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Public Perceptions of Poverty in Ireland

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Report Prepared for
The Combat Poverty Agency

by
Research and Evaluation Services (RES)

December 1998

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Foreword

Introduction

The Combat Poverty Agency is a statutory agency whose aim is to work for the prevention and decrease of poverty, social exclusion and inequality in Ireland by striving for change which will promote a fairer and more just, equitable and inclusive society. Public education is one of the four functions of the Agency. In carrying out this function, knowledge of public perceptions of poverty is valuable. It is in this context, and also as a means of complementing more quantitative research and developing appropriate policy responses, that the Agency decided to take the opportunity presented by the Irish Social Omnibus Study (ISOS) to examine public perceptions of poverty. In addition, the Agency used the ISOS to examine public awareness of both the Agency itself and the Government's National Anti-Poverty Strategy (NAPS). The Agency believed that such a survey of public perceptions was particularly timely in the context of Ireland's strong economic growth in the mid to late 1990s.

Background to the Research

The ISOS, to be conducted twice yearly by Research and Evaluation Services (RES), presents an opportunity for organisations throughout Ireland to elicit the views, attitudes, knowledge and behaviour of the general public on issues specific to their own policy remit. One thousand adults aged 18 years and over are interviewed in each round of the survey. In the first ISOS in 1998, twenty questions relating to poverty, the Combat Poverty Agency and the NAPS were included. These questions were designed by the Combat Poverty Agency and drew in part on the Eurobarometer Survey on attitudes to poverty that was conducted in 1994. In addition, a number of background questions on age, marital status, number of children, education, housing tenure, economic status and income were also included. On completion of the survey, RES analysed the data and produced the report that follows.

Key Results

This survey yielded interesting results in relation to public perceptions of poverty. In the midst of high economic growth rates, there is a clear recognition that not everyone has benefited from the so-called 'tiger economy', with over half of those interviewed stating that poverty is a serious problem in Ireland. However, over half of those interviewed also viewed poverty in absolute terms, stating that poverty arises when people have no income or resources.

Over forty percent of respondents expressed the view that those living in poverty had little chance of escaping from it. In total, just over one third of respondents believed that it was possible to escape from poverty. Those most likely to be experiencing poverty were most pessimistic about the chances of escaping from it.

The complex nature of poverty, its causes and consequences are indicated by the opposing views held by many respondents. It is apparent that many respondents

poverty. Therefore, while unemployment was the most frequently cited cause of poverty, this was closely followed by alcohol / drug use. Incongruity in views also extended to responsibility for escaping from poverty and the measures necessary to solve poverty. The majority of respondents' expressed the view that people can escape from poverty only through their own efforts. In line with this, when asked to identify who should have the highest degree of responsibility for solving the problem of poverty, the majority of respondents cited the individual. However, in contrast to this, the Government and social services were also identified by over half of respondents as having a high degree of responsibility in solving poverty. When asked to choose measures most appropriate to solving poverty from a list of suggestions the top three responses were increasing employment, increasing the supply of training for unemployed people and early school leavers, and the redistribution of resources through the tax system.

Four in every ten respondents knew of the Agency, with less than one in ten expressing an awareness of the National Anti-Poverty Strategy. However, there was a very strong view that both were necessary. It is particularly encouraging that the majority of respondents expressed this view at a time when economic prosperity and growth are high.

Implications of the Findings

These findings throw light on a number of issues of concern to those involved in anti-poverty work. On the positive side, there is recognition that poverty is a problem in Ireland. However, the absolute view of poverty held by the majority of respondents may reflect a lack of understanding of, and concern for, those experiencing relative poverty and social exclusion. In addition, the strong tendency to place responsibility on those experiencing poverty for both their current situation and for escaping from it presents those involved in anti-poverty work with a clear challenge in relation to public education and awareness raising.

There is a need for more public education in relation to the relative nature of poverty to ensure that those experiencing poverty do not become further marginalised by an understanding of poverty in absolute terms only. In addition, there is a need to promote a clearer understanding of the causes and consequences of poverty. It is particularly important that a clear understanding of the structural nature and causes of poverty is highlighted if those experiencing poverty are not to become further marginalised. Given that most respondents had heard of both the Combat Poverty Agency and the NAPS through the media, consideration should be given to further uses of various forms of the media for public education. In addition to continuing to undertake and build upon its work in this area, the Agency should also encourage and facilitate others to undertake such public education work.

Although forty per cent of respondents were aware of the Combat Poverty Agency, this could be increased further, particularly among those living in, or at risk of, poverty among whom awareness was lowest. Careful consideration needs to be given to how this should be achieved, for example, through the national and local media, and through representative organisations and agencies. In addition, in

targeting this audience, it is important that information in relation to the functions and activities of the Agency is clear in order to avoid both confusion and, in some cases, disappointment that the Agency is not a source of direct support to those living in poverty.

The profile of the NAPS also needs to be raised among the public. Again, as most respondents had heard of the NAPS through the media, consideration should be given to developing effective media strategies to raise awareness. The Combat Poverty Agency, the NAPS Unit of the Department of Social, Community and Family Affairs, the NAPS Inter-Departmental Committee and individual departments all have a role to play in achieving a higher public profile for NAPS. The NAPS Inter-Departmental Policy Committee has recently agreed a public education strategy for the NAPS. The implementation of this strategy should now become a priority to achieve wider public awareness of poverty and policies and programmes to tackle it.

Acknowledgements

The Combat Poverty Agency would like to express its thanks to the staff of RES, and in particular Peter Ward and Donal McDade, who worked with us on this report.

*Combat Poverty Agency
December 1998*

Executive Summary

This report presents the findings from a survey on public perceptions of poverty in Ireland. The survey was carried out by Research and Evaluation Services (RES) on behalf of the Combat Poverty Agency, and was conducted as part of the February 1998 edition of the Irish Social Omnibus Survey (ISOS). In total 1000 interviews were conducted with a proportionate probability based random sample of the Irish adult (18+) population. A response rate of 65% was achieved.

The majority (54%) of respondents in the survey defined poverty as 'having absolutely no money or other resources (e.g. food, clothes, housing)' with a quarter (25%) of the view that poverty is defined as 'having less money and other resources than is considered the norm in relation to current living standards'.

In terms of public perception, 81% of those surveyed viewed poverty as a problem in Ireland with 53% of the view that poverty is a serious problem and 28% of the opinion that poverty is a minor problem. Overall 50% of respondents felt that there were people living in poverty throughout the whole of Ireland with 48% of the view that poverty is confined to specific areas.

Among all respondents, 44% indicated that there is 'nobody living in poverty in their area' although 31% reported that there are people living in their area 'at risk of falling into poverty' with 21% of the view that there are people in their area living in 'poverty'. One in twenty (5%) respondents reported that there are people in their area living in 'extreme poverty'. Compared with ten years ago, equal numbers of respondents were of the opinion that there is the same (43%) or fewer (43%) people living in poverty in their area, with 14% of the view that the number living in poverty, in their area, had increased.

The survey revealed a mixed response in terms of public perception of why some people are living in poverty with almost a third (32%) of respondents citing 'injustice in our society' and 28% identifying 'bad luck' as a reason. 'Laziness and lack of will power' was seen as a reason why some people are living in poverty in 19% of cases with poverty deemed an 'inevitable part of modern progress' by 22% of respondents.

Public perceptions of the three most common causes of poverty were found to be long-term unemployment (72%), alcoholism/drug use (60%), and being brought up in disadvantaged conditions (41%). In terms of escaping from poverty, 37% of all respondents felt that escape from poverty was possible. Of those respondents the majority (61%) thought that this could be achieved solely through people's own efforts with 21% identifying state policies and provision as the principal means by which people can escape from poverty.

Solving the problem of poverty in Ireland was seen as the responsibility of individuals in 67% of cases, with 60% of respondents citing the Government/State and 51% identifying Social Services. Those measures perceived to be the most appropriate in solving the problem of poverty were increasing employment (64%), increasing training for early school leavers and the long term unemployed (60%), and reducing the numbers leaving school early (31%).

Overall 40% of those surveyed had heard of the Combat Poverty Agency, with lower levels of awareness found among those who were single, aged under 25, those with primary level education only, respondents in the lowest income group, and, those in the lower social classes (C2/D/E). Of those who had heard of the Agency, the most common source of awareness was found to be the media (77%). The overwhelming majority (92%) of all respondents felt that there was a need for an organisation which works to reduce poverty and social exclusion in Ireland through advising the Government on anti-poverty policy, through research, through supporting and funding anti-poverty work, and through providing information on poverty in Ireland.

Finally, public awareness of the Government's National Anti-Poverty Strategy (NAPS) was found to be relatively low at 8%. As with the Combat Poverty Agency, the most common source of information on NAPS was the media (77%). Support for the NAPS was high with approximately eight out of ten (81%) respondents expressing the view that the Government should be involved in this type of strategy.

Section One

Background to the Survey

1.1 Introduction

The Irish Social Omnibus Survey is a syndicated survey conducted twice yearly by Research and Evaluation Services on behalf of Government departments, State Sponsored Bodies, Universities and Voluntary & Charitable organisations. The Combat Poverty Agency used the current survey to elicit information on the public perception of poverty in Ireland, as well as to examine the level of awareness of the Agency and the Government's National Anti-Poverty Strategy (NAPS) amongst the general public.

1.2 Questionnaire Development

The content and structure of the Agency's section on the survey was agreed between the Agency and RES. In addition, a set of core socio-demographic background questions was included to allow disaggregation of the survey findings by specific subgroups of the sample. Many of the background questions are similar in content and structure to those used in the Irish Census of Population and other established social surveys. The results of cross-tabulations between background variable and those relating to perceptions of poverty are included in the report only when the results were statistically significant at the $p < 0.05$ level. A copy of the questionnaire is included in Appendix 1.

1.3 Methodology

The methodology employed for the survey is a probability based random sample of the Irish adult (aged 18+) population. A comprehensive overview of the technical aspects of the survey is included in Appendix 2 below.

1.4 Tables

Due to rounding, row and column totals may not sum to 100.

Section Two

Methodology

2.1 Fieldwork

All interviews were conducted during the period 25th February 1998 to 30th April 1998. Interviewing was carried out by social survey interviewers employed by Research and Evaluation Services (RES) with interviews conducted using paper copy questionnaires. The questionnaire was made up of five discrete sections with one section, lasting approximately 10 minutes, specific to the Combat Poverty Agency. All fieldworkers attended a half-day briefing session focusing on the content and structure of the questionnaire used. This briefing session was conducted by RES senior management. All interviews were conducted in the respondent's home. Interviewers made up to a maximum of four follow up calls before the person identified in the sample was deemed non-obtainable. The average length of time taken to complete interviews was 40 minutes. An individually signed letter was sent to each individual in the sample before interviewers called. The letter explained why the survey was being carried out as well as the range of topics the survey would address. Interviewers also carried a copy of the letter to each interview. All interviewers carried RES identification cards.

2.2 Sampling Frame

The survey was designed to yield a representative sample of men and women aged 18 and over living in Ireland. The 1997 Register of Electors was used as the sampling frame. The register is inclusive of all individuals nominated on Electoral Registration forms returned in July 1997. The register is compiled on a Local Authority basis of which there are 34 in Ireland.

2.3 Response Rate

Table 2.1 shows the response rate for the survey. Table 2.2 shows the reason for non achievement of interviews with individuals drawn in the sample. In total 1,550 addresses were issued to obtain 1,000 interviews, yielding an effective response rate of 64.5%.

<i>Total Interviews Obtained</i>	<i>Addresses Allocated</i>	<i>Response Rate</i>
1,000	1,550	64.5%

	<i>N</i>	<i>%</i>
<i>Interviews</i>	1,000	64.5
<i>Refused</i>	290	18.8
<i>Sick/Elderly/Infirm</i>	61	3.9
<i>Unobtainables</i>	199	12.8
<i>Total Issued</i>	1,550	100

2.4 Representativeness of the Survey

Table 2.3 gives an indication of the representativeness of the sample. With some exceptions the characteristics of the sample are broadly similar to those of the Irish adult population (18+) as measured by 1991 and 1996 Irish Census estimates.

		% <i>ISOS</i>	% <i>1996 Census Est.</i>	% <i>Difference</i>
<i>Age</i>	<i>18-24</i>	17	16	(1%)
	<i>25 - 44</i>	37	40	(3%)
	<i>45 - 64</i>	30	28	(2%)
	<i>65 - 74</i>	10	9	(1%)
	<i>75+</i>	7	7	(0%)
<i>Sex</i>	<i>Male</i>	50	50	(0%)
	<i>Female</i>	50	50	(0%)
<i>*Marital Status</i>	<i>Married</i>	57	56	(1%)
	<i>Single</i>	32	33	(1%)
	<i>Separated</i>	3	4	(1%)
	<i>Widow</i>	8	8	(0%)
<i>**Econ. Activity</i>	<i>At Work</i>	52	44	(8%)
	<i>1st Job Seeking</i>	-	1	(1%)
	<i>Unemployed</i>	5	8	(3%)
	<i>Student</i>	6	11	(5%)
	<i>Home Duties</i>	22	23	(1%)
	<i>Retired</i>	12	9	(3%)
	<i>Unable</i>	2	3	(1%)
	<i>Other</i>	1	-	(1%)
* Comparison based on age group 20+				
** 1991 Census Estimate				
Source: Census of Population 1991 and 1996 (Small Area Population Statistics)				

Section Three

Principal Findings

3.1 Defining Poverty

Just over half (54%) of all respondents defined poverty as 'having absolutely no money or other resources (e.g. food, clothes, housing)' with a quarter (25%) defining poverty as 'having less money and other resources than is considered the norm in relation to current living standards'. Approximately one in five (21%) respondents defined poverty as 'having less money and other resources than is considered the norm in relation to current living standards and not being able to participate in the normal activities of society'.

	%	N
<i>having absolutely no money or other resources (e.g. food, clothes, housing)</i>	54	528
<i>having less money and other resources than is considered the norm in relation to current living standards</i>	25	247
<i>having less money and other resources than is considered the norm in relation to current living standards and not being able to participate in the normal activities of society</i>	21	208
<i>All</i>	100	983

Respondent's definition of poverty was analysed by the main socio-demographic background questions in the survey with the only significant variation in response between respondents with different levels of educational attainment. In general, the higher the level of respondent's education, the more likely they were to view poverty in relative rather than absolute terms (Table 3.2).

		<i>% having absolutely no money or other resources (e.g. food, clothes, housing)</i>	<i>% having less money and other resources than is considered the norm in relation to current living standards</i>	<i>% having less money and other resources than is considered the norm in relation to current living standards and not being able to participate in the normal activities of society</i>	N
<i>*Education</i>	<i>Primary</i>	63	23	14	197
	<i>Lower Sec.</i>	60	27	14	176
	<i>Upper Sec.</i>	56	23	21	405
	<i>3rd Level</i>	36	31	33	174
<i>All</i>		54	25	21	952
<i>*p<=0.05</i>					

Those with a third level education were less likely to define poverty as 'having absolutely no money or other resources (e.g. food, clothes, housing)' (36% as compared to 63% of those with primary education only), and more likely to define

poverty as 'having less money and other resources than is considered the norm in relation to current living standards and not being able to participate in the normal activities of society' (33% as compared to 14% for those with primary education only).

3.2 Perception of Poverty as a Problem in Ireland

The majority (53%) of respondents felt that poverty is a 'serious problem' in Ireland with 28% of the view that poverty is a 'minor problem' and 16% of the view that poverty in Ireland is 'neither a serious nor a minor problem' (see Table 3.3). A small proportion (2%) of respondents were of the opinion that poverty in Ireland was 'no problem at all'.

<i>%</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>N</i>
<i>Serious Problem</i>	<i>Minor Problem</i>	<i>Neither a Serious nor a Minor Problem</i>	<i>No Problem at all</i>	
53	28	16	2	995

Respondent's perception of the seriousness of poverty as a problem varied significantly by age. Those in the 65+ age group were less likely to view poverty in Ireland as a serious problem (43%) compared with respondents in other age groups (18-24, 55%; 25-44, 57%; and, 45-64, 53%).

3.3 Perception of Individuals /Groups Most Likely To Experience Poverty

Respondents were asked which individuals or groups were most likely to experience poverty. A very wide range of individuals and groups were identified in response to this question. One third (33%) of respondents were of the view that unemployed people were most likely to experience poverty, with 13% citing older people and 10% citing chronic users of alcohol and their families.

3.4 Perception of Location of Poverty in Ireland

Half of all respondents (50%) were of the view that there are people experiencing poverty throughout the whole of Ireland with 30% of the opinion that poverty is confined to certain estates in towns and cities only. Approximately one in six respondents (16%) were of the view that poverty in Ireland is confined to certain estates in towns and cities as well as remote rural areas. A small proportion (2%) of respondents held the view that there is no poverty in Ireland.

	<i>%</i>	<i>N</i>
<i>Throughout the whole of Ireland</i>	50	496
<i>In certain estates in towns and cities only</i>	30	300
<i>In remote rural areas only</i>	2	19
<i>In certain estates in towns and cities and in remote rural areas</i>	16	163
<i>There is no poverty in Ireland</i>	2	18
<i>All</i>	100	996

Table 3.5 shows the perception of the location of poverty in Ireland by age and income. Older respondents (aged 65+, 41%) were less likely to hold the view that there are people living in poverty throughout the whole of Ireland compared with

respondents in other age groups (18-24, 54%; 25-44, 55% and, 45-64, 46%). Conversely, older respondents were more likely to hold the view that poverty in Ireland is confined to specific areas (18-24, 46%; 25-44, 44%; 45-64, 51%; and, 65+, 56%). Respondents on incomes of less than £4,000 per year were more likely to believe there to be people living in poverty in specific areas of Ireland (55%) and were less likely to hold the view that there are people living in poverty throughout the whole of Ireland (43%).

Table 3.5 Perception of Location of Poverty in Ireland by Age and Income

		% All Ireland	% Specific Areas	% No Poverty	N
*Age	18-24	54	46	-	164
	25-44	55	44	1	366
	45-64	46	51	2	294
	65+	41	56	4	168
					992
*Income	<£4000 pa	43	55	3	185
	Between £4-£9,999 pa	58	42	1	245
	Between £10-£15,000 pa	52	48	1	149
	>£15,000 pa	55	44	1	210
				789	
*p<=0.05					

3.5 Perception of Poverty within Respondent's Local Areas

Respondents were asked to indicate if there are people in their area living in a range of poverty situations: 'extreme poverty'; 'poverty'; 'at risk of falling into poverty'; or, whether there was 'nobody in any of these situations' living in their area (Table 3.6). Although 44% indicated that there was 'nobody living in any of the poverty situations' listed above, approximately three out of ten (31%) respondents indicated that, in the area where they lived, there are people who are 'at risk of falling into poverty'. In addition, just over a fifth (21%) reported that there are people living in 'poverty', with 5% of respondents reporting that there are people living in 'extreme poverty' in their area.

Table 3.6 Perceived Levels of Poverty in Respondent's Area

	% Yes	No	N
'Extreme poverty'	5	95	989
'Poverty'	21	79	989
'At risk of falling into poverty'	31	69	989
'Nobody in any of above situations'	44	56	989

Table 3.7 shows the perceived level of poverty in respondent's area by income and social class. Similar proportions of each income group felt that there were people living in extreme poverty and in poverty in their area. Surprisingly, fewer respondents with lower incomes held the view that there were people in their area

at risk of poverty than other income groups. Additionally, those with the lowest incomes were most likely to say that there was nobody in their area experiencing or at risk of poverty. In contrast to this, those in the higher social classes were more likely to report that nobody either experiencing or at risk of poverty lived in their area (A/B/C1, 47%; and, C2/D/E, 38%).

Table 3.7 Perceived Level of Poverty in Area by Income and Social Class

		% Extreme Poverty*	% Poverty*	% At Risk of Poverty	% Nobody in these Situations*
*Income	<£4000 pa	7	22	24	48
	Between £4-£9,999 pa	4	20	35	42
	Between £10-£15,000 pa	8	21	36	39
	>£15,000 pa	5	22	35	39
N		46	164	253	330
Social Class	A/B/C1	3	19	32	47
	C2/D/E	6	25	33	38
N		36	177	264	350

In terms of type of area lived in, proportionately more respondents living in Dublin City (10%) and large towns (9%) reported that there are people living in 'extreme poverty' compared to respondents living in other areas (other city, 4%; small town, 5%; and, village/rural or open country, 2%). Respondents in Dublin City and large towns were also more likely to hold the view that there are people living in 'poverty' in their area (36%) and were least likely to record that 'nobody in any of these (poverty) situations' lives in their area (25%) (see Table 3.8).

Table 3.8 Area of Residence by Perceived Level of Poverty in Area

		% Extreme Poverty*	% Poverty*	% At Risk of Poverty	% Nobody in these Situations*
Area	Dublin City	10	36	28	25
	Other City (Cork, Galway etc.)	4	13	40	45
	Large Town (10-40,000 pop)	9	37	40	27
	Small Town (1-10,000 pop)	5	25	34	37
	Village/Rural/Open Country	2	11	28	58
N		49	207	293	422
*p<=0.05					

3.6 Perception of a Change in Level of Poverty

The same proportions of respondents felt that in their area there is the same (43%) or a fewer (43%) number of people living in poverty than there was ten years ago with 14% of the view that there are more people living in poverty, in their area, compared to ten years ago.

Table 3.9 Change in numbers of people living in poverty in your area (last 10 years)

% More	% The Same	% Fewer	N
14	43	43	960

Greater proportions of respondents with lower incomes as well as those in lower social classes were more likely to report that, compared with ten years ago, there are more people living in poverty in their area. The survey also found that respondents living in Dublin City were more likely to report the number of people living in poverty in their area as remaining the same, and less likely to indicate that fewer people are living in poverty in their area compared to ten years ago.

Table 3.10 Change in Numbers of People Living in Poverty in Respondent's Area (last 10 years) by income, Social Class and Area of Residence

		% More	% Same	% Fewer	N
*Income	<£4000pa	21	36	43	178
	Between £4-£9999pa	17	40	42	241
	Between £10-£15,000pa	14	44	43	146
	>£15,000pa	9	48	44	200
					765
*Social Class	A/B/C1	10	43	46	433
	C2/D/E	16	44	41	364
					797
*Area	Dublin City	16	60	24	242
	Other City (Cork, Galway etc.)	10	53	38	40
	Large Town (10-40,000 pop)	19	32	49	68
	Small Town (1-10,000 pop)	15	39	46	130
	Village/Rural/Open Country	12	36	52	456
					936
*p<=0.05					

3.7 Perception of the Causes of Poverty

When asked why they thought some people were living in poverty almost one third (32%) of respondents were of the opinion that poverty can be explained 'because of the injustice in our society'. Over one quarter 28% were of the view that some people live in poverty 'because they have been unlucky'. Approximately one in five (22%) respondents believed that poverty 'is an inevitable part of modern progress', with 19% of the view that poverty can be explained by 'laziness and lack of will power'.

	%	N
<i>because they have been unlucky</i>	28	259
<i>because of laziness and lack of will power</i>	19	177
<i>because of the injustice in our society</i>	32	299
<i>it is an inevitable part of modern progress</i>	22	206
All	100	941

Compared with respondents in other age groups, those aged 65 and over were less likely to be of the view that some people are living in poverty 'because they have been 'unlucky' (22%) (see Table 3.12). They were, however, more likely to hold the view that some people are living in poverty because of 'laziness and lack of will power' (26%).

		% been unlucky	% laziness and lack of will power	% injustice in our society	% inevitable part of modern progress	N
*Age	18-24	27	16	39	18	161
	25-44	28	16	32	25	341
	45-64	31	21	30	19	277
	65+	22	26	28	24	159
						938
*Education	Primary	26	26	30	19	184
	Lower Sec.	36	16	30	18	172
	Upper Sec.	27	20	31	22	391
	3rd Level	21	13	37	29	164
						911
*Social Class	A/B/C1	22	20	31	27	423
	C2/D/E	32	20	31	17	356
						779
*Area	Dublin City	22	16	46	16	241
	Other City (Cork, Galway etc.)	24	18	29	29	45
	Large Town (10-40,000 pop)	30	18	30	23	61
	Small Town (1-10,000 pop)	33	13	28	26	128
	Village/Rural/ Open Country	30	23	26	22	442
						917
*p<=0.05						

Table 3.12 also shows that those with a third level education were more likely to hold the view that some people are living in poverty 'because there is injustice in society' (37%) and that poverty 'is an inevitable part of modern progress' (29%)

than respondents with lower levels of educational attainment. Conversely, respondents with a primary level education only, were more likely to cite 'laziness and lack of will power' (26%) as the reason why some people are living in poverty. With regard to social class, a greater proportion of those in social classes A/B/C1 (27%) viewed poverty as 'an inevitable part of modern progress' compared to respondents in social classes C2/D/E (17%). Respondents in social classes C2/D/E (32%) were more likely to cite being 'unlucky' as an explanation as to why some people live in poverty (A/B/C1, 22%). Finally, analysis by area of residence found a greater proportion of Dublin City respondents holding the view that some people lived in poverty 'because there is injustice in our society' (46%).

3.8 Perceptions of the Most Common Causes of Poverty

Table 3.13 Perception of the Causes of Poverty

	<i>% ranking in top 3</i>	<i>N</i>
<i>Long term unemployment</i>	72	715
<i>Alcoholism/drug use</i>	60	598
<i>Brought up in disadvantaged conditions</i>	41	409
<i>Family break-ups</i>	34	343
<i>Disability/illness</i>	20	196
<i>Failure of the Educational System</i>	15	148
<i>Living in a poor area</i>	14	140
<i>Laziness</i>	12	118
<i>Low level of social welfare benefits</i>	11	109
<i>Too many children</i>	9	88
<i>Loss of community spirit in our society</i>	7	67
<i>Being a member of a minority group</i>	3	31
<i>Lack of concern among neighbours</i>	1	14

Respondents perceived the three most common causes of poverty as long term unemployment (72%), alcoholism/drug use (60%), and being brought up in disadvantaged conditions (41%). Family break-up (34%) and disability / illness (20%) were also frequently cited.

3.9 Views on Irish Society

Respondents were asked to state which of two opinions came closest to their own view on Irish society. The overwhelming majority (86%) of all respondents in the survey were of the opinion that 'in our society the rich get richer and the poor get poorer' with 14% of the opinion that 'in our society there is less and less difference in income between rich and poor'.

Analysis of the response to this question by the main background variables found that greater proportions of respondents in social classes C2/D/E, as well as those living in Dublin City, held the view that 'in our society the rich get richer and the poor get poorer'.

		% rich get richer - poor get poorer	% less and less difference between rich and poor	N
*Social Class	A/B/C1	83	17	444
	C2/D/E	87	13	367
				811
*Area	Dublin City	95	5	248
	Other City (Cork, Galway etc.)	84	16	43
	Large Town (10-40,000 pop)	87	13	71
	Small Town (1-10,000 pop)	80	20	129
	Village/Rural/Open Country	83	17	463
				954
* $p \leq 0.05$				

3.10 Escaping From Poverty

Just over one third of all respondents (37%) felt that people living in poverty had a chance of escaping from it. A greater proportion (43%) of respondents were of the view that people have no chance of escaping from poverty, with one fifth (20%) replying they 'don't know' or are 'not sure' in response to this question.

% Yes	% No	% Don't Know / Not Sure	N
37	43	20	995

In seeking to identify any variations in response to the question of escaping from poverty, between different categories of respondent, those who did not record a direct opinion (i.e. 'yes' or 'no') were excluded from the analysis. Using this approach found that respondents who had more education, were on higher incomes and in the higher social classes were more likely to hold the view that people who are living in poverty have a chance of escaping from it (see Table 3.16). Respondents living in large towns (61%) were more likely to hold the view that people living in poverty have a chance of escaping it, whereas those living in Dublin City were least likely to hold this view (36%).

		% Yes	% No	N
*Education	Primary	38	62	159
	Lower Sec.	41	59	137
	Upper Sec.	48	52	327
	3rd Level	55	45	147
				770
*Income	<£4000pa	40	60	153
	Between £4-£9999pa	37	63	191
	Between £10-£15,000pa	51	49	118
	>£15,000pa	55	45	166
				628
*Social Class	A/B/C1	52	48	367
	C2/D/E	39	61	296
				663
*Area	Dublin City	36	64	180
	Other City (Cork, Galway etc.)	49	51	41
	Large Town (10-40,000 pop)	61	39	61
	Small Town (1-10,000 pop)	50	50	105
	Village/Rural/ Open Country	49	51	390
				777
*p<=0.05				

3.10.1 Views on How People Can Escape From Poverty

Of those respondents who felt that people living in poverty had a chance of escaping from it, 62% were of the view that this could be done 'solely through their own efforts', with 21% of the view that 'state policies and provision' could assist people to escape from poverty. Approximately one in six (15%) respondents felt that 'societal change' would help people escape from poverty.

	%	N
Solely through their own efforts	61	220
Through state policies and provision	21	75
Through societal change	15	56
Other	3	12
All	100	363

3.11 Who Should Solve the Problem of Poverty in Ireland?

Respondents were asked to rank their top three choices regarding who they felt should have the highest degree of responsibility for solving the problem of poverty

in Ireland. Overall, 67% of respondents were of the opinion that the individual should have the highest degree of responsibility for solving the problem of poverty. However, 60% of respondents identified the Government / State and 51% identified social services as those with the highest degree of responsibility.

Table 3.18 Who Should Solve Poverty Problem In Ireland?

	% ranking in top 3	N
Individual	67	674
National State/Government	60	603
Social Services	51	509
Family	33	332
Local Government	33	332
Voluntary/Community/Charitable Organisations	18	175
Local partnerships/enterprise boards	16	155
Combat Poverty Agency	10	101
European Union	8	80
Other	1	8

3.12 Measures Deemed Most Appropriate in Solving Poverty in Ireland
 Measures deemed the most appropriate in solving the problem of poverty in Ireland were identified as increasing employment (64%), increasing training for early school leavers and the long term unemployed (60%), and, redistribution of resources through the tax system (32%).

Table 3.19 Measures Deemed Most Appropriate in Solving Problem of Poverty in Ireland

	% ranking in top 3	N
Increase employment	64	644
Increase training for early school leavers and the long term unemployed	60	603
Redistribute resources through the tax system	32	316
Reduce numbers leaving school early	31	306
Improving facilities in deprived housing estates	26	257
Increasing state benefits	26	257
A National minimum wage	23	233
More public sector housing	12	119
Increase financing of voluntary/community/charitable organisations	8	84
Decreasing state benefits	8	84
Address child poverty through increasing child benefit (Child Allowance)	6	55
Other	1	9

3.13 Awareness of the Combat Poverty Agency

Four out of ten (40%) respondents said that they had heard of the Combat Poverty Agency with 56% saying that they had not.

% Yes	% No	% Don't Know / Not Sure	N
40	56	4	998

In terms of respondent age, those aged under 25 recorded a significantly lower level (19%) of awareness compared with respondents in other age groups (25-44, 44%; 45-64, 52%; and, 65+, 41%). Other respondents recording lower levels of awareness of the Agency included those who were single (29%), those with a primary school education only (27%), respondents in the lowest income group (£4,000, 24%) and those in social classes C2/D/E (27%).

		% Yes	% No	N
*Age	18-24	19	81	160
	25-44	44	64	353
	45-64	52	48	283
	65+	41	59	159
				955
*Marital Status	Single	29	71	328
	Married/Co-habiting	50	50	531
	Widowed / Separated / Divorced	39	61	96
			955	
*Education	Primary	27	73	185
	Lower Sec.	40	60	170
	Upper Sec.	42	58	402
	3rd Level	61	39	171
			928	
*Income	<£4000 pa	24	76	172
	Between £4-£9,999 pa	32	68	238
	Between £10-£15,000 pa	51	49	140
	>£15,000 pa	58	42	205
			755	
*Social Class	A/B/C1	56	44	441
	C2/D/E	27	73	356
			797	
*p<=0.05				

3.13.1 Sources of Awareness of the Combat Poverty Agency

Of those who had heard of the Combat Poverty Agency, the vast majority (77%) cited the media as their main source of awareness with 12% mentioning word of mouth and 8% mentioning Agency leaflets/publications.

	%	N
<i>Word of mouth</i>	12	49
<i>Agency leaflets/publications</i>	8	30
<i>The Media</i>	77	304
<i>Seminars/Conferences</i>	1	2
<i>Personal contact with Agency Personnel</i>	1	4
<i>School</i>	1	4
<i>Other</i>	1	4
<i>All</i>	100	397

3.13.2 Perception of What Agency Does

Among those respondents who had heard of the Agency, 29% believed that the Agency helps the poor / needy with 15% of the view that the Agency combats / prevents / alleviates poverty. Providing advice to government / authorities was cited as a function of the Agency by 10% of respondents who were aware of the Agency.

3.14 Need for the Combat Poverty Agency

Respondents were given a definition of the Agency's role, and asked whether or not they thought there was a need for such an organisation. In response, 92% of all respondents were of the opinion that there was either a definite (65%) or probable (27%) need for the Agency with only 2% of the view that there was no need for such an organisation. A small proportion (7%) of respondents recorded 'don't know' in response to this question.

<i>% Yes, definitely</i>	<i>% Yes, probably</i>	<i>% No, probably not</i>	<i>% No, definitely not</i>	<i>% Don't Know</i>	<i>N</i>
65	27	1	1	7	1000

3.15 Awareness of the National Anti-Poverty Strategy (NAPS)

Only 8% of all respondents had heard of the Government launched National Anti-Poverty Strategy (NAPS) with 87% saying that they had not heard of it and 4% replying 'don't know' or 'not sure'.

<i>% Yes</i>	<i>% No</i>	<i>% Don't Know / Not Sure</i>	<i>N</i>
8	87	4	1000

Among those respondents who had heard of NAPS, the main source of awareness was found to be the media (77%) with word of mouth mentioned by 19% of these same respondents.

3.16 Should the Government Be Involved in a National Anti-Poverty Strategy?

Finally, the overwhelming majority of all respondents (81%) felt that the Government should be involved in a National Anti-Poverty Strategy with only 3% saying that the Government should not be involved and 16% recording 'don't know'.

Table 3.25 Should Government Be Involved in a National Anti-Poverty Strategy (NAPS)?

<i>% Yes</i>	<i>% No</i>	<i>% Don't Know / Not Sure</i>	<i>N</i>
<i>81</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>16</i>	<i>998</i>

Appendices

Appendix I
Questionnaire

Awareness of Poverty

1. How would you define poverty? (SHOW CARD 20)
(Please tick the most appropriate box)

Having absolutely no money or other resources eg. food, clothes, housing	<input type="checkbox"/>
Having less money and other resources than is considered the norm in relation to current living standards.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Having less money and other resources than is considered the norm in relation to current living standards and not being able to participate in the normal activities of society.	<input type="checkbox"/>

2. Do you think poverty in Ireland is....
(Please tick the most appropriate box)

a serious problem.	<input type="checkbox"/>
a minor problem	<input type="checkbox"/>
neither a serious nor a minor problem.	<input type="checkbox"/>
no problem at all.	<input type="checkbox"/>

3. What groups or individuals do you believe are most likely to experience poverty?
-

4. Where in Ireland do you believe there to be people living in poverty?
(SHOW CARD 21) (Please tick the most appropriate box)

Throughout the whole of Ireland	<input type="checkbox"/>
In certain estates in towns and cities only	<input type="checkbox"/>
In remote rural areas only	<input type="checkbox"/>
In certain estates in towns and cities only and in remote rural areas	<input type="checkbox"/>
There is no poverty in Ireland	<input type="checkbox"/>

5. In the area where you live, are there people who live in any of the following situations?
(Please tick any that apply)

Extreme poverty	<input type="checkbox"/>
Poverty	<input type="checkbox"/>
At risk of falling into poverty	<input type="checkbox"/>
Nobody in any of these situations	<input type="checkbox"/>

6. In the area where you live are there more, the same number or less people living in poverty than there were ten years ago?
(Please tick the most appropriate box)

More	<input type="checkbox"/>
The same	<input type="checkbox"/>
Fewer	<input type="checkbox"/>

Causes of Poverty

7. Why in your opinion are some people living in poverty? (SHOW CARD 22)
(Please tick the most appropriate box)

because they have been unlucky	<input type="checkbox"/>
because of laziness and lack of will power	<input type="checkbox"/>
because there is injustice in our society	<input type="checkbox"/>
it is an inevitable part of modern progress	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other (please specify)	<input type="checkbox"/>

8. Among the following reasons that may explain poverty which three, in your opinion, are the most common causes of poverty? (SHOW CARD 23)
(Please tick the 3 most appropriate boxes)

Long-term unemployment	<input type="checkbox"/>
Alcoholism/Drug abuse	<input type="checkbox"/>
Disability/illness	<input type="checkbox"/>
Family break-ups	<input type="checkbox"/>
Brought up in disadvantaged conditions	<input type="checkbox"/>
Low level of social welfare benefits	<input type="checkbox"/>
Laziness	<input type="checkbox"/>
Loss of a community spirit in our society	<input type="checkbox"/>
Too many children	<input type="checkbox"/>
Live in a poor area	<input type="checkbox"/>
Failure of the Educational system	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of concern among neighbours	<input type="checkbox"/>
Being a member of a minority group	<input type="checkbox"/>

9. Which of the following opinions about our society come closest to our own view?
(Please tick the most appropriate box)

In our society the rich get richer and the poor get poorer	<input type="checkbox"/>
In our society there is less and less difference in income between rich and poor	<input type="checkbox"/>

10. In your opinion, do people who are living in poverty have a chance of escaping from poverty?

Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>
No	<input type="checkbox"/>
Don't know/Not sure	<input type="checkbox"/>

➤ Go to Q12.

11. How can people escape from poverty?
(Please tick the most appropriate box)

Solely through their own efforts	<input type="checkbox"/>
Through state policies/provision	<input type="checkbox"/>
Through societal change	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other (please specify)	<input type="checkbox"/>

12. In your view where does the main responsibility for solving the problem of poverty in Ireland lie? Rank your top three, 1 being the highest degree of responsibility.
(SHOW CARD 24)

With the individual	<input type="checkbox"/>
With the family	<input type="checkbox"/>
With the national state/government	<input type="checkbox"/>
With local government	<input type="checkbox"/>
With the social services	<input type="checkbox"/>
With the local partnerships/enterprise boards	<input type="checkbox"/>
With the Combat Poverty Agency	<input type="checkbox"/>
With voluntary organisations/community organisations/charities	<input type="checkbox"/>
With the EU	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other (please specify)	<input type="checkbox"/>

13. What measures do you believe would be most appropriate in solving the problem of poverty in Ireland? Please rank the top three. (SHOW CARD 25)

Increasing state benefits	
Decreasing state benefits	
Redistribute resources through the tax system	
Increase employment	
Reduce numbers leaving school early	
Increase training for early school leavers and the long-term unemployed	
More public sector housing	
Improving facilities in deprived housing estates	
Address child poverty through increasing child benefit (Child Allowance)	
Increase financing of voluntary/community/charity organisations	
A national minimum wage	
Other (please specify)	

Combat Poverty Agency

14. Have you heard of the Combat Poverty Agency?

Yes	
No	
Don't know/Not sure	

> Go to Q17.

15. How have you heard of the Combat Poverty Agency? (SHOW CARD 26)
(Please tick the most appropriate box)

Word of mouth	
Agency leaflets/publications	
The media	
Seminars/conferences	
Personal contact with Agency personnel	
School	
Other (please specify)	

16. What do you believe the Combat Poverty Agency does?

17. For your information, the Combat Poverty Agency is a state funded body which works to reduce poverty and social exclusion in Ireland through advising the government on poverty policy, through research, through supporting and funding anti-poverty work and through providing information about poverty in Ireland.

Do you believe there to be a need for such an organisation?
 (Please tick the most appropriate box)

Yes, definitely	<input type="checkbox"/>
Yes, probably	<input type="checkbox"/>
No, probably not	<input type="checkbox"/>
No, definitely not	<input type="checkbox"/>
Don't know	<input type="checkbox"/>

National Anti-Poverty Strategy (NAPS)

18. Last year the government launched a National Anti-Poverty Strategy, sometimes referred to as NAPS, have you heard of it?

Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>
No	<input type="checkbox"/>
Don't know/Not sure	<input type="checkbox"/>

> Go to Q20.

19. How have you heard of the National Anti-Poverty Strategy (NAPS)?
 (SHOW CARD 27) (Please tick the most appropriate box)

Word of mouth	<input type="checkbox"/>
Combat Poverty Agency leaflets/publications	<input type="checkbox"/>
The media	<input type="checkbox"/>
Seminars/conferences	<input type="checkbox"/>
Personal contact with Combat Poverty Agency personnel	<input type="checkbox"/>
School	<input type="checkbox"/>
Through the Dept. of Social, Community and Family Affairs	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other (please specify)	<input type="checkbox"/>

20. The National Anti-Poverty Strategy is a ten year government commitment to substantially reduce poverty in Ireland. Do you think that this is something the government should be doing?

Yes	
No	
Don't know/Not sure	

BACKGROUND SECTION

Finally, can I ask you some details about yourself.

Q1 Age:

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Q2 Sex:

Male	1
Female	2

Q3 Marital Status

Single (never married)	1
Married	2
Co-habiting	3
Separated	4
Divorced	5
Widowed	6

Q4 Highest Educational Qualification (one only)

Primary education	1
Lower secondary (junior/group/O'Level)	2
Upper Secondary	
-Technical or Vocational	3
-Leaving Cert	4
-Both technical/vocational and leaving Cert.	5
Third Level	
-Non degree qualification	6
-Primary Degree	7
-Professional Qual. (of at least primary degree status)	8
-Primary degree and professional qual.	9
-Postgrad. degree (excluding postgrad. diplomas)	10
No formal qualification	11

Q5. At what age did your full-time formal Education cease?

--	--

Q5 Which one of these areas would be applicable to you.

Dublin City	
Other City (Cork, Galway, Limerick or Waterford)	
Large town (10,000 - 40,000 pop.)	
Small town (1,000 - 10,000 pop.)	
Village/Rural/Open country	

Q6 What county do you live in?

Carlow	1	Meath	11	Limerick County	21	Sligo	31
Dublin City	2	Offaly	12	Tipp. NR	22	Cavan	32
Dublin Belgrad	3	Westmeath	13	Tipp. SR	23	Donegal	33
Dublin Fingal	4	Wexford	14	Waterford City	24	Monaghan	34
Dun Laoighaire	5	Wicklow	15	Waterford County	25		
Kildare	6	Cork City	16	Galway City	26		
Kilkenny	7	Cork County	17	Galway County	27		
Laois	8	Clare	18	Leitrim	28		
Longford	9	Kerry	19	Mayo	29		
Louth	10	Limerick City	20	Roscommon	30		

Q7 Number of Dependent Children (if any)?

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(N/A = 88)

Q8 What is the age of your youngest dependent child?

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(N/A = 88)

Q9 Is the home you live in.

Owned outright	1
Owned with a mortgage	2
Rented from private landlord	3
Rented from the Local Authority	4
Rented from a Housing Association	5
Part owned, part rented	6
Other	7
Don't know	9

Q10 Employment Status

Self-employed	1
Working full-time	2
Working part-time	3
Seeking work for first time	4
UNemployed (having lost or given up job)	5
Home (domestic) Duties	6
Unable to work due to permanent illness / disability	7
Not working (seeking work)	8
Not working (Not seeking work)	9
On a Government Training /education Scheme	10
On Government Employment scheme(CE, Jobs-option etc.)	11
Retired	12
Student (Further Education)	13
Other (please specify)	14

Q11 Have you ever had a paid job?

Yes (go to) Q12	1
No (go to) Q14	2

Q12 If at work (either self employed or employee) what is your main occupation **OR**

If unemployed, retired, engaged in home duties or on government training scheme and previously employed, what is the main occupation you previously held (obtain as full a description as possible).

Q13 If currently / previously a farmer or farm worker, please state the area of land Farmed.

Q14 What is your income before tax and Social insurance (PRSI) contributions? Include all income from employment and benefits? **SHOW CARD 14**

Under £3,000 per annum (less than £60 per week)	1
£3,000 - £3,999 per annum (£60 - £80 per week)	2
£4,000 - £6,999 per annum (£80 - £135 per week)	3
£7,000 - £9,999 per annum (£135 - £195 per week)	4
£10,000 - £14,999 per annum (£195 - £290 per week)	5
£15,000 - £19,999 per annum (£290 - £385 per week)	6
£20,000 - £25,999 per annum (£385 - £500 per week)	7
£26,000 - £29,999 per annum (£500 - £580 per week)	8
£30,000 - £39,999 per annum (£580 - £770 per week)	9
£40,000 + per annum (£770+ per week)	10

THANK RESPONDENT FOR PARTICIPATING IN THE SURVEY

INTERVIEWER PLEASE FILL IN

NUMBER OF ADULTS IN THE HOUSEHOLD.

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This should match your kish grid

Appendix 2
Technical Aspects of Survey

Sampling Design

The survey was implemented using a probability based random sample utilising probability proportionate to size (PPS). The rationale governing this choice of design was to ensure coverage, on a probability proportionate to size (PPS) basis across the 34 Local Authority areas. Given the geographical spread of addresses within Local Authority areas, a level of clustering was deemed necessary as a means of controlling interviewing costs. In total 110 District Electoral Divisions (DEDs) were randomly selected from within Local Authorities: Dublin County Borough (12); Dublin Belgard (6); Cork County (7); Dublin Fingal (4); and, 3 in each of the other Local Authority areas. From within each Local Authority area a random sample of individuals was drawn from the selected wards with the number drawn determined by the population of the Authority in relation to the total Irish population. The survey aimed to generate an achieved sample of 1000. Taking account of the level of non-contactable individuals a wastage rate of 35% was considered likely. To account for this approximately 50% more individuals were drawn from each Local Authority than the required number of interviews. To minimise the scope of sampling from within the sample by interviewers at Local Authority level, additional individuals were only provided to interviewers in small lots when their original allocation had failed to provide the required number of interviews. In total 1550 individuals names and addresses were issued.

Sampling Error and Confidence Intervals

Table 2.3 sets out sample errors and confidence intervals at the 95% confidence level. The sample errors assume a simple random sample (SRS) design. It is acknowledged that the stratified nature of the sample has produced a design effect (DEFT) although the magnitude of the DEFT on sample error is likely to be negligible.

Examples of Sampling Error

The use of sampling errors and confidence intervals is best illustrated by means of an example from the survey. The sample estimated that the proportion of males in the Irish population to be 50%. Therefore assuming a SRS design, the margin of error at the 95% confidence level is $\pm 3\%$. In other words we can be 95% confident that the true proportion of males in the Irish population (18+) is within the range 47% to 53%. Indeed the margin of error for all sample estimates is within the parameters of $\pm 3\%$.

<i>Sampling Errors and Confidence Intervals for Key Variables</i>				
		<i>% p</i>	<i>Standard Error of p (%)</i>	<i>95% Confidence Interval</i>
<i>Age</i>	<i>18 - 24</i>	<i>17</i>	<i>1.19</i>	<i>14.7- 19.30</i>
	<i>25 - 44</i>	<i>37</i>	<i>1.53</i>	<i>34- 40</i>
	<i>45 - 64</i>	<i>30</i>	<i>1.45</i>	<i>27.2- 32.80</i>
	<i>65 - 74</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>0.95</i>	<i>8.1- 11.90</i>
	<i>75+</i>	<i>7</i>	<i>0.81</i>	<i>5.4- 8.60</i>
<i>Sex</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>50</i>	<i>1.58</i>	<i>46.9- 53.10</i>
	<i>Female</i>	<i>50</i>	<i>1.58</i>	<i>46.9- 53.10</i>
<i>Marital Status</i>	<i>Married</i>	<i>57</i>	<i>1.57</i>	<i>53.9- 60.10</i>
	<i>Single</i>	<i>32</i>	<i>1.48</i>	<i>29.1- 34.90</i>
	<i>Separated</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>0.54</i>	<i>1.9- 4.10</i>
	<i>Widow</i>	<i>8</i>	<i>0.86</i>	<i>6.3- 9.70</i>
<i>Econ. Activity</i>	<i>At Work</i>	<i>52</i>	<i>1.58</i>	<i>48.9- 55.10</i>
	<i>1st Job Seeking</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>- -</i>
	<i>Unemployed</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>0.75</i>	<i>4.5- 7.50</i>
	<i>Home Duties</i>	<i>22</i>	<i>1.31</i>	<i>19.4- 24.60</i>
	<i>Retired</i>	<i>12</i>	<i>1.03</i>	<i>10- 14</i>
	<i>Unable</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>0.44</i>	<i>1.1- 2.90</i>
	<i>Other</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>0.31</i>	<i>0.4- 1.60</i>

Data Analysis

Data were analysed using SPSS (Windows). Responses to each question have been cross-tabulated by each of the following socio-demographic background questions: age (categorised into 4 groupings: 18-24; 25-44; 45-64; and, 65+); sex; marital status (categorised into 3 groupings: married/cohabiting; single; and, widowed/separated/ divorced); social class (categorised into 2 groupings: A/B/C1; and, C2/D/E); income (categorised into four groupings: less than £4,000 pa; between £4,000-£9,999 pa; between £10,000-£15,000 pa; and, >£15,000 pa), level of educational attainment; and respondent's area of residence. Note that any differences between subgroups of the sample, alluded to in the text, are statistically significant to at least the 0.05 level of significance. Finally, due to rounding row and column totals may not sum to 100.