

Statutory homelessness data

July – September 2017 (Q3)

About

Every quarter, the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) releases statistics on the levels, types and outcomes of homelessness applications received by councils across England. This briefing looks at the latest figures.

Headlines

Compared to the same quarter in 2016, the latest statistics show that between 1 July and 30 September 2017:

- The total number of households making an application remained stable at 29,340.
- 52% of applicants were accepted by local authorities as owed the main homelessness duty.
- 4,900 people were found not to be in priority need, representing 17% of the total statutory case load.
- The number of households in temporary accommodation was 79,190, representing a 6% increase of last year's figure of 74,750.

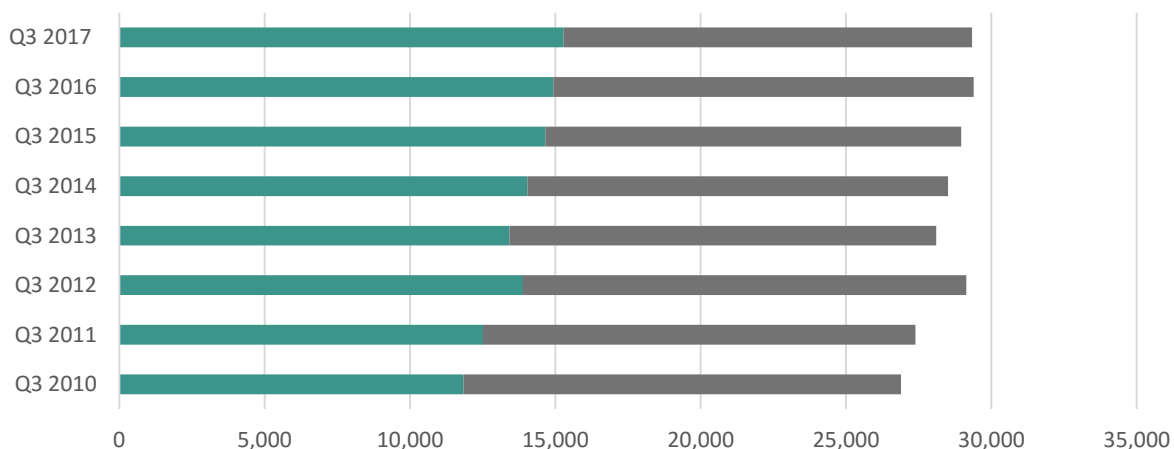
Applications and Acceptances

Applications	29,340 households made a homelessness application at their local authority in July - September 2017. This figure is only slightly lower compared to the same period last year when the total number was 29,390.
Acceptances	15,290 households were accepted as statutory homeless.
Rate of acceptance	The rate of acceptance was 52% which is slightly higher than Q3 2016 when the rate was 51% (14,930 acceptances)
Acceptances for young people	A total of 3,300 young people (aged 16-24) were accepted as statutory homeless. This figure has remained relatively stable from Q3 2016 when the figure was 3,310.

National trends

Graph 1 shows the national statutory caseload and official decisions over the past seven years during quarter 3 (July - September). In Q3 2017, a total of 29,340 households made a homelessness application at their local authority, which is only slightly lower than the Q3 2016 figure of 29,390. In 2017, 15,290 (52%) were accepted as statutory homeless.

Graph 1: Statutory homelessness decisions Q3 2010-2017

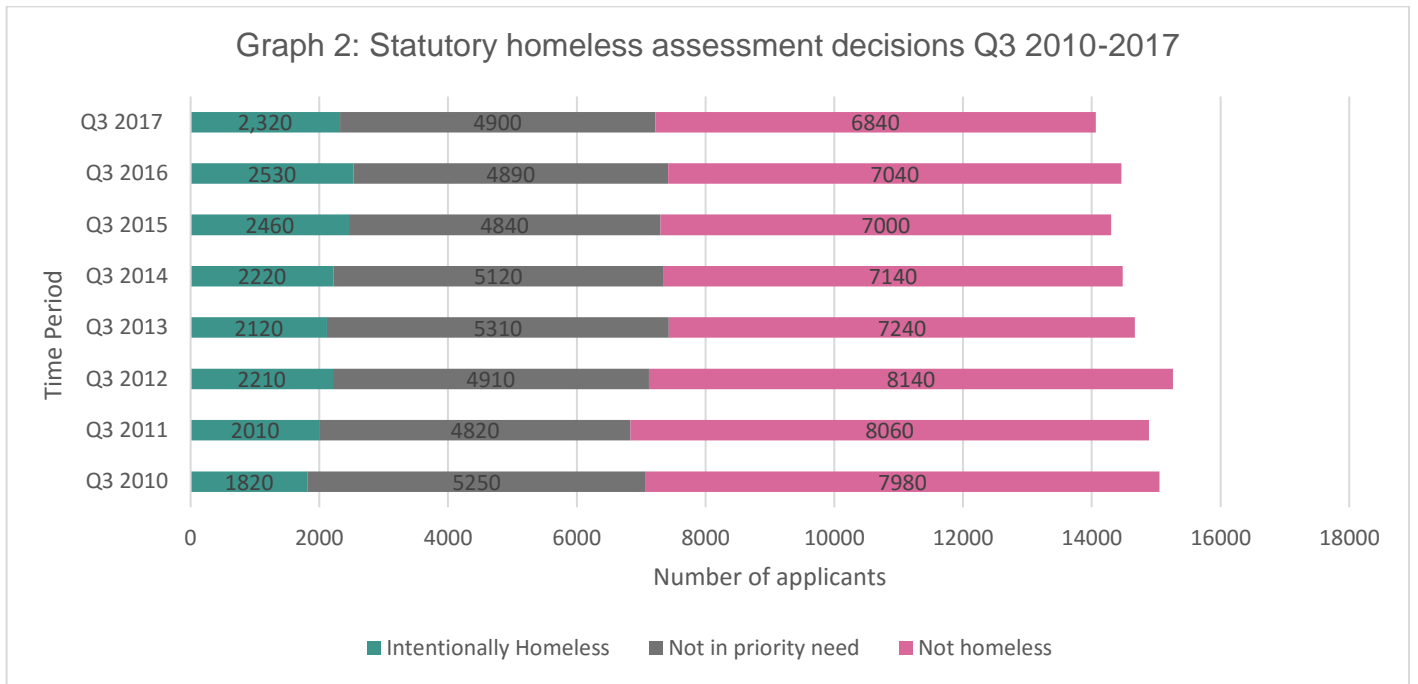


	Q3 2010	Q3 2011	Q3 2012	Q3 2013	Q3 2014	Q3 2015	Q3 2016	Q3 2017
Acceptances	11,840	12,510	13,890	13,420	14,040	14,660	14,930	15,290
Not accepted as homeless	15,050	14,880	15,250	14,680	14,470	14,300	14,460	14,050

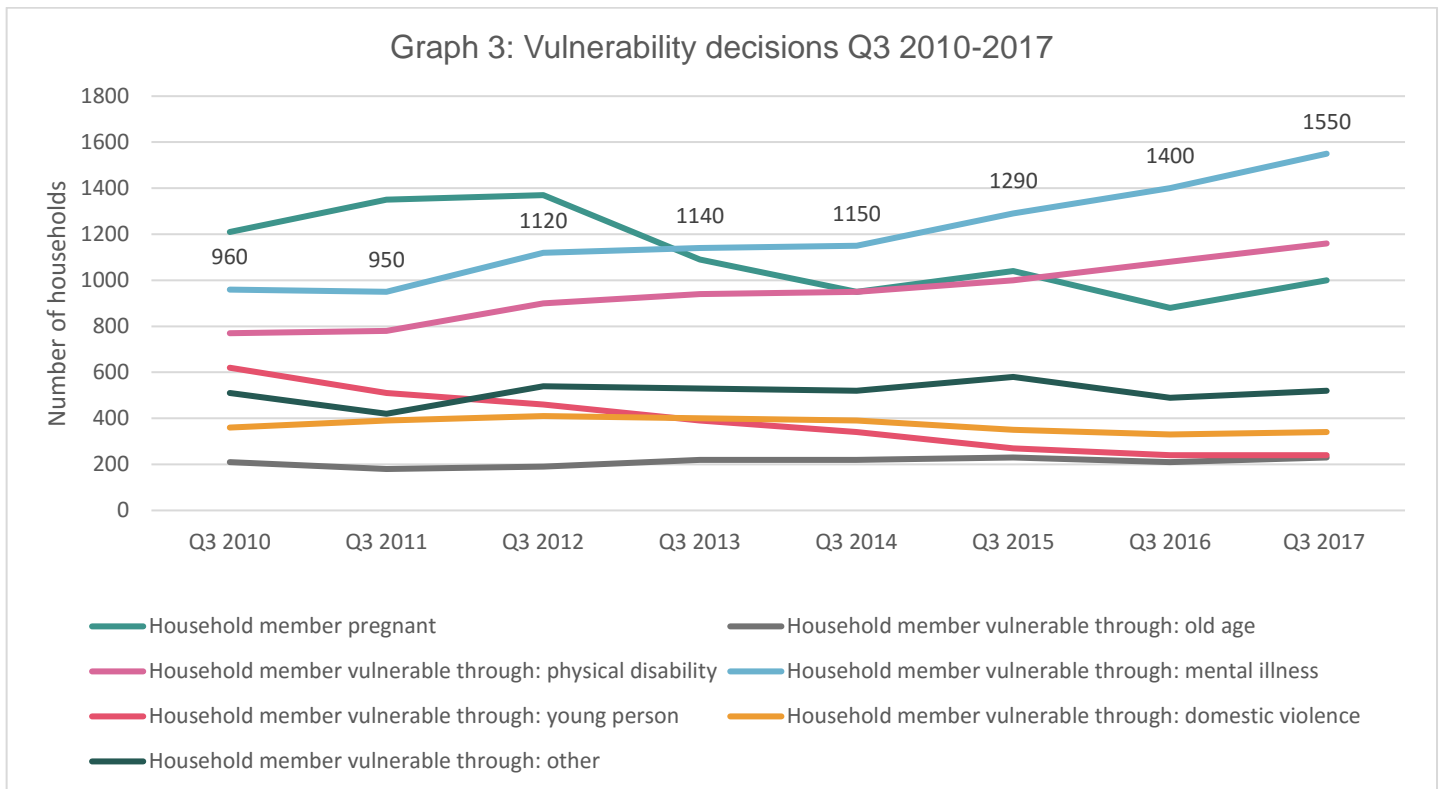
■ Acceptances ■ Not accepted as homeless

Homeless Link

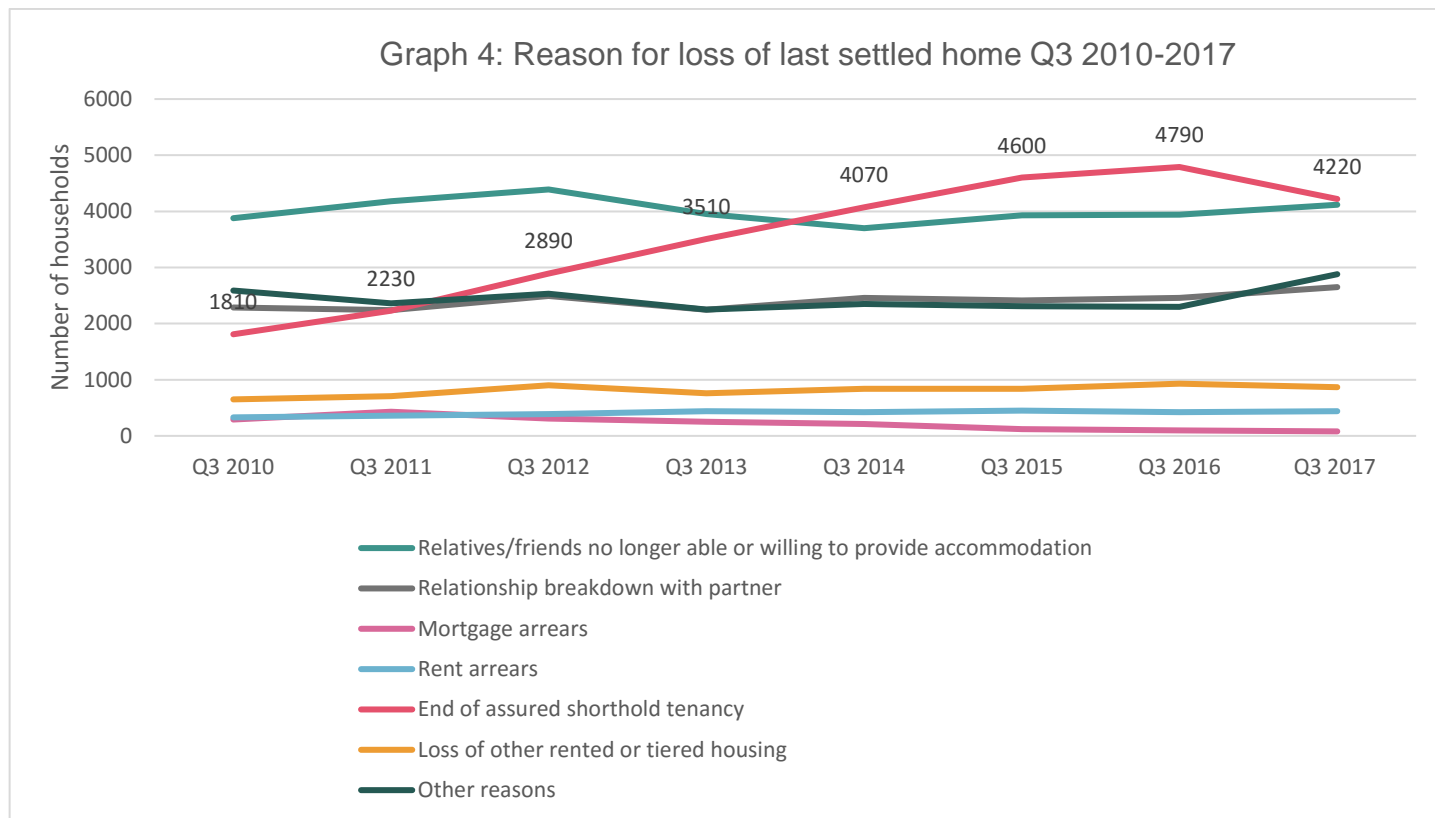
Graph 2 shows the decisions for all households not accepted as owed a main homelessness duty during the last seven years in Q3. Not homeless decisions remains the primary reason why applicant households are not accepted (6,840 households).



Graph 3 shows households found to be in priority need due to vulnerability. The data shows a continuing upward trend in the number of households found to be vulnerable through mental illness (1,550 in Q3 2017).



Graph 4 shows that in Q3 2017, end of assured shorthold tenancy with a private landlord (4,220 households) remained the primary reason why homeless applicants lost their last settled home (28% of all acceptances). Relatives/friends being unable or unwilling to provide accommodation remains the second immediate cause (4120 households).

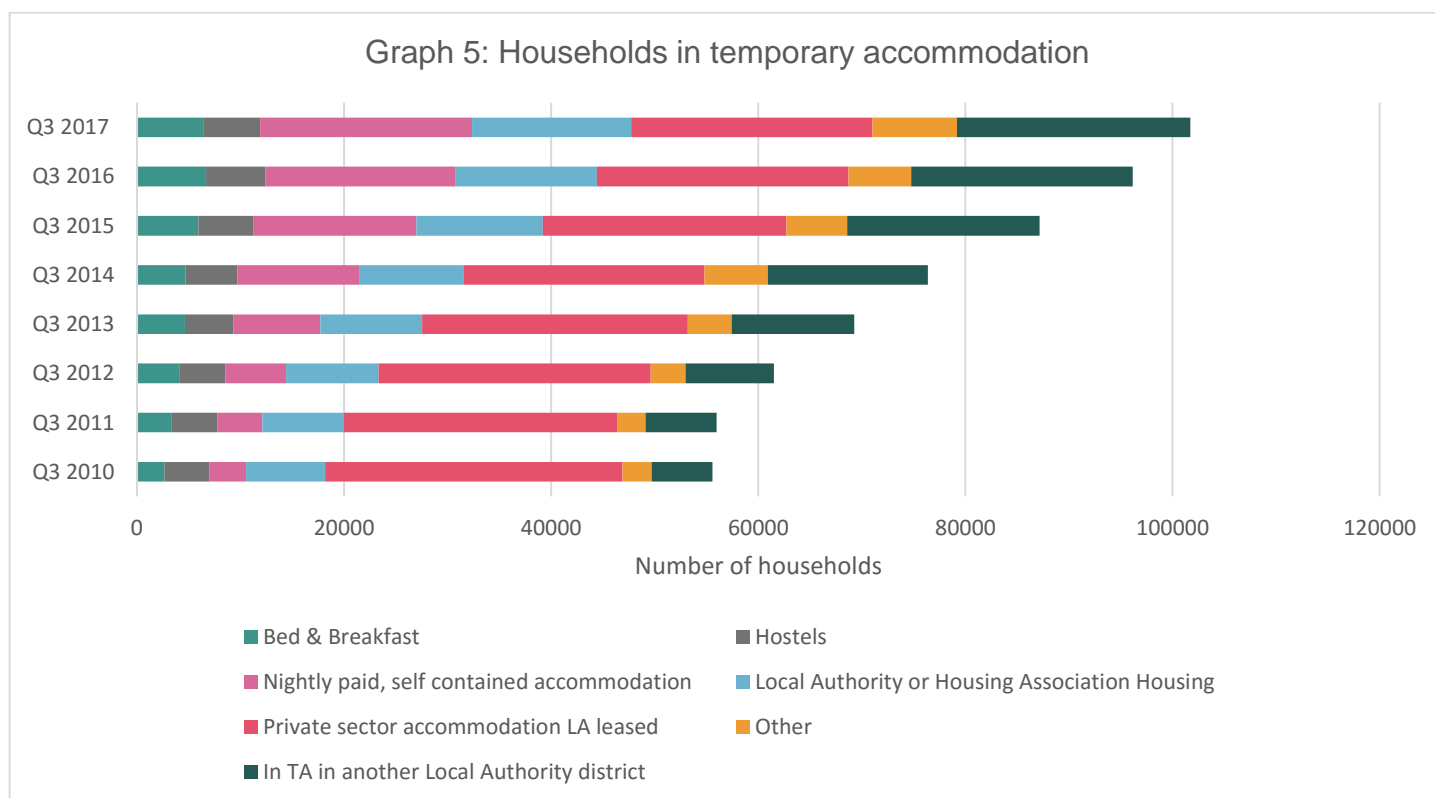


Households in temporary accommodation

Graph 5 shows the number of households placed in different types of temporary accommodation in Q3 2010 - 2017. In July - September 2017, a total of 79,190 households were in temporary accommodation, representing a 6% increase of last year's figure of 74,750. A total of 22,530 households were placed in local authorities other than where the original application was accepted, representing a 5% increase on last year's figure of 21,400.

Other key figures include:

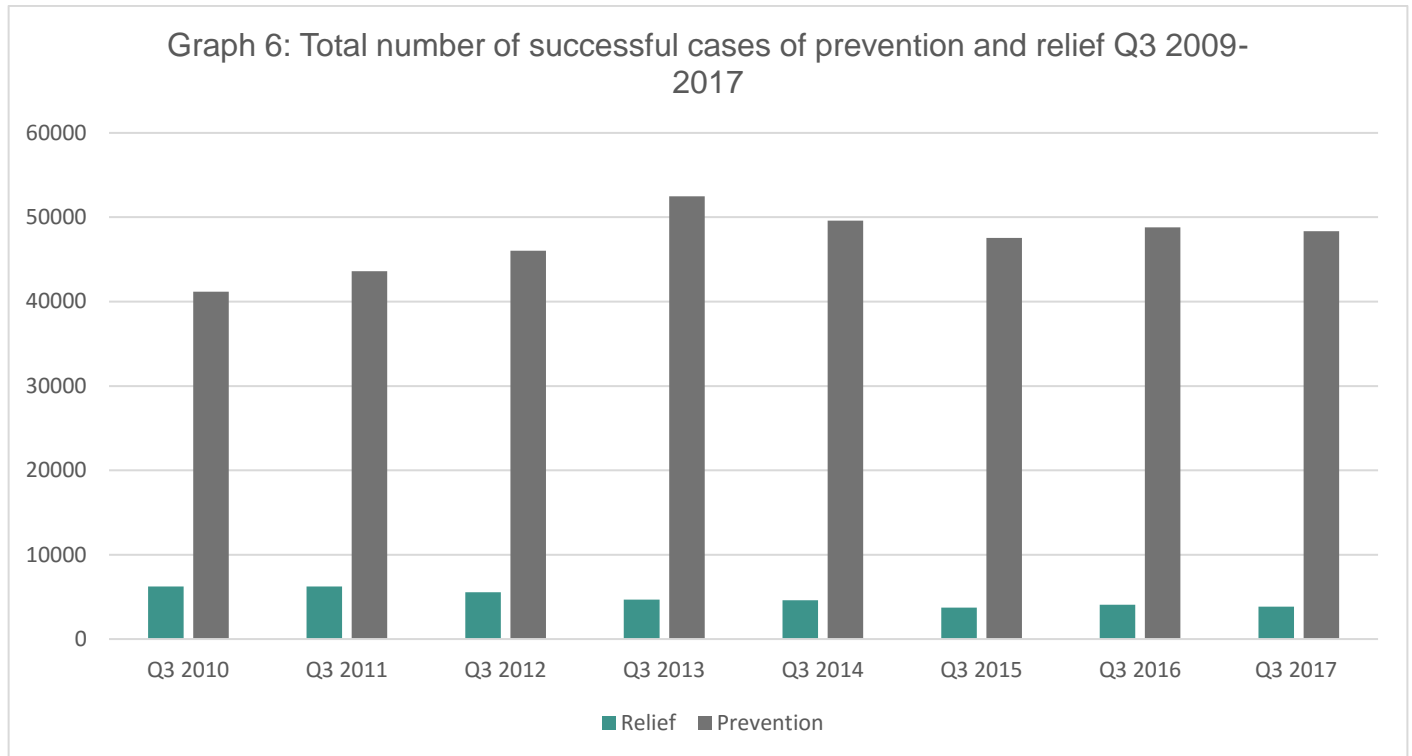
- 6,400 households were placed in Bed & Breakfasts, representing a 4% decrease from the previous year when the figure was 6,680.
- A total of 5,480 households were placed in hostels, representing a 4% decrease from the previous year when the figure was 5,690.
- 20,460 households were placed in nightly paid, self contained accommodation, representing a 11% increase from the 2016 figure of 18,420.



Prevention and relief

The DCLG publishes quarterly prevention and relief statistics alongside the statutory homelessness statistics. Prevention covers positive action taken by local authorities to provide assistance to people at risk of homelessness, relief involves actions to secure accommodation for households that have already become homeless. Figures are available from 2009/10 onwards.

In Q3 2017, there were 52,190 total cases of prevention and relief, down 1% from the 2016 figure of 52,880. Of the total, 48,340 (93%) were prevention and 3,850 were relief (7%)



Let's end homelessness together

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What we do

Homeless Link is the national membership charity for organisations working directly with people who become homeless or who live with multiple and complex support needs. We work to improve services and campaign for policy change that will help end homelessness.

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