

# Growing up homeless

Funded by Trust for London and the Joseph Rowntree Foundation, Shelter has carried out the largest ever survey of homeless households living in Temporary Accommodation (TA).

## What is Temporary Accommodation?

Temporary Accommodation is provided by the council to most families who are homeless until a suitable, settled home is offered.

**1,112** TOTAL SURVEY RESPONSES

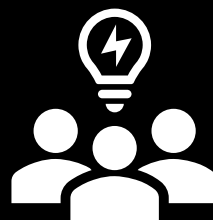
**1 in 10** FAMILIES LIVE IN EMERGENCY ACCOMMODATION (HOSTELS & B&B'S)

**75%** OF RESPONSES WERE FROM FAMILIES LIVING WITH CHILDREN IN TA

**88%** OF FAMILIES LIVE IN TEMPORARY FLATS OR HOUSES



We worked with **6 local authorities** across London, the South West, Midlands and the North



A **Steering Group of people with lived experience** of A guided the research and shared expertise

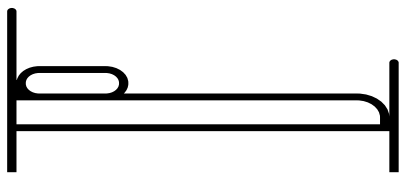
# Being stuck homeless in TA is taking its toll on children and young people

**1 in every 100 children** in England will wake up homeless this Christmas



That's **120,710 children** homeless and living in TA

**Stuck in cramped conditions**



More than a third (35%) of families say their child or children have to share a bed with siblings or other family members

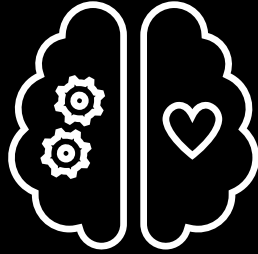
**Education is being impacted**



Almost half (45%) of school age children have arrived at school tired, late or hungry as a result of living in TA

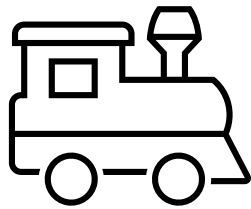
# The housing emergency is robbing children of a secure childhood

**Mental health issues are common**



1 in 4 (26%) parents say their child is often unhappy or depressed as a result of living in TA

**Children's development is disrupted**



6 in 10 (61%) of parents say they lack space for play

**Socialising is harder**



1 in 4 (28%) families say their child finds it hard to make or keep friends as a result of living in TA

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**The full results of this ground-breaking survey of homeless families will be released in a research report launching in February 2022.**

**To find out more in the interim, please contact**  
[\*\*taresearch@shelter.org.uk\*\*](mailto:taresearch@shelter.org.uk)

- The number of children who are homeless and living in temporary accommodation, and the number of families living in B&Bs and hostels is from DLUHC, 'Statutory homelessness live tables: April to June 2022: TA: Type of temporary accommodation provided': <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistical-data-sets/live-tables-on-homelessness>
- We compared the number of homeless children in England to the latest estimate for the number of children in England. In June 2020, the number of under 18s in England was estimated to be 12,093,288. This is from [ONS, 'Estimates of the population for the UK, England and Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland: Mid-2020'](#), MYE2: Persons by single year of age and sex for local authorities in the UK, mid-2020'. This is equivalent to 1 in 100.18 children in England.
- Shelter's landmark research with homeless families comes from a survey of 1,112 homeless households living in temporary accommodation in England. 75% of those households (833) were households with a child or children. They had a total of 1,616 children aged under 18 at the time of the survey. The temporary accommodation was provided under local authorities' statutory homelessness provisions. The survey was funded by the Trust for London and the Joseph Rowntree Foundation.
- The survey was delivered in partnership with six local authorities across London, the South West, Midlands and the North. The survey was conducted online and over the phone between 19 May – 10 August 2022. The response rate was 11% and the sample is broadly representative of the temporary accommodation population in England, including on the measures of family type, ethnicity, length of time in accommodation, location and type of accommodation.

**Thank you to our funders:**

