

The total number of households in the lone mothers category in 1991 was 4,801.

Overall the number of individuals on the housing list increased from 50,971 in 1989 to 82,886 in 1993. The number of child dependents increased from 18,237 in 1989 to 32,913 in 1993. In March 1993 5,559 households had been on the waiting list for more than three years.

HOW BIG IS THE HOUSING LIST?

Most people working in the social area, and particularly community Workers in areas of local authority housing, are aware that there is a housing list. But how big is it, and how is it made up?

At the latest count there are 28,624 households in the Republic assessed as in need of housing (an increase of 47% from 19,367 households in 1989)*. The breakdown of these by category is as follows:

	<u>Households</u>
Living in overcrowded conditions	7,075
Unable to afford existing accommodation	6,432
Living in unfit/unsuitable accommodation	4,122
Involuntarily sharing accommodation	3,345
Elderly	2,191
Needing accommodation on medical/compassionate grounds	1,861
Homeless	1,452
Travellers	884
Other	262

Breakdown by household size gives the following figures:

	<u>Households</u>
Family household with one child dependent	10,329
Single person households	7,186
Family household with two child dependents	4,529
Family household with no child dependents	3,121
Family household with three child dependents	1,770
Family household with four child dependents	767
Family household with five child dependents	434
Family household with six+ child dependents	488

The county and country borough areas with the biggest housing lists are as follows:

	<u>Households</u>
Dublin city	5,152
Dublin county	2,738
Cork county	2,128
Donegal	1,495
Tipperary	1,276
Cork city	1,216
Wexford	1,022
Kerry	998
Mayo	988

*Source: 1994 National Report on Homelessness in the Republic of Ireland to the European Observatory on Homelessness (Streetwise National Coalition).

