



The Facts

Family homelessness in New York City is persistent and has a far-reaching impact on families with children.

- In New York City more than 14,700 children live in Department of Homeless Services (DHS) shelters, and approximately almost half are under the age of 6. (Footnote: While DHS represents the largest shelter system for homeless families in NYC it is not the only system.)
- Families with children made up a third of the NYC Dept. of Homeless Services (DHS) shelter population in FY 2022.
- Children consistently make up more than a third of the population in shelter. In FY 22, 32% of people in shelter were children, and 33% in the prior FY21.
- Homelessness is traumatic for both adults and children. Since 2013, the average length of stay for families in DHS shelters continued to rise, reaching 534 days in 2022. Family homelessness is also expensive; in FY 2022 New York City spent \$188.20 a day or over \$68,000 a year to shelter a homeless family with children. (Source: Mayor's Management Report FY 2022).
- Homelessness disproportionately impacts families of color due to structural inequalities. Of families in DHS shelters, 51% of heads of households were black, and 44% were Latino in 2022, far greater than their share of the family household population in NYC.
- In the 2021-22 school year, 104,292 students in New York City schools lived in temporary housing. Sixty-two percent (66%) of these students are living doubled up with family or friends. (Source: Student Homelessness data on NYSTEACHS.)
- In FY 2022, 39% of families with children who entered DHS shelters identified domestic violence as the reason for their homelessness. The separate domestic violence shelter system, managed by the Human Resources Administration (HRA), was used by 10,201 adults and children in 2021.
- NYC's FY23 data will likely show an increase in the shelter population with the addition of migrant families who arrived in the city.

Meanwhile, median rent in New York City is continuing to climb and the supply of affordable apartments is decreasing.

- Nearly a third of NYC households are severely rent burdened, and median monthly rent increased 10% from 2011 to 2021, according to CCC's Keeping Track Online Database.
- The share of occupied housing units that are rent regulated (rent controlled or rent-stabilized) have declined from 55% in 2008 to 47% in 2021. (Source: NYC Housing and Vacancy Survey.)

More information on family homelessness in New York City can be found at:

- **Prioritizing Homeless Children and their Families:** A report and recommendations based on the work of the Family Homelessness Task Force
- **CCC Factsheet:** Housing Security in NYC
- **New Destiny infographic:** Domestic Violence and Family Homelessness
- **Win report:** The Forgotten Face of Homelessness