Family Homelessness in New York City

As homelessness reaches record levels, it has a profound impact on New York City’s families and children.

**Homelessness and the affordability crisis are two sides of the same coin.**

In 2017, more than two-thirds of the population in DHS shelters were families with children. Within those families, approximately half were aged 13 and under.

The vast majority of homeless families are Black and Hispanic. Among the heads of families staying in DHS Shelters, 57 percent were Black and 37 percent were Hispanic in 2017, which exceeds their share of the family household population across NYC.

**Homelessness is a citywide issue, but it has a disproportionate impact on young children and families of color in poverty.**

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**Family homelessness is increasingly felt in New York City classrooms. More students than ever before are in temporary housing.**

This increase was driven by students who are ‘Doubled up’—living temporarily with friends or relatives. Ten years ago, most homeless students were living in city shelters; for the 2017-2018 school year, 62% of homeless students were doubled up.

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**Sources:**
- NYS-TEACHS. Data on Student Homelessness in NYC, Student Information Repository System.