



# Growing up undocumented in Ireland



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## Agenda for input

1. Situating the context of undocumented children and young people in Ireland
2. No clear framework or pathway
3. Current situation re access to citizenship
4. UNCRC recommendations to Ireland 2016  
*“clear and accessible formal procedures for conferring immigration status on children and their families who are in irregular migration situations.”*

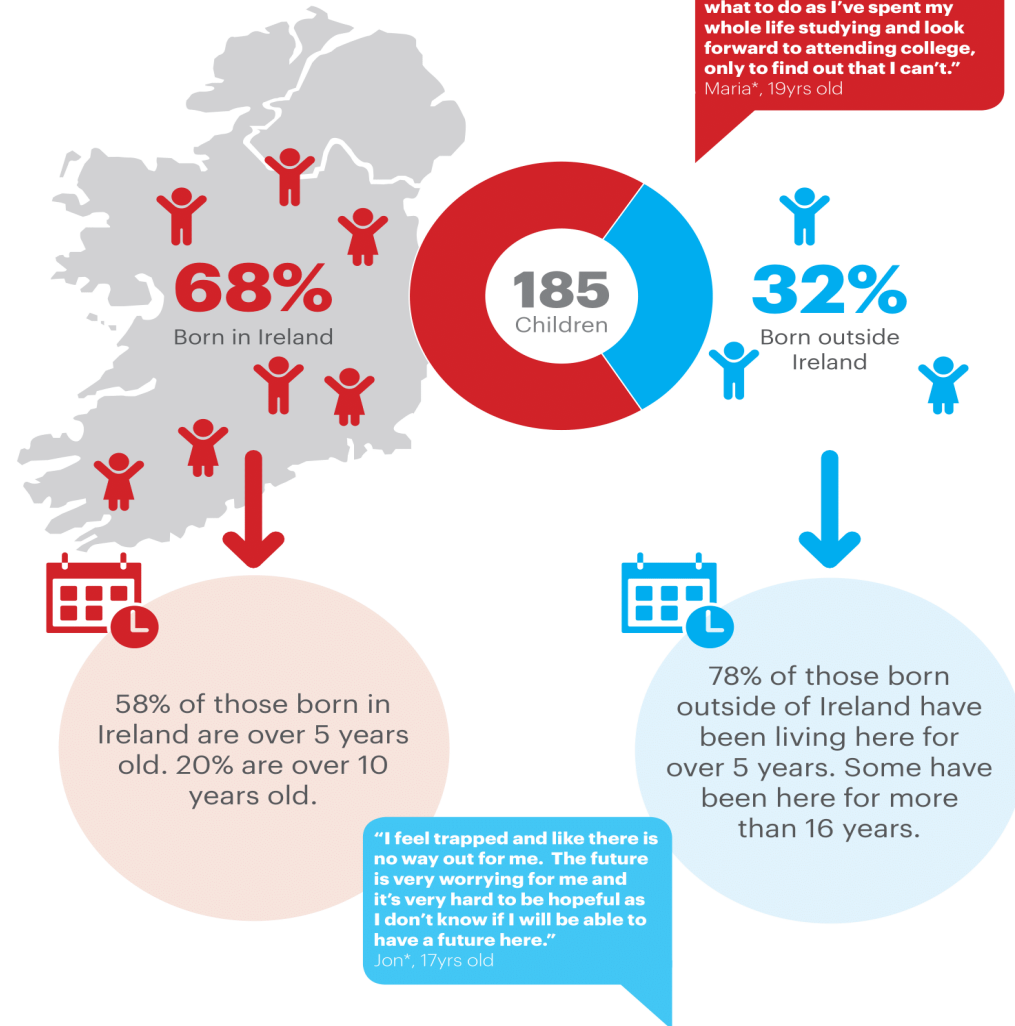


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# Growing Up Undocumented in Ireland

We surveyed 108 undocumented parents raising their children in Ireland. Here's what we found out.

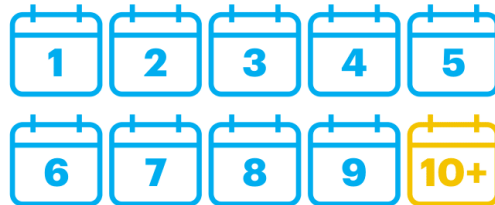




### Years in Irish education



The average length of time in school is 5 years



8% have spent over 10 years in school



For these children and young people, Ireland is home – the home they know and love.



Just like everyone else, they have hopes, dreams and ambitions. They've grown up here, they live here, and they belong here.



But right now there is no pathway to residency for undocumented children and young people, whether they were born here or came here with their parents.



### Age of undocumented children and young people

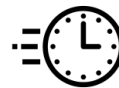
31% are under the age of 9

42% are between 10-17 years old

27% are over 18 years old



This is an enormous waste of talent and a loss of great potential. These children and young people are valuable and have a valuable contribution to make, but uncertainty and fear will stop them from thriving and being the best they can be.



The government has the power to bring about a solution and provide a pathway to residency. All they need to do is introduce a straightforward and sensible mechanism that ensures no child or young person grows up undocumented in Ireland. These children and young people are our future, and their future is here.



# Mental Health



## Fear and Stigma



# Education



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# Transition into adulthood



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# Access to University/college



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# Labour Market Access



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# Young, Paperless & Powerful



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## Films by Young, Paperless & Powerful



2015, Young, Paperless & Powerful  
<https://vimeo.com/132984011>



2018, This is My Life  
<https://vimeo.com/301863642>



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# Youth Exchange with PICUM, 2019





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THE IRISH TIMES

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# Undocumented in Ireland: ‘I feel as Irish as they come’

Rashmi (24) is campaigning for a pathway to residency for young undocumented people

Video

Image



Rashmi, one of an estimated 2,000-3,000 undocumented children and young people living in Ireland. Photograph: MRCI

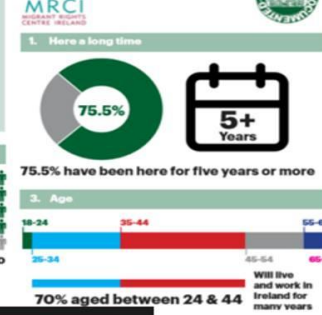
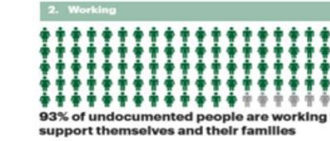






## here, belong here

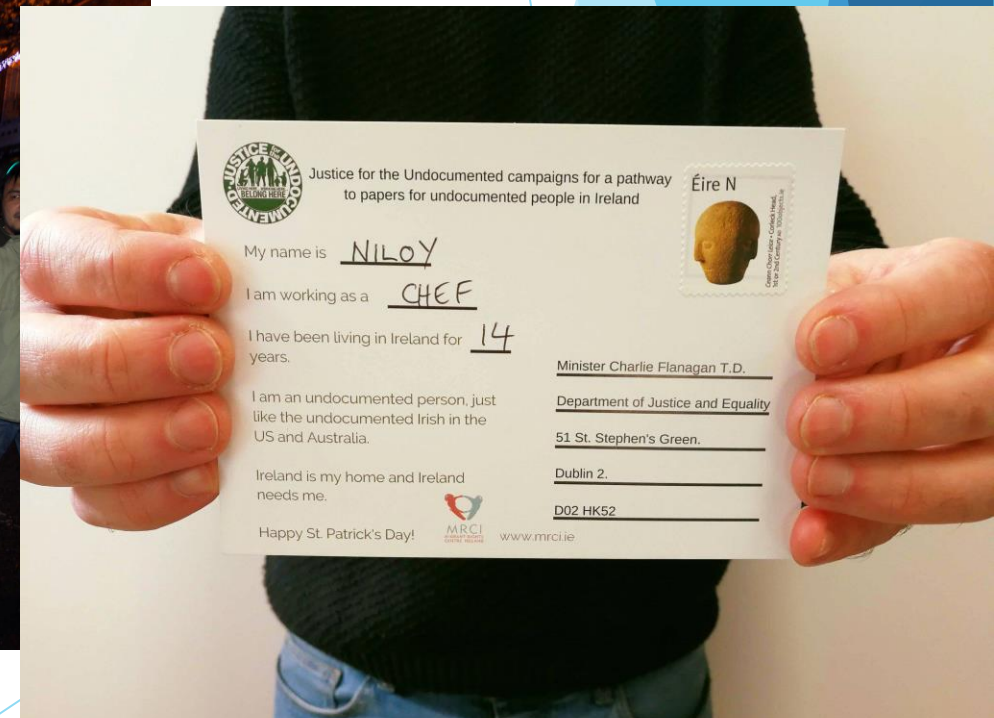
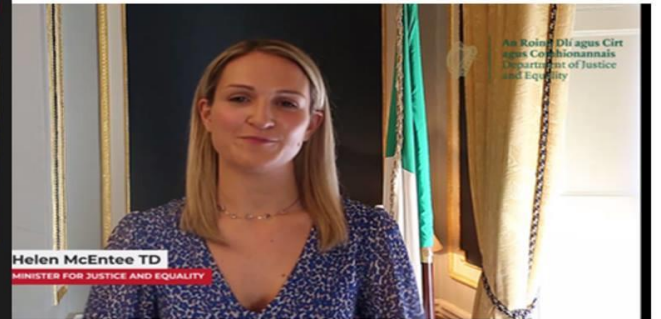
### A survey of over 1,000 undocumented people in Ireland



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# History in the making



Image is hyperlinked  
to video



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# Commitment in the programme for government 2020

*Create new pathways for long-term undocumented people and their dependents, meeting specified criteria to regularise their status within 18 months of the formation of the Government, bearing in mind EU and Common Travel Area commitments.*



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See the full pdf linked in the text for full programme for government

# Important Update for People who are Undocumented in Ireland



Image is linked  
to the  
Facebook post



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