

2024

This is FET Roma Community

A Report by the Data Analytics Unit
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Authors

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All data is sourced from the Programme and Learner Support Systems (PLSS) database. PLSS collects and processes the personal data of the FET learners who are enrolled in SOLAS funded programmes. This report excludes apprenticeship provision.

The Data Analytics Unit would like to acknowledge the assistance of the ETB staff involved in submitting data to SOLAS.

Enrolments

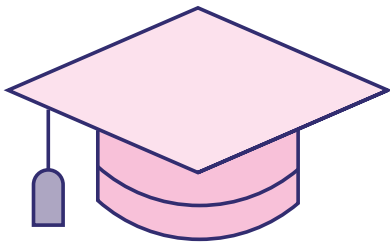
387

Learners of
Roma ethnic origin

43% 57%

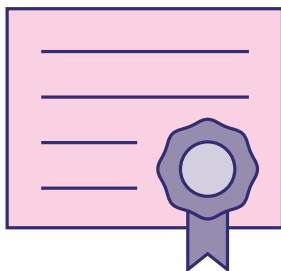
Male

Female



88%

Full and partial
completions



71%

Certification rate

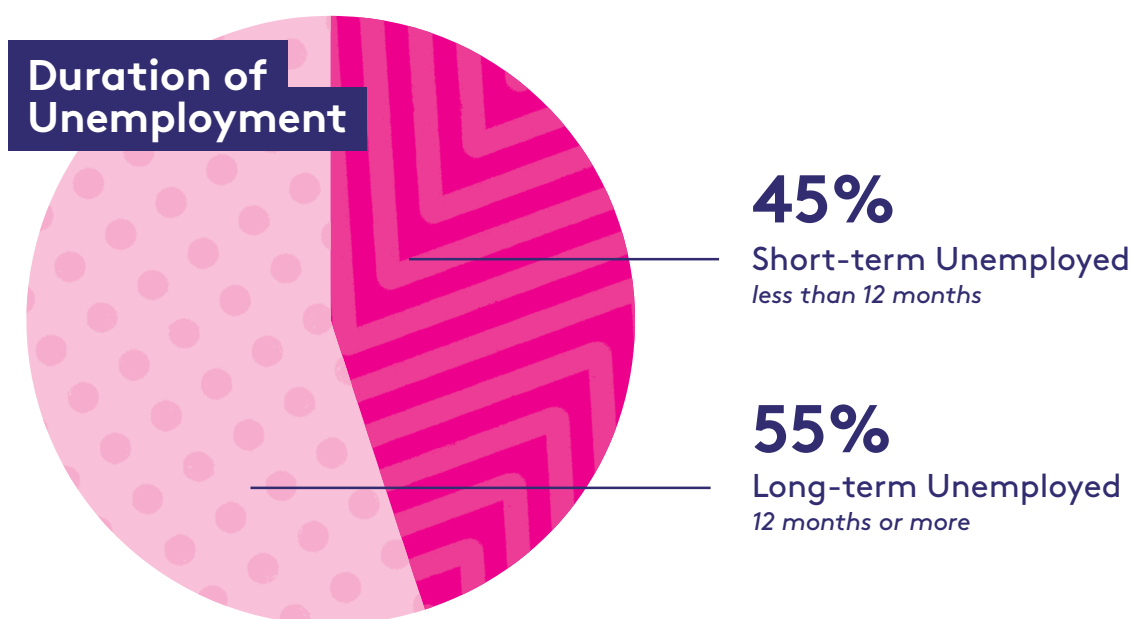
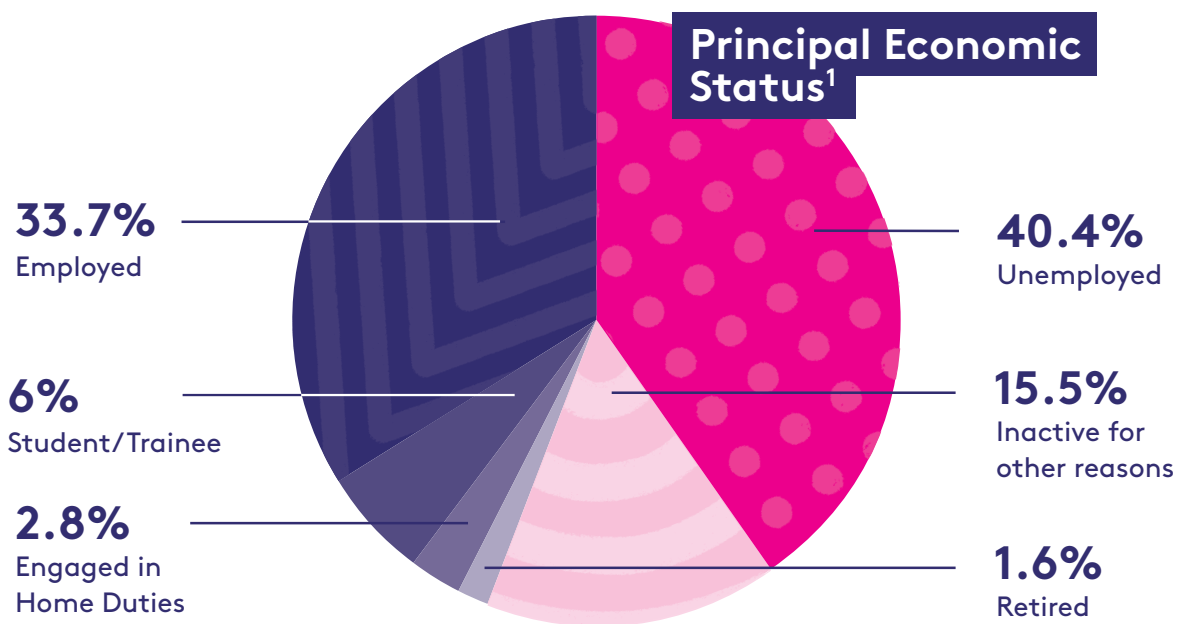
Start Age

69%

Older than
25 years old

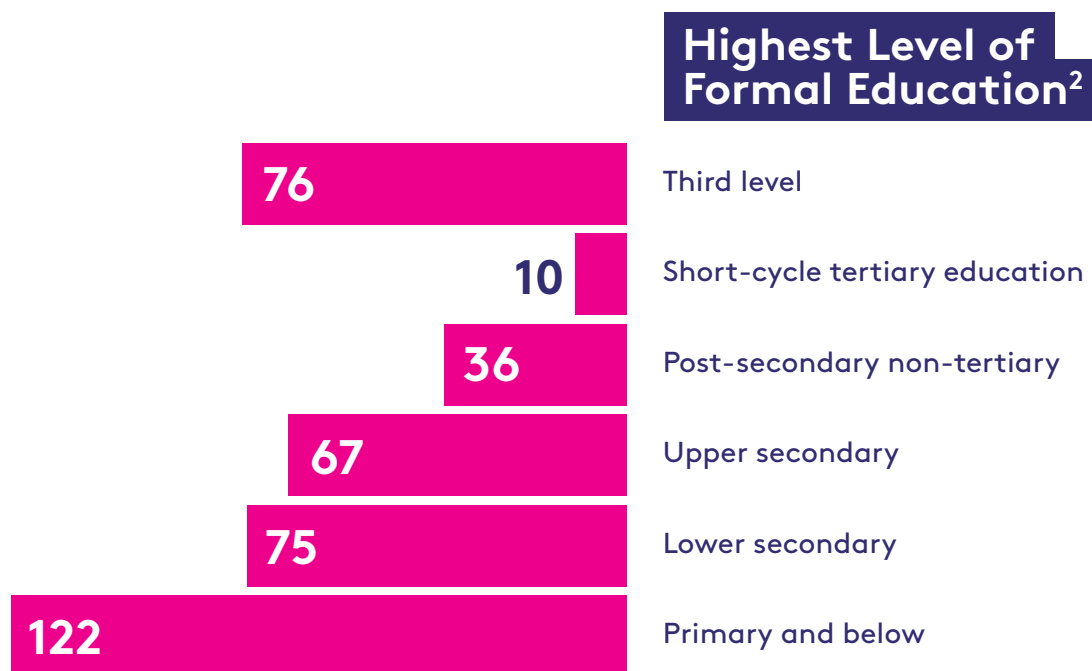
In 2024, the total number of Roma enrolments reported in further education and training was 387. Of these learner enrolments, 43% were men and 57% were women. The majority (69%) of these learners were older than 25 years of age.

Of the 387 Roma enrolments, 88% partially or fully completed a course in 2024. The certification rate for Roma who completed certified courses was 71%.



The majority of Roma learners were either unemployed or employed. Of those who were unemployed, 55% were unemployed for 12 months or more.

¹ The Principal Economic Status response rate for Roma enrolments was 99.7%.



Approximately 51% (197) of Roma learners reported that they had attained a lower secondary or primary education and below education level prior to joining further education and training.



Of the 387 Roma enrolments, 28 reported that they were dependants in a jobless household. There were also 47 Roma that reported they had a long-lasting condition.

² It should be noted that this figure is an estimate and includes only those cases where previous levels of education were captured.

ETB	Learners
Cavan and Monaghan ETB	20
City of Dublin ETB	54
Cork ETB	10
Dublin and Dun Laoghaire ETB	71
Galway and Roscommon ETB	10
Kerry ETB	13
Kildare and Wicklow ETB	33
Kilkenny and Carlow ETB	12
Laois and Offaly ETB	20
Limerick and Clare ETB	10
Longford and Westmeath ETB	51
Louth and Meath ETB	30
Mayo, Sligo and Leitrim ETB	23
Tipperary ETB	5
Waterford and Wexford ETB	27

Of the 387 Romas enrolled in FET courses, Roma enrolments were primarily concentrated in Dublin and Dun Laoghaire ETB, City of Dublin ETB and Longford and Westmeath ETB⁴.

³ Learners here are unique within ETBs but not necessarily across ETBs.

⁴ Any learner count less than 5 is excluded in this table.

Programme Category⁵

Programme Category ³	Learners
Adult Literacy Groups	29
BTEI Groups	35
Community Education	40
Community Training Centres	13
ESOL	175
Evening Training	15
FET Cooperation Hours	6
PLC	24
Skills to Advance	9
Skills for Work	7
Specific Skills Training	13
VTOS Core	6
Youthreach	49

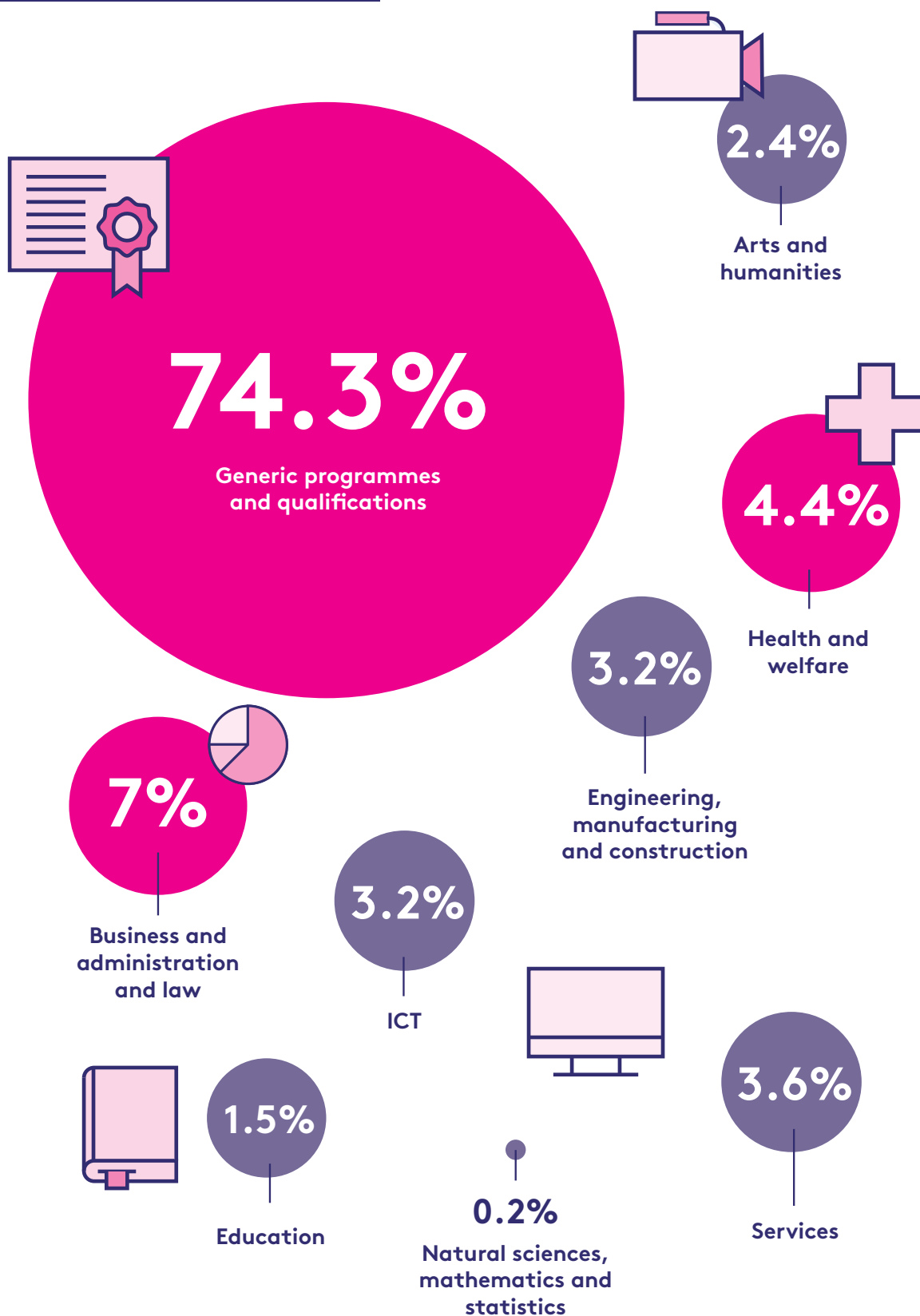
Among FET programmes, enrolments were primarily concentrated among English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL), Youthreach, Community Education, Back to Education Initiative (BTEI) and Adult Literacy Groups.

There were 10 additional learners who were also enrolled in the following programme categories during 2024: e-Learning, Justice Workshop, Online eCollege, Other Funding, Specialist Training Providers and Traineeship Employed⁶.

⁵ Each learner is counted once within each programme, but is allowed to be counted more than once if they did courses in different programmes.

⁶ Any learner count less than 5 is excluded in this table.

Field of Study (Broad ISCED)



Field of Study (Broad ISCED)	Examples of courses
Generic programmes and qualifications	Employability Skills ESOL English Language Health and Wellbeing Arts and Crafts
Business and administration and law	Start your own Business Office Administration
Health and welfare	Nursing Studies Applied Social Studies
Services	Beauty Therapy Sports, Recreation and Exercise
Arts and humanities	Art, Craft and Design Film and TV Production
Education	Early Childhood Care and Education Special Needs Assisting
ICT	Computer Systems and Networks Computer Basics
Engineering, manufacturing and construction	Welding Engineering Technology
Agriculture, forestry, fisheries and veterinary	Horticulture Animal Care
Natural sciences, mathematics and statistics	Applied Science/ Laboratory Techniques Pre-University Science
Social sciences, journalism and information	Journalism for the Digital Age Cultural and Heritage Studies

Irish National Framework of Qualifications (NFQ) or Equivalent⁷



The majority of learners with Roma background were enrolled in Level 3 (22.1%), Level 4 (21%) and Level 5 (22.1%) courses in 2024.

⁷ This excludes learners enrolled in courses that do not lead to an award through a recognised awarding body.

Definition of Terms

Activity

The sum of learners multiplied by the number of courses which they have been enrolled in or completed within a programme or across different programmes, or providers during 2024.

Certification Rate

The sum of only full and partial learner completions that gained an award through a recognised awarding body in 2024.

Completions

Total number of learners who have a finish date of a course (regardless of whether the course is certified or not) in 2024. Completions include partial and full completers, but exclude early leavers.

Enrolments

Enrolments are defined as learners who are on course or have completed a course during 2024.

Field of Study

This is defined and categorized by the International Standard Classification of Education (ISCED). Both broad (2-digit) and detailed (4-digit) fields of study are used for categorising Further Education and Training course fields of study.

Full Completions

Learners who have completed 90 per cent or more of the course and its requirements in 2024.

Inactive

This term is used according to the Eurostat and the International Labour Organisation (ILO) definition which defines inactive as individuals who are neither employed nor unemployed and are not working and not available or looking for work. Inactive in this report includes those learners engaged in home duties, retired, student/trainees, and those inactive for other reasons.

Irish National Framework of Qualifications (NFQ)

This is a framework through which all learning achievements may be measured and related to each other in a coherent way. The many different types and sizes of qualifications included in the NFQ are organised based on their level of knowledge, skill and competence. In some cases, where awards have not been placed on the Irish NFQ, equivalent levels are assigned based on the document 'Qualifications can cross boundaries' and the level assigned to the award on the relevant country's framework (e.g. Cf. Ofqual, Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework, etc.).

Learner

A unique individual who has progressed onto a course in the application process. The total number of learners is the sum of all unique individuals in Further Education and Training in 2024.

Long-lasting Condition

This includes anyone who has: 1) blindness or a serious vision impairment, 2) deafness or a serious hearing impairment, 3) a difficulty with basic physical activities (e.g. walking, climbing stairs, reaching, lifting or carrying, etc.), 4) an intellectual disability, 5) a difficulty with learning, remembering or concentrating, 6) a psychological or emotional condition, and/or 7) a difficulty with pain, breathing, any other chronic illness/condition.

Long-term Unemployed

This refers to any person who is unemployed for 12 months or more.

On Course

This refers to those learners who were still on course at a point in time.

Non-NFQ Aligned courses

This includes completions with certification not aligned with the NFQ.

Partial Completions

Learners who have completed more than 25 per cent but less than 90 per cent of a course and its requirements in 2024.

Post-secondary Non-tertiary

This refers to Post Leaving Certificate NFQ Level 4 or 5, Advanced Certificate NFQ Level 6, other non-NFQ aligned FET, Certificate NFQ Level 4, or Certificate NFQ Level 5.

Short-cycle Tertiary

This refers to third level non-degree courses and includes higher certificate NFQ level 6 courses and diploma NFQ level 7 courses. These courses are usually of one year in duration and are often vocational in nature.

Third Level

This refers to Ordinary Bachelor degree, Honours Bachelor degree, Professional, Post-Graduate, Doctorate or Higher degree courses.



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