

# Statutory Homelessness: June Quarter 2010 England

9 September 2010



### Household acceptances

- 10,100 applicants were accepted as owed a main homelessness duty during April to June 2010, 5 per cent lower than the same quarter last year.
- On a seasonally-adjusted basis, there were 9,910 acceptances, 2 per cent higher than the previous quarter.

### Households in temporary accommodation

- 50,400 households were in temporary accommodation on 30 June 2010, 16 per cent lower than the same date last year.
- On a seasonally-adjusted basis, 50,310 households were in temporary accommodation, 2 per cent lower than the previous quarter and 50 per cent lower than the peak in 2004.
- 87 per cent of households were in self-contained accommodation - a decrease from 89 per cent at the end of the same quarter last year.
- 5 per cent of households were in bed and breakfast hotels. This is an increase from 2,150 to 2,410 compared to the same quarter last year.

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# housing

## Introduction

This release provides summary information on local housing authorities' activities under homelessness legislation, collected through the quarterly P1E return. Data include the number of households accepted as owed a main homelessness duty (referred to as acceptances) during the quarter, and the number of households in temporary accommodation on the last day of the quarter. The background notes section provides more detail of terms used, as footnoted, within the release.

## Decisions taken by local authorities on homeless applications

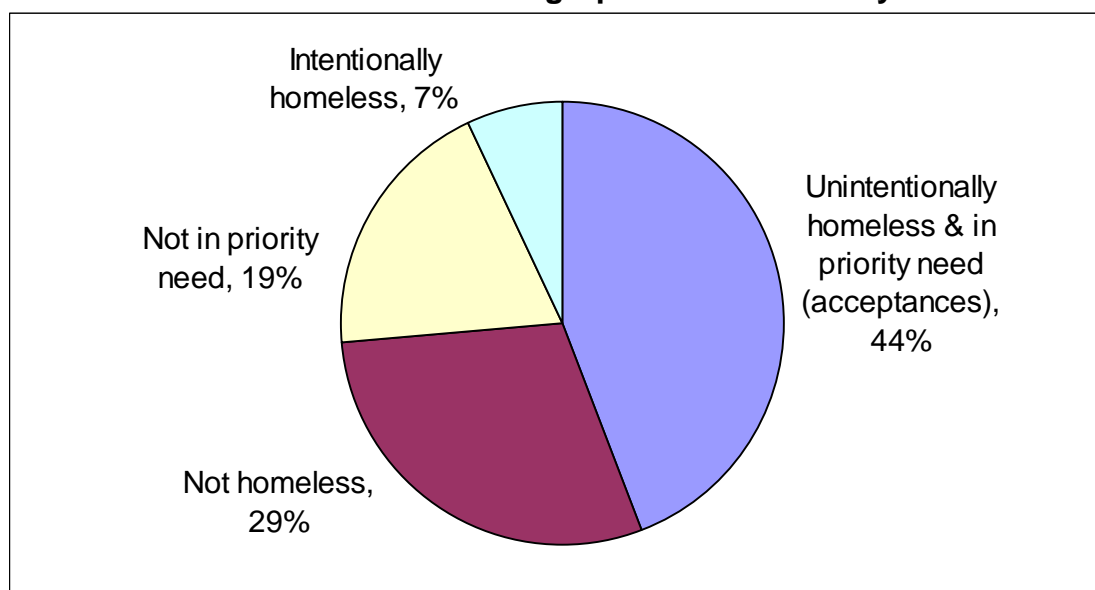
Between April and June 2010, local housing authorities made 22,850 decisions on applications (by eligible households) for housing assistance, under the homelessness legislation of the Housing Act 1996. This is 3 per cent lower than the corresponding quarter in 2009. After seasonal adjustment the number of decisions was 22,800, 6 per cent higher when compared to last quarter and 70 per cent lower than the last peak in 2003.

Of the 22,850 applications made during April and June 2010:

- 44 per cent were accepted as owed a main homelessness duty;
- 29 per cent were found not to be homeless;
- 19 per cent were found to be homeless but not in priority need; and
- 7 per cent were found to be intentionally homeless and in priority need.

There was a slight decrease in the number of applications found to be intentionally homeless and in priority need compared to last quarter, but the proportion of decisions falling into each outcome category has remained similar to previous quarters.

**Chart 1: Total decisions made during April to June 2010 by decision outcome, England**

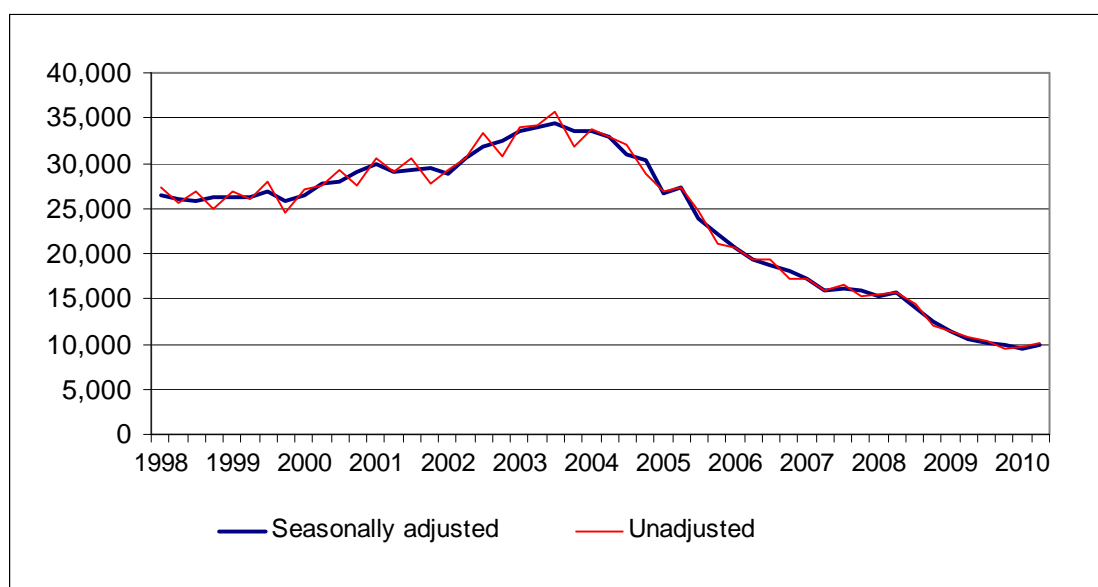


See Table 1: Decisions by outcome of decision

## Households accepted as owed a main homelessness duty (acceptances)

Between April and June, local authorities accepted 10,100 households as being owed a main homelessness duty (acceptances). This is a 5 per cent decrease compared to the same quarter last year. After seasonal adjustment the number of acceptances during the second quarter of 2010 was 9,910, 2 per cent higher than the previous quarter. The number of acceptances has followed a long term downwards trend since 2003 although there have been some small quarterly increases during this period such as that seen between the first and second quarter of 2008. It would therefore seem too early to tell whether the figures have reached a turning point in the long-term downward trend or whether, like in 2008, we will go back to seeing a fall next quarter.

**Chart 2: Households accepted by local authorities as owed a main duty each quarter, 1998 to April to June quarter 2010, England**



See Table 1: Decisions by outcome of decision

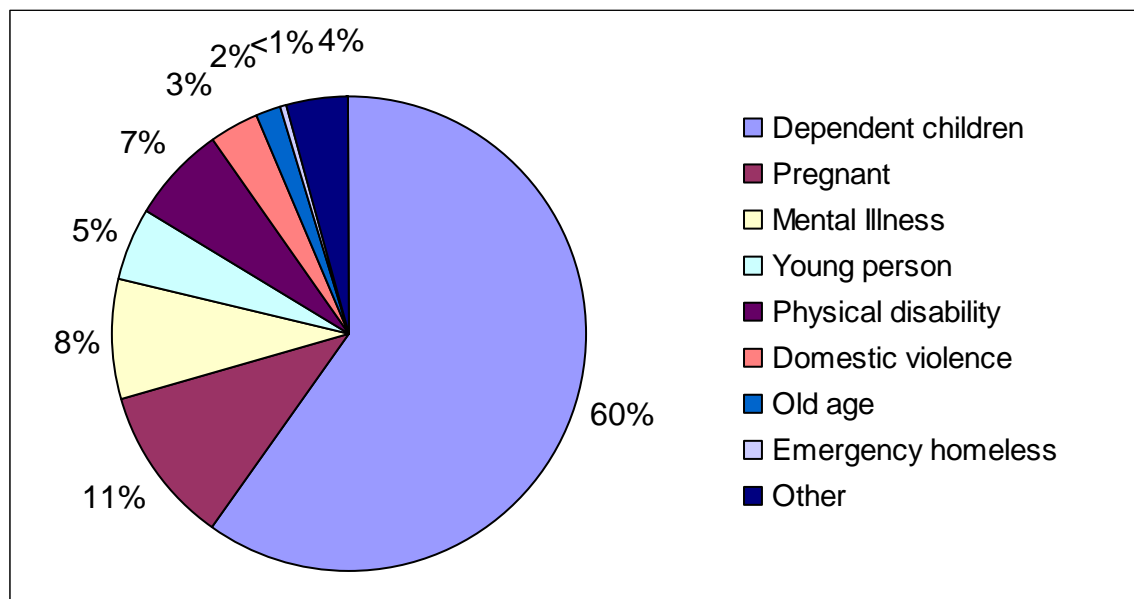
### Acceptances by priority need category

Between April and June, in 60 per cent of acceptances the presence of dependent children in the household was the primary reason for priority need, this represents 6,040 households. A further 11 per cent of households were in priority need because they included a pregnant woman, the represents 1,090 households.

The majority of the remainder were in priority need due to vulnerability, for example, mental illness (8 per cent) or physical disability (7 per cent). Homeless in an emergency<sup>6</sup> accounted for less than 1 per cent of all acceptances.

5 per cent of acceptances were in priority need through being a young person (either 16 or 17 year olds, or 18 to 20 year olds formerly in care).

**Chart 3: Acceptances by priority need category during April to June 2010, England**



See Table 4: Acceptances by priority need category

### **Acceptances by reason for loss of last settled home**

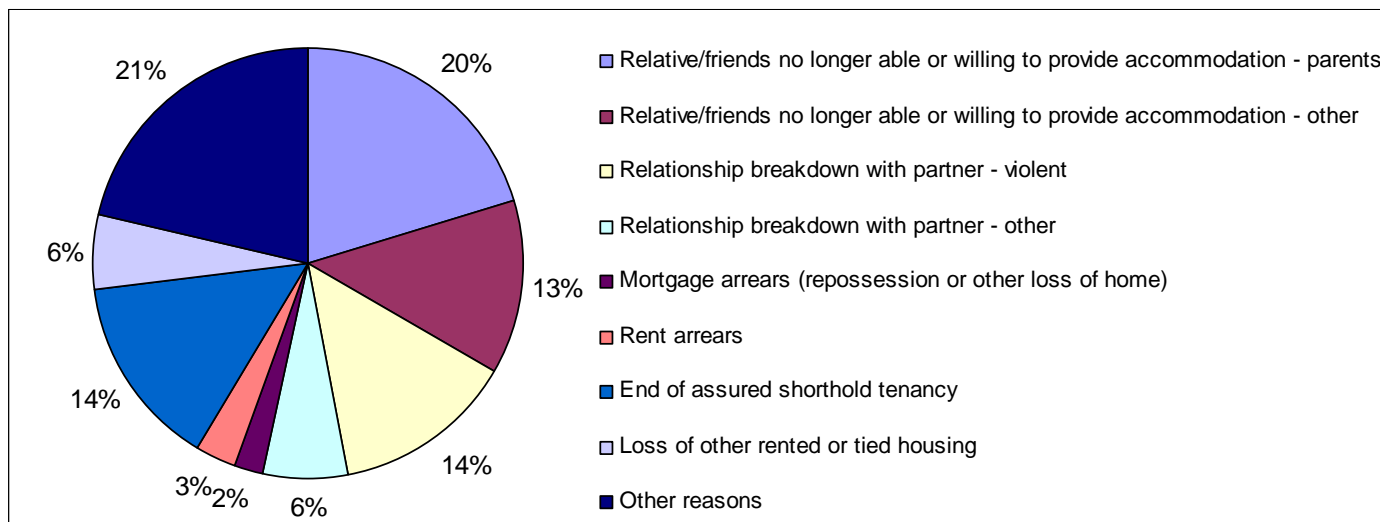
Between April and June, in 33 per cent of acceptances the reason for homelessness was because parents, relatives or friends (mostly parents) were no longer able, or willing, to accommodate applicants.

In a further 20 per cent of acceptances, the reason for homelessness was the breakdown of a relationship with a partner, 68 per cent of these cases involving violence.

In 14 per cent of acceptances the reason for homelessness was the ending of an assured short hold tenancy. There has been a rise in the number of acceptances for this reason over recent quarters.

The proportion of acceptances where homelessness resulted from mortgage arrears (repossession or other loss of home) was 2 per cent, unchanged from previous quarters. The proportion of acceptances due to mortgage arrears has remained much lower than the peak in the last downturn - 12 per cent during 1991.

**Chart 4: Acceptances by reason for loss of last settled home during April to June 2010, England**



See Table 5: Acceptances by reason for loss of last settled home

**Acceptances by ethnicity**

Between April and June, 68 per cent of applicants accepted were White and 27 per cent were from an ethnic minority group – 14 per cent Black, 6 per cent Asian, 3 per cent mixed and 4 per cent another ethnic group. The remainder did not state their ethnic origin. Compared to the population as a whole, there is a higher incidence of acceptances amongst ethnic minority groups than amongst the White population.

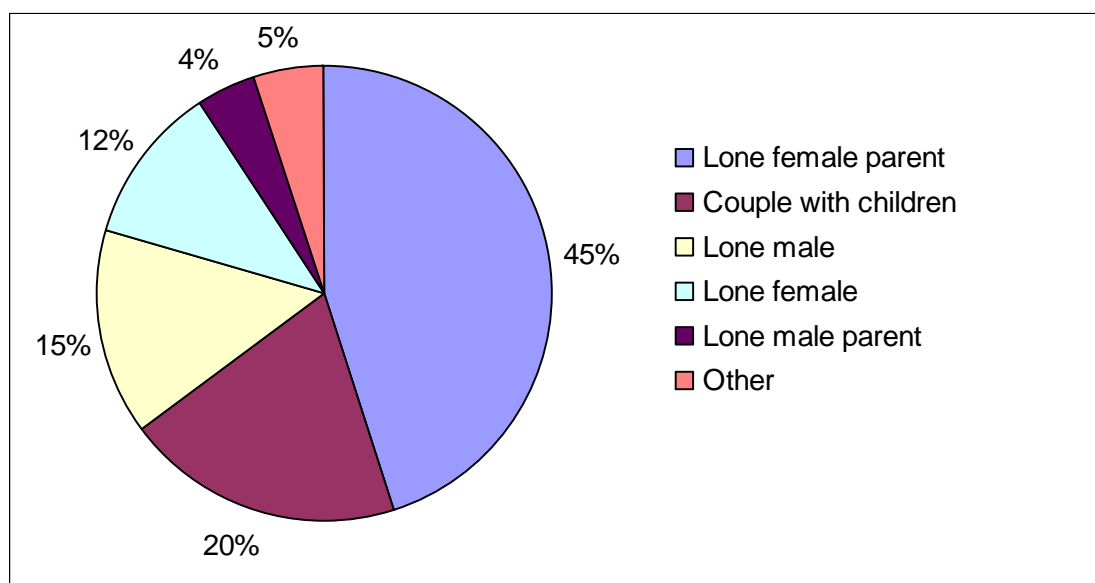
See Table 2: Acceptances by ethnicity

**Acceptances by household type**

Of the 10,100 acceptances between April and June, 49 per cent were lone parents (4 per cent male, 45 per cent female), and 20 per cent were couples with dependent children.

One person households accounted for 26 per cent of acceptances, with a higher proportion male than female.

**Chart 5: Acceptances by household type during April to June 2010, England**



See Table 10: Homeless households in priority need accepted by local authorities, by household type

### Acceptances by age band

Between April and June, 86 per cent of all acceptances were applicants under 45 years old. 49 per cent were aged between 25 and 44, and 37 per cent between 16 and 24.

See Table 11: Homeless households in priority need accepted by local authorities, by age of applicant

### Action taken in respect of acceptances

Of the 10,100 acceptances between April and June, 5,770 (57 per cent) were placed in some form of temporary accommodation for a period of time. For a further 3,090 accepted households (31 per cent), arrangements were made, with consent, to remain in their existing accommodation (or to make their own arrangements), for the immediate future while awaiting the provision of alternative accommodation.

10 per cent of acceptances were provided with settled accommodation, by being granted a secure tenancy in local authority or registered social landlord accommodation, or an assured short hold tenancy in the private rented sector. The remaining 2 per cent either made their own arrangements or had no further contact with the authority, thus bringing the homelessness duty to an end.

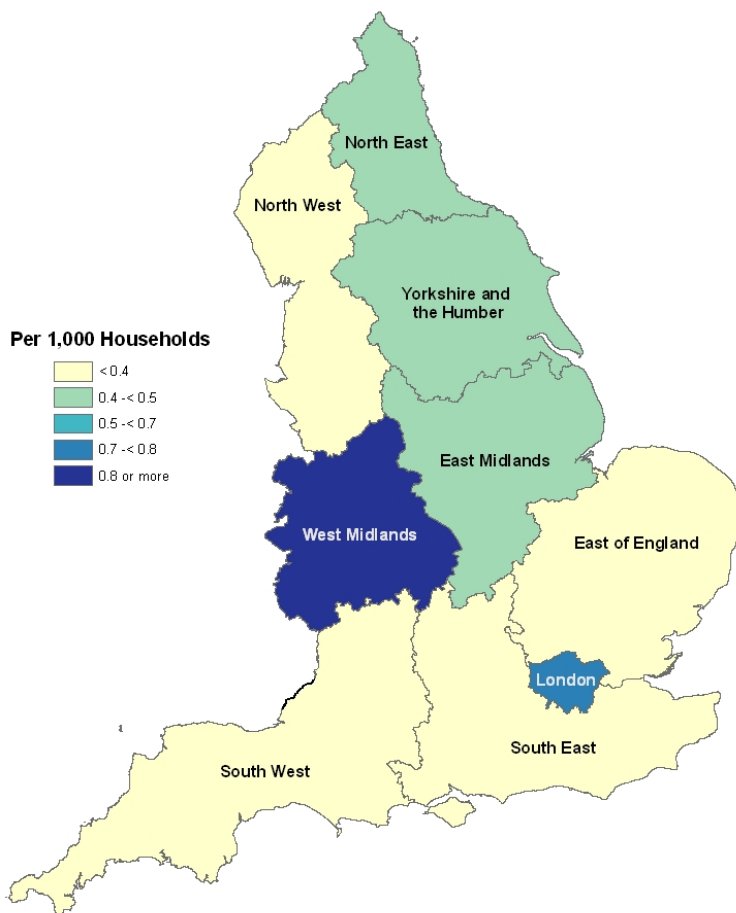
See Part 1 of Table 8: Outcomes: those accepted during the quarter and those leaving temporary accommodation (or no longer recorded as “duty owed, no accommodation secured”<sup>7</sup>) during the quarter

## Acceptances by region

In line with the trend in national acceptances, six regions saw decreases in numbers of acceptances compared to the same quarter last year. The South East had an increase of 8 per cent, East Midlands had an increase of 6 per cent and the South West had an increase of 5 per cent. The largest percentage drops were seen in the North East and East of England (25 and 15 per cent respectively).

The West Midlands and London had the highest incidences of acceptances per 1,000 households during the quarter, with 0.8 and 0.7 respectively, compared to the 0.5 National figure. The South East and North West, each with 0.3 per 1,000 households, had the lowest incidence.

**Map 1: Homelessness acceptance rates by region, April to June 2010**



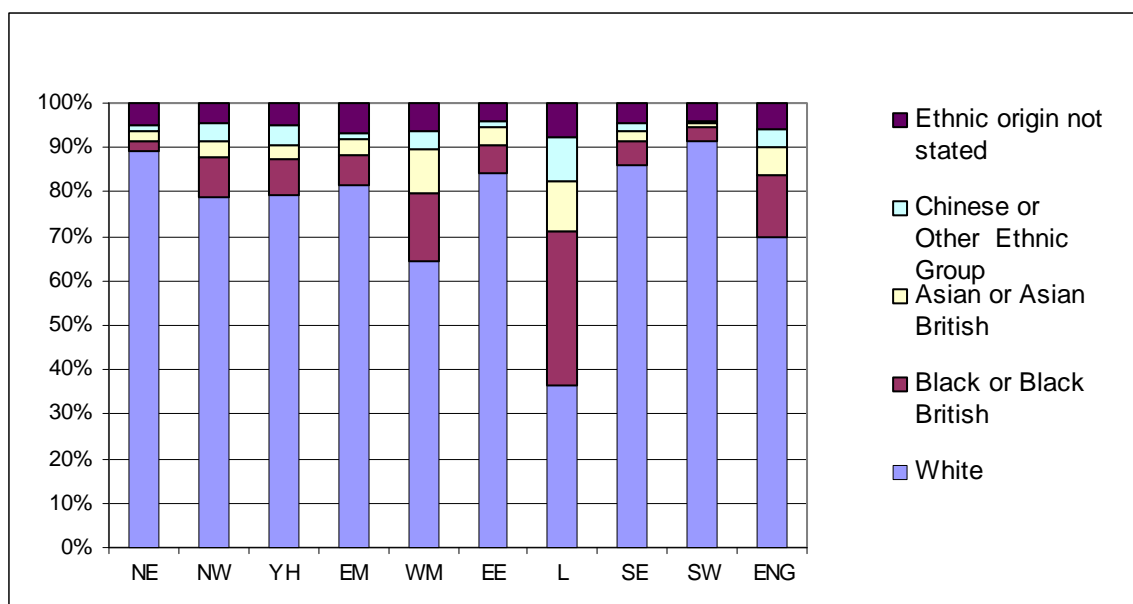
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See Table 3: Acceptances by region

## Acceptances by ethnicity and region

There is large variation in the ethnicity of accepted applicants across the regions. This variation has remained stable in recent quarters. In London, 35 per cent of acceptances were stated as White, partly reflecting the larger ethnic minority population in this region, while in the South West the proportion was 91 per cent. London had the highest proportion of acceptances from ethnic minority applicants with 58 per cent, followed by the West Midlands with 32 per cent.

**Chart 6: Proportion of acceptances during April to June 2010 by ethnicity, England and regions**





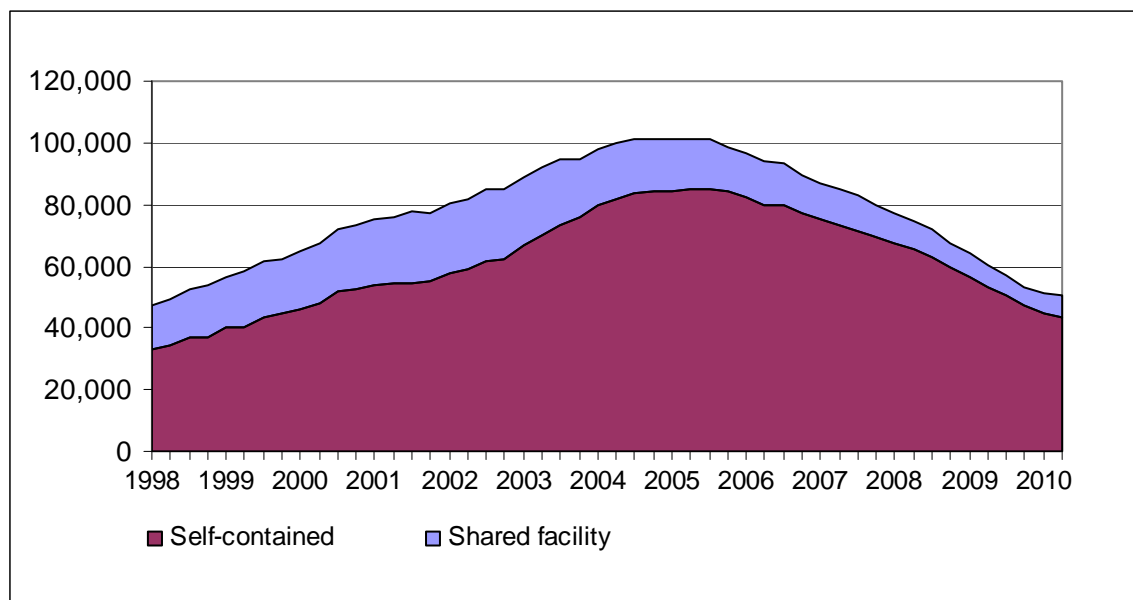
## Households in temporary accommodation

The number of households in temporary accommodation on 30 June 2010, arranged by local authorities under homelessness legislation, was 50,400 - 16 per cent lower than the same date last year. After seasonal adjustment the number of households in temporary accommodation was 50,310, 2 per cent lower than the previous quarter and 50 per cent lower than the peak in 2004.

Historically there tends to be a lag between a change in direction in the number of acceptances and a change in direction of the number of households in temporary accommodation. If the increase in the number of acceptances we are seeing this quarter is to continue, we would expect the number of households in temporary accommodation to increase in due course.

Of these 50,400 households, 84 per cent had been accepted as owed a main homelessness duty and were being housed in temporary accommodation by the authority until a settled home became available. The remainder were being accommodated pending a decision on their application, the outcome of a local authority review or an appeal to the county court on the authority's decision, or possible referral to another local authority, or had been found intentionally homeless and in priority need and subsequently were being accommodated for such a period as would give them a reasonable opportunity to find accommodation for themselves.

**Chart 7: Households in temporary accommodation at the end of each quarter, by type, 1998 to 30 June 2010, England**

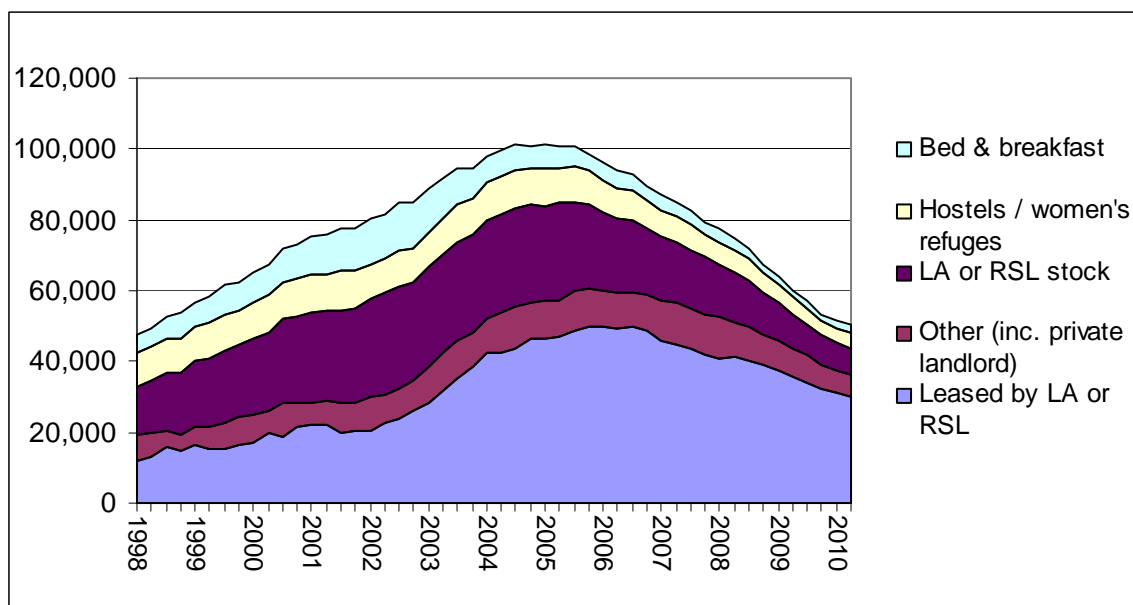


## Households in temporary accommodation, by type of accommodation

There is a wide range of accommodation used to provide temporary accommodation, most of which is self-contained (either in local authority or registered social landlord stock, or within the private sector.) Use of accommodation with shared facilities has declined over recent years, largely through reduced bed and breakfast usage. Within the last ten years, bed and breakfast style accommodation use peaked during 2002, when 16 per cent of households were in this form of temporary accommodation - compared to 5 per cent at the end of June 2010. However, the number of households in bed and breakfast hotels has risen from 2,150 to 2,410 compared to the same quarter last year.

At the end of June 2010, 87 percent of households in temporary accommodation were in self-contained accommodation – a decrease from 89 per cent at the same date last year.

**Chart 8: Households in temporary accommodation, by type, at the end of each quarter, 1998 to 30 June 2010, England**



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## On 30 June 2010, of the 50,400 households in temporary accommodation:

36,020 households were in **private sector accommodation** (71 per cent of all households), most commonly in a property leased by the local authority or registered social landlord (RSL, or housing association), or in some cases let directly to the applicant as the tenant of a private sector landlord. This is a drop of 18 per cent since the 30 June last year, and a 35 per cent drop compared to the end of September 2004, the quarter in which temporary accommodation use peaked.

7,650 households were in accommodation owned by **social landlords** (15 per cent of all households), a fall of 20 per cent since the same quarter last year and 73 per cent since the end of September 2004. Of these 7,650 households, 69 per cent were in local authority owned stock, and 31 per cent in RSL owned property.

4,320 households were in **hostel accommodation and women's refuges** (9 per cent of all households), a decrease of 8 per cent since this time last year and of 58 per cent since the end of September 2004.

2,410 households were in **bed and breakfast style accommodation** (5 per cent of all households), 12 per cent higher than this time last year, but 68 per cent lower than at the end of September 2004. Historically, the use of bed and breakfast accommodation peaked in March 1987, when 47 per cent (England) and 59 per cent (London) of households in temporary accommodation were housed in this style of accommodation.

In addition to the 50,400 households in temporary accommodation on 30 June 2010, 3,780 households accepted as owed a main duty remained (with consent) in their existing accommodation (or made their own arrangements) while awaiting the provision of alternative accommodation. This is 17 per cent lower than the same date last year and 78 per cent lower than at the end of September 2004. This was a 2 per cent increase from the previous quarter.

*See Table 6: Temporary accommodation, by type (plus households for whom a duty is owed, but no accommodation has been secured), of which with children*

## Young people in temporary accommodation

Of the 50,400 households in temporary accommodation on 30 June, 37,940 included dependent children and/or a pregnant woman (within which households there were 72,590 children or expected children). The number of children per household in temporary accommodation has remained stable since the data was first collected at around 1.4.

Of these 37,940 households with children, 92 per cent were in self-contained accommodation. This has fallen slightly from 94 per cent at the end of the same quarter last year. 740 (2 per cent) were in bed and breakfast style accommodation, up from 510 at the end of the same quarter last year.

At the end of March, there were 190 households headed by 16 and 17 year old applicants in bed

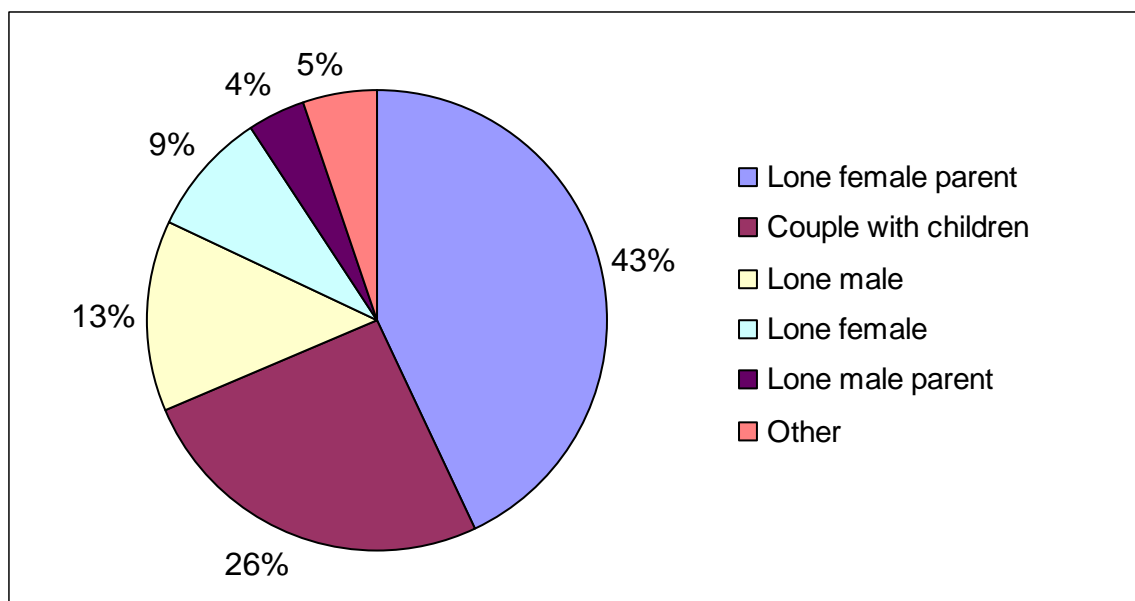
and breakfast style accommodation, of which 80 had been there for longer than six weeks (6 of these pending an appeal).

### Households in temporary accommodation, by household type and ethnicity

Of the 50,400 households in temporary accommodation on 30 June, the biggest group (43 per cent) were lone female parent households with dependent children. Couples with dependent children accounted for over a quarter (26 per cent) of households. Single person households (with no dependent children) accounted for 22 per cent of households, with a higher proportion of males than females.

Over half of all households in temporary accommodation were headed by ethnic minority applicants. The vast majority of these households (93 per cent) were in London, reflecting the high usage of temporary accommodation and larger ethnic minority population in the region. Outside of London, ethnic minority applicants accounted for 16 per cent of households in temporary accommodation.

**Chart 9: Households in temporary accommodation by household type: 30 June 2010, England**



See Table 12: Homeless households in temporary accommodation by household type and applicants' ethnicity

### Households leaving temporary accommodation and other temporary arrangements

Between April and June, a main homelessness duty was ended for 10,060 households who had previously been in temporary accommodation (or had remained, with consent, in their existing accommodation while awaiting the provision of alternative accommodation).

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6,910 (69 per cent) of these households were provided with settled accommodation, by accepting a “Part 6” offer of a secure tenancy in local authority or RSL accommodation, although a further 6 per cent refused such an offer. An additional 9 per cent accepted alternative offers of rented accommodation.

12 per cent of households voluntarily left the temporary accommodation or other temporary arrangement. The remaining households ceased to be eligible, or became intentionally homeless from the temporary accommodation provided for them.

*See Part 2 of Table 8: Outcomes: those accepted during the quarter, and those leaving temporary accommodation (or no longer recorded as “duty owed, no accommodation secured”<sup>7</sup>) during the quarter*

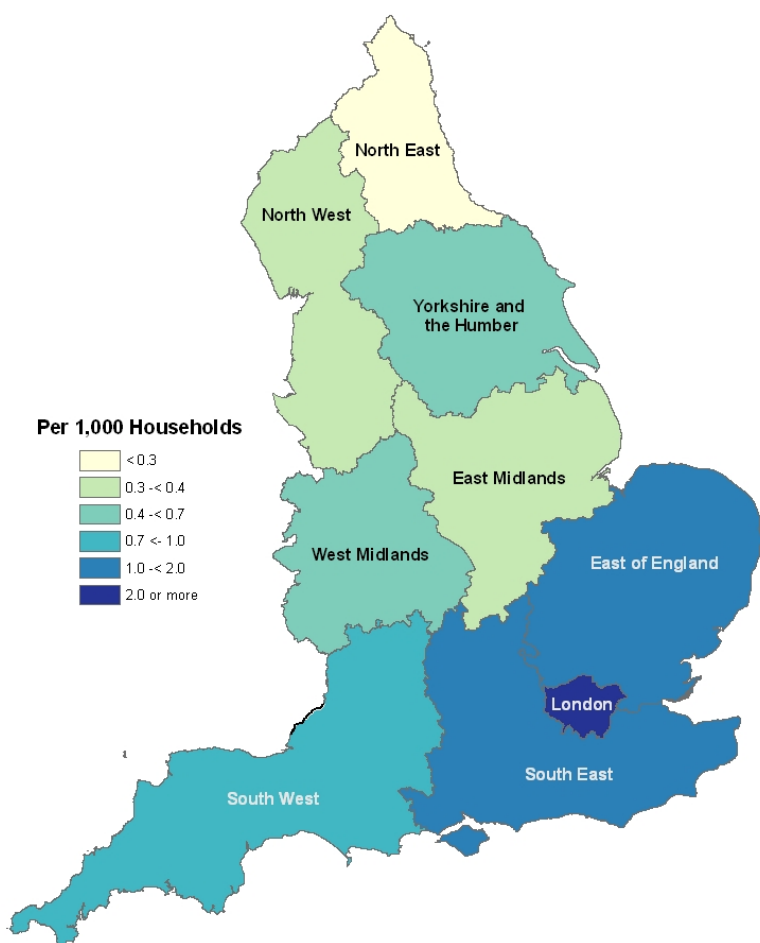
## Households in temporary accommodation, by region

With the exception of the West Midlands, all regions have fewer households in temporary accommodation when compared to the same quarter last year, with the biggest drops in London (7,840) and the South East (620); the largest percentage fall was in the North West (28 per cent), Yorkshire and the Humber and the North East (both with a 22 per cent fall).

As at the end of June 2010, England had a rate of 2.3 households in temporary accommodation per 1,000 households. Of the regions, London had by far the highest rate at 11.9 per 1,000 households - a decrease from 14.4 per 1,000 households at the end of the same quarter last year. The East had the next highest rate, at 1.1 per 1,000 households. The North East had the lowest rate at 0.2 per 1,000 households.

See *Table 7: Temporary accommodation: by region*

**Map 2: Households in Temporary Accommodation by region as at 30 June 2010**



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## Length of time in temporary accommodation (and other temporary arrangements), between acceptance and duty being ended

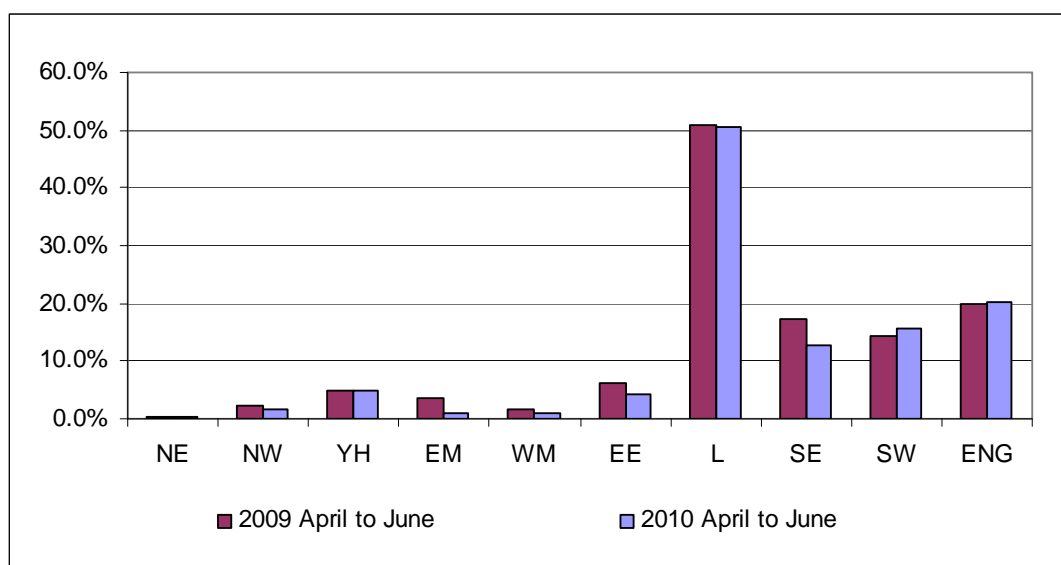
Of the 10,060 households who left temporary accommodation or other temporary arrangements during the quarter, 58 per cent had been in these temporary arrangements for less than six months, while 20 per cent had been so for two years or more. The percentage of households who spend two or more years in temporary arrangements has stabilized nationally. In London, around 50 percent of households have remained in temporary accommodation for this amount of time in each of the last four quarters.

Lengths of time in temporary arrangements vary across the regions. Chart 10 compares the proportion of those spending 2 years or more in temporary arrangements before the main duty was ended, for the most recent quarter and the same quarter last year by region. London's figures stand out with the longest stays - between April and June 2010, 51 per cent of households who left temporary arrangements had previously spent two or more years in such temporary arrangements. This was the same proportion as the same quarter last year. Only the South West saw an increase in the proportion of stays longer than two years over this period. After London, the South West and the South East have the next highest proportions of stays longer than two years, with 16 per cent and 13 per cent respectively.

The Northern and Midland regions have a much lower proportion of longer stays. In the North East, less than 1 per cent of households stayed for two years or longer in the most recent quarter (same as the last year), followed by the East Midlands and West Midlands at 1 per cent (compared to 2 per cent and 1 per cent last year).

See Table 9: Households leaving temporary accommodation (or no longer recorded as "duty owed, no accommodation secured"): by length of stay, by region

**Chart 10: Proportion of households that spent 2 years or more in temporary arrangements before the main duty was ended, England and regions: April to June, 2009 and 2010**



## Accompanying tables

Table 1	Decisions taken by local authorities under the 1996 Housing Act on applications from eligible households
Table 2	Homeless households in priority need accepted by local authorities, by ethnicity
Table 3	Homeless households in priority need accepted by local authorities, by Government Office Region
Table 4	Homeless households in priority need accepted by local authorities, by priority need category
Table 5	Homeless households in priority need accepted by local authorities, by reason for loss of last settled home
Table 6	Households in temporary accommodation (and households for whom a duty is owed, but no accommodation has been secured) arranged by local authorities under the homelessness provisions of the 1996 Housing Act, by type of accommodation, at the end of each quarter
Table 7	Households in temporary accommodation arranged by local authorities under the homelessness provisions of the 1996 Housing Act, by Government Office Region, at the end of each quarter
Table 8	Households accepted as owed a main homelessness duty, and households leaving temporary accommodation (or no longer recorded as “duty owed, no accommodation secured”), by outcome
Table 9	Households leaving temporary accommodation (or no longer recorded as “duty owed, no accommodation secured”) during each quarter, by length of stay, England and London
Table 10	Homeless households in priority need accepted by local authorities, by household type
Table 11	Homeless households in priority need accepted by local authorities, by age of applicant
Table 12	Homeless households in temporary accommodation by household type and applicants’ ethnicity



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## Homelessness targets

Temporary accommodation figures were an indicator for monitoring the 2007 Comprehensive Spending Review (CSR07) target to increase long term housing supply and affordability. The previous Government set a national target to halve the number of households in temporary accommodation to 50,500 households by 2010. By the end of June 2010 there were 50,400 households in temporary accommodation.

## Data Source and Scope

Local housing authorities report their activities under Part 7 of the Housing Act 1996 to Communities and Local Government by completing the quarterly P1E statistical return. Statutory homelessness statistics are published around 50 working days after the end of each quarter, on a pre-announced date in accordance with the Official Statistics Code of Practice.

The scope of this data collection and statistical release is limited to English local housing authorities' activities under homelessness legislation. This release does not contain data on other forms of homelessness, for example, rough sleeping. The devolved administrations publish their own statistics on statutory homelessness.

The most recent statutory homelessness statistics for Scotland are available at:

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2010/08/31093245/0>

The most recent statutory homelessness statistics for Wales are available at:

<http://wales.gov.uk/topics/statistics/headlines/housing2010/100715/?lang=en>

## Data quality

All P1E returns submitted by local housing authorities undergo thorough validation and cross-checking, and late returns are pursued to ensure overall response is as complete and accurate as possible. Anomalous data are highlighted and verified by contacting the local authority.

Local authorities also provide details of any data checks they undertake. These can take the form of audits (by the National Audit Office or the authorities own auditors), periodic quality checks on data extracts, or random quality checks. For the period April to June 2010, most authorities reported some form of checking on all data items in the return.

The validation process typically takes around six weeks, after which estimates for missing data are calculated. The latest quarter's figures are based on full or partial returns for all 326 local authorities (100 per cent response).

Published figures may include estimates for a small amount of missing data. These estimates are calculated by an automated grossing procedure which either (i) updates previously reported data based on the changes observed in similar authorities in the same region or (ii) apports totals based on ratios reported by these similar authorities.

## Revisions policy

This policy has been developed in accordance with the UK Statistics Authority Code of Practice for Official statistics and the Communities and Local Government Revisions Policy. There are two types of revisions that the policy covers.

### **Non-Scheduled Revisions**

Where a substantial error has occurred as a result of the compilation, imputation or dissemination process, the statistical release, live tables and other accompanying releases will be updated with a correction notice as soon as is practical.

### **Scheduled Revisions**

Local Authorities can update their P1E returns following publication of the data. At the end of each financial year the figures for the four quarters of the previous year will be reviewed for revision. A decision on whether to revise will be made based on the impact of any change and the effect it has on the interpretation of the time series. Provisional figures are labelled in the tables with a "P".

Revisions to historic data (all data older than that currently due for scheduled revision) should only be made where there is a substantial revision, such as a change in methodology or definition. Where there are small changes that do not substantially change historic data, internal updates are maintained.

## Revisions this quarter

Improvements have been made to the rounding process used on the historic data in all tables. As a result, some percentages in the tables may differ to those in previous releases. Only a small number of figures have been affected and they will have altered by no more than 1 per cent.

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## Definitions

1. **Acceptances:** households found to be eligible for assistance, unintentionally homeless and falling within a priority need group (as defined by homelessness legislation- see paragraphs 8-10 below), **during the quarter**, are referred to as “acceptances”. These households are consequently owed a main homelessness duty by a local housing authority. The main duty is to secure settled accommodation.
2. **Seasonal adjustment:** the seasonally adjusted estimates have been produced using the X12-ARIMA model, in accordance with Official Statistics practices, which have then been constrained so that they are consistent with the unadjusted financial year totals. Historically, the number of decisions and acceptances tends to be lower in the second quarter than in the first and third quarters, and will also be affected by seasonal holiday periods, especially Christmas and the New Year. In quarter two 2009 seasonal adjustments were included for the households in temporary accommodation series, as this series was also found to be affected by seasonality.
3. **Temporary accommodation:** households in temporary accommodation (excluding those for whom a duty is owed, but no accommodation has been secured<sup>7</sup>) **on the last day of the quarter**, as arranged by a local housing authority as a discharge of their statutory homelessness functions. In most cases, the authority is discharging a main homelessness duty to secure suitable accommodation until a settled home becomes available for the applicant and his/her household. However, the numbers also include households provided with accommodation pending a decision on their homelessness application, households pending a review or appeal to the county court of the decision on their case, or possible referral to another local authority, and households found to be intentionally homeless and in priority need who were being accommodated for such period as would give them a reasonable opportunity to find accommodation for themselves.
4. **Self-contained accommodation:** this includes all temporary accommodation where the household has sole use of kitchen and bathroom facilities, including property held by local housing authorities, registered social landlords and private sector landlords. A distinction is made between this type of accommodation and accommodation where such facilities are shared with other households (i.e. bed and breakfast, hostels and women's refuges).
5. **Decisions:** these include only the decisions made by local housing authorities where the applicant has been found to be eligible for assistance and therefore excludes any households found to be ineligible (some persons from abroad are ineligible for assistance).
6. **Priority need groups:** include households with dependent children or a pregnant woman and people who are vulnerable in some way e.g. because of mental illness or physical disability. The priority need categories were extended by Order in January 2002 to include, additionally: applicants aged 16 or 17; applicants aged 18 to 20 who were previously in care; applicants vulnerable as a result of time spent in care, in custody, or in HM Forces, and applicants vulnerable as a result of having to flee their home because of violence or the threat of violence (in addition

domestic violence which is one of the original priority need groups). It is not possible to establish precisely how much of the changed profile of acceptances is attributable to the Order. Previously, some local authorities would have accepted households who fall within the new categories as having a priority need because of "another special reason". This applies in particular to applicants such as vulnerable young people, and people fleeing domestic violence. Note that where applicants are accepted as homeless because of an emergency, for example fire or flood, this will always be recorded as the main priority need category.

**7. Households for whom a duty is owed, but no accommodation has been secured:** These are households who have been accepted as being owed a main homelessness duty and for whom arrangements have been made for them, with consent, to remain in their existing accommodation (or to make their own arrangements) for the immediate future. This was previously referred to as "Homeless at Home". Prior to the second quarter of 2005, figures were also collected on those potentially in this category but whose application was still under consideration pending a decision. Both series are now presented in the final columns of Table 6.

## LEGISLATION

8. Part 7 of the Housing Act 1996 places statutory duties on local housing authorities to provide assistance to people who are homeless or threatened with homelessness. Authorities must consider all applications from people seeking accommodation or assistance in obtaining accommodation. A main homelessness duty (see below) is owed where the authority is satisfied that the applicant is eligible for assistance, unintentionally homeless and falls within a priority need group. The priority need groups are specified in the legislation, although paragraph 6 above provides a summary.

9. Where a main duty is owed, the authority must ensure that suitable accommodation is available for the applicant and his or her household until a settled home becomes available for them. Where households are found to be intentionally homeless or not in priority need, the authority must make an assessment of their housing needs and provide advice and assistance to help them find accommodation for themselves. Where the applicant is found to be intentionally homeless but falls in a priority need category the authority must also ensure that accommodation is available for long enough to give the applicant a reasonable opportunity to find a home.

## OTHER

10. Figures in the accompanying tables are presented rounded to the nearest 10 households or applicants.

11. The maps are based upon Ordnance Survey material with the permission of Ordnance Survey on behalf of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office:

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12. Details of officials who receive pre-release access to the Communities and Local Government quarterly Statutory Homelessness Statistical Release up to 24 hours before release can be found at:

<http://www.communities.gov.uk/corporate/researchandstatistics/statistics/nationalstatistics/>

13. The publication date for the 3rd Quarter (July to September) 2010 Statutory Homelessness Statistical Release is **Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> December 2010**.

## User consultation

Users' comments on any issues relating to this statistical release are welcomed and encouraged. Responses should be addressed to the "public enquiries" contact given in the "Enquiries" section below.

## Enquiries

This Statistical Release, as well as previous Releases, can be accessed and all text, tables and charts downloaded electronically, from the Communities and Local Government website at:

<http://www.communities.gov.uk/housing/housingresearch/housingstatistics/housingstatisticsby/homelessnessstatistics/publicationshomelessness/>

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