

# TRAVELLER HEALTH



46 North Great Charles Street  
Dublin 1  
Phone: +353 1 878 0255  
E-mail: [info@pavee.ie](mailto:info@pavee.ie)

Irish Travellers have poor health outcomes when compared to the general population. Poor living conditions, poor education outcomes and low uptake of health services by Travellers.



Traveller health is significantly worse than the health of those in the settled community.

As Travellers are a distinct cultural group they have distinctive health needs and require special consideration in the health service.

The Our Geels: All Ireland Traveller Health Study from 2010, found that,

- ❖ The average expected age of a Traveller man is 61.7 years, compared to the national average of 76.8
- ❖ Traveller women have a life expectancy of 70.1 compared to the national average of 81.6
- ❖ Travellers have a 14.1% infant mortality rate, compared to the settled population at 3.9%
- ❖ 31% of Travellers reported cost as a factor in eating healthily

- ❖ 50% of Travellers expressed difficulty reading medication instructions
- ❖ 66.7% of service providers believe that Travellers experience discrimination in their use of health services
- ❖ Over 40% of Travellers stated that they were not always treated with dignity and respect
- ❖ Waiting lists, embarrassment, lack of information, cost, difficulty getting to services, health settings and refused services were identified as barriers to accessing health services.