

# Study of the characteristics and circumstances of people living in slum and substandard housing settlements in Spain

Main results and recommendations of the study

Advocacy opportunities in an EU context







1. A population composed almost entirely of ethnic minorities

**Graph 2 ] Ethnic composition of settlements**

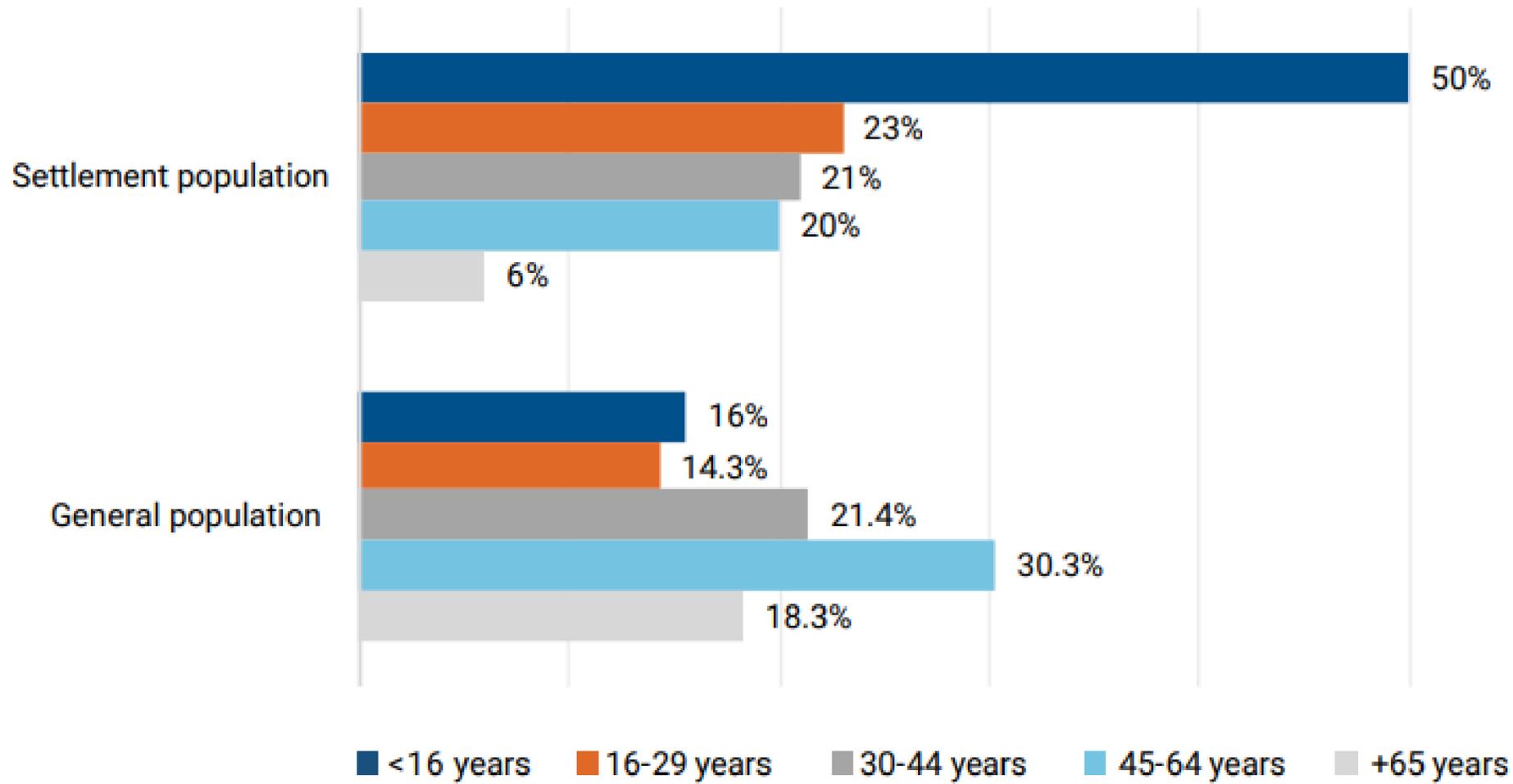


92% of population belong to minorities



2. Children comprise half the population of these settlements

**Graph 3 | Distribution of people across age groups**

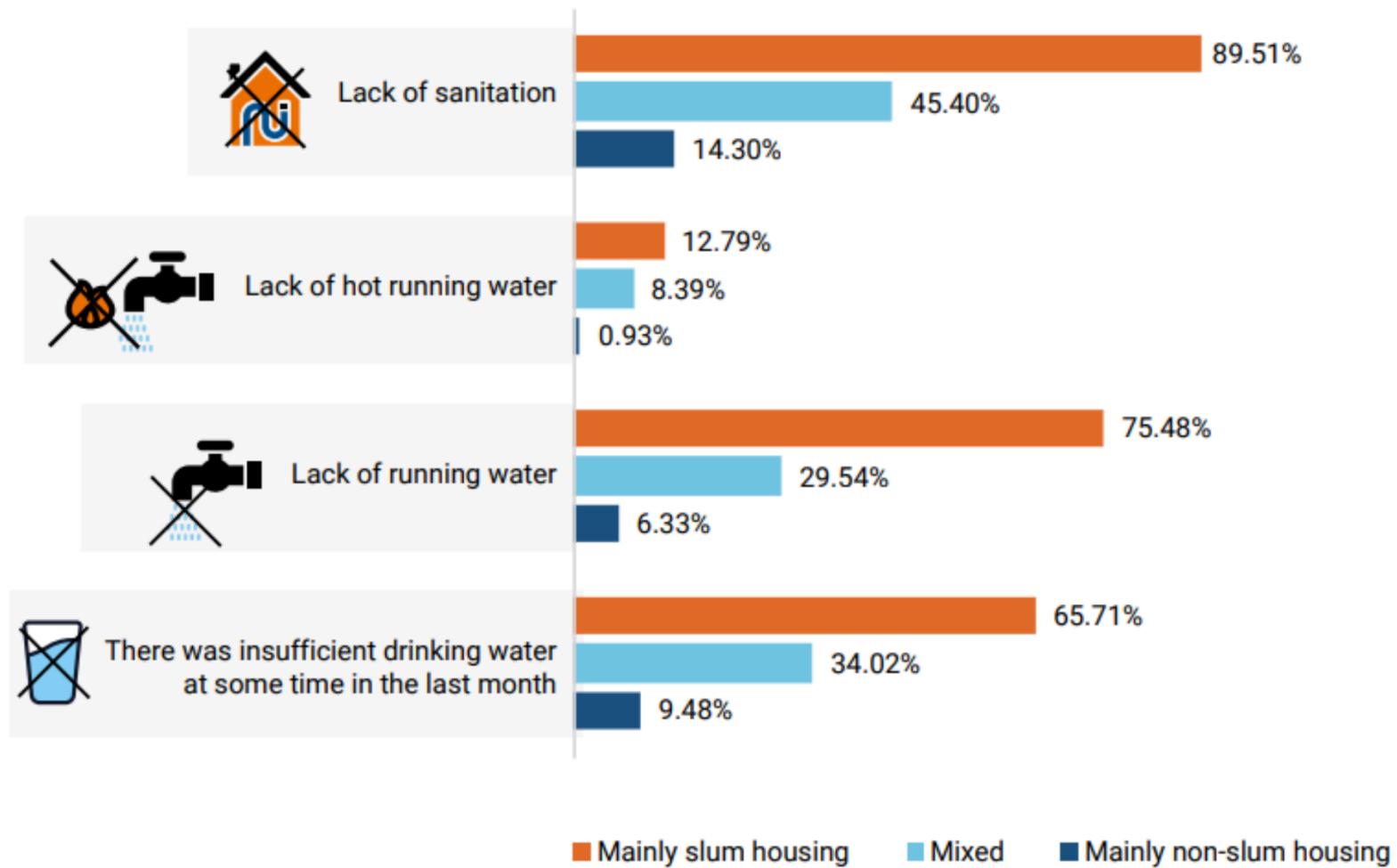


Half of the inhabitants are children (-16 years old), of which 40% are less than 6





3. Conditions of habitability incompatible with the right to a dignified life

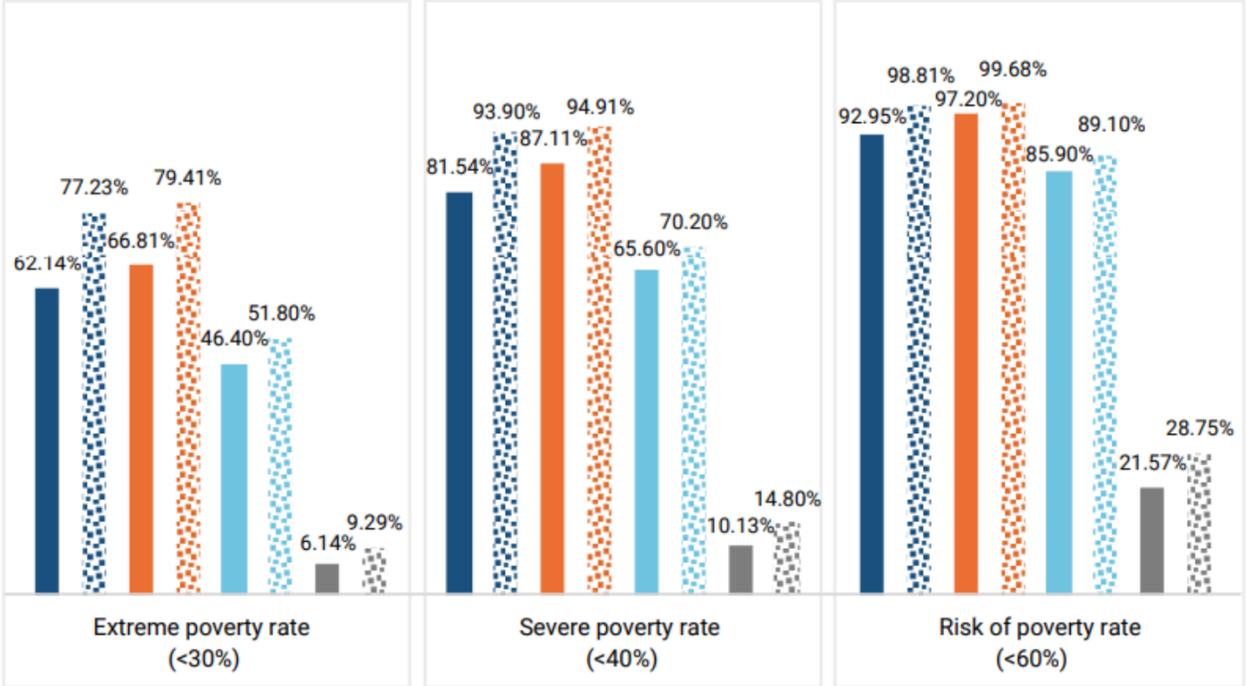


91% of surveyed people would prefer to live in other areas or neighborhoods



## 4. Environments of extreme and chronic poverty

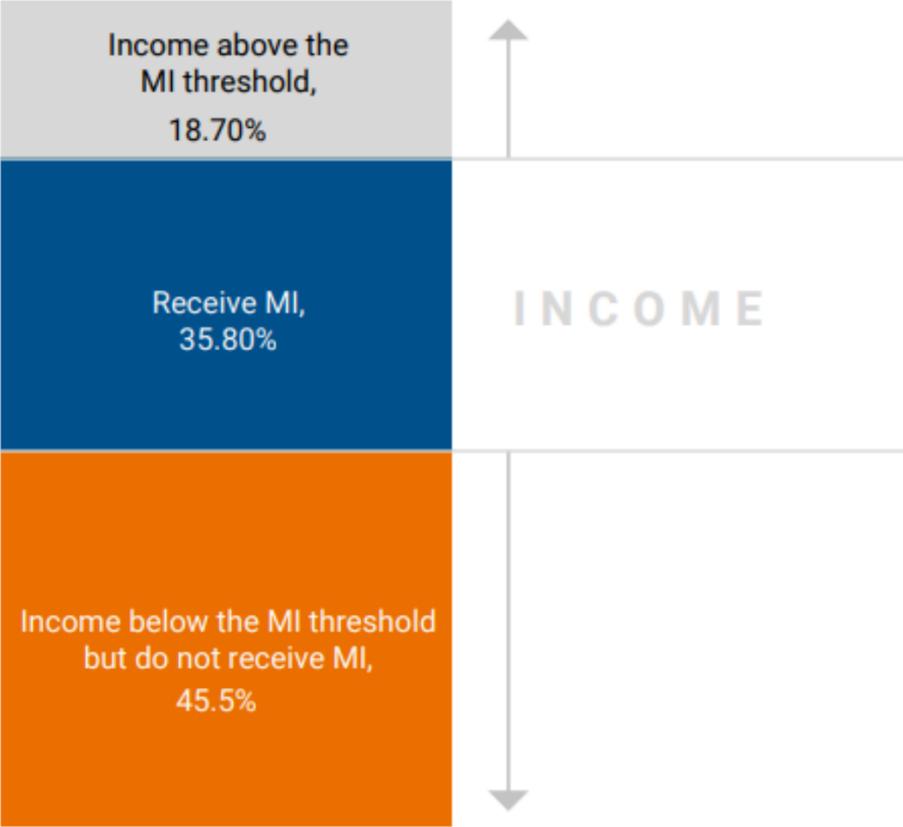
Graph 4 ] Poverty rates



- Settlement population Total
- Roma settlement population Total
- Roma general population Total
- General population Total
- ▨ Settlement population Children
- ▨ Roma settlement population Children
- ▨ Roma general population Children
- ▨ General population Children

Graph 5 ] Relationship between MI and income level

High poverty rates, inconsistent with the access to welfare assistance



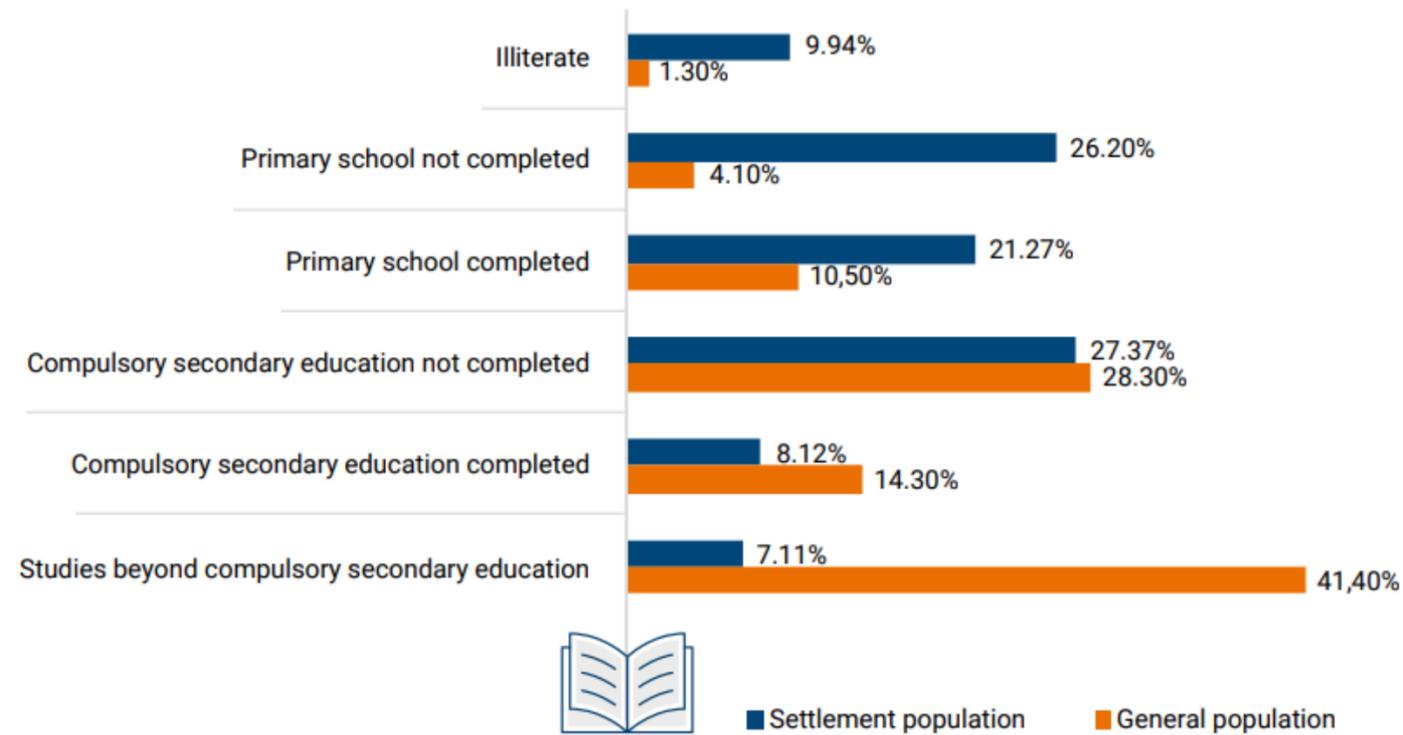


5. Serious limitations on the exercise of other basic human rights, especially for women

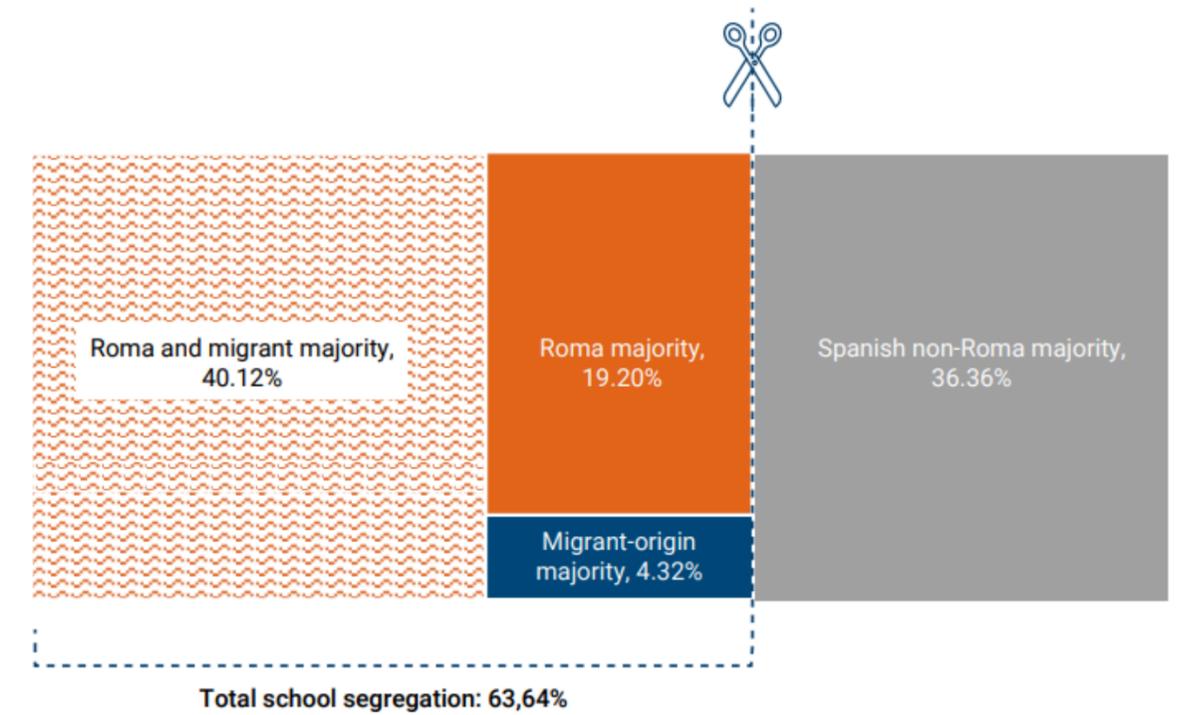
# Access to education



**Graph 9 | Educational level attained**



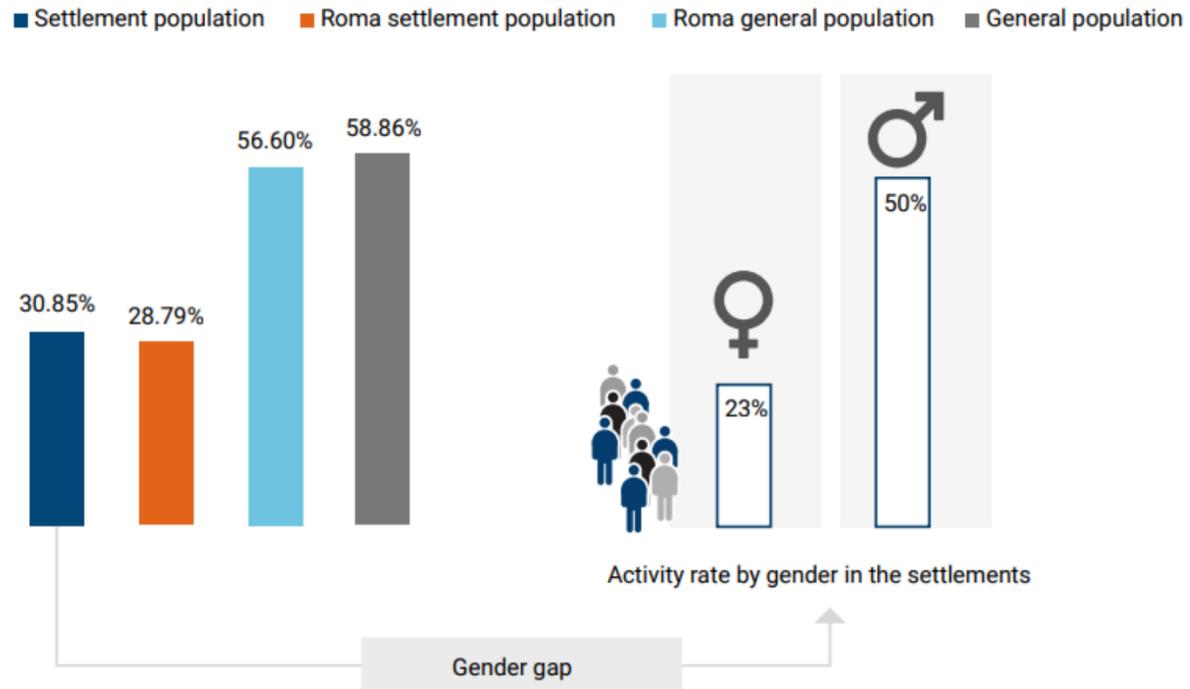
**Graph 11 | Level of school segregation**



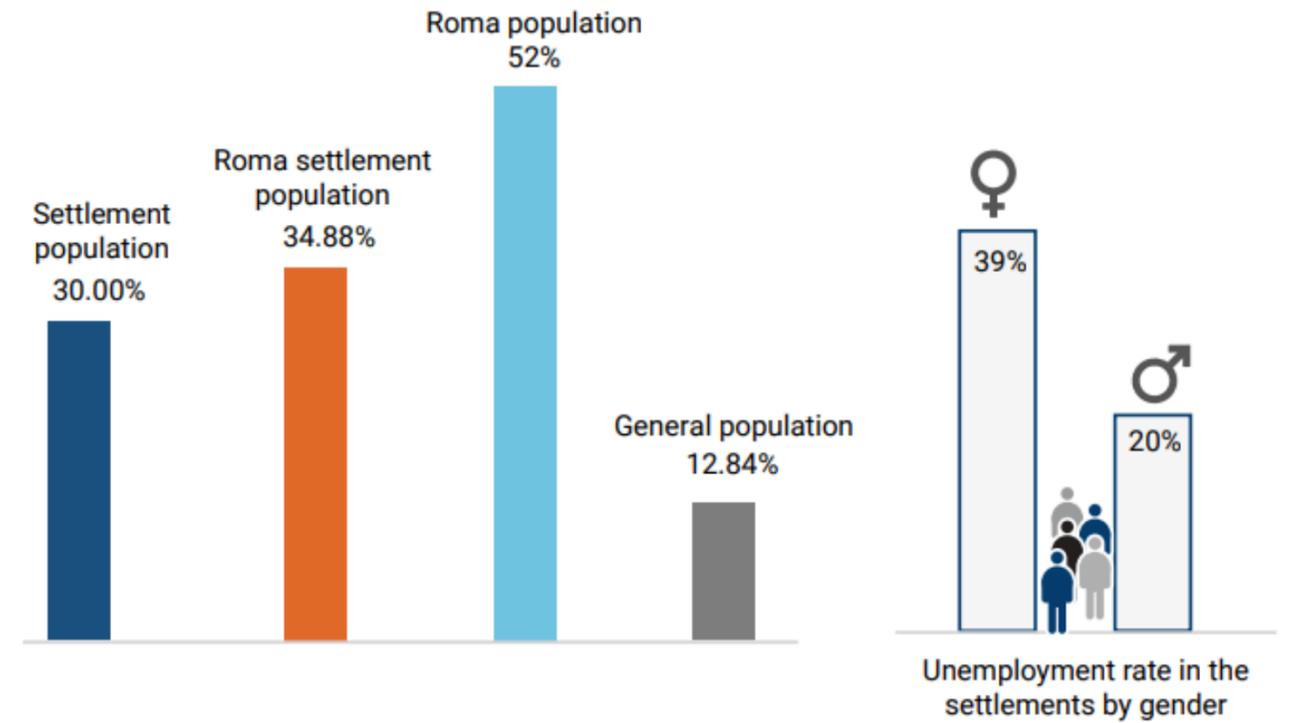
# Access to employment



Graph 12 ] Activity rate



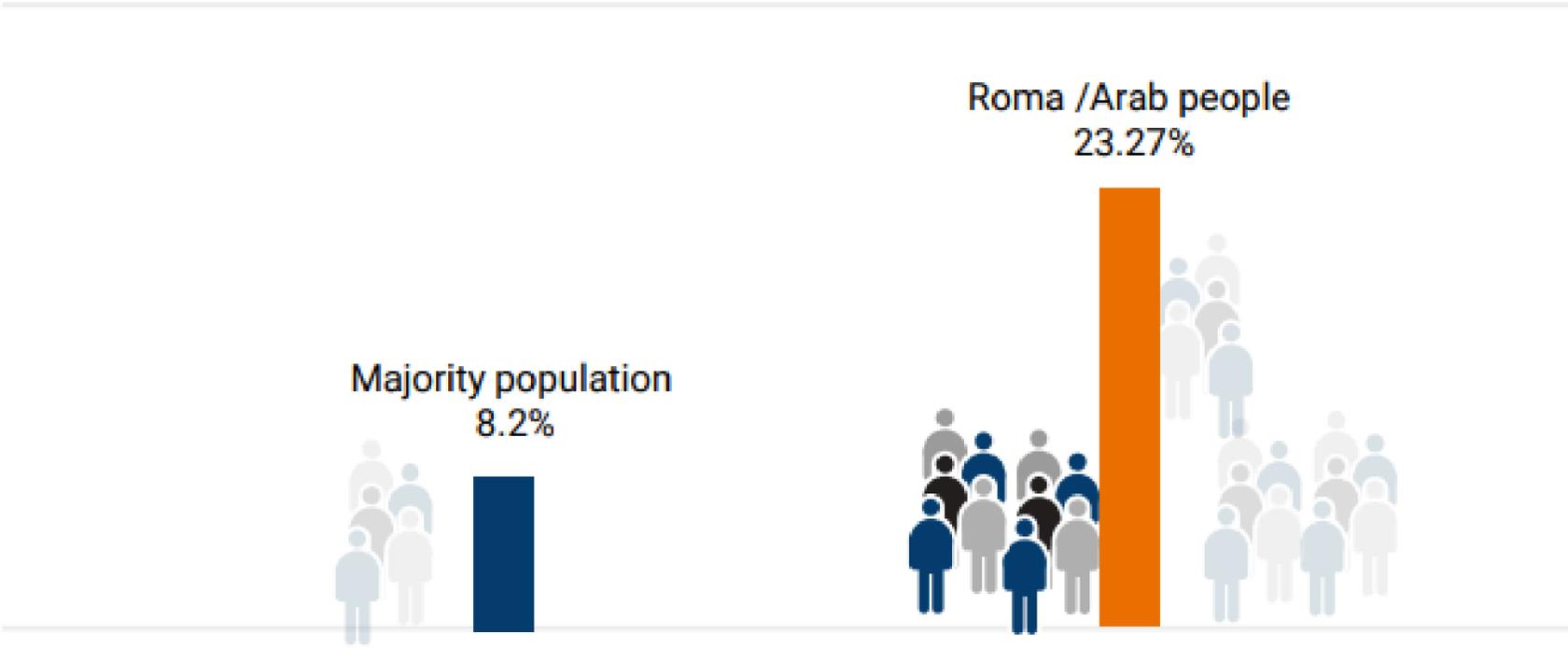
Graph 15 ] Unemployment rate





6. Infrequent individual perception of discrimination in a context of structural discrimination

**Graph 16 ]** Have you experienced or witnessed a discriminatory or racist incident in the last year?



Rate of perceived discrimination lower than population that do not live in settlements. This is due to:

- Normalization of discrimination
- Problems to indentify discriminatory situations
- Lack of knowledge and accesibility on institutions and organizations available to report discrimination.



7. Spatial segregation: enclaves on the margins of society



# Main conclusions



Persistent structural phenomenon



Reproduction of chronic poverty, for generations



Unacceptable conditions in terms of social justice



The situation contravenes all the legislation relating to human rights



This phenomenon is not commensurate with Spain's economic level.



Under-use of financial EU instruments



Manageable problem in terms of cost (5,000 houses)



It only requires political will

## Recommendations



1. The effective application of the **Law on the Right to Housing**, guaranteeing the right to adequate housing in an inclusive environment for all people, and recognising these settlements as creating situations of particular vulnerability and therefore requiring particular attention.

2. Approval of a **National 2030 strategy for the eradication of settlements**, with full respect for legal guarantees and the basic rights of their residents, assuring them of adequate alternative housing and a process of social inclusion.

3. **Prioritising actions in settlements which fall within housing plans and urban regeneration and renovation programmes**, using existing funding mechanisms (State Housing Plan 2022-2025, ERDF, Component 2 of the PRTR, etc) and setting out the budget invested specifically in these actions, as established in the Law on the Right to Housing.

4. Designation of families who live in slum and substandard housing settlements as a **priority group for access to public and social housing**.

5. Application of a children's rights perspective to actions in settlements and fulfilment of the commitments acquired under the **National Strategy on Children's and Adolescents' Rights (2023-2030) and the Child Guarantee**.

6. Guaranteeing an income to combat extreme poverty among families living in settlements, facilitating **access to the Minimum Income**, extending its coverage and carrying out the adjustments necessary to ensure it is received by the most vulnerable families, and offering opportunities for the **social and labour market inclusion** of these people.

7. **Effective application of the Comprehensive Law on equal treatment and non-discrimination**, prohibiting and sanctioning discrimination on the basis of ethnic or racial origin in access to housing.

8. **A comprehensive, non-sectoral approach to eradication strategies**; it is not simply a matter of developing housing policies, but of interventions which include measures to foster both the social and labour market inclusion of the settlement population and the educational success of their children.

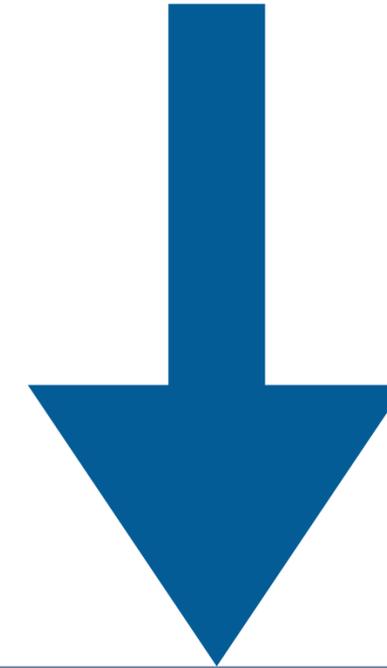




# EU Roma strategic framework

for equality, inclusion and participation for 2020 - 2030

One of the sectorial objectives, to be accomplished by all EU member states (cfr. National Roma Strategic Frameworks)



## 7. Increase effective equal access to adequate desegregated housing and essential services

### Reduce gap in housing deprivation by at least one third

- to ensure that by 2030 the majority of Roma do not face housing deprivation
- housing deprivation: Roma 61%; general population 17.9% (gap: 43.1 pps)

### Cut gap in overcrowding by at least half

- to ensure that by 2030 the majority of Roma no longer live in overcrowded households
- overcrowding: Roma 78%; general population 17.1% (gap 60.9 pps)

Ensure that at least 95% of Roma have access to tap water  
access to tap water in dwelling: Roma 70%, general population: 97.7%



**ADVOCACY TARGET: COMPETENT HOUSING AUTHORITIES AND ROMA FRAMEWORK FOCAL POINTS**

# EU Funding Programmes



## HOUSING



European Regional Development Fund (ERDF)

## SOCIAL AND LABOUR MARKET INCLUSION



European Social Fund+



**ADVOCACY TARGET: COMPETENT NATIONAL AND LOCAL AUTHORITIES FOR THE FUNDING EXPENDITURE**  
**(programming now closed)**

European Parliament

2019-2024



Brussels, 9 October 2023  
(OR. en)

TEXTS ADOPTED

13517/23

P9\_TA(2022)0343

Situation of Roma people living in settlements in the EU

European Parliament resolution of 5 October 2022 on the situation of Roma people living in settlements in the EU (2022/2662(RSP))

SOC 647  
ANTIDISCRIM 168  
GENDER 187  
JAI 1231  
FREMP 265  
COHOM 195  
EDUC 374

OUTCOME OF PROCEEDINGS

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Delegations
No. prev. doc.:	13167/23
Subject:	Council Conclusions on Measures to ensure equal access for Roma to adequate and desegregated housing, and to address segregated settlements



Pending of approval: “EU action plan to eradicate Roma settlements by 2030” (reinforcing the use of existing policy and financial instruments)



**ADVOCACY TARGETS: EU MEMBER STATES, EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND EU COMMISSION**