



Analysis of Households with a Disability Basis of Need for Social Housing 2016 - 2020



An Ghníomhaireacht
Tithíochta
The Housing Agency

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1 Introduction

1.1 The Summary of Social Housing Assessments (SSHA)

The Summary of Social Housing Assessments (SSHA) is a statutory instruction to count the total number of households qualified for social housing support nationally on a particular date each year¹. As such, it is a point in time snapshot of the number and characteristics of households registered on each of the 31 local authority housing waiting lists. To qualify for social housing support, households must be both eligible for and in need of social housing.

A household is deemed eligible for social housing if they satisfy the income eligibility criteria and can demonstrate that they do not have suitable alternative accommodation. A need for social housing, sometimes referred to as the 'basis of need', is assigned to households based on information provided to the local authority. When determining a household's basis of need for social housing, practitioners must consider the household's current accommodation and household circumstances at the time of applying.

1.1.1 Identifying households with a disability in the SSHA

The social housing application form does not specifically ask whether applicants or household members of those applying for social housing, have a disability. However, households whose need for social housing is assessed as a disability or who require specific accommodation² due to a disability are captured in the data under two fields, namely 'Basis of Need' and 'Specific Accommodation Requirements'. These fields are currently used as a proxy to identify and count households on the social housing waiting list with a disability.

Previously, local authorities could only assess households as having a housing need based on disability grounds if the household's current accommodation was unsuitable due to a household member having a physical, sensory, mental health and/or intellectual disability within the household. From April 2021, in order to improve this needs assessment process, the revised version of the form asks applicants to indicate from a list including 'Disability grounds', what best describes their reason for seeking support³. Applicants can now also indicate whether they require wheelchair liveable accommodation in the Specific Accommodation Requirements section of the form.

As this analysis refers to data gathered between 2016 and 2020 it does not include these revisions to the application form. Figure 1 below, outlines the categories in these fields as they appeared during this analysis.

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- 1 The SSHA is carried out annually under Section 21 of the Housing (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 2009 and the Social Housing Assessment (Summary) Regulations 2021. Further information on the SSHA and details of the process can be found at <https://www.housingagency.ie/publications/summary-social-housing-assessments-2020>.
 - 2 Specific Accommodation Requirements refer to the classification of accommodation requirements as set out in the Social Housing Assessment Regulations 2011 and are used to determine the form of social housing support appropriate for a qualified household.
 - 3 See <https://www.irishstatutebook.ie/eli/2021/si/116/made/en/print?q=Social+Housing+Assessment+Regulations>

Figure 1: Basis of Need and Specific Accommodation Requirement field categories

| Basis of need | | Specific accommodation requirements |
|--|--------------------|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">Disability requirement – intellectualDisability requirement – mental healthDisability requirement – physicalDisability requirement – sensoryDisability – unspecified | Disability Grounds | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Physical, sensory, mental or intellectual impairment |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">Concluded that mortgage is unsustainableCurrently dependent on Rent SupplementExceptional medical or compassionate groundsRequires separate accommodationUnfit accommodationUnsuitable – particular household circumstancesHomeless, institution, emergency accommodation / hostelOvercrowded accommodation | | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Household member(s) aged 65 years or moreHousehold member(s) is a TravellerHousehold member(s) is homelessNo specific accommodation requirements |

Source: Summary of Social Housing Needs data

Households may have a disability but apply for social housing on an alternative basis of need for example, being homeless or in overcrowded or unsuitable accommodation. A first and second supplementary basis of need, in addition to the primary need for social housing can also be assigned. See section 2.2.2 and 2.1.3 for details on additional basis of need.

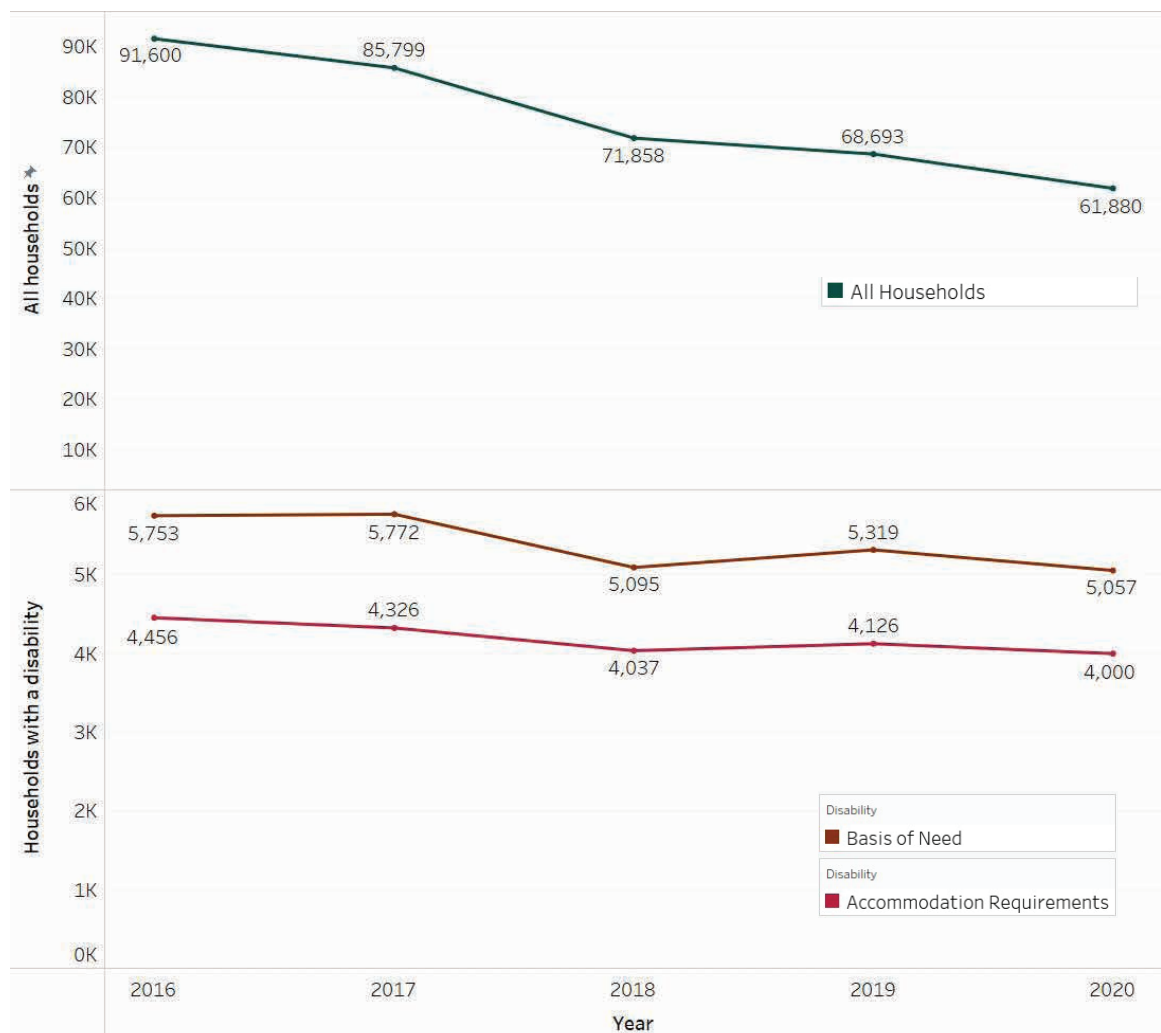
Similarly, applicants may have a disability but require specific accommodation to suit their requirements as an older person or as a Traveller. Or they may not have any specific accommodation requirements other than housing itself. This means that while the SSHA data can identify some households who require specific accommodation or whose need for social housing is due to a disability, it does not provide a comprehensive count of all households on the waiting list who have a disability for the purpose of reliably tracking the current situation or outcomes for these households.

2 Findings

2.1 Number of households on the waiting list

The green line in Figure 2 shows the total count of all households on the social housing waiting list for each year from 2016 to 2020. Shown below this are the counts for households with a member who has a disability using both the Basis of Need and Specific Accommodation Requirement variables (on the orange and red lines respectively). There may be overlap in these fields where a household is recorded as having both a disability basis of need and a specific accommodation requirement due to a disability, or households may be recorded in only the basis of need field.

Figure 2: Count of all households and households with a disability need for housing 2016-2020



Source: Summary of Social Housing Needs data.

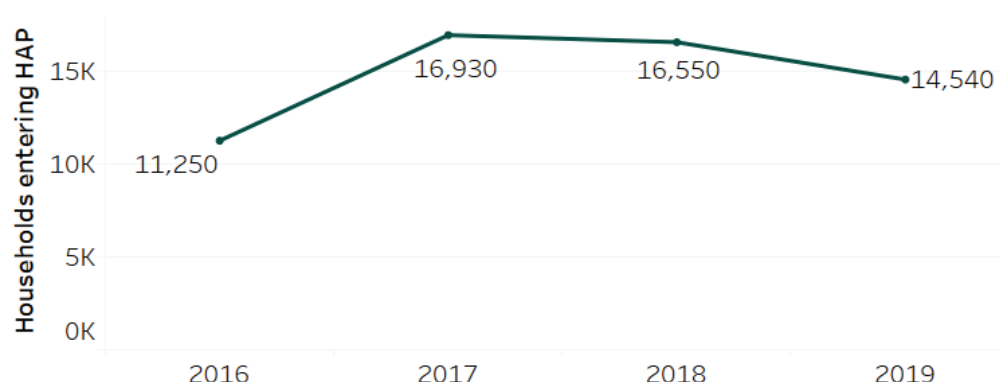
Note: The same households may be recorded in Basis of Need and Accommodation Requirements.

2.1.1 All households

As can be seen in Figure 2, the count of all households qualified for and in need of social housing has been declining year on year. In 2020, there were 61,880 households on the waiting list which is almost 10 per cent less than the previous year (68,693) and a decline of almost a third since annual counting began in 2016 when the count stood at 91,600.

A key reason for this decline in total households is related to the number of applicants moving from the waiting list into private rented tenancies with the Housing Assistance Payment (HAP) over this period (see Figure 3). On 2nd November 2020, which is the most recent SSHA count date, there were a total of 58,802 active HAP tenancies nationally. These applicants are considered to have their social housing need met so are removed from the waiting list with the option of being recorded on a local authorities' 'transfer list'. However, households on the 'transfer list' are not included in the SSHA data.

Figure 3: Number of new entrants to HAP 2016-2019



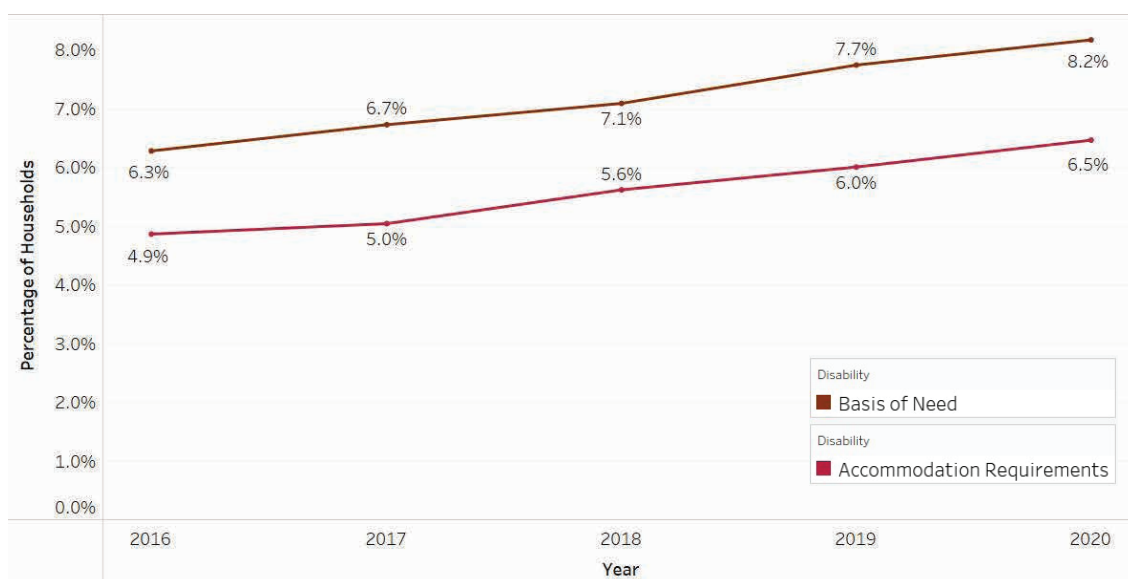
Source: CSO – Analysis of HAP Scheme

(See <https://www.cso.ie/en/releasesandpublications/ep/p-hhwl/socialhousinginireland2019-analysisofhousingassistancepaymentthapscheme/householdscomingintoahap/>).

2.1.2 Households with a disability

Despite the falling counts across all households on the housing waiting list, Figure 2 shows that there is less of a decline in the number of households who have a disability related need or who require specific accommodation due to a disability. In fact, when these households are considered as a percentage of all qualified households, the proportion of those with a disability need has been rising year on year (see Figure 4).

Figure 4: Households with a disability need as a proportion of all households 2016-2020

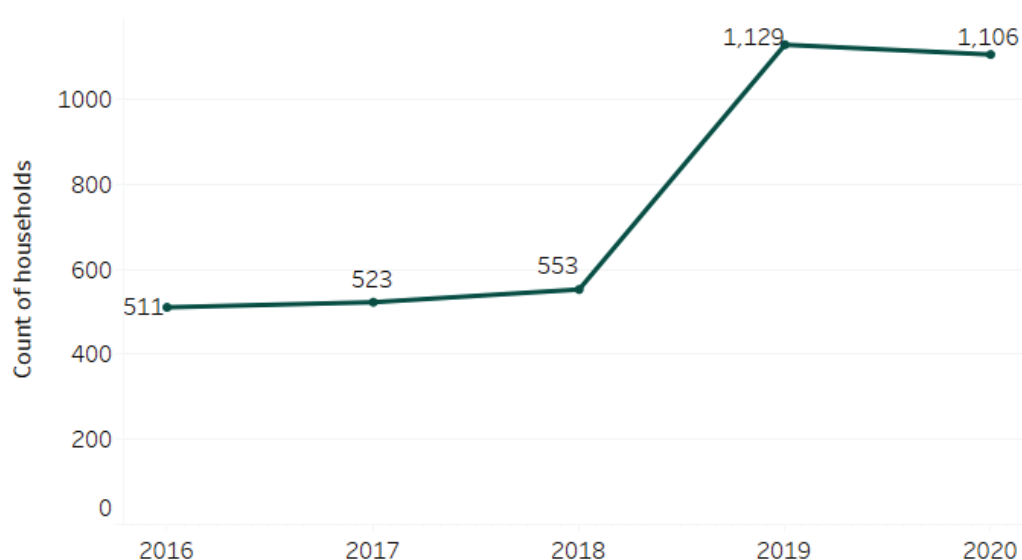


Source: Summary of Social Housing Needs data

Note: The same households may be recorded in Basis of Need and Accommodation Requirements

Furthermore, the number of applicants not assessed with a disability as their primary basis of need but who are assigned an additional need based on disability, is also growing year on year (see Figure 5 below). This represents a further 0.6% of households in addition to the proportions shown in Figure 4 in 2016 and 2017, an additional 0.8% in 2018, 1.6% in 2019 and 1.8% in 2020.

Figure 5: Number of non-disability households whose secondary basis of need is disability



Source: Summary of Social Housing Needs data

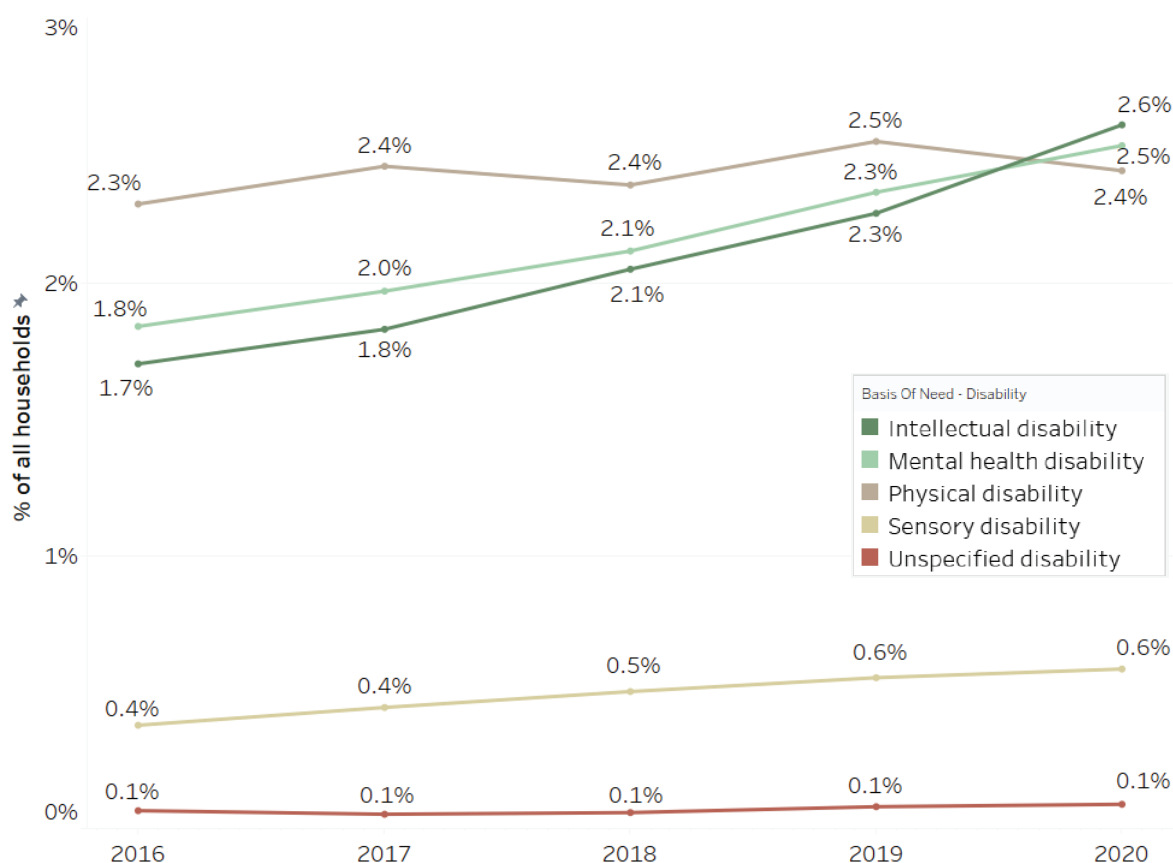
As the data is drawn from point in time assessments, it does not show whether increasing proportions of households with a primary or secondary disability basis of need are due to more of these applicants joining the list each year or fewer who are leaving the list.

For the remainder of this report, households with a disability are estimated using only the primary basis of need field as this is considered more reliable and representative notwithstanding the caveats outlined above⁴.

2.1.3 Type of disability among households with a disability need for housing

As described above, households can be assessed as having a disability as their main basis of need for social housing if their current accommodation is unsuitable due to a physical, sensory, mental health and/or intellectual disability within the household. Figure 6 shows the proportion of households assessed as having a disability related basis of need by the specific type of disability, for each year.

Figure 6: Type of disability as a proportion of all households



Source: Summary of Social Housing Needs data.

Note: Proportions are based on those with a specific disability type as their main basis of need.

While Figure 4 illustrates a proportionate increase among households with a member who has any disability over the five-year period, Figure 6 shows that this is mainly driven by a steady, year on year increase in those with an Intellectual or Mental Health disability. The proportion of households with these types of disabilities rose from 1.7% to 2.6% and from 1.8% to 2.5% respectively, between 2016 and 2020 and these are now the largest categories of disability type among households on the waiting list. Until 2019, there were more applicants with a physical disability than any other type of disability and these proportions have remained relatively steadier over the period, as have the proportions for those with a sensory disability which continues to represent less than 1% of all applicants.

⁴ All households must be assessed as having a basis of need for social housing whereas only households who are classified as having specific accommodation requirements will be recorded in that field.

A similar pattern exists in the additional basis of needs for households whose primary basis of need is not disability. While the majority of households are assigned only a primary basis of need, a small minority provide evidence of an additional need (8%) and 1.3% of these relate to disability. As can be seen in Table 1, mental health and physical disabilities account for the largest proportions of these secondary disability needs – on average 39.8% and 36.6% respectively, over the five-year period while intellectual disability represents an average of 13.5% of additional basis of need for those whose main need is not a disability. A lesser proportion of these basis of needs are sensory (5.7%) and unspecified disabilities⁵ (4.5%).

Table 1: Proportion of secondary basis of need by type of disability

| Basis of Need | 2nd Basis Of Need | 2016 | | 2017 | | 2018 | | 2019 | | 2020 | | Total | |
|------------------------------|--------------------------|-------|--------|-------|--------|-------|--------|-------|--------|-------|--------|-------|--------|
| | | Count | % | Count | % | Count | % | Count | % | Count | % | Count | % |
| Non-disability basis of need | Mental Health Disability | 194 | 38.0% | 215 | 41.1% | 236 | 42.7% | 431 | 38.2% | 446 | 40.3% | 1,522 | 39.8% |
| | Physical Disability | 171 | 33.5% | 172 | 32.9% | 181 | 32.7% | 456 | 40.4% | 417 | 37.7% | 1,397 | 36.6% |
| | Intellectual Disability | 74 | 14.5% | 73 | 14.0% | 81 | 14.6% | 153 | 13.6% | 134 | 12.1% | 515 | 13.5% |
| | Sensory Disability | 25 | 4.9% | 24 | 4.6% | 29 | 5.2% | 56 | 5.0% | 82 | 7.4% | 216 | 5.7% |
| | Unspecified Disability | 47 | 9.2% | 39 | 7.5% | 26 | 4.7% | 33 | 2.9% | 27 | 2.4% | 172 | 4.5% |
| | Total | 511 | 100.0% | 523 | 100.0% | 553 | 100.0% | 1,129 | 100.0% | 1,106 | 100.0% | 3,822 | 100.0% |

Source: Summary of Social Housing Needs data.

2.2 Proportion of households with a disability need by local authority

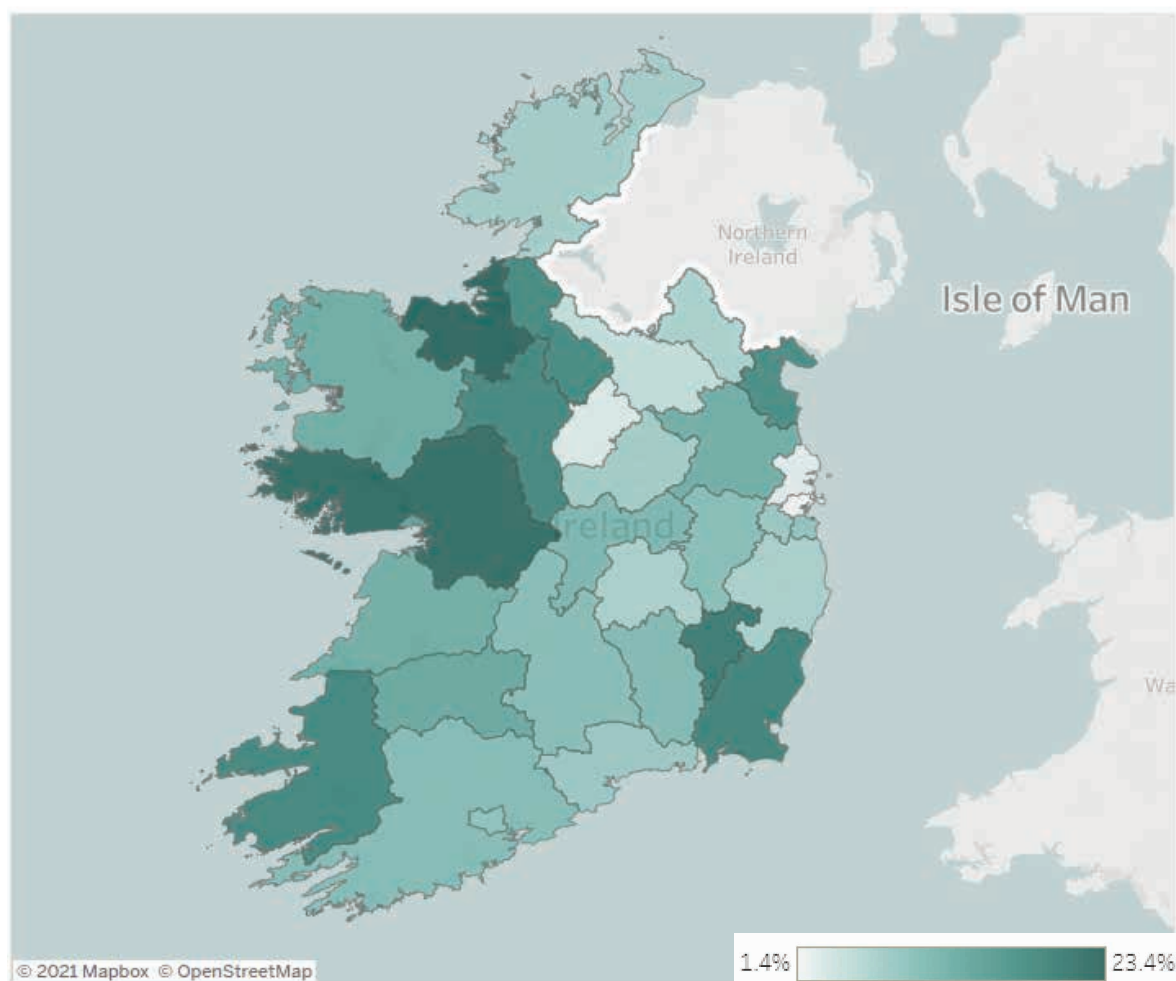
Before examining how the proportion of households with a disability varies by local authority (LA) area, it is important to note that the SSHA data does not contain information on other variables that would likely affect the number of households on the waiting list in any given area. For example, it cannot account for external influences such as availability of social housing stock or distinct allocation policies in different LAs, nor is it informed by variation in housing need and demand due to population size or availability of private housing supply for owner occupation or rent and other factors that affect affordability in different areas. More particularly for households with a disability, the SSHA data has no information on variation in the availability of HSE care packages⁶ and other disability and health supports and services in particular areas or on local authority access to appropriately adapted housing stock.

For these reasons, caution is required when comparing the rate of households with a disability need across different regions. However, despite these caveats, Figure 7 shows marked variation in the proportion of applicants with a disability related basis of need relative to the total number of households on the waiting list across different LA areas in 2020.

⁵ Households may be assigned to this category by the local authority after submitting evidence of a disability but before providing the necessary clarification to be assigned to one of the other categories.

⁶ Local authorities are responsible for providing housing services, while the provision of relevant health and personal social services which enable people with a disability to live in their home are the responsibility of the HSE. While these supports are required to be in place prior to an individual being offered or moving into social housing, it should not inhibit the assessment process (HSE, 2020).

Figure 7: Proportion of households with a disability need by local authority 2020



Source: Summary of Social Housing Needs data.

Note: Rates of households with a disability need range from 1.4% in lightest areas of the map to 23.4% in areas with the darkest shading of green.

Appendices 1-5 detail the proportion of households with a disability need for each local authority and the proportion of each disability type within local authorities, for the years 2016-2020. This information can also be found on an interactive Tableau map⁷. This shows that in 2020, while rates range from their lowest in Dublin City Council (1.4%) to the highest in Sligo County Council (23.4%), the overall rate of households with a disability basis of need in 2020 was 8.2%.

Table 2: National proportions of households with a disability basis of need 2016 - 2020

| Basis Of Need - Disability | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 |
|----------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Intellectual disability | 1.7% | 1.8% | 2.1% | 2.3% | 2.6% |
| Mental health disability | 1.8% | 2.0% | 2.1% | 2.3% | 2.5% |
| Physical disability | 2.3% | 2.4% | 2.4% | 2.5% | 2.4% |
| Sensory disability | 0.4% | 0.5% | 0.5% | 0.6% | 0.6% |
| Unspecified disability | 0.1% | 0.1% | 0.1% | 0.1% | 0.1% |
| Total | 6.3% | 6.7% | 7.1% | 7.7% | 8.2% |

7 See <https://public.tableau.com/app/profile/research.team3976/viz/DashboardSSHADisabilityNeed/DisabilityNeed> (hover mouse over each county for details and use control buttons on the left to select year and local authority)

Table 2 shows the total proportion of households with a disability basis of need for housing nationally, for each year from 2016 to 2020 and the type of disability. The appendices and interactive map show that for example in 2020, the highest rate of disability need in Sligo County Council (23.4%) is driven by a high number of applicants with an Intellectual disability (14.9%). This compares to a national rate of 2.6% of applicants with an Intellectual disability. The area with the second highest rate of disability need in 2020 is Galway County Council (22.2%) however, this is due to a high number of applicants with a Mental Health disability - 10.2% compared to the national rate of 2.5%.

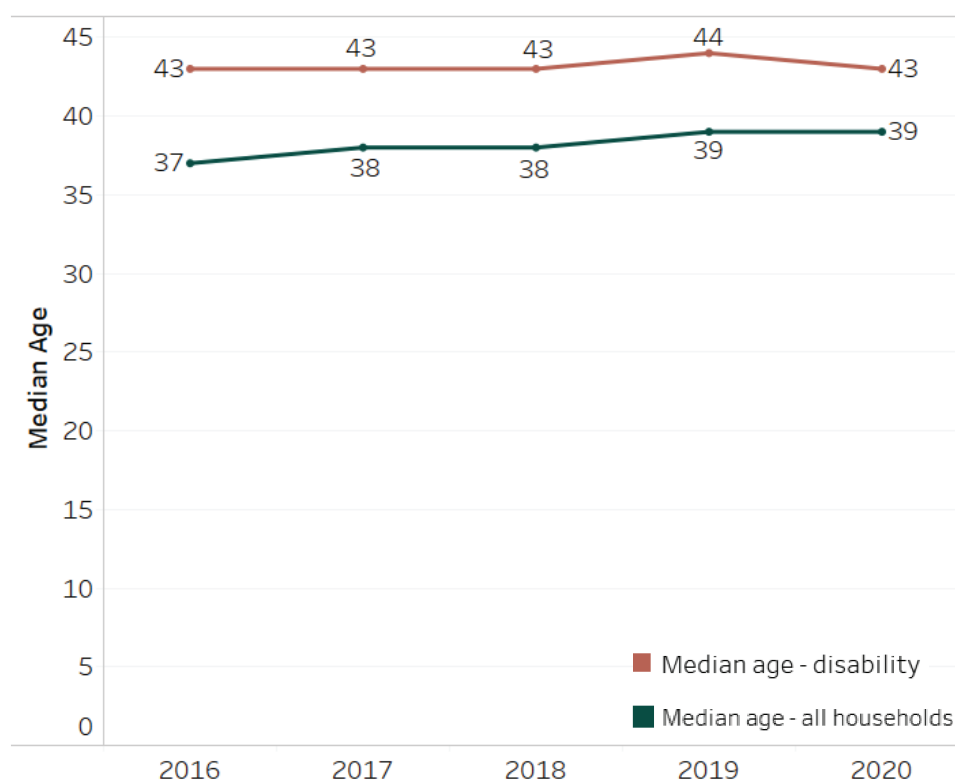
2.3 Profile of households with disability need

The SSHA data is a series of cross section snapshots of the households on the housing waiting list at different points in time annually⁸. While the same data collection methods are used each year to ensure overall comparability, caution is required when comparing findings for households within different groups across years as the same households may not appear at each point in time.

2.3.1 Age of main applicant

Figure 8 shows that households whose main basis of housing need is disability, tend to be older compared to all households on the waiting list across each point in time. While the median age has been increasing marginally over time for all applicants, from 37 years in 2016 to 39 years in 2020, it has remained relatively steady at between 43 and 44 years, for applicants with a disability related basis of need.

Figure 8: Median age of main applicant for all households and those with a disability need



Source: Summary of Social Housing Needs data.

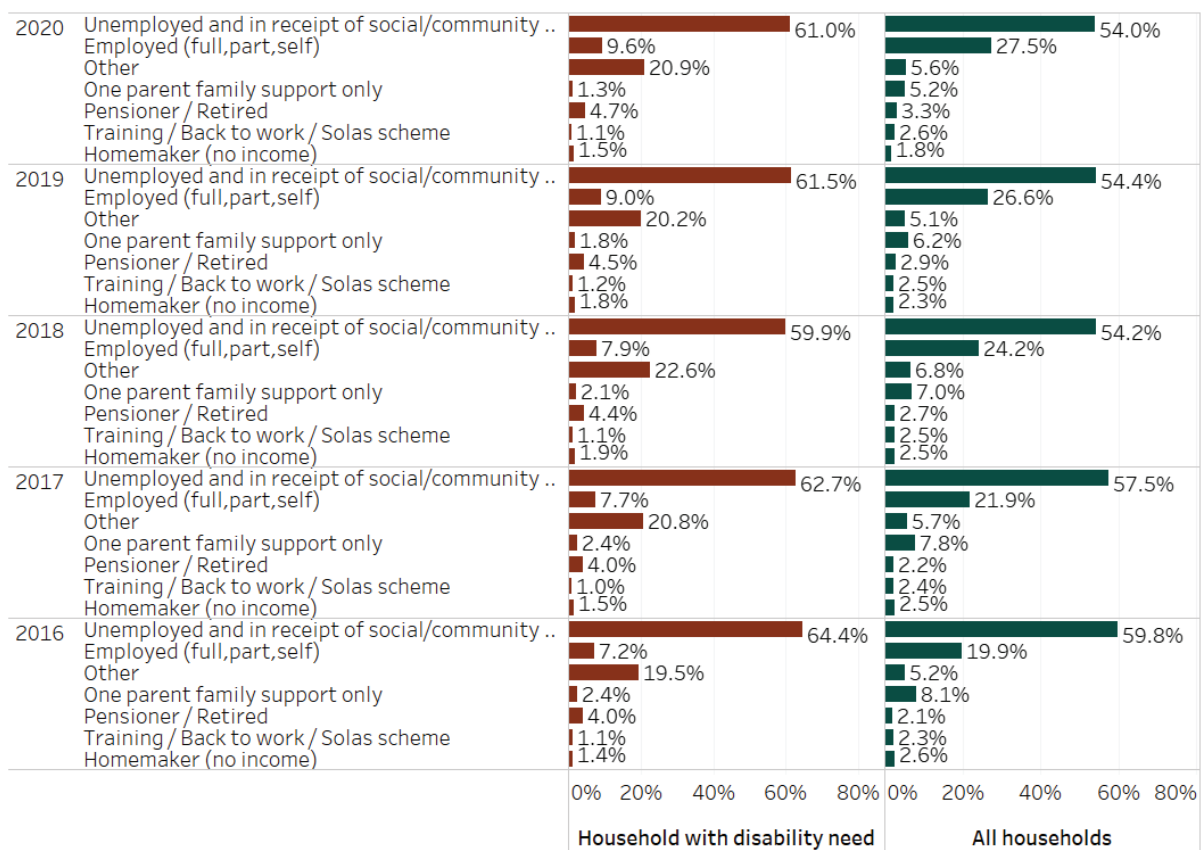
8 The SSHA was carried out in September 2016, June 2017, June 2018, June 2019 and November 2020.

2.3.2 Employment status of main applicant

The majority of applicants qualified for social housing each year are unemployed whether or not they are assessed as having a disability as their basis of need for housing however, those with a disability need are much less likely to be employed. Figure 9 shows that over the five-year period, between 13% and 18% fewer applicants with a disability are in employment at the time of qualifying for social housing compared to all qualified households. These applicants are also about 3 and a half times more likely have their employment status categorised as ‘other’ which may include applicants in receipt of disability benefits.

The categories used in the SSHA to capture employment status are not in line with those from the International Labour Office (ILO) used by the CSO. The ILO categories allow for mutually exclusive classification of those in employment, those who are unemployed and those who are inactive in the labour market, including those who are inactive due to illness or disability. The current categories which are not mutually exclusive, could lead to inconsistent data input with applicants in receipt of Disability benefits being recorded in many of the categories below. For example, they may be ‘inactive’ rather than unemployed but recorded in the unemployed category due to receiving disability benefits, as this category includes those in receipt social welfare or they may be included as ‘other’ because they receive disability benefits despite working part time or involved in a training course.

Figure 9: Employment status of main applicant for all households and those with a disability need

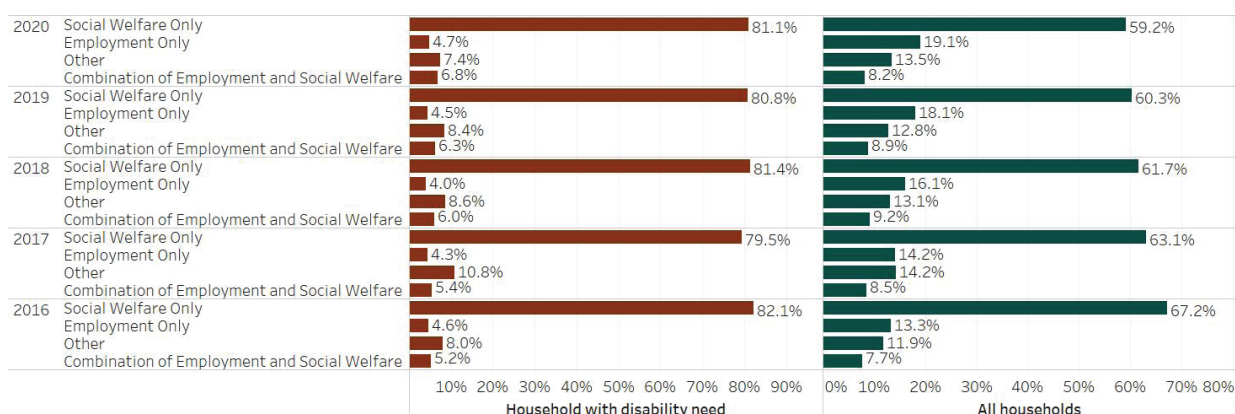


Source: Summary of Social Housing Needs data.

2.3.3 Income source for main applicant

The data shows a pattern for main applicants' source of income that is consistent with the pattern for employment status above with the majority of all qualified households in receipt of social welfare only (see Figure 10). However, proportions in this category are much higher for applicants with a disability related basis of need. On average, about 20% more applicants with a disability housing need have social welfare as their only income source and they are about 3 and a half times less likely to have an income source from employment, putting them at a higher risk of poverty. Those whose basis of need for housing is a disability are less likely to have an 'other' source of income compared to all applicants, as disability benefits are included in the social welfare category while the 'other' income category includes homemakers and others with no income, pension or maintenance only and other combinations.

Figure 10: Income source for main applicant for all households and those with a disability need



Source: Summary of Social Housing Needs data.

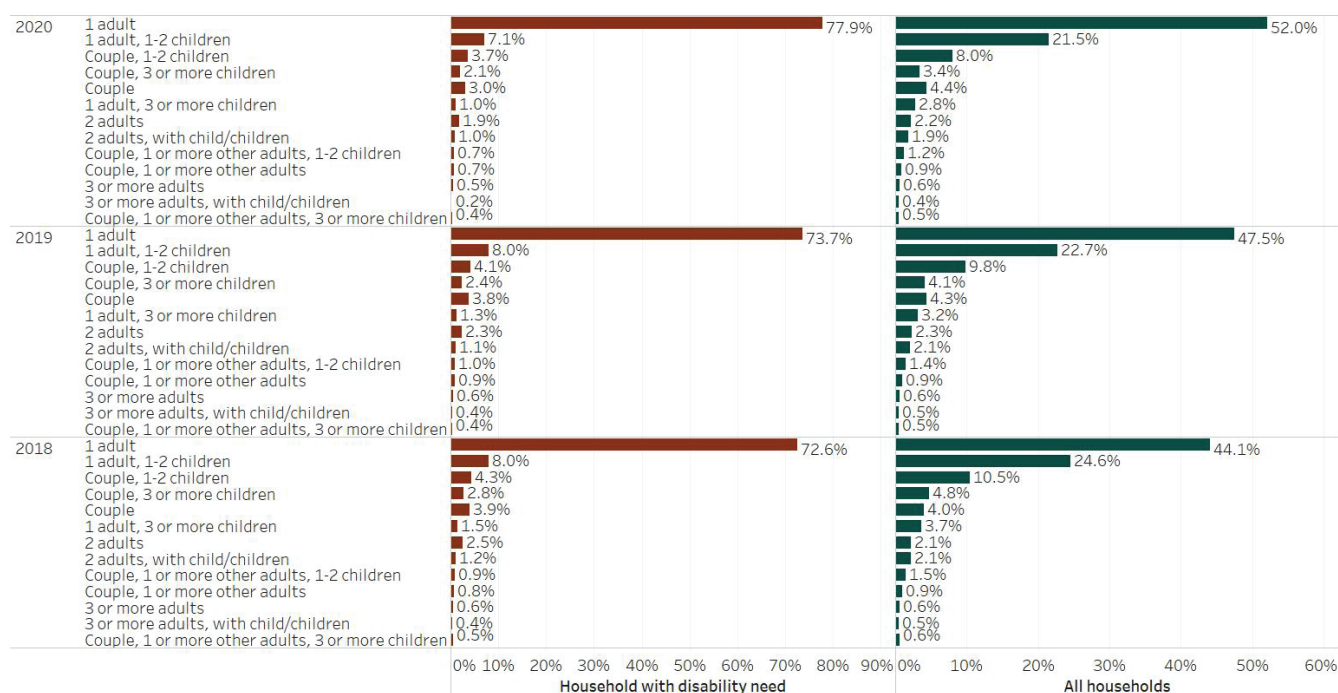
2.3.4 Household composition of main applicant

Single person households make up the largest household composition group among all those qualified for social housing. In 2020 this became the majority category, with 52% of all households on the waiting list comprising of one adult only. However, Figure 11 shows that households headed by a single applicant with a disability have been the majority category of composition for each year in the analysis period. For each year shown below, there are between approximately 20% and 30% more single adult households among the group with a disability related basis of need compared to all qualified households.

One-parent families⁹ comprise an average of just over a quarter (26.2%) of all households on the waiting list over the three-year period shown and while the proportions are lower among households whose basis of need is disability related, this is still the second highest category of composition among this group. This data does not allow an analysis of what proportion of one parent family households with a disability related basis of need are headed by an adult with a disability and what proportion include a lone parent who has a child with a disability.

9 1 adult with 1-2 children and 1 adult with 3 or more children.

Figure 11: Household composition of all households and those with a disability need



Source: Summary of Social Housing Needs data.

Note: This field changed in 2019 to broaden and more comprehensively represent household composition. To date the new categories have only been calculated for the three years shown.

2.3.5 Current tenure of main applicant

As seen in Figure 12 below, households with a disability related need for housing are less likely to live in private rented accommodation at the time of application compared with all households on the waiting list. This may be due to the unsuitability of private rented housing for people with a disability related need or due to discrimination in the private rented sector. A recent report by IHREC and ESRI also found that those with a disability are significantly less likely to rent in the private market (10%) compared to those without a disability (18%). They refer to international research which shows that people with a disability are more likely to experience discrimination in the private housing market (Rich, 2014; Turner et al., 2005 in Russell et al., 2021) and to previous research from the ESRI which found that those with a disability were twice as likely to report discrimination in the housing market even when employment and education are controlled for (Grotti et al., 2018).

Figure 12 also shows that these households are more likely to live with parents compared to all households and while this impacts the present situation for the person with a disability it may also have future consequences as these parents age¹⁰. In addition to being inappropriately housed, these households are homeless under the ETHOS definition of homelessness because they are living in 'insecure' accommodation due to lack of appropriate housing¹¹. However, they are not included in official homeless statistics because only those living in state funded emergency

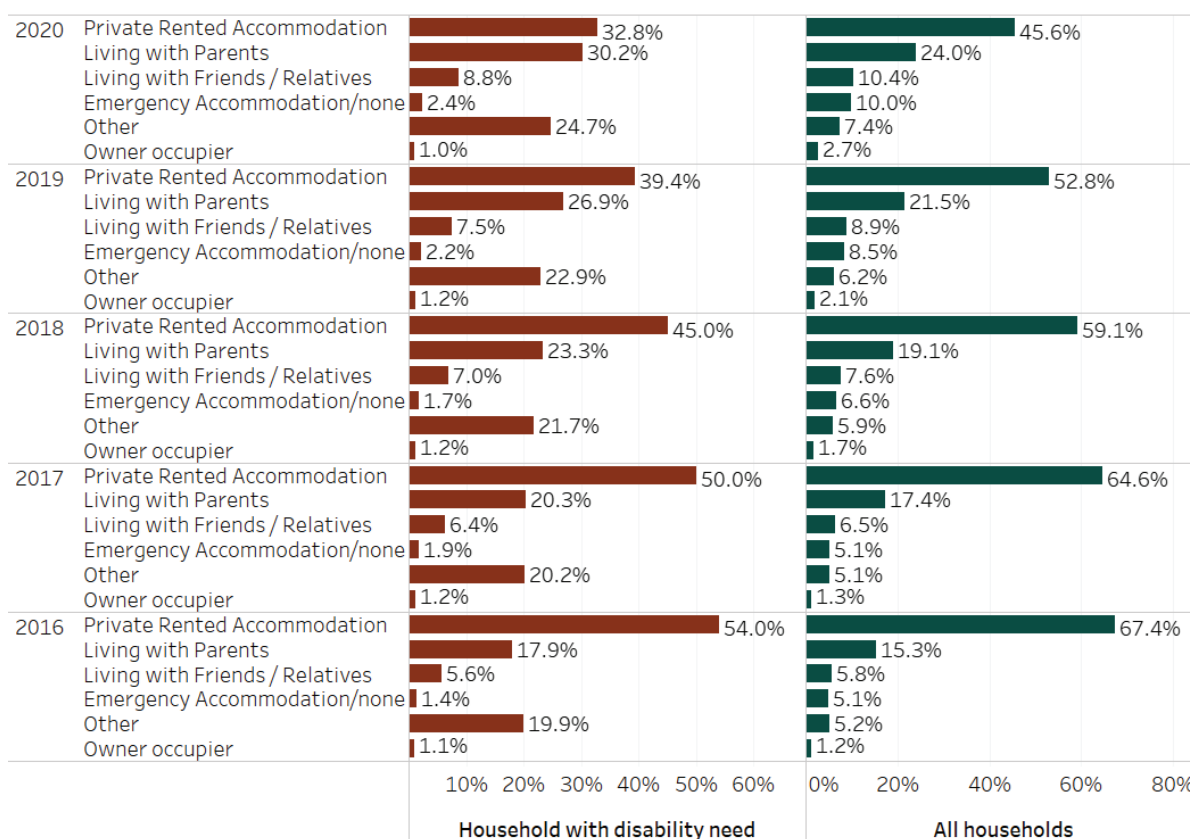
10 See for example, <https://www.iwa.ie/irish-wheelchair-association-campaign-tackles-extreme-shortage-of-social-housing-for-people-with-disabilities/>

11 See the ETHOS definition of homelessness at <https://www.feantsa.org/download/ethos2484215748748239888.pdf>

accommodation are counted as homeless in Ireland¹². These households may therefore be adding to the number of hidden homeless households nationally¹³.

Finally, 3 and a half to 4 times as many households with a disability need for housing are living in 'other' tenures at the time of their application compared with all qualified households. This category includes those living in 'institutions' and other congregated settings.

Figure 12: Current tenure of all households and those with a disability need



Source: Summary of Social Housing Needs data.

2.3.6 Median wait time on the housing list for households

The SSHA data contains information on the number of years households' have been on the housing waiting list at each point in time assessment¹⁴. This has been used to calculate a median waiting time for all applicants however, because the data is not longitudinal it cannot provide certainty around how long each individual household remains on the list. Furthermore, this data does not contain information on whether households are removed from the list because they have been housed, they no longer meet the eligibility criteria, they cannot be contacted or for some other reason.

Notwithstanding these caveats, Figure 13 shows that the median wait time for all qualified households is lower in all years compared to households with a disability need and there is a

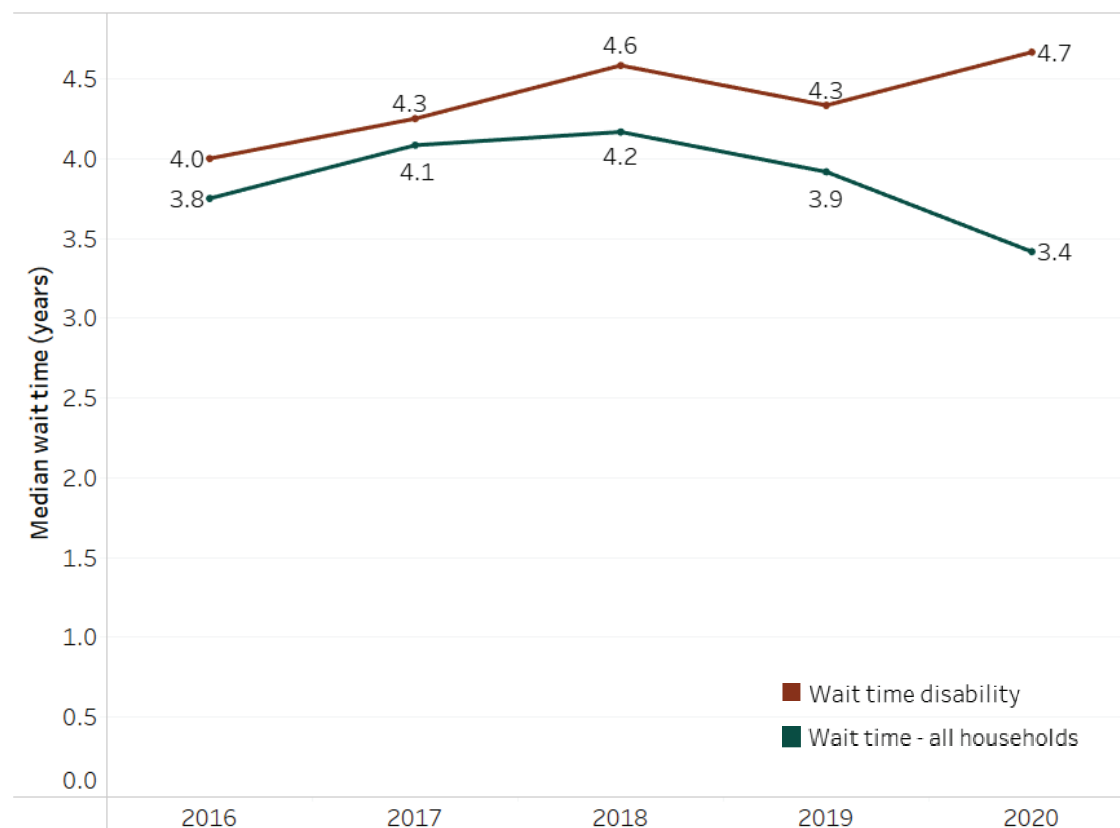
12 See <https://www.gov.ie/en/collection/80ea8-homelessness-data/#homelessness-data>

13 Hidden homeless situations include accommodation 'provided informally (by friends, family members, or in squats) rather than by housing or other service providers.' Mayock, P. and Sheridan, S. (2012).

14 This variable is calculated by subtracting the SSHA assessment date from the application date for each household. However, there may be reliability issues with this field where applicants are removed from the waiting list and subsequently reinstated, as the application date may be overwritten with the reinstatement date leading to underestimated waiting times in these situations. Other data entry errors exist here too for example, date of birth entered as date of application.

general pattern of wait time increasing for these households but falling for all households. Moreover, the gap begins to widen further from 2018, possibly due to other households moving into the private rented sector with HAP, an option that may not be suitable or feasible for households with a disability need for housing.

Figure 13: Median waiting time (years) for all households and those with a disability need

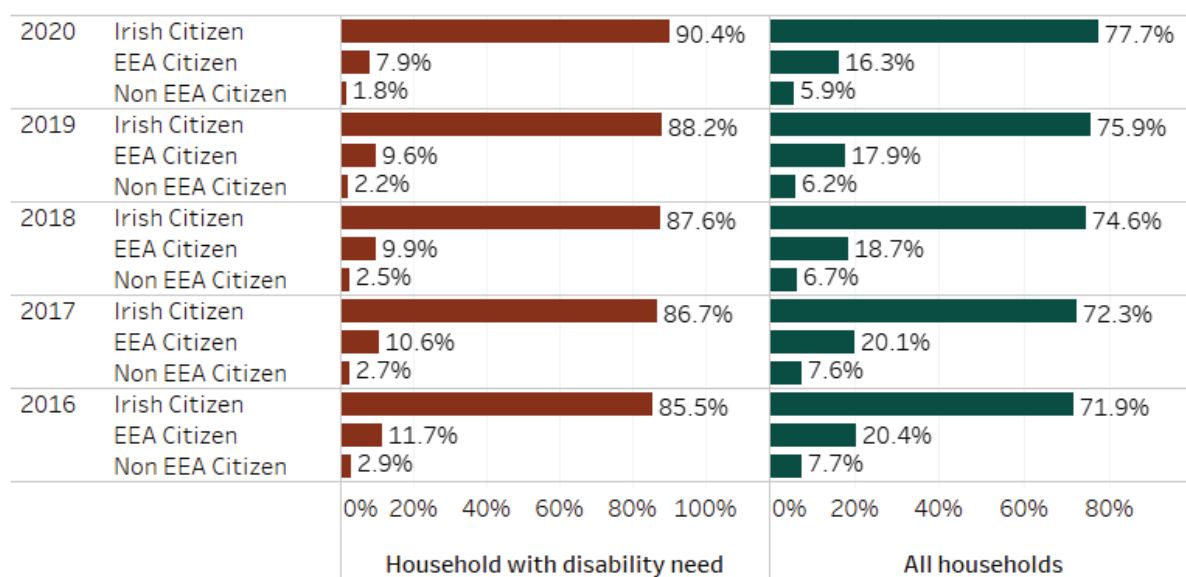


Source: Summary of Social Housing Needs data.

2.3.7 Nationality group of main applicant

Finally in this household profile section, Figure 14 shows that the majority of social housing applicants are Irish citizens, but this is much more likely in the case of households where there is a disability-based need for housing.

Figure 14: Nationality group of main applicant for all households and those with a disability need



Source: Summary of Social Housing Needs data.

3 Conclusions

This report analyses data from the last five years' summaries of social housing assessments and compares the situation for all households and for households that have a disability basis of need for housing. Findings are presented across a range of fields covering overall numbers and proportions, location and various aspects of the household or main applicant's profile. The main conclusions are as follows.

3.1 Disability identifier

The SSHA data is a valuable source of information on the aggregate number of households who qualify for social housing across each local authority area as well as providing information on the particular circumstances of these individual households. Currently, households that potentially have a member with a disability are identified using the basis of need field. However, this may exclude applicants or household members with a disability who apply on the basis of an alternative need. The inclusion of a stand-alone question in the social housing application form that asks if any member of the household has a disability, would identify these households more accurately. This would act as a 'disability identifier' and provide a reliable and comprehensive count and profile description of these households which could in turn, be used to track and monitor their current situation and outcomes.

The principle of monitoring outcomes for those with a disability across public services is in line with the current National Disability Inclusion Strategy (DJE, 2017). A recent report by IHREC and ESRI on Monitoring Adequate Housing in Ireland notes that 'data collection funded by government or carried out by public bodies should aim to be disaggregated according to the requirements of national equality legislation and monitoring by international bodies. This is statutory responsibility of public bodies under the Public Sector Duty. Such information 'crucially depends on the appropriate identifiers and characteristics being collected in administrative sources' and the 'collection of information by public bodies to monitor non-discrimination and inequality of access to services and outcomes for minority groups is a legitimate public interest under GDPR.' (Russell et al. 2021, pp 160-162).

3.2 Proportionate increase in households with a disability housing need between 2016 and 2020

While the number of households qualified for and in need of social housing has been falling year on year since 2016, the proportion of qualified households with a disability basis of need has been increasing each year. They have risen from 6.3% in 2016 to 8.2% in 2020 based on households whose primary basis of need for housing is a disability. This rises to a total of 6.9% in 2016 to 10% in 2020 when households who specify disability as their secondary basis of need are also included. This growth may be related to increased advocacy and rights awareness campaigns among those with disabilities and the groups that represent them, leading to improved provision of details about disabilities when housing applications are made. It could also reflect increased rights awareness among housing practitioners leading to better recording and management of data and information on applicants with a disability.

At the same time, this increase in households with a disability related need for social housing may be linked to an inability among these households to access private rented housing with HAP at the same rate as other households qualified for social housing. For example, applicants and household members with a disability may require larger living spaces, ground floor units, specific adaptations and areas where HSE care packages and other services and supports are available and proximate. Currently building regulations provide guidance on a minimum standard in private housing only, for example, they require that new builds are 'visitable' but there is no requirement that they be 'liveable in' for people with disabilities (Browne, 2007).

3.3 Variation in type of disability

Analysis of the SSHA data between 2016 and 2020, reveals an approximate doubling of the proportion of households whose need for social housing is assessed as being based on an intellectual and a mental health disability compared with other disability types. And although these disability types have now overtaken physical disability as a basis of need, the proportion of households with a physical disability has remained steady over the time period.

3.4 Variation by local authority area

Similarly, there is a wide range of variation by local authority area in the proportion of households qualified for social housing on the basis of a disability need (as shown in a Tableau Dashboard¹⁵ and in the appendices). For example, across different years, proportions vary from 0.3% to 1.9% of households with a disability-based housing need at the lower end of the local authority distribution to between 22.3% and 27.0% at the higher end.

This variation could be due to disparity in the levels of adapted housing stock, different LA allocation policies, varying access to HSE care packages and other disability, health and social services or to conflicting numbers of applicants with other basis of needs, for example homelessness or overcrowding.

3.5 Household profile

While care is needed when interpreting results for households within different groups across the time points, some differences appear to exist between those with a disability-based need compared to all qualified households.

All applicants who qualify for social housing are, given the eligibility criteria, disadvantaged but analysis of the household characteristics among those assessed as having a disability related basis of need shows that this group may experience higher levels of disadvantage. These households are less likely to be employed and more likely to be dependent on social welfare, so they are at a higher risk of poverty. They are also disadvantaged by being older, more often headed by a single adult and they tend to remain on the list for longer. Finally, households who are assessed as having disability related need for social housing are more likely to live in 'other' tenures which may include congregated settings and other institutions and to share accommodation with their parents due to the lack of appropriate housing.

15 See <https://public.tableau.com/app/profile/research.team3976/viz/DashboardSSHADisabilityNeed/DisabilityNeed>

3.6 SSHA data

Some field categories within the SSHA data would benefit from being revised to better capture the situation of households with a disability need for housing. For example, the employment status field which has no option for recording those who are 'inactive due to illness or disability'. Currently, those in receipt of disability benefits may be obscured in the 'other' or 'unemployed' category and inconsistently recorded across other categories.

There is scope for further analysis of households with a disability related basis of need within the SSHA data for example, this report did not examine what proportion of one parent families comprise of an adult with a disability or a child with a disability. It may be possible to do this in a future exercise by linking the SSHA data with other administrative data held by local authorities.

4

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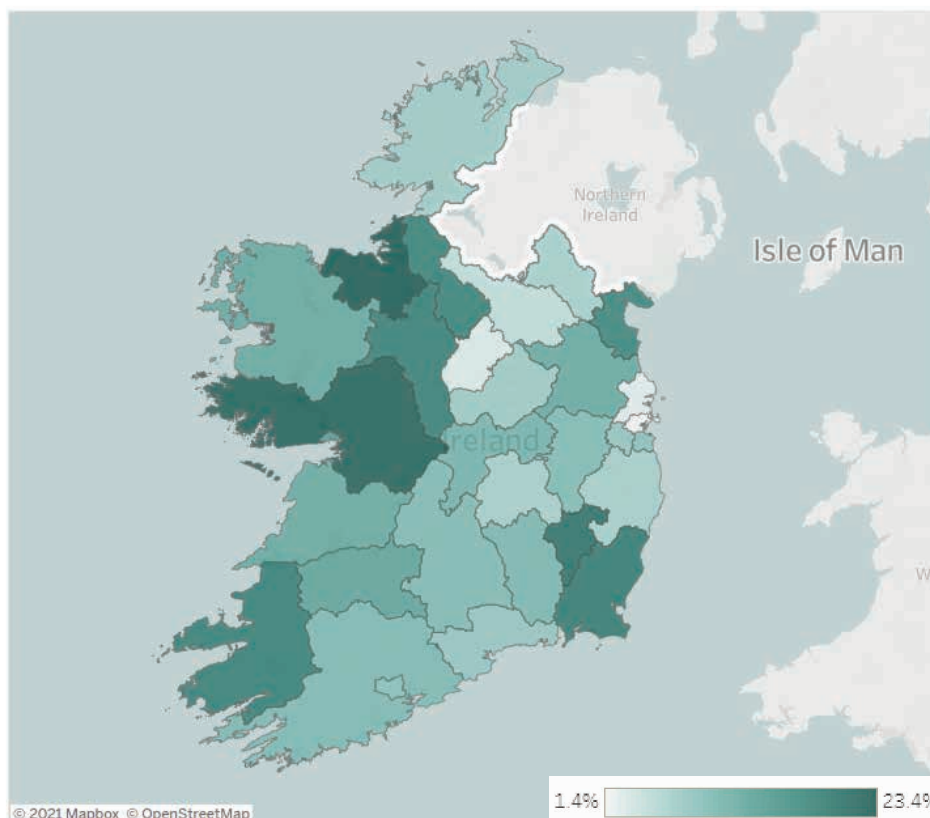
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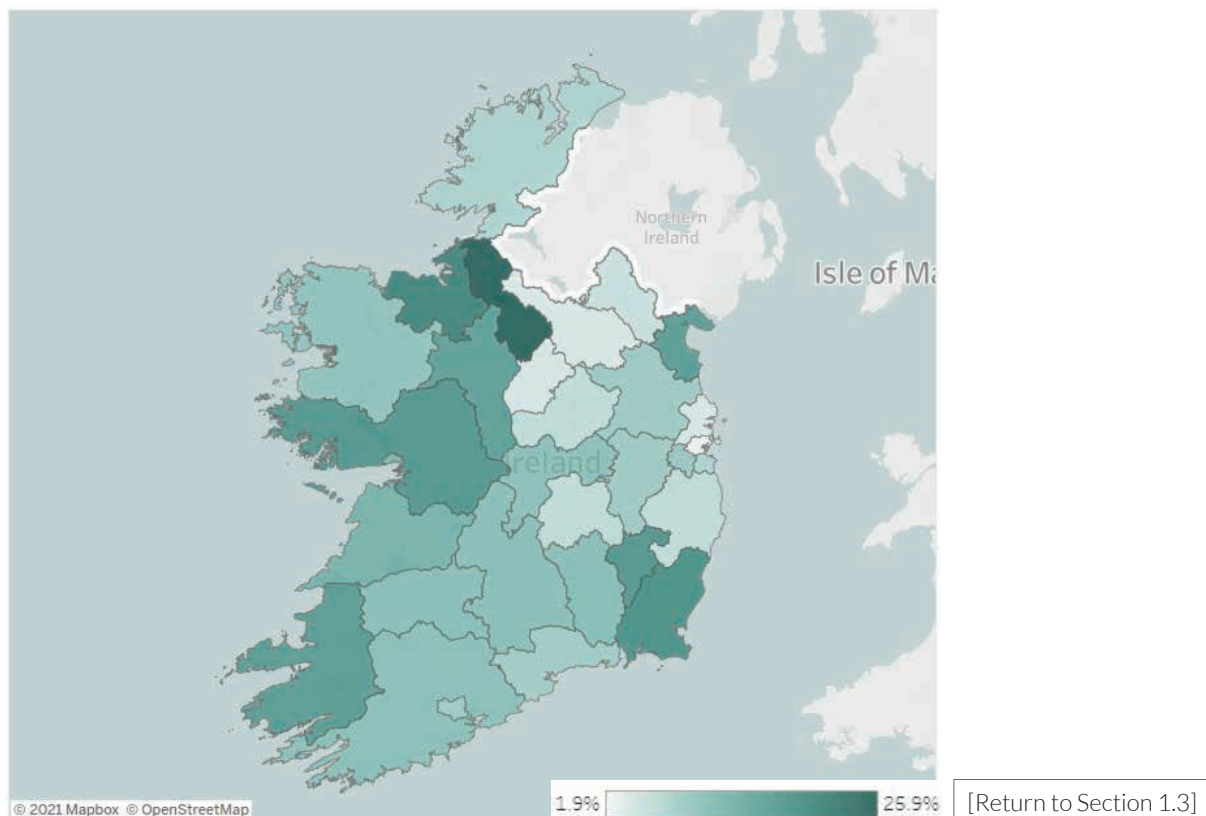
5 Appendices

Appendix 1: SSHA 2020 - households with a disability need



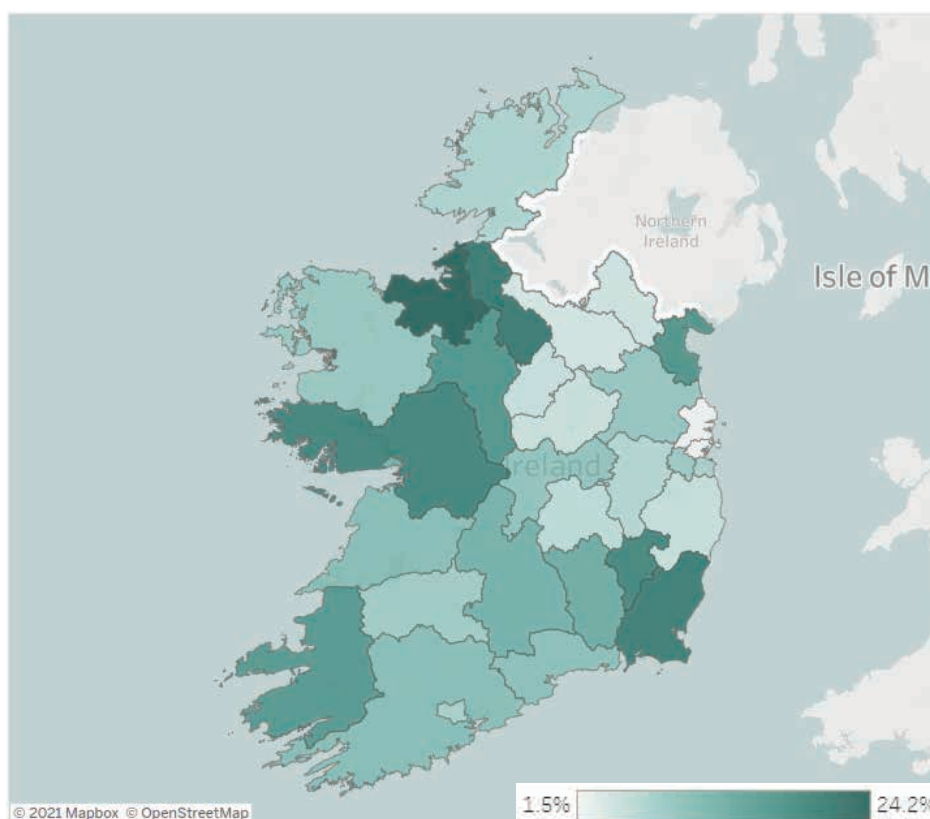
| | Intellectual disability | Mental health disability | Physical disability | Sensory disability | Unspecified disability | Overall Disability |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------|--------------------|------------------------|--------------------|
| CARLOW COUNTY COUNCIL | 4.2% | 6.9% | 7.3% | 1.8% | | 20.2% |
| CAVAN COUNTY COUNCIL | 1.4% | 1.0% | 2.4% | 0.2% | | 5.0% |
| CLARE COUNTY COUNCIL | 4.4% | 2.7% | 4.6% | 0.2% | 0.1% | 12.0% |
| CORK CITY COUNCIL | 1.3% | 2.8% | 2.2% | 0.5% | 0.4% | 7.2% |
| CORK COUNTY COUNCIL | 0.6% | 3.4% | 4.6% | 1.3% | | 9.9% |
| DONEGAL COUNTY COUNCIL | 1.9% | 1.5% | 3.1% | 0.4% | 0.1% | 7.1% |
| DUBLIN CITY COUNCIL | 0.2% | 0.3% | 0.7% | 0.2% | 0.0% | 1.4% |
| DUN LAOGHAIRE-RATHDOWN COUNTY COU.. | 4.0% | 2.3% | 1.6% | 0.5% | | 8.4% |
| FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL | 0.4% | 1.0% | 0.7% | 0.3% | 0.1% | 2.6% |
| GALWAY CITY COUNCIL | 4.1% | 4.6% | 4.9% | 0.6% | 0.1% | 14.3% |
| GALWAY COUNTY COUNCIL | 5.5% | 10.2% | 6.2% | 0.4% | 0.1% | 22.2% |
| KERRY COUNTY COUNCIL | 1.4% | 9.2% | 5.2% | 2.5% | | 18.3% |
| KILDARE COUNTY COUNCIL | 5.6% | 2.6% | 1.4% | 0.1% | 0.0% | 9.6% |
| KILKENNY COUNTY COUNCIL | 6.1% | 1.3% | 1.4% | 0.2% | 1.1% | 10.2% |
| LAOIS COUNTY COUNCIL | 1.1% | 3.0% | 2.3% | 0.3% | | 6.6% |
| LEITRIM COUNTY COUNCIL | 6.3% | 6.8% | 3.7% | 1.1% | | 17.9% |
| LIMERICK CITY AND COUNTY COUNCIL | 2.5% | 3.8% | 4.7% | 1.9% | | 12.9% |
| LONGFORD COUNTY COUNCIL | 0.2% | 0.8% | 1.4% | 0.2% | 0.4% | 3.0% |
| LOUTH COUNTY COUNCIL | 11.0% | 2.7% | 3.3% | 0.5% | | 17.4% |
| MAYO COUNTY COUNCIL | 3.1% | 4.8% | 2.9% | 0.8% | 0.4% | 12.1% |
| MEATH COUNTY COUNCIL | 2.9% | 3.4% | 4.1% | 1.5% | | 11.9% |
| MONAGHAN COUNTY COUNCIL | 4.1% | 1.0% | 1.0% | 0.5% | | 6.5% |
| OFFALY COUNTY COUNCIL | 4.3% | 2.3% | 3.3% | 0.6% | 0.2% | 10.7% |
| ROSCOMMON COUNTY COUNCIL | 5.2% | 8.2% | 4.1% | 0.7% | | 18.2% |
| SLIGO COUNTY COUNCIL | 14.9% | 4.8% | 3.1% | 0.6% | | 23.4% |
| SOUTH DUBLIN COUNTY COUNCIL | 5.1% | 0.7% | 1.8% | 0.3% | 0.1% | 8.0% |
| TIPPERARY COUNTY COUNCIL | 1.0% | 4.8% | 3.3% | 0.6% | | 9.7% |
| WATERFORD CITY AND COUNTY COUNCIL | 3.7% | 1.5% | 2.1% | 0.3% | 0.3% | 7.9% |
| WESTMEATH COUNTY COUNCIL | 1.6% | 2.0% | 2.7% | 0.7% | 0.2% | 7.2% |
| WEXFORD COUNTY COUNCIL | 5.6% | 5.7% | 6.7% | 1.1% | | 19.1% |
| WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL | 1.9% | 2.3% | 2.0% | 0.4% | 0.1% | 6.7% |
| TOTAL | 2.6% | 2.5% | 2.4% | 0.6% | 0.1% | 8.2% |

Appendix 2: SSHA 2019 - households with a disability need



| | Intellectual disability | Mental health disability | Physical disability | Sensory disability | Unspecified disability | Overall Disability |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------|--------------------|------------------------|--------------------|
| CARLOW COUNTY COUNCIL | 3.9% | 6.6% | 5.2% | 1.9% | | 17.5% |
| CAVAN COUNTY COUNCIL | 0.7% | 1.2% | 2.0% | | | 3.8% |
| CLARE COUNTY COUNCIL | 4.0% | 2.9% | 5.1% | 0.3% | 0.2% | 12.5% |
| CORK CITY COUNCIL | 1.1% | 2.9% | 2.3% | 0.5% | 0.2% | 7.0% |
| CORK COUNTY COUNCIL | 0.5% | 2.8% | 6.0% | 1.1% | 0.1% | 10.5% |
| DONEGAL COUNTY COUNCIL | 1.9% | 2.9% | 1.8% | 0.5% | | 7.2% |
| DUBLIN CITY COUNCIL | 0.2% | 0.4% | 1.0% | 0.3% | 0.0% | 1.9% |
| DUN LAOGHAIRE-RATHDOWN COUNTY COU.. | 3.8% | 1.9% | 1.0% | 0.2% | | 6.9% |
| FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL | 0.4% | 1.4% | 1.3% | 0.5% | 0.2% | 3.7% |
| GALWAY CITY COUNCIL | 2.8% | 3.9% | 4.3% | 0.6% | 0.1% | 11.8% |
| GALWAY COUNTY COUNCIL | 3.2% | 8.5% | 5.6% | 0.3% | 0.1% | 17.6% |
| KERRY COUNTY COUNCIL | 1.2% | 7.6% | 5.6% | 2.2% | | 16.5% |
| KILDARE COUNTY COUNCIL | 5.2% | 2.1% | 1.1% | 0.1% | 0.1% | 8.6% |
| KILKENNY COUNTY COUNCIL | 7.5% | 1.1% | 1.1% | 0.1% | 0.9% | 10.6% |
| LAOIS COUNTY COUNCIL | 2.2% | 1.7% | 1.7% | | 0.1% | 5.8% |
| LEITRIM COUNTY COUNCIL | 6.3% | 11.1% | 5.3% | 3.2% | | 25.9% |
| LIMERICK CITY AND COUNTY COUNCIL | 2.4% | 3.0% | 3.8% | 1.4% | | 10.6% |
| LONGFORD COUNTY COUNCIL | | 1.4% | 2.0% | 0.2% | 0.2% | 3.8% |
| LOUTH COUNTY COUNCIL | 10.1% | 2.3% | 3.3% | 0.5% | 0.1% | 16.3% |
| MAYO COUNTY COUNCIL | 2.2% | 4.8% | 2.4% | 0.4% | 0.1% | 9.9% |
| MEATH COUNTY COUNCIL | 1.8% | 2.5% | 2.9% | 1.4% | | 8.6% |
| MONAGHAN COUNTY COUNCIL | 3.0% | 0.4% | 1.1% | 0.6% | | 5.1% |
| OFFALY COUNTY COUNCIL | 2.2% | 3.0% | 4.0% | 0.6% | 0.5% | 10.4% |
| ROSCOMMON COUNTY COUNCIL | 6.5% | 4.0% | 4.3% | 0.9% | | 15.8% |
| SLIGO COUNTY COUNCIL | 15.8% | 2.8% | 1.2% | 0.6% | | 20.4% |
| SOUTH DUBLIN COUNTY COUNCIL | 4.8% | 1.2% | 2.5% | 0.4% | 0.0% | 8.9% |
| TIPPERARY COUNTY COUNCIL | 1.4% | 4.7% | 3.6% | 0.7% | 0.1% | 10.5% |
| WATERFORD CITY AND COUNTY COUNCIL | 4.1% | 1.8% | 1.8% | 0.2% | 0.3% | 8.2% |
| WESTMEATH COUNTY COUNCIL | 1.1% | 1.7% | 2.4% | 0.3% | 0.2% | 5.6% |
| WEXFORD COUNTY COUNCIL | 4.4% | 5.2% | 8.1% | 0.8% | 0.1% | 18.5% |
| WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL | 1.7% | 2.0% | 1.5% | 0.4% | 0.1% | 5.7% |
| TOTAL | 2.3% | 2.3% | 2.5% | 0.6% | 0.1% | 7.7% |

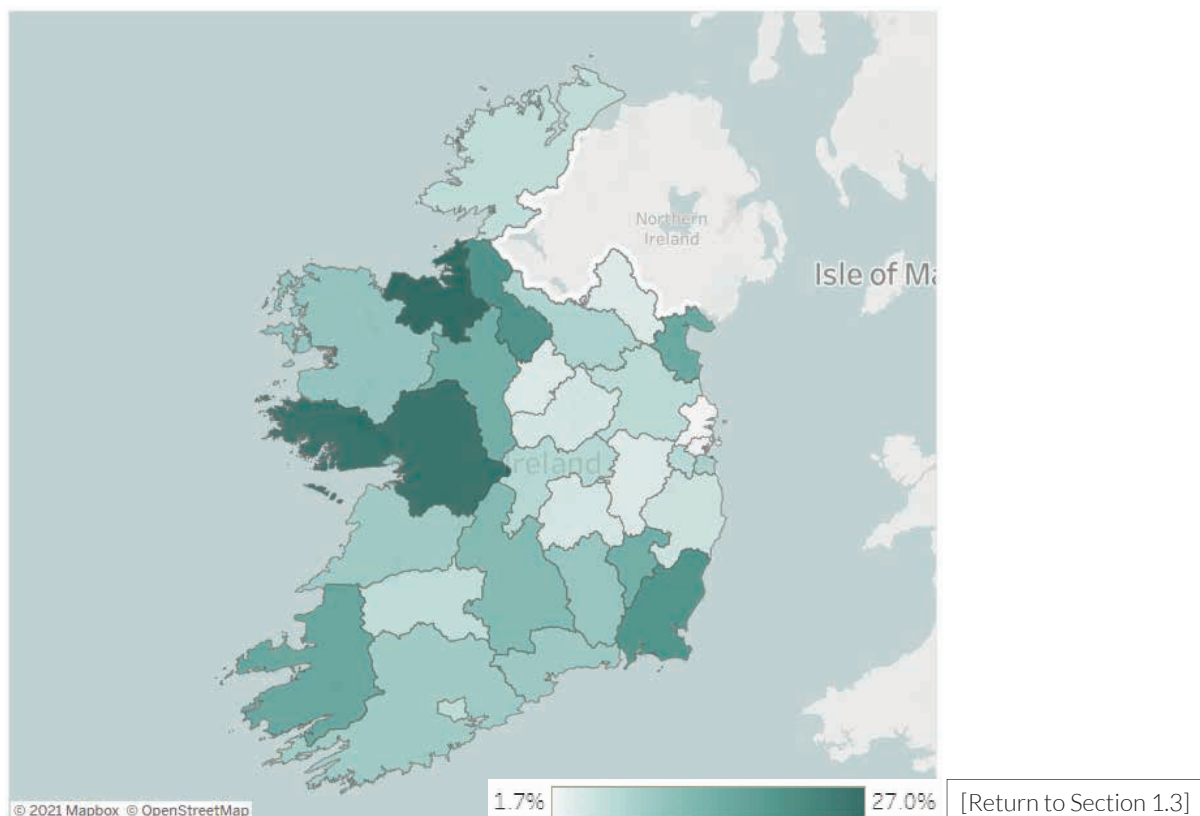
Appendix 3: SSHA 2018 - households with a disability need



[\[Return to Section 1.3\]](#)

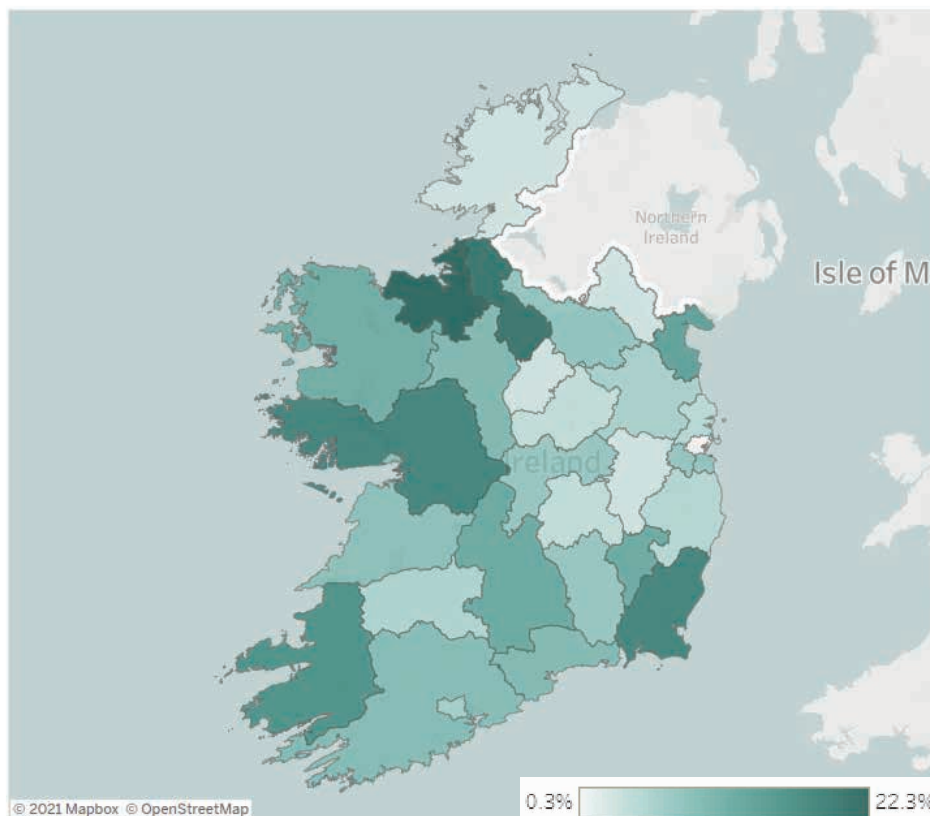
| | Intellectual disability | Mental health disability | Physical disability | Sensory disability | Unspecified disability | Overall Disability |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------|--------------------|------------------------|--------------------|
| CARLOW COUNTY COUNCIL | 4.4% | 6.0% | 6.4% | 2.0% | | 18.8% |
| CAVAN COUNTY COUNCIL | 0.7% | 0.9% | 2.0% | | | 3.7% |
| CLARE COUNTY COUNCIL | 2.7% | 3.0% | 3.5% | 0.1% | 0.6% | 9.9% |
| CORK CITY COUNCIL | 0.7% | 2.4% | 1.8% | 0.4% | 0.1% | 5.4% |
| CORK COUNTY COUNCIL | 0.6% | 2.8% | 5.5% | 0.9% | | 9.9% |
| DONEGAL COUNTY COUNCIL | 1.8% | 2.1% | 2.1% | 0.5% | | 6.5% |
| DUBLIN CITY COUNCIL | 0.2% | 0.2% | 0.8% | 0.2% | 0.0% | 1.5% |
| DUN LAOGHAIRE-RATHDOWN COUNTY COU.. | 3.4% | 1.8% | 1.3% | 0.3% | | 6.8% |
| FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL | 0.2% | 0.5% | 0.6% | 0.3% | 0.1% | 1.8% |
| GALWAY CITY COUNCIL | 2.7% | 3.9% | 4.6% | 0.6% | 0.1% | 11.8% |
| GALWAY COUNTY COUNCIL | 2.8% | 8.7% | 7.3% | 0.3% | | 19.1% |
| KERRY COUNTY COUNCIL | 1.1% | 7.0% | 5.7% | 2.0% | | 15.8% |
| KILDARE COUNTY COUNCIL | 3.9% | 1.3% | 0.7% | 0.1% | 0.1% | 6.1% |
| KILKENNY COUNTY COUNCIL | 8.6% | 0.9% | 2.4% | 0.1% | 0.6% | 12.6% |
| LAOIS COUNTY COUNCIL | 2.1% | 1.7% | 1.3% | 0.2% | 0.1% | 5.3% |
| LEITRIM COUNTY COUNCIL | 4.6% | 9.6% | 3.3% | 3.3% | | 20.9% |
| LIMERICK CITY AND COUNTY COUNCIL | 2.3% | 2.3% | 2.3% | 0.9% | 0.0% | 7.7% |
| LONGFORD COUNTY COUNCIL | 0.4% | 1.7% | 2.0% | 0.2% | 0.4% | 4.6% |
| LOUTH COUNTY COUNCIL | 11.5% | 1.9% | 3.0% | 0.3% | 0.1% | 16.8% |
| MAYO COUNTY COUNCIL | 2.0% | 3.6% | 2.5% | 0.3% | 0.1% | 8.4% |
| MEATH COUNTY COUNCIL | 1.9% | 2.0% | 3.0% | 1.8% | | 8.6% |
| MONAGHAN COUNTY COUNCIL | 2.8% | 0.4% | 1.0% | | | 4.2% |
| OFFALY COUNTY COUNCIL | 1.8% | 2.6% | 4.4% | 0.2% | | 9.0% |
| ROSCOMMON COUNTY COUNCIL | 6.2% | 6.2% | 4.1% | | | 16.5% |
| SLIGO COUNTY COUNCIL | 19.2% | 3.6% | 0.9% | 0.5% | | 24.2% |
| SOUTH DUBLIN COUNTY COUNCIL | 4.0% | 1.1% | 2.1% | 0.6% | 0.0% | 7.9% |
| TIPPERARY COUNTY COUNCIL | 1.2% | 5.6% | 4.3% | 0.5% | 0.2% | 11.8% |
| WATERFORD CITY AND COUNTY COUNCIL | 4.3% | 2.3% | 2.1% | 0.4% | 0.4% | 9.5% |
| WESTMEATH COUNTY COUNCIL | 0.6% | 1.5% | 1.8% | 0.3% | 0.1% | 4.4% |
| WEXFORD COUNTY COUNCIL | 3.1% | 7.2% | 9.0% | 1.0% | | 20.2% |
| WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL | 1.5% | 1.7% | 1.1% | 0.4% | 0.0% | 4.7% |
| TOTAL | 2.1% | 2.1% | 2.4% | 0.5% | 0.1% | 7.1% |

Appendix 4: SSHA 2017 - households with a disability need



| | Intellectual disability | Mental health disability | Physical disability | Sensory disability | Unspecified disability | Overall Disability |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------|--------------------|------------------------|--------------------|
| CARLOW COUNTY COUNCIL | 3.1% | 4.6% | 5.2% | 1.1% | | 14.0% |
| CAVAN COUNTY COUNCIL | 2.8% | 1.7% | 2.8% | | | 7.4% |
| CLARE COUNTY COUNCIL | 1.7% | 3.4% | 3.1% | 0.3% | 0.3% | 8.8% |
| CORK CITY COUNCIL | 0.7% | 2.1% | 1.7% | 0.2% | | 4.8% |
| CORK COUNTY COUNCIL | 0.6% | 2.4% | 4.9% | 0.8% | | 8.8% |
| DONEGAL COUNTY COUNCIL | 1.2% | 2.0% | 2.1% | 0.4% | | 5.8% |
| DUBLIN CITY COUNCIL | 0.3% | 0.2% | 1.0% | 0.3% | 0.0% | 1.8% |
| DUN LAOGHAIRE-RATHDOWN COUNTY COU.. | 3.5% | 2.3% | 1.6% | 0.2% | 0.0% | 7.7% |
| FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL | 0.3% | 0.5% | 0.5% | 0.3% | 0.0% | 1.7% |
| GALWAY CITY COUNCIL | 1.9% | 3.4% | 4.3% | 0.5% | 0.1% | 10.1% |
| GALWAY COUNTY COUNCIL | 3.3% | 10.5% | 11.0% | 0.5% | 0.1% | 25.3% |
| KERRY COUNTY COUNCIL | 1.3% | 6.7% | 5.7% | 1.7% | | 15.4% |
| KILDARE COUNTY COUNCIL | 1.9% | 0.6% | 0.7% | 0.0% | 0.1% | 3.3% |
| KILKENNY COUNTY COUNCIL | 6.6% | 1.1% | 1.5% | 0.1% | 0.5% | 9.8% |
| LAOIS COUNTY COUNCIL | 1.6% | 0.8% | 1.1% | 0.2% | 0.1% | 3.9% |
| LEITRIM COUNTY COUNCIL | 4.0% | 10.7% | 3.1% | 1.8% | | 19.6% |
| LIMERICK CITY AND COUNTY COUNCIL | 2.2% | 1.6% | 1.3% | 0.6% | 0.0% | 5.6% |
| LONGFORD COUNTY COUNCIL | 0.3% | 1.2% | 1.5% | | 0.3% | 3.4% |
| LOUTH COUNTY COUNCIL | 8.7% | 1.8% | 4.4% | 0.4% | 0.0% | 15.3% |
| MAYO COUNTY COUNCIL | 2.6% | 3.2% | 3.7% | 0.3% | 0.1% | 9.9% |
| MEATH COUNTY COUNCIL | 1.4% | 1.1% | 2.3% | 1.4% | | 6.2% |
| MONAGHAN COUNTY COUNCIL | 1.5% | 0.6% | 1.1% | | 0.2% | 3.4% |
| OFFALY COUNTY COUNCIL | 1.1% | 1.4% | 3.9% | 0.2% | | 6.7% |
| ROSCOMMON COUNTY COUNCIL | 3.7% | 6.1% | 3.7% | 0.2% | 0.2% | 13.9% |
| SLIGO COUNTY COUNCIL | 20.8% | 4.7% | 1.3% | 0.2% | | 27.0% |
| SOUTH DUBLIN COUNTY COUNCIL | 3.1% | 0.7% | 1.9% | 0.5% | 0.0% | 6.3% |
| TIPPERARY COUNTY COUNCIL | 1.9% | 4.9% | 4.4% | 0.6% | 0.1% | 11.9% |
| WATERFORD CITY AND COUNTY COUNCIL | 3.7% | 2.4% | 2.3% | 0.3% | 0.3% | 9.0% |
| WESTMEATH COUNTY COUNCIL | 0.5% | 1.4% | 1.7% | 0.3% | 0.1% | 4.0% |
| WEXFORD COUNTY COUNCIL | 2.9% | 6.6% | 8.8% | 0.9% | | 19.2% |
| WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL | 1.4% | 1.8% | 1.0% | 0.3% | 0.1% | 4.7% |
| TOTAL | 1.8% | 2.0% | 2.4% | 0.4% | 0.1% | 6.7% |

Appendix 5: SSHA 2016 - households with a disability need



[\[Return to Section 1.3\]](#)

| | Intellectual disability | Mental health disability | Physical disability | Sensory disability | Unspecified disability | Overall Disability |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------|--------------------|------------------------|--------------------|
| CARLOW COUNTY COUNCIL | 2.5% | 4.3% | 4.3% | 0.4% | | 11.5% |
| CAVAN COUNTY COUNCIL | 2.9% | 2.2% | 2.4% | 0.1% | | 7.6% |
| CLARE COUNTY COUNCIL | 1.5% | 3.0% | 3.1% | 0.3% | 0.3% | 8.0% |
| CORK CITY COUNCIL | 0.6% | 1.8% | 1.5% | 0.2% | 0.1% | 4.2% |
| CORK COUNTY COUNCIL | 0.7% | 2.2% | 5.0% | 0.9% | 0.0% | 8.8% |
| DONEGAL COUNTY COUNCIL | 0.5% | 0.7% | 1.4% | | 0.1% | 2.7% |
| DUBLIN CITY COUNCIL | 0.1% | 0.1% | 0.1% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 0.3% |
| DUN LAOGHAIRE-RATHDOWN COUNTY COU.. | 3.5% | 2.4% | 1.6% | 0.2% | 0.0% | 7.7% |
| FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL | 0.7% | 0.8% | 2.1% | 0.6% | 0.1% | 4.4% |
| GALWAY CITY COUNCIL | 1.8% | 2.5% | 3.6% | 0.5% | 0.1% | 8.4% |
| GALWAY COUNTY COUNCIL | 2.0% | 8.3% | 7.1% | 0.3% | | 17.7% |
| KERRY COUNTY COUNCIL | 1.5% | 6.5% | 6.0% | 1.5% | | 15.5% |
| KILDARE COUNTY COUNCIL | 1.5% | 0.6% | 0.6% | 0.0% | 0.0% | 2.7% |
| KILKENNY COUNTY COUNCIL | 4.6% | 0.8% | 1.5% | 0.1% | 0.3% | 7.3% |
| LAOIS COUNTY COUNCIL | 1.7% | 0.8% | 0.9% | 0.3% | | 3.7% |
| LEITRIM COUNTY COUNCIL | 4.1% | 11.6% | 3.0% | 1.4% | | 20.1% |
| LIMERICK CITY AND COUNTY COUNCIL | 2.1% | 1.4% | 1.0% | 0.4% | 0.0% | 5.0% |
| LONGFORD COUNTY COUNCIL | 0.5% | 0.8% | 0.9% | | 0.5% | 2.6% |
| LOUTH COUNTY COUNCIL | 7.4% | 1.3% | 4.0% | 0.3% | 0.1% | 13.1% |
| MAYO COUNTY COUNCIL | 2.6% | 3.9% | 4.3% | 0.2% | | 11.0% |
| MEATH COUNTY COUNCIL | 1.1% | 1.1% | 2.1% | 1.2% | | 5.6% |
| MONAGHAN COUNTY COUNCIL | 1.4% | 0.6% | 0.6% | | 0.2% | 2.7% |
| OFFALY COUNTY COUNCIL | 1.2% | 1.6% | 3.9% | 0.2% | 0.3% | 7.2% |
| ROSCOMMON COUNTY COUNCIL | 1.8% | 3.9% | 3.6% | | | 9.3% |
| SLIGO COUNTY COUNCIL | 16.9% | 4.1% | 1.1% | 0.2% | | 22.3% |
| SOUTH DUBLIN COUNTY COUNCIL | 3.4% | 1.0% | 2.3% | 0.6% | | 7.2% |
| TIPPERARY COUNTY COUNCIL | 1.7% | 4.5% | 4.7% | 0.6% | 0.1% | 11.6% |
| WATERFORD CITY AND COUNTY COUNCIL | 3.1% | 2.6% | 3.0% | 0.3% | 0.3% | 9.2% |
| WESTMEATH COUNTY COUNCIL | 0.9% | 1.0% | 1.6% | 0.2% | 0.1% | 3.7% |
| WEXFORD COUNTY COUNCIL | 2.8% | 5.5% | 8.8% | 0.6% | 0.0% | 17.7% |
| WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL | 1.4% | 1.8% | 1.0% | 0.3% | 0.1% | 4.7% |
| TOTAL | 1.7% | 1.8% | 2.3% | 0.4% | 0.1% | 6.3% |



An Ghníomhaireacht
Tithíochta
The Housing Agency