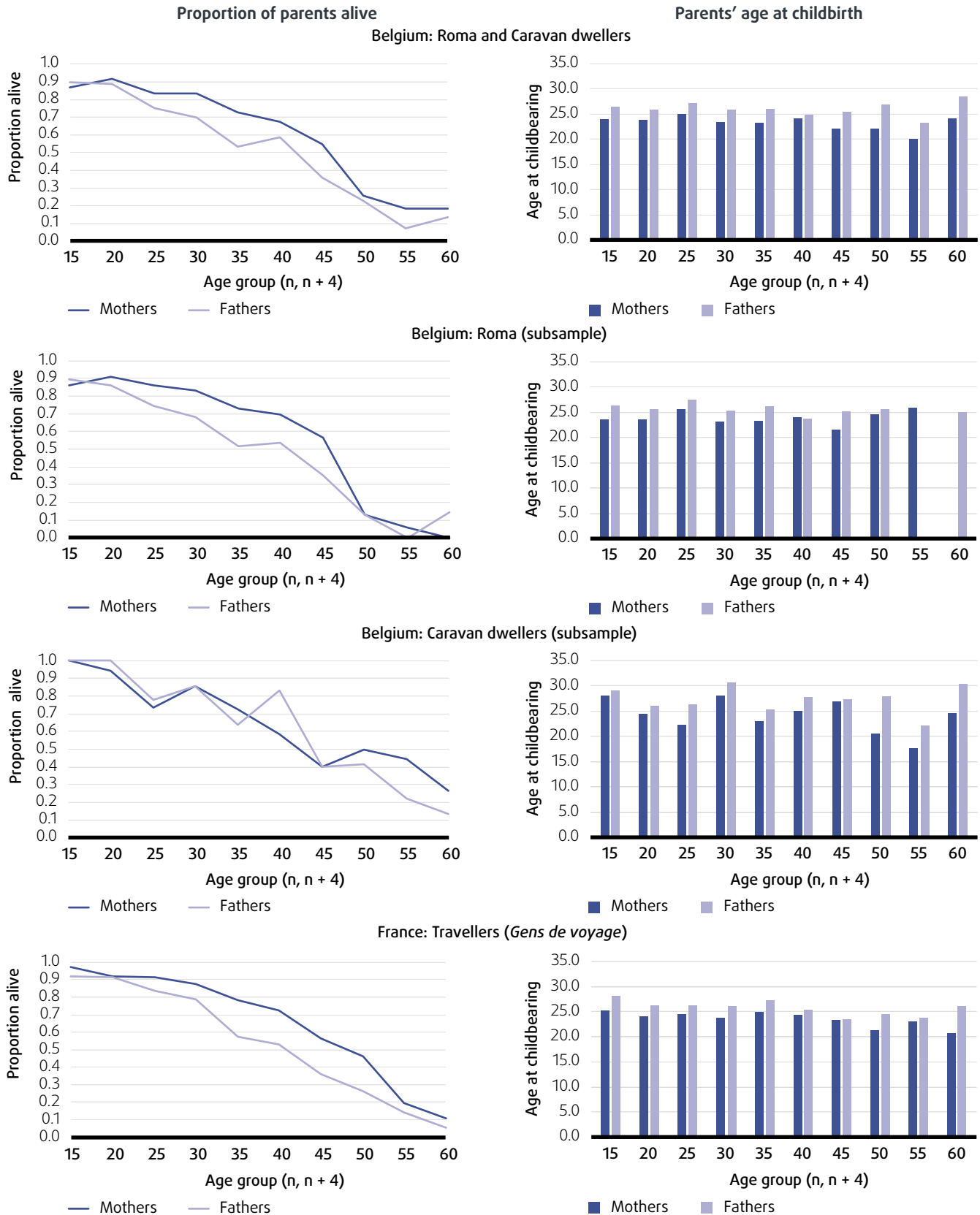
method, information on interesting aspects of mortality can be collected quite easily and at moderate cost by including a few simple questions in existing or planned survey programmes.

Finally, it should be kept in mind that indirect estimation is primarily an alternative to having no information. It cannot be – and it is not supposed to be – an alternative to estimates based on vital registration data or census data linked to subsequent deaths with high matching rates. The most apt formulation of indirect techniques' characteristics and the potentials they offer is by Hill (2006, p. 631): 'Indirect estimation procedures ... remain important as ways of producing estimates for small population subgroups and for tracking trends. ... Purists sometimes find this indirectness distressing, whereas pragmatists accept what they can get.'

With regard to the estimation of LE of Roma and Travellers, the conclusion was drawn that this indirect estimation approach can be applied successfully and provides meaningful results. Therefore, the use of indirect methods helps to fill an important knowledge gap regarding the health of Roma and Travellers. The reported data in the 2019 Roma and Travellers Survey turned out to be a reliable basis for applying the MOM for most of the subsamples and most age groups. Moreover, the completeness of the data was very high (i.e. almost no cases with missing information). The problems that led to the exclusion of some age groups and further subgroups of the national subsamples are most likely due to the low case numbers and different response rates for information on the survival status of respondents' parents and their actual ages. Because the latter information refers to still living parents only, the different response rates are natural. This is no problem as long as the case numbers are large enough which they were not for the exceptions mentioned.

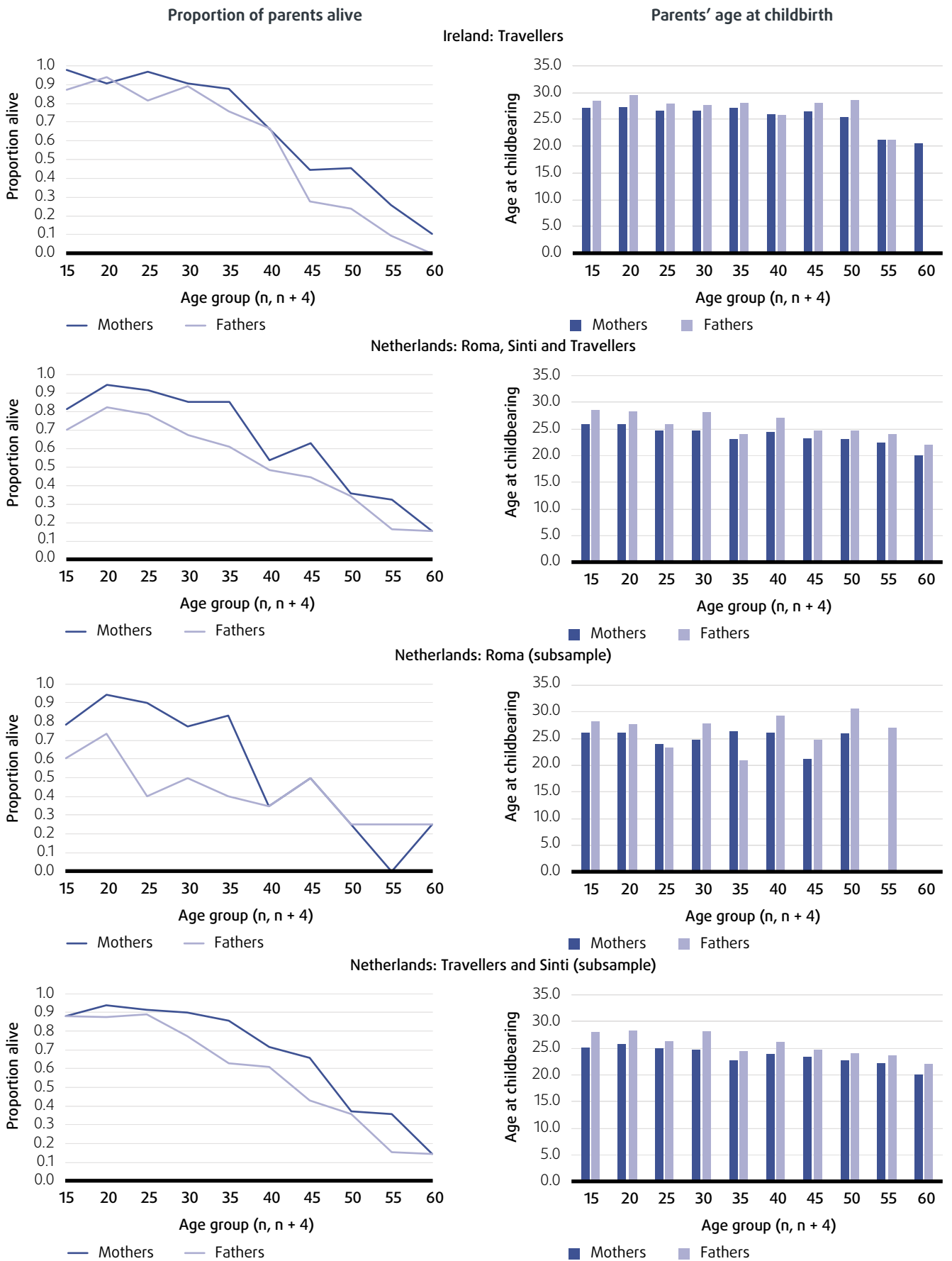
3.6. Descriptive statistics of the data on respondents' parents' survival status and actual ages for the single national subsamples

FIGURE 7: REPORTED PROPORTIONS OF STILL LIVING PARENTS BY AGE OF RESPONDENTS AND ESTIMATED AGE AT CHILDBIRTH OF STILL LIVING PARENTS, BY AGE OF RESPONDENTS, IN BELGIUM AND FRANCE



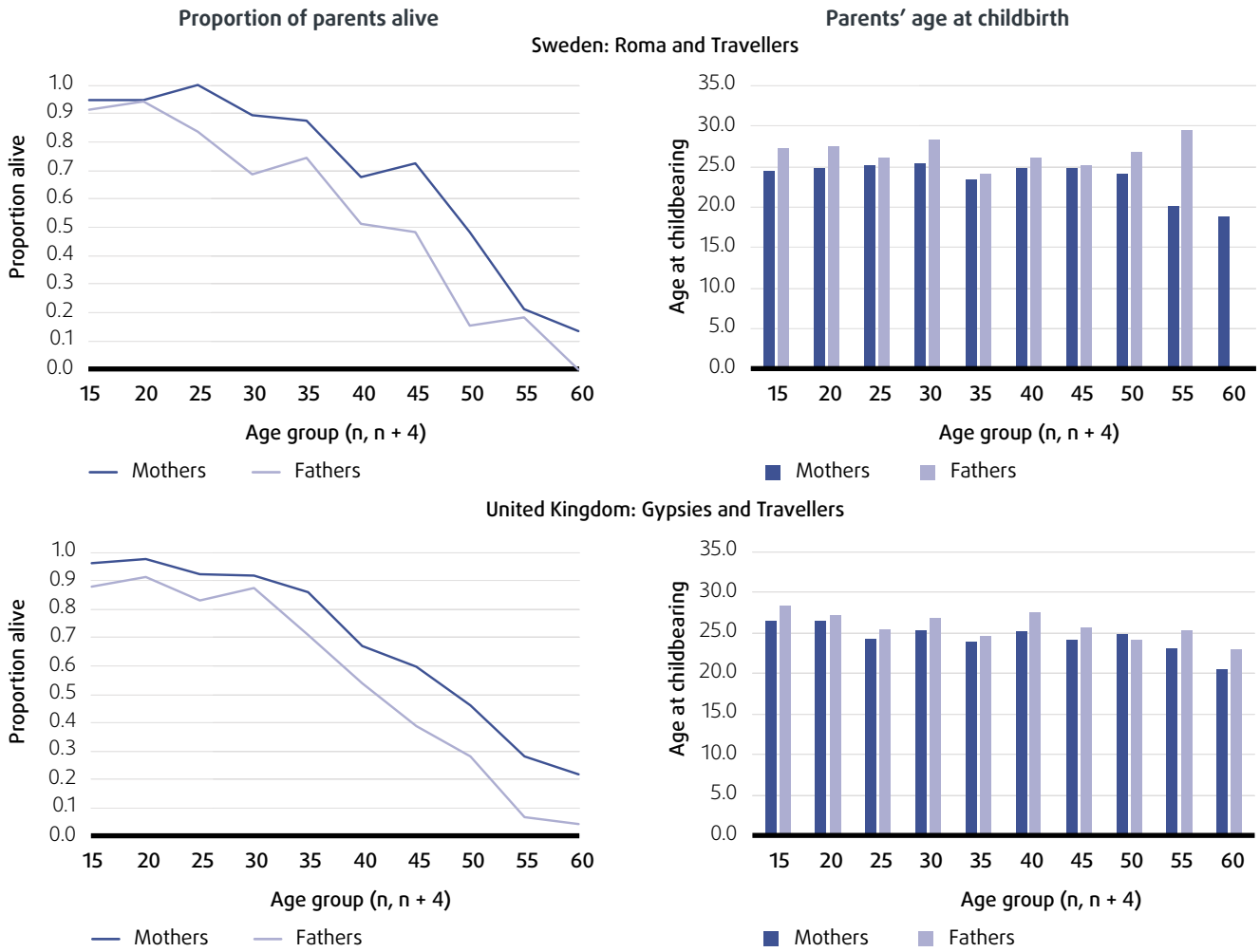
Notes: Data for age group (15, 19) include only the ages 16 to 19.

FIGURE 8: REPORTED PROPORTIONS OF STILL LIVING PARENTS BY AGE OF RESPONDENTS AND ESTIMATED AGE AT CHILDBIRTH OF STILL LIVING PARENTS, BY AGE OF RESPONDENTS, IN IRELAND AND THE NETHERLANDS



Notes: Data for age group (15, 19) include only the ages 16 to 19.

FIGURE 9: REPORTED PROPORTIONS OF STILL LIVING PARENTS BY AGE OF RESPONDENTS AND ESTIMATED AGE AT CHILDBIRTH OF STILL LIVING PARENTS, BY AGE OF RESPONDENTS, IN SWEDEN AND THE UNITED KINGDOM



Notes: Data for age group (15, 19) include only the ages 16 to 19.

3.7. Estimates for life expectancy at age 30 and life expectancy at birth for the single national subsamples

TABLE 59: ESTIMATED LIFE EXPECTANCY AT BIRTH OF ROMA AND CARAVAN DWELLERS IN BELGIUM, DERIVED FROM E30* ROMA, IN COMPARISON WITH THE TOTAL REFERENCE POPULATION OF BELGIUM, 1990–2016

Year	Women			Men		
	Reference population	Roma	Difference	Reference population	Roma	Difference
1990	79.3	57.6	21.7	72.7	54.8	17.9
1991	79.5	58.1	21.4	72.9	55.2	17.7
1992	79.7	58.6	21.1	73.0	55.6	17.3
1993	79.7	59.1	20.6	72.9	56.1	16.9
1994	80.0	59.5	20.5	73.4	56.4	17.0
1995	80.2	60.1	20.1	73.4	57.0	16.5
1996	80.5	60.6	19.9	73.8	57.4	16.5
1997	80.6	61.1	19.5	74.2	57.7	16.4
1998	80.6	61.6	19.0	74.3	58.1	16.2
1999	80.9	62.1	18.8	74.4	58.5	15.8
2000	80.9	62.5	18.4	74.6	58.9	15.7
2001	81.2	63.0	18.2	74.9	59.2	15.8
2002	81.2	63.6	17.6	75.1	59.6	15.4
2003	81.2	64.1	17.1	75.4	60.0	15.3
2004	81.9	64.4	17.4	76.0	60.3	15.7
2005	81.9	65.0	16.9	76.2	60.7	15.4
2006	82.2	65.3	16.8	76.5	61.0	15.5
2007	82.2	65.8	16.4	76.7	61.2	15.5
2008	82.3	66.3	16.0	76.8	61.8	15.0
2009	82.4	66.8	15.6	77.2	62.1	15.0
2010	82.6	67.3	15.3	77.4	62.4	15.0
2011	82.9	67.7	15.2	77.8	62.7	15.0
2012	82.8	68.3	14.6	77.6	63.2	14.4
2013	82.9	68.8	14.2	78.0	63.6	14.3
2014	83.5	69.1	14.4	78.6	63.8	14.8
2015	83.2	69.7	13.4	78.6	64.3	14.2
2016	83.7	70.1	13.6	78.8	64.6	14.2

Notes:

Data from age groups excluded for trend estimation: women 55–64, survivors fewer than 5 cases; women 55–59, ACB too low; women 60–64, ACB too high; men 60–64, ACB too high.

e30 Roma, life expectancy at age 30 for all Roma/Traveller women/men. Difference values in the table might deviate from differences between life expectancy values for the two populations because of rounding.*

TABLE 60: ESTIMATED LIFE EXPECTANCY AT BIRTH OF TRAVELLERS IN FRANCE, DERIVED FROM E30* TRAV., IN COMPARISON WITH THE TOTAL REFERENCE POPULATION OF FRANCE, 1990-2016

Year	Women			Men		
	Reference population	Travellers	Difference	Reference population	Travellers	Difference
1990	81.0	60.5	20.5	72.7	51.0	21.7
1991	81.2	60.9	20.2	72.9	51.8	21.0
1992	81.5	61.5	20.0	73.2	52.7	20.5
1993	81.5	62.1	19.4	73.3	53.6	19.7
1994	81.9	62.6	19.3	73.6	54.3	19.3
1995	81.9	63.2	18.7	73.8	55.3	18.5
1996	82.1	63.8	18.2	74.1	56.1	17.9
1997	82.3	64.3	18.0	74.5	56.9	17.6
1998	82.4	64.9	17.5	74.7	57.7	17.0
1999	82.5	65.4	17.1	74.9	58.5	16.5
2000	82.8	66.0	16.8	75.2	59.2	16.0
2001	82.9	66.4	16.5	75.4	60.0	15.5
2002	83.0	67.0	16.0	75.7	60.8	14.9
2003	83.0	67.7	15.2	75.8	61.7	14.1
2004	83.9	68.0	15.9	76.7	62.2	14.5
2005	83.8	68.6	15.2	76.7	63.1	13.6
2006	84.2	69.0	15.1	77.2	63.8	13.4
2007	84.4	69.6	14.8	77.4	64.5	12.9
2008	84.3	70.1	14.2	77.6	65.3	12.3
2009	84.4	70.7	13.7	77.8	66.1	11.7
2010	84.7	71.2	13.5	78.0	66.8	11.2
2011	85.0	71.6	13.3	78.4	67.5	10.9
2012	84.8	72.3	12.6	78.5	68.4	10.1
2013	85.0	72.8	12.3	78.8	69.1	9.7
2014	85.4	73.2	12.2	79.3	69.7	9.5
2015	85.1	73.9	11.3	79.0	70.7	8.4
2016	85.3	74.4	10.9	79.3	71.4	7.9

Notes

Data from age groups excluded for trend estimation: women 50-54/60-64, ACB too low; women 55-59, proportion of parents alive too low; men 45-49/55-59, ACB too low.

e30* Trav., life expectancy at age 30 for all Traveller women/men.

Difference values in the table might deviate from differences between life expectancy values for the two populations because of rounding.

TABLE 61: ESTIMATED LIFE EXPECTANCY AT BIRTH OF TRAVELLERS IN IRELAND, DERIVED FROM E30* TRAV., IN COMPARISON WITH THE TOTAL REFERENCE POPULATION OF IRELAND, 1990-2016

Year	Women			Men		
	Reference population	Travellers	Difference	Reference population	Travellers	Difference
1990	77.7	66.9	10.8	72.1	62.3	9.8
1991	77.9	67.4	10.5	72.3	62.7	9.6
1992	78.3	67.8	10.5	72.7	63.0	9.6
1993	78.2	68.2	9.9	72.6	63.7	8.8
1994	78.7	68.5	10.2	73.1	63.9	9.1
1995	78.3	68.8	9.5	72.8	64.5	8.3
1996	78.7	69.1	9.6	73.1	64.6	8.4
1997	78.7	69.4	9.3	73.4	65.0	8.3
1998	79.1	69.8	9.3	73.4	65.3	8.1
1999	78.9	70.2	8.7	73.4	65.8	7.6
2000	79.2	70.5	8.7	73.9	66.0	7.9
2001	79.8	70.5	9.3	74.5	66.3	8.2
2002	80.3	70.7	9.5	75.0	66.6	8.4
2003	80.6	71.2	9.4	75.6	66.8	8.9
2004	81.0	71.3	9.7	76.0	67.2	8.8
2005	81.2	71.6	9.6	76.6	67.4	9.2
2006	81.5	71.9	9.6	76.8	67.7	9.0
2007	81.8	72.3	9.6	77.2	68.0	9.2
2008	82.0	72.5	9.5	77.5	68.4	9.1
2009	82.4	72.8	9.6	77.7	68.8	8.9
2010	82.8	73.1	9.6	78.3	68.9	9.3
2011	82.8	73.4	9.4	78.4	69.3	9.1
2012	82.9	73.7	9.1	78.6	69.8	8.8
2013	83.0	74.1	8.9	78.9	70.1	8.8
2014	83.3	74.4	8.9	79.3	70.3	8.9
2015	83.3	74.8	8.5	79.5	70.8	8.7
2016	83.4	75.2	8.2	79.7	71.3	8.4

Notes:

Data from age groups excluded for trend estimation: women, none; men 60-64, no data for ACB/no father alive.

e30 Trav., life expectancy at age 30 for all Traveller women/men.*

Difference values in the table might deviate from differences between life expectancy values for the two populations because of rounding.

TABLE 62: ESTIMATED LIFE EXPECTANCY AT BIRTH OF TRAVELLERS AND SINTI IN THE NETHERLANDS, DERIVED FROM E30* TRAV., IN COMPARISON WITH THE TOTAL REFERENCE POPULATION OF THE NETHERLANDS, 1990-2016

Year	Women			Men		
	Reference population	Travellers/Sinti	Difference	Reference population	Travellers/Sinti	Difference
1990	80.1	66.8	13.3	73.8	63.4	10.4
1991	80.1	67.3	12.9	74.1	63.7	10.4
1992	80.3	67.5	12.7	74.3	63.8	10.5
1993	80.0	68.0	11.9	74.0	64.2	9.8
1994	80.3	68.3	12.0	74.6	64.3	10.3
1995	80.4	68.7	11.7	74.6	64.5	10.1
1996	80.3	69.0	11.3	74.7	64.7	9.9
1997	80.5	69.3	11.2	75.2	64.8	10.4
1998	80.7	69.7	11.0	75.2	64.9	10.2
1999	80.4	70.0	10.4	75.3	65.2	10.2
2000	80.6	70.3	10.3	75.5	65.3	10.2
2001	80.7	70.6	10.1	75.8	65.4	10.4
2002	80.7	71.0	9.7	76.0	65.6	10.4
2003	80.9	71.2	9.7	76.2	65.7	10.5
2004	81.4	71.5	10.0	76.9	65.8	11.1
2005	81.6	71.6	10.0	77.2	65.9	11.3
2006	81.9	71.9	10.0	77.6	65.9	11.7
2007	82.3	72.1	10.2	78.0	66.0	12.0
2008	82.3	72.4	9.8	78.3	66.2	12.1
2009	82.7	72.6	10.0	78.5	66.3	12.2
2010	82.7	73.0	9.7	78.8	66.5	12.3
2011	82.9	73.3	9.5	79.2	66.5	12.7
2012	82.8	73.6	9.2	79.2	66.7	12.4
2013	83.1	73.8	9.2	79.4	66.9	12.5
2014	83.3	74.0	9.2	79.9	66.9	13.0
2015	83.1	74.6	8.6	79.7	67.3	12.5
2016	83.1	74.8	8.3	79.9	67.4	12.5

Notes:

Data from age groups excluded for trend estimation: women 20-24, deaths fewer than 5 cases; women 50-54, proportion of parents alive too low; women 60-64, ACB too low; men 20-24, deaths fewer than 5 cases; 35-39, proportion of parents alive too low; 60-64, ACB too low.

e30 Trav., life expectancy at age 30 for all Traveller women/men.*

Difference values in the table might deviate from differences between life expectancy values for the two populations because of rounding.

TABLE 63: ESTIMATED LIFE EXPECTANCY AT BIRTH OF ROMA AND TRAVELLERS IN SWEDEN, DERIVED FROM E30* ROMA, IN COMPARISON WITH THE TOTAL REFERENCE POPULATION OF SWEDEN, 1990–2016

Year	Women			Men		
	Reference population	Roma	Difference	Reference population	Roma	Difference
1990	80.4	61.4	19.0	74.8	54.1	20.7
1991	80.5	61.9	18.6	75.0	54.8	20.1
1992	80.8	62.5	18.3	75.4	55.4	19.9
1993	80.8	63.0	17.8	75.5	56.1	19.4
1994	81.4	63.4	18.0	76.1	56.6	19.5
1995	81.4	63.9	17.5	76.2	57.2	18.9
1996	81.5	64.4	17.1	76.5	57.8	18.7
1997	81.8	64.9	16.9	76.7	58.4	18.3
1998	81.9	65.4	16.6	76.9	58.9	18.0
1999	81.9	66.0	15.9	77.1	59.5	17.6
2000	82.0	66.4	15.6	77.4	59.9	17.5
2001	82.1	66.9	15.2	77.5	60.5	17.0
2002	82.1	67.4	14.7	77.7	61.1	16.6
2003	82.4	67.8	14.6	77.9	61.7	16.2
2004	82.7	68.2	14.4	78.4	62.1	16.2
2005	82.8	68.8	13.9	78.4	62.8	15.6
2006	82.9	69.2	13.7	78.7	63.3	15.4
2007	83.0	69.8	13.2	78.9	63.9	15.1
2008	83.1	70.2	12.9	79.1	64.5	14.6
2009	83.3	70.7	12.7	79.3	65.0	14.4
2010	83.5	71.1	12.3	79.5	65.6	14.0
2011	83.7	71.6	12.1	79.8	66.1	13.7
2012	83.5	72.2	11.3	79.9	66.7	13.2
2013	83.7	72.6	11.1	80.1	67.2	12.9
2014	84.1	73.0	11.0	80.4	67.8	12.6
2015	84.0	73.5	10.5	80.3	68.3	12.0
2016	84.1	74.0	10.1	80.6	69.0	11.6

Notes

Data from age groups excluded for trend estimation: women 25–29, no deaths; women 35–39/45–49, proportion of parents alive too high; men 35–39, proportion of parents alive too high; men 55–59, proportion of parents alive / ACB too high; men 60–64, no surviving parents.

e30 Roma, life expectancy at age 30 for all Roma/Traveller women/men.*

Difference values in the table might deviate from differences between life expectancy values for the two populations because of rounding.

TABLE 64: ESTIMATED LIFE EXPECTANCY AT BIRTH OF GYPSIES AND TRAVELLERS IN THE UNITED KINGDOM, DERIVED FROM E30* ROMA, IN COMPARISON WITH THE TOTAL REFERENCE POPULATION OF THE UNITED KINGDOM, 1990–2016

Year	Reference population	Women Gypsies	Difference	Reference population	Men Gypsies	Difference
1990	78.5	64.6	13.9	72.8	58.6	14.2
1991	78.6	65.1	13.5	73.1	59.1	14.0
1992	79.0	65.5	13.4	73.5	59.5	14.0
1993	78.8	66.1	12.6	73.4	60.1	13.4
1994	79.3	66.4	12.9	74.0	60.3	13.7
1995	79.2	67.0	12.2	73.9	60.8	13.1
1996	79.4	67.3	12.1	74.2	61.2	13.1
1997	79.6	67.8	11.8	74.6	61.5	13.1
1998	79.7	68.2	11.5	74.7	61.9	12.8
1999	79.8	68.7	11.1	74.9	62.3	12.5
2000	80.2	69.0	11.2	75.4	62.6	12.7
2001	80.4	69.4	11.1	75.7	63.0	12.7
2002	80.5	69.9	10.7	75.9	63.4	12.4
2003	80.5	70.3	10.2	76.1	63.9	12.2
2004	81.1	70.6	10.5	76.6	64.1	12.5
2005	81.2	71.0	10.2	76.9	64.5	12.4
2006	81.5	71.3	10.2	77.1	64.8	12.3
2007	81.6	71.8	9.8	77.4	65.2	12.2
2008	81.7	72.2	9.4	77.6	65.6	12.0
2009	82.2	72.5	9.7	78.0	65.9	12.1
2010	82.3	72.9	9.4	78.4	66.3	12.0
2011	82.7	73.3	9.4	78.8	66.6	12.2
2012	82.7	73.8	8.8	79.0	67.1	11.9
2013	82.8	74.3	8.5	79.0	67.6	11.4
2014	83.0	74.6	8.3	79.3	67.9	11.3
2015	82.7	75.3	7.4	79.0	68.5	10.6
2016	82.8	75.7	7.2	79.2	68.9	10.3

Notes:

Data from age groups excluded for trend estimation: women 20–24, deaths fewer than 5 cases; women 30–34, proportion of parents alive / ACB too high; women 60–64, ACB too low; men 25–29, proportion of parents alive too low; men 30–34, proportion of parents alive too high; men 55–64, deaths fewer than 5 cases.

e30 Roma, life expectancy at age 30 for all Roma/Traveller women/men.*

Difference values in the table might deviate from differences between life expectancy values for the two populations because of rounding.



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FRA's 2019 survey on Roma and Travellers in Belgium, France, Ireland, the Netherlands, Sweden and the United Kingdom interviewed almost 4 700 Roma and Travellers, collecting information on more than 8 200 individuals living in their households. This technical report presents a detailed overview of the survey methodology used by FRA when collecting the survey data.



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