



Focus on Homelessness

Significant Developments in
Homelessness 2014–2021

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and Mike Allen

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Introduction

Focus on Homelessness is a collaborative series between Focus Ireland and the School of Social Work and Social Policy, Trinity College Dublin that aims to publish a unique picture of the extent of homelessness in Ireland. Since 2014, the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage (DHLGH) has published data on the number of people living in Emergency Accommodation each month. In addition, Quarterly Performance Reports and Financial Reports have contained data on the number of entries and exits to Emergency Accommodation, duration in such accommodation and the cost to central and local government of providing services to households experiencing homelessness in Ireland each quarter.

While the data is quite narrow in its scope, covering only those in Emergency Accommodation and most rough sleepers¹, and there are a number of exclusions of certain categories over this period, these data nonetheless provide a reasonably comprehensive and detailed overview of trends in homelessness in Ireland over the period. Even taking into account its limitations, it is a more detailed and timely source of information than is available in most other European Member States. Thus, it provides an invaluable resource to help us understand and improve on our policies and practices. However, to date this large body of data has not been collated in an easily accessible format. Focus on Homelessness aims to make this substantial body of data available in an accessible and reliable format by providing detailed reports on the extent, nature, duration and cost of homelessness in Ireland.

This summary edition draws together the insights gained from a year of Focus on Homelessness publications, including the several thematic reports on topics such as Gender, Adult-only Households and Expenditure.

The data in *Focus on Homelessness* is drawn directly from DHLGH published reports, with the exception of some estimates for the number of households, which is derived. The number of homeless households is a key measurement as it corresponds to the number of housing units required to eliminate homelessness. The Monthly Reports published by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage on the number and characteristics of households accessing local authority managed Emergency Accommodation do not provide a figure for household type. However, they provide data on the total number of adults with accompanying child dependents and the number of single parent families. From this, we can calculate the numbers of single adults (ie: without accompanying children) and the number of parents both single and part of a couple.

For the number of couples, two assumptions are made here for the purpose of this calculation based on existing information. Firstly, that all couples with accompanying child dependants are heterosexual couples, and secondly that 93% of single-parent households are female headed. A figure is calculated for both categories each month and then subtracted from the total number of female/male adults to generate the figure used in this report for female/male adult-only households. Thus there is a margin of error associated with the gender breakdown, as in any given month not all couples in Emergency Accommodation may be heterosexual and the percent of those parenting alone that are female headed may also vary, but this is likely to be minor. It must also be noted here that these data sources only provide a breakdown by male or female, with no third gender or other option available. This report therefore only has capacity to analyse trends within this definition.

1. Categories 1-3 in the ETHOS typology used for comparative research on homelessness.

Significant Developments Over the Past 7 Years

The editorial approach of Focus on Homelessness in the individual editions has been to set out the data in a clear and accessible format with some textual description but no analysis or commentary. Focus Ireland has published separate blogs setting out an analysis of the figure along with proposals for policy responses from a perspective of homelessness. Given the scale of the material set out here, we believe that while keeping away from commentary it would be useful to the reader to draw attention to some of the significant issues and trends which appear to us to emerge from this data.

- As of April 2021, there were 5,458 households in Emergency Accommodation in Ireland, comprising 8,082 individuals (5,889 adults and 2,193 child dependents).
- The number of households in Emergency Accommodation reached a peak of just over 6,000 in January 2020. At the start of this data series in mid-2014, there were 2,300 households in Emergency Accommodation.

The downward trend started in 2018

While the period since the start of the Covid-19 pandemic (Q1 2020) has been characterised by significant declines in overall homelessness, there were indications that the sharp upward pattern of rising homelessness was moderating up to two years before this. Presenting the data as time series allows us to identify a number of patterns which peaked from 2018 onward.

- The number of adults entering homelessness for the first time in each quarter was the first metric to peak, with the highest figure being recorded in Q1 2018.
- The number of families in Emergency Accommodation nationally peaked in July 2018. That month also saw the highest level of families in Emergency Accommodation in Dublin, with family homelessness continuing to grow outside of Dublin for over a year until it peaked in October 2019.
- The number of children in Emergency Accommodation peaked a month earlier in September 2019, with the number of women in Emergency Accommodation peaking in the same month. The timing of these peaks was influenced by the Government decision to exclude families in 'own door' Emergency Accommodation from the data, but the underlying pattern it unlikely to be altered.
- With this decline in the number of families in Emergency Accommodation, the total number of individuals (adults and children) in Emergency Accommodation also peaked in October 2019, with the primary metric of households in Emergency Accommodation peaking a few months later in January 2020.
- The number of one-parent families in Emergency Accommodation peaked in July 2018 and has fallen by 55% since.

The Covid-19 pandemic and the restrictions related to it accelerated the trends already evident in family homelessness. The effects of the pandemic, the associated restrictions on evictions and their removal, will have complex impacts on the housing market which will take several months to make themselves manifest.

Homelessness among single people continues to rise

- In contrast to the trend in family homelessness, the number of homeless individuals in adult-only households (single adults and couples without children) continued to rise. The highest figure of 4,600 occurred in February 2021, so recently that it would be premature to conclude that this is peak.

There are important regional variations in trends

With over 60% of homelessness occurring in the Dublin region, trends in Dublin tend to dominate national figures, but there are important differences in experience across the country which would reward further exploration.

- Family homelessness outside of Dublin continued to rise after a decline was evident in Dublin, reaching its peak more than a year after the Dublin peak, in October 2019.
- While homelessness in adult-only households continues to grow in Dublin (and in the national figures), it has been declining significantly in a number of regions for some time, for example the Midlands, the North-East and the South-East.

More people experienced homelessness than the monthly figures suggest

The publication of homeless figures on a monthly basis tends to focus attention on the numbers who are homeless at that point in time. The longer term perspective set out here allows us to see more clearly the underlying dynamics of households moving in and out of Emergency Accommodation.

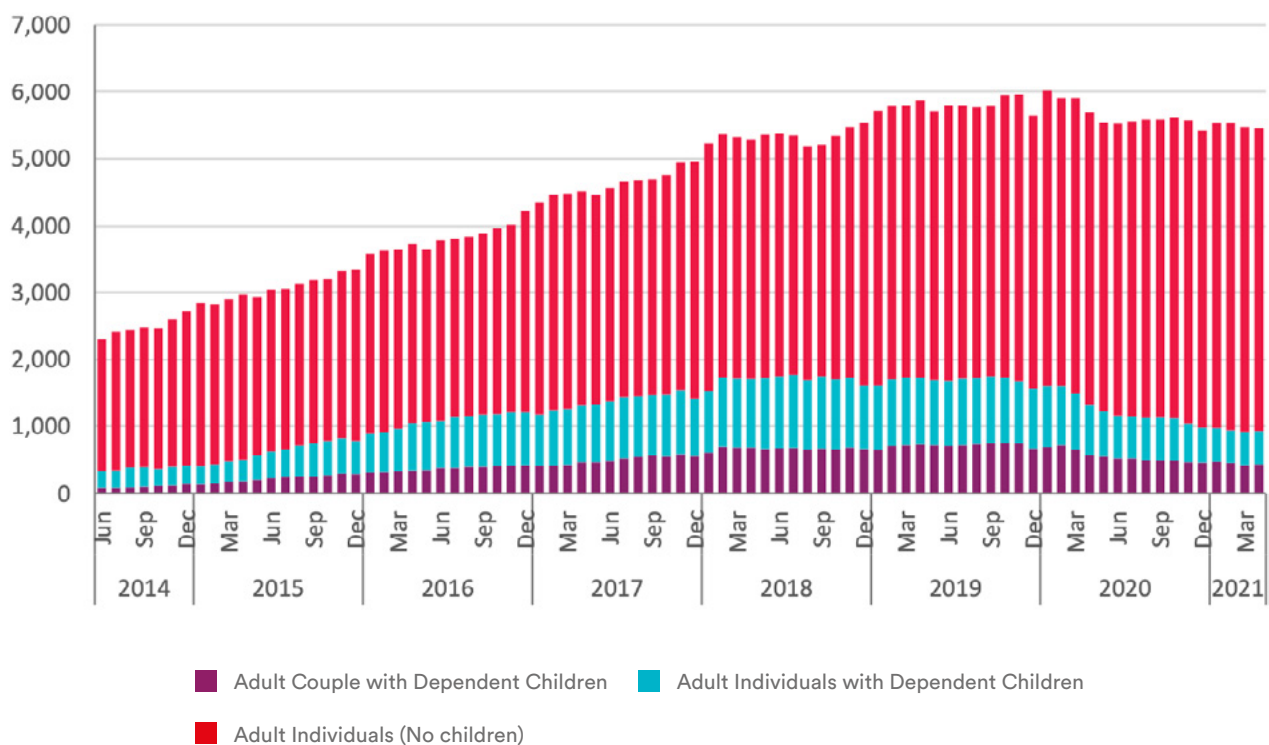
- While the number of adults who were homeless over this period never went above 7,000 in any given month, a total of 38,000 unique adults experienced a period of homelessness in Emergency Accommodation over the period Q1 2014 to Q1 2021.
- Nearly 22,500 adults exited Emergency Accommodation to either a social housing tenancy or support between Q1 2014 and Q1 2021.
- This high number of individuals entering homelessness and moving out relatively quickly is contrasted with the experiences of those who were unable to successfully exit. The number of adults in Emergency Accommodation for a period of longer than six months increased from under 1,000 in Q1 2014 to over 4,000 by Q4 2020, but dropped to just under 3,500 in Q1 2021.

The responses to homelessness were expensive

The seven-year timespan of this summary also reveals the public expenditure by central and Local Government resulting from this level of homelessness and the public policy options chosen by Government to respond to it.

- A total of just over €1bn was expended on services for households experiencing homelessness between 2013 and 2020, with three-quarters of this (€824m) being spent on Emergency Accommodation. Of this, just over €503m was expended on private providers of Emergency Accommodation with the balance going to non-governmental providers.
- Over the period 2014 to 2020, the average cost of maintaining a household in Emergency Accommodation has nearly doubled, from €15,000 to nearly €30,000.

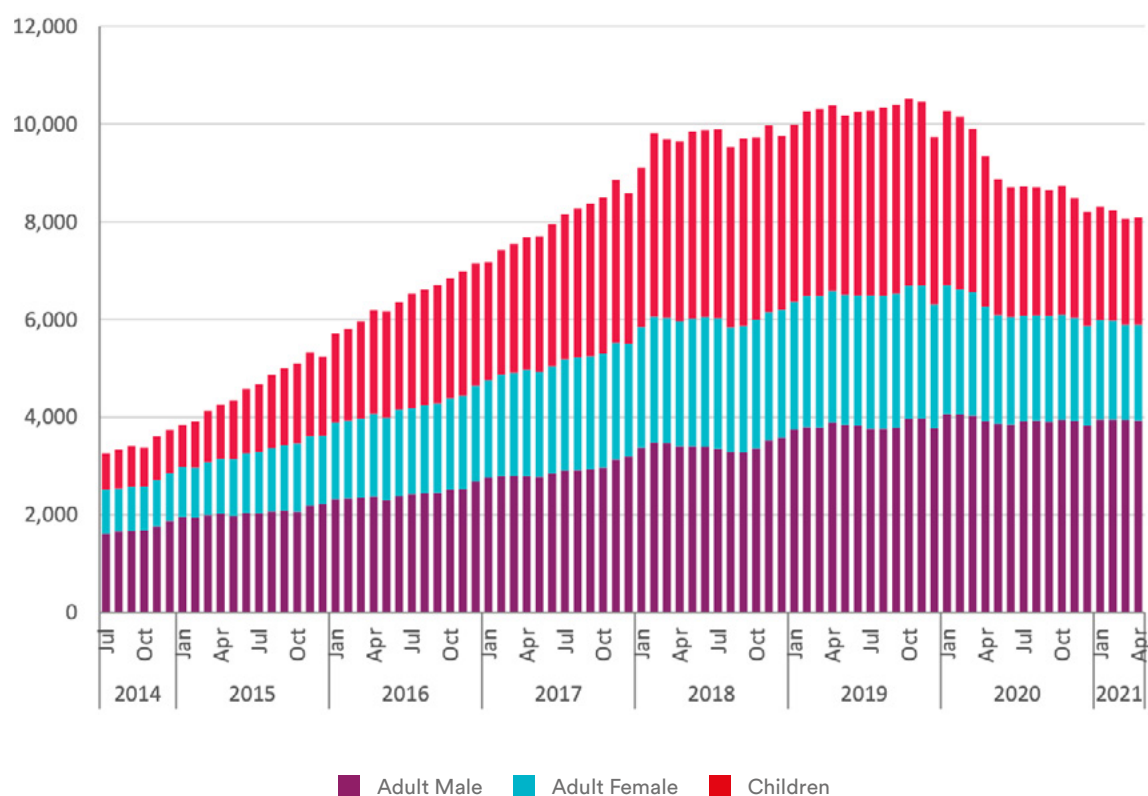
Section 1: Overview

Figure 1: Households in Emergency Accommodation

There were 2,300 households in Emergency Accommodation when the data series started in 2014. This number rose steadily until January 2020 when it reached a peak of 6,011. As of April 2021, there were just under 5,500 households in Emergency Accommodation in Ireland.

Presenting the scale of homelessness in terms of the number of households affected shifts the focus towards solving homelessness, by giving an indication of the number of homes needed to meet the needs of those currently in Emergency Accommodation.

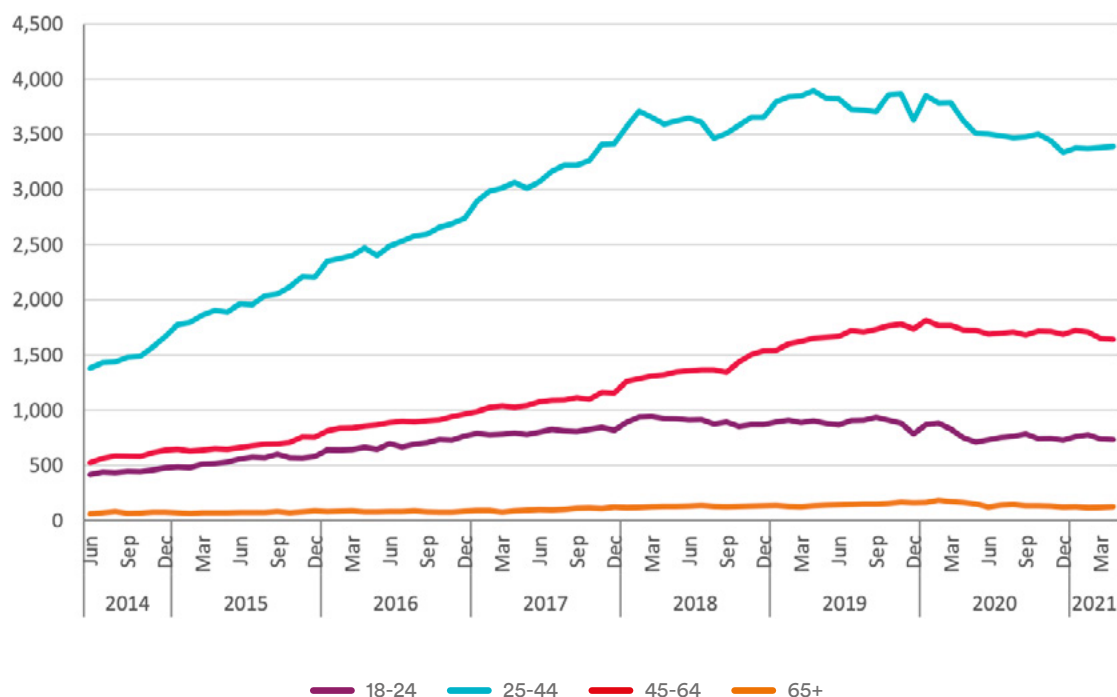
Adult individuals without children make up the majority of homeless households, at 4,533 as of April 2021. As of April 2021, adult individuals without children account for 83% of all households in Emergency Accommodation, couples with children for 8% and individuals with children for 9%.

Figure 2: Total Individuals in Emergency Accommodation

The contrast between Figure 1 and Figure 2 highlights how the decline in family homelessness over the past year has caused a large drop in the number of individuals but has not similarly impacted the overall number of homeless households, due to the simultaneous increase in single adult households and the number of adults and children in each family.

Since July 2014, the total number of individuals in Emergency Accommodation has increased by 148%. The number of children has increased by 193%, adult women by 120% and adult men by 143%. As of April 2021, there are 8,082 individuals in Emergency Accommodation, made up of 2,193 children, 1,959 women and 3,930 men.

October 2019 saw the highest ever number of individuals in Emergency Accommodation, at 10,514. After remaining above 10,000 for most of 2019, the total number of individuals began to fall sharply from March 2020 and has since decreased by 19%.

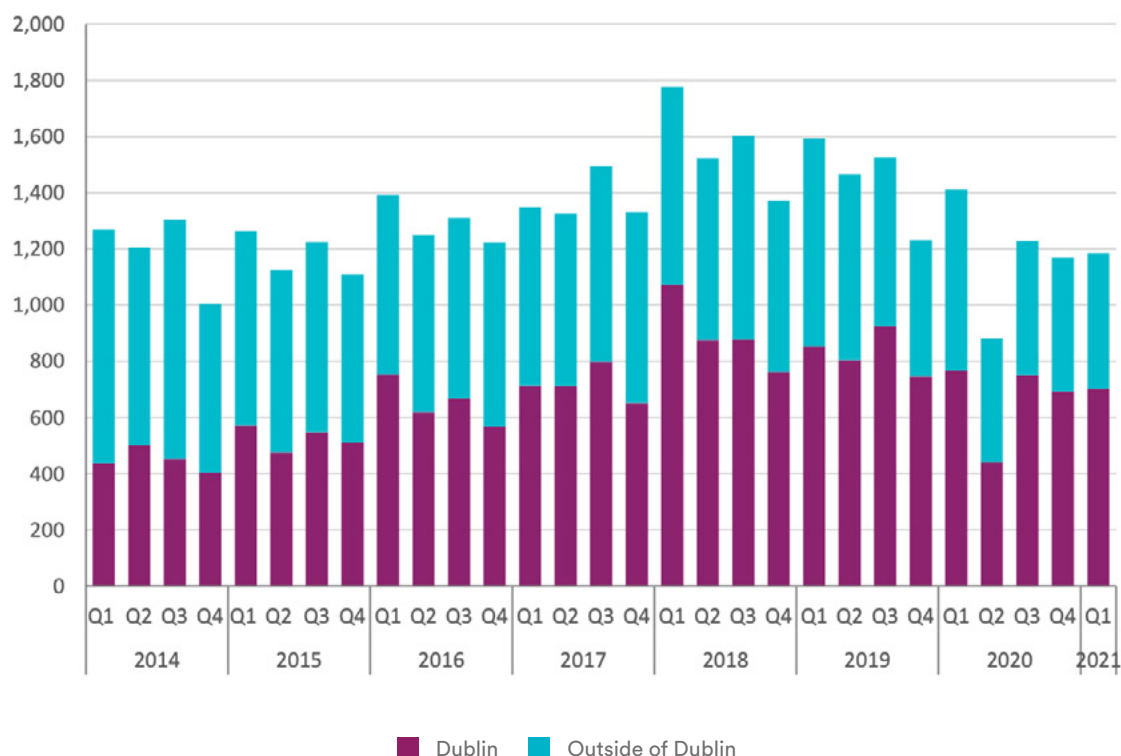
Figure 3: Adults by Age Group

Between mid-2014 and early 2021, 25–44 year-olds make up the majority of adults in Emergency Accommodation each month, at approximately 60%. The next largest group is 45–64 year-olds, whose numbers increased from 20% of all adults in Emergency Accommodation in June 2014 to just under 30% in early 2021. The proportion of young adults aged 18–24 has, in contrast, declined from just under 20% in mid-2014 to 12% in early 2021. Those aged over 65 years comprise on average 2% of all adults in Emergency Accommodation each month.

The age cohorts used are not, of course, of equal size. When considered as a proportion of the national population of that age group, those aged 18–24 had a rate of 1.7 in each 100,000 persons of that age in Emergency Accommodation, a rate of 2.6 for 25–44 year-olds and 1.4 for the 45–64 cohort in April 2021.

Section 2:

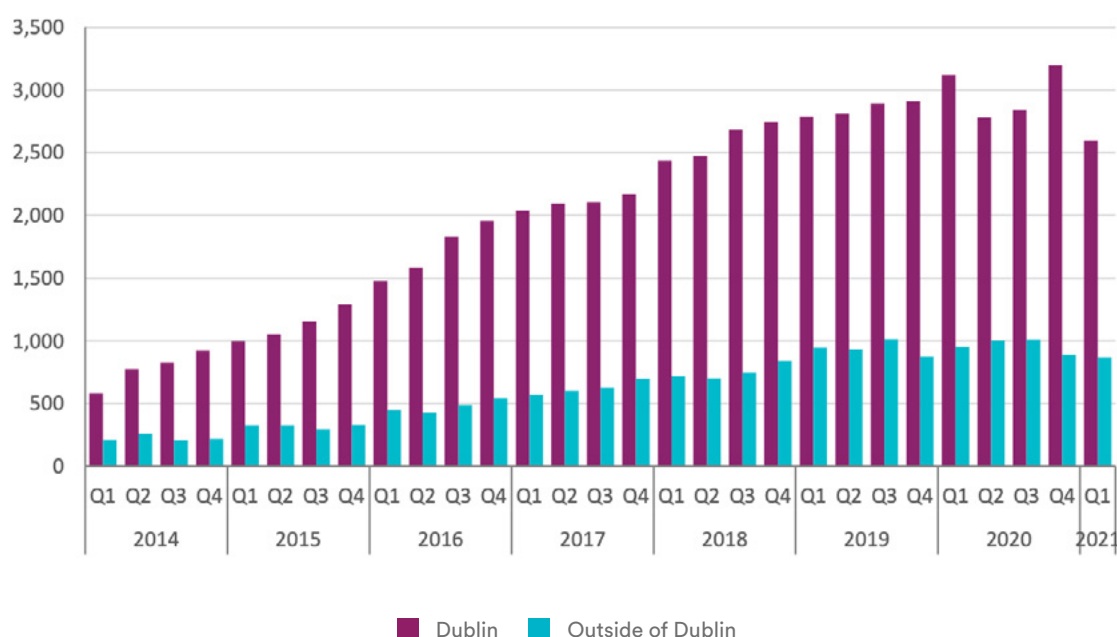
Entries, Exits and Duration

Figure 4: New Adult Presentations to Homeless Services, Q1 2014 — Q1 2021

In this section we explore the number of adults who entered Emergency Accommodation each quarter, the number who exited to housing and the number in Emergency Accommodation for more than six months between Q1 2014 and Q1 2021. This data shows a different pattern than observed in the monthly data.

As shown in Figure 4, just over 38,000 unique adults entered Emergency Accommodation over this period for the first time, compared to an average of just under 5,000 in Emergency Accommodation over the same period from the monthly figures. The flow of adults entering Emergency Accommodation for the first time peaked in Q1 2018 and then decreased significantly in 2019 and 2020.

Figure 5: Number of Adults in Emergency Accommodation for longer than Six Months, Q1 2014 — Q1 2021



Based on the monthly reports, an average of 70% of adults in Emergency Accommodation are in the Dublin. However, the flow data shows that an almost equal number of new adults entered Emergency Accommodation in Dublin and outside Dublin.

The reason why the point in time figure shows that 70% of all adults in Emergency Accommodation in Ireland are in Dublin is that they are more likely to get 'stuck' in Emergency Accommodation in Dublin than outside of Dublin. In Q1 2021, 2,600 adults had been in Emergency Accommodation for more than 6 months in Dublin, compared to 868 outside of Dublin, as shown in Figure 5. The numbers in Emergency Accommodation for more than six months in Dublin increased from just over 500 at the beginning of 2014, peaking in Q4 2020 when nearly 80% of all adults in Emergency Accommodation in Dublin had been there for more than six months, compared to just under 50% outside of Dublin.

Figure 6: Adult Exits from Emergency Accommodation to Housing (LA, AHB, PRS, HAP), Q1 2014 — Q1 2021

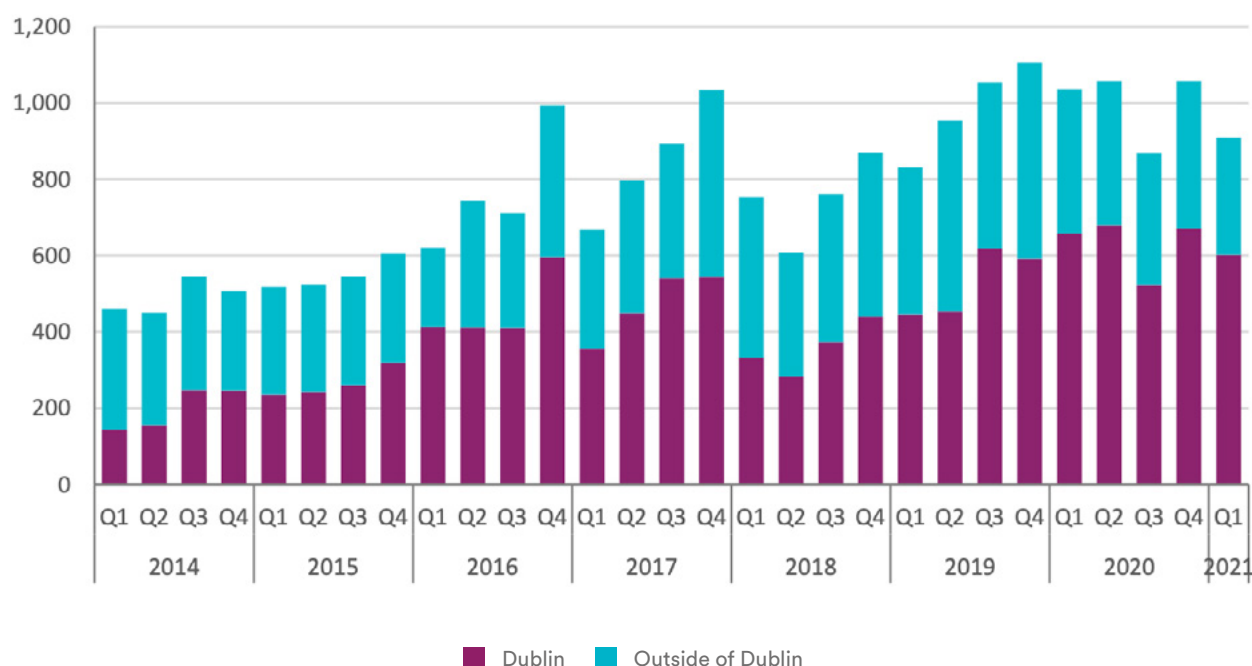
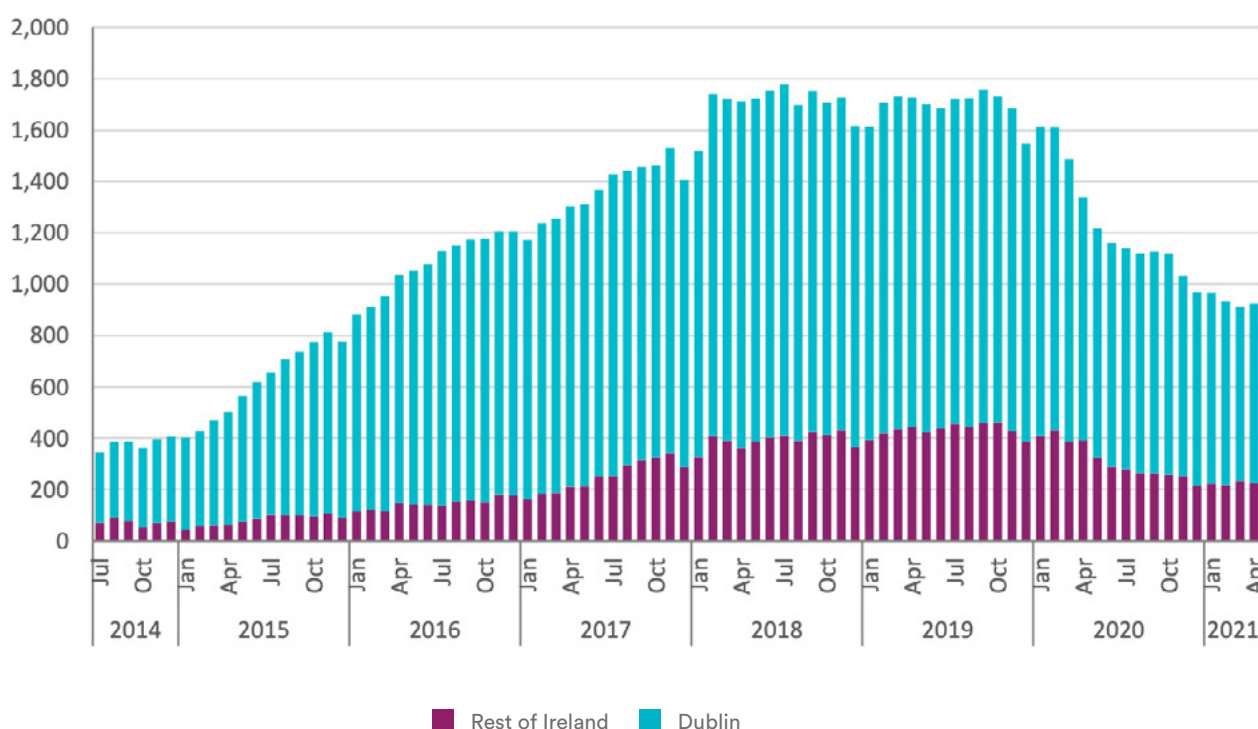


Figure 6 shows that nearly 22,500 adults exited Emergency Accommodation to State subsidised housing (Local Authority tenancies, Approved Housing Body tenancies, and the Private Rented Sector supported primarily by the Housing Assistance Payment or a Rent Supplement) in the period between Q1 2014 and Q1 2021 – just over 10,000 outside Dublin and close to 12,250 in Dublin. Others exited to various insecure forms of accommodation or to other institutions such as prison or a hospital, often in a long-standing institutional circuit of repeated episodes of homelessness. The number of exits to housing has increased in recent years, with nearly 8,000 exits between 2019 and 2020 compared to just over 4,150 between 2014 and 2015.

Section 3:

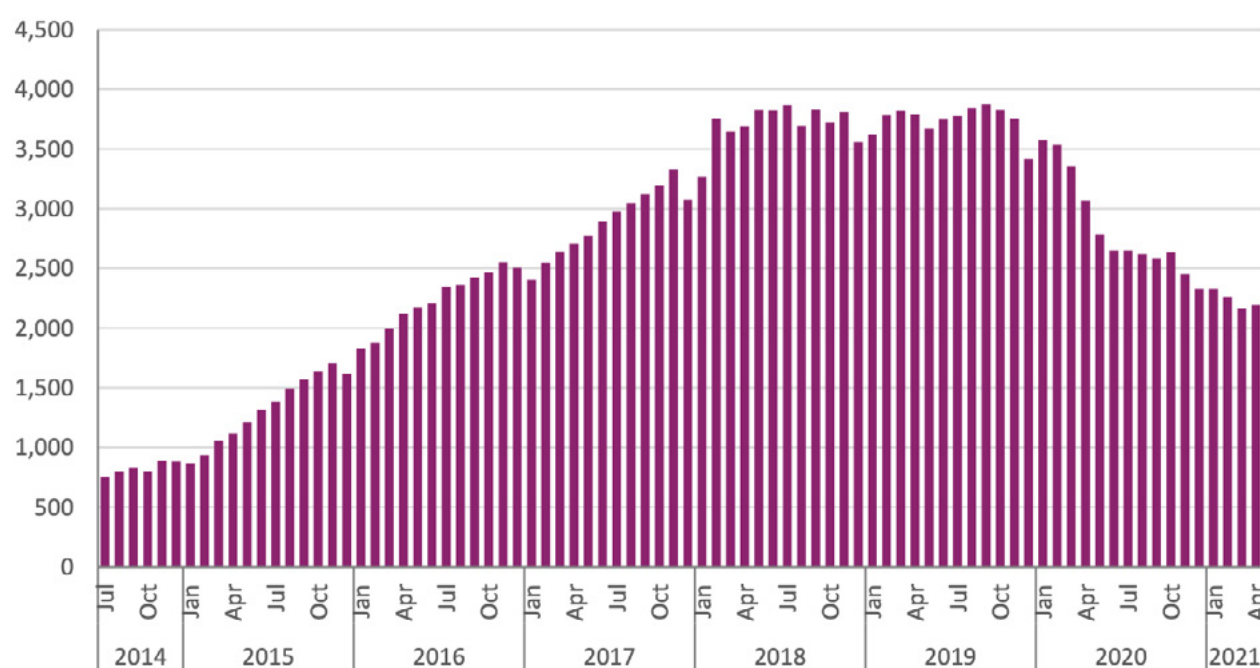
Families

Figure 7: Families in Emergency Accommodation, Dublin and Outside of Dublin

In July 2014, there were 344 families in Emergency Accommodation nationally, rising to a peak of 1,778 in July 2018. Over the period 2014—2021, around three-quarters of Ireland's homeless families have been in Dublin. The national peak in July 2018 coincided with the peak in Dublin, with 1,367 families homeless at this point. After this point, the number of families in Emergency Accommodation in Dublin began to decline.

However, although the overall national figure declined from this point, driven by the fall in Dublin, for the rest of the country family homelessness continued to rise for a further year and a half after the national figure reached its peak. In October 2019, the highest level of family homelessness outside of Dublin was reached, at 463 families.

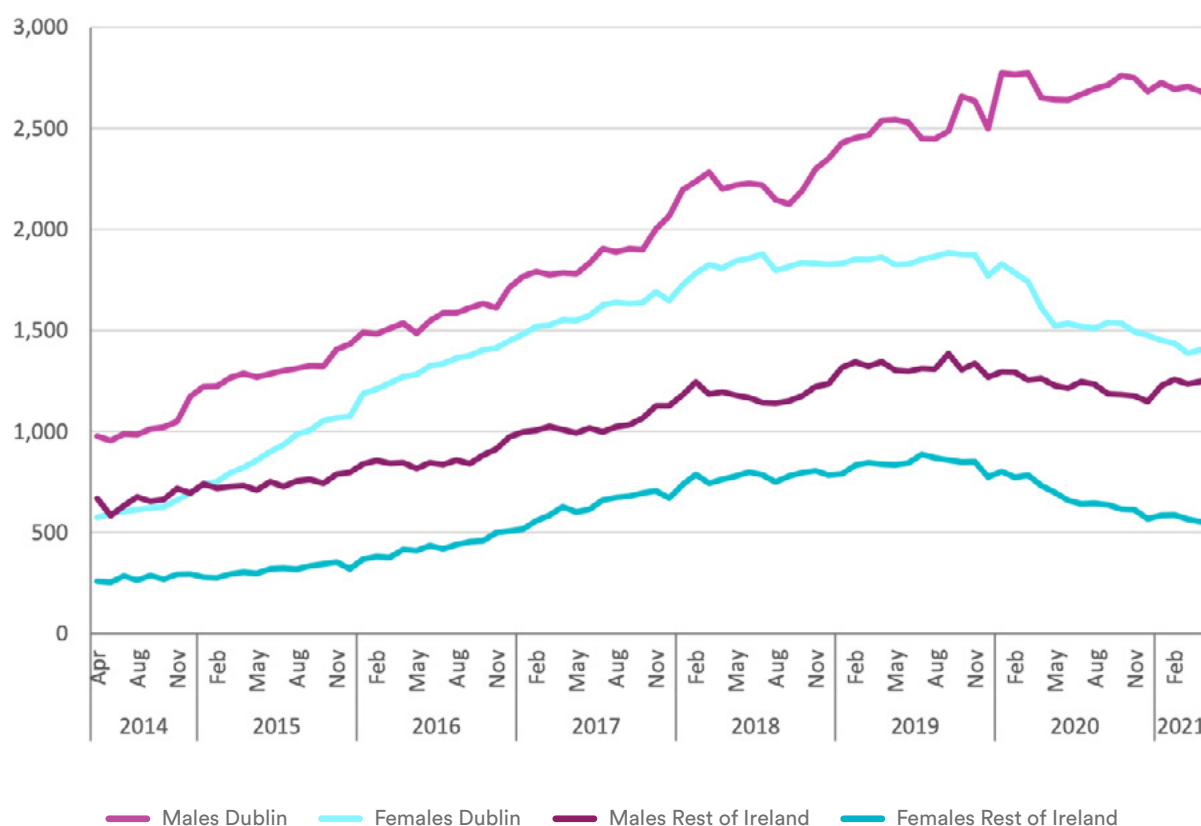
The decline in family homelessness over the past year is clearly shown in Figure 7. Since February 2020, family homelessness has fallen by 48% on a national level, with 925 families in Emergency Accommodation as of April 2021.

Figure 8: Children in Emergency Accommodation

In July 2014, there were 749 children in Emergency Accommodation in Ireland. Over the next four years, the numbers steadily increased until it peaked in September 2019 with 3,873 children. Since then, the number of children in Emergency Accommodation began to decline and has fallen to 2,193 as of April 2021, a decline of 43% since the 2019 peak.

Section 4:

Gender

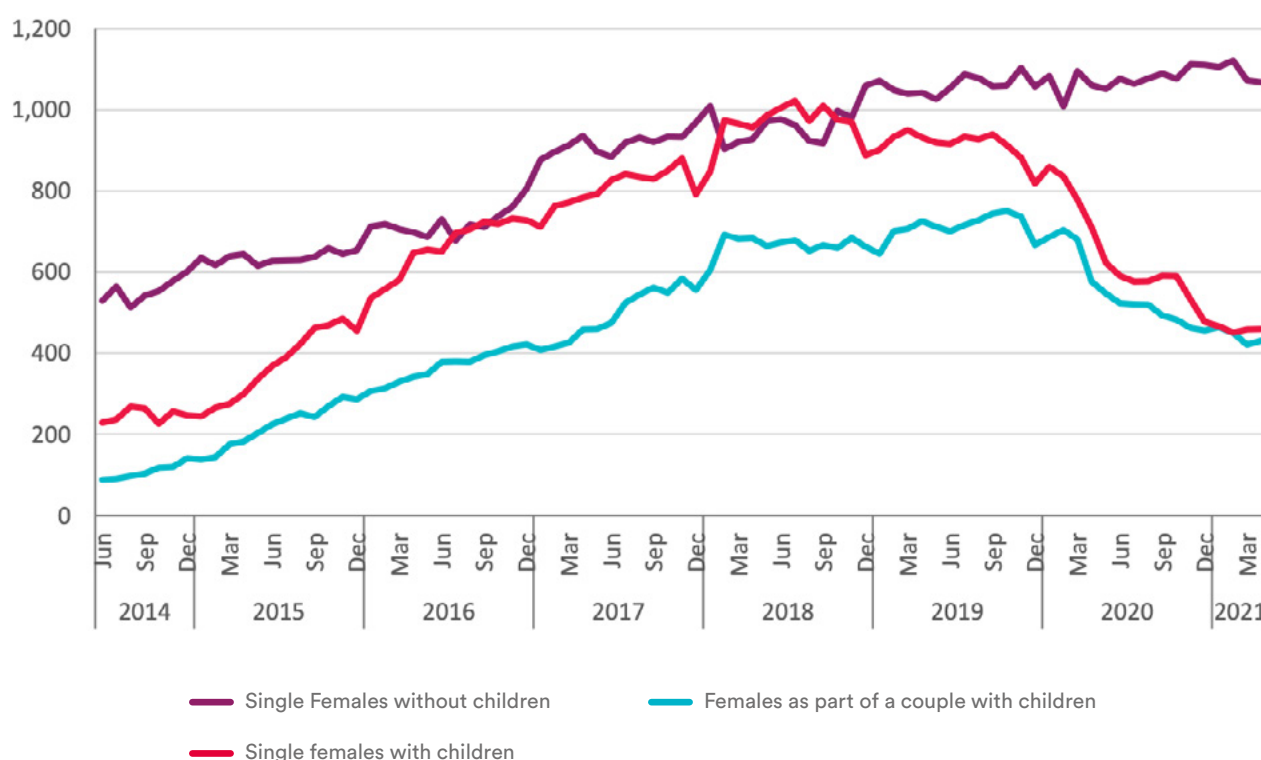
Figure 9: Adults in Emergency Accommodation by Region and Gender

Nationally, the gender balance among adults in Emergency Accommodation has remained around 60% men to 40% women over the past six years. However, despite this consistency there are notable divergences in the trends when broken down further, as shown in Figure 9.

In Dublin, male and female homelessness both rose quickly between 2014 and mid-2018, after which point the number of women began to stabilise while the number of men continued to increase, although at a slower rate. Since January 2020, the number of women in Emergency Accommodation decreased by 23%, while the number of men remained relatively stable.

Compared to Dublin, the rest of the country sees less of a divergence between the trends in male and female homelessness. The number of men in Emergency Accommodation outside of Dublin began to plateau by early 2019, as did the number of women, and both saw decreases during 2020. However, the number of men has begun to increase again since the start of 2021.

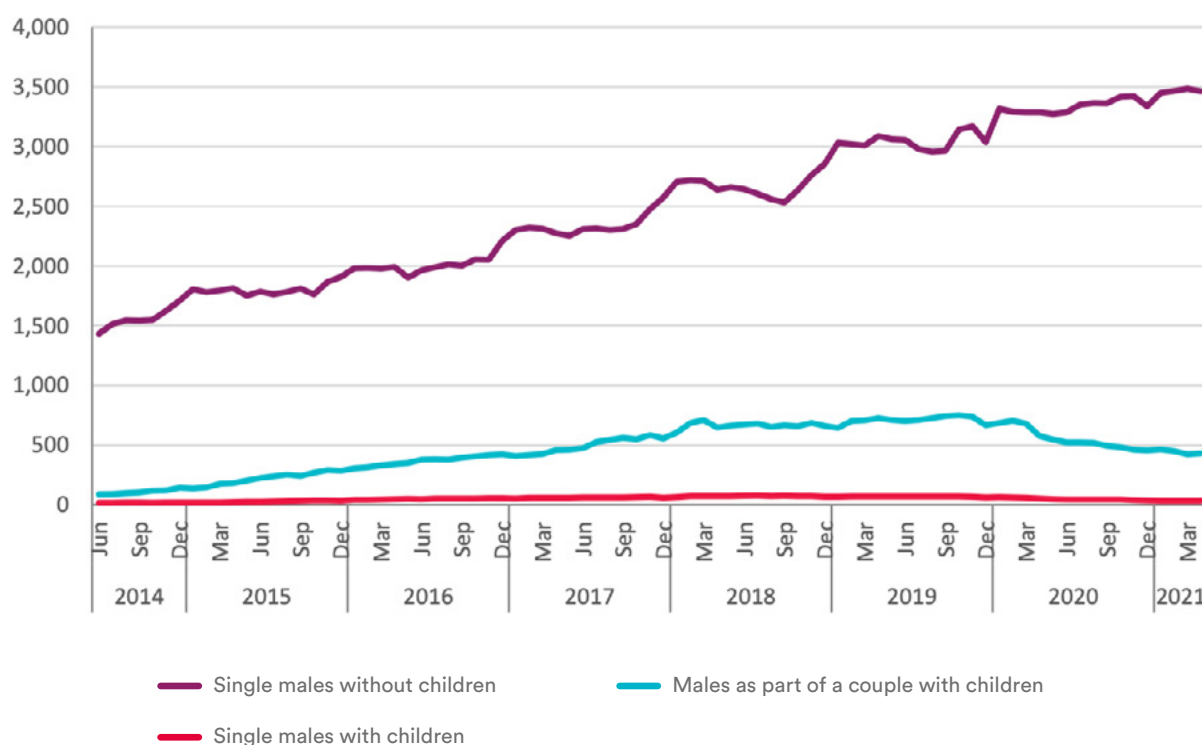
By comparing the 'Females Dublin' and 'Females Rest of Ireland' lines above to Figure 7, we can see that women's homelessness has followed a similar pattern to family homelessness. This reflects the high proportion of single mothers in Emergency Accommodation.

Figure 10: Women in EA by Household Type

As mentioned above, overall women's homelessness tends to follow a similar pattern to that of family homelessness due to the high proportion of single mothers. Women with children, either single mothers or as part of a couple, accounted for 45% of all women in Emergency Accommodation in April 2021.

After reaching a peak of 2,743 in September 2019, the overall number of women in Emergency Accommodation has fallen by 29%. However, the number of women without accompanying children has risen over this period and reached its highest ever level in February 2021 at 1,122.

As of April 2021, there were 1,959 women in Emergency Accommodation in Ireland. Of these, 1,069 are single adults without children, 459 are one-parent families and 431 are part of a couple with children.

Figure 11: Men in Emergency Accommodation by Household Type

In 2014 when this data began being published regularly, over 90% of men in Emergency Accommodation were single adults without accompanying children. As family homelessness increased between 2014 and 2019, this proportion fell, averaging 78% in 2018 when family homelessness was at its peak.

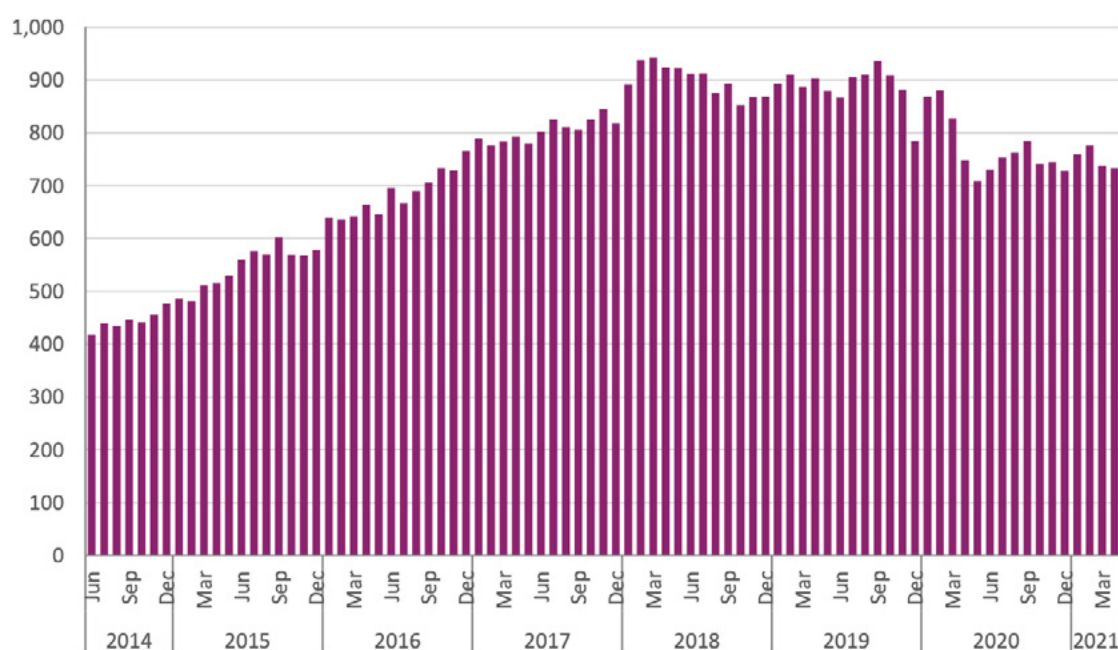
Between January and December 2020, the number of men with children in Emergency Accommodation decreased by over a third (-34%), while the number of men without children saw a slight increase (0.6%). As with single women without accompanying children, the number of single men without children has continued to rise and is reaching record levels in 2021.

As of April 2021, there were 3,930 men in Emergency Accommodation. Of these, 3,464 are single adults without accompanying children, 35 are one-parent families and 431 are part of a couple with children.

Section 5:

Youth Homelessness

Figure 12: Total Number of Young People (Aged 18-25) in Emergency Accommodation



In June 2014, there were 418 young people (aged 18-25) in Emergency Accommodation. By March 2018, this had more than doubled to a peak of 943, as shown in Figure 12.

After 18 months of fairly stable figures, from late 2019 youth homelessness saw a slow decline and the number of young people in Emergency Accommodation has remained between 700 – 800 for the past year. There are currently 733 18-25 year-olds in Emergency Accommodation.

Figure 13: Youth Homelessness by Region (excluding Dublin), 2014 and 2021

Figure 13 shows the number of homeless adults who are aged 18-25 in each region in June 2014 and April 2021.

Dublin has the majority of all young people in Emergency Accommodation at around 66%, and has been left off the above chart to better show the other regions. In Dublin, there were 263 18-25 year-olds in Emergency Accommodation in June 2014 and 482 in March 2021, an increase of 83%.

After Dublin, the South West (Cork and Kerry) is the region with the highest number of young people in Emergency Accommodation at 61. This is also the region with the largest increase over this period, having had one of the lowest levels in 2014.

Three regions saw a decrease in youth homelessness over this period: the Midlands (Laois, Longford, Offaly and Westmeath), the Mid-West (Clare and Limerick) and the North East (Louth, Monaghan and Cavan).

Section 6:

Adult-Only Households

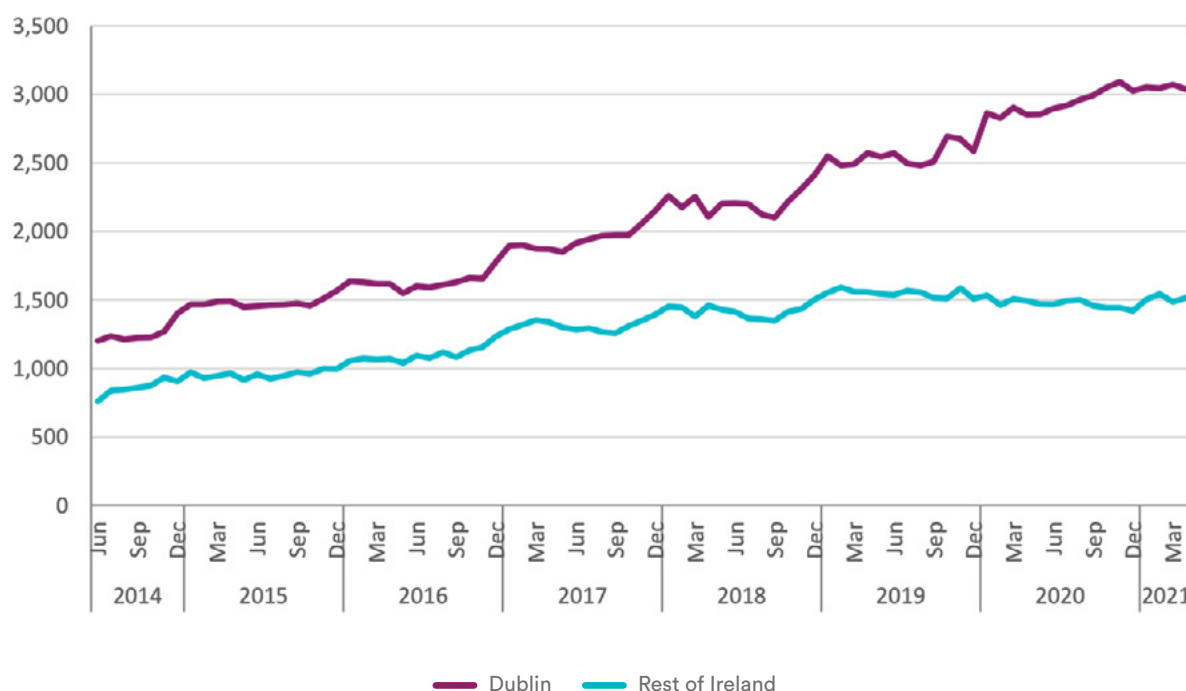
Figure 14: Adult-Only Households, Dublin and the Rest of Ireland

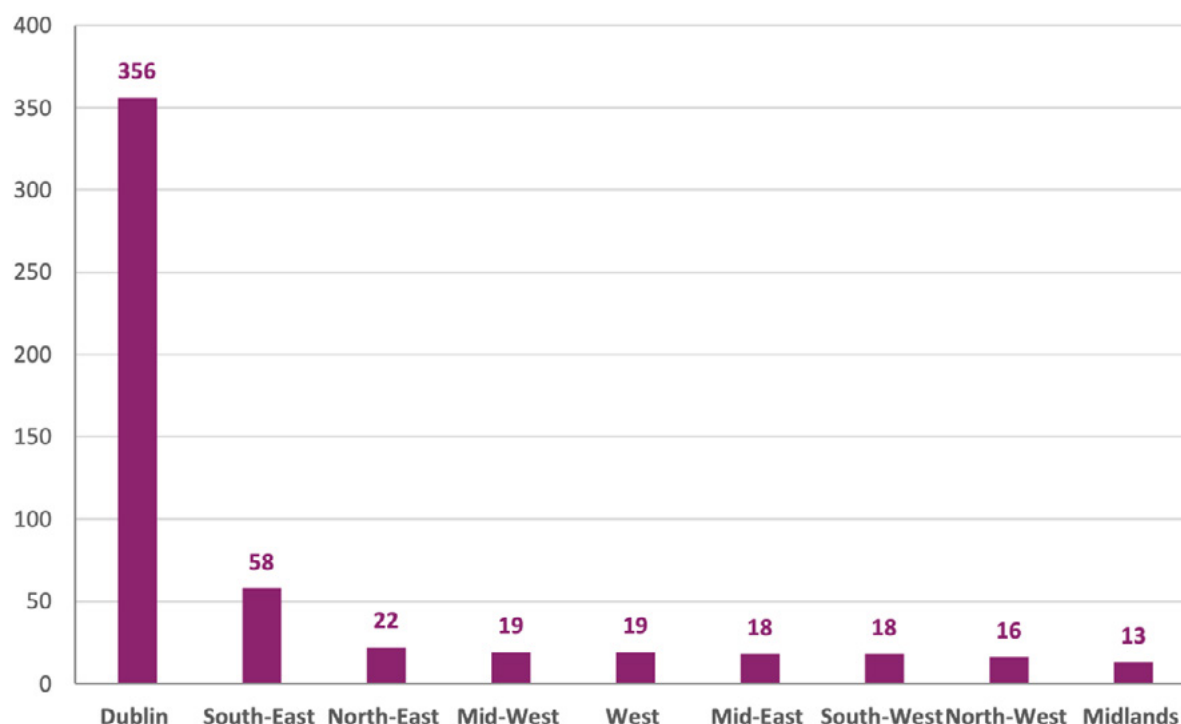
Figure 14 presents the number of adult-only households, or adult individuals without accompanying children, by region. These households are also often referred to as ‘single adults’.

While most of the indicators in this report show decreases since the start of 2020, adult-only households have continued to increase over this period. The highest-ever number was reached in February 2021, at 4,590.

In Dublin, the number of adult-only households in Emergency Accommodation has grown by 6% since January 2020. It climbed above 3,000 for the first time in October 2020, and as of April 2021 there were 3,040 single adults in Emergency Accommodation in Dublin.

However outside of Dublin, homelessness among single adult households has remained around 1,500 since early 2019 and has seen a slight decline over the past year (-1.3%). As of April 2021, there were 1,515 single adults in Emergency Accommodation outside of Dublin.

The total number of adult-only households in Emergency Accommodation in Ireland has more than doubled from just under 2,000 in 2014 to 4,555 in April 2021.

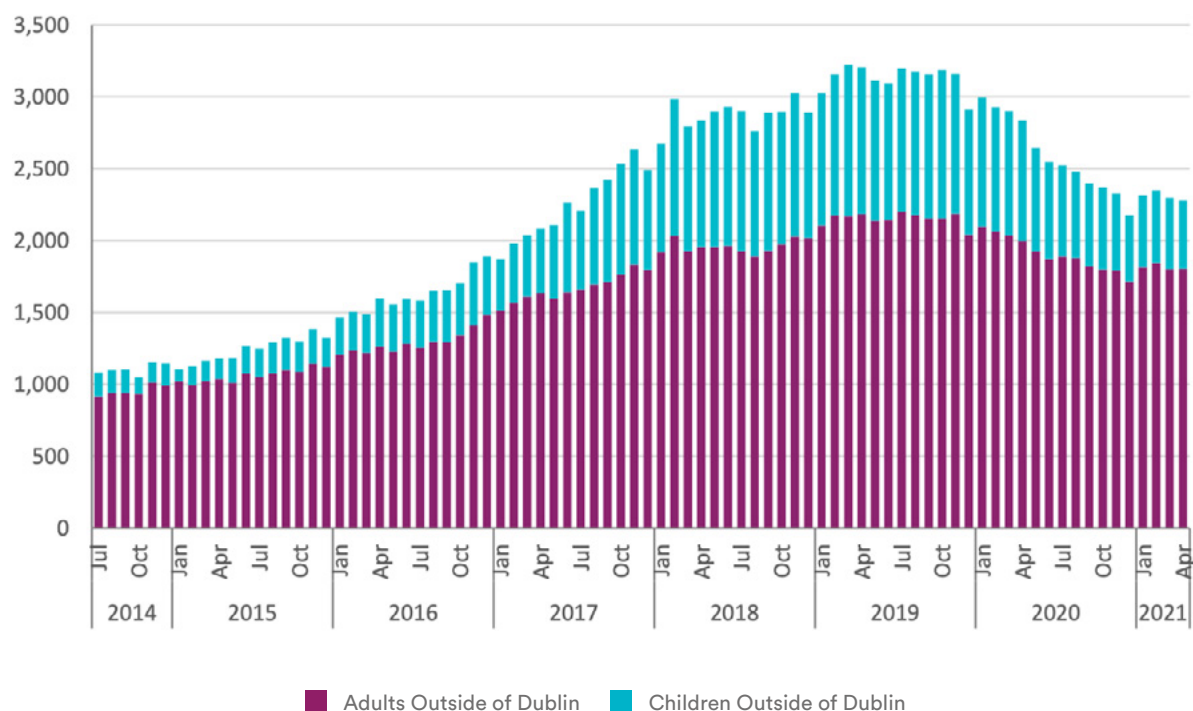
Figure 15: Housing First Tenancies by Region, Q1 2021

There were 539 individuals in Housing First tenancies in Ireland at the end of Q1 2021. Figure 15 shows that Dublin has the largest number of Housing First tenancies at 356, or two-thirds of all Housing First tenancies.

² Housing First has operated in Dublin since 2014, while projects in other regions started from 2019 onwards under the Housing First National Implementation Plan (NIP). The NIP notes that, at this time of its publication (August 2018), 214 tenancies had been created and that 182 had been 'successfully retained'. However, taking into account deaths etc, it notes that there were at that time 161 'active' tenancies. At the time of the roll out of the new Housing First contracts from late 2019, over 300 tenancies had been created, but the number of 'active' tenancies at that point is unknown.

Section 7:

Homelessness Outside of Dublin

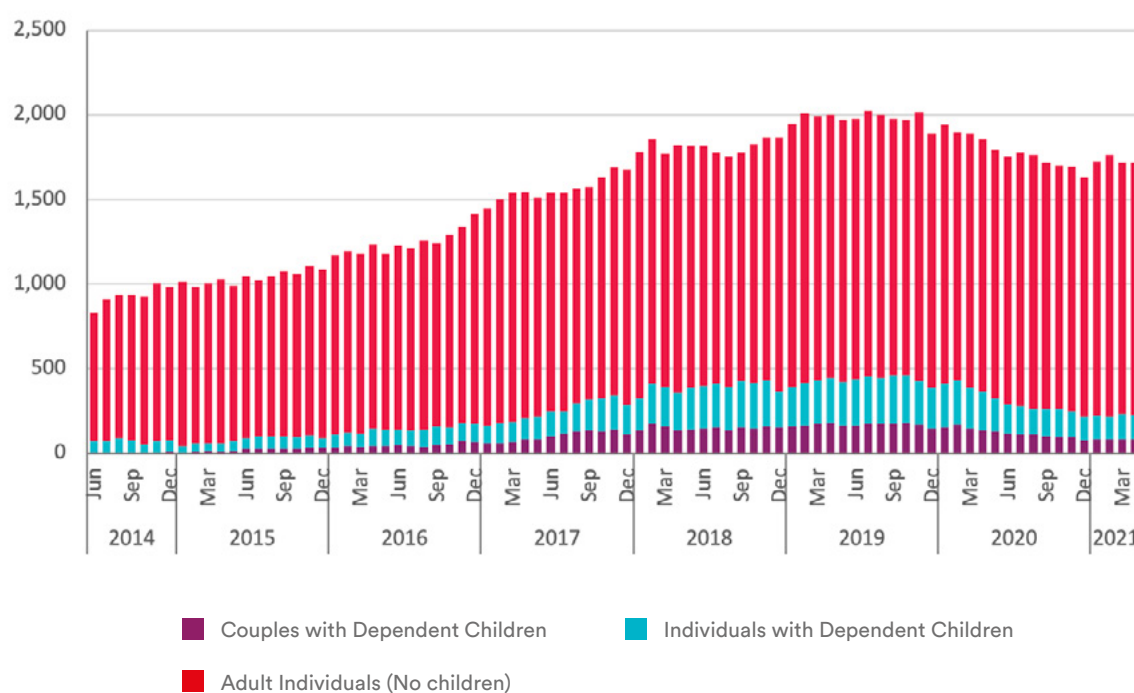
Figure 16: Total Individuals in Emergency Accommodation, Outside of Dublin

The majority of people in Emergency Accommodation in Ireland at any one point-in-time are in Dublin, meaning that trends in Dublin tend to dominate the national figures. This section of the report looks at trends around the rest of the country.

In July 2014, there were 917 adults and 164 children in Emergency Accommodation outside of Dublin, 29% of all individuals in Emergency Accommodation nationally. Over the next five years, this grew by an average of 25% each year, reaching a peak of 3,221 in March 2019 as shown in Figure 16.

By March 2019, the number of children in Emergency Accommodation outside of Dublin was over six times higher than in 2014 (1,052).

In December 2020, the total number of individuals in Emergency Accommodation outside of Dublin had fallen to the lowest levels in three years. However, it has since begun to increase again from the start of 2021. As of April 2021, there are 474 children and 1,802 adults in Emergency Accommodation outside of Dublin.

Figure 17: Households Outside of Dublin

The number of households in Emergency Accommodation outside Dublin increased from 1,000 in late 2014 to a peak of just over 2,000 in late 2019. Over the past 16 months, the numbers have slowly declined to just over 1,700 in April 2021.

The majority of households outside Dublin in Emergency Accommodation over the period are adult-only households, and households with accompanying child dependents fluctuating between 10-20% of all households. In April 2021, 13% of households in Emergency Accommodation outside Dublin were adults with accompanying child dependents.

Figure 18: Percentage Change between March 2019 and March 2021, by Region

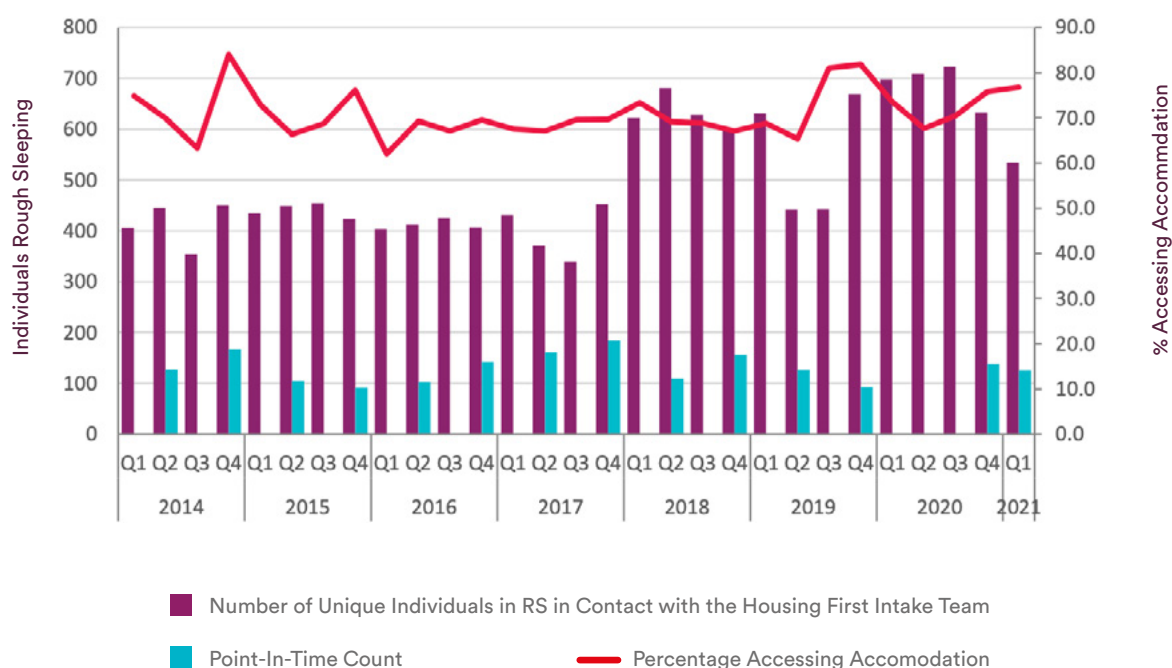
Figure 17 shows the percentage change in homelessness in each region over the last two years, for both total individuals and families in Emergency Accommodation.

The total number of individuals in Emergency Accommodation has decreased in every region except for the Mid-East (Kildare, Meath and Wicklow) and the North West (Donegal, Leitrim and Sligo). The number of families in Emergency Accommodation has decreased in every region over the past two years.

The North-West (Donegal, Leitrim and Sligo) is the region with the lowest number of both individuals and families in Emergency Accommodation both in 2019 and 2021. The increase of 19% in total individuals represents an increase from 70 to 83, while the number of families fell from 8 to 5.

With the exception of Dublin, the region with the highest number of individuals in Emergency Accommodation is the South-West (Cork and Kerry). Here, the 67% decrease in families represents a fall from 137 in 2019 to 45 families in 2021.

Section 8: Rough Sleeping

Figure 19: Rough Sleeping in Dublin, Q1 2014 – Q1 2021

A rough sleeper count is conducted in Dublin in the Spring and Winter of each year, commencing in 2007. Data from 2014 to 2021 is shown in Figure 18 above.

After reaching a high of 184 people sleeping rough on the night of the count in Q4 2017, rough sleeping on a point-in-time basis fell to less than 100 in the one-night count in Winter 2019. Due to Covid-19, a rough sleeper count did not take place in Spring 2020 but counts have since resumed in Winter 2020 and Spring 2021. There were 139 unique individuals were encountered sleeping rough in Winter 2020 and 125 in Spring 2021 in Dublin.

The point-in-time data conceals the fact that a larger number of individuals sleep rough over a period of time. For example, during in the first quarter of 2021, 534 unique individuals who were rough sleeping were identified by street outreach teams in Dublin, with nearly 80% fluctuating between rough sleeping and accessing Emergency Accommodation.

Since Q4 2020, the rough sleeper count takes place over a week, rather than a single night. Thus the data for Winter 2020 and Spring 2021 is not strictly comparable with the early counts as more people are likely to be counted over a week than on one night only.

Outside of Dublin, only the South-East and South-West regions recorded any significant number of rough sleepers in Q1 2021. The South-East reported 93 rough sleepers and the South-West region reported contact with 72 rough sleepers with 85% also using Emergency Accommodation. The Mid- West reported 13 rough sleepers on the 31st March 2021 and the remaining authorities do not record the number of rough sleepers in their region.

Section 9:

Expenditure ²

2. For a more detailed account of the source of these data and their limitations, see O'Sullivan, E. and T. Musafiri (2020) *Public Expenditure on Services for Households Experiencing Homelessness - Focus on Homelessness Vol. 2* (Dublin: Focus Ireland).

Figure 20: Expenditure on Services for Households Experiencing Homelessness by the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government, 1989 — 2020

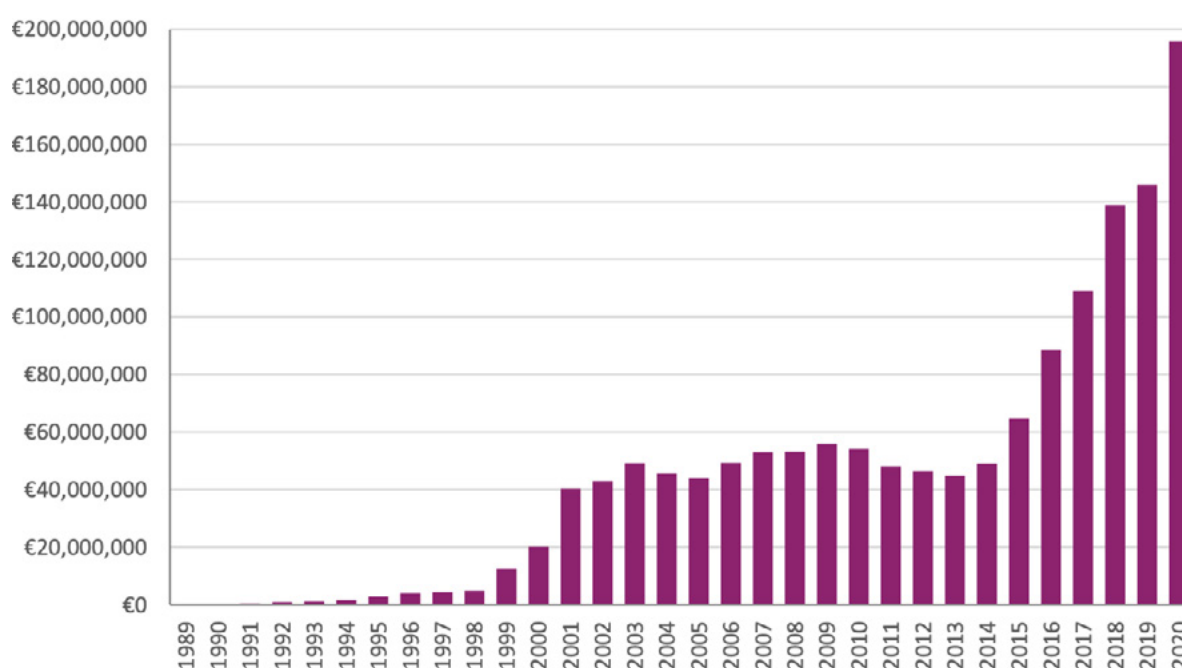
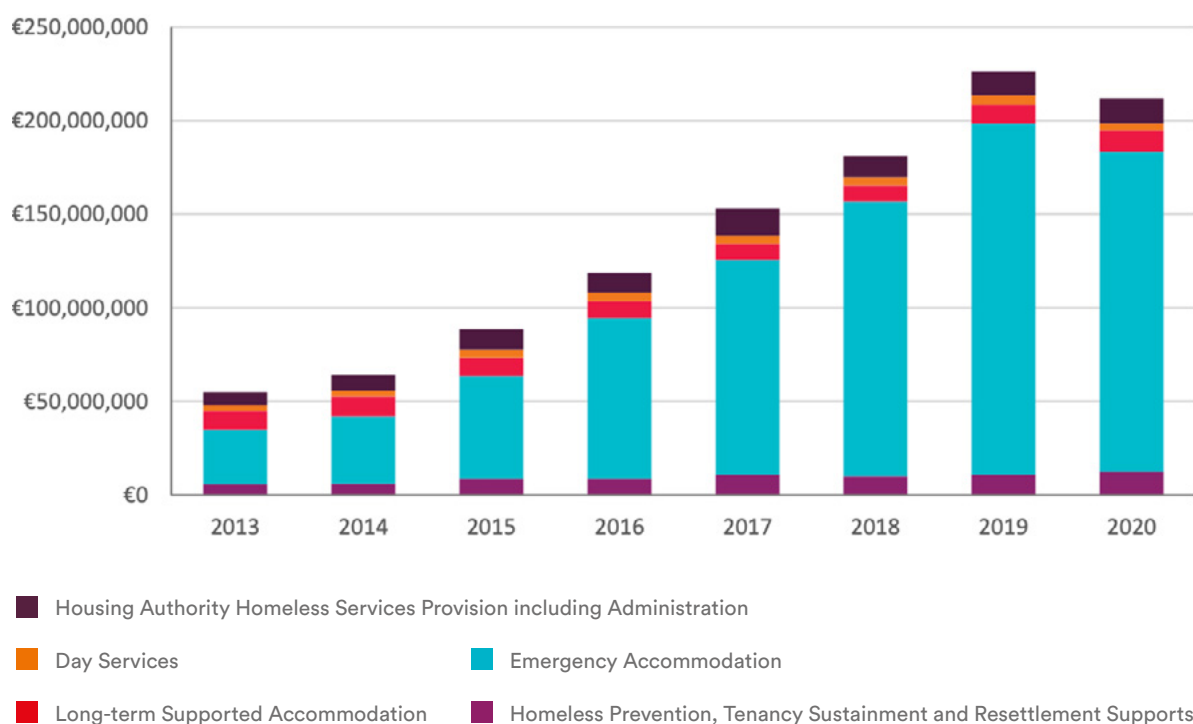


Figure 19 shows the funding available from the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government to Local Authorities for homeless services between 1989 and 2020.

Spending has increased year on year for the past seven years to a peak of €196m in 2020. Since 2014, expenditure on homeless services has increased by €146.8m (298%). During the same period, the total number of individuals in Emergency Accommodation has increased by 199%.

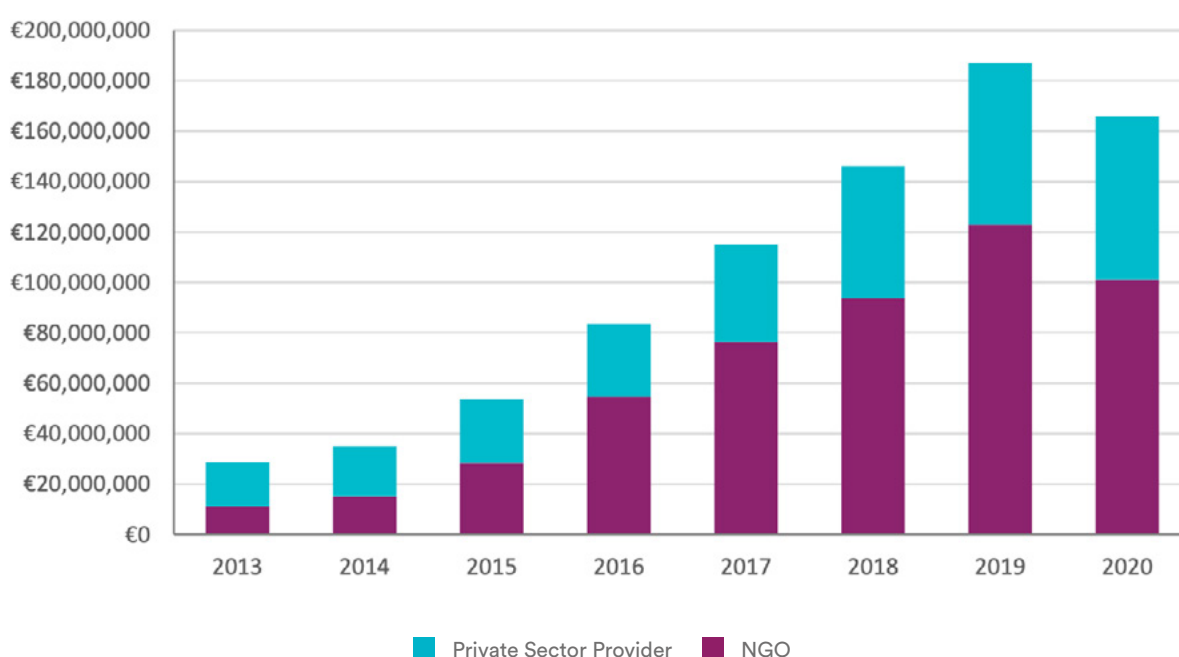
Figure 21: Expenditure by Category

Expenditure on services for households experiencing homelessness in the Quarterly Financial Reports is classified in five areas:

1. Homeless Prevention, Tenancy Sustainment and Resettlement Supports
2. Emergency Accommodation
3. Long-Term Supported Accommodation
4. Day Services
5. Housing Authority Homeless Services Provision including Administration

Figure 20 presents expenditure under these categories since 2013. Emergency Accommodation was the largest category of expenditure in each year and accounted for three quarters of all expenditure over this period. Expenditure in this area has also increased by much more than the other categories, growing from 53% of total expenditure in 2013 to 81% in 2020.

In addition to the 81% of the 2020 expenditure spent on Emergency Accommodation, expenditure on prevention, tenancy sustainment and resettlement supports accounted for 6%, long-term supported accommodation for 5%, day services 2% and Housing Authority services 6%.

Figure 22: Expenditure on Emergency Accommodation by Provider

Emergency accommodation in Ireland is provided by either non-profit organisations or private for-profit bodies. In 2013, just over €11m was expended on private-for-profit providers, or 38% of all spending on Emergency Accommodation. In 2019, private providers accounted for two-thirds of all spending, or €123m, but this figure dropped to €101m in 2020. Overall during the period 2013 - 2020, expenditure on private providers amounted to €503m and €312m on non-profit organisations.

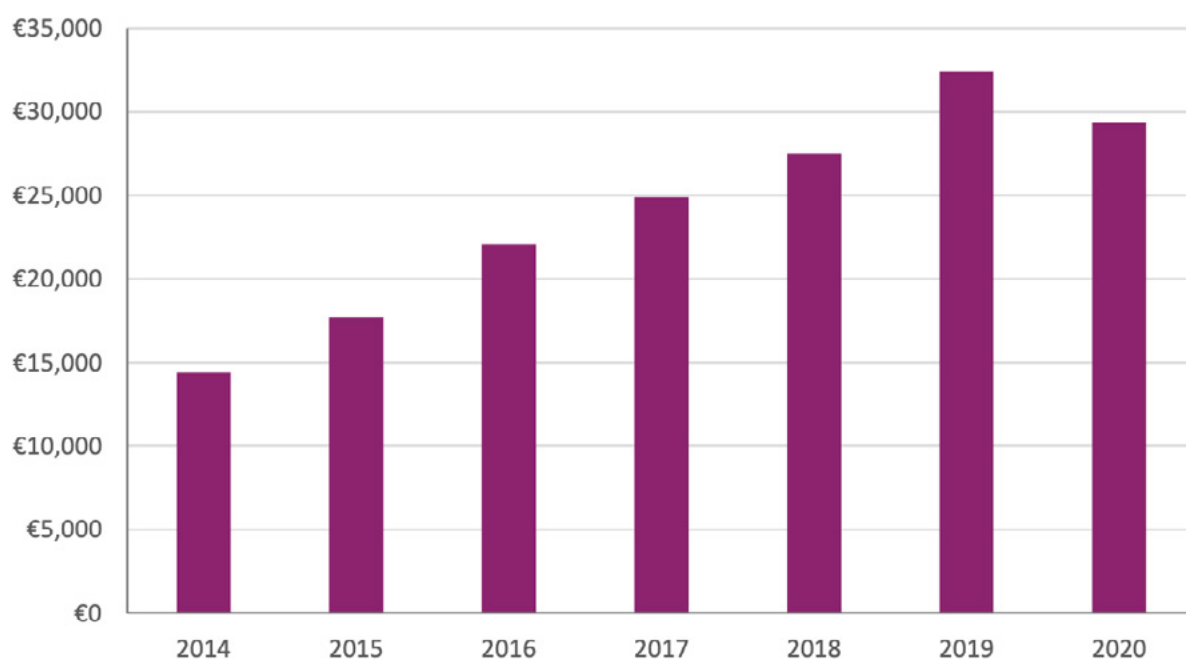
Figure 23: Average Cost of Maintaining a Household in Emergency Accommodation

Figure 22 presents the average cost of maintaining a household in Emergency Accommodation for a year, calculated by dividing the total expenditure on Emergency Accommodation by the number of homeless households for each year.

There have been increases year-on-year until 2019, when the average cost was just over €32,000. Over this period, the average cost of maintaining a household in Emergency Accommodation has doubled, from €14,386 in 2014 to €29,334 in 2020.

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