# Residential Tenancies Board

Rent Index Q4 2020





### **About Us**

#### What is the Residential Tenancies Board?

The Residential Tenancies Board, also known as the RTB, is a public body set up to support and develop a well-functioning rental housing sector. Our remit extends to the private rental, Approved Housing Body and Student Specific Accommodation sectors. Our role is to regulate the rental sector, provide information and research to inform policy, maintain a national register of tenancies, resolve disputes between tenants and landlords, initiate an investigation into Improper Conduct by a landlord, and provide information to the public to ensure tenancies run smoothly and no issues arise.

### **What We Do**



#### Information, Research and Education

The RTB provides high-quality information and assistance to landlords, tenants and the public on their rental rights and responsibilities, both in terms of living in and providing accommodation in the rental sector. We also provide accurate and authoritative data on the rental sector, such as the Quarterly Rent Index, which allows us to monitor trends in the rental sector, but also allows individuals to check and compare rents in particular locations.



#### Registrations

All private residential landlords, Approved Housing Bodies (who are not-for-profit housing providers, often referred to as Housing Associations) and landlords of Student Specific Accommodation must register their tenancies with the RTB. You can search to see if a tenancy is registered on the RTB website. The registration of tenancies enables us to collect important data on the sector. It is also a key part of regulating and supporting the sector and ensuring that landlords and tenants are aware of their rights and responsibilities.



#### **Dispute Resolution**

Since 2004, the RTB replaced the courts in dealing with the majority of disputes between landlords and tenants through our Dispute Resolution Service. This service offers a choice of resolution types to parties – Telephone Mediation or Adjudication – and the option to appeal through a Tenancy Tribunal.



#### **Investigations and Sanctions**

In July 2019, the RTB was given new powers to investigate and sanction landlords who engage in certain breaches of rental law, such as unlawfully setting the rent in an RPZ above 4% or ending a tenancy by citing a reason which the landlord did not ultimately act on, amongst others. Investigations can commence either on the basis of information received from a member of the public or proactively by the RTB on the basis of information available to us under the Residential Tenancies Act. Sanctions include a formal written caution and/or a fine of up to €15,000 and/or costs of up to €15,000.

For more information about the RTB and our services, please visit www.rtb.ie.

### **Table of Contents**

| Infographic                                       | 2  |
|---|----|
| Executive Summary                                 | 4  |
| Economic Backdrop                                 | 7  |
| About this Report                                 | 8  |
| National Trends                                   | 9  |
| Regional and Sub-Regional Trends in Rental Prices | 14 |
| Comparing Regional Developments                   | 15 |
| A Closer Look at Irish Cities                     | 21 |
| Rental Developments across Counties               | 23 |
| Local Electoral Area Rent Developments            | 30 |
| New and Renewal Tenancies                         | 40 |
| Quarterly Market Insights                         | 44 |
| Overview of Market Composition                    | 45 |
| Understanding the Distribution of Rental Prices   | 47 |
| Appendix 1: Additional Market Insights            | 50 |
| Appendix 2: Technical Appendix                    | 53 |
| Appendix 3: Additional Tables                     | 57 |



### The RTB Q4 2020 Rent Index





## **Annual growth rate**Compared to Q4 2019

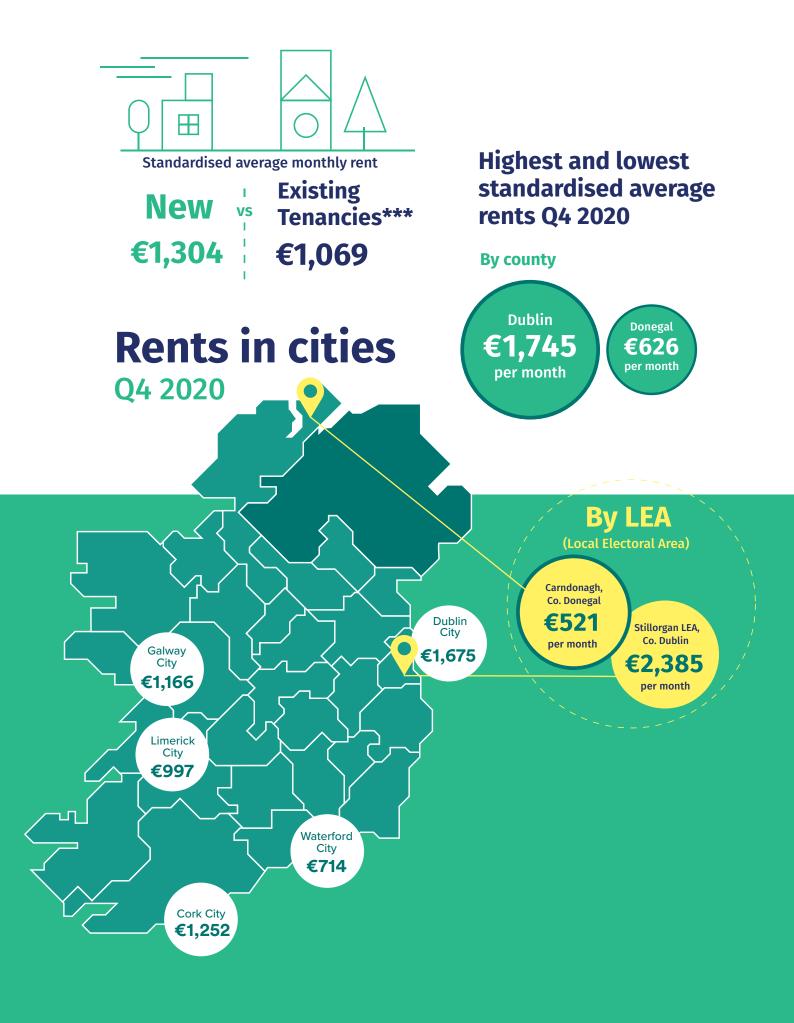


### Q4 2020 quarterly growth rate

Compared to the last quarter



- The RTB uses the standardised average rent, which is a mix adjusted rent that takes account of the changing mix of properties in an area
- \*\* GDA Greater Dublin Area
- \*\*\* Further Part 4 renewal tenancies



### **Executive Summary**

This report is produced by the Residential Tenancies Board (RTB) and the Economic and Social Research Institute (ESRI) and provides indicators (the Rent Index) generated to track price developments in the Irish private rental market.

The analysis in this report presents rental indices on a quarterly basis covering the period between Q3 2007 and Q4 2020. It must be noted that the period since the onset of the pandemic has seen the introduction and easing of restrictions around rental price growth in line with the public health measures. This is likely to have had an effect on the trend throughout 2020. The main findings are as follows:

### **Main Findings for Q4 2020**

#### **National Developments**

- On an annualised basis, rents grew by 2.7 per cent in the fourth quarter of 2020. This growth rate is higher than that of the previous quarter.
- o The national standardised average rent stood at €1,256 in Q4 2020, equal to its level in the previous quarter.
- There has been a decline in the number of tenancies registered with the RTB in Q4 2020 compared to the previous quarter. Traditional seasonal patterns are often evident between the third and the fourth quarter of every year in line with changing market activity.
- In Q4 2020, there was a 5 per cent increase in the number of tenancies used in our estimation sample compared to Q4 2019.









#### **Developments Across Regions<sup>1</sup>**

- As of Q4 2020, standardised average rent in Dublin was substantially higher than those outside Dublin (Non-Dublin) at €1,745 per month as compared to €955 per month. The standardised average rent in the Greater Dublin Area excluding Dublin (GDA) stood at €1,307 as of Q4 2020 while it was €904 outside the GDA.
- Year-on-year price inflation stood at 2.1 per cent in the Dublin area and 3.7 per cent outside Dublin. Price inflation was higher in the GDA at 5.0 per cent year-on-year.
- o Taking a typical two-bedroom house, the standardised average rent in Dublin stood at €1,684 per month in Q4 2020. This is nearly twice the level for a two-bedroom house outside Dublin for which the most recent standardised average rent was €878 per month.
- o The difference in the level of rents between Dublin and elsewhere is noticeable as the rent for a one-bedroom house in Dublin (€1,313 per month) costs just under €230 per month more than a house with four or more bedrooms outside Dublin (€1,086 per month).

#### **County-by-County Developments**

- o There was annual growth recorded across 24 out of 26 counties in Q4 2020, with 20 counties recording annual growth of more than 2 per cent in the final guarter of 2020.
- o The highest standardised average rent for Q4 2020 was in Dublin at €1,745 per month while the lowest monthly rents were in Donegal and Leitrim where the standardised average stood at €626 per month.
- Eight counties have standardised average rents above €1,000 per month; Cork, Dublin, Galway, Kildare, Limerick, Louth, Meath and Wicklow.
- o On a quarterly basis, rents rose in 15 counties in Q4 2020 with rents in Longford increasing the most with a quarterly growth rate of 8.3 per cent. On the other hand, rents in Waterford experienced the largest quarterly decrease, falling by 13.0 per cent.
- o Annually, the fastest growing county in Q4 2020 was Leitrim (11.4 per cent per annum) and the county with the largest decline in rents was Waterford (-8.3 per cent per annum).

To avoid the complication of multiple Dublin estimates, we provide a single standardised average for Dublin County in both the regional and county-level analysis. This is taken from the more granular county level regression model which controls better for the changes outside the capital. The area outside of Dublin takes into account every tenancy that is not in county Dublin. This area is referred to as 'Non-Dublin'. The Greater Dublin Area (GDA) is composed of the counties of Dublin, Meath, Kildare and Wicklow. For comparison purposes, Dublin is excluded from the GDA region in the RTB Index and thus the GDA refers to the surrounding counties of Meath, Kildare and Wicklow. The standardised average rent of these counties presented in Table 6 in the County Section is estimated from a separate regression to that used in the Regional Section.

#### Local Electoral Area (LEA) Developments

- o In Q4 2020, the LEA with the highest standardised average rent was Stillorgan, Co. Dublin at €2,385.
- The LEA with the lowest standardised average rent in Q4 2020 was Carndonagh, Co. Donegal at €521.

#### **New and Renewals**

- In Q4 2020, 82.8 per cent of registered tenancies were new registrations with the remaining 17.2 per cent being part IV renewals.
- Annual growth in the standardised average rent for new tenancies was 2.8 per cent while it was 3.0 per cent for further part IV renewals. This represents a rise in the rate of growth relative to Q3 2020 for both new and renewal tenancies.
- The standardised average rent for new apartments was highest at €1,390 while it was lowest for renewal houses at €1,028.
- o Nationally, the standardised average rent for new tenancies of €1,304 continued to be higher than that for renewal tenancies at €1,069.

#### **Market Insights**

- Dublin and the GDA accounted for over half (53.1 per cent) of all tenancy agreements registered in Q4 2020.
- In terms of property type, 55.0 per cent of the tenancies registered in Q4 2020 were for apartments.
- In Dublin, 72.5 per cent of tenancies in Q4 2020 were for apartments while it was 39.7 per cent and 45.4 per cent in the Rest of the Country and the GDA respectively.
- o In Q4 2020, 4.6 per cent of properties had a monthly rent level of less than or equal to €500; 34.7 per cent had a monthly rent level of €501-€1,000; 29.1 per cent had a monthly rent level of €1,001-€1,500; and 31.6 per cent had a monthly rent level in excess of €1,500.
- o In Dublin, 60.8 per cent of rents were over €1,500 and another 30.0 per cent were between €1,001 and €1,500 while in the Rest of the Country only 7.5 per cent of rents were over €1,500 with another 28.4 per cent between €1,001 and €1,500.

### **Economic Backdrop**

This section was prepared by Rachel Slaymaker and Cathal Coffey of the ESRI.



The economic context is critical to determining the drivers of rental inflation in Ireland. At present, economic developments remain tied completely to the spread of Covid-19, the associated restrictions on economic and social life and the changes in behaviour of households and enterprises in reaction to the pandemic. The period Q4 2020 was a quarter in which the Irish economy experienced a lockdown followed by a reopening, as there was a general relaxation of the public health measures in advance of Christmas.

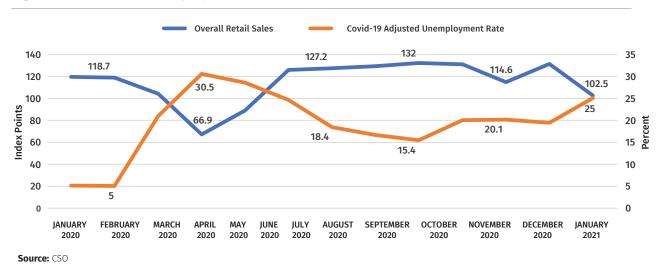
Figure 1 shows the trends in the Covid-19 adjusted monthly unemployment rate and monthly consumer retail sales index published by the CSO. The initial lockdown to reduce transmission of the virus was in effect from late March through April and into May. With the relaxation of some restrictions beginning in May, both indicators show a strong recovery from May through to September. The loosening of public health measures coupled with low levels of transmission of the Covid-19 virus meant that Q3 2020 was a quarter of heightened economic and social activity.

The return of increased public health restrictions brought with it an increase in the unemployment rate and a fall in the retail sales index in October and November. The increase in economic and social activity towards the end of Q4 is seen in the uptick in the retail sales index between November and December.

The slight reduction in unemployment from November to December is evidence of the same. As a result of the resurgence in infections stemming from the reopening in December, further public health restrictions were introduced in late December and January. The resulting increase in the unemployment rate for January 2021 is also shown below, alongside the fall in the retail sales index to its lowest point since May 2020. Longer restrictions into 2021 are likely to delay any economic recovery and put pressure on firms and households.

Recent research has indicated that households in the private rental sector suffered a greater economic hit relative to other tenures during the March to June lockdown<sup>2</sup> due to a higher concentration of employment in sectors most severely impacted by the pandemic. Longer restrictions will therefore likely have a disproportionate impact on households in the rental sector. However, caution must be noted in terms of linking rental trends to broader economic activity during the present quarter as the emergency and other legislation relating to rental protections as well as broader public health restrictions are likely altering the usual relationships between economic factors and rental inflation.

Figure 1 – Trends in Unemployment (RHS) and Retail Sales (LHS), January 2020 - January 2021



<sup>2</sup> O'Toole, C.; Slaymaker, R.; McQuinn, K.; Coffey, C.; Corrigan, E. (2020). Exploring the Short-Run Implications of the Covid-19 Pandemic on Affordability in the Irish Private Rental Market. Dublin: ESRI. Available at: https://www.esri.ie/publications/exploring-the-short-run-implications-of-the-covid-19-pandemic-on-affordability-in-the

### **About this Report**



Produced by the Residential Tenancies Board (RTB) and the Economic and Social Research Institute (ESRI), this report provides rental indicators (also known as the Rent Index) which are generated to track price developments in the Irish private rental market.

The analysis in this report is done on a quarterly basis covering the period Q3 2007 to Q4 2020. In 2020, the Covid-19 pandemic resulted in the introduction of emergency rental measures, including a ban on rent increases from 27th of March to the 1st August 2020. From the 2nd of August 2020 onwards, rent increases have been permitted to take effect in the majority of cases. The only exception is where a tenant has been impacted financially by the Covid-19 pandemic, is in rent arrears, and is availing of the new protections; in these instances a rent increase is not permitted. It is likely the presence of these measures has affected the path of rental inflation throughout 2020.

In addition to national figures, this report provides information on rents for a number of sub-national geographic breakdowns. The aim of the additional data is to ensure trends in local rental markets can be identified and tracked. This report provides a breakdown of standardised average rents by national, region and county as well as presenting a number of higher level aggregation indices which present rents for major cities (Dublin, Cork, Galway, Limerick and Waterford). Detailed standardised average rents are also presented for each Local Electoral Area (LEA).

A concept used throughout this report is that of a *standardised average rent*. This refers to the development of an average that is consistent over time to changes in different property types or characteristics of the tenancy that may evolve with the market. The *standardised average rent* can therefore be compared over time without concern for underlying changes in the data or sample.

The Index is the most accurate and authoritative rent report of its kind on the private rental sector in Ireland. Relative to other market monitoring reports produced for the Irish rental sector, the RTB/ESRI Rent Index has the considerable benefit of being based on regulatory data covering all new and part IV renewal³ tenancy agreements registered with the RTB nationally. Using such regulatory data is a considerable strength as the data coverage is broader than the samples used by any private sector reports.

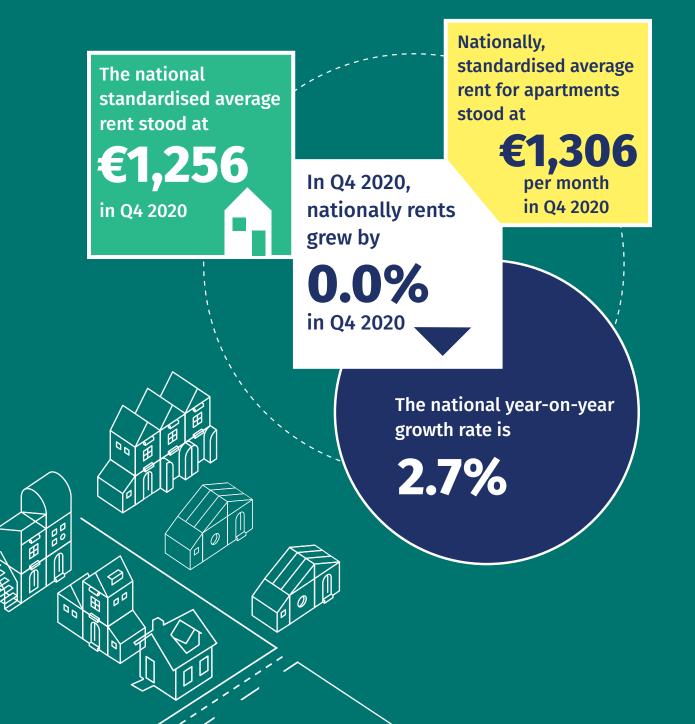
The report is structured as follows; in the next section, the national results from Q4 2020 are examined. The overall national Index is presented first and then disaggregated into the national picture by house/apartment and the number of bedrooms in each property. Second, high-level geographic estimates for selected regions and cities are presented. Estimates on a county-by-county basis are then provided as well as the results for each LEA. This section is followed by the sections on new/ renewal tenancies and market insights. There are also three appendices, the first provides some additional market insights information, the second provides more detail regarding the calculation of the Index and the third contains a number of additional tables.

<sup>3</sup> A part IV renewal is a lease that has been renewed after 4 years if the tenancy commenced before 24th December 2016 or after 6 years if tenancy commenced after 24th December 2016.

### **National Trends**

In this section we present trends in the quarterly national index as well as subindices at a national level for different housing types (house/apartment). As well as the index levels, we present standardised average rents and the quarter-on-quarter and year-on-year growth rates.

To attempt to provide a more granular breakdown, we also provide data covering the number of bedrooms for both houses and apartments. The national index covers all rental agreements registered with the RTB in a quarter and is estimated in line with the methodology in Appendix 2 and in McQuinn et al. (2018). The main findings of the national figures are presented below and reported in Table 1 and Figures 2-4.



### **Main Findings for Q4 2020**





#### **National Rental Trends**

- The national standardised average rent stood at €1,256 in Q4 2020, equal to its level in the previous quarter.
- o On an annualised basis, rents grew by 2.7 per cent in the fourth quarter of 2020. This growth rate is higher than that of the previous quarter and this may be linked to the increase in economic and social activity experienced in the final weeks of 2020.
- The national rent index stood at 127 in Q4 2020. While this is unchanged from its Q3 2020 level, it is 4 index points higher than it was one year prior in Q4 2019.

#### **Trends for Houses and Apartments**

- In addition to the overall national index, sub-indices for houses and apartments are also produced.
- The standardised average rent for houses stood at €1,219 per month in Q4 2020, a marginal rise of 0.6 per cent on the previous quarter and a rise of 3.0 per cent year-on-year.
- o The standardised rent for different housing types varied between €1,045 per month for a one-bed house to €1,354 for a house with four or more bedrooms; inflationary pressures continue to be greatest (year-on-year) for houses with four or more bedrooms.
- The standardised average rent for apartments stood at €1,306 per month in Q4 2020, a decrease of 0.6 per cent on the previous quarter but a rise of 2.1 per cent year-on-year.
- o The standardised rent for different apartment types varied between €1,172 per month for a one-bed apartment, €1,333 for a two-bed apartment, and €1,415 for an apartment with three or more bedrooms.
- The year-on-year increase for two-bed apartments was the highest at 3.1 per cent while apartments with three or more bedrooms marginally declined by 0.5 per cent year-on-year.

Table 1 - RTB Rent Index - National Houses and National Apartments: Index, Standardised Average Rent (€), Quarterly Change (%) and Annual Change (%)<sup>4</sup>

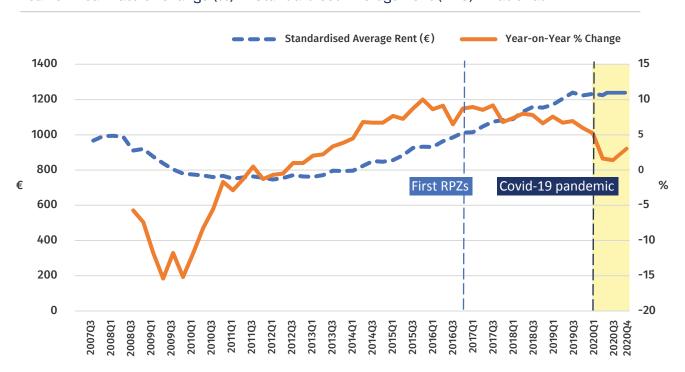
|                     | Index<br>Q4 2020 |          |          | Change | Standardised<br>Average Rent<br>Q4 2019 (€) | Y-on-Y<br>Change<br>(%) |
|---------------------|------------------|----------|----------|--------|---|-------------------------|
| National            | 127              | 1,256.15 | 1,256.15 | 0.0    | 1,222.69                                    | 2.7                     |
| National Houses     | 123              | 1,219.35 | 1,212.06 | 0.6    | 1,183.31                                    | 3.0                     |
| 1 bedroom           | 135              | 1,045.47 | 1,003.48 | 4.2    | 1,017.62                                    | 2.7                     |
| 2 bedrooms          | 124              | 1,169.46 | 1,133.77 | 3.1    | 1,124.73                                    | 4.0                     |
| 3 bedrooms          | 123              | 1,193.53 | 1,181.65 | 1.0    | 1,164.06                                    | 2.5                     |
| 4+ bedrooms         | 126              | 1,353.59 | 1,372.68 | -1.4   | 1,300.52                                    | 4.1                     |
| National Apartments | 128              | 1,306.18 | 1,314.04 | -0.6   | 1,279.04                                    | 2.1                     |
| 1 bedroom           | 126              | 1,171.57 | 1,178.62 | -0.6   | 1,159.91                                    | 1.0                     |
| 2 bedrooms          | 128              | 1,333.08 | 1,329.09 | 0.3    | 1,292.39                                    | 3.1                     |
| 3+ bedrooms         | 131              | 1,415.40 | 1,516.51 | -6.7   | 1,422.49                                    | -0.5                    |

#### **Visualising the Trends**

Figure 2 provides an insight into the longerterm trend in rental inflation at a national level by providing the level of the standardised average rent as well as year-on-year growth rate from Q3 2007 to present. Having initially peaked at just over €1,000 per month in late 2007, rents fell considerably as the financial crisis occurred. When the economy began to recover in 2013, rents started trending upwards in a consistent and strong fashion. The onset of the rent pressure zone (RPZ) legislation in late 2016 (limiting rent price growth to 4 per cent or less in designated areas) was associated with a declining level of inflation nationally. However, that moderation was gradual and it is clear that the Covid-19 pandemic has led to a further substantial, and immediate drop in the level of rental price growth. This is unsurprising given the severity of the economic impact of the pandemic as documented in the Economic Backdrop section. Having grown at just over 5 per cent per annum in Q1 2020, the national rate of inflation dropped to under 2 per cent in the second and third guarters of 2020 as the Irish economy and society experienced various levels of restrictions. In Q4 2020, the inflation rate increased slightly on the previous two quarters to 2.7 per cent but this remains below the pre-pandemic level of inflation. In Figure 3, the year-on-year growth rates are presented for both houses and apartments separately. While the pandemic has been associated with a rapid drop in inflation for both housing types, both the drop and the partial rebound were more marked for houses than apartments during 2020. Figure 4 presents the trend in the number of registered tenancies (both new and part IV renewal) on a quarterly basis. There has been a decline in the number of tenancies registered with the RTB in Q4 2020 compared to the previous quarter. This is in line with the usual seasonal pattern whereby the volume of registrations reduces after the increased number of student tenancies registered in the third quarter of each year. However, there were a higher number of tenancies registered in Q3 and Q4 of 2020 compared to the same quarters in 2019. This is likely due to the lower number of registrations in the first two quarters of 2020 compared to the same period in 2019.

Note: The analysis for house and apartment is limited to only records which indicate that the agreement is for either of these housing types. If housing type is other, these data are included in the national series but not in the overall series. The standardised average rent at the overall national level may be lower than the standardised average rent for houses and/or apartments due to the fact that the growth rates for houses and apartments are often faster than those for other dwellings (as classified) which leads these data to depart from the base differentials set in Q4 2007.

**Figure 2** – RTB Rent Index - Evolution of Standardised Average Rent (€) (LHS) and Year-on-Year Rate of Change (%) in Standardised Average Rent (RHS) - National



**Figure 3 –** RTB Rent Index - Year-on-Year Rate of Change (%) in Standardised Average Rent for Houses and Apartments - National

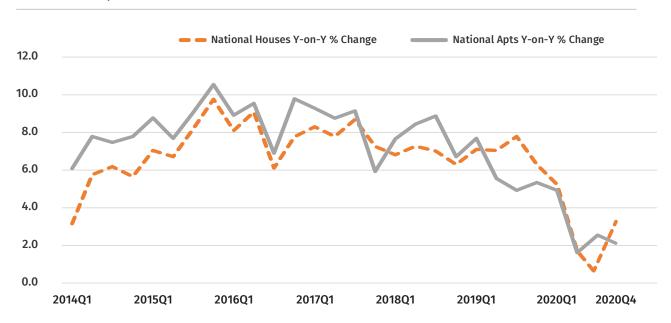
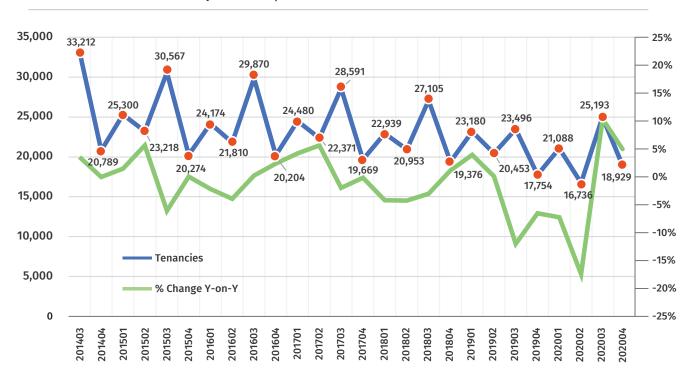


Figure 4 - RTB Rent Index - Number of and Year-on-Year Rate of Change (%) in Registered Tenancies Included in Analytical Sample





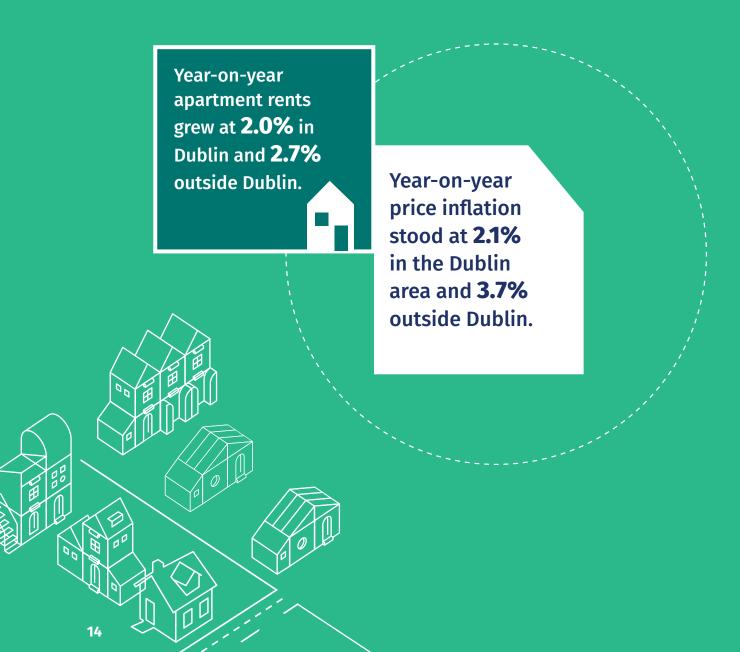
There were a higher number of tenancies registered in Q3 and Q4 of 2020 compared to the same quarters in 2019

# Regional and Sub-Regional Trends in Rental Prices

When finding a place to live, households often prefer to locate close to family, services, jobs and/or amenities. The level of 'demand and supply' pressures vary greatly across areas depending on their perceived attractiveness, which is a function of the range of facilities, services and other amenities (and employment opportunities) they offer.

This means it is more appropriate to analyse housing market dynamics at as low a geographic level as is practicable.

To provide an understanding of how rental prices vary across regions in Ireland, this section presents a selected number of sub-national indices and provides trends in rents for these areas. We present data at the regional, city, county and local electoral area (LEA) level.



#### **Comparing Regional Developments**

The analysis presented in this subsection is carried out at a regional level. Four regional breakdowns are presented: Dublin, Non-Dublin, the Greater Dublin Area excluding Dublin (GDA), and outside the Greater Dublin Area.<sup>5</sup> The data are presented first for the overall regions, then separately by houses and apartments in Table 2. More detailed granular data within houses and apartments, which provides a detailed bedroom split, is also presented across the four regional areas in Table 3 and Table 4. Figure 5 shows the level and annual growth of the standardised average rent for Dublin, the GDA and outside the GDA while Figure 6 shows the annual growth of the standardised average rent for houses and apartments for the same three areas. Figure 7 shows the level and annual growth of the standardised average rent for Dublin alone.



### **Main Findings for Q4 2020**

#### **Overall Regional Breakdown**

- o In Q4 2020, rents in Dublin were substantially higher than those outside Dublin (Non-Dublin) at €1,745 per month as compared to €955 per month. The standardised average rent in the GDA stood at €1,307 as of Q4 2020 while it was €904 outside the GDA.
- Year-on-year price inflation stood at 2.1 per cent in the Dublin area and 3.7 per cent outside Dublin. Price inflation was higher in the GDA at 5.0 per cent year-on-year.
- o Considering the longer-term trend in prices, the initial drop and slow rebound in rental price growth seen since the onset of the Covid-19 pandemic has been greater in Dublin than elsewhere. This likely reflects the differing impact of the Covid-19 economic shock on both the demand and supply sides of the market in the short run.
- o The standardised average rent for houses in Dublin in Q4 2020 stood at €1,892 per month which is over €900 more per month that the standardised house rent outside Dublin which was €968 per month.
- o Year-on-year houses grew at 2.5 per cent in Dublin and at 3.8 per cent outside Dublin. Annual rental price inflation was strongest in the GDA where houses grew at 4.2 per cent year-on-
- o The standardised average rent for apartments in Dublin in Q4 2020 stood at €1,727 per month which is nearly €800 more than the standardised apartment rent outside Dublin (€938 per
- Year-on-year apartment rents grew at 2.0 per cent in Dublin and 2.7 per cent outside Dublin. In Q4 2020, apartment rental prices in the GDA experienced the strongest annual growth with an increase of 7.5 per cent year-on-year.
- In the house rental market, Dublin experienced the lowest growth while in the apartment market, inflation was lowest outside the GDA. For both houses and apartments, year-on-year growth was strongest in the GDA.

To avoid the complication of multiple Dublin estimates, we provide a single standardised average for Dublin County in both the regional and county-level analysis. This is taken from the more granular county level regression model which controls better for the changes outside the capital. The area outside of Dublin takes into account every tenancy that is not in county Dublin. This area is referred to as 'Non-Dublin'. The GDA contains counties Meath, Kildare and Wicklow. The standardised average rent of these counties presented in Table 6 is estimated from a separate regression to that used in this section.

**Table 2 –** RTB Rent Index - Regional Houses and Regional Apartments: Index, Standardised Average Rent (€), Quarterly Change (%) and Annual Change (%)

|             | Index<br>Q4 2020 | Standardised<br>Average Rent<br>Q4 2020 (€) | Standardised<br>Average Rent<br>Q3 2020 (€) | Q-o-Q<br>Change<br>(%) | Standardised<br>Average Rent<br>Q4 2019 (€) | Y-on-Y<br>Change<br>(%) |
|-------------|------------------|---|---|------------------------|---|-------------------------|
|             |                  |   | All Property Type                           | es                     |   |                         |
| Dublin      | 134              | 1,745.26                                    | 1,759.28                                    | -0.8                   | 1,708.99                                    | 2.1                     |
| Non-Dublin  | 119              | 954.80                                      | 963.43                                      | -0.9                   | 921.03                                      | 3.7                     |
| GDA         | 128              | 1,306.91                                    | 1,256.92                                    | 4.0                    | 1,244.41                                    | 5.0                     |
| Outside GDA | 118              | 904.47                                      | 919.98                                      | -1.7                   | 875.11                                      | 3.4                     |
|             |                  |   | Houses                                      |                        |   |                         |
| Dublin      | 132              | 1,892.01                                    | 1,899.59                                    | -0.4                   | 1,845.30                                    | 2.5                     |
| Non-Dublin  | 117              | 968.21                                      | 977.94                                      | -1.0                   | 933.04                                      | 3.8                     |
| GDA         | 127              | 1,373.05                                    | 1,303.48                                    | 5.3                    | 1,317.90                                    | 4.2                     |
| Outside GDA | 115              | 914.89                                      | 929.64                                      | -1.6                   | 881.66                                      | 3.8                     |
|             |                  |   | Apartments                                  |                        |   |                         |
| Dublin      | 133              | 1,727.34                                    | 1,739.47                                    | -0.7                   | 1,693.14                                    | 2.0                     |
| Non-Dublin  | 122              | 937.80                                      | 952.92                                      | -1.6                   | 912.82                                      | 2.7                     |
| GDA         | 128              | 1,230.51                                    | 1,200.12                                    | 2.5                    | 1,145.02                                    | 7.5                     |
| Outside GDA | 121              | 891.74                                      | 917.97                                      | -2.9                   | 877.58                                      | 1.6                     |

Note: GDA stands for Greater Dublin Area

**Figure 5 –** RTB Rent Index - Evolution of Standardised Average Rent (€) and Year-on-Year Rate of Change (%) in Standardised Average Rents - Regional

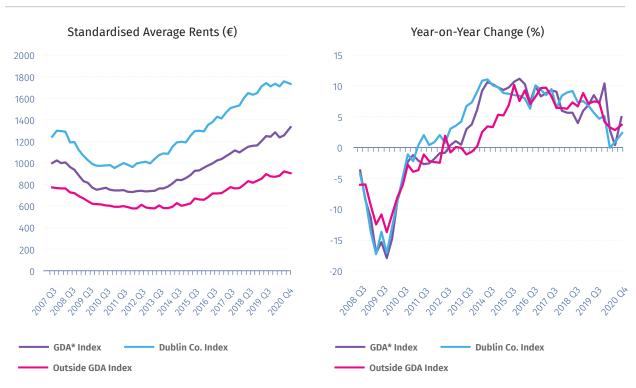


Figure 6 - RTB Rent Index - Regional Trends in Year-on-Year Change in Standardised Average Rents (%) - Houses & Apartments

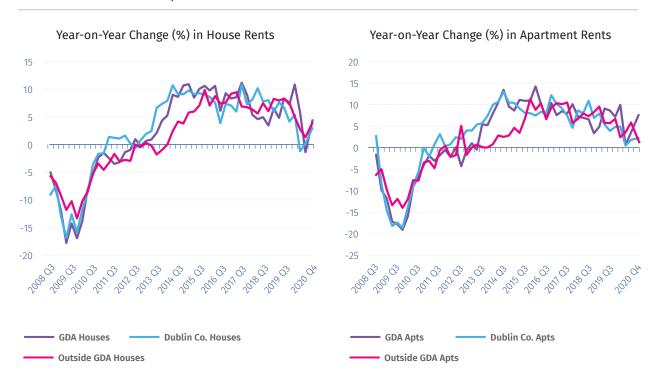
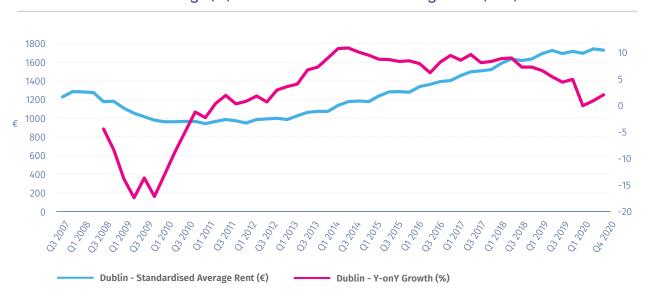


Figure 7 - RTB Rent Index - Evolution of Dublin Standardised Average Rent (€) (LHS) and Year-on-Year Rate of Change (%) in Dublin Standardised Average Rent (RHS)



### **Main Findings for Q4 2020**





#### **Trend in House Rent Prices**

- To provide more granular detail, Table 3 presents the trends in house rent prices by the number of bedrooms across regions.
- o Taking a typical two-bedroom house, the standardised average rent in Dublin stood at €1,684 per month in Q4 2020. This is nearly twice the level for a two-bedroom house outside Dublin for which the most recent standardised average rent was €878 per month. The standardised average rent for a two-bedroom house in the GDA was €1,223 in Q4 2020.
- o The difference in the level of rents between Dublin and elsewhere is noticeable as the rent for a one-bedroom house in Dublin (€1,313 per month) costs just under €230 per month more than a house with four or more bedrooms outside Dublin (€1,086 per month).
- o The lowest rent for houses across the regions was for a one-bed house outside the GDA for which the standardised average rent was €722 per month in Q4 2020.
- In terms of rental price pressures, houses in the GDA experienced the strongest growth in three of the four house types. Two-bedroom houses in the GDA grew at a considerable rate of 8.3 per cent per annum and this was the highest inflation rate of all house types considered across regions.
- o On the other hand, one-bed houses outside the GDA fell by 1.3 per cent year-on-year, representing a price drop of just under €27 per month.



The standardised average rent in a typical two-bedroom house in Dublin stood at €1,684 per month in Q4 2020

**Table 3 –** RTB Rent Index - Houses Regional: Index, Standardised Average Rent (€), Quarterly Change (%) and Annual Change (%)

|                    | Index<br>Q4 2020 | Standardised<br>Average Rent<br>Q4 2020 (€) | Standardised<br>Average Rent<br>Q3 2020 (€) | Q-o-Q<br>Change<br>(%) | Standardised<br>Average Rent<br>Q4 2019 (€) | Y-on-Y<br>Change<br>(%) |  |  |  |  |  |
|--------------------|------------------|---|---|------------------------|---|-------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|
| Houses - 1 Bedroom |                  |   |   |                        |   |                         |  |  |  |  |  |
| Dublin             | 142              | 1,313.01                                    | 1,310.39                                    | 0.2                    | 1,292.17                                    | 1.6                     |  |  |  |  |  |
| Non-Dublin         | 122              | 792.93                                      | 752.00                                      | 5.4                    | 793.72                                      | -0.1                    |  |  |  |  |  |
| GDA                | 136              | 1,124.96                                    | 1,059.45                                    | 6.2                    | 1,039.51                                    | 8.2                     |  |  |  |  |  |
| Outside GDA        | 116              | 721.87                                      | 694.96                                      | 3.9                    | 731.32                                      | -1.3                    |  |  |  |  |  |
|                    |                  | Н   | louses - 2 Bedrooi                          | ns                     |   |                         |  |  |  |  |  |
| Dublin             | 129              | 1,684.36                                    | 1,667.60                                    | 1.0                    | 1,679.31                                    | 0.3                     |  |  |  |  |  |
| Non-Dublin         | 118              | 877.79                                      | 855.26                                      | 2.6                    | 824.20                                      | 6.5                     |  |  |  |  |  |
| GDA                | 126              | 1,222.51                                    | 1,201.90                                    | 1.7                    | 1,128.52                                    | 8.3                     |  |  |  |  |  |
| Outside GDA        | 116              | 825.10                                      | 800.71                                      | 3.0                    | 773.95                                      | 6.6                     |  |  |  |  |  |
|                    |                  | ŀ   | louses - 3 Bedroo                           | ms                     |   |                         |  |  |  |  |  |
| Dublin             | 133              | 1,890.82                                    | 1,853.38                                    | 2.0                    | 1,818.50                                    | 4.0                     |  |  |  |  |  |
| Non-Dublin         | 117              | 954.48                                      | 955.53                                      | -0.1                   | 927.10                                      | 3.0                     |  |  |  |  |  |
| GDA                | 128              | 1,359.43                                    | 1,302.21                                    | 4.4                    | 1,351.29                                    | 0.6                     |  |  |  |  |  |
| Outside GDA        | 115              | 898.84                                      | 900.64                                      | -0.2                   | 870.53                                      | 3.3                     |  |  |  |  |  |
|                    |                  | н   | ouses - 4+ Bedroo                           | oms                    |   |                         |  |  |  |  |  |
| Dublin             | 136              | 2,319.51                                    | 2,414.17                                    | -3.9                   | 2,255.47                                    | 2.8                     |  |  |  |  |  |
| Non-Dublin         | 119              | 1,086.00                                    | 1,126.71                                    | -3.6                   | 1,035.21                                    | 4.9                     |  |  |  |  |  |
| GDA                | 127              | 1,538.66                                    | 1,426.06                                    | 7.9                    | 1,447.61                                    | 6.3                     |  |  |  |  |  |
| Outside GDA        | 117              | 1,024.90                                    | 1,081.76                                    | -5.3                   | 983.72                                      | 4.2                     |  |  |  |  |  |

Note: GDA stands for Greater Dublin Area

### **Main Findings for Q4 2020**

#### **Trend in Apartment Rent Prices**

- To provide more granular detail, Table 4 presents the trends in apartment rent prices by the number of bedrooms across regions.
- o Taking a typical two-bedroom apartment, the standardised average rent in Dublin stood at €1,808 per month in Q4 2020. Similar to the house rent market, this is close to twice the level for a two-bedroom apartment outside Dublin for which the most recent standardised average rent was €955 per month.
- o The standardised average rent for a two-bedroom apartment in the Greater Dublin Area was €1,272 in Q4 2020 while the equivalent apartment outside the GDA carried an average rent of approximately €904 per month.
- o The difference in the level of rents between Dublin and elsewhere is again noticeable as the rent for a one-bedroom apartment in Dublin (€1,429 per month) costs nearly €450 per month more than an apartment with three or more bedrooms outside Dublin (€979 per month).
- Within Dublin, price inflation (year-on-year) was lowest for one-bedroom apartments with negative growth of 0.1 per cent while two-bed apartment rents grew at 2.5 per cent and apartments with three or more bedrooms grew at 4.5 per cent.
- The fastest growing apartment prices across the regions were apartments with three or more bedrooms outside the GDA which grew at 16.6 per cent year-on-year.

**Table 4 –** RTB Rent Index - Apartments Regional: Index, Standardised Average Rent (€), Quarterly Change (%) and Annual Change (%)

|             | Index<br>Q4 2020 | Standardised<br>Average Rent<br>Q4 2020 (€) | Standardised<br>Average Rent<br>Q3 2020 (€) | Q-o-Q<br>Change<br>(%) | Standardised<br>Average Rent<br>Q4 2019 (€) | Y-on-Y<br>Change<br>(%) |
|-------------|------------------|---|---|------------------------|---|-------------------------|
|             |                  | Aŗ  | oartments - 1 Bed                           | room                   |   |                         |
| Dublin      | 130              | 1,428.70                                    | 1,447.40                                    | -1.3                   | 1,430.13                                    | -0.1                    |
| Non-Dublin  | 118              | 790.75                                      | 777.42                                      | 1.7                    | 746.94                                      | 5.9                     |
| GDA         | 122              | 1,030.37                                    | 1,003.92                                    | 2.6                    | 957.83                                      | 7.6                     |
| Outside GDA | 119              | 751.14                                      | 741.44                                      | 1.3                    | 708.81                                      | 6.0                     |
|             |                  | Ар  | artments - 2 Bedr                           | ooms                   |   |                         |
| Dublin      | 131              | 1,808.01                                    | 1,822.53                                    | -0.8                   | 1,763.37                                    | 2.5                     |
| Non-Dublin  | 121              | 954.56                                      | 957.43                                      | -0.3                   | 925.42                                      | 3.1                     |
| GDA         | 128              | 1,272.43                                    | 1,231.13                                    | 3.4                    | 1,201.93                                    | 5.9                     |
| Outside GDA | 120              | 903.99                                      | 915.82                                      | -1.3                   | 882.56                                      | 2.4                     |
|             |                  | Ара   | artments - 3+ Bed                           | rooms                  |   |                         |
| Dublin      | 143              | 2,219.34                                    | 2,199.45                                    | 0.9                    | 2,123.80                                    | 4.5                     |
| Non-Dublin  | 118              | 979.27                                      | 1,152.58                                    | -15.0                  | 1,023.32                                    | -4.3                    |
| GDA         | 127              | 1,490.61                                    | 1,522.24                                    | -2.1                   | 1,277.86                                    | 16.6                    |
| Outside GDA | 115              | 922.64                                      | 1,122.42                                    | -17.8                  | 998.49                                      | -7.6                    |

Note: GDA stands for Greater Dublin Area

#### A Closer Look at Irish Cities

Due to the abundance of jobs and amenities within urban areas, a large proportion of the population is concentrated in cities and as a result, housing demand is highest in these areas. To provide more insight into rental developments across cities in Ireland, this section presents indices and standardised average rents for Cork, Dublin, Galway, Limerick and Waterford cities. These data are presented in Table 5. Figure 8 shows the standardised average rent for each of the cities across time while Figure 9 shows the year-on-year change in their standardised average rents.



### **Main Findings for Q4 2020**

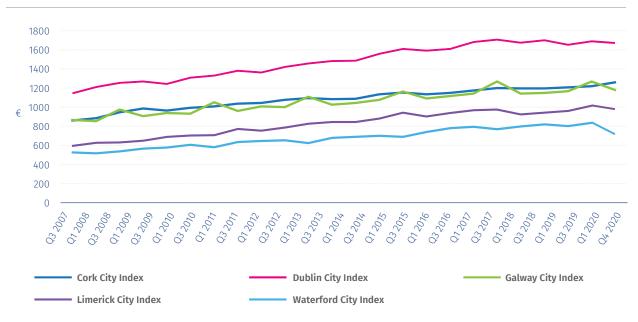
#### **Irish Cities**

- While rents in Dublin City were 1.1 per cent lower in Q4 2020 compared to Q3 2020, they increased marginally year-on-year by 0.1 per cent. Rent levels in Dublin City averaged €1,675 per month in Q4 2020.
- o Cork City had the second highest standardised average rent level in Q4 2020 at €1,252. The standardised average rent in Galway City stood at €1,166 per month in Q4 2020 and was €997 in Limerick City.
- o The only city with standardised average rent lower than €900 per month was Waterford City where it was €714 per month in Q4 2020.
- o The year-on-year growth rates in Cork City and Galway City were 4.5 per cent and 2.0 per cent respectively.
- Rents in Waterford City declined significantly in Q4 2020 compared to Q4 2019, with a fall of 11 per cent. On the other hand, rent levels increased by 7.4 per cent year-on-year in Limerick.

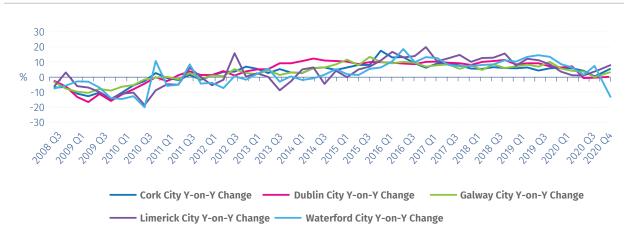
**Table 5** – RTB Rent Index Irish Cities: Index, Standardised Average Rent (€), Quarterly Change (%) and Annual Change (%)

| City           | Index<br>Q4 2020 | Standardised<br>Average Rent<br>Q4 2020 (€) | Standardised<br>Average Rent<br>Q3 2020 (€) | Q-o-Q<br>Change<br>(%) | Standardised<br>Average Rent<br>Q4 2019 (€) | Y-on-Y<br>Change<br>(%) |
|----------------|------------------|---|---|------------------------|---|-------------------------|
| Cork City      | 128              | 1251.86                                     | 1216.08                                     | 2.9                    | 1197.98                                     | 4.5                     |
| Dublin City    | 134              | 1674.95                                     | 1693.47                                     | -1.1                   | 1673.27                                     | 0.1                     |
| Galway City    | 124              | 1166.36                                     | 1266.03                                     | -7.9                   | 1143.27                                     | 2.0                     |
| Limerick City  | 128              | 996.87                                      | 1025.34                                     | -2.8                   | 928.51                                      | 7.4                     |
| Waterford City | 110              | 714.43                                      | 835.88                                      | -14.5                  | 802.31                                      | -11.0                   |

**Figure 8 –** RTB Rent Index - Evolution of Standardised Average Rent (€) for Cork City, Dublin City, Galway City, Limerick City and Waterford City



**Figure 9 –** RTB Rent Index - Year-on-Year Change (%) in Standardised Average Rents for Cork City, Dublin City, Galway City, Limerick City and Waterford City



#### **Rental Developments across Counties**

To provide a more detailed disaggregation of rental data across Ireland, this section presents standardised average rents, indices and percentage changes for each county. These are presented in Table 6. Figure 10 shows the quarterly rate of change in the standardised average rent by county while Figure 11 shows the annual rate of change for the same. Figure 12 and Figure 13 show the quarterly and annual change in the number of tenancies used in our estimation sample respectively. There are also heat maps, which present the level of rents in Q4 2020 (Figure 14) and the year-on-year growth rate (Figure 15). Figure 16 shows the share of tenancies used in our analytic sample for Q4 2020 from each county. These maps provide a graphical representation of where rental pressures are greatest and how prices are distributed across the country.



### **Main Findings for Q4 2020**

#### **Developments Across Counties**

- o The highest standardised average rent for Q4 2020 was in Dublin at €1,745 per month while the lowest monthly rents were in Leitrim and Donegal where the standardised average stood at €626 per month.
- o Eight counties have standardised average rents above €1,000 per month: Cork, Dublin, Galway, Kildare, Limerick, Louth, Meath and Wicklow.
- o On a quarterly basis, rents rose in 15 counties in Q4 2020 with rents in Longford increasing the most with a quarterly growth rate of 8.3 per cent. On the other hand, rents in Waterford experienced the largest quarterly decrease, falling by 13.0 per cent (Figure 10).
- o On an annualised basis, two counties registered lower standardised average rent in Q4 2020 than in Q4 2019: Waterford and Laois. The county with largest year-on-year decline in rents was Waterford at -8.3 per cent.
- o The county with the fastest growing rents in Q4 2020 was Leitrim at 11.4 per cent year-onyear growth. Carlow, Galway, Kildare, Limerick, Longford, Meath and Roscommon all had annualised growth above 5 per cent in Q4 2020 as well (Figure 11).
- o The seasonal change in registrations is clearly evident in Figure 12 which shows decreases in the number of observations in our analytical sample between the third and fourth quarters of 2020 across all counties. This represents a continuation of the typical seasonal pattern in the volume of registrations throughout the year with an increased number of student tenancies registered at the start of the academic year in every Q3. The increased public health restrictions during October and November may also have affected the volume of registrations in Q4 2020.
- o There is large variation in the year-on-year change to the number of registered tenancies in our analytical sample across the counties in Q4 2020. Leitrim experienced the largest decrease with a growth rate of -36.7 per cent while Dublin experienced the largest increase with a growth rate of 14.7 per cent (Figure 13).

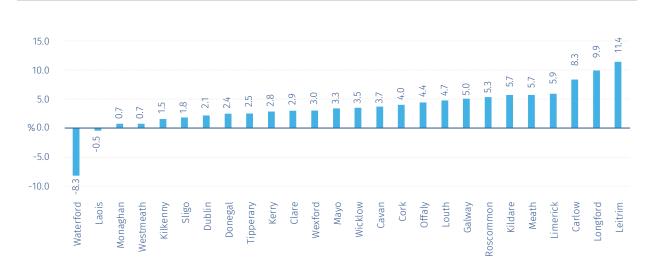
**Table 6 –** RTB Rent Index - Irish Counties: Index, Standardised Average Rent (€), Quarterly Change (%) and Annual Change (%)

| County    | Index Q4<br>2020 | Standardised<br>Average Rent<br>Q4 2020 | Standardised<br>Average Rent<br>Q3 2020 | Q-o-Q<br>Change<br>(%) | Standardised<br>Average Rent<br>Q4 2019 | Y-on-Y<br>Change<br>(%) |
|-----------|------------------|---|---|------------------------|---|-------------------------|
| Carlow    | 123              | 901.25                                  | 928.69                                  | -3.0                   | 831.87                                  | 8.3                     |
| Cavan     | 115              | 683.50                                  | 687.62                                  | -0.6                   | 659.33                                  | 3.7                     |
| Clare     | 109              | 778.27                                  | 734.78                                  | 5.9                    | 755.99                                  | 2.9                     |
| Cork      | 125              | 1133.63                                 | 1118.99                                 | 1.3                    | 1090.27                                 | 4.0                     |
| Donegal   | 106              | 625.86                                  | 617.16                                  | 1.4                    | 611.02                                  | 2.4                     |
| Dublin    | 134              | 1745.26                                 | 1759.28                                 | -0.8                   | 1708.99                                 | 2.1                     |
| Galway    | 129              | 1105.96                                 | 1173.17                                 | -5.7                   | 1053.07                                 | 5.0                     |
| Kerry     | 116              | 802.74                                  | 810.88                                  | -1.0                   | 780.88                                  | 2.8                     |
| Kildare   | 130              | 1328.59                                 | 1275.22                                 | 4.2                    | 1257.49                                 | 5.7                     |
| Kilkenny  | 118              | 918.82                                  | 926.20                                  | -0.8                   | 905.14                                  | 1.5                     |
| Laois     | 123              | 901.47                                  | 899.67                                  | 0.2                    | 905.99                                  | -0.5                    |
| Leitrim   | 113              | 626.18                                  | 601.03                                  | 4.2                    | 562.08                                  | 11.4                    |
| Limerick  | 131              | 1003.62                                 | 1025.94                                 | -2.2                   | 948.01                                  | 5.9                     |
| Longford  | 119              | 693.81                                  | 640.91                                  | 8.3                    | 631.37                                  | 9.9                     |
| Louth     | 130              | 1084.69                                 | 1052.64                                 | 3.0                    | 1035.93                                 | 4.7                     |
| Mayo      | 105              | 697.30                                  | 731.73                                  | -4.7                   | 674.73                                  | 3.3                     |
| Meath     | 136              | 1276.36                                 | 1203.23                                 | 6.1                    | 1208.05                                 | 5.7                     |
| Monaghan  | 105              | 684.82                                  | 685.03                                  | 0.0                    | 680.12                                  | 0.7                     |
| Offaly    | 114              | 801.33                                  | 782.32                                  | 2.4                    | 767.75                                  | 4.4                     |
| Roscommon | 105              | 670.52                                  | 666.78                                  | 0.6                    | 636.74                                  | 5.3                     |
| Sligo     | 115              | 761.74                                  | 814.69                                  | -6.5                   | 748.30                                  | 1.8                     |
| Tipperary | 105              | 729.11                                  | 710.06                                  | 2.7                    | 711.48                                  | 2.5                     |
| Waterford | 117              | 773.19                                  | 888.32                                  | -13.0                  | 842.72                                  | -8.3                    |
| Westmeath | 111              | 844.44                                  | 838.55                                  | 0.7                    | 838.55                                  | 0.7                     |
| Wexford   | 112              | 812.24                                  | 800.86                                  | 1.4                    | 788.86                                  | 3.0                     |
| Wicklow   | 120              | 1324.68                                 | 1318.07                                 | 0.5                    | 1280.40                                 | 3.5                     |

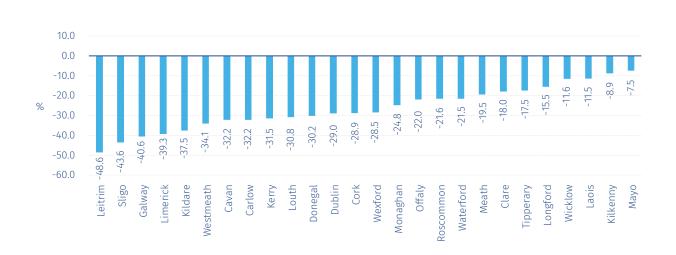
Figure 10 - RTB Rent Index - Quarterly Rate of Change (%) in Standardised Average Rent by County (Q4 2020)



Figure 11 - RTB Rent Index - Annual Rate of Change (%) in Standardised Average Rent by County (Q4 2020)



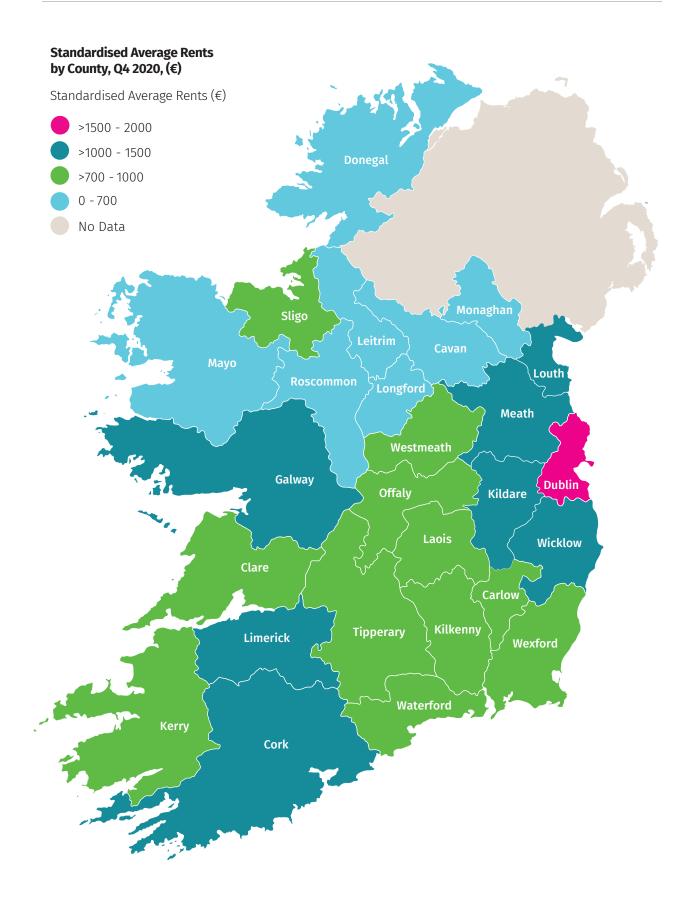
**Figure 12 –** RTB Rent Index - Quarterly Change (%) in the Number of Tenancies used in our Estimation Sample between Q3 2020 to Q4 2020 By County



**Figure 13 –** RTB Rent Index - Annual Change (%) in the Number of Tenancies used in our Estimation Sample between Q4 2019 to Q4 2020 By County



Figure 14 - RTB Rent Index - Standardised Average Rents (€) by County, Q4 2020



**Figure 15 –** RTB Rent Index - Year-on-Year Rate of Change (%) in Standardised Average Rent by County, Q4 2020

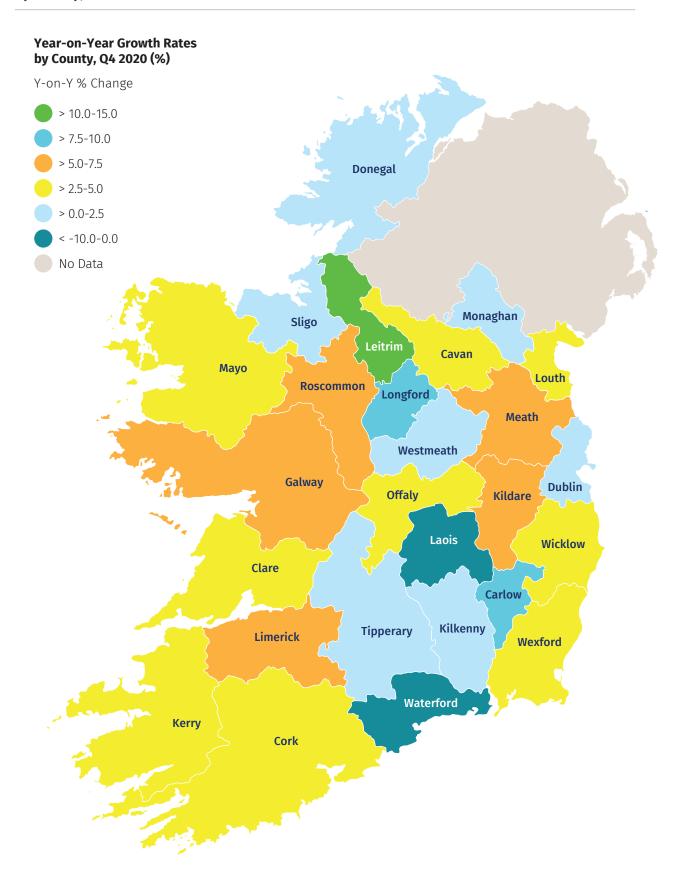
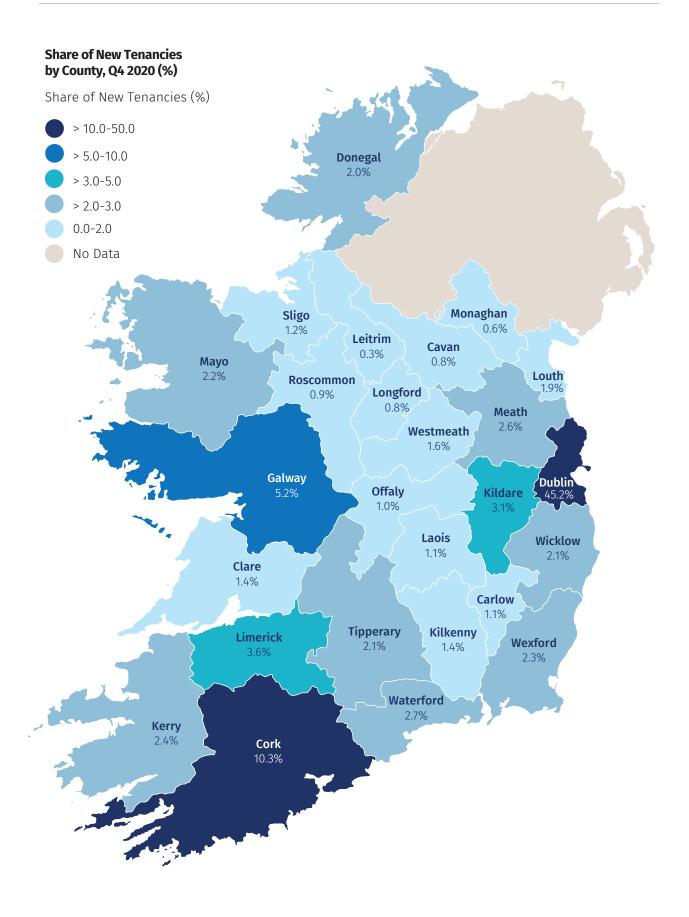


Figure 16 - RTB Rent Index - Share of Tenancies (%) by County, Q4 2020



#### **Local Electoral Area Rent Developments**

In this subsection, results at the more granular Local Electoral Area (LEA) level are reported. The State is split into 166 LEAs and they are the electoral areas used for the local authority elections. Table 7 shows standardised average rent for the most recent quarter and the number of quarters (out of the last 6 quarters) where annualised rent increases have been greater than 7 per cent. Table 7 also reports in the last column how rent levels in each LEA compare to the appropriate reference standardised average (indicated in the second last column). LEAs in Dublin are compared to the national average. LEAs in the GDA (excluding Dublin) are compared to the Non-Dublin average and LEAs in the Rest of the Country are compared to the Non-GDA average. The table is presented to two decimal places as the calculation of LEA to the national average is completed at this level.



### **Main Findings for Q4 2020**

#### **Developments Across LEAs**

- o In Q4 2020, the LEA with the highest standardised average rent was Stillorgan, Co. Dublin at €2,385.
- The LEA with the lowest standardised average rent in Q4 2020 was Carndonagh, Co. Donegal at €521.
- The results for a total of 19 LEAs have been redacted as there were less than 30 observations in the sample in the latest quarter.

**Table 7 –** RTB Rent Index - Rent Growth Summary, Standardised Average Rent (€) and Rent Compared to Reference Average by LEA

| County | LEA        | Quarters<br>>7% | Q4 2020 (€) | Reference<br>average | Local average<br>compared<br>to standard<br>reference average |
|--------|------------|-----------------|-------------|----------------------|---|
| -      | National   | 0               | 1,256.15    | -                    | 100.0   |
| -      | Non GDA    | 2               | 904.47      | -                    | 100.0   |
| -      | Non Dublin | 2               | 954.80      | -                    | 100.0   |
|        | Carlow     | 2               | 923.53      | Non GDA              | 102.1   |
| Carlow | Tullow     | 2               | 848.92      | Non GDA              | 93.9  |
|        | Muinebeag  | *               | *           | Non GDA              | *   |

Table 7 – (Continued)

| County  | LEA                       | Quarters<br>>7% | Q4 2020 (€) | Reference<br>average | Local average<br>compared<br>to standard<br>reference average |
|---------|---------------------------|-----------------|-------------|----------------------|---|
|         | Cavan - Belturbet         | 1               | 676.24      | Non GDA              | 74.8  |
| Cavan   | Bailieborough - Cootehill | 1               | 678.36      | Non GDA              | 75.0  |
|         | Ballyjamesduff            | 2               | 720.08      | Non GDA              | 79.6  |
|         | Ennistimon                | *               | *           | Non GDA              | *   |
|         | Killaloe                  | 1               | 853.53      | Non GDA              | 94.4  |
| Clare   | Shannon                   | 2               | 901.76      | Non GDA              | 99.7  |
|         | Ennis                     | 3               | 803.56      | Non GDA              | 88.8  |
|         | Kilrush                   | 2               | 568.37      | Non GDA              | 62.8  |
|         | Kanturk                   | 1               | 800.03      | Non GDA              | 88.5  |
|         | Fermoy                    | 2               | 837.76      | Non GDA              | 92.6  |
|         | Midleton                  | 1               | 958.00      | Non GDA              | 105.9   |
|         | Carrigaline               | 2               | 1,140.79    | Non GDA              | 126.1   |
|         | Cobh                      | 1               | 1,117.73    | Non GDA              | 123.6   |
|         | Bandon - Kinsale          | 2               | 1,053.95    | Non GDA              | 116.5   |
|         | Bantry - West Cork        | 1               | 699.72      | Non GDA              | 77.4  |
| Cork    | Skibbereen - West Cork    | 2               | 796.33      | Non GDA              | 88.0  |
|         | Macroom                   | 2               | 974.70      | Non GDA              | 107.8   |
|         | Mallow                    | 3               | 938.98      | Non GDA              | 103.8   |
|         | Cork City North West      | 2               | 1,231.18    | Non GDA              | 136.1   |
|         | Cork City North East      | 1               | 1,094.06    | Non GDA              | 121.0   |
|         | Cork City South East      | 1               | 1,375.92    | Non GDA              | 152.1   |
|         | Cork City South Central   | 2               | 1,340.68    | Non GDA              | 148.2   |
|         | Cork City South West      | 0               | 1,332.34    | Non GDA              | 147.3   |
|         | Glenties                  | *               | *           | Non GDA              | *   |
|         | Milford                   | *               | *           | Non GDA              | *   |
|         | Carndonagh                | 2               | 521.44      | Non GDA              | 57.7  |
| Donegal | Buncrana                  | 1               | 594.13      | Non GDA              | 65.7  |
|         | Donegal                   | 1               | 623.27      | Non GDA              | 68.9  |
|         | Letterkenny               | 1               | 704.10      | Non GDA              | 77.8  |
|         | Lifford - Stranorlar      | 2               | 536.89      | Non GDA              | 59.4  |

Table 7 – (Continued)

| County      | LEA                                 | Quarters<br>>7% | Q4 2020 (€) | Reference<br>average | Local average<br>compared<br>to standard<br>reference average |
|-------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------|-------------|----------------------|---|
|             | Conamara North                      | *               | *           | Non GDA              | *   |
|             | Tuam                                | 3               | 865.76      | Non GDA              | 95.7  |
|             | Ballinasloe                         | 4               | 743.72      | Non GDA              | 82.2  |
|             | Loughrea                            | 4               | 895.39      | Non GDA              | 99.0  |
|             | Athenry - Oranmore                  | 3               | 1,083.18    | Non GDA              | 119.8   |
| Galway      | Gort - Kinvara                      | 1               | 933.03      | Non GDA              | 103.2   |
|             | Conamara South                      | 2               | 1,149.35    | Non GDA              | 127.1   |
|             | Galway City West                    | 0               | 1,187.29    | Non GDA              | 131.3   |
|             | Galway City Central                 | 1               | 1,278.03    | Non GDA              | 141.3   |
|             | Galway City East                    | 1               | 1,128.68    | Non GDA              | 124.8   |
|             | Listowel                            | 1               | 643.05      | Non GDA              | 71.1  |
|             | Castleisland                        | *               | *           | Non GDA              | *   |
|             | Killarney                           | 2               | 925.75      | Non GDA              | 102.4   |
| Kerry       | Kenmare                             | 2               | 756.41      | Non GDA              | 83.6  |
|             | Corca Dhuibhne                      | 2               | 705.84      | Non GDA              | 78.0  |
|             | Tralee                              | 3               | 818.79      | Non GDA              | 90.5  |
|             | Maynooth                            | 4               | 1,581.84    | Non Dublin           | 165.7   |
|             | Celbridge                           | 3               | 1,489.22    | Non Dublin           | 156.0   |
|             | Naas                                | 2               | 1,403.24    | Non Dublin           | 147.0   |
| RT I        | Athy                                | 3               | 940.26      | Non Dublin           | 98.5  |
| Kildare     | Kildare                             | 1               | 1,117.30    | Non Dublin           | 117.0   |
|             | Clane                               | 0               | 1,299.57    | Non Dublin           | 136.1   |
|             | Leixlip                             | 2               | 1,501.18    | Non Dublin           | 157.2   |
|             | Newbridge                           | 2               | 1,181.81    | Non Dublin           | 123.8   |
|             | Castlecomer                         | 2               | 775.64      | Non GDA              | 85.8  |
| Million and | Kilkenny                            | 1               | 1,012.49    | Non GDA              | 111.9   |
| Kilkenny    | Piltown                             | 1               | 912.18      | Non GDA              | 100.9   |
|             | Callan - Thomastown                 | 1               | 786.11      | Non GDA              | 86.9  |
|             | Borris-In-Ossory -Mount-<br>mellick | 2               | 805.88      | Non GDA              | 89.1  |
| Laois       | Portlaoise                          | 1               | 966.24      | Non GDA              | 106.8   |
|             | Graiguecullen -Portarlington        | 2               | 889.14      | Non GDA              | 98.3  |

#### Table 7 – (Continued)

| County   | LEA                    | Quarters<br>>7% | Q4 2020 (€) | Reference<br>average | Local average<br>compared<br>to standard<br>reference average |
|----------|------------------------|-----------------|-------------|----------------------|---|
|          | Manorhamilton          | *               | *           | Non GDA              | *   |
| Leitrim  | Ballinamore            | *               | *           | Non GDA              | *   |
|          | Carrick-On-Shannon     | 3               | 639.00      | Non GDA              | 70.6  |
|          | Newcastle West         | 2               | 670.46      | Non GDA              | 74.1  |
|          | Adare - Rathkeale      | 3               | 1,026.95    | Non GDA              | 113.5   |
|          | Cappamore - Kilmallock | 2               | 746.65      | Non GDA              | 82.6  |
| Limerick | Limerick City West     | 1               | 1,018.57    | Non GDA              | 112.6   |
|          | Limerick City North    | 2               | 1,077.57    | Non GDA              | 119.1   |
|          | Limerick City East     | 2               | 1,222.13    | Non GDA              | 135.1   |
|          | Granard                | *               | *           | Non GDA              | *   |
| Longford | Ballymahon             | 2               | 667.74      | Non GDA              | 73.8  |
|          | Longford               | 3               | 720.95      | Non GDA              | 79.7  |
|          | Dundalk Carlingford    | 4               | 1,080.71    | Non GDA              | 119.5   |
|          | Dundalk South          | 2               | 1,156.01    | Non GDA              | 127.8   |
| Louth    | Ardee                  | 2               | 1,054.51    | Non GDA              | 116.6   |
|          | Drogheda rural         | *               | *           | Non GDA              | *   |
|          | Drogheda urban         | 2               | 1,095.70    | Non GDA              | 121.1   |
|          | Ballina                | 1               | 691.74      | Non GDA              | 76.5  |
|          | Claremorris            | 3               | 676.41      | Non GDA              | 74.8  |
|          | Castlebar              | 3               | 701.82      | Non GDA              | 77.6  |
| Mayo     | Belmullet              | *               | *           | Non GDA              | *   |
|          | Westport               | 4               | 768.13      | Non GDA              | 84.9  |
|          | Swinford               | 3               | 640.89      | Non GDA              | 70.9  |
|          | Kells                  | 3               | 960.21      | Non Dublin           | 100.6   |
|          | Laytown -Bettystown    | 2               | 1,457.76    | Non Dublin           | 152.7   |
|          | Ashbourne              | 3               | 1,385.32    | Non Dublin           | 145.1   |
| Meath    | Ratoath                | 1               | 1,367.84    | Non Dublin           | 143.3   |
|          | Trim                   | 3               | 1,162.31    | Non Dublin           | 121.7   |
|          | Navan                  | 0               | 1,155.88    | Non Dublin           | 121.1   |

Table 7 – (Continued)

| County    | LEA                                | Quarters<br>>7% | Q4 2020 (€) | Reference<br>average | Local average<br>compared<br>to standard<br>reference average |
|-----------|------------------------------------|-----------------|-------------|----------------------|---|
|           | Monaghan                           | 1               | 681.18      | Non GDA              | 75.3  |
| Monaghan  | Carrickmacross -Castle-<br>blayney | 2               | 767.78      | Non GDA              | 84.9  |
|           | Ballybay -Clones                   | *               | *           | Non GDA              | *   |
|           | Birr                               | 1               | 568.45      | Non GDA              | 62.8  |
| Offaly    | Tullamore                          | 3               | 883.79      | Non GDA              | 97.7  |
|           | Edenderry                          | 2               | 785.67      | Non GDA              | 86.9  |
|           | Boyle                              | 5               | 629.34      | Non GDA              | 69.6  |
| Roscommon | Roscommon                          | 0               | 620.05      | Non GDA              | 68.6  |
|           | Athlone                            | 3               | 792.66      | Non GDA              | 87.6  |
|           | Ballymote – Tobercurry             | 3               | 598.06      | Non GDA              | 66.1  |
| Sligo     | Sligo - Drumcliff                  | 2               | 820.85      | Non GDA              | 90.8  |
|           | Sligo - Strandhill                 | 1               | 783.57      | Non GDA              | 86.6  |
|           | Nenagh                             | 1               | 744.43      | Non GDA              | 82.3  |
|           | Roscrea - Templemore               | *               | *           | Non GDA              | *   |
|           | Carrick-On-Suir                    | *               | *           | Non GDA              | *   |
|           | Clonmel                            | 1               | 806.29      | Non GDA              | 89.1  |
| Tipperary | Cashel -Tipperary                  | 2               | 714.35      | Non GDA              | 79.0  |
|           | Newport                            | *               | *           | Non GDA              | *   |
|           | Thurles                            | 0               | 689.73      | Non GDA              | 76.3  |
|           | Cahir                              | 1               | 662.78      | Non GDA              | 73.3  |
|           | Dungarvan                          | 2               | 832.04      | Non GDA              | 92.0  |
|           | Portlaw - Kilmacthomas             | *               | *           | Non GDA              | *   |
|           | Lismore                            | *               | *           | Non GDA              | *   |
| Waterford | Tramore – Waterford City<br>West   | 2               | 813.38      | Non GDA              | 89.9  |
|           | Waterford City South               | 3               | 669.92      | Non GDA              | 74.1  |
|           | Waterford City East                | 1               | 932.15      | Non GDA              | 103.1   |
|           | Athlone                            | 1               | 851.34      | Non GDA              | 94.1  |
|           | Moate                              | *               | *           | Non GDA              | *   |
| Westmeath | Kinnegad                           | 4               | 812.42      | Non GDA              | 89.8  |
|           | Mullingar                          | 2               | 887.32      | Non GDA              | 98.1  |

### Table 7 – (Continued)

| County  | LEA                              | Quarters<br>>7% | Q4 2020 (€) | Reference<br>average | Local average<br>compared<br>to standard<br>reference average |
|---------|----------------------------------|-----------------|-------------|----------------------|---|
|         | Gorey                            | 1               | 934.27      | Non GDA              | 103.3   |
|         | Kilmuckridge                     | *               | *           | Non GDA              | *   |
| W       | New Ross                         | 3               | 740.73      | Non GDA              | 81.9  |
| Wexford | Rosslare                         | 1               | 770.44      | Non GDA              | 85.2  |
|         | Wexford                          | 0               | 837.70      | Non GDA              | 92.6  |
|         | Enniscorthy                      | 4               | 745.08      | Non GDA              | 82.4  |
|         | Baltinglass                      | 2               | 1,094.84    | Non Dublin           | 114.7   |
|         | Bray West                        | 3               | 1,595.30    | Non Dublin           | 167.1   |
|         | Greystones                       | 2               | 1,635.57    | Non Dublin           | 171.3   |
| Wicklow | Wicklow                          | 2               | 1,194.09    | Non Dublin           | 125.1   |
|         | Arklow                           | 1               | 1,143.02    | Non Dublin           | 119.7   |
|         | Bray East                        | 1               | 1,290.18    | Non Dublin           | 135.1   |
|         | Rush - Lusk                      | 2               | 1,402.80    | National             | 111.7   |
|         | Swords                           | 4               | 1,602.72    | National             | 127.6   |
|         | Blanchardstown - Mulhud-<br>dart | 2               | 1,654.76    | National             | 131.7   |
|         | Castleknock                      | 2               | 1,792.35    | National             | 142.7   |
|         | Howth - Malahide                 | 1               | 1,770.83    | National             | 141.0   |
|         | Stillorgan                       | 0               | 2,384.81    | National             | 189.9   |
|         | Dundrum                          | 1               | 2,092.67    | National             | 166.6   |
|         | Glencullen - Sandyford           | 0               | 2,000.56    | National             | 159.3   |
| Dublin  | Killiney - Shankill              | 2               | 1,816.36    | National             | 144.6   |
|         | Dun Laoghaire                    | 2               | 1,968.43    | National             | 156.7   |
|         | Blackrock                        | 0               | 1,973.94    | National             | 157.1   |
|         | Lucan                            | 3               | 1,798.44    | National             | 143.2   |
|         | Tallaght Central                 | 1               | 1,593.98    | National             | 126.9   |
|         | Rathfarnham - Templeogue         | 1               | 1,956.85    | National             | 155.8   |
|         | Firhouse - Bohernabreena         | 2               | 1,942.92    | National             | 154.7   |
|         | Tallaght South                   | 2               | 1,873.16    | National             | 149.1   |
|         | Clondalkin                       | 1               | 1,510.10    | National             | 120.2   |
|         | Balbriggan                       | 3               | 1,376.81    | National             | 109.6   |

Table 7 – (Continued)

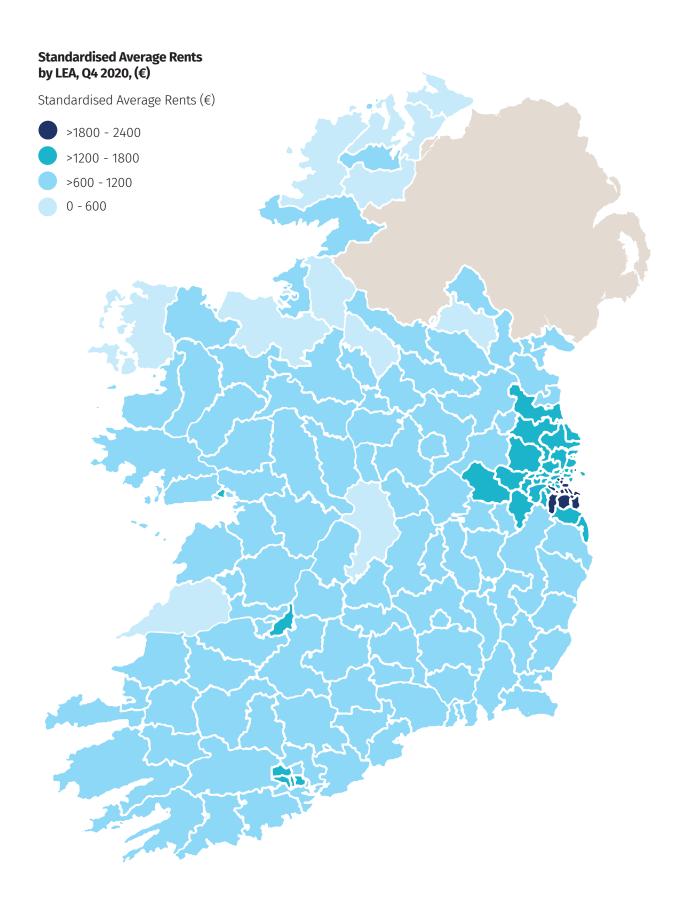
| County | LEA                    | Quarters<br>>7% | Q4 2020 (€) | Reference<br>average | Local average<br>compared<br>to standard<br>reference average |
|--------|------------------------|-----------------|-------------|----------------------|---|
|        | Ongar                  | 2               | 1,642.98    | National             | 130.8   |
|        | Palmerstown - Fonthill | 1               | 1,731.92    | National             | 137.9   |
|        | Ballymun - Finglas     | 2               | 1,513.55    | National             | 120.5   |
|        | Cabra - Glasnevin      | 1               | 1,531.99    | National             | 122.0   |
|        | Ballyfermot - Drimnagh | 0               | 1,616.58    | National             | 128.7   |
|        | Kimmage - Rathmines    | 1               | 1,526.51    | National             | 121.5   |
|        | Pembroke               | 0               | 1,926.46    | National             | 153.4   |
|        | South East Inner City  | 1               | 1,827.31    | National             | 145.5   |
|        | North Inner City       | 0               | 1,655.73    | National             | 131.8   |
|        | Clontarf               | 2               | 1,636.82    | National             | 130.3   |
|        | Donaghmede             | 3               | 1,875.43    | National             | 149.3   |
|        | Artane - Whitehall     | 1               | 1,762.80    | National             | 140.3   |
|        | South West Inner City  | 0               | 1,664.14    | National             | 132.5   |

Note: \* indicates that rents in areas with less than 30 observations are not published for statistical reasons.

Figure 17 and Figure 18 are heat maps which show the standardised average rent and the annual rate of change in standardised average rent across all LEAs. While there is no particular pattern to the annual change in standardised average rents across the LEAs in this quarter, a clustering of higher rent levels is evident in the LEAs around Dublin, the GDA and the larger urban centres such as Cork City.

Figure 19 shows the LEAs that have been designated as rent pressure zones (RPZs) in red. In total 53.0 per cent (88 LEAs) of the 166 LEAs are currently designated as rent pressure zones.

Figure 17 - RTB Rent Index - Standardised Average Rent (€) by LEA, Q4 2020



**Figure 18 –** RTB Rent Index - Year-on-Year Rate of Change (%) in Standardised Average Rent by LEA, Q4 2020

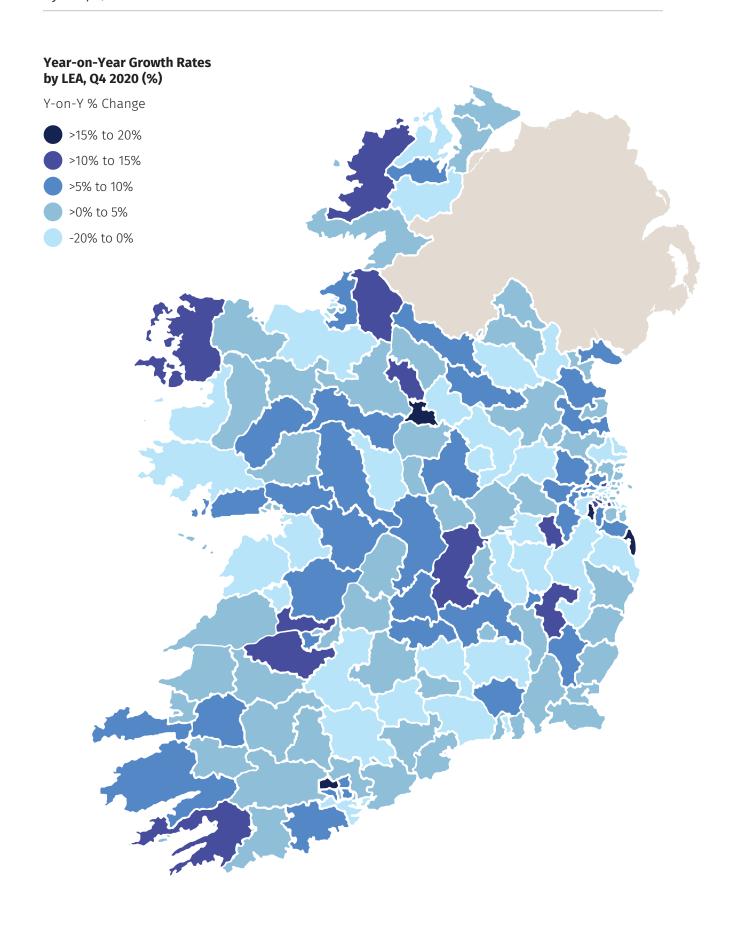
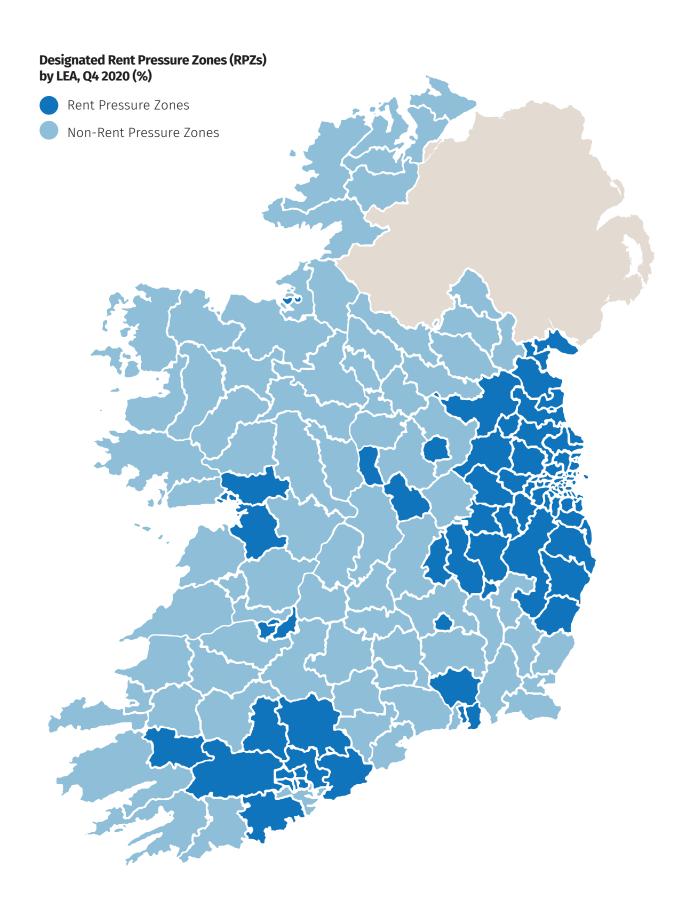


Figure 19 - RTB Rent Index - Designated Rent Pressure Zones (RPZs), Q4 2020



## **New and Renewal Tenancies**



The standardised average rent published by the RTB and the ESRI on a quarterly basis covers all registered tenancies within a given quarter which are submitted to the RTB. Existing agreements which are not newly registered are not captured by these data. In an attempt to provide insight into the standardised average rent for tenants in existing tenancies, in this section we provide an indicator which separates further part IV tenancy renewals (leases which have been renewed after 4 years) from other new registrations and calculated separate standardised averages for these two series. It is hoped that this granular information will provide some insight into the price trends for those households who have spent a longer period in the rental market. Please note that these do not reflect the prices for those renters who are renewing leases outside the part IV system, for example, those renewing after one, two or three years, as these are not required to be re-registered with the RTB.

The renewal series begins in Q1 2013 as sufficient records for this type of tenancy are available from this period. Since 2013, the gap between the number of new and renewal tenancies has generally been narrowing as renters appear more likely to remain in their existing accommodation. Table 8 presents rental indices, standardised average rents and percentage changes for new and renewal tenancies overall and for houses and apartments within each group.



Since 2013 the gap between the number of new and renewal tenancies has generally been narrowing, as renters appear more likely to remain in their existing accommodation

### **Main Findings for Q4 2020**





#### **New and Renewal Tenancies**

- o In Q4 2020, 82.8 per cent of tenancies registered were new registrations with 17.2 per cent being renewals.
- Nationally, for new tenancies, both the standardised average rent, €1,304, and the rent index, 168, continue to be higher than those for renewal tenancies of €1,069 and 138 respectively.
- o Annual growth in the standardised average rent for new tenancies was 2.8 per cent while it was 3.0 per cent for further part IV renewals.6
- o On a quarterly basis, standardised average rent for new tenancies decreased by 0.2 per cent while it increased by 1.7 per cent for renewals.
- The standardised average rent for new apartments was highest at €1,390 while it was lowest for renewal houses at €1,028.
- Standardised average rent for new houses experienced the strongest annual growth at 4.5 per cent. The lowest annual growth across the new and renewal property splits was the 1.5 per cent recorded for new apartments.
- Standardised average rent for new apartments decreased by 1.0 per cent compared to the previous quarter while the standardised average rents for renewal apartments, new houses and new apartments were higher in Q4 2020 compared to Q3 2020.

**Table 8 -** RTB Rent Index - National New and Renewals: Index, Standardised Average Rent (€), Quarterly Change (%) and Annual Change (%)

|                                   | Index<br>Q4 2020 | Standardised<br>Average Rent<br>Q4 2020 (€) | Standardised<br>Average Rent<br>Q3 2020 (€) | Q-o-Q<br>Change<br>(%) | Standardised<br>Average Rent<br>Q4 2019 (€) | Y-on-Y<br>Change<br>(%) |
|-----------------------------------|------------------|---|---|------------------------|---|-------------------------|
| National New                      | 168              | 1,304.38                                    | 1,306.99                                    | -0.2                   | 1,268.37                                    | 2.8                     |
| National New -<br>Houses          | 167              | 1,273.22                                    | 1,258.04                                    | 1.2                    | 1,218.42                                    | 4.5                     |
| National New -<br>Apartments      | 169              | 1,389.92                                    | 1,403.89                                    | -0.1                   | 1,369.23                                    | 1.5                     |
| National Renewals                 | 138              | 1,068.78                                    | 1,050.77                                    | 1.7                    | 1,037.20                                    | 3.0                     |
| National Renewals<br>- Houses     | 136              | 1,027.79                                    | 1,009.46                                    | 1.8                    | 1,000.42                                    | 2.7                     |
| National Renewals<br>- Apartments | 143              | 1,186.73                                    | 1,173.75                                    | 1.1                    | 1,148.21                                    | 3.4                     |

It should be noted that part of the difference between the two series could be due to differences in the property types in the new and further part IV renewal samples.

Figure 20 – RTB Rent Index - Evolution of the Share of New and Renewal Tenancies (% of Total)



To provide overall insight into the trend in new and renewal (further part IV) tenancies, Figure 20 displays the evolution of the shares of each tenancy type between Q1 2013 and Q4 2020. In Q4 2020, 82.8 per cent of tenancies registered were new registrations and this represents almost no change in the share of tenancies registered as new registrations on the previous quarter. Looking at the shares in 2020 overall, one can see that Q1, Q3 and Q4 are similar. Given the presence of the strict public health guidelines/restrictions during Q2 2020, it is not surprising that the share of renewal properties was higher during that quarter as households would have been less likely to move from their existing rental accommodation or begin a new lease on a property.

Figure 21 shows the standardised average rent for new and renewal tenancies while Figure 22 shows the year-on-year percentage change in their standardised average rent. The standardisation process used applies an identical methodology, as outlined in Appendix 2, for the overall index estimated separately for the new and renewal rents. The standardised average rent for new tenancies has been consistently higher than that of renewal tenancies. Since mid-2019, the price inflation among renewals has been higher than that of the new tenancies although the gap appears to have narrowed in Q4 2020. Figure 23 shows the standardised average rent for new and renewal tenancies by property type. New apartments have consistently had the highest level of standardised average rent while renewal houses have consistently had the lowest level. Until mid-2015, the standardised average rent for both new and renewal apartments was higher than that of new and renewal houses. The standardised average rent for new houses surpassed that of renewal apartments in Q3 2015 and this has generally remained the case.

**Figure 21 –** RTB Rent Index - Evolution of Standardised Average Rents (€) for New and Renewal Tenancies

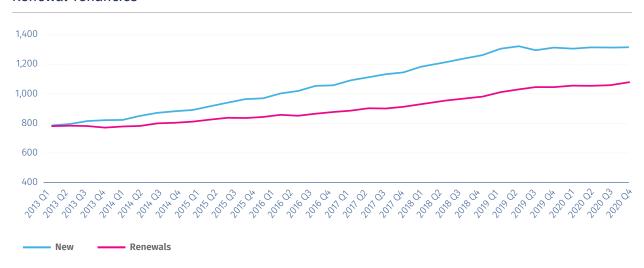
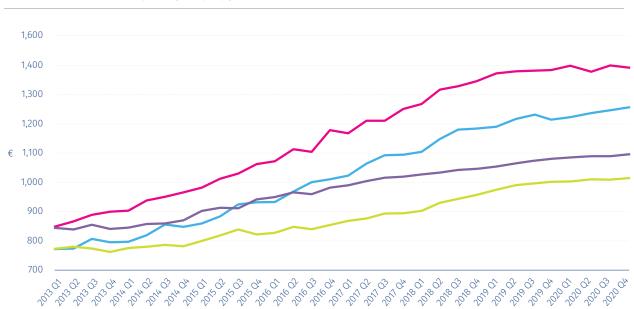


Figure 22 - RTB Rent Index - Year-on-Year Rate of Change (%) in Standardised Average Rent for New and Renewal Tenancies



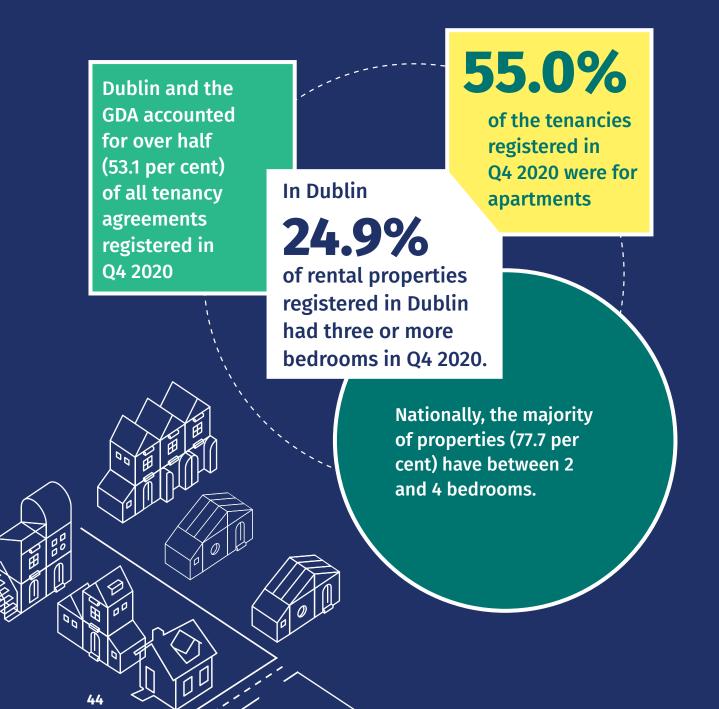
Figure 23 - RTB Rent Index - Evolution of Standardised Average Rents (€) for New and Renewal Tenancies by Property Type



## **Quarterly Market Insights**

While trends in the standardised average rent provide a detailed and in-depth understanding of how prices are developing in the rental sector, it is also insightful to understand trends in the composition of the market in terms of the type of properties rented, where people are renting, the length of tenancies and other factors.

This detailed information is provided in this section. The analysis considers the location of renters, whether they are renting houses or apartments, how many bedrooms are in each property and the average length of the rental contract. This section of the report also considers the distribution of prices to understand the different levels of rent that tenants are paying. The analysis then presents the growth rates of rent prices across the price distribution to explore whether lower priced rents are growing faster or slower than higher priced rents.



#### **Overview of Market Composition**

In this sub-section we examine the characteristics of the tenancies registered with RTB for Q4 2020 and a selection of previous quarters. Figure 24 displays the quarterly share of tenancies across regions (Dublin, GDA and the Rest of the Country). The share of tenancies across counties for the current quarter is shown on the map in Figure 16. Figures 25(a-b) and 26(a-b) provide an overview of the market structure (both at national and regional levels), including quarterly information regarding the shares of different housing types and the number of bedrooms in each property.

Information on the number of occupants, the frequency of rent payments and the length of tenancies can be found in Appendix 1.

Dublin and the Greater Dublin Area excluding Dublin (GDA) account for just over half of all tenancy agreements; County Dublin accounted for 45.2 per cent of tenancies in Q4 2020, the GDA accounted for a further 7.9 per cent with 46.9 per cent of tenancies relating to the Rest of the Country. The distribution has remained quite stable between Q3 2007 and Q4 2020.

## **Main Findings for Q4 2020**



### **Market Composition**

- Dublin and the GDA accounted for over half (53.1 per cent) of all tenancy agreements registered in Q4 2020.
- In terms of property type, 55.0 per cent of the tenancies registered in Q4 2020 were for apartments.
- o In Dublin, 72.5 per cent of tenancies in Q4 2020 were for apartments while it was 39.7 per cent and 45.4 per cent in the Rest of the Country and the GDA respectively.
- Nationally, the majority of properties (77.7 per cent) have between 2 and 4 bedrooms.
- In Q4 2020, 24.9 per cent of rental properties registered in Dublin had three or more bedrooms. This is low when compared to the corresponding figures of 54.4 per cent and 47.4 per cent for the Rest of the Country and the GDA respectively.

Figure 24 – RTB Rent Index - Share of Tenancies by Area and Quarter (%)



In Q4 2020, 55.0 per cent of the rented properties were either flats or apartments, with little variation across the years. Large differences are observed across regions, with apartments and flats representing a higher share of properties in Dublin when compared to the Rest of the Country and the GDA.

The concentration of the Dublin rental market towards provision of apartment or flat accommodation is typical for a large urban centre. In total, 72.5 per cent of rental contracts in Dublin in Q4 2020 were for flat or apartment type accommodation.

Figure 25a - RTB Rent Index - Property Type by Quarter (%)

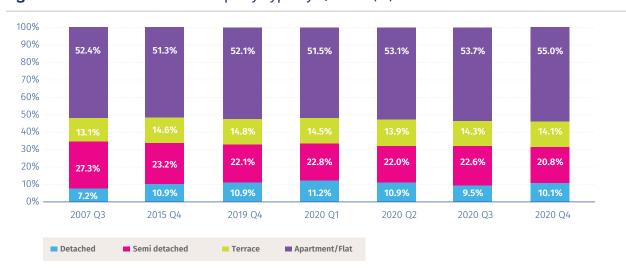
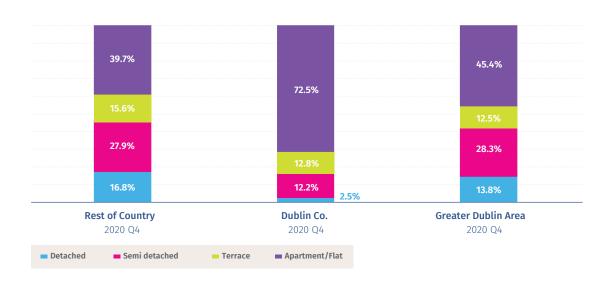


Figure 25b - RTB Rent Index - Property Type by Region (Current Quarter) (%)



In terms of property size, 77.7 per cent of properties had two, three or four bedrooms in Q4 2020. The share of properties with one bedroom was higher in Q4 2020 than it was in 2007 or 2015. In Q4 2020, 20.4 per cent of properties had one bedroom. A larger share of rental properties located in Dublin had one or two bedrooms, when compared to the Rest of the Country and the GDA.

Of those registered with the RTB in Q4 2020, 24.9 per cent of rental properties in Dublin had three or more bedrooms. This is low when compared to the corresponding figures of 54.4 per cent and 47.4 per cent for the Rest of the Country and the GDA respectively.

2020 Q3

2020 Q4

2020 Q2

1.6% 1.6% 1.8% 2.0% 3.5% 3.6% 1.7% 100% 11.2% 10.9% 11.6% 10.6% 11.6% 12.2% 90% 13.2% 80% 70% 60% 50% 40% 37.8% 38.6% 38.2% 37.8% 37.6% 36.7% 39.0% 30% 20% 10% 19.6% 19.6% 19.7%

2020 Q1

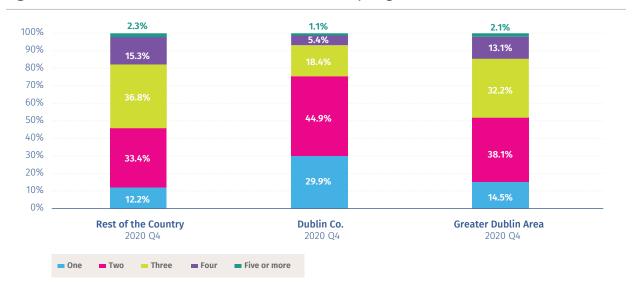
Figure 26a - RTB Rent Index - Number of Bedrooms by Quarter (%)

Figure 26b - RTB Rent Index - Number of Bedrooms by Region (Current Quarter) (%)

2019 Q4

Five or more

■ Four



# Understanding the Distribution of Rental Prices

0%

2007 Q3

Two

One

2015 Q4

Three

Not all renters pay the same rent price and the cost of renting varies considerably depending on location, type of property, amenities and many other factors. This is explored further in this sub-section. Figure 27 shows the distribution of monthly rents by quarter at the national level.

Figure 28 shows the distribution of monthly rents for the most recent quarter in Dublin and the Rest of the Country. More specifically, the share of properties across four different price points is provided. The price points are: less than/equal to €500 per month, €501-€1,000 per month, €1,001-€1,500 per month and more than €1,500 per month. Finally, in Figure 29 we examine the evolution of price growth across the monthly rent distribution.

## **Main Findings for Q4 2020**



田

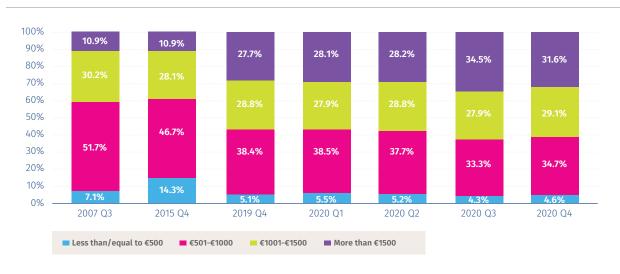
#### **Distribution of Rental Prices**

- o In Q4 2020, 4.6 per cent of properties had a monthly rent level of less than or equal to €500; 34.7 per cent had a monthly rent level of €501-€1,000; 29.1 per cent had a monthly rent level of €1,001-€1,500; and 31.6 per cent had a monthly rent level in excess of €1,500.
- o In Dublin, 60.8 per cent of rents were over €1,500 and another 30.0 per cent were between €1,001 and €1,500.
- o In the Rest of the Country, only 7.5 per cent were above €1,500 while the largest share of rents corresponds to the €501 to €1,000 category at 56.0 per cent.
- In Q4 2020, the most recent data indicates a slowdown in the growth of rents at all price points on the distribution. The growth rate of the most expensive rents has experienced the sharpest decline throughout 2020 as a whole.

With the exception of 2015, the share of properties paying €500 or less generally decreases from 7.1 per cent in Q3 2007 to 4.6 per cent in Q4 2020. The share of properties paying more than €1,500 in rent was 31.6 per cent of the total registrations in Q4 2020. In the same quarter, the proportion of properties paying between €1,001 and €1,500 was 29.1 per cent while the proportion of properties paying between €501 and €1,000 was 34.7 per cent. The regional differences in the average rent distribution are presented in Figure 28.

The contrast between Dublin and the Rest of the Country (Outside of Dublin) in Q4 2020 is very clear, with 60.8 per cent of rents over €1,500 in the capital and another 30.0 per cent between €1,001 and €1,500. In the Rest of the Country, the largest share of rents corresponds to the €501 to €1,000 category at 56.0 per cent while only 7.5 per cent were above €1,500. While it is understandable that rents are higher in Dublin due to higher incomes and the higher level of demand, it is noteworthy that, in Q4 2020, only about 9.2 per cent of rental contracts were agreed at €1,000 or less. This is a low proportion when compared to the equivalent figure of 64.1 per cent outside of Dublin.

**Figure 27 –** RTB Rent Index - National Distribution of Average Rents by Price Range and Quarter (%)



**Figure 28 –** RTB Rent Index - Regional Distribution of Average Rents by Price Range (Current Quarter) (%)



Given the very evident difference in rental prices across the country, it is worthwhile to explore whether price pressures differ depending on the level of prices. For example, if lower priced rental properties are in areas with low demand, then it is likely price pressures may be subdued. Alternatively, many of the higher priced rental properties may be out of the reach of middle earning households and this may affect the degree to which demand pressures are evident in this market. To explore this in more detail, we separate the price distribution of rents into five groups from the highest to the lowest priced properties in each quarter and explore the rent over time in each group. This assessment provides an insight into where price pressures are greatest across the distribution of rental prices.

Figure 29 shows the evolution of price growth in these five different groups or quintiles of the price distribution. To provide an insight into the trend, the figure displays the moving average by quintile which ensures seasonal factors and short-term volatility are removed from the analysis. Growth rates started increasing in mid-2010, with the fifth quintile (corresponding to higher rents) displaying the fastest increases until the end of 2014. Since 2015, however, a different trend emerged, where growth rates for the lower quintiles increased faster instead. The most recent data indicates a slowdown in the growth of rents at all price points on the distribution. The growth rate of the most expensive rents has experienced the sharpest decline throughout 2020 as a whole.

**Figure 29 –** RTB Rent Index - Mean Moving Average of Year-on-Year Rate of Change (%) in Standardised Average Rent by Quintile



# Appendix 1: Additional Market Insights



This short appendix provides some additional indicators to complement the market insights section in the main report.

The indicators provided are:

- Number of occupants by quarter and region;
- Rent payment frequency by quarter and region;
- Tenancy length by quarter and region.

Figure A1.1 - RTB Rent Index - Number of Occupants by Quarter (%)

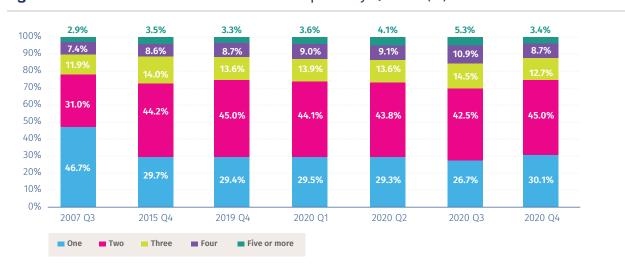


Figure A1.2 - RTB Rent Index - Number of Occupants by Region (Current Quarter) (%)

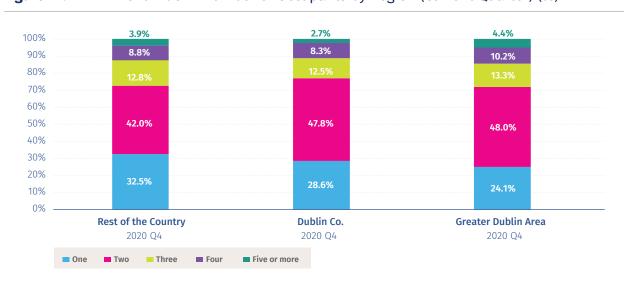


Figure A1.3 - RTB Rent Index - Rent Frequency by Quarter (%)

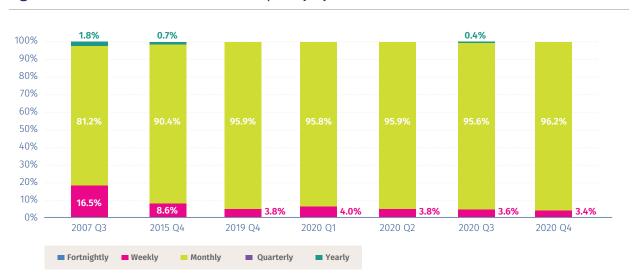
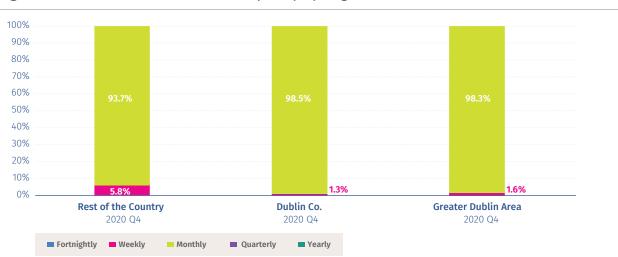


Figure A1.4 - RTB Rent Index - Rent Frequency by Region (Current Quarter) (%)



It should be noted that 'tenancy length' refers to the length of the tenancy as agreed with the landlord at the start of the tenancy. The actual duration of the tenancy may be longer, if the tenant renews their lease, or shorter, if they leave the property before the existing lease expires. These circumstances are not captured in the data used to generate the Figures A1.5 – A1.6.

Figure A1.5 - RTB Rent Index - Tenancy Length by Quarter (%)

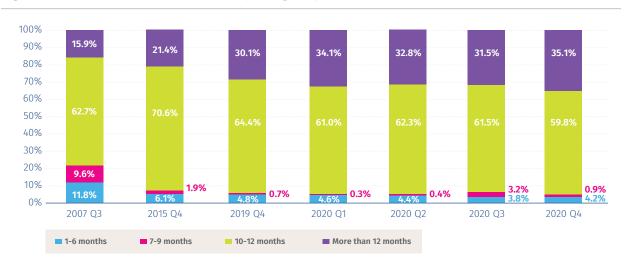


Figure A1.6 - RTB Rent Index - Tenancy Length by Region (Current Quarter) (%)



# Appendix 2: Technical Appendix



## To calculate the standardised averages and the rental indices, the method of Lawless et al. (2018) is followed<sup>7</sup>.

An econometric model is estimated over the entire time period (Q3 2007 to Q4 2020), which includes characteristic variables for the number of bedrooms, the property type, number of tenants, tenancy length and other characteristics. For these variables, the reference property type is a two-bedroom apartment, 1 tenant, 10 to 12 month lease, with rent paid monthly in a region without a third-level institution. To derive the Index, time dummy variables are then included in the hedonic regression to capture the change in the Index for each LEA.

With the new model, the characteristic variables capture the mix of properties across time periods while the time dummies capture changes in the price or rent of a constant quality representative dwelling. A mix adjusted Index is then calculated based on the time dummy coefficients. An assumption of this approach is that the implicit price of characteristics remains constant over time. Given that a separate dummy for each LEA for each quarter is estimated, this necessitates an additional (N \* 166) variables in the model, where N = the number of quarters. However, the model can cope with this as using the entire sample results in approximately 1,285,200 observations. Other than these LEA dummies, the model also includes controls for the size and type of house/apartment, length of tenancy, number of tenants, frequency of rent payment and presence of a third-level institution. As the model is estimated on the full sample with the new quarter's data added each time, it could be the case that coefficients change over time and that this could affect the historical rents. The differences in coefficients between O3 2020 and Q4 2020 are in Table A.1.

In line with national statistical good practice, we follow a number of steps in terms of data preparation and estimation. Given the small number of observations in some of the LEAs, careful data management strategies must be employed to ensure statistical robustness. To deal with the influence of outliers (i.e. extreme values) on the estimates at an LEA level, we employ a systematic process to identify such extreme values. The methodology uses the statistical program Stata to calculate influence statistics for each observation. Since Q1 2019, the outlier detection approach consists of two methodologies, which generate two outlier identification variables:

**a.** The first approach identifies observations as outliers controlling for whether the property is classified as an apartment or not. The variable used to check for outliers is monthly rents. This variable is used as a dependent variable in an ANOVA process, using an apartment identifier as the only covariate. After the estimation, the Cook's Distance statistic is obtained. Observations are classified as outliers if Cook's Distance >= 4/No. of Observations. This process is carried out by LEA and quarter. Please note that this approach is only used to clean the values of the monthly rent variable in our base quarter 04 2007. This is later discussed in more detail.

<sup>7</sup> Lawless, M., K. McQuinn and J. Walsh (2018). 'Identifying Rent Pressures in Your Neighbourhood: A New Model of Irish Regional Rent Indicators'. Economic and Social Review Vol.49 No.1. Available at: https://www.esr.ie/article/view/860

b. Our second approach to addressing outliers classifies a tenancy as an outlier if the observation is in the top 1 per cent and bottom 1 per cent of values of the distribution for the monthly rent variable for a specific LEA in a given quarter. Where there are under 100 observations in an LEA in a given quarter, observations will be classified as outliers if they are in the top 1 per cent and bottom 1 per cent of values of the distribution for the monthly rent variable for the county within which the underpopulated LEA is situated.

Where a county has under 100 observations in a given quarter, the observations with the minimum and maximum value of monthly rent for that county in that quarter are classified as outliers.

**Table A2.1 – RTB Rent Index - Comparison of Model Estimates** 

|                     | LEA Model<br>Q4 2020 | LEA Model<br>Q3 2020 |
|---------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
|                     | Coefficients         | Coefficients         |
| 1 Bedroom           | -0.220               | -0.220               |
| 3 Bedrooms          | 0.128                | 0.129                |
| 4 Bedrooms          | 0.251                | 0.251                |
| 5 bedrooms          | 0.355                | 0.356                |
| Detached            | -0.007               | -0.007               |
| Semi-Detached       | -0.022               | -0.022               |
| Terrace             | -0.033               | -0.034               |
| Other Property      | -0.299               | -0.299               |
| Part House          | -0.201               | -0.199               |
| 2 Tenants           | 0.046                | 0.045                |
| 3 Tenants           | 0.054                | 0.054                |
| 4+ Tenants          | 0.069                | 0.069                |
| 1-6 months tenancy  | -0.029               | -0.029               |
| 7-9 months tenancy  | -0.039               | -0.037               |
| Over 1 year tenancy | -0.056               | -0.056               |
| Fortnightly rent    | 0.041                | 0.042                |
| Yearly rent         | -0.143               | -0.145               |
| Quarterly rent      | 0.279                | 0.276                |
| Third level         | 0.023                | 0.023                |
| Time * LEA(1)       | Yes                  | Yes                  |
| Adjusted R-squared  | 0.728                | 0.727                |
| N                   | 1,285,184            | 1,261,618            |

The methodology generates an Index of rent growth. To estimate the standardised rent levels in each LEA (i.e. rent levels that take into account the different composition of rental properties), we apply the growth rate generated by the model to an initial average value (i.e. Q4 2007 value) of rents in each LEA. From Q1 2019, the Index is based on a raw or unadjusted monthly rent average for Q4 2007 in each LEA. Therefore, the Index presented throughout this report has Q4 2007 as base quarter. As previously mentioned, the outlier detection approach (a) is only used to clean the values of the monthly rent variable in this initial quarter. This is done in order to obtain a less skewed distribution of observations than that which might otherwise compromise the estimation of our baseline rents. The use of Q4 2007 base is a change over the methodology used prior to Q4 2017 and is driven by the lower seasonality evident in Q4 as well as the lower number of outliers, both of which make the fourth quarter of the year a more suitable base.

A number of points should be noted with the methodology. First, for each quarter, the new tenancy agreements are added to the dataset and the Index is estimated again from scratch. Furthermore, where late tenancies have been registered with the RTB after the publication of a previous report but relate to historical time periods, these will be included in the updated Index, thus allowing for retrospective revisions of historical growth rates as would be the case with other national statistical producers (Central Bank and Central Statistics Office). All of the growth rates presented in this report are calculated using the relevant standardised average rent level before rounding. Calculating a growth rate based on the rounded standardised average rent levels published in the report may be subject to rounding error.

Given the small number of observations in many LEAs, it is not unexpected that there could be some volatility in the standardised average rents, growth rates and Index number over time. This is due to the fact that where there are a small number of observations for an LEA, minor fluctuations in the number of observations can have a large influence on estimates and, over time, changes to the number, structure, and type of agreements can lead to large quarter-on-quarter changes. It could also be the case that the retrospective addition of late registered tenancies can have a large effect on the sample size for some areas.

In this regard, large revisions and considerable swings in estimated standardised rents can occur for different LEAs. The inclusion of additional observations may also change some of the base coefficients if changes in composition occur.

As of Q3 2019, this report also includes an analysis of rent levels by dwelling type, number of bedrooms and location. The standardised averages and the rental indices for houses and apartments, categorised by location and number of bedrooms, are calculated in much the same way as the national model. A number of hedonic models are estimated separately for houses and for apartments. For each of these two types of dwellings, a hedonic regression is first estimated for the national series. This includes only interactions of time and the number of bedrooms. In addition, a second set of hedonic regressions is estimated (again, by type of dwelling category), this time including interactions of location, time and the number of bedrooms. The resulting coefficients obtained in each of the regressions are then used to calculate the subsequent standardised averages and the rental indices for houses and apartments by location and the number of bedrooms. Where a cell, any one property type, location and bedroom number combination, has less than thirty observations in it, the relevant figures relating thereto have been redacted and are represented by "\*" in the relevant tables.

Furthermore, where an LEA has less than 30 observations in a specific time period, no estimates are presented for this unit. These areas are also marked with an "\*" in the main report.

In Q4 2020, the estimation sample for the full period contained about 1,285,200 observations of which roughly 18,900 observations from the most recent quarter were used in the estimation process.

The report provides statistics obtained using models estimated for the county level (26 regions), the Non-Dublin area (2 regions), Greater Dublin Area excluding Dublin (3 regions) and cities (5 regions). Although, for the purposes of the analysis by bedroom number and location, the State is separated into counties Dublin, Cork, Galway, Limerick and then the Greater Dublin Area excluding Dublin and the Rest of the Country.

The various regional models are estimated in the same manner as the LEA model, with the dummy variable of each region interacted with each of the quarterly dummy variables. Each iteration of tables presented in the report is taken from different regression results. A more detailed description of these results is available on request from the ESRI. For Dublin, the figures presented throughout are taken from the county-level model.

The analysis in this report does not make any seasonal adjustment to rent levels. Highly seasonal patterns are noticeable in the data and any interpretation of the results should be cognisant of this.

In Appendix 1 of the Rent Index 2019 Q3 Report, we outlined how a change to legislation in 2019 impacted on the data management practices regarding Student Specific Accommodation. Student Specific Accommodation (SSA) is housing built for students or designated for students. The new legislation means that Higher Educational Institutions (HEI) that provide SSA to students during the academic year are now under the remit of the Residential Tenancies Board (RTB). The legislation also clarifies that SSA provided by the private sector is clearly within the jurisdiction of the RTB, regardless of whether there is a lease or license agreement in place. These changes apply to student tenancies which commenced on or after 15 August 2019. These SSA registrations are processed in a separate system and reporting framework. Hence, some SSA providers that previously registered tenancies into the main database that is used to calculate the rental index will now be captured within the new reporting framework. This results in a fall in observations in areas where such providers previously registered. For consistency, the historical data for those properties which can be identified to have migrated fully to the new system have been removed from the sample used in the estimation of the Rent Index. The identification is done on a best effort's basis. A great many student tenancies remain in the data used to estimate the Rental Index, however tenancies registered by Student Specific Accommodation providers who now report under the new framework are not among them.

# Appendix 3: Additional Tables



**Table A3.1 – National Rent Index (2007 Q4 = 100)** 

| Period  | Index | Standardised Average Rent (€) | Year-on-Year % Change | Quarter-on-Quarter<br>% Change |
|---------|-------|-------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------------|
| Q3 2007 | 97    | 966.62                        |                       |                                |
| Q4 2007 | 100   | 992.38                        |                       | 2.7                            |
| Q1 2008 | 100   | 993.27                        |                       | 0.1                            |
| Q2 2008 | 100   | 989.11                        |                       | -0.4                           |
| Q3 2008 | 92    | 911.24                        | -5.7                  | -7.9                           |
| Q4 2008 | 93    | 919.02                        | -7.4                  | 0.9                            |
| Q1 2009 | 88    | 876.47                        | -11.8                 | -4.6                           |
| Q2 2009 | 84    | 836.98                        | -15.4                 | -4.5                           |
| Q3 2009 | 81    | 804.17                        | -11.8                 | -3.9                           |
| Q4 2009 | 79    | 779.62                        | -15.2                 | -3.1                           |
| Q1 2010 | 78    | 773.41                        | -11.8                 | -0.8                           |
| Q2 2010 | 77    | 768.01                        | -8.2                  | -0.7                           |
| Q3 2010 | 77    | 759.61                        | -5.5                  | -1.1                           |
| Q4 2010 | 77    | 766.48                        | -1.7                  | 0.9                            |
| Q1 2011 | 76    | 751.30                        | -2.9                  | -2.0                           |
| Q2 2011 | 76    | 758.09                        | -1.3                  | 0.9                            |
| Q3 2011 | 77    | 763.42                        | 0.5                   | 0.7                            |
| Q4 2011 | 76    | 756.58                        | -1.3                  | -0.9                           |
| Q1 2012 | 75    | 746.06                        | -0.7                  | -1.4                           |
| Q2 2012 | 76    | 754.31                        | -0.5                  | 1.1                            |
| Q3 2012 | 78    | 771.09                        | 1.0                   | 2.2                            |
| Q4 2012 | 77    | 764.18                        | 1.0                   | -0.9                           |
| Q1 2013 | 77    | 761.13                        | 2.0                   | -0.4                           |
| Q2 2013 | 78    | 771.09                        | 2.2                   | 1.3                            |
| Q3 2013 | 80    | 796.96                        | 3.4                   | 3.4                            |
| Q4 2013 | 80    | 793.78                        | 3.9                   | -0.4                           |
| Q1 2014 | 80    | 795.37                        | 4.5                   | 0.2                            |

Table A3.1 – (Continued)

| Period  | Index | Standardised Average Rent (€) | Year-on-Year % Change | Quarter-on-Quarter<br>% Change |
|---------|-------|-------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------------|
| Q2 2014 | 83    | 823.70                        | 6.8                   | 3.6                            |
| Q3 2014 | 86    | 850.48                        | 6.7                   | 3.3                            |
| Q4 2014 | 85    | 847.09                        | 6.7                   | -0.4                           |
| Q1 2015 | 86    | 856.46                        | 7.7                   | 1.1                            |
| Q2 2015 | 89    | 883.16                        | 7.2                   | 3.1                            |
| Q3 2015 | 93    | 924.73                        | 8.7                   | 4.7                            |
| Q4 2015 | 94    | 931.79                        | 10.0                  | 0.8                            |
| Q1 2016 | 94    | 930.30                        | 8.6                   | -0.2                           |
| Q2 2016 | 97    | 963.95                        | 9.1                   | 3.6                            |
| Q3 2016 | 99    | 984.57                        | 6.5                   | 2.1                            |
| Q4 2016 | 101   | 999.55                        | 7.3                   | 1.5                            |
| Q1 2017 | 102   | 1014.35                       | 9.0                   | 1.5                            |
| Q2 2017 | 106   | 1047.34                       | 8.7                   | 3.3                            |
| Q3 2017 | 108   | 1075.78                       | 9.3                   | 2.7                            |
| Q4 2017 | 109   | 1084.42                       | 8.5                   | 0.8                            |
| Q1 2018 | 110   | 1088.77                       | 7.3                   | 0.4                            |
| Q2 2018 | 114   | 1130.94                       | 8.0                   | 3.9                            |
| Q3 2018 | 117   | 1159.57                       | 7.8                   | 2.5                            |
| Q4 2018 | 116   | 1154.94                       | 6.5                   | -0.4                           |
| Q1 2019 | 118   | 1170.05                       | 7.5                   | 1.3                            |
| Q2 2019 | 121   | 1205.69                       | 6.6                   | 3.0                            |
| Q3 2019 | 125   | 1237.45                       | 6.7                   | 2.6                            |
| Q4 2019 | 123   | 1222.69                       | 5.9                   | -1.2                           |
| Q1 2020 | 124   | 1230.04                       | 5.1                   | 0.6                            |
| Q2 2020 | 123   | 1225.13                       | 1.6                   | -0.4                           |
| Q3 2020 | 127   | 1256.15                       | 1.5                   | 2.5                            |
| Q4 2020 | 127   | 1256.15                       | 2.7                   | 0.0                            |

Table A3.2 – RTB Rent Index - Standardised Average Rents - Regions (Q4 2007 is Actual Average)

| Period  | Dublin | Non-<br>Dublin | GDA<br>(excl<br>Dublin) | Outside<br>GDA | Dublin<br>Houses | Non-<br>Dublin<br>Houses | GDA (excl.<br>Dublin)<br>Houses | Outside<br>GDA<br>Houses | Dublin<br>Apt. | Non<br>Dublin<br>Apt. | GDA (excl.<br>Dublin)<br>Apt. | Outside<br>GDA<br>Apt. |
|---------|--------|----------------|-------------------------|----------------|------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------|----------------|-----------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------|
| Q3 2007 | 1243   | 802            | 1001                    | 772            | 1465             | 833                      | 1075                            | 797                      | 1177           | 770                   | 919                           | 748                    |
| Q4 2007 | 1301   | 800            | 1025                    | 766            | 1431             | 830                      | 1084                            | 794                      | 1296           | 770                   | 964                           | 739                    |
| Q1 2008 | 1297   | 798            | 998                     | 765            | 1414             | 813                      | 1059                            | 775                      | 1299           | 791                   | 936                           | 764                    |
| Q2 2008 | 1289   | 799            | 1006                    | 765            | 1443             | 816                      | 1078                            | 777                      | 1277           | 788                   | 924                           | 762                    |
| O3 2008 | 1190   | 756            | 963                     | 726            | 1332             | 786                      | 1019                            | 751                      | 1208           | 725                   | 903                           | 701                    |
| Q4 2008 | 1194   | 750            | 938                     | 720            | 1327             | 773                      | 995                             | 739                      | 1185           | 727                   | 869                           | 702                    |
| Q1 2009 | 1118   | 721            | 884                     | 693            | 1231             | 736                      | 931                             | 703                      | 1108           | 710                   | 826                           | 689                    |
| Q2 2009 | 1066   | 695            | 833                     | 670            | 1199             | 715                      | 887                             | 685                      | 1045           | 677                   | 765                           | 659                    |
| Q3 2009 | 1028   | 670            | 815                     | 647            | 1164             | 702                      | 874                             | 674                      | 997            | 634                   | 742                           | 617                    |
| Q4 2009 | 990    | 644            | 769                     | 622            | 1116             | 667                      | 826                             | 640                      | 964            | 620                   | 703                           | 603                    |
| Q1 2010 | 974    | 638            | 753                     | 618            | 1085             | 656                      | 803                             | 631                      | 955            | 622                   | 693                           | 606                    |
| Q2 2010 | 973    | 639            | 761                     | 615            | 1096             | 656                      | 815                             | 627                      | 952            | 624                   | 695                           | 609                    |
| Q3 2010 | 978    | 630            | 769                     | 607            | 1123             | 666                      | 828                             | 639                      | 940            | 586                   | 692                           | 570                    |
| Q4 2010 | 979    | 627            | 752                     | 604            | 1097             | 645                      | 806                             | 618                      | 963            | 599                   | 675                           | 582                    |
| Q1 2011 | 953    | 618            | 744                     | 594            | 1069             | 630                      | 792                             | 602                      | 935            | 606                   | 680                           | 588                    |
| Q2 2011 | 978    | 618            | 745                     | 594            | 1111             | 634                      | 795                             | 606                      | 958            | 597                   | 674                           | 580                    |
| Q3 2011 | 998    | 623            | 749                     | 601            | 1136             | 654                      | 798                             | 628                      | 970            | 583                   | 680                           | 566                    |
| Q4 2011 | 983    | 613            | 732                     | 591            | 1108             | 625                      | 780                             | 599                      | 966            | 601                   | 671                           | 585                    |
| Q1 2012 | 962    | 604            | 731                     | 580            | 1085             | 616                      | 781                             | 586                      | 943            | 592                   | 665                           | 575                    |
| Q2 2012 | 997    | 604            | 740                     | 578            | 1114             | 619                      | 789                             | 588                      | 982            | 588                   | 675                           | 570                    |
| Q3 2012 | 1006   | 632            | 742                     | 612            | 1128             | 655                      | 806                             | 628                      | 991            | 605                   | 651                           | 595                    |
| Q4 2012 | 1013   | 609            | 735                     | 587            | 1118             | 622                      | 778                             | 596                      | 1005           | 590                   | 667                           | 575                    |
| Q1 2013 | 997    | 603            | 738                     | 580            | 1107             | 614                      | 786                             | 587                      | 980            | 591                   | 672                           | 575                    |
| Q2 2013 | 1039   | 603            | 742                     | 579            | 1141             | 616                      | 794                             | 587                      | 1034           | 590                   | 672                           | 574                    |
| Q3 2013 | 1075   | 628            | 764                     | 606            | 1204             | 644                      | 823                             | 617                      | 1047           | 609                   | 686                           | 595                    |
| Q4 2013 | 1088   | 608            | 762                     | 583            | 1200             | 620                      | 812                             | 590                      | 1080           | 596                   | 702                           | 575                    |
| Q1 2014 | 1088   | 609            | 784                     | 581            | 1194             | 619                      | 827                             | 587                      | 1077           | 601                   | 725                           | 580                    |
| Q2 2014 | 1151   | 624            | 811                     | 594            | 1263             | 636                      | 865                             | 601                      | 1145           | 614                   | 742                           | 590                    |
| Q3 2014 | 1192   | 654            | 845                     | 627            | 1313             | 673                      | 893                             | 643                      | 1181           | 631                   | 778                           | 610                    |
| Q4 2014 | 1198   | 634            | 841                     | 602            | 1308             | 649                      | 899                             | 613                      | 1193           | 616                   | 768                           | 592                    |
| Q1 2015 | 1192   | 645            | 861                     | 612            | 1309             | 657                      | 919                             | 621                      | 1190           | 634                   | 789                           | 607                    |
| Q2 2015 | 1253   | 658            | 887                     | 625            | 1378             | 673                      | 939                             | 637                      | 1248           | 638                   | 824                           | 610                    |
| Q3 2015 | 1297   | 703            | 928                     | 670            | 1436             | 725                      | 983                             | 688                      | 1278           | 679                   | 862                           | 651                    |
| Q4 2015 | 1299   | 700            | 931                     | 663            | 1427             | 714                      | 994                             | 673                      | 1289           | 687                   | 853                           | 658                    |
| Q1 2016 | 1294   | 696            | 957                     | 658            | 1424             | 707                      | 1007                            | 665                      | 1278           | 692                   | 899                           | 659                    |
| Q2 2016 | 1354   | 721            | 979                     | 682            | 1481             | 735                      | 1039                            | 693                      | 1353           | 708                   | 909                           | 674                    |
| Q3 2016 | 1378   | 753            | 997                     | 718            | 1491             | 778                      | 1044                            | 739                      | 1379           | 722                   | 922                           | 694                    |
| Q4 2016 | 1408   | 749            | 1010                    | 709            | 1509             | 759                      | 1073                            | 715                      | 1424           | 743                   | 930                           | 710                    |
| Q1 2017 | 1418   | 764            | 1036                    | 723            | 1524             | 771                      | 1092                            | 727                      | 1410           | 764                   | 968                           | 729                    |
| Q2 2017 | 1471   | 790            | 1066                    | 750            | 1572             | 804                      | 1129                            | 759                      | 1479           | 776                   | 987                           | 743                    |
| Q3 2017 | 1513   | 816            | 1091                    | 778            | 1656             | 835                      | 1163                            | 791                      | 1482           | 797                   | 996                           | 768                    |
| Q4 2017 | 1523   | 810            | 1118                    | 765            | 1645             | 823                      | 1187                            | 774                      | 1512           | 798                   | 1038                          | 761                    |
| Q1 2018 | 1537   | 811            | 1100                    | 769            | 1651             | 816                      | 1153                            | 773                      | 1532           | 814                   | 1039                          | 777                    |
| Q2 2018 | 1603   | 839            | 1126                    | 797            | 1731             | 847                      | 1181                            | 802                      | 1596           | 837                   | 1055                          | 802                    |
| Q3 2018 | 1650   | 874            | 1152                    | 834            | 1782             | 894                      | 1220                            | 850                      | 1645           | 855                   | 1061                          | 824                    |
| Q4 2018 | 1635   | 861            | 1163                    | 816            | 1776             | 869                      | 1229                            | 820                      | 1615           | 860                   | 1072                          | 823                    |

Table A3.2 – (Continued)

| Period  | Dublin | Non-<br>Dublin | GDA<br>(excl<br>Dublin) | Outside<br>GDA | Dublin<br>Houses | Non-<br>Dublin<br>Houses | GDA (excl.<br>Dublin)<br>Houses | Outside<br>GDA<br>Houses | Dublin<br>Apt. | Non<br>Dublin<br>Apt. | GDA (excl.<br>Dublin)<br>Apt. | Outside<br>GDA<br>Apt. |
|---------|--------|----------------|-------------------------|----------------|------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------|----------------|-----------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------|
| Q1 2019 | 1650   | 877            | 1163                    | 836            | 1747             | 880                      | 1221                            | 836                      | 1651           | 883                   | 1087                          | 849                    |
| Q2 2019 | 1711   | 899            | 1204                    | 853            | 1862             | 909                      | 1239                            | 864                      | 1680           | 892                   | 1150                          | 847                    |
| Q3 2019 | 1742   | 938            | 1251                    | 894            | 1901             | 967                      | 1322                            | 919                      | 1703           | 901                   | 1154                          | 865                    |
| Q4 2019 | 1709   | 921            | 1244                    | 875            | 1845             | 933                      | 1318                            | 882                      | 1693           | 913                   | 1145                          | 878                    |
| Q1 2020 | 1733   | 924            | 1285                    | 871            | 1838             | 934                      | 1354                            | 877                      | 1733           | 917                   | 1199                          | 870                    |
| Q2 2020 | 1712   | 927            | 1239                    | 879            | 1832             | 940                      | 1313                            | 888                      | 1697           | 917                   | 1159                          | 875                    |
| Q3 2020 | 1759   | 963            | 1257                    | 920            | 1900             | 978                      | 1303                            | 930                      | 1739           | 953                   | 1200                          | 918                    |
| Q4 2020 | 1745   | 955            | 1307                    | 904            | 1892             | 968                      | 1373                            | 915                      | 1727           | 938                   | 1231                          | 892                    |

**Note:** GDA stands for Greater Dublin Area

**Table A3.3 –** RTB Rent Index - Quarter-on-Quarter % Change - Regions

| Period  | Dublin | Non<br>Dublin | GDA<br>(excl.<br>Dublin) | Outside<br>GDA | Dublin<br>Houses | Non<br>Dublin<br>Houses | GDA (excl.<br>Dublin)<br>Houses | Outside<br>GDA<br>Houses | Dublin<br>Apt. | Non<br>Dublin<br>Apt. | GDA (excl.<br>Dublin)<br>Apt. | Outside<br>GDA<br>Apt. |
|---------|--------|---------------|--------------------------|----------------|------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------|----------------|-----------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------|
| Q4 2007 | 4.6    | -0.2          | 2.4                      | -0.8           | -2.3             | -0.3                    | 0.9                             | -0.4                     | 10.2           | 0.0                   | 4.9                           | -1.3                   |
| Q1 2008 | -0.3   | -0.2          | -2.7                     | -0.2           | -1.2             | -2.0                    | -2.4                            | -2.4                     | 0.2            | 2.7                   | -3.0                          | 3.4                    |
| Q2 2008 | -0.6   | 0.1           | 0.8                      | 0.1            | 2.0              | 0.4                     | 1.8                             | 0.3                      | -1.7           | -0.5                  | -1.3                          | -0.3                   |
| Q3 2008 | -7.7   | -5.4          | -4.2                     | -5.2           | -7.7             | -3.7                    | -5.4                            | -3.3                     | -5.4           | -7.9                  | -2.3                          | -8.0                   |
| Q4 2008 | 0.3    | -0.8          | -2.7                     | -0.7           | -0.4             | -1.8                    | -2.4                            | -1.6                     | -1.9           | 0.2                   | -3.7                          | 0.1                    |
| Q1 2009 | -6.3   | -3.9          | -5.7                     | -3.9           | -7.2             | -4.7                    | -6.4                            | -4.8                     | -6.5           | -2.3                  | -5.0                          | -1.8                   |
| Q2 2009 | -4.7   | -3.5          | -5.7                     | -3.2           | -2.6             | -2.9                    | -4.8                            | -2.6                     | -5.7           | -4.7                  | -7.3                          | -4.3                   |
| Q3 2009 | -3.5   | -3.6          | -2.1                     | -3.4           | -3.0             | -1.9                    | -1.4                            | -1.6                     | -4.6           | -6.3                  | -3.0                          | -6.5                   |
| Q4 2009 | -3.7   | -3.9          | -5.7                     | -3.9           | -4.1             | -4.9                    | -5.5                            | -5.1                     | -3.2           | -2.3                  | -5.2                          | -2.2                   |
| Q1 2010 | -1.6   | -0.9          | -2.2                     | -0.6           | -2.8             | -1.8                    | -2.8                            | -1.4                     | -1.0           | 0.3                   | -1.4                          | 0.5                    |
| Q2 2010 | -0.1   | 0.1           | 1.1                      | -0.4           | 1.0              | 0.0                     | 1.4                             | -0.7                     | -0.3           | 0.3                   | 0.3                           | 0.5                    |
| Q3 2010 | 0.5    | -1.3          | 1.0                      | -1.3           | 2.4              | 1.6                     | 1.6                             | 1.9                      | -1.2           | -6.0                  | -0.4                          | -6.5                   |
| Q4 2010 | 0.1    | -0.6          | -2.3                     | -0.6           | -2.3             | -3.1                    | -2.5                            | -3.2                     | 2.4            | 2.1                   | -2.5                          | 2.2                    |
| Q1 2011 | -2.7   | -1.4          | -1.0                     | -1.7           | -2.6             | -2.4                    | -1.8                            | -2.6                     | -3.0           | 1.3                   | 0.7                           | 1.0                    |
| Q2 2011 | 2.6    | 0.0           | 0.1                      | 0.0            | 4.0              | 0.7                     | 0.4                             | 0.6                      | 2.5            | -1.6                  | -0.8                          | -1.4                   |
| Q3 2011 | 2.0    | 0.8           | 0.5                      | 1.2            | 2.2              | 3.0                     | 0.5                             | 3.7                      | 1.2            | -2.3                  | 0.8                           | -2.4                   |
| Q4 2011 | -1.5   | -1.6          | -2.2                     | -1.6           | -2.5             | -4.3                    | -2.3                            | -4.6                     | -0.4           | 3.0                   | -1.2                          | 3.4                    |
| Q1 2012 | -2.2   | -1.5          | -0.2                     | -2.0           | -2.1             | -1.6                    | 0.1                             | -2.3                     | -2.4           | -1.5                  | -0.9                          | -1.8                   |
| Q2 2012 | 3.7    | 0.0           | 1.2                      | -0.2           | 2.6              | 0.5                     | 1.0                             | 0.4                      | 4.1            | -0.7                  | 1.5                           | -0.9                   |
| Q3 2012 | 0.9    | 4.7           | 0.4                      | 5.9            | 1.3              | 5.9                     | 2.2                             | 6.8                      | 0.9            | 2.8                   | -3.6                          | 4.4                    |
| Q4 2012 | 0.7    | -3.7          | -1.0                     | -4.2           | -0.9             | -5.0                    | -3.4                            | -5.1                     | 1.4            | -2.4                  | 2.5                           | -3.3                   |
| Q1 2013 | -1.6   | -0.9          | 0.4                      | -1.1           | -1.0             | -1.3                    | 0.9                             | -1.5                     | -2.5           | 0.1                   | 0.7                           | 0.0                    |
| Q2 2013 | 4.2    | -0.1          | 0.6                      | -0.2           | 3.0              | 0.2                     | 1.1                             | -0.1                     | 5.5            | -0.2                  | 0.0                           | -0.1                   |
| Q3 2013 | 3.5    | 4.2           | 3.0                      | 4.6            | 5.5              | 4.7                     | 3.6                             | 5.1                      | 1.2            | 3.3                   | 2.1                           | 3.7                    |
| Q4 2013 | 1.2    | -3.2          | -0.3                     | -3.8           | -0.3             | -3.8                    | -1.3                            | -4.3                     | 3.1            | -2.2                  | 2.3                           | -3.3                   |
| Q1 2014 | 0.0    | 0.3           | 2.8                      | -0.2           | -0.5             | -0.2                    | 1.8                             | -0.5                     | -0.2           | 0.9                   | 3.3                           | 0.7                    |
| Q2 2014 | 5.9    | 2.4           | 3.5                      | 2.1            | 5.8              | 2.8                     | 4.6                             | 2.2                      | 6.3            | 2.2                   | 2.4                           | 1.8                    |
| Q3 2014 | 3.6    | 4.8           | 4.2                      | 5.5            | 4.0              | 5.9                     | 3.2                             | 7.0                      | 3.1            | 2.7                   | 4.8                           | 3.5                    |
| Q4 2014 | 0.5    | -3.1          | -0.5                     | -3.9           | -0.4             | -3.6                    | 0.7                             | -4.7                     | 1.0            | -2.4                  | -1.2                          | -3.1                   |

Table A3.3 – (Continued)

| Period  | Dublin | Non<br>Dublin | GDA<br>(excl.<br>Dublin) | Outside<br>GDA | Dublin<br>Houses | Non<br>Dublin<br>Houses | GDA (excl.<br>Dublin)<br>Houses | Outside<br>GDA<br>Houses | Dublin<br>Apt. | Non<br>Dublin<br>Apt. | GDA (excl.<br>Dublin)<br>Apt. | Outside<br>GDA<br>Apt. |
|---------|--------|---------------|--------------------------|----------------|------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------|----------------|-----------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------|
| Q1 2015 | -0.5   | 1.7           | 2.5                      | 1.7            | 0.1              | 1.2                     | 2.1                             | 1.4                      | -0.3           | 2.9                   | 2.6                           | 2.5                    |
| Q2 2015 | 5.1    | 2.0           | 2.9                      | 2.0            | 5.2              | 2.5                     | 2.2                             | 2.5                      | 4.9            | 0.6                   | 4.5                           | 0.6                    |
| Q3 2015 | 3.5    | 6.9           | 4.7                      | 7.3            | 4.2              | 7.7                     | 4.7                             | 8.0                      | 2.4            | 6.4                   | 4.6                           | 6.7                    |
| Q4 2015 | 0.2    | -0.5          | 0.3                      | -1.0           | -0.6             | -1.5                    | 1.1                             | -2.2                     | 0.8            | 1.1                   | -1.0                          | 1.1                    |
| Q1 2016 | -0.4   | -0.5          | 2.7                      | -0.8           | -0.2             | -1.1                    | 1.3                             | -1.2                     | -0.8           | 0.7                   | 5.3                           | 0.2                    |
| Q2 2016 | 4.6    | 3.6           | 2.3                      | 3.7            | 4.0              | 4.0                     | 3.1                             | 4.2                      | 5.9            | 2.3                   | 1.1                           | 2.1                    |
| Q3 2016 | 1.8    | 4.5           | 1.8                      | 5.2            | 0.7              | 6.0                     | 0.5                             | 6.7                      | 1.9            | 1.9                   | 1.4                           | 3.1                    |
| Q4 2016 | 2.1    | -0.6          | 1.3                      | -1.2           | 1.2              | -2.5                    | 2.7                             | -3.2                     | 3.3            | 3.0                   | 0.9                           | 2.3                    |
| Q1 2017 | 0.7    | 2.1           | 2.6                      | 2.0            | 1.0              | 1.5                     | 1.8                             | 1.6                      | -1.0           | 2.8                   | 4.1                           | 2.6                    |
| Q2 2017 | 3.8    | 3.4           | 2.8                      | 3.7            | 3.1              | 4.3                     | 3.4                             | 4.5                      | 4.9            | 1.6                   | 1.9                           | 2.0                    |
| Q3 2017 | 2.8    | 3.3           | 2.3                      | 3.7            | 5.3              | 3.9                     | 3.0                             | 4.2                      | 0.2            | 2.6                   | 1.0                           | 3.4                    |
| Q4 2017 | 0.7    | -0.7          | 2.5                      | -1.6           | -0.7             | -1.4                    | 2.0                             | -2.2                     | 2.0            | 0.1                   | 4.2                           | -0.9                   |
| Q1 2018 | 0.9    | 0.2           | -1.6                     | 0.5            | 0.4              | -0.8                    | -2.9                            | -0.1                     | 1.3            | 2.1                   | 0.1                           | 2.1                    |
| Q2 2018 | 4.3    | 3.4           | 2.3                      | 3.7            | 4.8              | 3.7                     | 2.4                             | 3.7                      | 4.2            | 2.7                   | 1.5                           | 3.3                    |
| Q3 2018 | 2.9    | 4.2           | 2.3                      | 4.6            | 2.9              | 5.5                     | 3.4                             | 6.0                      | 3.0            | 2.2                   | 0.6                           | 2.7                    |
| Q4 2018 | -0.9   | -1.5          | 0.9                      | -2.2           | -0.3             | -2.8                    | 0.7                             | -3.5                     | -1.8           | 0.5                   | 1.0                           | -0.1                   |
| Q1 2019 | 0.9    | 1.9           | 0.0                      | 2.5            | -1.7             | 1.2                     | -0.6                            | 1.9                      | 2.2            | 2.7                   | 1.4                           | 3.1                    |
| Q2 2019 | 3.7    | 2.5           | 3.6                      | 2.0            | 6.6              | 3.3                     | 1.4                             | 3.4                      | 1.7            | 1.0                   | 5.8                           | -0.2                   |
| Q3 2019 | 1.8    | 4.3           | 3.9                      | 4.7            | 2.1              | 6.4                     | 6.7                             | 6.4                      | 1.4            | 1.0                   | 0.4                           | 2.1                    |
| Q4 2019 | -1.9   | -1.8          | -0.5                     | -2.1           | -3.0             | -3.5                    | -0.3                            | -4.1                     | -0.6           | 1.3                   | -0.8                          | 1.4                    |
| Q1 2020 | 1.4    | 0.3           | 3.3                      | -0.5           | -0.4             | 0.1                     | 2.7                             | -0.5                     | 2.3            | 0.5                   | 4.7                           | -0.9                   |
| Q2 2020 | -1.2   | 0.3           | -3.5                     | 0.9            | -0.3             | 0.6                     | -3.1                            | 1.2                      | -2.1           | 0.0                   | -3.3                          | 0.6                    |
| Q3 2020 | 2.7    | 4.0           | 1.4                      | 4.7            | 3.7              | 4.1                     | -0.7                            | 4.7                      | 2.5            | 3.9                   | 3.6                           | 4.9                    |
| Q4 2020 | -0.8   | -0.9          | 4.0                      | -1.7           | -0.4             | -1.0                    | 5.3                             | -1.6                     | -0.7           | -1.6                  | 2.5                           | -2.9                   |

Note: GDA stands for Greater Dublin Area

**Table A3.4 –** RTB Rent Index - Annual % Change - Regions

| Period  | Dublin | Non<br>Dublin | GDA<br>(excl.<br>Dublin) | Outside<br>GDA | Dublin<br>Houses | Non<br>Dublin<br>Houses | GDA (excl.<br>Dublin)<br>Houses | Outside<br>GDA<br>Houses | Dublin<br>Apt. | Non<br>Dublin<br>Apt. | GDA (excl.<br>Dublin)<br>Apt. | Outside<br>GDA<br>Apt. |
|---------|--------|---------------|--------------------------|----------------|------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------|----------------|-----------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------|
| Q3 2008 | -4.3   | -5.6          | -3.7                     | -6.0           | -9.1             | -5.5                    | -5.2                            | -5.7                     | 2.6            | -5.8                  | -1.8                          | -6.4                   |
| Q4 2008 | -8.2   | -6.2          | -8.5                     | -6.0           | -7.3             | -6.9                    | -8.2                            | -6.9                     | -8.6           | -5.6                  | -9.9                          | -5.0                   |
| Q1 2009 | -13.8  | -9.7          | -11.4                    | -9.5           | -13.0            | -9.5                    | -12.0                           | -9.2                     | -14.7          | -10.2                 | -11.8                         | -9.8                   |
| Q2 2009 | -17.3  | -13.0         | -17.1                    | -12.5          | -16.9            | -12.4                   | -17.7                           | -11.8                    | -18.2          | -14.0                 | -17.1                         | -13.4                  |
| Q3 2009 | -13.6  | -11.4         | -15.4                    | -10.9          | -12.6            | -10.8                   | -14.2                           | -10.2                    | -17.5          | -12.6                 | -17.8                         | -12.0                  |
| Q4 2009 | -17.1  | -14.2         | -18.0                    | -13.7          | -15.9            | -13.6                   | -17.0                           | -13.4                    | -18.6          | -14.7                 | -19.1                         | -14.0                  |
| Q1 2010 | -12.9  | -11.5         | -14.8                    | -10.8          | -11.8            | -11.0                   | -13.8                           | -10.2                    | -13.8          | -12.5                 | -16.0                         | -12.0                  |
| Q2 2010 | -8.7   | -8.1          | -8.6                     | -8.1           | -8.6             | -8.3                    | -8.1                            | -8.5                     | -8.9           | -7.9                  | -9.1                          | -7.6                   |
| Q3 2010 | -4.9   | -5.9          | -5.6                     | -6.1           | -3.5             | -5.1                    | -5.3                            | -5.3                     | -5.6           | -7.6                  | -6.7                          | -7.6                   |
| Q4 2010 | -1.1   | -2.7          | -2.3                     | -2.9           | -1.7             | -3.3                    | -2.4                            | -3.4                     | -0.1           | -3.4                  | -4.0                          | -3.4                   |
| Q1 2011 | -2.2   | -3.1          | -1.2                     | -3.9           | -1.5             | -3.9                    | -1.4                            | -4.6                     | -2.1           | -2.5                  | -1.9                          | -3.0                   |
| Q2 2011 | 0.5    | -3.2          | -2.2                     | -3.5           | 1.4              | -3.2                    | -2.5                            | -3.3                     | 0.7            | -4.3                  | -3.1                          | -4.8                   |
| Q3 2011 | 2.0    | -1.2          | -2.7                     | -1.1           | 1.2              | -1.9                    | -3.5                            | -1.7                     | 3.1            | -0.5                  | -1.8                          | -0.6                   |

Table A3.4 – (Continued)

| Period  | Dublin | Non<br>Dublin | GDA<br>(excl.<br>Dublin) | Outside<br>GDA | Dublin<br>Houses | Non<br>Dublin<br>Houses | GDA (excl.<br>Dublin)<br>Houses | Outside<br>GDA<br>Houses | Dublin<br>Apt. | Non<br>Dublin<br>Apt. | GDA (excl.<br>Dublin)<br>Apt. | Outside<br>GDA<br>Apt. |
|---------|--------|---------------|--------------------------|----------------|------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------|----------------|-----------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------|
| Q4 2011 | 0.4    | -2.2          | -2.6                     | -2.1           | 1.0              | -3.1                    | -3.2                            | -3.1                     | 0.3            | 0.4                   | -0.5                          | 0.5                    |
| Q1 2012 | 0.9    | -2.3          | -1.8                     | -2.4           | 1.5              | -2.3                    | -1.4                            | -2.8                     | 0.9            | -2.4                  | -2.2                          | -2.3                   |
| Q2 2012 | 1.9    | -2.3          | -0.7                     | -2.6           | 0.2              | -2.5                    | -0.7                            | -3.0                     | 2.4            | -1.5                  | 0.1                           | -1.8                   |
| Q3 2012 | 0.8    | 1.5           | -0.8                     | 1.9            | -0.7             | 0.2                     | 1.0                             | 0.0                      | 2.1            | 3.7                   | -4.3                          | 5.0                    |
| Q4 2012 | 3.0    | -0.7          | 0.4                      | -0.8           | 0.9              | -0.5                    | -0.2                            | -0.5                     | 4.0            | -1.8                  | -0.7                          | -1.8                   |
| Q1 2013 | 3.7    | -0.1          | 1.0                      | 0.1            | 2.0              | -0.2                    | 0.6                             | 0.3                      | 3.9            | -0.2                  | 1.0                           | 0.0                    |
| Q2 2013 | 4.2    | -0.2          | 0.4                      | 0.1            | 2.4              | -0.5                    | 0.7                             | -0.2                     | 5.3            | 0.3                   | -0.5                          | 0.8                    |
| Q3 2013 | 6.8    | -0.7          | 3.0                      | -1.1           | 6.7              | -1.6                    | 2.1                             | -1.8                     | 5.7            | 0.7                   | 5.4                           | 0.1                    |
| Q4 2013 | 7.4    | -0.2          | 3.7                      | -0.7           | 7.4              | -0.4                    | 4.3                             | -1.0                     | 7.5            | 0.9                   | 5.2                           | 0.1                    |
| Q1 2014 | 9.1    | 1.0           | 6.2                      | 0.2            | 7.9              | 0.7                     | 5.3                             | 0.0                      | 10.0           | 1.7                   | 7.9                           | 0.8                    |
| Q2 2014 | 10.8   | 3.6           | 9.2                      | 2.5            | 10.7             | 3.4                     | 8.9                             | 2.3                      | 10.7           | 4.2                   | 10.5                          | 2.7                    |
| Q3 2014 | 11.0   | 4.2           | 10.6                     | 3.5            | 9.1              | 4.5                     | 8.5                             | 4.2                      | 12.9           | 3.7                   | 13.4                          | 2.5                    |
| Q4 2014 | 10.2   | 4.3           | 10.2                     | 3.4            | 9.0              | 4.7                     | 10.7                            | 3.8                      | 10.5           | 3.5                   | 9.5                           | 2.8                    |
| Q1 2015 | 9.6    | 5.8           | 9.9                      | 5.3            | 9.6              | 6.2                     | 11.1                            | 5.8                      | 10.4           | 5.5                   | 8.8                           | 4.7                    |
| Q2 2015 | 8.9    | 5.3           | 9.4                      | 5.2            | 9.1              | 5.9                     | 8.5                             | 6.1                      | 9.0            | 3.9                   | 11.0                          | 3.5                    |
| Q3 2015 | 8.8    | 7.5           | 9.9                      | 6.9            | 9.3              | 7.7                     | 10.1                            | 7.0                      | 8.2            | 7.6                   | 10.8                          | 6.7                    |
| Q4 2015 | 8.4    | 10.4          | 10.8                     | 10.2           | 9.1              | 10.1                    | 10.5                            | 9.9                      | 8.0            | 11.5                  | 11.1                          | 11.2                   |
| Q1 2016 | 8.5    | 8.0           | 11.1                     | 7.5            | 8.8              | 7.6                     | 9.6                             | 7.0                      | 7.5            | 9.1                   | 14.0                          | 8.7                    |
| Q2 2016 | 8.0    | 9.6           | 10.4                     | 9.2            | 7.5              | 9.1                     | 10.6                            | 8.8                      | 8.4            | 11.0                  | 10.3                          | 10.4                   |
| Q3 2016 | 6.3    | 7.1           | 7.4                      | 7.1            | 3.9              | 7.3                     | 6.2                             | 7.5                      | 7.9            | 6.2                   | 6.9                           | 6.7                    |
| Q4 2016 | 8.3    | 7.0           | 8.4                      | 6.8            | 5.8              | 6.3                     | 7.9                             | 6.3                      | 10.5           | 8.2                   | 9.0                           | 7.9                    |
| Q1 2017 | 9.5    | 9.8           | 8.3                      | 9.9            | 7.0              | 9.1                     | 8.4                             | 9.3                      | 10.3           | 10.4                  | 7.7                           | 10.5                   |
| Q2 2017 | 8.7    | 9.6           | 8.9                      | 9.9            | 6.2              | 9.4                     | 8.7                             | 9.6                      | 9.3            | 9.6                   | 8.5                           | 10.3                   |
| Q3 2017 | 9.7    | 8.4           | 9.4                      | 8.4            | 11.1             | 7.3                     | 11.4                            | 7.0                      | 7.5            | 10.4                  | 8.1                           | 10.6                   |
| Q4 2017 | 8.2    | 8.2           | 10.7                     | 8.0            | 9.0              | 8.4                     | 10.6                            | 8.2                      | 6.2            | 7.3                   | 11.6                          | 7.2                    |
| Q1 2018 | 8.4    | 6.2           | 6.2                      | 6.4            | 8.3              | 5.9                     | 5.5                             | 6.4                      | 8.7            | 6.6                   | 7.4                           | 6.6                    |
| Q2 2018 | 9.0    | 6.2           | 5.7                      | 6.3            | 10.1             | 5.3                     | 4.6                             | 5.6                      | 7.9            | 7.8                   | 6.9                           | 7.9                    |
| Q3 2018 | 9.1    | 7.1           | 5.7                      | 7.3            | 7.6              | 7.0                     | 4.9                             | 7.4                      | 11.0           | 7.4                   | 6.5                           | 7.3                    |
| Q4 2018 | 7.4    | 6.3           | 4.0                      | 6.6            | 8.0              | 5.5                     | 3.6                             | 6.0                      | 6.8            | 7.8                   | 3.3                           | 8.2                    |
| Q1 2019 | 7.4    | 8.1           | 5.7                      | 8.8            | 5.8              | 7.7                     | 6.0                             | 8.2                      | 7.8            | 8.4                   | 4.6                           | 9.3                    |
| Q2 2019 | 6.7    | 7.2           | 6.9                      | 7.0            | 7.6              | 7.3                     | 4.9                             | 7.8                      | 5.2            | 6.6                   | 9.0                           | 5.7                    |
| Q3 2019 | 5.5    | 7.3           | 8.5                      | 7.1            | 6.7              | 8.2                     | 8.3                             | 8.2                      | 3.6            | 5.3                   | 8.8                           | 5.0                    |
| Q4 2019 | 4.5    | 7.0           | 7.0                      | 7.3            | 3.9              | 7.4                     | 7.3                             | 7.5                      | 4.8            | 6.2                   | 6.8                           | 6.6                    |
| Q1 2020 | 5.0    | 5.3           | 10.5                     | 4.1            | 5.2              | 6.2                     | 10.8                            | 4.9                      | 4.9            | 3.9                   | 10.3                          | 2.4                    |
| Q2 2020 | 0.1    | 3.0           | 2.9                      | 3.0            | -1.6             | 3.4                     | 6.0                             | 2.7                      | 1.0            | 2.8                   | 0.8                           | 3.3                    |
| Q3 2020 | 1.0    | 2.7           | 0.5                      | 2.9            | -0.1             | 1.1                     | -1.4                            | 1.1                      | 2.1            | 5.8                   | 4.0                           | 6.1                    |
| Q4 2020 | 2.1    | 3.7           | 5.0                      | 3.4            | 2.5              | 3.8                     | 4.2                             | 3.8                      | 2.0            | 2.7                   | 7.5                           | 1.6                    |

**Note:** GDA stands for Greater Dublin Area

**Table A3.5** – RTB Rent Index - Standardised Average Rent Levels per County Over Time (Q4 2007 = Actual)

|                    | 2      |       |       |      | gal     | _      | <u>&gt;</u> |       | ā       | lny      |       | E       | , j      |
|--------------------|--------|-------|-------|------|---------|--------|-------------|-------|---------|----------|-------|---------|----------|
|                    | Carlow | Cavan | Clare | Cork | Donegal | Dublin | Galway      | Kerry | Kildare | Kilkenny | Laois | Leitrim | Limerick |
| Q3 2007            | 767    | 591   | 711   | 925  | 575     | 1243   | 856         | 615   | 1010    | 754      | 749   | 557     | 850      |
| Q4 2007            | 732    | 596   | 712   | 903  | 591     | 1301   | 858         | 690   | 1019    | 777      | 735   | 553     | 765      |
| Q1 2008            | 751    | 598   | 717   | 912  | 596     | 1297   | 830         | 719   | 1009    | 780      | 716   | 546     | 783      |
| Q2 2008            | 769    | 577   | 708   | 894  | 606     | 1289   | 838         | 716   | 1010    | 801      | 720   | 549     | 784      |
| Q3 2008            | 715    | 560   | 655   | 859  | 550     | 1190   | 815         | 601   | 978     | 720      | 702   | 523     | 746      |
| Q4 2008            | 736    | 570   | 664   | 846  | 575     | 1194   | 801         | 674   | 951     | 725      | 659   | 526     | 762      |
| Q1 2009            | 696    | 526   | 633   | 817  | 551     | 1118   | 754         | 634   | 880     | 693      | 647   | 479     | 715      |
| Q2 2009            | 677    | 503   | 611   | 778  | 542     | 1066   | 734         | 645   | 840     | 673      | 594   | 462     | 687      |
| Q3 2009            | 643    | 483   | 591   | 759  | 530     | 1028   | 745         | 550   | 829     | 646      | 568   | 451     | 689      |
| Q4 2009            | 630    | 494   | 582   | 724  | 523     | 990    | 695         | 586   | 776     | 625      | 564   | 446     | 656      |
| Q1 2010            | 647    | 478   | 565   | 721  | 522     | 974    | 692         | 576   | 767     | 611      | 558   | 436     | 644      |
| Q2 2010            | 624    | 466   | 553   | 726  | 504     | 973    | 684         | 571   | 772     | 591      | 542   | 424     | 635      |
| Q3 2010            | 627    | 473   | 537   | 727  | 500     | 978    | 716         | 575   | 792     | 591      | 527   | 423     | 557      |
| Q4 2010            | 609    | 442   | 539   | 710  | 498     | 979    | 689         | 560   | 761     | 602      | 539   | 411     | 617      |
| Q1 2011            | 610    | 441   | 530   | 698  | 465     | 953    | 682         | 543   | 748     | 575      | 527   | 400     | 624      |
| Q2 2011            | 607    | 440   | 520   | 695  | 479     | 978    | 680         | 548   | 752     | 585      | 532   | 389     | 615      |
| Q3 2011            | 616    | 449   | 520   | 717  | 468     | 998    | 734         | 550   | 770     | 576      | 527   | 388     | 587      |
| Q4 2011            | 608    | 437   | 515   | 695  | 472     | 983    | 683         | 542   | 744     | 571      | 513   | 397     | 622      |
| Q4 2011<br>Q1 2012 | 602    | 443   | 501   | 688  | 458     | 962    | 672         | 539   | 750     | 586      | 520   | 381     | 597      |
| Q1 2012<br>Q2 2012 | 564    | 436   | 502   | 702  | 446     | 997    | 676         | 528   | 750     | 578      | 516   | 389     | 596      |
|                    | 649    | 446   | 510   | 730  | 474     | 1006   | 753         | 544   | 756     | 581      | 521   |         | 648      |
| Q3 2012            |        |       |       |      |         |        |             |       |         |          |       | 385     |          |
| Q4 2012            | 599    | 444   | 491   | 712  | 445     | 1013   | 686         | 536   | 755     | 571      | 511   | 393     | 608      |
| Q1 2013            | 572    | 447   | 505   | 711  | 445     | 997    | 674         | 532   | 758     | 579      | 509   | 388     | 592      |
| Q2 2013            | 586    | 441   | 507   | 702  | 443     | 1039   | 681         | 543   | 764     | 568      | 511   | 388     | 591      |
| Q3 2013            | 593    | 442   | 500   | 752  | 441     | 1075   | 751         | 535   | 787     | 591      | 518   | 393     | 635      |
| Q4 2013            | 542    | 420   | 509   | 725  | 432     | 1088   | 688         | 546   | 792     | 597      | 525   | 408     | 582      |
| Q1 2014            | 582    | 440   | 493   | 723  | 439     | 1088   | 699         | 546   | 807     | 588      | 536   | 398     | 604      |
| Q2 2014            | 597    | 444   | 512   | 741  | 440     | 1151   | 714         | 542   | 853     | 603      | 536   | 423     | 619      |
| Q3 2014            | 629    | 460   | 521   | 793  | 455     | 1192   | 796         | 555   | 874     | 628      | 562   | 404     | 584      |
| Q4 2014            | 614    | 459   | 500   | 752  | 455     | 1198   | 729         | 553   | 876     | 610      | 578   | 406     | 600      |
| Q1 2015            | 623    | 470   | 519   | 767  | 456     | 1192   | 748         | 568   | 885     | 632      | 582   | 424     | 622      |
| Q2 2015            | 628    | 469   | 534   | 794  | 460     | 1253   | 770         | 580   | 923     | 655      | 598   | 421     | 657      |
| Q3 2015            | 702    | 505   | 553   | 839  | 490     | 1297   | 880         | 599   | 958     | 678      | 621   | 439     | 625      |
| Q4 2015            | 638    | 498   | 559   | 861  | 487     | 1299   | 798         | 587   | 955     | 692      | 649   | 432     | 677      |
| Q1 2016            | 656    | 509   | 561   | 830  | 489     | 1294   | 808         | 586   | 982     | 689      | 641   | 447     | 704      |
| Q2 2016            | 665    | 536   | 592   | 876  | 502     | 1354   | 822         | 612   | 1000    | 692      | 665   | 459     | 722      |
| Q3 2016            | 706    | 556   | 601   | 907  | 518     | 1378   | 945         | 617   | 1024    | 729      | 704   | 490     | 707      |
| Q4 2016            | 713    | 536   | 602   | 901  | 514     | 1408   | 859         | 618   | 1046    | 733      | 686   | 466     | 774      |
| Q1 2017            | 730    | 547   | 613   | 918  | 537     | 1418   | 861         | 646   | 1051    | 762      | 685   | 486     | 777      |
| Q2 2017            | 748    | 574   | 640   | 953  | 533     | 1471   | 906         | 666   | 1087    | 766      | 740   | 501     | 801      |
| Q3 2017            | 743    | 579   | 663   | 986  | 553     | 1513   | 1015        | 665   | 1129    | 791      | 765   | 507     | 833      |
| Q4 2017            | 742    | 567   | 658   | 959  | 547     | 1523   | 939         | 666   | 1136    | 800      | 767   | 501     | 832      |
| Q1 2018            | 749    | 580   | 651   | 963  | 559     | 1537   | 927         | 694   | 1115    | 810      | 750   | 518     | 849      |
| Q2 2018            | 763    | 607   | 692   | 999  | 560     | 1603   | 975         | 725   | 1129    | 834      | 799   | 531     | 887      |
| Q3 2018            | 833    | 643   | 689   | 1044 | 577     | 1650   | 1053        | 690   | 1197    | 870      | 833   | 548     | 927      |
| Q4 2018            | 796    | 633   | 691   | 1022 | 567     | 1635   | 984         | 698   | 1161    | 844      | 839   | 529     | 903      |
| Q1 2019            | 832    | 647   | 699   | 1042 | 584     | 1650   | 996         | 751   | 1157    | 864      | 847   | 548     | 936      |
| Q2 2019            | 845    | 659   | 736   | 1053 | 589     | 1711   | 1043        | 769   | 1246    | 904      | 878   | 556     | 986      |
| Q3 2019            | 894    | 679   | 757   | 1098 | 612     | 1742   | 1159        | 790   | 1279    | 917      | 870   | 579     | 959      |
| Q4 2019            | 832    | 659   | 756   | 1090 | 611     | 1709   | 1053        | 781   | 1257    | 905      | 906   | 562     | 948      |
| Q1 2020            | 865    | 681   | 739   | 1075 | 608     | 1733   | 1042        | 791   | 1322    | 870      | 874   | 554     | 952      |
| Q2 2020            | 899    | 675   | 737   | 1089 | 613     | 1712   | 1074        | 787   | 1273    | 861      | 896   | 601     | 985      |
| Q3 2020            | 929    | 688   | 735   | 1119 | 617     | 1759   | 1173        | 811   | 1275    | 926      | 900   | 601     | 1026     |
| Q4 2020            | 901    | 684   | 778   | 1134 | 626     | 1745   | 1106        | 803   | 1329    | 919      | 901   | 626     | 1004     |

|         |          |       |      |       | Ę        |        | Roscommon |       | >         | Ģ         | ath       |         |          |
|---------|----------|-------|------|-------|----------|--------|-----------|-------|-----------|-----------|-----------|---------|----------|
|         | ord      |       |      | _     | gha      |        | mm        |       | Ta .      | for       | neg       | pre     | Mo       |
|         | Longford | Louth | Mayo | Meath | Monaghan | Offaly | 005       | Sligo | Tipperary | Waterford | Westmeath | Wexford | Wicklow  |
|         | 2        | 2     | Ma   | ğ     | Ă        | of     | Ro        | Sli   | Ë         | M         | Š         | ă       | <u>N</u> |
| Q3 2007 | 571      | 741   | 646  | 904   | 614      | 682    | 607       | 683   | 665       | 740       | 652       | 725     | 1089     |
| Q4 2007 | 584      | 833   | 667  | 940   | 651      | 705    | 639       | 665   | 692       | 661       | 758       | 726     | 1105     |
| Q1 2008 | 562      | 825   | 641  | 918   | 623      | 652    | 615       | 661   | 686       | 743       | 654       | 720     | 1069     |
| Q2 2008 | 573      | 818   | 638  | 928   | 603      | 659    | 580       | 673   | 696       | 742       | 664       | 725     | 1078     |
| Q3 2008 | 522      | 792   | 624  | 857   | 596      | 637    | 568       | 597   | 654       | 702       | 607       | 696     | 1028     |
| Q4 2008 | 517      | 743   | 624  | 837   | 587      | 650    | 574       | 619   | 662       | 603       | 616       | 686     | 1012     |
| Q1 2009 | 498      | 712   | 613  | 792   | 538      | 599    | 535       | 617   | 640       | 678       | 606       | 664     | 980      |
| Q2 2009 | 479      | 673   | 606  | 747   | 537      | 562    | 522       | 578   | 623       | 665       | 571       | 633     | 914      |
| Q3 2009 | 463      | 644   | 588  | 722   | 522      | 551    | 498       | 531   | 595       | 629       | 563       | 617     | 889      |
| Q4 2009 | 446      | 650   | 578  | 694   | 519      | 541    | 460       | 554   | 572       | 519       | 544       | 600     | 857      |
| Q1 2010 | 429      | 620   | 559  | 684   | 507      | 537    | 465       | 560   | 571       | 587       | 539       | 594     | 812      |
| Q2 2010 | 437      | 618   | 553  | 678   | 507      | 525    | 469       | 556   | 573       | 590       | 535       | 587     | 845      |
| Q3 2010 | 430      | 628   | 533  | 688   | 499      | 528    | 466       | 565   | 553       | 525       | 543       | 592     | 822      |
| Q4 2010 | 412      | 620   | 539  | 672   | 498      | 519    | 449       | 536   | 559       | 575       | 518       | 592     | 821      |
| Q1 2011 | 418      | 592   | 522  | 677   | 477      | 515    | 450       | 541   | 558       | 586       | 518       | 572     | 804      |
| Q2 2011 | 397      | 604   | 528  | 670   | 492      | 517    | 448       | 548   | 552       | 579       | 523       | 563     | 807      |
| Q3 2011 | 399      | 601   | 505  | 667   | 491      | 514    | 468       | 555   | 544       | 563       | 547       | 562     | 808      |
| Q4 2011 | 382      | 613   | 520  | 674   | 488      | 507    | 438       | 549   | 539       | 564       | 514       | 559     | 773      |
| Q1 2012 | 380      | 595   | 492  | 658   | 473      | 511    | 436       | 536   | 530       | 568       | 507       | 537     | 769      |
| Q2 2012 | 384      | 581   | 496  | 658   | 492      | 498    | 420       | 523   | 525       | 541       | 511       | 540     | 803      |
| Q3 2012 | 392      | 590   | 489  | 666   | 486      | 495    | 426       | 584   | 527       | 561       | 523       | 543     | 807      |
| Q4 2012 | 386      | 595   | 500  | 655   | 472      | 506    | 428       | 529   | 529       | 550       | 511       | 554     | 786      |
| Q1 2013 | 383      | 588   | 497  | 662   | 454      | 494    | 426       | 523   | 527       | 545       | 511       | 543     | 803      |
| Q2 2013 | 372      | 596   | 492  | 666   | 460      | 491    | 431       | 510   | 518       | 550       | 509       | 549     | 799      |
| Q3 2013 | 380      | 601   | 488  | 680   | 486      | 513    | 425       | 581   | 533       | 551       | 521       | 543     | 830      |
| Q4 2013 | 388      | 609   | 489  | 683   | 475      | 511    | 427       | 590   | 527       | 550       | 512       | 536     | 816      |
| Q1 2014 | 381      | 607   | 496  | 717   | 472      | 511    | 423       | 529   | 532       | 545       | 514       | 534     | 822      |
| Q2 2014 | 392      | 628   | 498  | 715   | 501      | 523    | 435       | 531   | 532       | 554       | 528       | 550     | 868      |
| Q3 2014 | 413      | 633   | 508  | 750   | 493      | 524    | 444       | 672   | 532       | 559       | 554       | 566     | 905      |
| Q4 2014 | 414      | 637   | 505  | 768   | 483      | 530    | 435       | 531   | 530       | 564       | 537       | 552     | 877      |
| Q1 2015 | 409      | 669   | 494  | 776   | 487      | 524    | 451       | 551   | 535       | 561       | 556       | 560     | 927      |
| Q2 2015 | 421      | 677   | 499  | 814   | 504      | 544    | 424       | 556   | 545       | 574       | 561       | 566     | 910      |
| Q3 2015 | 433      | 689   | 513  | 853   | 532      | 559    | 455       | 713   | 558       | 583       | 702       | 590     | 961      |
| Q4 2015 | 449      | 711   | 513  | 846   | 520      | 562    | 451       | 726   | 565       | 608       | 594       | 600     | 988      |
| Q1 2016 | 452      | 743   | 523  | 883   | 519      | 545    | 458       | 563   | 565       | 619       | 591       | 595     | 990      |
| Q2 2016 | 468      | 758   | 542  | 908   | 546      | 573    | 464       | 593   | 564       | 651       | 622       | 606     | 1029     |
| Q3 2016 | 486      | 765   | 551  | 913   | 541      | 589    | 489       | 661   | 589       | 629       | 641       | 644     | 1061     |
| Q4 2016 | 499      | 795   | 562  | 941   | 560      | 604    | 478       | 591   | 585       | 665       | 636       | 629     | 1030     |
| Q1 2017 | 503      | 852   | 562  | 969   | 566      | 596    | 503       | 621   | 608       | 690       | 653       | 645     | 1104     |
| Q2 2017 | 541      | 888   | 578  | 1021  | 566      | 632    | 533       | 639   | 624       | 709       | 677       | 671     | 1103     |
| Q3 2017 | 532      | 880   | 586  | 1000  | 600      | 645    | 530       | 665   | 625       | 684       | 674       | 697     | 1146     |
| Q4 2017 | 537      | 899   | 596  | 1080  | 578      | 650    | 546       | 739   | 622       | 732       | 702       | 690     | 1156     |
| Q1 2018 | 558      | 915   | 610  | 1048  | 601      | 649    | 534       | 661   | 631       | 742       | 698       | 706     | 1144     |
| Q2 2018 | 566      | 954   | 618  | 1094  | 616      | 665    | 560       | 674   | 654       | 764       | 743       | 713     | 1176     |
| Q3 2018 | 585      | 945   | 645  | 1071  | 620      | 697    | 591       | 722   | 678       | 750       | 745       | 745     | 1193     |
| Q4 2018 | 589      | 978   | 628  | 1130  | 641      | 687    | 601       | 706   | 676       | 788       | 770       | 744     | 1222     |
| Q1 2019 | 586      | 1006  | 653  | 1139  | 639      | 706    | 609       | 721   | 674       | 813       | 790       | 734     | 1217     |
| Q2 2019 | 607      | 996   | 643  | 1150  | 629      | 749    | 602       | 733   | 690       | 843       | 803       | 754     | 1205     |
| Q3 2019 | 621      | 975   | 695  | 1209  | 688      | 761    | 630       | 862   | 717       | 828       | 815       | 786     | 1273     |
| Q4 2019 | 631      | 1036  | 675  | 1208  | 680      | 768    | 637       | 748   | 711       | 843       | 839       | 789     | 1280     |
| Q1 2020 | 674      | 1031  | 682  | 1231  | 659      | 755    | 617       | 754   | 708       | 860       | 832       | 779     | 1292     |
| Q2 2020 | 629      | 1028  | 695  | 1198  | 669      | 740    | 644       | 735   | 705       | 849       | 806       | 784     | 1246     |
| Q3 2020 | 641      | 1053  | 732  | 1203  | 685      | 782    | 667       | 815   | 710       | 888       | 839       | 801     | 1318     |
| Q4 2020 | 694      | 1085  | 697  | 1276  | 685      | 801    | 671       | 762   | 729       | 773       | 844       | 812     | 1325     |
|         |          |       |      |       |          |        |           |       |           |           |           |         |          |

**Published by** 

**Residential Tenancies Board** 

**Publication date** 

March 2021

**Contact Details** 

Residential Tenancies Board
Po Box 47, Clonakilty, County Cork.

For more information on the RTB, please visit www.rtb.ie or contact us on 0818 30 30 37 (lo-call) or 01 702 8100.

The RTB has a dedicated Investigations and Sanctions Information Helpline where you can speak to us and raise your concerns about potential breaches of the rental law.

Call 0818 776297 or 01 6753724 or email investigations@rtb.ie.

**Twitter @RTBinfo** 

The RTB Rent Index is produced by the ESRI based on anonymised data supplied by the RTB. It is produced using a hedonic regression. Details on the methodology are available from www.RTB.ie and www.esri.ie . There may be revisions to earlier quarters due to retrospective registrations. Historic time series for the index and the rent values are also available at the websites.

Average rents for different property types, sizes and locations are available on the RTB website.

Produced in conjunction with the ESRI.





