

2012-13 Headline Report published

The English Housing Survey 2012-13 Headline Report was published on 26 February.

The report covers a range of topics related to the physical condition of homes and the circumstances of the people that live in them. This was the first release of data from the 2012-13 survey.

Key findings

- In 2012-13, **the private rented sector overtook the social rented sector to become the second largest tenure in England**. Of the estimated 22.0 million households in England, 65% (14.3 million) were owner occupiers, 18% (4.0 million) were private renters and 17% (3.7 million) were social renters.
- Overall **rates of overcrowding and under-occupation have not changed in recent years**. However between 2010-11 and 2012-13, there was a decrease in the proportion of overcrowded households in the social rented sector (from 7% to 6%).
- **The proportion of renting households in receipt of housing benefit increased**. This increase was particularly pronounced among working households in the social sector, of which a third (32%) were in receipt of housing benefit in 2012-13, up from 24% in 2010-11 and 20% in 2009-10.
- In 2012-13, 61% of private renters and 23% of social renters stated that they expected to buy a property at some point in the future. **Among social renters who expected to buy, the proportion who expected to buy their current home increased** from 37% in 2011-12 to 44% in 2012-13.
- **The energy efficiency of the English housing stock continued to improve**.
- **The number of non-decent homes in England continued to decline**. In 2012, 4.9 million dwellings (22%) failed to meet the decent homes standard, a reduction of some 2.8 million homes since 2006, when 35% of homes failed to meet the decent home standard.
- As in previous years, **the private rented sector had the highest proportion of non-decent homes** (33%) while the social rented sector had the lowest (15%).

The full report can be downloaded from the DCLG website:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/english-housing-survey-2012-to-2013-headline-report>

A series of more detailed reports which expand on some of the topics covered in the headline report will be published in July 2014. Following a comprehensive consultation with our key DCLG and DECC data users in 2013, the format of the 2012-13 annual reports will be different. Much of the content will be the same, but the reports will be packaged up differently into four distinct topic reports, covering:

- Households
- Profile of English Housing
- Energy Efficiency of English Housing
- Fire and Fire Safety

Please contact the EHS team at DCLG if you would like more detail about what each report will cover.

Quality Report

We also published the first EHS Quality Report, which provides a brief summary of key issues relating to the quality of the survey and is part of a wider programme of work we have been undertaking to improve the quality of EHS statistics.

The full report can be downloaded from the DCLG website:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/english-housing-survey-quality-report>

Many of the topics covered in the Quality Report will be expanded on in the 2012-13 Technical Report which will be published alongside the annual reports in July 2014. The Technical Report is a new publication which brings together the technical documentation previously published by DCLG as a series of Technical Advice Notes.

Revisions

An updated [revisions log](#) has also been published.

Further analysis of the 2012-13 EHS data

The 2012-13 EHS data will be available for download from the UK Data Archive in the summer. Approved users will also be able to securely access geographical identifiers via the secure data service at around the same time.

In the meantime, EHS users can access anonymised 2011-12 datasets and supporting user documentation via the [UK Data Archive](#). These SPSS datasets include the key derived variables underlying the key measures used in the 2011-12 headline and annual reports, including those relating to fuel poverty. Registered users can also securely access geographical identifiers for the 2011-12 dataset via the [secure data service](#).

The 2013-14 English Housing Survey

Fieldwork for the 2013-14 survey is progressing well and will finish – as planned – at the end of March 2014.

The 2014-15 English Housing Survey

We are currently working with our contractors on the final changes to the 2014-15 questionnaire, so that it's ready to go into the field in April 2014. The 2014-15 questionnaire will be published on the DCLG website in the spring. A document summarising key changes to the questionnaire between 2011-12 and 2012-13 will also be published.

The changes to the questionnaire were made following consultation with DCLG and DECC users and were signed off in November by our User Group.

Re-invigoration of the EHS governance arrangements

To ensure that the EHS meets its strategic aims, the EHS team at DCLG has been reinvigorating its governance structure.

A **steering group** responsible for ensuring that the survey meets the strategic aims of DCLG and DECC and for reviewing the project's progress, dealing with conflicts between customers, securing adequate resource, reviewing risks, etc. has been established and met for the first time in February.

A **user group** of the survey's main customers, responsible to ensuring that the questionnaire content is right given policy priorities, and that outputs are useful and relevant has also been established and met for the first time in November to sign off the 2014-15 questionnaire and the content of the 2012-13 annual reports.



EHS Bulletin

Issue 10: English Housing Survey Bulletin
A newsletter for users of the English Housing Survey



Work is still underway to set up a **technical advisory group** of independent experts who can be consulted on methodological issues.

Keep in touch

We are always keen to hear about how the EHS data are being used so do keep in touch.

If you have any questions or comments about any of the topics covered in this bulletin or about the EHS more generally, please contact the EHS team: ehs@communities.gsi.gov.uk

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