



Department for Levelling Up,  
Housing & Communities

Official Statistics Release

# Statutory Homelessness April to June(Q2) 2022: England

## In this release:

This is the quarterly statistics release for statutory homelessness assessments and activities in England between 1 April and 30 June 2022. It also reports on stock households in temporary accommodation under the statutory homelessness duty in England on 30 June 2022. A link to the quarterly Performance Dashboard is available at the bottom of this [page](#) to view a high level summary of homelessness figures by local authority. An infographic of headlines is also available to view on the same page, alongside the data tables and technical note.

Between April to June 2022:

- 72,210 households were initially assessed as homeless or threatened with homelessness and owed a statutory homelessness duty, up 1.3% from April to June 2021.
- 33,570 households were assessed as being threatened with homelessness, and therefore owed a prevention duty which is up 5.1% from the same quarter last year. This includes 5,940 households threatened with homelessness due to service of a Section 21 notice to end an Assured Shorthold Tenancy – an increase of 75.7% from the same quarter last year. This may partially reflect the removal of restrictions on private rented sector evictions from May 2021 that were in place the same quarter last year.
- 35,610 households were initially assessed as homeless and therefore owed a relief duty, down 0.9% from the same quarter last year. Households with children owed a relief duty increased 14.1% from the same quarter last year to 9,820 households in April to June 2022.
- 11,810 households were accepted as owed a main homelessness duty, up 16.5% from April to June 2021. This reflects the increase in households with children owed a relief duty this quarter (14.1%) and last quarter (24.7%) compared to previous year.
- On 30 June 2022, 94,870 households were in temporary accommodation, which is a fall of 1.0% from 30 June 2021. Households with children fell by 0.8% to 59,500, and single households fell by 1.3% to 35,370. Compared to the previous quarter, the number of households in temporary accommodation had fallen 0.1%.

We are continuously seeking feedback to help shape future publications to ensure your needs are met: [complete our survey](#).

**Release date:** 24 November 2022

**Date of next release:** Winter 2023

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## Main points

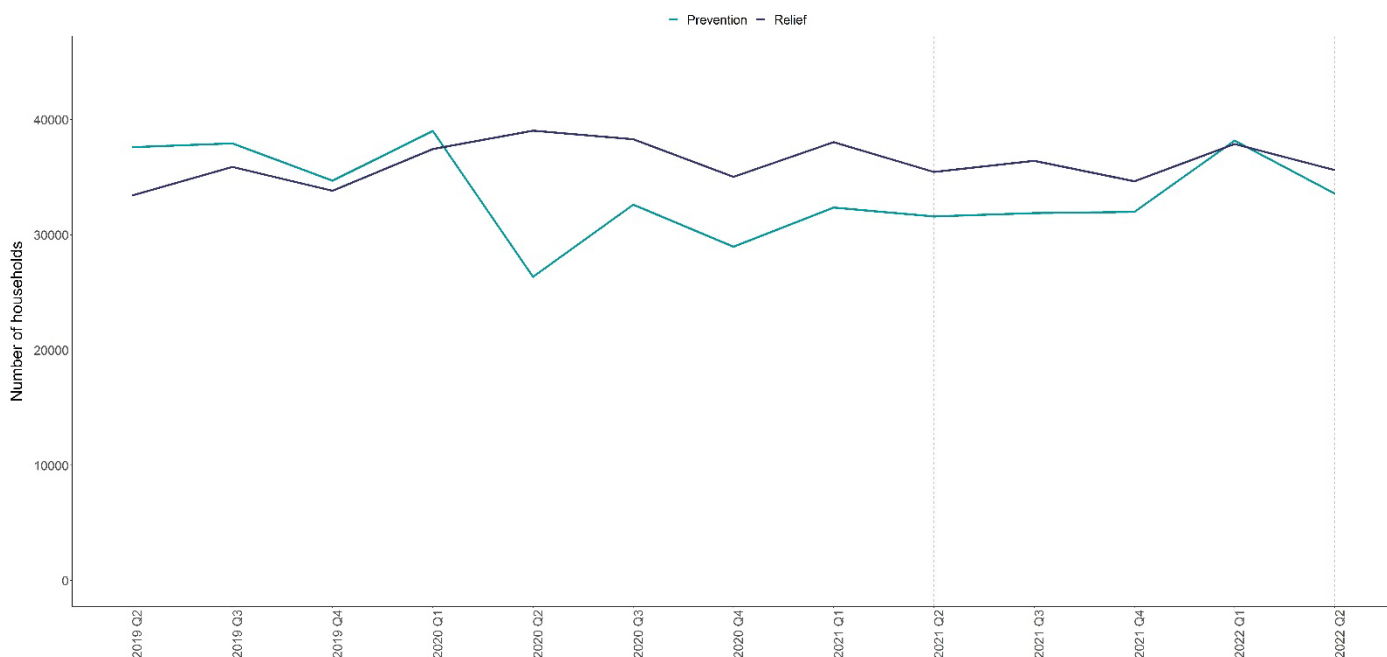
### Initial Assessments

**Prevention duty:** Local authorities may deliver their prevention duty through any activities aimed at preventing a household threatened with homelessness within 56 days from becoming homeless. This would involve activities to enable an applicant to remain in their current home or find alternative accommodation in order to prevent them from becoming homeless. The duty lasts for up to 56 days but may be extended if the local authority is continuing with efforts to prevent homelessness.

**Relief duty:** The relief duty is owed to households that are already homeless on approaching a local authority, and so require help to secure settled accommodation. The duty lasts 56 days and can only be extended by a local authority if the household is not owed the main homelessness duty.

**Section 21 notice:** A section 21 notice is the form a landlord must give a tenant to start the process to end an assured shorthold tenancy. This is recorded alongside initial assessments.

**Figure 1: Number of households owed a prevention or relief duty since 2019 Q2**



### Household composition (Tables A5P and A5R)

**Single households:** A term used for households without children, which will include couples and households with two or more adults.

**Single adult households:** Single adult households are a subset of single households, where the household comprises just one individual adult.

- In April to June 2022, 44,880 single households were owed a prevention or relief duty, down 2.9% from April to June 2021. In contrast, the number of households with children owed a prevention or relief duty increased 12.5% from April to June 2021 to 24,290.
- Single households are more likely to have homeless applications taken when already homeless and so are owed a relief duty (57.4%), whereas households with children are more likely to have an application taken when threatened with homelessness (59.6%).

### Reasons for homelessness (Tables A2P and A2R)

- For households owed a prevention duty, end of private rented Assured Shorthold Tenancy (AST) was the most common reason, accounting for 13,180 (39.3%) households owed a prevention duty. This has increased (up 62.5%) from the same quarter last year, likely reflecting the removal of restrictions on private rented sector evictions. This is also above the level in April to June 2019 before COVID-19 (up 15.2%), where 11,440 households owed a prevention duty cited this was due to the end of private rented AST, accounting for 30.4% of households owed a prevention duty. A breakdown of households owed a prevention duty due to the end of an AST shows the biggest increase was due to landlords wishing to sell or re-let the property, which increased (up 78.1%) from the same quarter last year.

- The second most common reason for households owed a prevention duty was family or friends no longer willing or able to accommodate, which accounted for 8,090 (24.1%) households in April to June 2022, down 14.0% from the same quarter last year.
- For those owed a relief duty, family or friends no longer willing or able to accommodate was the most common reason for homelessness, accounting for 11,170 (31.4%) households, down 0.7% from the same quarter last year.
- The second most common reason for those owed a relief duty was domestic abuse, accounting for 6,060(17.0%) households owed a relief duty. This had increased 4.7% from the same quarter last year.
- Another notable change from the same quarter last year for households owed a relief duty is end of private rented AST, up 54.8% to 4,350 households.

### **Current accommodation** (Tables A4P and A4R)

- The most common type of accommodation at the time of application for those owed a prevention duty was in the private rented sector (46.5%), up 39.8% from April to June 2021 to 15,620 households - consistent with the reasons for homelessness. This was also up 29.9% for those owed a relief duty to 5,260 households, likely reflecting the removal of most of the restrictions on private rented sector evictions.
- For households owed a relief duty, the most common type of accommodation was living with family (24.3%), which increased 0.9% from April to June 2021 to 8,670 households. For those owed a prevention duty, households living with family had decreased 17.6% to 8,010 households.
- The number of households owed a relief duty who were rough sleeping on approach increased by 31.4% from April to June 2021 to 3,010 households, while those reporting no fixed abode fell 25.0% to 5,240 households. The percentage reported as 'other/not known' accommodation has reduced by 47.4% for prevention duties and 40.8% for relief duties, which suggests some of the increases in reported categories may be due to improved reporting

**Rough sleeping:** People sleeping in the open air (such as on the streets, in tents, doorways, parks, bus shelters or encampments or other places not designed for habitation (such as stairwells, barns, sheds, car parks, cars, derelict boats, stations, or “bashes” which are makeshift shelters, often comprised of cardboard boxes). Rough sleepers in this publication may have slept rough one night or across several nights.

**Rough sleeping at the time of Local Authority Approach:** Rough sleepers are defined as those who were, in the judgement of the assessor, rough sleeping when they approached a local authority for help.

**History of Rough Sleeping:** This is a support need based on a history of sleeping rough and does not mean that the household was sleeping rough at the time of approach to the local authority

## Duty to Refer (Table A7)

**Duty to Refer:** Since 1 October 2018, duty to refer has required specified public bodies to refer, with consent, users of their service who they think may be homeless or threatened with homelessness to a local housing authority of the individual's choice.

- 7.7%, or 5,570, of the 72,210 assessments made were as a result of referrals from public bodies under the duty to refer. Of the assessments carried out from a duty to refer referral, 90.5% resulted in a homelessness duty.
- The National Probation Service made the most referrals to homelessness services which resulted in an assessment under the duty to refer with 2,200 (or 39.5%) of the total, an increase of 27.2% from April to June 2021.
- Another notable increase from April to June 2021 include a 33.3% increase in assessments due to referrals from Nil Recourse team to 40. There was a 70.6% decrease from same quarter last year of assessments due to referrals from Community Rehabilitation Companies, which reflects changes in criminal justice service structures; and a 55.7% decrease of assessments due to referrals from Adult Secure Estate (prison). We are continuously working to improve these figures, to update the public bodies under the duty to refer to reflect new structures, and to reduce the use of Other/Not known.

## Other demographics (Tables A3, A6, A8, and A10)

**Support needs:** areas of additional needs that mean the household requires support to acquire and sustain accommodation, giving an indication of the additional services local authorities need to provide to prevent an individual becoming homeless or to stop the cycle of repeat homelessness. Local authorities report as many support needs that apply to each household.

- Of all households owed either a prevention or relief duty, 36,140 households, or 52.2%, identified as having one or more support needs. The most common support need was a history of mental health problems, accounting for 18,280 households or 26.4% of households owed a duty. 12,390 households, or 17.9% of all households owed a duty, had a support need relating to physical ill health or disability. Other notable groups included those with experience of or at risk of domestic abuse, 11.7%; and those with offending history, 8.7%.
- The overall increase in the number of households owed a prevention or relief duty in April to June 2022 compared to the previous year was driven by increases in lead applicants aged 35 and over. The largest increases were for those aged 75+, up 40.0% to 840; and 65-74 up 38.2% to 2,100. Those aged 16-17, 18-24, and 25-34 fell by 11.9%, 11.0%, and 3.0% respectively.

- The majority of households owed a prevention or relief duty were where the lead applicant was White (68.0%), followed by households where the lead applicant was Black (10.1%) or Asian (6.3%). The number of households owed a prevention or relief duty where the lead applicant was White, Asian or Other increased 2.7%, 2.3%, and 2.1% respectively from the same quarter last year.
- The employment status that saw the largest increase was in the Other category, up 73.2% to 5,420; followed by those who had retired, up 36.3% to 2,140. Those in full-time or part-time work had also increased 11.8% and 5.1% respectively. The number of lead applicants who are students/training fell 20.9% to 1,020, not registered but seeking work fell 12.6% to 2,090, and those who were registered unemployed fell 9.7% to 23,400.

## Outcomes

### Tables P1 and R1

- In April to June 2022, the prevention duty ended for 31,380 households, up 4.7% from the same quarter last year; and 40,190 households saw their relief duty end, which is a similar level to the same quarter last year.
- Over half of the prevention duties which ended between April to June 2022 (17,130 or 54.6%) ended because the household secured accommodation for 6 months or more and their homelessness had been prevented – as a proportion of prevention duties ended, this has fallen 3.1 percentage points from last year. Of these households who secured accommodation at the end of their prevention duty, 6,120 or 35.7%, were able to remain in their existing home, up 3.6 percentage points from last year.
- 7,010 or 22.3% of households whose prevention duty ended were homeless at the end of the prevention duty and owed a subsequent relief duty, up 3.5 percentage points from the same quarter last year.
- Of the 40,190 relief duties ended, 15,530 or 38.6% of households had accommodation secured for at least 6 months, down 1.0 percentage points from the same quarter last year. Of these, 74.4% (11,550) were single households, down 3.5 percentage points from the same quarter last year.
- 16,530, or 41.1% of households whose relief duty ended had ended because their homelessness had not been relieved within 56 days and the local authority would need to assess whether a main duty is owed to them, up 1.7 percentage points from the same quarter last year.

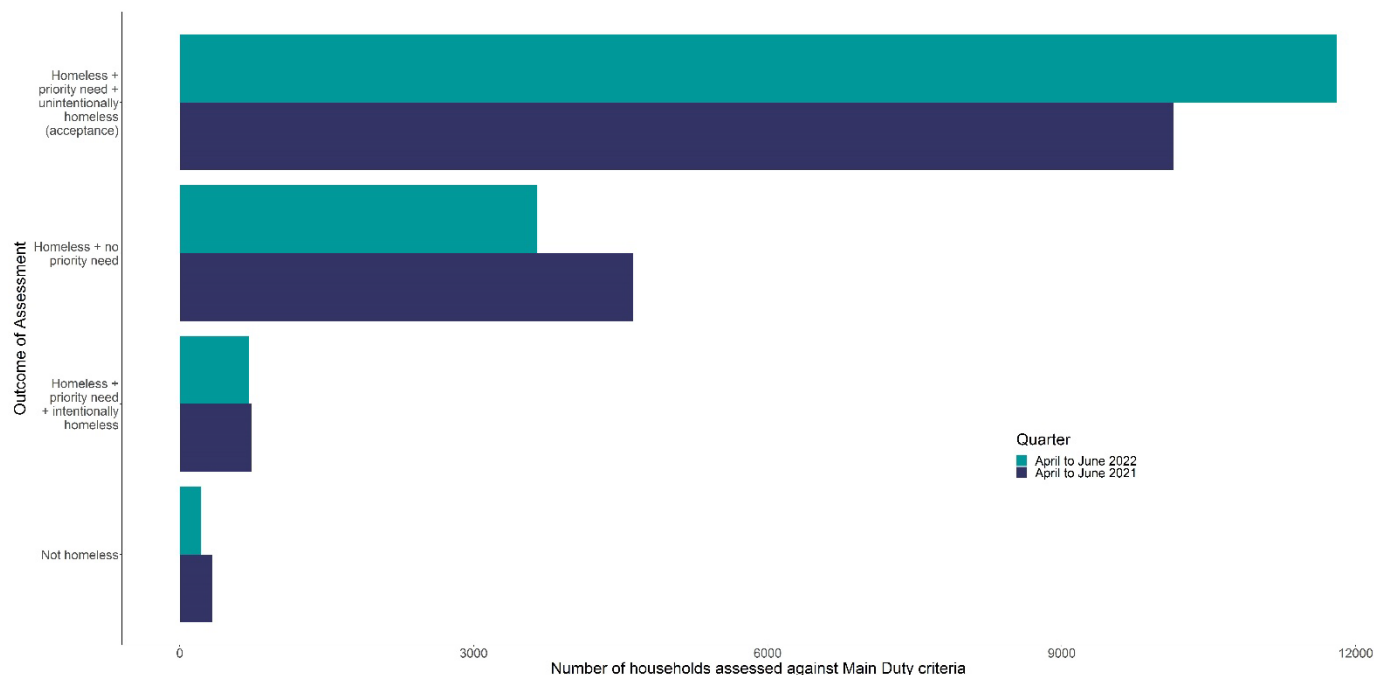
# Main Homelessness duty

**Main Duty:** The ‘main’ homelessness duty describes the duty a local authority has towards an applicant who is unintentionally homeless, eligible for assistance and has priority need<sup>1</sup>. These households are only owed a main duty if they did not secure accommodation in the prevention or relief stage, and so is not owed to those ‘threatened with homelessness’. In addition a minimum of 56 days of assistance must have elapsed from a household approaching the local authority to being owed a main duty.

## Tables MD1-3

- Main duty acceptances increased 16.5% from the same quarter last year to 11,810 in April to June 2022. Households with children owed a main duty increased 24.2% from the same quarter last year to 7,180 households. This reflects the increase in households with children owed a prevention (11.4%) or relief duty (14.1%) in the current and last quarters compared to same quarters previous year.
- The number of households owed a main duty who were homeless and have priority need due to domestic abuse had increased 44.2% from April to June 2021, reflecting both an increase in homelessness due to domestic abuse over the last year; but also the implementation of priority need for single people who are homeless due to being victims of domestic abuse through the Domestic Abuse Act in July 2021. Households that were homeless, had priority need and were intentionally homeless; or that were homeless and did not have a priority need fell 2.7%, and 21.2% respectively.

**Figure 2: Number of households assessed against a main duty decision, by outcome**



<sup>1</sup> Eligibility and priority need are further defined in Section 5, Additional Information.

- In April to June 2022, 8,440 households had their main homelessness duty come to an end, up 15.3% from April to June 2021.
- Of these households, 6,750 or 80.0% households accepted an offer of settled accommodation, up 20.8% from the same quarter last year.

## Temporary Accommodation

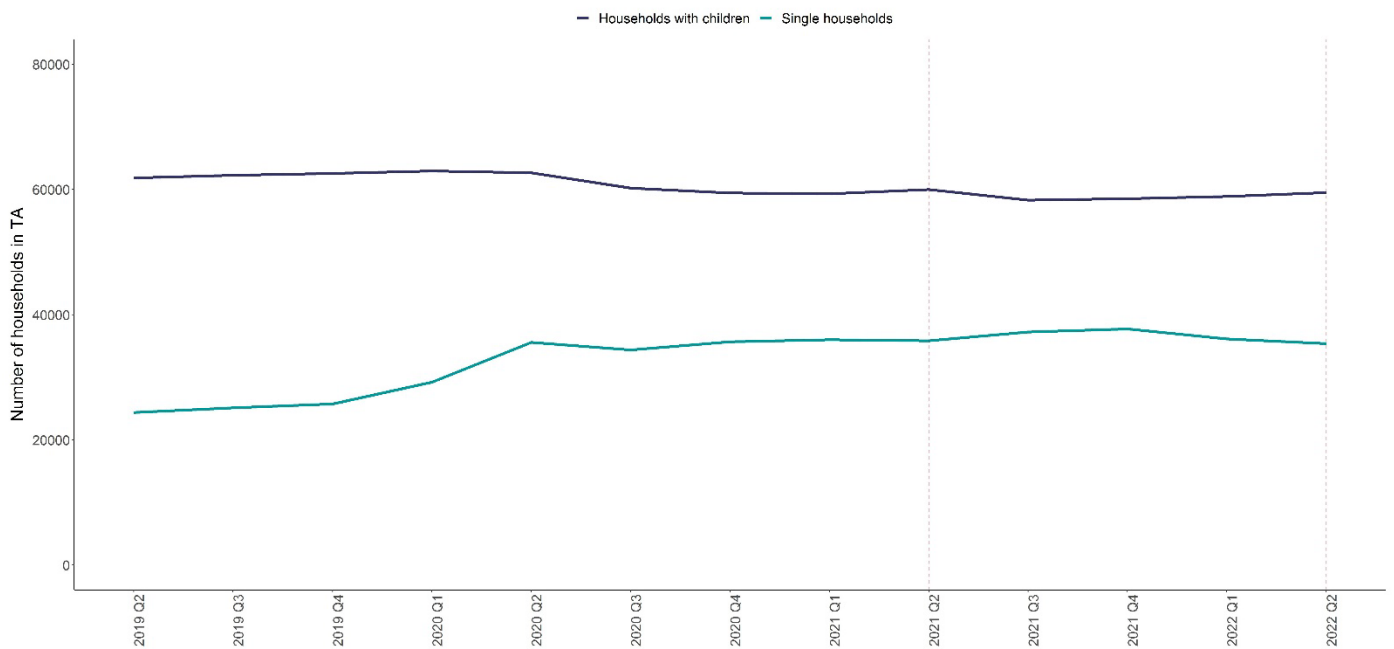
**Temporary Accommodation:** Temporary Accommodation is the term used to describe accommodation secured by a local housing authority under their statutory homelessness functions. The majority of households in temporary accommodation have been placed under the main homelessness duty, but temporary accommodation is also provided during the relief stage to households who the LA has reason to believe may have priority need, or on interim basis in other circumstances such as pending the outcome of a review on a homelessness decision.

### Table TA1

- 94,870 households were in temporary accommodation on 30 June 2022, down 0.1% from the previous quarter; single households fell 2.1%, and households with children increased 1.1%.
- In London, there were 15.5 households living in temporary accommodation per 1,000 households, compared with 1.9 households per 1,000 in the Rest of England. Newham had the highest rate of TA in London with 48.9 households per 1,000 households and Luton had the highest rate of TA outside London with 13.7 households per 1,000 households.
- On 30 June 2022, 26,130 or 27.5% of households in temporary accommodation were in accommodation in a different local authority district. 81.4% of these out of district placements were from London authorities.



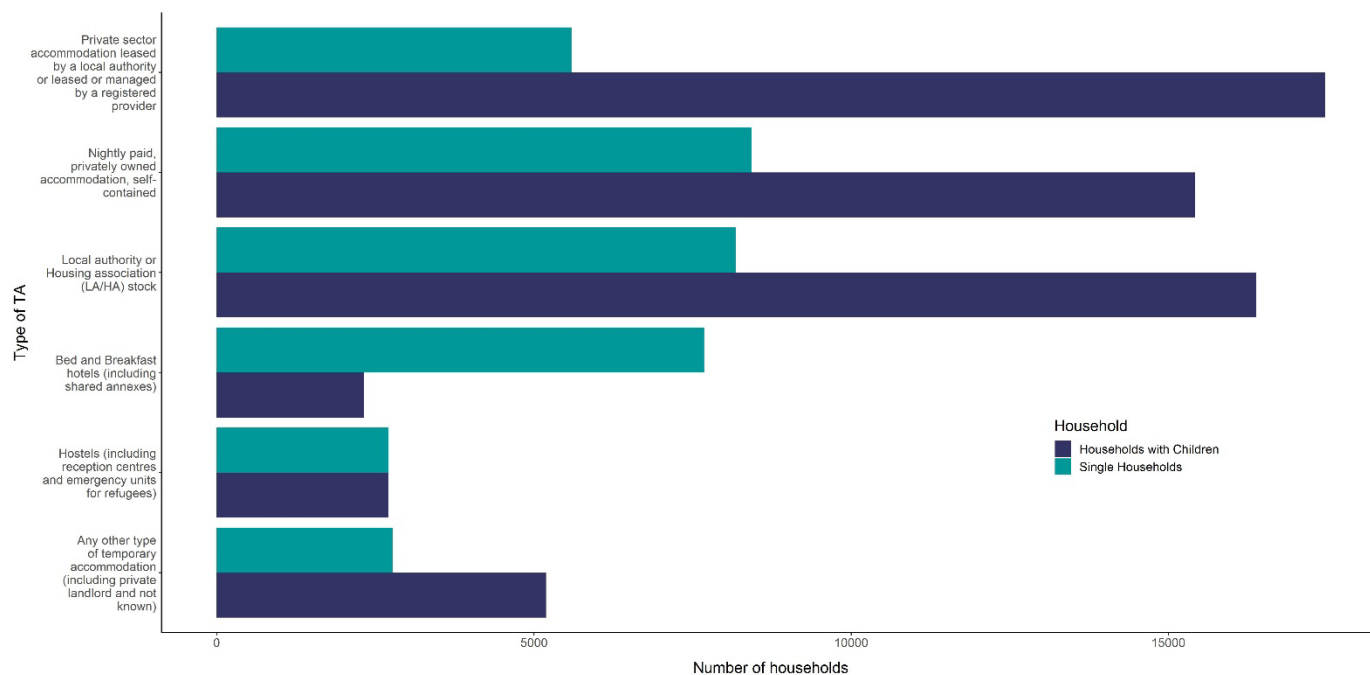
**Figure 3: Number of households in temporary accommodation since 2019 Q2, by household type**



- On 30 June 2022, 59,500 households or 62.7% included dependent children, with a total of 120,710 dependent children living in temporary accommodation.
- Of the households in temporary accommodation, 10,000 were living in bed and breakfast (B&B) accommodation, down 2.1% from the same date last year. Of these households in B&B, 7,680 (76.8%) were single households, down 12.8% from the same date last year.

The number of households in B&B with dependent children increased 65.7% from the same date last year to 2,320 households in June 2022. Of the households with children in B&B, 1,020 had been resident for more than the statutory limit of 6 weeks. This is up 108.2% from 490 on 30 June 2021, and up 52.2% from 670 in the previous quarter.

**Figure 4: Number of households in temporary accommodation, by type of accommodation**



## Statutory Homelessness: Data Dashboard

This quarter introduces the new Statutory Homelessness: Data Dashboard. This dashboard visually presents using charts and maps the data in this quarter’s detailed local authority level data for statutory homelessness; it is intended to provide easy cross-sectional and spatial analysis of the dataset. In depth guidance on how to use the dashboard is available by clicking the guidance button on the frontpage.

This is a first version of the dashboard and the team would welcome feedback from users: get in touch at [homelessnessstats@levellingup.gov.uk](mailto:homelessnessstats@levellingup.gov.uk).

## Assessment of compliance with the Code of Practice for Statistics

Between October and December 2021, these Statutory Homelessness statistics underwent an assessment by the Office for Statistics Regulation. A [report](#) detailing the findings of this assessment was published in December 2021.

The Homelessness Statistics Team in DLUHC have developed an action plan detailing how and by when the requirements identified in the assessment report will be met. This includes a forward work plan which outlines scheduled work over the next year. This will be updated on an ongoing basis and can be found in the [Action plan for OSR assessment of compliance](#).

## Notes on usage

- Statutory homelessness concerns duties placed on local authorities to take reasonable steps to prevent and relieve homelessness to eligible houses.
- Each case included in this report is representative of a household, which includes households with children as well as single adult houses.
- This report only covers those owed a duty between April 01 and June 30 2022.
- Every number other than Temporary Accommodation is a cumulative count over the period of the reported quarter, Temporary Accommodation is a snapshot of the last day of the quarter.
- Data is collected via the Homelessness Case Level Information Collection, submitted quarterly by local authorities. This method of collection was introduced in 2018 alongside significant homelessness legislation; before this statutory homelessness was recorded in the P1E.
- Definitions and a comprehensive breakdown of the quality assurance process can be found in the technical note.

## Uses and Limitations

These statistics can be used

- To count the number of homelessness duties accepted by local authorities for this quarter and to compare local authorities and regions in England;
- To assess changes in the number of homelessness duties since 2018;
- To understand the causes, circumstances, and characteristics of households owed a duty for this quarter;
- To understand the number of households and the characteristics of Temporary Accommodation.

These statistics are not suitable

- To estimate the total number of people sleeping rough;
- To estimate the total number of people sofa surfing, those in recreational or organised protest, those in squats, or traveller campsites;
- To estimate the households that have yet to make a homelessness application and those who aren't eligible;
- To compare with other countries in the UK;
- To compare to figures recorded via the P1E.

## Accompanying tables

Accompanying tables are available to download alongside this release. References to previously published tables are included where comparisons are possible.

The below tables can be accessed at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistical-data-sets/live-tables-on-homelessness>

### **Initial assessments of statutory homelessness duties owed**

- A1: Number of households assessed and owed a prevention or relief duty
- A2P: Reason for loss of last settled home for households assessed as owed a prevention duty
- A2R: Reason for loss of last settled home for households assessed as owed a relief duty
- A3: Support needs of households assessed as owed a prevention or relief duty
- A4P: Accommodation at time of application for households assessed as owed a prevention duty
- A4R: Accommodation at time of application for households assessed as owed a relief duty
- A5P: Household type at time of application for households assessed as owed a prevention duty
- A5R: Household type at time of application for households assessed as owed a relief duty
- A6: Age of main applicants assessed as owed a prevention or relief duty
- A7: Households referred to a local authority prior to being assessed
- A8: Ethnicity of main applicants assessed as owed a prevention of relief duty
- A9: Nationality of main applicants assessed as owed a prevention or relief duty\*
- A10: Employment status of main applicants assessed as owed a prevention or relief duty
- A11: Reason for eligibility of main applicants assessed as owed a prevention or relief duty\*
- A12: Sexual Identity of main applicants assess as owed a prevention or relief duty

### **Statutory homelessness prevention duty outcomes**

- P1: Reason for households' prevention duty ending
- P2: Type of accommodation secured for households at end of prevention duty
- P3: Main prevention activity that resulted in accommodation secured for households at end of prevention duty
- P4: Destination of households with alternative accommodation secured at end of prevention duty\*
- P5: Household type of households with accommodation secured at end of prevention duty

### **Statutory homelessness relief duty outcomes**

- R1: Reason for households' relief duty ending
- R2: Type of accommodation secured for households at end of relief duty
- R3: Main prevention activity that resulted in accommodation secured for households at end of relief duty
- R4: Destination of households with alternative accommodation secured at end of relief duty\*
- R5: Household type of households with accommodation secured at end of relief duty

**Statutory homelessness main duty decisions & outcomes**

- MD1: Outcome of main duty decision for eligible households
- MD2: Outcome of households no longer owed a main duty
- MD3: Priority need category of households owed a main duty

**Households in temporary accommodation**

- TA1: Number of households in temporary accommodation at end of quarter by temporary accommodation type
- TA2: Number of households in temporary accommodation at end of quarter by household type
- TA3: Number of households in temporary accommodation at end of quarter by duty provide

\* These tables will now only be published as part of the expanded annual release at end of financial year. The latest published figures can be found in the 2020-21 Detailed local authority-level tables.

## Technical Notes

Please see the accompanying [Technical Note](#) document for further details.

Information on Official Statistics is available via the UK Statistics Authority website:

<https://www.statisticsauthority.gov.uk/>

Information about statistics at DLUHC is available via the Department's website:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-for-levelling-up-housing-and-communities/about/statistics>

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Information on Official Statistics is available via the UK Statistics Authority website:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/announcements>

Information about statistics at DLUHC is available via the Department's website:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-for-levelling-up-housing-and-communities/about/statistics>



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