

A periodic assessment from a weeklong survey of people experiencing homelessness in Dublin including: accident and emergency departments, people sleeping rough, emergency accommodation, Local Authority homeless lists, food and day services and street outreach services

# Counted In | 2005



Data analysis for  
the Homeless Agency by  
Una Wafer, SPSS Ireland



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# Preface



*Counted In 2005* is the report of the third Periodic Assessment of Homelessness in Dublin, carried out in the last week of March 2005. It has been compiled by SPSS Ireland on behalf of the Homeless Agency.

The Homeless Agency is a partnership body established in 2001 as part of the Government Strategy on Homelessness. It is responsible for the planning and co-ordination for the delivery of quality services to people experiencing homelessness in Dublin. The Homeless Agency commissions an assessment every three years, within the four Dublin local authority areas, to provide information on the number and profile of individuals and the number of households experiencing homelessness, at a given point in time. The survey method used has been developed through partnership with voluntary and statutory sector agencies and takes place within the broader context of the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government's assessment of housing need which is also conducted every three years. The findings from *Counted In 2005* provide a basis from which we can understand and respond to the changing trends in the number and profile of people experiencing homelessness.

This is the third time that an assessment of this type has been carried out using the same method. As such, it provides a picture of homelessness as portrayed by three assessments over a seven-year period. Through each assessment the Homeless Agency seeks to capture the extent and profile of people experiencing homelessness at three levels. However, there are some differences in the 2005 survey, which will be explained as we look at the different levels.

Firstly, the reports provide basic information in relation to people sleeping rough on the streets. This information was returned mainly from the street outreach teams and the food and day services with which rough sleepers had been in contact with. The surveys show that the number of people sleeping rough increased from 1999 to 2002, but decreased between 2002 and 2005, with a significant overall decrease of 33% from 1999 to 2005. This would indicate that the expansion of outreach teams and emergency accommodation services and the introduction of the Dublin City Nightbus is having a positive impact in supporting us to move closer to ensuring that no-one needs to sleep rough. For this report we did not carry out a separate street count of people sleeping rough as it was agreed that using the street counts tend to underestimate the number of people sleeping rough.

Secondly, the reports look at the number of people accessing homeless services, including the street outreach teams, Dublin City Nightbus, food and day services (both homeless and some community-based drug services), hospital Accident and Emergency services and emergency accommodation services. In 2005, 1,317 households were surveyed through services.

Thirdly, the reports examine people on the homeless housing lists of local authorities within the Dublin area: Dublin City Council, Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown, South Dublin and Fingal. This marks the greatest variation between the 2005 findings and the previous counts. The 1999 and 2002 assessments raised the issue of validation in relation to the current status of people included in the assessment from local authority lists. It was felt that the lists may be outdated and that a validation exercise needed to be carried out to improve on their accuracy. In this assessment, a validation of the lists was undertaken whereby the councils excluded any household which was not in contact with a homeless service and which had not made contact with the council in the previous six months.<sup>1</sup> A significant number of applications were therefore deactivated in 2005 on the basis that they represented people who had not kept regular contact with the local authority and who were not accessing homeless services. A similar validation process will be carried out in all future surveys, so they will be fully comparable with 2005. As a part of this, the Homeless Agency is currently working with the local authorities to develop more robust systems for registering households as homeless and in relation to managing their lists to ensure accuracy.

*Counted In 2005* found that the total homeless population reported in Dublin, including adults and children, was 2,015 individuals. This comprised 1,361 households including 1,552 adults and 463 child dependents. In the 2002 assessment, the total homeless population reported was 2,920 adults and 1,140 child dependents.

The 2005 figures show a significant decrease on the total population reported in 2002. However, because of the validation process undertaken in 2005, we cannot take the full reduction in the numbers from earlier surveys as a reduction in the extent of homelessness *per se*, given that the 1999 and 2002 local authority figures had not been validated. However, taking into account the validation process whereby 707 applicants were deactivated from local authority lists, there is still a 19% decrease in the number of households homeless between the 2002 and 2005 assessments. This is comparable with the experience of the Homeless Persons Unit<sup>2</sup>, which saw a 22% decrease in the number of households presenting as homeless to their service in the same period.

In *Counted In 2005*, 58% of people surveyed were both accessing services and registered on a local authority list. This change is due both to the validation process and the process undertaken by the Local Authority in ensuring the registration of individuals within emergency accommodation.

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<sup>1</sup> It is a specific requirement of the Local Authorities that in order for a person to remain registered on the Homeless List they stay in regular contact.

<sup>2</sup> The Homeless Persons Unit is responsible for the delivery of a range of welfare services for homeless people including assessments of homeless status, placement into emergency accommodation, identifying and facilitating move-on options and ensuring payment of state entitlements and access to medical services.

The type of information gathered by the periodic assessments is key to developing policies and services to combat homelessness. Such information allows us to identify trends and changing profiles among those experiencing homelessness as well as to build on this through other information systems, such as service databases.

*Counted In 2005* provides valuable information for planning services to respond to the needs of people experiencing homelessness. It indicates some progress has been made in improving the situation. But more importantly, it reminds us of the scale of the task ahead as the Homeless Agency partnership works towards its vision of eliminating long-term homelessness and the need for anyone to sleep rough.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Derval Howley". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

**Dr Derval Howley**

*Director, Homeless Agency*





# Acknowledgements

This report would not have been possible without the efforts of many people working in the homeless services sector. We at the Homeless Agency would like to express our thanks to all those volunteers and workers who contributed their time and effort in administering the survey process.

The Homeless Agency would also like to acknowledge the hard work of Una Wafer at SPSS Ireland throughout the project.

Thanks are also due to the steering group for their constructive advice and input throughout the survey and in the writing up of the research findings. The steering group included: Dáithí Downey (Focus Ireland), Dermot Kavangh (Merchants Quay Ireland), Bob Jordan (Threshold), Caroline McGrath (Focus Ireland), Sean Moynihan (Dublin Simon), Simon Brooke (Housing and Social Policy Consultant), Brian R Harvey (Social Researcher), Dr Eoin O'Sullivan (Trinity College Dublin), Liz Clifford (Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council), Teresa Conlon (Dublin City Council), Martina O'Connor (Fingal County Council), Michelle Donnelly (Health Service Executive), Oliver Hickey (Dublin City Council), Brendan Hynes (South Dublin County Council), Julie Mason (Dublin City Council), Frank Mills (Health Service Executive), Vincent Healy (Dublin City Council), Jo Ahern (Homeless Agency) and Derval Howley (Homeless Agency).

Within the Homeless Agency, a special note of thanks is also extended to Sorcha Donohoe and Colm Moroney for their excellent work during the survey and in conducting the validation exercise with the local authorities. Later in the project, Nathan O'Connor developed the format and text of the report and Lisa Kelleher organised its printing and launch.

Most importantly, the Homeless Agency would like to thank all the people using homeless services who agreed to participate in the survey. People experiencing homelessness are going through a very difficult period in their lives. We would like to assure those involved that the information gathered in this process is highly useful to the Homeless Agency partnership as we work to improve homeless services and supports, and to ensure that the pathways out of homelessness are available and accessible.



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# Executive Summary

## Method

The periodic assessment of homelessness is based on a survey carried out by the Homeless Agency in the last week of March 2005. It includes people who are sleeping rough and in emergency accommodation as well as on local authority lists. All the tables are based on individuals self-reporting.

Non-response figures are given in every table to indicate how many respondents skipped that particular question. Where there is a high non-response in a given table it is inappropriate to generalise from the percentages given in that table.

## Overall Picture

The headline figures are as follows:

<b>No of Homeless Households</b>	<b>1,361</b>
+ Partners	<b>169</b>
+ Adult Dependants (aged 18 and over)	<b>22</b>
<b>Total Homeless Population (adult individuals)</b>	<b>1,552</b>
+ Child Dependants (aged under 18)	<b>463</b>
<b>Total Homeless Population (adults and children)</b>	<b>2,015</b>

## Comparison with 2002

A validation exercise was carried out in 2005, but not for previous surveys. As such, there are limits to the appropriateness of comparing 2005 figures with earlier figures. Taking this into account, the validated figure still showed a decrease of 19% in the number of households reporting as homeless between 2002 and 2005.

## Demographics

In this assessment there was a ratio of 2:1, men to women, among those who reported themselves as homeless. 46% of those experiencing homelessness reported their age as between 26 and 39 years old.

Single person households form the vast majority (77%) of those experiencing homelessness compared to other household types and over a third of those surveyed reported being homeless for over three years.

## Accommodation

38% of households reported staying mostly or entirely in private emergency accommodation (B&Bs). The next most common accommodation reported was hostels (22%).

## Rough Sleepers

185 people reported that they were rough sleeping in the 2005 survey, which is lower than the reported figures of 312 in 2002 and 275 in 1999. In total, the number of people who reported sleeping rough has decreased by 33% since 1999.



## CHAPTER 1

# Introduction: Objectives and Method

### 1.1 Introduction

In order to plan and provide homeless services it is vitally important to understand the changing number and profile of people experiencing homelessness. At the same time, precisely due to their transient nature, it is not easy to determine the exact number of people who are homeless at any given time. *Counted In 2005* presents the results of the periodic assessment of homelessness carried out by the Homeless Agency. The assessment is conducted every three years and uses a survey approach to generate information about homelessness in Dublin. This information is used to plan and co-ordinate the provision of homeless services.

*Counted In 2005* is the third survey of homelessness conducted in the Dublin area. The local authorities and the Homeless Agency carried out the questionnaire survey and SPSS Ireland conducted the data analysis. The survey approach was first adopted in 1999 as a more technically robust method than those used previously to assess the level of homelessness. The second survey was carried out in 2002.

The general approach for conducting the survey is to ask everyone in contact with homeless service providers within a given week to complete a short questionnaire. In addition, the local authorities provide information on individuals who are registered on their homeless lists.

Over one week, 24th–31st March 2005, survey questionnaires were administered in all homeless services across the Dublin area. In addition, similar to the two previous counts, surveys were also sent to services that are known to be in contact with people experiencing homelessness, including Accident and Emergency departments in hospitals, food and day centres and other services. All service users were asked to complete a survey, giving some basic information about themselves and the duration of their homelessness. A copy of the questionnaire is given in Appendix 1.

Bearing in mind the nature of homelessness, the results of this survey are best understood as a snapshot. They record the number and profile of those who were experiencing homelessness during this week in March 2005. Since this time, some people will have moved out of homelessness, others will be experiencing homelessness for the first time and some people will have returned to homelessness. This report does not claim to provide a comprehensive picture of the causes and dynamics of homelessness, but it does provide a basis for understanding the extent of homelessness in the Dublin area.

## 1.2 Report Structure

This report is divided into seven chapters. Chapter One details the background to the survey, including the definition of homelessness, the purpose of the study and the survey method.

Chapter Two presents the basic findings from the survey, including the population and profile of homeless households in the greater Dublin area from the survey. This includes gender, age, length of time homeless, recent accommodation (at the time of the survey), whether on a local authority waiting list, household type and number of child dependents.

Chapter Three presents the relationships (cross tabulations) between the key statistics. This information is important to show the different profiles of specific sub-groups within the homeless population.

The analysis in Chapter Four gives detail about the profile of the three household types in the homeless population, namely single people, couple only households and households with child dependents.

Chapter Five focuses on those people who reported that they were sleeping rough in the week prior to the survey. It provides further information about the profile of rough sleepers.

Chapter Six examines the last permanent addresses that were reported by those experiencing homelessness. This gives some information, in hindsight, of where people had been living while at risk of homelessness. This may be valuable information about what areas may have a higher proportion of people at risk of becoming homeless in the future.

Chapter Seven presents a comparison of the profile of households experiencing homelessness between 1999, 2002 and 2005 for service users only.

## 1.3 Definitions

### 1.3.1 Homelessness

Homelessness is a complex issue that goes beyond the common perception that all people experiencing homelessness are rough sleeping. Broadly speaking, all those people who cannot provide themselves with somewhere safe and secure to live are experiencing some form of homelessness or are at risk of homelessness.

More specifically, the Housing Act 1988 defines a person as homeless if:

- (a) there is no accommodation available which, in the opinion of the authority, he together with any other person who normally resides with him or might reasonably be expected to reside with him, can reasonably occupy or remain in occupation of, or
- (b) he is living in a hospital, county home, night shelter or other such institution and is so living because he has no accommodation of the kind referred to in paragraph (a) and he is, in the opinion of the authority, unable to provide accommodation from his own resources.

The Housing Act 1988 not only gives a definition of homelessness but also requires local authorities to assess the extent of homelessness every three years as part of a wider housing needs assessment.

At the same time as local authorities around Ireland carry out these assessments, the Homeless Agency has carried out a survey of homelessness in the four Dublin local authorities since 1999.

In common with the 1999 and 2002 surveys, individuals in transitional or long-term supported housing are not counted as 'homeless' for the purposes of this study, although



many of them may be moving out of homelessness and may be still in regular contact with homeless services, for example food services. Individuals in these accommodation types have some stability of tenure, however they were asked to complete a questionnaire, as a survey of their profile will be included in a future report evaluating transitional services.

Following the approach taken in 1999 and 2002, those currently residing in institutions, such as hospitals, prisons or county homes, are not included in the survey. There are some complex issues involved in trying to estimate the numbers of people in institutions who would otherwise be homeless and this work is beyond the scope and terms of reference of the 2005 study. However, work will be undertaken to see how they could be included in future assessments.

On an EU level, a coalition of organisations from EU countries including Ireland (FEANTSA) is working to address issues around the definition of homelessness<sup>2</sup>.

### 1.3.2 Technical Terms Used in the Survey

Several terms that were used in the survey have a specific meaning:

‘Household’ is used to refer to single persons as well as to those family members and partners who normally reside together.

‘Child dependent’ is used to refer to a person under the age of 18 who is a dependent in a household. While this is typically a son or daughter of an adult member of the household, it is sometimes a niece, nephew, grandchild or other relation. Only children under the age of 18 are classified as child dependents.

‘Adult dependent’ is used to refer to a person aged 18 or over who has been declared in a survey as a ‘dependent’. In most cases this refers to grown-up children who are still living as part of a household.

## 1.4 Method

### 1.4.1 Terms of Reference

The terms of reference for this report were as follows:

- A survey of the actual (in contrast to potential) homeless population in the Dublin area;
- The definition of homelessness follows the legal definition in the Housing Act 1988, excluding people currently living in state institutions but including those sleeping rough;
- The survey was administered by homeless services in Dublin and to every person accepted as homeless by the relevant local authorities;
- The reference period for the study extended over one week, 24th–31st March 2005;
- In contrast with 2002, a decision was made not to conduct a separate rough sleeper count (see Chapter 5);
- The data was recorded at the level of the individual accessing services to allow an estimate of the number of adults, the number of households and the number of child dependents to be made;
- The principal focus of the study was:
  - a headcount of the homeless population;
  - basic profiling of that population by age, gender and duration of homelessness;
  - information on the type of accommodation used in the week preceding the study;
- Issues such as routes into homelessness or service users’ evaluation of homeless services did not fall within the remit of the study as their inclusion would have potentially adverse effects on response levels.

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<sup>2</sup> FEANTSA is a European Federation of National Organisations Working with the Homeless. See [www.feantsa.org](http://www.feantsa.org) for more details. Definitions are addressed under the ETHOS project

### 1.4.2 Involvement of Services

Participation was invited from every homeless service in the greater Dublin area. Each service was asked to complete a survey questionnaire for every household in contact with their service during the week of the assessment (24th–31st March 2005). These homeless services comprised emergency accommodation services and private accommodation providers, refuges, street outreach teams, day and food services, settlement services, advice and information services, transitional services and long-term supported housing services. Voluntary or statutory bodies provide these homeless services.

Additionally, a number of other services were invited to participate in the survey, namely Health Service Executive services, drug treatment services, Accident and Emergency Departments in hospitals, local community services and youth services. Through the involvement of these services, alongside homeless services, it was hoped to maximise the number of contact points with people who may have been homeless. (A full list of participants is given in Appendix 1).

### 1.4.3 Involvement of Local Authorities

There are four local authorities in the Dublin area: Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown, Fingal, South Dublin and Dublin City. For this assessment, each of the four local authorities returned a questionnaire in respect of every household registered with them as homeless.

### 1.4.4 Information and Support

The Homeless Agency held an Information Day for services to explain the method and how to complete the questionnaire. Detailed written instructions were also provided and support was made available throughout the week of the assessment from the Homeless Agency.

### 1.4.5 The Questionnaire

The questionnaire was developed to maximise the amount of information that could be collected while minimising the burden it presented to interviewer and respondent. A questionnaire that was too long or demanding for the respondent would, undoubtedly, have had an adverse effect on response rates.

A further consideration in designing the questionnaire was the need to maintain consistency with that used in the 1999 and 2002 survey to allow comparability of results. However, the validation of the survey that took place in 2005 limits the simple comparison of its findings with those from earlier surveys (see sections 1.5.3 and 1.5.4 below).

Within the constraints imposed by these considerations, the questionnaire used in the survey contained seven sections, as follows:

- **Unique identifiers** – these were the PPS number, gender, date of birth and initials of each respondent and were used to remove duplications from the computer file of respondents. PPS number was used for the first time in 2005 and was quite useful. Most people surveyed could give a number (over 90%) although around 15% of these were incorrect;
- **Citizenship** – used to establish the extent of homelessness among people not of Irish origin (**County of Origin** was asked in previous surveys);
- **Whether or not registered with a local authority** – used to establish the extent to which the homeless population self-reported as being registered with a local authority, and which authority.
- **Last permanent address** – used to establish the origin within (or beyond) the Dublin area of the homeless population in relation to their current location;
- **Accommodation type used in week preceding the interview** – this included hostels, refuges, bed and breakfasts, staying with a friend and sleeping rough;

- **Duration of homelessness** – details were recorded on the current duration of homelessness and previous lengths of time homeless;
- **Household details** – this recorded whether the respondent was single or part of a couple and whether the household had child dependents. Unique identifiers were recorded for partners and/or dependents where appropriate.

Certain information such as household type or postal code of previous address was derived from the data gathered rather than from direct questions.

The questionnaire also doubled as a declaration that the respondent required (or did not require) permanent local authority housing. These declarations were signed, witnessed and submitted to the relevant local authority.

Local authorities monitored the completion and return of questionnaires from all homeless service accommodation providers. The Homeless Agency coordinated the survey in all non-accommodation services, such as day centres, food centres, community organisations, Accident and Emergency departments and outreach services.

Those completing the Homeless Agency questionnaires were asked a screening question to ensure that they were a) homeless and b) had not completed the form already. In addition, services were asked to complete a list of refusals to be returned if service users chose not to participate in the survey.

In 1999 and 2002 respondents were asked if they were seeking asylum as a filtering question at the beginning of the survey. Those who answered positively were excluded from the count. For the 2005 report it was agreed that all those accessing homeless services who reported to be homeless would be included.

#### 1.4.6 Removing Duplicates from the Data

As the survey took place over a period of a week, during which all services were requested to administer a questionnaire in respect of everyone who used their services, it was possible that some individuals may have responded more than once if they were moving between different services during that period. Once the computer files of respondents were prepared, it was necessary, as with previous counts, to ensure that just one record existed for each individual. Respondents who refused to be interviewed were returned separately as refusals.

Duplicates were removed from the data based on the PPS number, initials, date of birth and gender of the respondent. Additionally, a manual process was conducted to remove duplicates due to missing data and/or inaccurate details. Finally, in generating data based on individuals, it was necessary to remove duplicates in respect of adults who responded to a questionnaire and who also appeared as part of a household on a spouse's or partner's questionnaire.

## 1.5 Methodological Issues

### 1.5.1 The Limitations of Self-Reporting

After years of disagreement over the best method of assessing the level of homelessness in the Dublin area, in 1999 the Homeless Initiative<sup>3</sup> gained agreement on using the survey method as the most appropriate and accurate means of counting the homeless population. The agreement was made after a series of negotiations with the voluntary sector, the health services, local authorities and the Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government. However, as with all surveys and as noted in previous assessments, there are some inherent limits in the method.

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<sup>3</sup> The predecessor of the Homeless Agency

The information recorded on the survey questionnaires was self-reported by the respondents and, as with all such data, is therefore open to inaccuracies and contradictions. There were some challenges to the 1999 and 2002 reports on the basis of inaccuracies and contradictions in what individuals had reported about their circumstances. For example, there were people reporting in 2002 that they were homeless for longer than three years, yet they were not captured by the 1999 study. However, the Homeless Agency conducted a lengthy process of checking and cross-referencing to increase the reliability of the information gathered. While this process can never eliminate all inaccuracies, it nevertheless improved the quality of the data.

There are different possible explanations for inaccuracies in self-reporting. Some individuals may incorrectly report their circumstances (e.g. length of time homeless or extent of rough sleeping) if they feel this will speed up or increase assistance. Alternatively, it is documented that some people experiencing long-term homelessness can have an interruption in their sense of time and may genuinely be confused as to the duration of their homelessness. It is also possible that some may not have been picked up in the earlier surveys if for any reason they were not accessing homeless services during the week in which the survey snapshot was taken.

Whatever the explanation, one of the disadvantages in any survey is that it is limited by the answers given by respondents. The accuracy of peoples' responses can always be questioned. However, this flaw should not be overstated. Most respondents are in regular contact with the service providers who were administering the survey and experience suggests that most service users do answer the survey questions in good faith.

### 1.5.2 Response Rates

This section details the process by which the total number of homeless adults and households was calculated from the number of questionnaires returned less the unusable forms and duplicates and with the addition of refusals. Table 1.1 summarises this information.

			TOTAL	Key Figures
<b>A No of Questionnaires Returned</b>				
<b>Appearing</b>	<b>Occurrences</b>		<b>2178</b>	
<b>B</b> Once	1975	1975		
Twice	97	194		
Three times	3	9		
<b>C Uniquely completed = 2075</b>	<b>Total occurrences = 2178</b>		2075	
<b>D</b> Unusable		26	-26	
<b>E</b> De facto Questionnaires			2049	
<b>F</b> Refusals		18	+18	
<b>G</b> Unusable (partially completed)		0	0	
<b>H Target Population</b>			<b>2067</b>	<b>2067</b>
<b>I</b> Of which not Homeless:				
7 nights in transitional		346		
7 nights in own home		1		
7 nights in long-term supported		359	706	-706
<b>J Valid homeless identified from questionnaires (all households)</b>		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1361</b>	<b>1361</b>
<b>K</b> Dependent adults not identified as having completed a questionnaire				
Partners	169			
Dependents aged 18 and over	22	191	+191	
<b>Total homeless population (adult individuals)</b>			<b>1552</b>	<b>1552</b>
Child Dependents aged under 18	463		+463	
<b>Total homeless population (adults and children)</b>			<b>2015</b>	<b>2015</b>

Table 1.1 Breakdown of Number of Questionnaires, Refusals and Dependent Adults Identified in the Survey

A total of 2,178 completed or partially completed survey forms were returned to SPSS Ireland for analysis. No questionnaires were excluded on the basis of being partially completed.

In line with the 1999 and 2002 surveys, people who were staying in transitional accommodation, in their own home, and in long-term supported accommodation were surveyed but were subsequently excluded from the assessment. The rationale for excluding people in transitional housing is that they have a secure tenancy, generally a minimum of six months.

Panel A of the table starts with the 2,178 questionnaires returned to SPSS Ireland. Panel B shows the removal of duplicates based on PPS Number, initials, date of birth and gender. From this, one can see that a total of 1,975 individuals filled out one questionnaire, a further 97 appeared twice and 3 appeared three times. This means that a total of 2,075 uniquely identified individuals returned questionnaires.

On inspection of the completed questionnaires it was found that 26 were unusable based on the criterion that they did not pass the screening question and were thus unusable for analysis. This reduced the total number of respondents to 2,049.

In Panel F of Table 1.1, the figures show that 18 persons were reported as refusals by the services administering the questionnaire.

Therefore the total target population (defined as those who accessed the services in question within the reference week) stood at 2,067 persons (Panel H of Table 1.1). This was made up 2,049 completed questionnaires with the addition of the 18 refusals (on the basis that they may actually have been homeless but preferred not to complete the questionnaire).

Within the target population of 2,067 individuals, 706 had spent 7 nights in transitional housing, in their own home or in long-term supported accommodation. These were taken away from the total to give 1,361 homeless households. Those in transitional or other long-term housing will be included in a future study to be carried out by the Homeless Agency.

### 1.5.3 Sources of Information and Validation

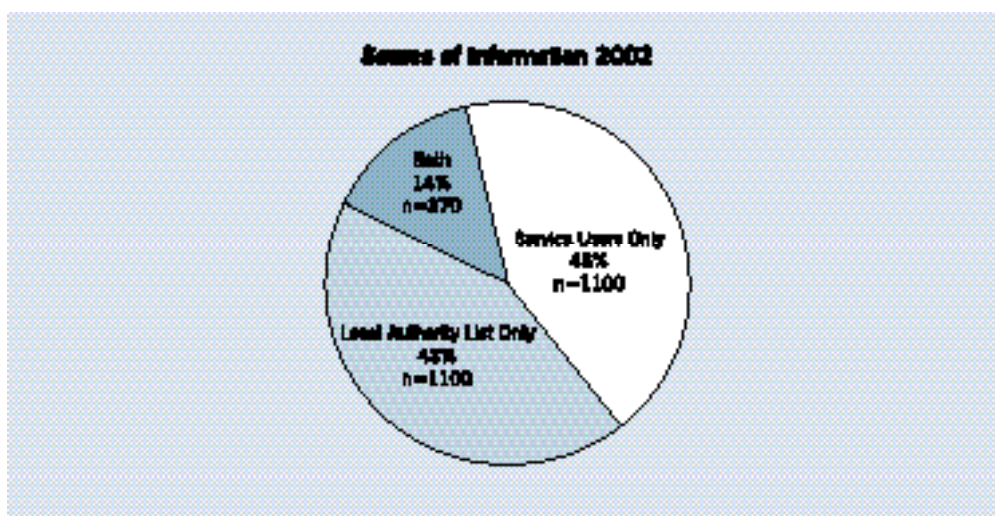


Figure 1.1 Source of Information 2002

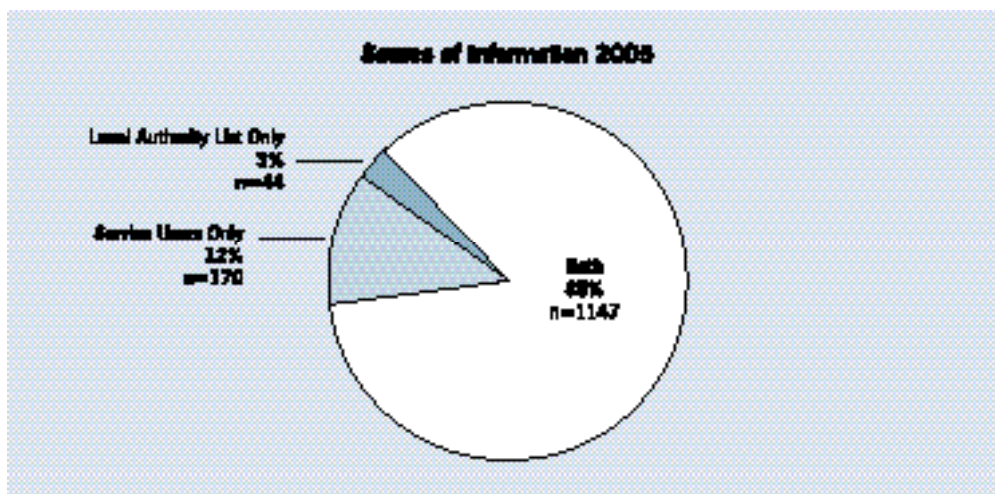


Figure 1.2 Source of Information 2005

The assessment gains information from the Dublin local authorities on everyone on their homeless accommodation lists as well as from the Homeless Agency survey carried out in non-accommodation homeless services. Unique identifiers are used to ensure that no one is counted twice, should they appear from both sources. Figures 1.1 and 1.2 shows the origin of information in 2002 and 2005.

As the figures show, there is a major change in the overlap between people who were on local authority Lists and people who were accessing homeless services between the 2002 and 2005 surveys. By 2005, 85% of people were both accessing services and registered on a local authority list. In part, the change in percentages is due to the validation exercise that saw many obsolete names removed from the local authority lists, but in absolute number terms there is still a large increase, from 370 people in 2002 to 1,147 people in 2005.

The validation exercise checked that everyone registered as homeless by local authorities was also in contact with homeless services and supports. In 2005 it was individually confirmed that there were 44 people who were registered as homeless with local authorities but not availing of homeless services.

The total number of households surveyed in 2002 was 2,560, which is 1,199 more than were surveyed in 2005. A large part of this difference can be explained as due to the validation process that saw 707 names removed from the Dublin City Council homeless priority housing list. However, taking this into account, the reduction in households surveyed in 2005 was 492, a reduction of 19% from 2002.

#### 1.5.4 Caution! Comparison with 1999 and 2002 Studies

A number of issues were raised following the 1999 and 2002 reports.

A major issue was the use of two different data sets: Homeless Agency survey returns and local authority homeless lists. The level of crossover between them differed to such an extent that only 25% of those accessing homeless services were actually registered on the local authority homeless lists and visa versa. This was the reason for the validation exercise that was undertaken for the first time in 2005. That is, the reported totals of homeless individuals were cross referenced between the local authority records and the records of homeless services. Individuals who were neither in contact with local authorities nor currently accessing any homeless services were removed from the waiting lists. As a result of this validation process, the number of households registered with local authorities and not accessing homeless services was reduced to 44 (plus one person in transitional accommodation) compared with 1,090 in 2002.

For the 2005 survey process, it was agreed that the local authorities would take on the responsibility for the collection of data in respect of individuals accessing homeless accommodation services. All forms received by the local authorities from private and voluntary accommodation providers would be copied and given to the Homeless Agency so that comparisons could be made to the 1999 and 2002 reports. It was also agreed that the Homeless Agency would write to all other services asking that they ensure that all service users were registered with the appropriate authority in order to avoid the previous experience of the anomalies between the local authorities' and Homeless Agency's figures.

The process of validation makes the overall survey results more accurate. However, for the purposes of comparison, it means that the figures in the 2005 report can only be compared with the **numbers accessing services** in 1999 and 2002 and not the total homeless population surveyed. It is inappropriate to compare the overall 1999 and 2002 figures with the 2005 results, as only the 2005 figures are based on the process of validation.

An additional difference between the 2005 and earlier surveys is that the data in 2005 is not re-weighted. That is, in 1999 and 2002 the survey data were taken as a sample of the homeless population and the findings were modified to represent the demographics of the population as a whole. In 2005, the survey data were taken to represent the entire homeless population and thus it was agreed that weighting the data would have been inappropriate.

Chapter 7 gives some comparison between the three surveys, based solely on service users as this information was gathered in the same way over all three surveys.

### 1.5.5 Non-Response

The results of any survey can only represent those people (or those types of people) who respond to it. There is a risk that those who refused to participate are different or have different opinions from those who took the time to complete a survey. The difference that this makes to the results of a survey is called non-response bias.

It is important to distinguish between survey non-response and item non-response. The former is when individuals simply refused to do the survey. The latter is when individuals skipped some of the questions in the survey questionnaire that they filled in.

In order to gauge survey non-response, services were requested to return refusal forms to be filled out by staff whenever a service user did not wish to participate in the survey. It is possible that some centres were reluctant to report refusals and that there may be an under-reporting of the number of people who did not want to fill out a questionnaire. There is no way of measuring whether this did occur. As it stands, the level of reported survey non-response is very low.

In this study, there is not a high level of survey non-response from those people who accessed homeless services in the week in question. Only 18 contacts refused to complete a questionnaire compared with 2,075 individuals who did complete a questionnaire. Twenty-six of the completed questionnaires were excluded, as they did not pass the screening questions (i.e. they did not answer that they were homeless and that they could not say where they had stayed for at least some of the previous seven nights).

In talking about survey non-response, it is worth emphasising that this refers to those households *within* the target group of the survey who are not included in the findings. Obviously, the survey does not represent those households who were not covered by the terms of reference of the study, such as those in long-term support accommodation, transitional accommodation or institutions. However, the survey includes the 18 refusals in the tables under the reported non-response. As such, the entire homeless population is included in every table.

The other type of non-response is called item non-response. This is more of an issue in this study as many respondents skipped one or more questions that were in the survey questionnaire.

For the first time, the tables in the 2005 report include the non-response for each question. This permits the reader to view in a glance the level of item non-response bias in the responses to each question.

The reader must be aware that the response rate is different for each question, varying from all respondents answering a question (no bias) to hundreds of respondents skipping a question (significant bias). Whenever a significant number of respondents did not answer a question, this must be taken into account when understanding what the table reports and generalising about it. In such cases, the percentages involved will be significantly different if non-response is factored in or not. In any case, each question still provides useful data about the absolute number of individuals who answered the question.

## 1.6 The Rough Sleeper Count

The decision was taken not to conduct an additional street based head count of rough sleepers in 2005, as was done in 2002.

A meeting was held by the Homeless Agency in June 2004 attended by the Homeless Agency, the local authorities, health services and a number of voluntary representatives. There was agreement that it was necessary to have an estimate of the number of people who sleep rough in order to plan and deliver responses for them. However, at that time, there were two figures in use that came from two different methods of counting the number of those sleeping rough. Some members of the homeless sector were using the self-reported



figure of 312 people sleeping rough from *Counted In 2002* while others were using a figure of under 100 from the 2003 rough sleeper street count conducted by the outreach teams.

There was disagreement about the accuracy of the 2003 street count. It was argued that it only represented a minimum figure, as it excluded people who were awake and not yet bedded down or who were difficult to find. Additionally, a survey conducted on only one night was no more than a head count, which yielded little value in terms of planning, as the numbers could vary significantly night by night and are dependent on a number of variables such as weather and provided no basic information such as age or gender.

However, concern was also raised that surveying people in homeless services (in particular food centres) may lead people who were not homeless to say that they were, in order to continue accessing the services, thereby inflating the figures.

It was agreed that the self-reported assessment which was conducted in 1999 and 2002 would again be undertaken as this would give trend data as to whether, using the same method, the numbers returned were increasing or decreasing. However, in addition to the survey, it was agreed that an alternative way of verifying self reported rough sleeping during the course of the assessment would need to be found. It was agreed that the Homeless Agency would take responsibility for this and the section on rough sleepers includes input from the network of emergency accommodation providers and outreach teams to independently confirm the figures from the survey. The Rough Sleeper Analysis is given in Chapter 5.

## 1.7 Summary

This chapter presented the objectives, method and terms of references for the study. These are the limits within which the findings of the survey need to be understood. It is important to reiterate the central goal of the survey, which is to present a snapshot of homelessness between 24th and 31st of March 2005. Although there are some limitations in the chosen method, as there must be with any method, it represents the most accurate and comprehensive survey of homelessness in Dublin carried out to date.



## CHAPTER 2

# Overall Demographic Tables

This chapter gives the profile of the entire homeless population surveyed at the end of March 2005.

### Totals

The tables in this chapter use two different totals. A total of 1,361 individuals filled out survey forms giving information about their household. These questionnaires gave full information about these individuals as well as some details (such as age and gender) about any additional adults in their households.

As such, the age and gender tables are based on the total number of homeless adults (N=1,552), while all the other tables are based on the total number of individuals who completed questionnaires about their households (N=1,361).

### 2.1 Total Homeless Population

The headline figures are as follows:

<b>No of Homeless Households</b>	<b>1,361</b>
+ Partners	169
+ Adult Dependants (aged 18 and over)	22
<b>Total Homeless Population (adult individuals)</b>	<b>1,552</b>
+ Child Dependants (aged under 18)	463
<b>Total Homeless Population (adults and children)</b>	<b>2,015</b>

At first glance, these figures represent a significant decrease in comparison with previous surveys. In 2002, there were 2,920 adults and in 1999 there were 2,900 adults. These are significantly higher figures than the 1,552 adults surveyed in 2005.

Similarly, the figures show a significant decrease in the number of homeless households. There were 1,361 households counted in 2005, while there were 2,560 in 2002. As explained in Chapter 1, it is not always possible to make a direct comparison between the 2005 figures

and the earlier figures. However, the validated 2005 figures show a decrease of 19% in the number of households reported as experiencing homelessness, compared to 2002.

## 2.2 Gender profile

<b>Distribution of homeless persons classified according to Gender 2005</b>			
<b>Gender</b>	<b>Count</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>% respondents</b>
Male	954	61%	<b>63%</b>
Female	550	35%	<b>37%</b>
No response	48	3%	
TOTAL (N) 2005	1552	100%	<b>100%</b>
Note: Total number of adults N=1552			

Table 2.1 Gender

Approximately 2 out of every 3 homeless individuals are male. A total of 954 men were counted, along with 550 women. 48 people did not report their gender, but this does not significantly bias the information in the table.

## 2.3 Age Group profile

<b>Distribution of homeless persons classified according to Age Group 2005</b>			
<b>Age Category</b>	<b>Count</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>% respondents</b>
20 years or less	62	4%	<b>4%</b>
21–25 years	203	13%	<b>14%</b>
26–39 years	654	42%	<b>46%</b>
40–64 years	460	30%	<b>32%</b>
65 years +	39	3%	<b>3%</b>
No response	134	9%	
TOTAL (N) 2005	1552	100%	<b>100%</b>
Note: Total number of adults N=1552			

Table 2.2 Age Group

The most commonly reported age groups were 26–39 years old (42% of adults) and 40–64 years old (30% of adults). 39 individuals reported their age as 65 years old or more. 134 people did not report their age (9% of adults), which is a moderate level of non-response. Including or excluding the non-respondents changes the percentage figures by up to 4%.

The survey asked respondents for their dates of birth. The average age reported by people in homeless households is 37 years old. Households with child dependents have a lower average age of 33 years old. The average age of women is typically lower than the average age of men.

62 individuals reported their age as 20 years old or less. This is further broken down in the following table.

<b>Distribution of homeless persons classified according to Youngest Age Group 2005</b>		
<b>Youngest Age Category</b>	<b>Count</b>	<b>%</b>
16 years or less	0	0%
17 years	1	2%
18 years	21	34%
19 years	22	35%
20 years	18	29%
TOTAL (N) 2005	62	100%
Note: Total number of adults N=1552		

Table 2.3 Youngest Age Group

All of 62 individuals in the youngest age group were over 18, except for one 17 year old. Although technically a minor, the 17-year-old is included as an adult in this count. This is a significantly lower total than in previous surveys. In 1999 there were 210 single people aged 20 years old or less and in 2002 there were 140 single people in this age group.

## 2.4 Length of Time Homeless

From this point in the tables the results are about households and not individuals, although many of those households do actually represent single people. Household type is broken down in detail in Chapter 4.

<b>Distribution of homeless persons classified according to Length of Time Homeless 2005</b>			
<b>Duration of Current Spell</b>	<b>Count</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>% respondents</b>
Under 6 months	252	19%	<b>23%</b>
Between 6–12 months	146	11%	<b>14%</b>
Between 12–24 months	123	9%	<b>11%</b>
Between 24–36 months	88	6%	<b>8%</b>
More than 36 months	467	34%	<b>43%</b>
No response	285	21%	
TOTAL (N) 2005	1361	100%	<b>100%</b>
Note: Total number of adults N=1361			

Table 2.4 Length of Time Homeless

467 individuals reported that their household was homeless for over three years (34% of households). The next largest group, 252 people, reported that their household was homeless for less than six months (19% of households).

285 people (21% of households) did not answer this question, causing significant non-response bias, as it is impossible to know whether their circumstances are evenly divided among the different durations or else clustered in one or more groups. The inclusion or exclusion of non-response changes the percentages by up to 9%.

## 2.5 Accommodation Type

The question about accommodation over the last seven days was a screening question on the Homeless Agency's questionnaires to ensure that those accessing homeless day services were in fact homeless. Some 26 respondents did not account for any of their last seven nights or did not pass other screening questions. As such, they were excluded from the analysis, as it could not be ascertained that they were homeless (see Table 1.1). There were some people who only accounted for some of the seven nights. These households were included in the analysis. All questionnaires administered by the Local Authorities were to those living in homeless accommodation. As such, there was no need to screen respondents to the local authority administered surveys.

Distribution of homeless persons classified according to type of accommodation 2005		
Accommodation Type	Count	%
7 nights rough sleeping	143	11%
4–6 nights rough sleeping	42	3%
7 nights hostel	260	19%
4–6 nights hostel	37	3%
7 nights refuge	9	1%
7 nights B&B	469	34%
4–6 nights B&B	57	4%
7 nights friends and family	13	1%
4–6 nights friends and family	22	2%
7 nights other	174	13%
Other combinations	51	4%
No reponse	84	6%
TOTAL (N) 2005	1361	100%
Note: Total Number of Households N=1361		

Table 2.5 Accommodation Type

Table 2.5 shows where respondents reported that their household spent the last seven nights. The single largest group (38% of households) stayed either for 4–6 nights or for all 7 nights in private emergency accommodation. Note that this typically refers to those privately owned B&Bs that are block-booked by local authorities as emergency accommodation.

The next largest group (22% of households) reported that they stayed entirely or mostly in a hostel. A small number of households (3%) were staying with friends or family because they had nowhere else to go.

185 households reported that they were sleeping rough for most or all of the past seven nights (14%). Chapter 5 gives a detailed analysis of rough sleepers.

Only 9 respondents (1%) reported that their household spent the entire week in a refuge. It is possible that some people staying in refuges during this week reported their accommodation under the 'other' or 'hostel' categories.

84 households (6%) did not answer this question to say what type of accommodation they had stayed in. However all of these individuals must have been staying in homeless accommodation and interviewed by local authority staff, as non response to this question on the Homeless Agency's questionnaires meant exclusion from the analysis.

A total of 225 households (17%) reported that they were either staying in a combination of the listed accommodation over the seven days or in some other accommodation. Only 27 of these households responded to the sub-question to 'please specify' where they had slept. This is shown in the next table.

## 2.6 Slept Elsewhere, Please Specify

<b>Slept Elsewhere 2005</b>		
<b>Slept Elsewhere</b>	<b>Count</b>	<b>%</b>
Hospital	16	59%
Hotel	1	4%
In England	1	4%
In treatment	1	4%
Mount Joy	1	4%
Simon Detox	1	4%
Store St Garda Station	1	4%
Unknown	4	15%
Other areas	1	4%
<b>Total</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>100%</b>
Note: Total Number of Households N=1361		

Table 2.6 Area Slept Elsewhere

The largest group of those who reported what 'other' location they were sleeping in were in hospital. However, as most respondents (198 out of 225) who were sleeping elsewhere did not specify where, this information cannot be used to make generalisations.

## 2.7 Household Type

<b>Distribution of homeless persons classified according to Household Type 2005</b>		
<b>Household Type</b>	<b>Count</b>	<b>%</b>
Single Person	1046	77%
Dual Parent	101	7%
Lone Parent	119	9%
Couple Only	95	7%
<b>TOTAL (N) 2005</b>	<b>1361</b>	<b>100%</b>
Note: Total Number of Households N=1361		

Table 2.7 Household Type

Most homeless households comprise single people (77%). There are 95 people (7%) who reported to being part of a couple with no child dependents.

A significant number of households had child dependents (16%). However, relative to earlier surveys, the number of households with child dependents has decreased. In 1999

they accounted for 20% of homeless households and in 2002 they accounted for 25% of homeless households.

Chapter 4 of this report uses the above breakdown to give details about the profile of the different household types.

In relation to previous assessments, single person households remain the dominant type; 76% of households in 1999 and 70% of households in 2002 were single people.

## 2.8 Local Authority Housing Waiting Lists

<b>Distribution of homeless persons classified according to whether on a Local Authority Housing Waiting List 2005</b>		
<b>Local Authority Housing Waiting List</b>	<b>Count</b>	<b>%</b>
Yes	1191	88%
No	100	7%
No response	70	5%
TOTAL (N) 2005	1361	100%
Note: Total Number of Households N=1361		

Table 2.8 Whether on a Local Authority Housing Waiting List

This question asked respondents to say if they thought they were on a Local Authority housing waiting list. A large majority of homeless households thought they were (88%), although this self-reporting has been shown in previous surveys to vary considerably from the records of local authorities.

100 households responded that they were not registered on a housing waiting list and another 70 (5%) did not specify either way. The Homeless Agency questionnaire included a declaration of whether or not the household required local authority housing. These declarations were sent to the relevant local authorities and may reduce the numbers who are not registered. However, if many people think they are registered when in fact they are not, a more systematic means of ensuring maximum registration may be required.

The next table examines which local authorities people thought they were registered with.

## 2.9 Nominated Local Authority Housing Waiting List 2005

<b>Distribution of homeless persons classified according to local authority area 2005</b>		
<b>Local Authority Area</b>	<b>Count of Authorities</b>	<b>% of Authorities</b>
Dublin City Council	923	75%
Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council	159	13%
South Dublin County Council	110	9%
Fingal County Council	34	3%
Other	4	0%
Total	1230	100%
Note: Total Number of Households N=1361		

Table 2.9 Nominated Local Authority Housing Waiting List



People are permitted to register with more than one local authority to be on its housing list, which explains why there are a total of 1,230 registrations for the 1,191 households who thought there were registered on a housing waiting list. However an individual typically cannot be on a homeless priority list in more than one county. Some people experiencing homelessness may not be certain whether they are registered on an ordinary housing list or a homeless priority list.

Dublin City Council was the most commonly reported local authority, representing 75% of all self-reported registrations with local authorities. Four households were registered outside of the greater Dublin area. Details are in the next table.

<b>Other Local Authority 2005</b>		
<b>Other Local Authority</b>	<b>Count</b>	<b>%</b>
Kildare County Council	1	25%
Ouside Dublin	1	25%
Unified housing waiting list/UK	1	25%
Wicklow County Council	1	25%
Total	4	100%
Note: Total Number of Households N=1361		

Table 2.10 Non-Dublin Local Authority Housing Waiting List

This table shows those four households who specified that they were registered on a local authority housing waiting list outside the greater Dublin area.

## 2.10 Source of Income

<b>Distribution of Respondents Source of Income 2005</b>		
<b>Source of Income</b>	<b>Count</b>	<b>%</b>
Unemployment Assistance	486	36%
Unemployment Benefit	30	2%
Disability	253	19%
Lone Parents	64	5%
Back to Education	2	0%
FAS	13	1%
HSE	50	4%
In Employment	26	2%
Carers Allowance	1	0%
Pension	22	2%
Other	25	2%
No Response	389	29%
Total	1361	100%
Note: Total Number of Households N=1361		

Table 2.11 Source of Income

One third of homeless households reported their source of income as Unemployment Assistance (36% of households). Another fifth (19%) reported Disability as their main source of income. Combined, these two payments cover more than half of those experiencing homelessness. However, a very large number of households did not report their source of income (29%). This makes generalisations from this table inappropriate, except to quote the percentages as minimum figures.

A very small number of households (3%) quoted sources of income that indicated possible movement out of homelessness (i.e. Back to Education, FAS or In Employment).

## 2.11 Relationship to Dependents

As Table 1.1 (in Chapter 1) shows, the 1,361 households surveyed reported a total of 463 child dependents and an additional 22 adult dependents (typically family members over the age of 18). A total of 220 households reported having dependents, but they did not always make a clear distinction between those under and over the age of 18.

The survey asked households to give information about their relationship to their dependents. Not every household answered this question, thus the above table gives the relationship and number of dependents per household for a total of 452 'dependents' (possibly including a small number of those aged 18 or more).

Relationship to Child Dependents 2005							
	Son Count	Daughter Count	Children Count	Grandson Count	Granddaughter Count	Niece Count	Total Count
Dependent 1 Relationship to You	99	105	2				206
Dependent 2 Relationship to You	68	50	1		1		120
Dependent 3 Relationship to You	28	35	1	1			65
Dependent 4 Relationship to You	16	13	1	1			31
Dependent 5 Relationship to You	11	2	1	1	1		16
Dependent 6 Relationship to You	6	2					8
Dependent 7 Relationship to You	3						3
Dependent 8 Relationship to You	1					1	2
Dependent 9 Relationship to You						1	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>232</b>	<b>207</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>452</b>
Note: Total Number of Households N=1361							

Table 2.12 Relationship to Child Dependents

From those respondents who gave information on dependents, there were 232 sons, 207 daughters, 3 grandsons, 2 granddaughters, 2 nieces and 6 mentions of a 'child' (where more specific information was not given).

Nearly half of households with dependents had only one dependent (46%). An additional 27% had two dependents, 14% had three dependents and 13% had four or more dependents.

<b>Distribution of Number of Dependents by Household Type 2005</b>										
<b>Household Type</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>Total</b>
	<b>Count</b>	<b>Count</b>	<b>Count</b>	<b>Count</b>	<b>Count</b>	<b>Count</b>	<b>Count</b>	<b>Count</b>	<b>Count</b>	<b>Count</b>
Dual Parent	38	30	16	7	2	4	2	1	1	101
Lone Parent	54	29	18	11	6	1	0	0	0	119
Total	92	59	34	18	8	5	2	1	1	220

Note: Total Number of Households with Child Dependents N=220

*Table 2.13 Number of Child Dependents by Household Type*

Table 2.13 compares lone parent households with dual parent households. A larger number of lone parents reported having one child compared to dual parent households, but generally the number of children is similar for both types of household. Only dual parent households reported seven or more children.



## CHAPTER 3

# Cross Tabulations

This chapter presents cross tabulations between the different data on profile presented in Chapter 2. These show the relationships between these and give a deeper insight into the characteristics of the homeless population and the possible existence of sub-groups within the population with specific needs.

The cross tabulations are based on the 1,361 individuals who completed a survey on behalf of their households rather than the known population of 1,552 adult individuals, as the surveys collected only limited information on the additional partners and adult dependents who did not complete a questionnaire for themselves. Thus, although we know the age and gender of the 1,552 adults we do not have the other data to cross tabulate with this. Hence only the age and gender of the 1,361 respondents were included in the tables in this chapter.

Cross tabulations were carried out by SPSS for every piece of data, but only those tables which highlight significant patterns are presented in this chapter due to limits of space. Further details about the cross tabulations are available from the Homeless Agency.

### 3.1 Further Distribution of Gender profile

In this section, the tables show the breakdown of the gender of respondents. The percentages shown represent the proportion of males and females within each subgroup. The 'no response' category is also shown so that the pattern of missing data can be examined.

#### Gender by Age Category

Homeless Households Classified by Gender and Age Category 2005														
Gender	20 years or less		21–25 years		26–39 years		40–64 years		65 years +		No response		All households	
	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%
Male	13	33%	92	54%	352	62%	334	77%	27	71%	59	53%	877	64%
Female	26	65%	79	46%	215	38%	97	23%	11	29%	22	20%	450	33%
No response	1	3%	0	0%	3	1%	0	0%	0	0%	30	27%	34	2%
Total (N) 2005	40	100%	171	100%	570	100%	431	100%	38	100%	111	100%	1361	100%

Note: Total Number of Respondents N=1361

Table 3.1 Gender by Age Group

Twice as many women as men under the age of 20 reported to being homeless. This goes against the general trend for more men than women to experience homelessness. However, the small size of this age group must be noted (it accounts for 40 out of the total of 1,361 households).

In the 21–25 years old group there are almost the same number of men and women (54% male to 46% female).

As the age group gets older the proportion of males increases (33%, 54%, 62%, 77% and 71% respectively). In the main age group (26–39 years old) the proportion of males to females matches the overall ratio of 2:1 in males to females. In the 40–64 years old group the proportion of males to females rises to 3:1.

### Gender by Length of Time Homeless

Homeless Households Classified by Gender and Length of Time Homeless 2005														
Gender	Under 6 months		Between 6–12 months		Between 12–24 months		Between 24–36 months		More than 36 months		No response		All households	
	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%
Male	158	63%	100	68%	72	59%	55	63%	316	68%	176	62%	877	64%
Female	90	36%	46	32%	50	41%	33	38%	151	32%	80	28%	450	33%
No response	4	2%	0	0%	1	1%	0	0%	0	0%	29	10%	34	2%
Total (N) 2005	252	100%	146	100%	123	100%	88	100%	467	100%	285	100%	1361	100%

Note: Total Number of Respondents N=1361

Table 3.2 Gender by Length of time homeless

There is no significant pattern of gender difference when it comes to households reporting the length of time they spent homeless. The ratio of 2:1, males to females, is consistent throughout.

### Gender by Accommodation Type

Homeless Households Classified by Gender and Accommodation 2005																											
Gender	7 nights rough sleeping		4–6 nights rough sleeping		7 nights hostel		4–6 nights hostel		7 nights refuge		7 nights B&B		4–6 nights B&B		7 nights friends and family		4–6 nights friends and family		7 nights other		Other combinations		No response		All households		
	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count
Male	94	66%	35	83%	205	79%	24	65%	0	0%	256	55%	38	67%	10	77%	14	64%	115	66%	40	78%	46	55%	877	64%	
Female	48	34%	7	17%	49	19%	13	35%	9	100%	211	45%	18	32%	3	23%	8	36%	54	31%	10	20%	20	24%	450	33%	
No response	1	1%	0	0%	6	2%	0	0%	0	0%	2	0%	1	2%	0	0%	0	0%	5	3%	1	2%	18	21%	34	2%	
Total (N) 2005	143	100%	42	100%	260	100%	37	100%	9	100%	469	100%	57	100%	13	100%	22	100%	174	100%	51	100%	84	100%	1361	100%	

Note: Total Number of Respondents N=1361

Table 3.3 Gender by Accommodation Type

There is little gender difference in terms of the accommodation reported by respondents, except in the obvious case of women-only refuges. The pattern of 2:1 males to females is a good general guideline, increasing to 3:1 for hostels and over 4:1 for rough sleeping.

## Gender by Household Type

Homeless Households Classified by Gender and Type of Household 2005										
Gender	Single Person		Dual Parent		Lone Parent		Couple Only		All households	
	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%
Male	756	72%	44	44%	13	11%	64	67%	877	64%
Female	257	25%	57	56%	105	88%	31	33%	450	33%
No response	33	3%	0	0%	1	1%	0	0%	34	2%
Total (N) 2005	1046	100%	101	100%	119	100%	95	100%	1361	100%

Note: Total Number of Respondents N=1361

Table 3.4 Gender by Household Type

Household types show some variation on the basis of gender. Only 11% of lone parents are male, whereas the vast majority (88%) are women.

Most single people experiencing homelessness are male (72%), which is slightly higher than the 2:1 ratio of males to females in the population. Male respondents are also twice as likely to report that they are in a couple only household.

## 3.2 Further Distribution of Age Group profile

In this section, the tables show the breakdown of the age of respondents by the other profile data.

### Age by Gender

Homeless Households Classified by Age Category and Gender 2005									
Age Category	Male		Female		No response		All households		
	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	
20 years or less	13	1%	26	6%	1	3%	40	3%	
21–25 years	92	10%	79	18%	0	0%	171	13%	
26–39 years	352	40%	215	48%	3	9%	570	42%	
40–64 years	334	38%	97	22%	0	0%	431	32%	
65 years +	27	3%	11	2%	0	0%	38	3%	
No response	59	7%	22	5%	30	88%	111	8%	
Total (N) 2005	877	100%	450	100%	34	100%	1361	100%	

Note: Total Number of Respondents N=1361

Table 3.5 Age Group by Gender

The pattern of age group for men and women does not vary greatly from the pattern for all respondents. Women reported the lower age groups more than their proportion of the population would suggest. Comparing the overall age profile of males and females who reported their age, 51% of males are under 39 years of age compared to 72% of females.

## Age by Length of Time Homeless

Homeless Households Classified by Age Category and Length of Time Homeless 2005														
Age Category	Under 6 months		Between 6–12 months		Between 12–24 months		Between 24–36 months		More than 36 months		No response		All households	
	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%
20 years or less	19	8%	4	3%	2	2%	3	3%	4	1%	8	3%	40	3%
21–25 years	40	16%	18	12%	15	12%	14	16%	47	10%	37	13%	171	13%
26–39 years	117	46%	59	40%	59	48%	44	50%	205	44%	86	30%	570	42%
40–64 years	69	27%	50	34%	40	33%	24	27%	175	37%	73	26%	431	32%
65 years +	2	1%	3	2%	2	2%	2	2%	24	5%	5	2%	38	3%
No response	5	2%	12	8%	5	4%	1	1%	12	3%	76	27%	111	8%
Total (N) 2005	252	100%	146	100%	123	100%	88	100%	467	100%	285	100%	1361	100%

Note: Total Number of Respondents N=1361

Table 3.6 Age Group by Length of Time Homeless

This table suggests that the length of time people have spent homeless does not necessarily indicate their age. In fact, the distribution of age groups remains mostly the same regardless of the length of time homeless. Every age group is found in every length of homelessness, in more or less the same proportion as they are found in the total homeless population.

## Age by Accommodation Type

Homeless Households Classified by Age Category and Accommodation 2005																											
Age Category	7 nights rough sleeping		4–6 nights rough sleeping		7 nights hostel		4–6 nights hostel		7 nights refuge		7 nights B&B		4–6 nights B&B		7 nights friends and family		4–6 nights friends and family		7 nights other		Other combinations		No response		All households		
	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count
20 years or less	3	2%	1	2%	4	2%	3	8%	1	11%	15	3%	2	4%	2	15%	1	5%	7	4%	1	2%	0	0%	40	3%	
21–25 years	17	12%	6	14%	16	6%	2	5%	1	11%	68	14%	12	21%	2	15%	3	14%	25	14%	9	18%	10	12%	171	13%	
26–39 years	53	37%	17	40%	78	30%	16	43%	5	56%	247	53%	22	39%	7	54%	12	55%	63	36%	28	55%	22	26%	570	42%	
40–64 years	48	34%	11	26%	130	50%	14	38%	2	22%	127	27%	17	30%	1	8%	6	27%	39	22%	9	18%	27	32%	431	32%	
65 years +	6	4%	2	5%	19	7%	0	0%	0	0%	7	1%	1	2%	0	0%	0	0%	2	1%	0	0%	1	1%	38	3%	
No response	16	11%	5	12%	13	5%	2	5%	0	0%	5	1%	3	5%	1	8%	0	0%	38	22%	4	8%	24	29%	111	8%	
Total (N) 2005	143	100%	42	100%	260	100%	37	100%	9	100%	469	100%	57	100%	13	100%	22	100%	174	100%	51	100%	84	100%	1361	100%	

Note: Total Number of Respondents N=1361

Table 3.7 Age Group by Accommodation Type

The distribution of age groups does not vary greatly in different accommodation types from the overall distribution of ages in the homeless population. Out of the total number of people staying in hostels for seven nights, 50% were aged 40–64 years old, whereas people in this age group only make up 42% of the total homeless population. On the other hand, out of the total number of people staying seven nights in private emergency accommodation (B&B), 53% were aged 26–39 years old whereas they are only 42% of the total homeless population.



A change of pattern also occurs for those who spend seven nights with friends and family, with 84% of this group being aged 39 years old or less. However, there are a very small number of people in this category: 13 people reported spending the last seven nights with friends and family, while another 22 reported spending 4–6 nights with friends and family.

It is perhaps noteworthy that none of the 38 individuals who are aged 65 years or more reporting spending any nights staying with friends or family. These individuals are reported rough sleeping more often than their proportion in the population would suggest: i.e. the 8 people aged 65 years or more who reported rough sleeping make up 4% of those rough sleeping, whereas the 38 people aged 65 years or more make up only 3% of the homeless population.

### Age by Household Type

Homeless Households Classified by Age Category and Type of Household 2005										
Age Category	Single Person		Dual Parent		Lone Parent		Couple Only		All households	
	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%
20 years or less	31	3%	0	0%	7	6%	2	2%	40	3%
21–25 years	111	11%	22	22%	21	18%	17	18%	171	13%
26–39 years	400	38%	56	55%	66	55%	48	51%	570	42%
40–64 years	366	35%	21	21%	19	16%	25	26%	431	32%
65 years +	34	3%	1	1%	0	0%	3	3%	38	3%
No response	104	10%	1	1%	6	5%	0	0%	111	8%
Total (N) 2005	1046	100%	101	100%	119	100%	95	100%	1361	100%

Note: Total Number of Respondents N=1361

Table 3.8 Age Group by Household Type

Overall the distribution of age groups is similar across all household types. Non-single person households tend to be significantly younger than single person households. For example, 62% of single people experiencing homelessness are under 40, whereas 79% of lone parents, 77% of dual parents and 71% of couple only households are of this age.

### 3.3 Further Distribution of Length of Time Homeless

In this section, the tables show the breakdown of the length of time respondents spent homeless by the other profile data.

#### Length of Time Homeless by Gender

Homeless Households Classified by Length of Time Homeless and Gender 2005									
Duration of Current Spell	Male		Female		No response		All households		
	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	
Under 6 months	158	18%	90	20%	4	12%	252	19%	
Between 6–12 months	100	11%	46	10%	0	0%	146	11%	
Between 12–24 months	72	8%	50	11%	1	3%	123	9%	
Between 24–36 months	55	6%	33	7%	0	0%	88	6%	
More than 36 months	316	36%	151	34%	0	0%	467	34%	
No response	176	20%	80	18%	29	85%	285	21%	
Total (N) 2005	877	100%	450	100%	34	100%	1361	100%	

Note: Total Number of Respondents N=1361

Table 3.9 Length of Time Homeless by Gender

The percentage breakdown of length of time homeless by gender does not differ greatly from the overall pattern, with the majority of both males and females being homeless for more than 3 years.

#### Length of Time Homeless by Age Category

Homeless Households Classified by Length of Time Homeless and Age Group 2005														
Duration of Current Spell	20 years or less		21–25 years		26–39 years		40–64 years		65 years +		No response		All households	
	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%
Under 6 months	19	48%	40	23%	117	21%	69	16%	2	5%	5	5%	252	19%
Between 6–12 months	4	10%	18	11%	59	10%	50	12%	3	8%	12	11%	146	11%
Between 12–24 months	2	5%	15	9%	59	10%	40	9%	2	5%	5	5%	123	9%
Between 24–36 months	3	8%	14	8%	44	8%	24	6%	2	5%	1	1%	88	6%
More than 36 months	4	10%	47	27%	205	36%	175	41%	24	63%	12	11%	467	34%
No response	8	20%	37	22%	86	15%	73	17%	5	13%	76	68%	285	21%
Total (N) 2005	40	100%	171	100%	570	100%	431	100%	38	100%	111	100%	1361	100%

Note: Total Number of Respondents N=1361

Table 3.10 Length of Time Homeless by Age Group

The different age groups seem to have a relationship with the length of a person's current spell of homelessness.

In general, younger people are more likely to have been homeless for shorter periods, while older people are more likely to have been homeless for longer periods.

At one extreme, almost half (48%) of those who have been homeless for six months or less are aged 20 years old or less. This contrasts with the fact that only 19% of the homeless population have been homeless for less than six months. On the other end of the spectrum,

those whose current spell of homelessness is more than three years are disproportionately likely to be older. 63% of those aged 65 years old or more have been homeless for more than three years, even though people who have been homeless for this length of time only make up 21% of the homeless population.

### Length of Time Homeless by Household Type

Homeless Households Classified by Length of Time Homeless and Type of Household 2005											
Duration of Current Spell	Single Person		Dual Parent		Lone Parent		Couple Only		All households		
	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	
Under 6 months	188	18%	23	23%	28	24%	13	14%	252	19%	
Between 6–12 months	106	10%	9	9%	17	14%	14	15%	146	11%	
Between 12–24 months	87	8%	11	11%	18	15%	7	7%	123	9%	
Between 24–36 months	63	6%	10	10%	8	7%	7	7%	88	6%	
More than 36 months	336	32%	46	46%	32	27%	53	56%	467	34%	
No response	266	25%	2	2%	16	13%	1	1%	285	21%	
Total (N) 2005	1046	100%	101	100%	119	100%	95	100%	1361	100%	

Note: Total Number of Households N=1361

Table 3.11 Length of Time Homeless by Household Type

The percentage breakdown of length of time homeless by household type does not differ greatly from the overall pattern, with the majority of all household types being homeless for more than 36 months. The largest deviations from this pattern are dual parent households and couple only households who report being homeless for more than 36 months more often than their proportion in the population would suggest.

This finding goes against experience in the field, which suggests that single people experience homelessness for the longest duration. Given the distribution of durations by household type, which show few couple only or dual parent households reporting homelessness in the middle groups of between one and three years, this could be evidence that while most households of these types get accommodation within a year, there is a sub-group that continue to experience long-term homelessness. This sub-group may have specific needs that are not met by current offers of accommodation to those in couple only or dual parent households.

### 3.4 Further Distribution of Accommodation Type

In this section, the tables show the breakdown of respondents' accommodation type by the other profile data.

#### Accommodation Type by Gender

Homeless Households Classified by Accommodation Type and Gender 2005								
Accommodation Type	Male		Female		No response		All households	
	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%
7 nights rough sleeping	94	11%	48	11%	1	3%	143	11%
4–6 nights rough sleeping	35	4%	7	2%	0	0%	42	3%
7 nights hostel	205	23%	49	11%	6	18%	260	19%
4–6 nights hostel	24	3%	13	3%	0	0%	37	3%
7 nights refuge	0	0%	9	2%	0	0%	9	1%
7 nights B&B	256	29%	211	47%	2	6%	469	34%
4–6 nights B&B	38	4%	18	4%	1	3%	57	4%
7 nights friends and family	10	1%	3	1%	0	0%	13	1%
4–6 nights friends and family	14	2%	8	2%	0	0%	22	2%
7 nights other	115	13%	54	12%	5	15%	174	13%
Other combinations	40	5%	10	2%	1	3%	51	4%
No response	46	5%	20	4%	18	53%	84	6%
Total (N) 2005	877	100%	450	100%	34	100%	1361	100%

Note: Total Number of Respondents N=1361

Table 3.12 Accommodation Type by Gender

A higher proportion of men reported staying in hostels than women, whereas a higher proportion of women reported staying in private emergency accommodation (B&Bs) compared to men.

## Accommodation Type by Age Category

Homeless Households Classified by Accommodation Type and Age Group 2005														
Accommodation Type	20 years or less		21–25 years		26–39 years		40–64 years		65 years +		No response		All households	
	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%
7 nights rough sleeping	3	8%	17	10%	53	9%	48	11%	6	16%	16	14%	143	11%
4–6 nights rough sleeping	1	3%	6	4%	17	3%	11	3%	2	5%	5	5%	42	3%
7 nights hostel	4	10%	16	9%	78	14%	130	30%	19	50%	13	12%	260	19%
4–6 nights hostel	3	8%	2	1%	16	3%	14	3%	0	0%	2	2%	37	3%
7 nights refuge	1	3%	1	1%	5	1%	2	0%	0	0%	0	0%	9	1%
7 nights B&B	15	38%	68	40%	247	43%	127	29%	7	18%	5	5%	469	34%
4–6 nights B&B	2	5%	12	7%	22	4%	17	4%	1	3%	3	3%	57	4%
7 nights friends and family	2	5%	2	1%	7	1%	1	0%	0	0%	1	1%	13	1%
4–6 nights friends and family	1	3%	3	2%	12	2%	6	1%	0	0%	0	0%	22	2%
7 nights other	7	18%	25	15%	63	11%	39	9%	2	5%	38	34%	174	13%
Other combinations	1	3%	9	5%	28	5%	9	2%	0	0%	4	4%	51	4%
No response	0	0%	10	6%	22	4%	27	6%	1	3%	24	22%	84	6%
Total (N) 2005	40	100%	171	100%	570	100%	431	100%	38	100%	111	100%	1361	100%

Note: Total Number of Respondents N=1361

Table 3.13 Accommodation Type by Age Group

Private emergency accommodation (B&Bs) was the most commonly reported type across all age groups (38% in total stayed in B&Bs for four or more nights). However, there is a difference between the age groups. A higher proportion of younger people reported staying in private emergency accommodation (B&Bs), whereas a higher proportion of older people reported staying in hostels.

## Accommodation Type by Length of Time Homeless

Homeless Households Classified by Accommodation Type and Length of Time Homeless 2005														
Accommodation Type	Under 6 months		Between 6–12 months		Between 12–24 months		Between 24–36 months		More than 36 months		No response		All households	
	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%
7 nights rough sleeping	13	5%	16	11%	13	11%	17	19%	61	13%	23	8%	143	11%
4–6 nights rough sleeping	10	4%	6	4%	1	1%	0	0%	12	3%	13	5%	42	3%
7 nights hostel	62	25%	36	25%	26	21%	17	19%	107	23%	12	4%	260	19%
4–6 nights hostel	16	6%	1	1%	4	3%	4	5%	9	2%	3	1%	37	3%
7 nights refuge	3	1%	0	0%	0	0%	1	1%	5	1%	0	0%	9	1%
7 nights B&B	74	29%	61	42%	63	51%	44	50%	215	46%	12	4%	469	34%
4–6 nights B&B	17	7%	11	8%	4	3%	0	0%	20	4%	5	2%	57	4%
7 nights friends & family	10	4%	1	1%	1	1%	1	1%	0	0%	0	0%	13	1%
4–6 nights friends & family	13	5%	1	1%	0	0%	0	0%	7	1%	1	0%	22	2%
7 nights other	1	0%	4	3%	3	2%	1	1%	6	1%	159	56%	174	13%
Other combinations	20	8%	6	4%	5	4%	3	3%	14	3%	3	1%	51	4%
No response	13	5%	3	2%	3	2%	0	0%	11	2%	54	19%	84	6%
Total (N) 2005	252	100%	146	100%	123	100%	88	100%	467	100%	285	100%	1361	100%

Note: Total Number of Households N=1361

Table 3.14 Accommodation Type by Length of Time Homeless

The cross tabulation of accommodation type by length of time homeless shows some trends within the overall pattern. Those who have been homeless for less than six months are less likely to sleep rough than those who have experienced homelessness for longer periods (9% versus 12–19% for other durations of homelessness). At the same time, this same group are less likely to report staying in B&B accommodation than any other group (36% versus 50–54% for other durations of homelessness). There is no such pattern for accessing hostel accommodation. Those experiencing homelessness for less than six months are practically the only people reporting staying with friends and family (23 out of 252 people in this group versus 11 out of 1,109 people in the rest of the population).

## Accommodation Type by Household Type

Homeless Households Classified by Accommodation Type and Type of Household 2005										
Accommodation Type	Single Person		Dual Parent		Lone Parent		Couple Only		All households	
	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%
7 nights rough sleeping	130	12%	1	1%	3	3%	9	9%	143	11%
4–6 nights rough sleeping	34	3%	1	1%	1	1%	6	6%	42	3%
7 nights hostel	230	22%	12	12%	4	3%	14	15%	260	19%
4–6 nights hostel	30	3%	2	2%	3	3%	2	2%	37	3%
7 nights refuge	5	0%	1	1%	1	1%	2	2%	9	1%
7 nights B&B	271	26%	77	76%	72	61%	49	52%	469	34%
4–6 nights B&B	41	4%	1	1%	9	8%	6	6%	57	4%
7 nights friends and family	12	1%	0	0%	1	1%	0	0%	13	1%
4–6 nights friends and family	16	2%	0	0%	4	3%	2	2%	22	2%
7 nights other	167	16%	1	1%	5	4%	1	1%	174	13%
Other combinations	42	4%	2	2%	4	3%	3	3%	51	4%
No reponse	68	7%	3	3%	12	10%	1	1%	84	6%
Total (N) 2005	1046	100%	101	100%	119	100%	95	100%	1361	100%

Note: Total Number of Households N=1361

Table 3.15 Accommodation Type by Household Type

From this table it can be seen that single person households reported staying in hostel accommodation proportionately more than other household types do: 25% versus 6–17% for other household types. Conversely, single people reported staying in private emergency accommodation (B&Bs) proportionately less often: 30% versus 58–77% for other household types. This reflects the Local Authorities' use of private emergency accommodation primarily for households with children and for the accommodation of single people who cannot be accommodated within hostels.

Households with child dependents are much less likely to sleep rough (2–4%) versus those without child dependents (15%). It should be noted that the outreach teams have not come into contact with adults sleeping on the street with children and so it is likely that those who reported to having child dependents and to sleep rough are not accompanied by the children while rough sleeping.

### 3.5 Further Distribution of Household Type

In this section, the tables show the breakdown of household type by the other profile data.

Note this section relates to the entire homeless population, while Chapter 4 gives more detail for each of the three main types of household separately.

#### Household Type by Gender

Homeless Households Classified by Household Type and Gender 2005								
Household Type	Male		Female		No response		All households	
	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%
Single Person	756	86%	257	57%	33	97%	1046	77%
Dual Parent	44	5%	57	13%	0	0%	101	7%
Lone Parent	13	1%	105	23%	1	3%	119	9%
Couple Only	64	7%	31	7%	0	0%	95	7%
Total (N) 2005	877	100%	450	100%	34	100%	1361	100%

Note: Total Number of Respondents N=1361

Table 3.16 Household Type by Gender

Single person households have a higher proportion of men (86%) than in all households combined.

#### Household Type by Length of Time Homeless

Homeless Households Classified by Household Type and Length of Time Homeless 2005														
Household Type	Under 6 months		Between 6–12 months		Between 12–24 months		Between 24–36 months		More than 36 months		No response		All households	
	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%
Single Person	188	75%	106	73%	87	71%	63	72%	336	72%	266	93%	1046	77%
Dual Parent	23	9%	9	6%	11	9%	10	11%	46	10%	2	1%	101	7%
Lone Parent	28	11%	17	12%	18	15%	8	9%	32	7%	16	6%	119	9%
Couple Only	13	5%	14	10%	7	6%	7	8%	53	11%	1	0%	95	7%
Total (N) 2005	252	100%	146	100%	123	100%	88	100%	467	100%	285	100%	1361	100%

Note: Total Number of Households N=1361

Table 3.17 Household Type by Length of Time Homeless

Overall, the distribution of household types does not vary much under the different durations of homelessness.



## Household Type by Accommodation Type

Homeless Households Classified by Household Type and Accommodation 2005													
Household Type	7 nights rough sleeping	4-6 nights rough sleeping	7 nights hostel	4-6 nights hostel	7 nights refuge	7 nights B&B	4-6 nights B&B	7 nights friends and family	4-6 nights friends and family	7 nights other	Other combinations	No reponse	All households
	Count %	Count %	Count %	Count %	Count %	Count %	Count %	Count %	Count %	Count %	Count %	Count %	Count %
Single Person	130 91%	34 81%	230 88%	30 81%	5 56%	271 58%	41 72%	12 92%	16 73%	167 96%	42 82%	68 81%	1046 77%
Dual Parent	1 1%	1 2%	12 5%	2 5%	1 11%	77 16%	1 2%	0 0%	0 0%	1 1%	2 4%	3 4%	101 7%
Lone Parent	3 2%	1 2%	4 2%	3 8%	1 11%	72 15%	9 16%	1 8%	4 18%	5 3%	4 8%	12 14%	119 9%
Couple Only	9 6%	6 14%	14 5%	2 5%	2 22%	49 10%	6 11%	0 0%	2 9%	1 1%	3 6%	1 1%	95 7%
Total (N) 2005	143 100%	42 100%	260 100%	37 100%	9 100%	469 100%	57 100%	13 100%	22 100%	174 100%	51 100%	84 100%	1361 100%

Note: Total Number of Households N=1361

Table 3.18 Household Type by Accommodation Type

Overall, rough sleeping is more likely to be reported by single people (e.g. 91% for seven nights rough sleeping) than their proportion in all accommodation types combined.

Private emergency accommodation (B&Bs) is reported by all other household types more than their proportions in all accommodation, with the converse fact noted earlier that single people are under-represented in this type of accommodation.



## CHAPTER 4

# Analysis of Household Types

This chapter breaks down the homeless population into the main types of household. This presents the different profiles for each household type.

### 4.1 Overall

Distribution of Homeless Persons Classified According to Household Type 2005		
Household Type	Count	%
Single Person	1046	77%
Dual Parent	101	7%
Lone Parent	119	9%
Couple Only	95	7%
TOTAL (N) 2005	1361	100%
Note: Total Number of Households N=1361		

Table 4.1 Household Type

This table shows that single person households are the most common (77%) type of household in the homeless population. Nearly a sixth of homeless households have child dependents (7% are dual parent households and 9% are lone parent households, totalling 16%). Couple only households represent 7% of homeless households.

Note that this information was not asked directly as a question but was derived from asking people for details about their partner and/or dependents.

The distribution of household types in 2005 is broadly similar to 1999 and 2002. The major differences are that the proportion of lone parent households in 2005 (9%) is lower than that in both previous assessments (16% in both 1999 and 2002), while the proportion of couple only households is higher (7%) than previous assessments (4% in 1999 and 5% in 2002).

The rest of this chapter is divided into three sections, each of which looks specifically at one of the three major household types (dual parent and lone parent households are examined together as households with child dependents).

## 4.2 Single Person Households

This sub-section focuses on single person households only. There were 1,046 single person households counted in March 2005.

Distribution of Homeless Single Person Households Classified According to Age and Gender								
Age Category	Male		Female		No response		All single person households	
	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%
20 years or less	13	2%	17	7%	1	3%	31	3%
21–25 years	69	9%	42	16%	0	0%	111	11%
26–39 years	296	39%	102	40%	2	6%	400	38%
40–64 years	299	40%	67	26%	0	0%	366	35%
65 years +	24	3%	10	4%	0	0%	34	3%
No response	55	7%	19	7%	30	91%	104	10%
Total (N) 2005	756	100%	257	100%	33	100%	1046	100%

Note: Single Person Households N=1046

Table 4.2 Single Person Households: Age Group by Gender

Within all single person households, the two most commonly reported age groups are 26–39 years (38%) and 40–64 years (35%). This is also the case when examined by gender.

There are a significantly higher proportion of women reporting their age as 21–25 years old: 16% of women report this age group versus 9% of men. There are a significantly lower proportion of women reporting their age in the 40–64 year old group: 26% of women versus 40% of men.

The average age reported by single person households is 39 for men, 36 for women and 39 for men and women combined. This age profile is close to the aggregate average age reported in 1999 (40 years old) and slightly higher than the 2002 figure (36 years old).

Distribution of Homeless Single Person Households Aged 20 Years or Less by Gender								
Age Category	Male		Female		No response		All single person households	
	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%
16 years or less	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
17 years	1	8%	0	0%	0	0%	1	3%
18 years	3	23%	7	41%	0	0%	10	32%
19 years	3	23%	5	29%	0	0%	8	26%
20 years	6	46%	5	29%	1	100%	12	39%
Total (N) 2005	13	100%	17	100%	1	100%	31	100%

Note: Single Person Households N=1046

Table 4.3 Single Person Households: Youngest Age Group by Gender

A total of 31 people experiencing homelessness reported their age as 20 years old or less. This is a large reduction compared to 210 people in 1999 and 140 people in 2002.

There has also been a major change in the prevalence of young people reporting as homeless. In 2002, 20% of single person households were aged 16 years old or less, whereas nobody of that age group reported themselves as homeless in the 2005 assessment. This mirrors the experience of services on the ground that have noted a considerable decrease in the number of young people sleeping rough.

<b>Distribution of Homeless Single Person Households Classified According to Citizenship and Gender</b>								
<b>Citizenship</b>	<b>Male</b>		<b>Female</b>		<b>No response</b>		<b>All single person households</b>	
	<b>Count</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>Count</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>Count</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>Count</b>	<b>%</b>
Irish Citizen	519	69%	185	72%	1	3%	705	67%
EU Citizen	45	6%	13	5%	2	6%	60	6%
Non-EU Citizen	21	3%	3	1%	1	3%	25	2%
No response	171	23%	56	22%	29	88%	256	24%
Total (N) 2005	756	100%	257	100%	33	100%	1046	100%

Note: Single Person Households N=1046

Table 4.4 Single Person Households: Citizenship by Gender

Most single person households reported Irish citizenship. However, a number of households did not answer this question. Only 85 single people (8%) reported non-Irish citizenship (60 EU and 25 non-EU). This is in line with 2002, when 140 (8%) single people reported non-Irish citizenship.

<b>Distribution of Homeless Single Person Households According to Current Duration of Homelessness</b>								
<b>Duration of Current Spell</b>	<b>Male</b>		<b>Female</b>		<b>No response</b>		<b>All Single Person Households</b>	
	<b>Count</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>Count</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>Count</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>Count</b>	<b>%</b>
Under 6 months	142	19%	43	17%	3	9%	188	18%
Between 6–12 months	84	11%	22	9%	0	0%	106	10%
Between 12–24 months	63	8%	23	9%	1	3%	87	8%
Between 24–36 months	41	5%	22	9%	0	0%	63	6%
More than 36 months	253	33%	83	32%	0	0%	336	32%
No response	173	23%	64	25%	29	88%	266	25%
Total (N) 2005	756	100%	257	100%	33	100%	1046	100%

Note: Single Person Households N=1046

Table 4.5 Single Person Households: Length of Time Homeless by Gender

A third of single person households reported being homeless for more than three years. An additional 25% did not answer this question, which is a significant non-response bias.

Under a fifth of single person households (18%) reported being homeless for less than six months.

In 2002 the figure for less than six months homeless was much higher at 34%, while the 2002 figures for being homeless for more than three years is the same as 2005 at 32%.

Distribution of Homeless Single Person Households According to Accommodation and Gender								
Accommodation Type	Male		Female		No response		All Single Person Households	
	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%
7 nights rough sleeping	86	11%	43	17%	1	3%	130	12%
4–6 nights rough sleeping	29	4%	5	2%	0	0%	34	3%
7 nights hostel	188	25%	36	14%	6	18%	230	22%
4–6 nights hostel	20	3%	10	4%	0	0%	30	3%
7 nights refuge	0	0%	5	2%	0	0%	5	0%
7 nights B&B	187	25%	83	32%	1	3%	271	26%
4–6 nights B&B	34	4%	6	2%	1	3%	41	4%
7 nights friends and family	10	1%	2	1%	0	0%	12	1%
4–6 nights friends and family	13	2%	3	1%	0	0%	16	2%
7 nights other	113	15%	49	19%	5	15%	167	16%
Other combinations	34	4%	7	3%	1	3%	42	4%
No reponse	42	6%	8	3%	18	55%	68	7%
Total (N) 2005	756	100%	257	100%	33	100%	1046	100%

Note: Single Person Households N=1046

Table 4.6 Single Person Households: Accommodation Type by Gender

The majority of single person households reported to staying in either private emergency accommodation (B&B) or a hostel for between four and all seven nights in the previous week. 30% of single people reported staying in private emergency accommodation and 25% reported staying in hostels.

115 single men and 48 single women reported rough sleeping for at least four nights in the previous week. 19% of single women reported sleeping rough, compared to 15% of all single people.

### 4.3 Households with Child Dependents

This sub-section focuses on households with child dependents only. This includes both 101 dual parent households (46%) and 119 lone parent households (54%).

In 1999 and 2002 a much higher proportion of households with child dependents were lone parent households (78% and 66% respectively). Conversely, there were less dual parent households in earlier surveys (22% in 1999, 34% in 2002 and 46% in 2005).

The average number of dependents in a household was 2.2. A total of 485 dependents were reported, of whom 22 were adult dependents and 463 were child dependents.

<b>Dependent Children Classified by Age</b>			
<b>Ages of Children</b>	<b>Dependent Children</b>		<b>% of all Dependent Children</b>
0–5 years	184		41%
6–11 years	144		32%
12–15 years	78		17%
16–18 years	45		10%
Total Number of children reporting ages	451		100%
Note: Households with Child Dependents N=220			

Table 4.7 Households with Child Dependents: Children's Ages

This table gives the age groups of child dependents reported by households. Not every household reported the ages of its children. Additionally, there are 15 dependents reported who were 19 years old or more who are not shown in the above table.

The largest group of child dependents in 2005 were aged between 0 and 5 years old (41%). This follows the same tendency as in 1999 and 2002. Overall, a large majority of children in homeless households were 11 years old or less (73%).

### Citizenship

The vast majority of households with child dependents reported Irish citizenship (82%). 2 households reported EU citizenship and 6 reported non-EU citizenship.

<b>Distribution of Homeless Households with Children Classified According to Respondent's Age and Gender</b>								
<b>Age Category</b>	<b>Male</b>		<b>Female</b>		<b>No response</b>		<b>All Households with Child Dependents</b>	
	<b>Count</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>Count</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>Count</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>Count</b>	<b>%</b>
20 years or less	0	0%	7	4%	0	0%	7	3%
21–25 years	11	19%	32	20%	0	0%	43	20%
26–39 years	26	46%	95	59%	1	100%	122	55%
40–64 years	15	26%	25	15%	0	0%	40	18%
65 years +	1	2%	0	0%	0	0%	1	0%
No response	4	7%	3	2%	0	0%	7	3%
Total (N) 2005	57	100%	162	100%	1	100%	220	100%
Note: Households with Child Dependents N=220								

Table 4.8 Households with Child Dependents: Respondent's Age Group by Gender

### Age

As shown in the above table, the majority of respondents from households with child dependents were in the 26–39 years old age group (55%).

The average age of a person who provided detail of their age in a household with child dependents is 33 years old, based on the average age of the main respondent. The average age for men in households with child dependents is significantly older at 36, and for women it is younger at 32.

7 women aged 20 years old or less completed a survey for a household with child dependents. The youngest of these women were two eighteen-year-olds. Two more were nineteen-year-olds and three were twenty-year-olds.

## Length of Time Homeless

Distribution of Homeless Households with Child Dependents According to Current Duration of Homelessness by Gender								
Duration of Current Spell	Male		Female		No response		All Households with Child Dependents	
	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%
Under 6 months	10	18%	40	25%	1	100%	51	23%
Between 6–12 months	6	11%	20	12%	0	0%	26	12%
Between 12–24 months	5	9%	24	15%	0	0%	29	13%
Between 24–36 months	8	14%	10	6%	0	0%	18	8%
More than 36 months	26	46%	52	32%	0	0%	78	35%
No response	2	4%	16	10%	0	0%	18	8%
Total (N) 2005	57	100%	162	100%	1	100%	220	100%

Note: Households with Child Dependents N=220

Table 4.9 Households with Child Dependents: Length of Time Homeless by Gender

Within all households with child dependents, the most commonly reported length of time homeless was more than 36 months (35%). This was followed by the less than 6 months homeless group (23%). The same pattern is observed when broken down by gender.

Distribution of Homeless Households with Child Dependents According to Current Duration of Homelessness						
Duration of Current Spell	Lone Parent		Dual Parent		All Households with Child Dependents	
	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%
Under 6 months	28	24%	23	23%	51	23%
Between 6–12 months	17	14%	9	9%	26	12%
Between 12–24 months	18	15%	11	11%	29	13%
Between 24–36 months	8	7%	10	10%	18	8%
More than 36 months	32	27%	46	46%	78	35%
No response	16	13%	2	2%	18	8%
Total (N) 2005	119	100%	101	100%	220	100%

Note: Households with Child Dependents N=220

Table 4.10 Households with Child Dependents: Length of Time Homeless by Household Type

The most commonly reported length of time homeless was more than three years (35%). The next most commonly reported duration was less than six months (23%). Lone parent households typically reported a lower length of time homeless than dual parent households.



## Accommodation

Distribution of Homeless Households with Child Dependents According to Accommodation and Gender								
Accommodation Type	Male		Female		No response		All Households with Child Dependents	
	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%
7 nights rough sleeping	1	2%	3	2%	0	0%	4	2%
4–6 nights rough sleeping	1	2%	1	1%	0	0%	2	1%
7 nights hostel	6	11%	10	6%	0	0%	16	7%
4–6 nights hostel	2	4%	3	2%	0	0%	5	2%
7 nights refuge	0	0%	2	1%	0	0%	2	1%
7 nights B&B	39	68%	109	67%	1	100%	149	68%
4–6 nights B&B	0	0%	10	6%	0	0%	10	5%
7 nights friends and family	0	0%	1	1%	0	0%	1	0%
4–6 nights friends and family	0	0%	4	2%	0	0%	4	2%
7 nights other	1	2%	5	3%	0	0%	6	3%
Other combinations	4	7%	2	1%	0	0%	6	3%
No response	3	5%	12	7%	0	0%	15	7%
Total (N) 2005	57	100%	162	100%	1	100%	220	100%

Note: Households with Child Dependents N=220

Table 4.11 Households with Child Dependents: Accommodation Type by Gender

The majority (73%) of households with child dependents were accommodated in private emergency accommodation (B&Bs). This is a decrease from 2002, when 89% were accommodated in B&Bs.

Only five respondents (all women) reported to spending four or more of the previous seven days with friends and family (2%). This is in line with 2002, but is a dramatic change from 1999 when 30% of households with child dependents reported staying with friends and family.

Four women and two men who responded on behalf of a household with child dependents reported to rough sleeping in the week prior to the survey. The survey did not ask whether or not their child dependents were rough sleeping with them but this is unlikely, as noted earlier, the outreach teams have not encountered families sleeping rough.

There was little difference between dual parent and lone parent households with regards to accommodation type.

### 4.4 Couple Only Households

This sub-section focuses on couple only households. There were 95 households in the March 2005 survey who belonged to couple only households.

#### Citizenship

The vast majority of couple only households were Irish citizens (92%). Three people responded with EU citizenship and three more with non-EU citizenship.

<b>Distribution of Couple-only Households According to Current Duration of Homelessness</b>						
<b>Duration of Current Spell</b>	<b>Male</b>		<b>Female</b>		<b>All Couple-only Households</b>	
	<b>Count</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>Count</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>Count</b>	<b>%</b>
Under 6 months	6	9%	7	23%	13	14%
Between 6–12 months	10	16%	4	13%	14	15%
Between 12–24 months	4	6%	3	10%	7	7%
Between 24–36 months	6	9%	1	3%	7	7%
More than 36 months	37	58%	16	52%	53	56%
No response	1	2%	0	0%	1	1%
Total (N) 2005	64	100%	31	100%	95	100%

Note: Couple Only Households N=95

Table 4.12 Couple Only Households: Length of Time Homeless by Gender

More than half (56%) of couple only households reported being homeless for over three years. This is significantly higher than that reported by single person households (32%) or households with child dependents (35%). It is also significantly higher than the 2002 figures for couple only households, which was 19%.

<b>Distribution of Couple-only Households Classified According to Age and Gender</b>						
<b>Age Category</b>	<b>Male</b>		<b>Female</b>		<b>All Couple-only Households</b>	
	<b>Count</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>Count</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>Count</b>	<b>%</b>
20 years or less	0	0%	2	6%	2	2%
21–25 years	12	19%	5	16%	17	18%
26–39 years	30	47%	18	58%	48	51%
40–64 years	20	31%	5	16%	25	26%
65 years +	2	3%	1	3%	3	3%
No response	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
Total (N) 2005	64	100%	31	100%	95	100%

Note: Couple Only Households N=95

Table 4.13 Couple Only Households: Age Group by Gender

Half of respondents in couple only households reported their age as 26–39 years old (51%). 20% of those living in couple only households were aged 25 years old or less. 29% were aged 40 years old or more. Of this latter group, three people experiencing homelessness aged 65 years old or more reported that they lived in couple only households.

Distribution of Couple-only Households According to Current Duration of Homelessness						
Duration of Current Spell	Male		Female		All Couple-only Households	
	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%
Under 6 months	6	9%	7	23%	13	14%
Between 6–12 months	10	16%	4	13%	14	15%
Between 12–24 months	4	6%	3	10%	7	7%
Between 24–36 months	6	9%	1	3%	7	7%
More than 36 months	37	58%	16	52%	53	56%
No response	1	2%	0	0%	1	1%
Total (N) 2005	64	100%	31	100%	95	100%

Note: Couple Only Households N=95

Table 4.14 Couple Only Households: Length of Time Homeless by Gender

The majority of men and women reporting that they lived in couple only households also reported that they had been homeless for over three years.

Distribution of Couple-only Households According to Accommodation and Gender						
Accommodation Type	Male		Female		All Couple-only Households	
	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%
7 nights rough sleeping	7	11%	2	6%	9	9%
4–6 nights rough sleeping	5	8%	1	3%	6	6%
7 nights hostel	11	17%	3	10%	14	15%
4–6 nights hostel	2	3%	0	0%	2	2%
7 nights refuge	0	0%	2	6%	2	2%
7 nights B&B	30	47%	19	61%	49	52%
4–6 nights B&B	4	6%	2	6%	6	6%
7 nights friends and family	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
4–6 nights friends and family	1	2%	1	3%	2	2%
7 nights other	1	2%	0	0%	1	1%
Other combinations	2	3%	1	3%	3	3%
No response	1	2%	0	0%	1	1%
Total (N) 2005	64	100%	31	100%	95	100%

Note: Couple Only Households N=95

Table 4.15 Couple Only Households: Accommodation Type by Gender

The majority (58%) of those living in couple only households report that they stayed in private emergency accommodation (B&Bs) for between four and all seven of the previous seven nights. There is more availability of accommodation for couples since the last survey in 2002. But it is perhaps interesting to note that 67% of women in couple only households reported staying in B&B accommodation versus 53% of men. Conversely, 20% of men reported staying in a hostel for four to all seven of the previous seven nights versus 10% of women. This pattern is consistent with the experience of the entire homeless population, but in this case it is evidence that some couples are still forced to stay in separate locations due to limitations imposed by accommodation.

## CHAPTER 5

# Rough Sleeper Analysis

### 5.1 Introduction

A decision was taken not to conduct a separate rough sleeper street count as part of this assessment. Instead, the information on rough sleepers is based on responses to the questionnaire regarding how many nights were spent rough sleeping and where people slept.

The Homeless Agency's Emergency Network (which brings together front line workers from the Dublin City Night Bus and outreach services) discussed the positive and negative aspects of different methods of counting the number of rough sleepers, along with representatives from the voluntary sector management, the Department of the Environment and Local Government, the local authorities and the Health Service Executive. It was agreed that the majority of people sleeping rough are known to at least one homeless service and that almost all of them would put in an appearance at least once a week at one of the day homeless services. As such, they would be included in the survey process.

It is worth noting that there may be some seasonal bias in the number of people reporting as rough sleeping. The weather in March can vary considerably, but average temperatures in Dublin range from 3°C to 9°C. Typically, one would expect more people to report rough sleeping in warmer months and less in mid-winter.

### 5.2 Classification

In line with the 1999 and 2002 assessments, respondents were classified as rough sleepers if they reported sleeping rough for four or more nights in the previous seven nights.

In the final week in March 2005, 185 adults (out of the 1,361 who completed a questionnaire) reported to sleeping rough for at least four of the previous seven nights.

According to the Emergency Network, these figures are higher than the number of adults they are in regular contact with but not to the extent that the figure could be considered seriously over-estimated.

### 5.3 Comparison Across Previous Periodic Assessments

The same classification of rough sleepers was used in 1999 and 2002, which means that a comparison can be made across the three periodic assessments.

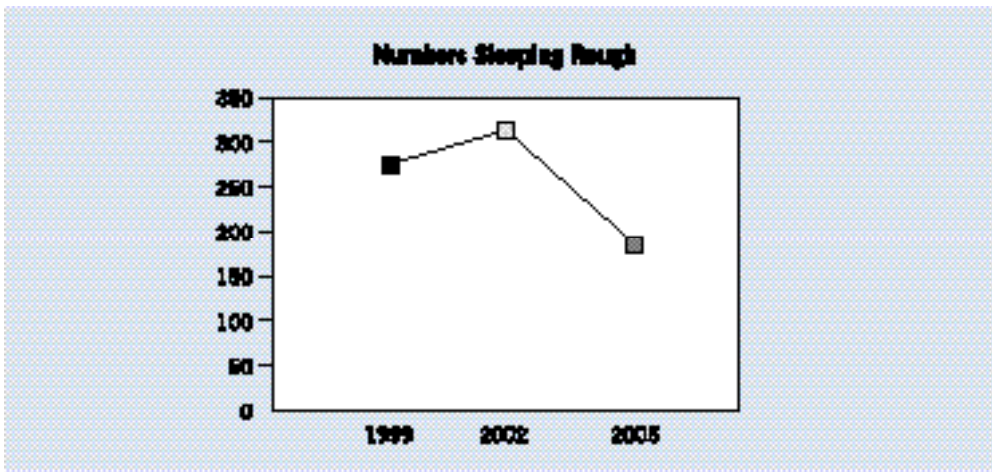


Figure 5.1 Rough Sleeper Figures Across 3 Periodic Assessments

The above table and graph show that the number of those reporting rough sleeping has decreased in absolute terms since 1999, despite an increase in 2002.

The overall change from 1999 to 2005 is a decrease of 33%.

Rough Sleeper Figures Across 3 Periodic Assessments			
		Numbers Sleeping Rough	Percentage Difference from Previous Assessment
Year of	1999	275	
Periodic	2002	312	13% increase
Assessment	2005	185	41% decrease

Table 5.1 Rough Sleeper Figures Across 3 Periodic Assessments

## 5.4 Distribution of Gender profile

Distribution of Rough Sleeping Homeless Persons Classified According to Gender 2005		
Gender	Count	%
Male	129	70%
Female	55	30%
No response	1	1%
Total Number of Rough Sleepers N=185	185	100%
Note: Total Number of Respondents N=1361 Total Number of Adults N=1552		

Table 5.2 Gender of Rough Sleepers

The majority of those sleeping rough are men (70%). This is consistent with – but higher than – the proportion of men in the homeless population (61%).

Although this figure shows there a higher proportion of men among rough sleepers than among the entire homeless population, a large number of women (55 respondents) also reported sleeping rough.

## 5.5 Distribution of Age Group Profile

<b>Distribution of Rough Sleeping Homeless Persons Classified According to Age Group 2005</b>		
<b>Age Category</b>	<b>Count</b>	<b>%</b>
20 years or less	4	2%
21–25 years	23	12%
26–39 years	70	38%
40–64 years	59	32%
65 years +	8	4%
No response	21	11%
Total Number of Rough Sleepers N=185	185	100%
Note: Total Number of Respondents N=1361 Total Number of Adults N=1552		

Table 5.3 Age Group of Rough Sleepers

The most common age group among rough sleepers is the 26–39 years old group (38%). The next most common is the 40–64 years old group (32%). A significant number of rough sleepers (21 individuals) did not specify their age, which limits the generalisations that can be made from these percentage figures.

The distribution of ages among those sleeping rough does not vary significantly from the age distribution of the entire homeless population. As such, it is possible to say that anyone experiencing homelessness from any age group could be at equal risk of sleeping rough.

## 5.6 Distribution of Length of Time Homeless

<b>Distribution of Rough Sleeping Homeless Persons Classified According to Current Duration of Homelessness 2005</b>		
<b>Duration of Current Spell</b>	<b>Count</b>	<b>%</b>
Under 6 months	23	12%
Between 6–12 months	22	12%
Between 12–24 months	14	8%
Between 24–36 months	17	9%
More than 36 months	73	39%
No response	36	19%
Total Number of Rough Sleepers N=185	185	100%
Note: Total Number of Households N=1361 Total Number of Adults N=1552		

Table 5.4 Length of Time Homeless of Rough Sleepers

The length of time that a rough sleeper has been homeless is very close to the length of time reported by the entire homeless population. As such, it is possible to say that anyone experiencing homelessness for any length of time could be at equal risk of sleeping rough.

## 5.7 Distribution of Household Type

Distribution of Rough Sleeping Homeless Persons Classified According to Household Type 2005		
Household Type	Count	%
Single Person	164	89%
Dual Parent	2	1%
Lone Parent	4	2%
Couple Only	15	8%
Total Number of Rough Sleepers N=185	185	100%
Note: Total Number of Households N=1361 Total Number of Adults N=1552		

Table 5.5 Household Type of Rough Sleepers

The vast majority of those sleeping rough are in single person households (89%). This represents a significantly higher proportion of single people than for the entire homeless population (77%).

Six households with child dependents reported to rough sleeping. This represents 3% of rough sleepers, compared to the 16% of those experiencing homelessness who have child dependents. As noted above, there is no evidence from the outreach teams of families with children sleeping rough. It may be that although the children are classed as dependants they are not currently in their parent's custody.

## 5.8 Distribution of Homeless Households Classified by Whether on a Local Authority Waiting List

Distribution of Rough Sleeping Homeless Persons Classified According to Whether on a Local Authority Housing Waiting List 2005		
Local Authority Housing Waiting List	Count	%
Yes	141	76%
No	20	11%
No response	24	13%
Total Number of Rough Sleepers N=185	185	100%
Note: Total Number of Households N=1361 Total Number of Adults N=1552		

Table 5.6 Rough Sleepers – Whether on a Local Authority Housing Waiting List or Not

141 (76%) of those sleeping rough reported that they are on a local authority housing waiting list.



## 5.9 Distribution of Citizenship Profile

Distribution of Rough Sleeping Homeless Persons Classified According to Citizenship 2005		
Citizenship	Count	%
Irish Citizen	142	77%
EU Citizen	15	8%
Non-EU Citizen	2	1%
No response	26	14%
Total Number of Rough Sleepers N=185	185	100%
Note: Total Number of Households N=1361 Total Number of Adults N=1552		

Table 5.7 Citizenship of Rough Sleepers

At least 142 (77%) of those sleeping rough are Irish citizens, with an additional 15 (8%) reporting EU citizenship. However, a large proportion (14%) of people sleeping rough did not report their citizenship.

Only 2 rough sleepers (1%) reported non-EU citizenship.

## 5.10 Area Slept Rough

The following table gives a breakdown of the area in which respondents said that they were when sleeping rough. These figures have to be treated with caution, as over half (57%) of rough sleepers did not specify an area. The numbers and percentages are best seen as minimum reports for each area.

The responses given in the survey questionnaire have been grouped by postal code or area within each of the Local Authority jurisdictions.

Out of the 79 rough sleepers who answered this question, 47 (59%) reported sleeping rough in Dublin city centre – i.e. Dublin postcodes 1 and 2.

Area Slept Rough			Count	%
Area slept rough – Local Authority	Dublin City Council	City Centre / Dublin 1 and 2	47	80%
		Ranelagh / Rathmines / Dublin 6	8	14%
		Dublin 5	1	2%
		Dublin 8	1	2%
		Dublin 7	1	2%
		Dublin 4	1	2%
		<b>Total</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>100%</b>
	Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council	Dun Laoghaire	6	86%
		Dublin 18	1	14%
		<b>Total</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>100%</b>
	South Dublin County Council	Clondalkin / Dublin 22	4	100%
		<b>Total</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>100%</b>
	Fingal County Council	Dublin 9	1	50%
		Dublin 13	1	50%
		<b>Total</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>100%</b>
	Miscellaneous	Miscellaneous	7	100%
		<b>Total</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>100%</b>
	<b>Total</b>	Total of all areas slept rough	79	
		No response	106	
		<b>Total</b>	<b>185</b>	

Table 5.8 Area Slept Rough

## CHAPTER 6

# Analysis of Last Permanent Address

### 6.1 Introduction

The survey asked respondents to say where their last permanent address was in order to identify where people lived prior to their current experience of homelessness.

Respondents gave address details, which varied from specific to vague. Two different approaches were used to categorise these addresses. The first approach classified the information by general area (i.e. Dublin postcode, county outside Dublin or country outside Ireland). The second approach was more specific and categorised respondents' previous addresses by District Electoral Division.

### 6.2 Non-Response

Many of the 1,361 respondents did not give information about even the general area of their last permanent address. This non-response is reported in the tables below.

For example, only 774 respondents gave enough details about their last permanent address so that the District Electoral Division they had lived in could be determined. 714 of these were in the greater Dublin area. As such, the non-response was 587 individuals.

In all cases, extreme caution must be exercised in generalising from the **percentages** shown in this chapter's tables. The high level of non-response has the potential to strongly bias these figures.

The most useful aspect of the tables is the **absolute count** that they represent. Although this only covers approximately half of the homeless population, it nevertheless provides a report by those people of where they lived before they moved into homelessness.

## 6.3 Dublin Postcode

Distribution of Homeless Persons Classified According to Dublin Postcode 2005		
Dublin Postcode	Count	%
Dublin 1	83	6%
Dublin 2	17	1%
Dublin 3	20	1%
Dublin 4	12	1%
Dublin 5	23	2%
Dublin 6	30	2%
Dublin 6W	11	1%
Dublin 7	73	5%
Dublin 8	97	7%
Dublin 9	27	2%
Dublin 10	34	2%
Dublin 11	66	5%
Dublin 12	30	2%
Dublin 13	5	0%
Dublin 14	5	0%
Dublin 15	22	2%
Dublin 16	5	0%
Dublin 17	21	2%
Dublin 18	6	0%
Dublin 20	6	0%
Dublin 22	52	4%
Dublin 24	57	4%
No response	464	34%
Not applicable	195	14%
TOTAL (N) 2005	1361	100%
Note: Total Number of Households N=1361		

Table 6.1 Distribution of Homeless Persons by Dublin Postcode

The survey gained more information about respondents' previous address in terms of its postcode than it did in terms of District Electoral Divisions. 702 respondents gave enough information about their last permanent address that a Dublin postcode could be derived from it. This was out of a total of 897 who gave any information on their last permanent address. The other 195, identified as 'non applicable' in the above table, gave a last permanent address outside the Dublin postcode areas.

The highest number of last permanent addresses were in Dublin 8 (97 responses) and Dublin 1 (83 responses). But, as the table shows, there were at least five people who are now experiencing homelessness for each postal code area.

## 6.4 County in Ireland

Distribution of Homeless Persons by County in Ireland		
County	Count	%
Co Antrim	3	0%
Co Armagh	0	0%
Co Derry	1	0%
Co Down	0	0%
Co Fermanagh	0	0%
Co Tyrone	0	0%
Sub-Total (Northern Ireland)	4	-
Co Carlow	1	0%
Co Cavan	3	0%
Co Clare	1	0%
Co Cork	6	0%
Co Donegal	2	0%
Co Galway	5	0%
Co Kerry	0	0%
Co Kildare	8	1%
Co Kilkenny	1	0%
Co Laois	0	0%
Co Leitrim	1	0%
Co Limerick	4	0%
Co Longford	2	0%
Co Louth	4	0%
Co Mayo	1	0%
Co Meath	6	0%
Co Monaghan	1	0%
Co Offaly	0	0%
Co Roscommon	3	0%
Co Sligo	3	0%
Co Tipperary	2	0%
Co Waterford	1	0%
Co Westmeath	1	0%
Co Wexford	0	0%
Co Wicklow	9	1%
Sub-Total (Ireland 25 Counties, ex. Dublin)	65	-
Co Dublin	70	5%
Dublin postcode	702	52%
Sub-Total (Ireland 26 Counties)	836	-
Sub-Total (Island of Ireland)	840	-
No response	520	38%
TOTAL (N) 2005	1361	100%
Note: Total Number of Households N=1361		

Table 6.2 Distribution of Homeless Persons by County in Ireland

Of those who gave their last permanent address, the vast majority (772) gave an address in the Dublin area. A total of 69 households gave a last permanent address from the island of Ireland, outside of Dublin.

## 6.5 Country

Distribution of Homeless Persons Classified According to Country 2005			
Country	Count	%	% respondents
Cameroon	1	0%	0%
Czech Republic	1	0%	0%
England	38	3%	4%
Finland	1	0%	0%
Germany	1	0%	0%
Hungary	1	0%	0%
Ireland	897	66%	94%
Northern Ireland	1	0%	0%
Poland	1	0%	0%
Scotland	3	0%	0%
Spain	1	0%	0%
The Netherlands	1	0%	0%
UK	2	0%	0%
USA	4	0%	0%
No response	408	30%	
Total	1361	100%	100%

Note: Total Number of Households N=1361

Table 6.3 Distribution of Homeless Persons by Country

A total of 56 respondents gave a last permanent address in a country outside of Ireland. By far the largest group of these was the 38 people who reported a last permanent address in England.

Most last permanent addresses outside Ireland were from within the EU (51 out of the 56). Only three of these were an address in one of the East European countries that recently joined the EU.

Note that this was not a question about ethnicity or citizenship but about last permanent address. A non-Irish native whose last permanent address was in Dublin would be reported in the previous section, although it is possible that non-Irish respondents may not have regarded any address they held in Dublin as 'permanent' in the same sense as an address in their home country.

## 6.6 District Electoral Divisions

From the information given on the questionnaires, 774 last permanent addresses have been grouped according to District Electoral Division (DED).

### Note

A full listing of District Electoral Divisions corresponding to respondents' last permanent address is available from the Homeless Agency, including a breakdown by demographics and household type.

### Distribution of Homeless Persons who Reported Their Last Permanent Address Classified According to Local Authority Based on District Electoral Division 2005

Local Authorities	Count	%	% respondents
Dublin City Council	488	36%	63%
South Dublin County Council	127	9%	16%
Fingal County Council	48	4%	6%
Dun Laoghaire Rathdown County Council	51	4%	7%
Outside Dublin	60	4%	8%
No response	587	43%	
TOTAL (N) 2005	1361	100%	100%

Note: Total Number of Households N=1361  
Total Number of Adults N=1552

Table 6.4 Last Permanent Address classified by Local Authority based on DED 2005

A total of 714 people reported a last permanent address that could be aligned to a DED in the greater Dublin area.

Of these, 488 people had a last permanent address in the Dublin City Council area, 127 were in the South Dublin area, 48 were in the Fingal area and 51 were in the Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown area.

An additional 60 people experiencing homelessness reported addresses outside of the Dublin area. This is consistent with the suggestion that people migrate to Dublin once they become homeless, but it is also consistent with the suggestion that some people moving to Dublin may end up homeless due to an inability to find accommodation and/or employment, or due to other events that happen to them in Dublin. It is beyond the scope of this particular survey to deeply explore the routes into homelessness.

<b>Distribution of Top 10 District Electoral Divisions Within Dublin City Council Based on Homeless Persons Last Permanent Address 2005</b>		
<b>Dublin City Council</b>		<b>Count</b>
District Electoral Division	Mountjoy A	22
	Mountjoy B	19
	Wood Quay B	14
	North City	14
	Cabra East C	13
	Ballymun B	11
	Wood Quay A	10
	Kilmainham C	10
	Cabra East B	10
	Kylemore	9
	Total	132

Note: Only a partial list of cases with the lowest count are shown in the table

Table 6.5 Top 10 DEDs for Last Address Within Dublin City Council

This table shows the ten most commonly cited DEDs within the jurisdiction of Dublin City Council where respondents had their last permanent address.

Further information about previous addresses in Dublin City is given later in this Chapter, broken down by the Council's functional areas.

<b>Distribution of Top 10 District Electoral Divisions Within South Dublin County Council Based on Homeless Persons Last Permanent Address 2005</b>		
<b>South Dublin County Council</b>		<b>Count</b>
District Electoral Division	Tallaght–Kingswood	17
	Clondalkin–Rowlagh	15
	Clondalkin–Monastery	15
	Clondalkin–Dunawley	11
	Tallaght–Jobstown	9
	Clondalkin–Moorfield	8
	Tallaght–Tymon	5
	Tallaght–Killinardan	5
	Lucan–ESKER	5
	Lucan–St. Helens	4
	Total	94

Note: Only a partial list of cases with the lowest count are shown in the table

Table 6.6 Top 10 DEDs for Last Address Within South Dublin County Council

This table shows the ten most commonly cited DEDs within the jurisdiction of South Dublin County Council where respondents had their last permanent address.



<b>Distribution of Top 10 District Electoral Divisions Within Fingal County Council Based on Homeless Persons Last Permanent Address 2005</b>		
<b>Fingal County Council</b>		<b>Count</b>
District Electoral Division	Dubber	6
	Blanchardstown–Coolm	5
	Swords–Glasmore	4
	Blanchardstown–Tyrre	4
	Blanchardstown–Mulhu	4
	Swords–Village	3
	Blanchardstown–Corde	3
	Swords–Forrest	2
	Howth	2
	Blanchardstown–Blake	2
	Total	35

Note: Only a partial list of cases with the lowest count are shown in the table

Table 6.7 Top 10 DEDs for Last Address Within Fingal County Council

This table shows the ten most commonly cited DEDs within the jurisdiction of Fingal County Council where respondents had their last permanent address.

<b>Distribution of Top 10 District Electoral Divisions Within Dun Laoghaire Rathdown County Council Based on Homeless Persons Last Permanent Address 2005</b>		
<b>Dun Laoghaire Rathdown County Council</b>		<b>Count</b>
District Electoral Division	Killiney South	7
	Dun Laoghaire–Mounto	7
	Dun Laoghaire–Sallyn	6
	Cabinteely–Kilbogget	5
	Shankill–Rathsillag	3
	Dun Laoghaire–West C	3
	Dun Laoghaire–Sandyc	2
	Dundrum–Balally	2
	Blackrock–Templehill	2
	Ballinteer–Meadowmou	2
	Total	39

Note: Only a partial list of cases with the lowest count are shown in the table

Table 6.8 Top 10 DEDs for Last Address within Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council

This table shows the ten most commonly cited DEDs within the jurisdiction of Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council where respondents had their last permanent address.

Distribution of Top 4 District Electoral Divisions Within Other County Councils Based on Homeless Persons Last Permanent Address 2005		
Other County Councils	Count	
District Electoral Division	Bray Urban No.1	3
	Celbridge	3
	Tuam Urban	2
	Morrinstownbillier	2
	Total	10

Note: Only a partial list of cases with the lowest count are shown in the table

Table 6.9 Top 4 DEDs for Last Address Within Other County Councils

This table shows the four most commonly cited DEDs within the jurisdiction of other county councils where respondents had their last permanent address.

## 6.7 District Electoral Division Within Five Functional Areas of Dublin City Council

Distribution in the Five Functional Areas of Dublin City Council			
Functional Area	Count	%	% Respondents
Central	161	12%	33%
North West	66	5%	14%
North Central	60	4%	12%
South East	73	5%	15%
South Central	128	9%	26%
Sub-Total (Five Functional Areas of DCC)	488	-	100%
Not applicable	873	64%	-
TOTAL (N) 2005	1361	100%	-

Note: Total Number of Households N=1361

Table 6.10 Distribution in the Five Functional Areas of Dublin City Council

This table gives the last permanent address given by households experiencing homelessness in the Dublin City Council area (based on DEDs), divided into its five functional areas. The 'not applicable' category includes those whose address did not give enough detail to derive a DED, those who did not respond to this question and those from outside Dublin.

Note that the totals for each functional area include all the DEDs in that area, whereas the following tables just give the total of the top ten DEDs of each area.

<b>Dublin City Council (Central)</b>	
<b>Top 10 District Electoral Divisions</b>	<b>Count</b>
Mountjoy A	22
Mountjoy B	19
North City	14
Cabra East C	13
Cabra East B	10
Rotunda B	8
Inns Quay B	7
Drumcondra South C	6
Ballybough A	6
Arran Quay A	6
Total	111
Note: only a partial list of cases with the lowest count is shown in the table	

Table 6.11 Top 10 DEDs for Last Address within Dublin City Council (Central Area)

This table shows the ten most commonly cited DEDs within the Central functional area of Dublin City Council.

<b>Dublin City Council (North West)</b>	
<b>Top 10 District Electoral Divisions</b>	<b>Count</b>
Ballymun B	11
Ballymun C	9
Ballymun D	7
Ballygal A	7
Finglas South C	5
Finglas North B	5
Finglas South B	4
Ballymun A	4
Finglas North A	3
Ballygal D	3
Total	58
Note: only a partial list of cases with the lowest count is shown in the table	

Table 6.12 Top 10 DEDs for Last Address within Dublin City Council (North West Area)

This table shows the ten most commonly cited DEDs within the North West functional area of Dublin City Council.

<b>Dublin City Council (North Central)</b>	
<b>Top 10 District Electoral Divisions</b>	<b>Count</b>
Kilmore B	6
Priorswood E	5
Priorswood D	4
Kilmore D	4
Raheny–Greendale	3
Priorswood C	3
Edenmore	3
Drumcondra South A	3
Clontarf West D	3
Clontarf West A	3
Total	37
Note: only a partial list of cases with the lowest count is shown in the table	

Table 6.13 Top 10 DEDs for Last Address within Dublin City Council (North Central Area)

This table shows the ten most commonly cited DEDs within the North Central functional area of Dublin City Council.

<b>Dublin City Council (South East)</b>	
<b>Top 10 District Electoral Divisions</b>	<b>Count</b>
Wood Quay B	14
Wood Quay A	10
Rathmines West F	5
Rathmines West B	5
Rathmines East D	5
Rathmines East A	5
Pembroke East A	5
Saint Kevin's	4
Rathmines West A	3
Royal Exchange B	3
Total	59
Note: only a partial list of cases with the lowest count is shown in the table	

Table 6.14 Top 10 DEDs for Last Address within Dublin City Council (South East Area)

This table shows the ten most commonly cited DEDs within the South East functional area of Dublin City Council.

<b>Dublin City Council (South Central)</b>	
<b>Top 10 District Electoral Divisions</b>	<b>Count</b>
Kilmainham C	10
Kylemore	9
Ushers D	8
Merchants Quay B	8
Decies	7
Cherry Orchard C	7
Ushers C	6
Merchants Quay F	6
Chapelizod	5
Kimmage C	5
Total	71
Note: only a partial list of cases with the lowest count is shown in the table	

*Table 6.15 Top 10 DEDs for Last Address Within Dublin City Council (South Central Area)*

This table shows the ten most commonly cited DEDs within the South Central functional area of Dublin City Council.



## CHAPTER 7

# Comparison with 1999 and 2002

### 7.1 What Can We Compare?

The validation exercise carried out in 2005 represents an important improvement in the reliability of the survey data, but as Chapter 1 explains, it is not appropriate to directly compare the full count from 1999 and 2002 with the 2005 results, due to the validation exercise.

However, it is possible to make two types of comparison. Firstly, it is possible to show the overall change in the number of people experiencing homelessness between 2002 and 2005, by taking into account the effect of the validation exercise. Secondly, it is possible to compare the profile of service users, as this information was gathered in the same way over the seven-year period of the surveys.

### 7.2 Change Between 2002 and 2005

Comparing Households Experiencing Homelessness 2002 and 2005	
<b>Total Number of Households 2002</b>	2,560
<b>Total Number of Households 2005</b>	1,361
<b>Apparent Decrease</b>	1,199
<b>Validation</b>	707
<b>Real Decrease</b>	492
<b>Real Decrease (%)</b>	19%
Note: 'validation' refers to those names de-activated on Dublin City Council's homeless priority housing list.	

Table 7.1 Comparing Households Experiencing Homelessness 2002 and 2005

As Table 7.1 shows, the 'apparent decrease' between 2002 and 2005 exaggerates the situation. However, when the effect of the validation process is included, the figure of 492 shows a realistic decrease in the number of households experiencing homelessness in the Dublin area. That is to say, there was a decrease of 19% in the number of households reporting as homeless between 2002 and 2005.

This finding can be independently supported by the decrease of 22% in the number of households presenting as homeless to the Homeless Persons Unit (HPU). The HPU is responsible for delivery of a range of welfare services for homeless persons in the Dublin area including assessments of homeless status, placements into appropriate accommodation, identifying and facilitating move-on options, ensuring payment of state entitlements and access to medical services.

### 7.3 Comparing the Profile of Service Users from 1999 to 2005

A useful comparison that can be made between the three surveys is to see how the profile of service users may have changed over the seven-year period. The following tables show this comparison.

<b>Total Number of Households Using Services 1999–2005</b>			
	<b>1999</b>	<b>2002</b>	<b>2005</b>
Local Authority List Only	1,550	1,090	44
Service Users	1,350	1,470	1,317
Total Number of Households	2,900	2,560	1,361
Note: service users includes households only using services combined with those using services who are also on a local authority list			

Table 7.2 Total Number of Households Using Services 1999–2005

This table shows the number of households homeless who were using homeless services during the week of the survey in each year.

Note that the percentage figures quoted for 2005 in these tables exclude non-responses, following the method used in 1999 and 2002. As explained in section 1.5.6 non-responses can appreciably change these percentages.

#### Gender

<b>Gender Profile of Households Using Services 1999–2005</b>				
	<b>1999 (all)</b>	<b>2002 (singles)</b>	<b>2005 (all)</b>	<b>2005 (singles)</b>
Male	75%	80%	63%	72%
Female	25%	20%	37%	28%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%
Note: percentages are rounded to nearest whole number and so may not total 100				

Table 7.3 Gender Profile of Households Using Services 1999–2005

The above table shows the proportion of males to females has remained relatively similar from 1999 to 2005, although there has been a slight increase in the number of females reporting as homeless in 2005.

Note that the 2002 report did not include a gender breakdown by ‘all’ household types and therefore a comparison across this category was not possible.



## Age

<b>Age Profile of Households Using Services 1999–2005</b>				
	<b>1999 (all)</b>	<b>2002 (singles)</b>	<b>2005 (all)</b>	<b>2005 (singles)</b>
20 years or less	13%	11%	4%	3%
21–25 years	14%	15%	14%	12%
26–39 years	30%	31%	46%	42%
40–64 years	35%	38%	32%	39%
65 years +	8%	5%	3%	4%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%
Note: percentages are rounded to nearest whole number and so may not total 100 Note: for 1999, ages between 26–39 and 40–64 years are average figures recalculated from different age group divisions				

Table 7.4 Age Profile of Households Using Services 1999–2005

The above table shows a shift in the youngest age profile of those using homeless services, with much fewer people reporting their age as less than 20 years old. There has been an increase in those aged 26–39 years and a reduction in the oldest age group.

## Household Type

<b>Household Type of Households Using Services 1999–2005</b>			
	<b>1999</b>	<b>2002</b>	<b>2005</b>
Single Person	87%	75%	77%
Dual Parent	4%	7%	7%
Lone Parent	4%	11%	9%
Couple Only	5%	6%	7%
Total	100%	99%	100%
Note: percentages are rounded to nearest whole number and so may not total 100			

Table 7.5 Household Type of Households Using Services 1999–2005

The majority of homeless service users continue to be single. The most noticeable difference across the seven-year period is the reduction in single person households from 87% in 1999 to 77% in 2005.

Households with child dependents who reported as homeless have risen over the period. They represented 8% of households in 1999, 18% in 2002 and 16% of households in 2005.

## Length of Time Homeless

<b>Length of Time Homeless of Households Using Services 1999–2005</b>			
	<b>1999</b>	<b>2002</b>	<b>2005</b>
Under 6 months	22%	22%	23%
6–12 months	12%	13%	14%
12–36 months	25%	28%	19%
36 months+	41%	37%	43%
Total	100%	100%	100%
Note: percentages are rounded to nearest whole number and so may not total 100			

Table 7.6 Length of Time Homeless of Households Using Services 1999–2005

There is a consistent pattern with service users reporting similar lengths of time homeless from 1999 to 2005.

# Appendix 1: The Questionnaire

## Homeless Persons Household Details Form



Assessment of Homelessness, 24th–31st March 2005

We are conducting a survey on homelessness over the course of this week and would like you to help us by completing a short questionnaire. All answers you give will be on a strictly confidential basis. If you have filled out one of these forms in the last week in another homeless service please bring interview to a close. If not, we would be grateful if you could complete the following:

**Where are you living?** \_\_\_\_\_ **If person is homeless please continue;**

Over the last 7 nights, how many nights have you spent in:

- Current accommodation \_\_\_\_\_ nights
- A hostel \_\_\_\_\_ nights
- A refuge \_\_\_\_\_ nights
- A B&B \_\_\_\_\_ nights
- Slept in a friend's house \_\_\_\_\_ nights
- Slept rough \_\_\_\_\_ nights (Specify area \_\_\_\_\_)
- Slept elsewhere \_\_\_\_\_ nights (Please specify \_\_\_\_\_)

**If person has spent any of the last 7 nights in a hostel, refuge or B&B, please bring interview to a close.**

**If not please move on to next section.**

**A: Your Details:**

PPS Number:

First Name	Surname	Gender	Date of Birth	Weekly Income	Source of Income

Your citizenship : Irish Citizen:  EU Citizen:  Non-EU Citizen:

**B: Your Partner's Details:**

PPS Number:

First Name	Surname	Gender	Date of Birth	Weekly Income	Source of Income

Your partner's citizenship : Irish Citizen:  EU Citizen:  Non-EU Citizen:

**C: Your Dependents/Children who are residing with you at this address :**

First Name	Surname	Gender	Date of Birth	PPS Number	Relationship to You

**D: Your Current Address :** \_\_\_\_\_

PTO

Type of accommodation : Emergency Hostel:  Long Term Bed in Hostel:

Private Emergency (B&B):  Transitional:  Long-term Supported:

E: Are you on a local authority housing waiting list? Yes  No

If yes, please indicate which authority: Dublin City Council  Dún Laoghaire/Rathdown CC

South Dublin CC  Fingal CC  Other (please specify): \_\_\_\_\_

F: Your last permanent address: \_\_\_\_\_

G: Have you previously been a local authority tenant? Yes  No

If Yes, please state address and name of local authority: \_\_\_\_\_

H: How long have you currently been homeless?

Under 6 months	<input type="checkbox"/>
Between 6–12 months	<input type="checkbox"/>
Between 12–24 months	<input type="checkbox"/>
Between 24–36 months	<input type="checkbox"/>
More than 36 months	<input type="checkbox"/>

I. Have you been homeless in the past? Yes  No

If Yes, please state when and for how long: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## DECLARATION

I confirm that the information I have provided on this form is correct and that,

(a) I require permanent local authority housing

(b) I do not require permanent local authority housing

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_ 2005

OR

Witnessed by: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_ 2005

PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM BY **APRIL 8th** TO SORCHA DONOHOE,  
THE HOMELESS AGENCY, PARKGATE HALL, 6–9 CONYNGHAM ROAD, DUBLIN 8

# Appendix 2: Guidelines for Questionnaire

## Guidelines for Questionnaire Household Details Form 2005



Following on from the previous two Counted In Reports, the Homeless Agency is now undertaking a third census of homelessness. This assessment will run for seven consecutive days (24th–31st March) during which each homeless person presenting to a homeless service will be asked to participate in the census. All interviews will take place in these services and we would be very grateful if your staff would complete the questionnaire with service users.

The following are guidelines to filling out the enclosed questionnaire;

**At the start of the questionnaire there are a couple of screening questions to ensure that our assessment only surveys people who are homeless and have not already been captured through the Dublin City Council Housing Needs Assessment.**

**Screening Question: If the person has slept in friend's house, slept rough or elsewhere please specify street location.**

**Screening Question: If the person has already filled in a form in another service or spent any of the last 7 nights in a hostel, refuge or B&B please bring interview to a close.**

- A. For every homeless person it is very important to obtain the first name, surname, date of birth and PPS number and gender. If you cannot obtain the first name or surname please take the INITIALS, date of birth and gender.  
Citizenship: This question may be phrased; what country are you a citizen of? EU Citizen refers to other EU countries outside of Ireland. *Please find enclosed a list of countries in the EU.*
- B. Please fill in their partners detail, PPS number and other relevant information  
Citizenship: This question may be phrased; what country are you a citizen of? EU Citizen refers to other EU countries outside of Ireland. *Please find enclosed a list of countries in the EU.*
- C. Dependants/Children (*under 18 years of age*) who are residing at this address
- D. PLEASE IGNORE THIS QUESTION
- E. Are you on a local authority list, and if so please indicate which Local Authority
- F. Your last Permanent address – e.g. 4 Capel Street, Dublin 1, 4 Coolock drive, Coolock.
- G. Have you previously been a local authority tenant, if yes please take address and area. e.g. 4 Capel Street, Dublin 1. e.g. 4 Coolock drive, Coolock.
- H. How long have you currently been homeless? Please tick relevant number of months.  
In order to obtain the specific month; follow this time line.  
*Under 6 Months / 6–11 months (6–12) / 12–23 months (12–24) / 24–36 months (24–36) / more than 37 months (more than 36)*
- A. Have you been homeless in the past and if yes please state the period of time and for how long?  
DECLARATION: Please tick whether the service user requires/does not require permanent local authority housing.  
The interviewee must sign the form, if they are unable to do so a staff member should sign their name.  
**PLEASE DO NOT FORGET TO DATE THE FORM.**  
MANY THANKS FOR YOUR CO-OPERATION

IF YOU HAVE ANY FURTHER QUESTIONS REGARDING THE ASSESSMENT PLEASE CALL SORCHA DONOHOE (703 6111), MARIA FITZPATRICK (703 6103) OR TADGH KENEHAN (703 6190)

# Appendix 3: List of Participating Agencies

## Services invited to participate in survey

### Accident and Emergency Departments

Beaumont Hospital, Beaumont, Dublin 9  
James Connolly Memorial Hospital, Blanchardstown, Dublin 15  
Loughlinstown Hospital, Co. Dublin  
Mater Hospital, Eccles Street, Dublin 7  
St Columcille's Hospital, Loughlinstown, Co. Dublin  
St James Hospital, James Street, Dublin 8  
St Vincent's Hospital, Herbert Avenue, Merrion, Dublin 4  
Tallaght Hospital, Tallaght, Dublin 24

### Community Services

Blakestown and Mountview Youth Initiative, Dublin 15  
LAB Project, Loughlinstown, Co. Dublin  
Lourdes Youth and Community Services, Rutland Street, Dublin 1  
Mounttown Neighbourhood Youth Project, Dún Laoghaire, Co. Dublin  
Ronanstown Youth Project, Clondalkin, Dublin 22  
St Andrews Resource Centre, Dublin 2  
Springboard, Ballybrack, Co. Dublin  
Tallaght Youth Information Centre, Tallaght, Dublin 24  
Tower Programme, Clondalkin, Dublin 22  
Youth Support and Training Programme, Clondalkin, Dublin 22

### Alcohol and Drug

Baggot Street Drug Clinic, Dublin 2  
Bawnogue Youth and Family Support Group, Tallaght, Dublin 24  
Clondalkin Addiction Support Programme, Clondalkin, Dublin 22  
ECAHB – Drugs and Aids Service (Dun Laoghaire, Co. Dublin and Clonskeagh, Dublin 6)  
Hanly Centre, Dún Laoghaire, Co. Dublin  
Inchicore Community Drug Team, Emmet Road, Dublin 8  
Merchants Quay Ireland, Drug Outreach Service, Dublin 2  
Rialto Community Drug Team, South Circular Road, Dublin 8  
Tallaght Community Drug Team, Tallaght, Dublin 24  
Teach Mhuire, Lwr Gardiner Street, Dublin 1

### Education and Training Services

CDVEC Foundations Project, Parnell Square, Dublin 1  
FAS Access Service, Jervis Street, Dublin 1  
PACE, Santry Hall Industrial Estate, Dublin 1

## Food and Day Services

Bridge (Probation and Welfare), Parnell Street, Dublin 1  
Capuchin Day Centre, Bow Lane, Dublin 7  
Care, Dún Laoghaire, Co. Dublin  
Centrecare, Cathedral Street, Dublin 1  
Clondalkin Partnership, Clondalkin, Dublin 22  
Faitui, Merchants Quay Ireland, Merchants Quay, Dublin 8  
Finglas Homelessness Response Network, Finglas, Dublin 11  
Focus Ireland, Coffee Shop, Eustace Street, Dublin 2  
Focus Ireland Family Programme, Dublin 8  
Focus Ireland Nursery, Dublin 8  
Focus Ireland Extension, Dublin 8  
Focus Ireland, The Loft, Dublin 8  
Guild of the Little Flower, Meath Street, Dublin 8  
LINX Project, Ballymun, Dublin 9  
Mendicity Institute, Dublin 8  
Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Longford Lane, Dublin 2  
St Agatha's Food Centre, Portland Row, Dublin 1  
St Brigid's Food Centre, Holles Row, Dublin 2  
St Joseph's Penny Dinners, Nth Cumberland Street, Dublin 1  
St Vincent's Trust, Eccles Street, Dublin 1  
Tallaght Homeless Advice Unit, Dublin 24  
Threshold, Mary's Abbey, Dublin 7  
Trust, Bride Road, Dublin 8  
Women's Health Centre, Dublin 4

## Emergency Accommodation

### **Single Men**

Back Lane Hostel (St. Vincent de Paul), Dublin 8  
Cedar House (Salvation Army), Dublin 1  
Clancy Shelter (De Paul Trust), Islandbridge, Dublin 8  
Crosscare Night Shelter, Dún Laoghaire, Co. Dublin  
Crosscare Night Shelter, Longford Lane, Dublin 2  
Dublin Simon Shelter, Dublin 8  
Elm House (Dublin City Council), Dublin 1  
Iveagh Hostel, Bride Street, Dublin 8  
Morning Star (Legion of Mary), Dublin 7  
Sancta Maria, Charlemont Street, Dublin 2  
York House (Salvation Army), York Street, Dublin 2

### **Families and Women**

Aylward Green(Focus Ireland), Finglas, Dublin 11  
Haven House (Northern Area Health Board), Morning Star Avenue, Dublin 7  
Missionary Sisters of Charity, SCR, Dublin 8  
Regina Coeli, Morning Star Avenue, Dublin 7 (Legion of Mary)

### **Refuges**

Aoibhneas, Coolock, Dublin 17  
Women's Refuge, Rathmines, Dublin 6  
Private Sector Bed and Breakfast and Hostel Accommodation

### Health Board Services

Acces Team, Parkgate Hall, 6–9 Conyngham Road, Dublin 8  
Cornmarket Dental Surgery, High Street, Dublin 8  
Homeless Domestic Violence Social Work Service, Dublin  
Homeless Persons Unit, Wellington Quay, Dublin 2  
Homeless Persons Unit, St James Street, Dublin 8  
Homeless Persons Unit Freephone  
Keltoi, St Mary's Hospital, Baldoyle, Dublin 13  
Multi Disciplinary Health Outreach Team, Parkgate Hall, Conyngham Road, Dublin 8  
Soilse, Dublin 1

### Local Authorities

Dublin City Council, Civic Offices, Dublin 8  
Dún Laoghaire/Rathdown County Council, Town Hall, Dún Laoghaire, Co. Dublin  
Fingal County Council, Dublin 1  
South Dublin County Council, Tallaght, Dublin 24

### Service for Young People

Aislinn After Care Service, Dún Laoghaire, Co. Dublin  
Balcurris Boys Home (Arrupe Society)  
Ballymun Youth Action Project, Ballymun, Dublin 9  
Belvedere Social Services, Dublin 9  
Blanchardstown Youth Information Centre, Blanchardstown, Dublin 15  
Bond Project, Blanchardstown, Dublin 15  
Crosscare Residential Project, Dublin 7  
Don Bosco House, Dublin 9  
Focus Ireland, Off the Streets, Dublin 7  
Focus Ireland, Young Women's Project, Dublin 7  
Fr McVerry's Hostel, Dublin 9 (Arrupe Society)  
Lefroy House, (Single Girls Units Salvation Army), Dublin 1  
Nightlight (Salvation Army), Dublin 1  
Out of Hours Service, (Health Board)  
Parkview Residential Unit, Dublin 1 (Health Board)  
Ronanstown Youth Service, Neilstown, Dublin 22  
Sherrard House, Dublin 1

### Settlement Services

Dublin City Council Settlement Team  
Dublin Simon Settlement and Training Project  
Focus Ireland Community Settlement Programme  
Merchant s Quay Ireland, Settlement and Integration Service

### Street Outreach Services

Dublin City Council Night Bus  
Dublin Simon Street Outreach Team  
Dublin Simon Soup Run  
Focus Ireland Street Outreach Team



### **Transitional Accommodation**

Belevedere Road (Dublin City Council), Dublin 1  
Daisy House, SCR, Dublin 8  
Cuas, Dorset Street (Dublin Simon), Dublin 1  
Ecclesville (Miss Carr's Housing Association), Dublin 6  
Elm House (Dublin City Council), Dublin 7  
Focus Ireland, Georges Hill, Dublin 7  
Focus Ireland, Stanhope Green, Dublin 7  
Interaid, Co Dublin  
Lefroy House, (Family Units Salvation Army) Dublin 1  
Maple House (Dublin City Council), Dublin 1,  
Pim Street (Dublin City Council), Dublin 7  
Sonas, Phibsboro Road, Dublin 7  
Sophia Housing, Cork Street, Dublin 8  
Vincentian Housing Partnership, Dublin 1

### **Long Term Supported Housing**

The Aids Fund, Dublin 1  
Dublin Simon, NCR, Dublin 7  
Dublin Simon, Sean MacDermott Street, Dublin 1  
Focus Ireland, Stanhope Street, Dublin 7  
Focus Ireland, Georges Hill, Dublin 7  
HAIL Housing, Dame Street, Dublin 2  
Oak House (Dublin City Council), Benburb Street, Dublin 7

# Appendix 4: The Homeless Agency Partnership

## Board

<i>Kathleen Holohan</i>	<i>Dún Laoghaire Rathdown County Council</i>
Alan Carthy	Fingal County Council
Pat Doherty	Depaul Trust Ireland
Vivian Geiran	Probation and Welfare Service
Sinead Hanly	Independent and Chair Consultative Forum
Declan Jones	Focus Ireland
Dermot Kavanagh	Merchants Quay Ireland
Brendan Kenny	Dublin City Council
Donal McManus	Irish Council for Social Housing
Eddie Matthews	HSE Northern Area
Alice O’Flynn	HSE
Leonie O’Neill	HSE Eastern Area
Leonora O’Reilly	CDVEC
Philomena Poole	South Dublin County Council

## Consultative Forum

<i>Sinead Hanly</i>	<i>Chair</i>
Orla Barry	Focus Ireland
Sr. Angela Burke	Vincentian Partnership, Rendu Apartments
Patricia Cleary	Housing Association for Integrated Living (HAIL)
Liz Clifford	Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council
Don Comiskey	The Aids Fund
Lisa Cuthbert	PACE
Theresa Dolan	Capuchin Day Centre
Ciaran Dunne	Dublin City Council
Yvonne Fleming	Centrecare
Vincent Healy	Dublin City Council
Anne Helferty	Dublin City Council
Brendan Hynes	South Dublin County Council
Pat Jennings	Probation and Welfare Service
Mary Martin	HSE
Frank Mills	HSE
Muireann Morris	Sonas Housing Association
Martina O’Connor	Fingal County Council
Patricia O’Connor	National Drugs Strategy Team
Declan O’Donoghue	FÁS
Jean Quinn	Sophia Housing Association
Clare Schofield	CDVEC
Des Stone	HPU
Seamus Sisk	Irish Prisons Service

## Homeless Network

AIDS Fund  
Ana Liffey Drug Project  
Arrupe Society (Peter McVerry Trust)  
Capuchin Day Centre  
Centrecare  
Daisyhouse Housing Association  
Depaul Trust  
Dublin Simon  
Ecclesville  
Focus Ireland  
Guild of the Little Flower  
Hail Housing Association for Integrated Living  
Merchants Quay Ireland  
PACE  
Respond Housing Association  
Sonas Housing Association  
Sophia Housing Association  
Tallaght Homeless Advice Unit  
The Salvation Army  
Threshold  
Access Housing Unit  
Vincentinean Housing Partnership (Rendu Apartments)