

Homelessness

Poverty undoubtedly increases the risk of homelessness. Today in the UK, 3.9 million children are living in poverty. Minority groups facing discrimination or disadvantage

- LGBT+ youth may become homeless due to non-acceptance from their family. It's estimated that LGBT+ homeless youth make up 24% of all homeless young people.
- Black, Asian, and Minority Ethnic people are often overrepresented in homelessness statistics. This may be partly due to social structural imbalances that make them more likely to experience poverty and hardship.
- Young asylum seekers and refugees sometimes find themselves without anywhere to go and end up on the streets.
- Soaring rent costs, insecure work and low pay plus a patchy welfare system are some factors that leave families without the means to get by.
- The proportion of kids living in poverty whose parents or carers are at work increased sharply from 67 per cent in 2015 to 75 per cent in 2020.
- Kids in inadequate housing are more at risk of respiratory illnesses and meningitis. Those in the most disadvantaged areas can expect 20 fewer years of good health than children in places with more resources.
- Data shows that private rents are unaffordable for the country's poorest, with 2021 showing that there are just two areas in England where the most impoverished families spend less than 30 per cent of their income on rent costs.
- Housing costs will be pushed up further for many by increasing council tax bills. Around two-thirds of English councils are expected to levy an increase.
- Increased costs will also hit mortgage holders as the Bank of England has raised the base interest rate to tackle inflation. This means repayments will be more expensive.



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