

Table 102 Northern Ireland lettings and homelessness

	1980/81	1990/91	2000/01	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23
Total applicants				31,908	36,182	39,688	38,923	38,120	39,891	34,533	41,356	39,967	39,338	37,586	37,611	36,198	37,859	38,745	43,971	44,426	45,105
of which in housing stress																					
No.				17,223	19,703	21,364	20,481	19,716	20,967	20,211	22,414	21,586	22,097	22,645	23,694	24,148	26,387	27,745	30,288	31,407	32,633
%				54.0	54.5	53.8	52.6	51.7	52.6	58.5	54.2	54.0	56.2	60.2	63.0	66.7	69.7	71.6	68.9	70.7	72.3
Allocations to new applicants																					
No.	9,966	11,637	9,671	7,978	7,772	7,289	8,132	9,192	8,074	7,691	8,144	8,809	8,129	7,805	7,672	7,373	7,696	6,654	5,844	6,010	5,796
%				75.5	76.3	77.1	76.9	76.6	75.7	73.5	72.7	74.7	74.6	72.9	73.5	73.7	73.7	71.5	70.6	69.0	70.5
of which allocated to homeless:																					
No.	-	-	3,279	5,196	5,232	5,339	5,778	6,066	6,359	5,633	6,192	6,623	6,187	6,217	6,446	6,467	2,548				
%	-	-	34	65	67	73	71	66	79	73	76	75	76	80	84	88	33				
+ Allocations to transfer applicants																					
No.	-	-	-	2,595	2,416	2,169	2,440	2,811	2,586	2,779	3,064	2,984	2,763	2,897	2,768	2,625	2,748	2,647	2,434	2,698	2,422
%				24.5	23.7	22.9	23.1	23.4	24.3	26.5	27.3	25.3	25.4	27.1	26.5	26.3	28.5	29.4	31.0	29.5	
= Total social housing allocations	-	-	-	10,573	10,188	9,458	10,572	12,003	10,660	10,470	11,208	11,793	10,892	10,702	10,440	9,998	10,444	9,301	8,278	8,708	8,218
Homelessness:																					
numbers presenting		9,187	12,694	20,121	20,013	19,030	18,076	18,664	20,158	19,737	19,354	18,862	19,621	18,628	18,573	18,180	18,202	16,802	15,991	15,758	15,965
accepted as full duty applicant																					
No.		4,404	6,457	9,749	9,744	9,234	8,934	9,914	10,443	9,021	9,878	9,649	11,016	11,202	11,889	11,877	12,512	11,323	9,889	10,135	10,349
%		48	51	48	49	49	49	53	52	46	51	51	56	60	64	65	69	67	62	64	65
Placed in temporary accommodation		1,849	2,455	4,624	3,978	3,897	3,154	3,295	3,065	3,165	4,880	2,978	2,817	2,890	2,777	3,024	2,065	2,413	3,140	3,596	3,945

Sources: Department for Communities Annual Northern Ireland Housing Statistics, NI Homelessness Bulletin and the Northern Ireland Housing Executive.

Notes: 1. Allocations figures are for both NIHE and housing associations, and exclude transfers. Homelessness legislation was only extended to Northern Ireland in April 1989.

2. From 2011/12, the table reports on homeless applicants 'accepted as full-duty applicants'. Previously, it reported on applicants 'awarded priority status'. The two terms are essentially the same, but accompanying changes in management procedures, the NIHE computer system and the range of possible outcome decisions, mean that figures from 2011/12 are not comparable with previous figures.

3. From 2018/19, households placed in temporary accommodation refers to snapshot numbers at 31 January (February for 2022). Prior to this the figures were said to be based on placements during the course of the financial year.

4. Figures for the number of new lettings allocated to homeless from 2018/19 are an undercount stemming from changes in reporting systems and arrangements. The authors are endeavouring to investigate this matter. In the meantime these figures for 2018/19 should be treated with extreme caution; for this reason, figures for 2019/20 onwards have been omitted.