



**Panel Discussion 2: Older People Facing Homelessness:  
Services' Perspectives and Public Policy Solutions**

Ageing and Homelessness Conference  
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# How many older people facing homelessness?

- European Typology of Homelessness and Housing Exclusion (ETHOS)
- Lack of age breakdown in data
- Lack of data
- What age? (65+ 60+ 55+)
  - *Significantly more 55+ than 65+*
- Conservative/minimum estimates

<b>ETHOS Category</b>	<b>What do we know re one million people aged 60+?</b>	<b>Source</b>
1. People Living Rough	2 out of 75 people sleeping rough in March 2023 were aged 62+; oldest was 69; 17 were aged 46-61	Dublin City Rough Sleeper Count Spring 2023
2. People in emergency accommodation	Unknown [total 132 people of all ages in Temporary Emergency Accommodation]	DHLGH Monthly Homeless Report July 2023
3. People in homeless accommodation	181 people 65+ in homeless accommodation (July 2023), 5-19 per region and 101 in Dublin [plus 2,441 people aged 45-64]	DHLGH Monthly Homeless Report July 2023
4. People in Women’s Shelter	Unknown [total 181 places for women and children]	[Oireachtas PQ]
5. People in accommodation for immigrants	1,000+ Ukrainians aged 65+ ; <100 asylum seekers/refugees; potentially hundreds abroad seeking family reunification	Figures on Ukrainians supplied to Age Action by DCEDIY
6. People due to be released from institutions	Unknown numbers for release in 2023 [119 men 65+ in prison; 361 prisoners 50-64; 6,432 waiting for homecare]	Irish Prison Service (May 2021), Oireachtas (March 2023)
7. People receiving longer-term support (due to homelessness)	Unknown [Tenancies with homeless providers; >22,488 homeless HAP tenancies]	[Oireachtas PQ April 2023]
8. People living in insecure accommodation	Unknown [10,870 older people living ‘rent free’]	[Census 2022]
9. People living under threat of eviction	Unknown (but significant risk) [18,071 private renters aged 60-69 and 10,038 aged 70+]	[Census 2022]
10. People living under threat of violence	Unknown [1,348 reported cases of physical or sexual abuse in 2022, aged 65+]	[HSE adult safeguarding report]
11. People living in temporary/non-conventional structures	Unknown [4,424 ‘temporary households’ in 2022; 2,349 Irish Travellers 60+]	[Census 2022]
12. People living in unfit housing	Depends on threshold for ‘unfit’ [48% BER E, F, G; 25% rural; 13% damp, mould; est.10% accessibility issues; <2% no central heating <0.2% no piped water]	[Age Action, SILC 2020, CSO]
13. People living in extreme over-crowding	Unknown [95,013 households with more people than rooms]	[Census 2016]

## Sources

1. <https://www.homelessdublin.ie/content/files/Spring-2023-Count-of-Rough-Sleepers.pdf>
2. <https://www.gov.ie/pdf/?file=https://assets.gov.ie/268442/c28fa2fe-bc74-448b-96c3-8c62a31702ec.pdf#page=4>
3. <https://www.cso.ie/en/releasesandpublications/ep/p-cp5hpi/cp5hpi/hpi/>
4. <https://www.oireachtas.ie/en/debates/question/2022-12-15/293/speech/606/>
5. Figures on Ukrainians supplied to Age Action by DCEDIY
6. Figures supplied to Age Action by Irish Prison Service (May 2021);  
<https://www.oireachtas.ie/en/debates/debate/dail/2023-06-21/speech/21/>
7. <https://www.oireachtas.ie/en/debates/question/2023-04-18/775/speech/1071/>
8. <https://data.cso.ie/table/F2004>
9. <https://data.cso.ie/table/F2004>
10. <https://www.hse.ie/eng/about/who/socialcare/safeguardingvulnerableadults/nationalsafeguardingreport2022.pdf>
11. <https://data.cso.ie/table/F3014A>; <https://data.cso.ie/table/FY023>
12. SILC 2020; <https://data.cso.ie/table/E1048>; <https://data.cso.ie/table/E1056>
13. <https://www.cso.ie/en/releasesandpublications/ep/p-cp1hii/cp1hii/od/>

ETHOS template

<https://www.feantsa.org/download/ethos2484215748748239888.pdf>



# Drivers of Homelessness and Housing Exclusion among Older Persons

- **Ageing population** (including ageing homeless population)
- Divorce, separation, domestic violence
- People exiting prison, hospitals
- **More older renters**
- Older Travellers
- Older asylum seekers/refugees
- Unfit or precarious housing (renters and home owners)
- Lack of appropriate housing for people with disabilities (lack of home care, inappropriate use of nursing homes, people stuck in hospitals)
- Multi-generational households

# Age Action resources

Submission to the Independent Expert on the enjoyment of all human rights by older persons concerning the right to adequate housing of older persons in Ireland.

[https://www.ageaction.ie/sites/default/files/age\\_action\\_ireland\\_submission\\_older\\_persons\\_housing\\_adequacy.pdf](https://www.ageaction.ie/sites/default/files/age_action_ireland_submission_older_persons_housing_adequacy.pdf)

Submission to the Joint Oireachtas Committee on Housing, Local Government and Heritage on Planning: Provision of housing for older people (including Fair Deal)

[https://www.ageaction.ie/sites/default/files/submission\\_to\\_the\\_joint\\_oireachtas\\_committee\\_on\\_housing\\_local\\_government\\_and\\_heritage\\_on\\_older\\_persons\\_and\\_fair\\_deal\\_march\\_2022.pdf](https://www.ageaction.ie/sites/default/files/submission_to_the_joint_oireachtas_committee_on_housing_local_government_and_heritage_on_older_persons_and_fair_deal_march_2022.pdf)

*Reframing Ageing: The State of Ageing in Ireland 2022*

[https://www.ageaction.ie/sites/default/files/reframing\\_ageing\\_state\\_of\\_ageing\\_in\\_ireland\\_2022\\_published.pdf](https://www.ageaction.ie/sites/default/files/reframing_ageing_state_of_ageing_in_ireland_2022_published.pdf)

See also, Age Action's **Care and Repair** service

<https://www.ageaction.ie/how-we-can-help/care-and-repair>

care+  
repair

Age Action  
Age Equality

# Stay in touch...

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The logo for Age Action is set against a dark blue circular background. The background features a pattern of stylized, overlapping hands in various shades of blue, creating a sense of community and support. The text 'Age Action' is written in a large, white, rounded, handwritten-style font. Below it, the words 'Age Equality' are written in a smaller, red, sans-serif font.

**Age Action**  
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