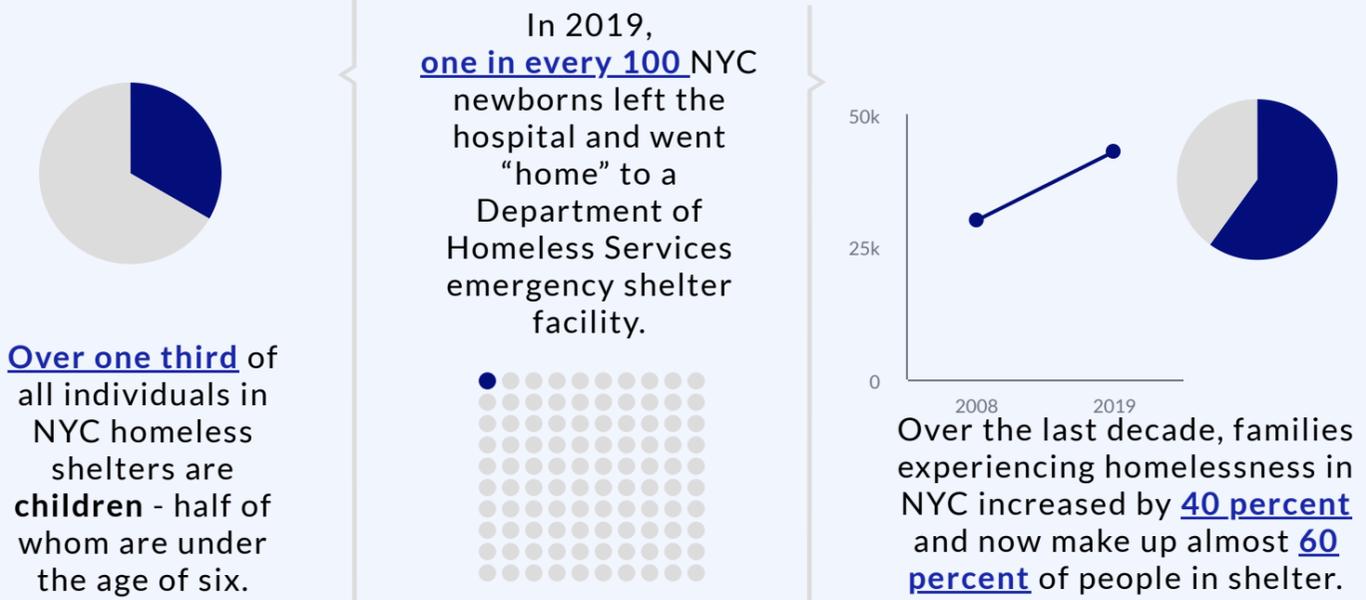


# Fast Facts about Homelessness in NYC

New York City has an outdated, linear homeless service system that prioritizes emergency shelters ahead of permanent housing. This broken “shelter first” system simply manages homelessness and fails to provide a pathway to end it. [One in four](#) American families experiencing homelessness reside in a New York City shelter.

[77,934](#) people experienced homelessness in NYC on a single night in January 2020.

## The majority of those facing homelessness are children and families.

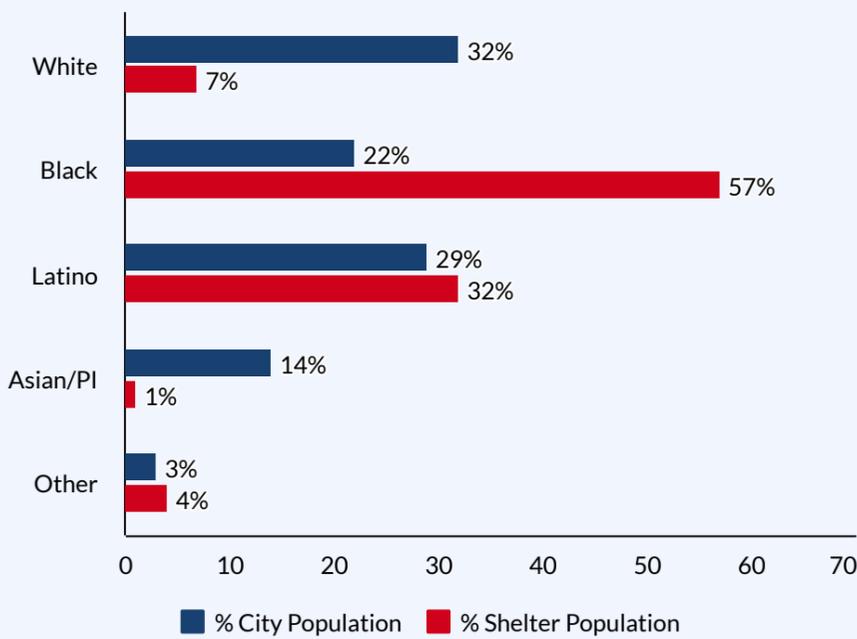


## More than [20,000](#) children experienced homelessness in New York City every day in 2020.



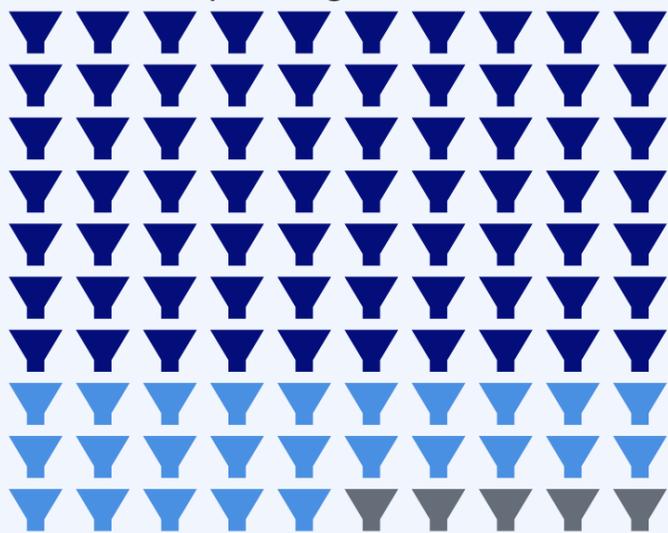
**One in four** - 25% - of US families experiencing homelessness live in NYC.

## Black and Latino households make up a disproportionate proportion of the NYC [shelter](#) population compared to their proportion of the [general](#) NYC population.



## New York City’s Shelter First System Does Not Work

NYC spends over [\\$3 billion](#) on providing services to people experiencing and at risk of homelessness - 70% of it on operating shelters.



This **shelter first** approach is in direct conflict with federal (HUD) [guidance](#) that emphasizes homelessness prevention policies that are proven to reduce homelessness. Instead, NYC invests billions of dollars in shelter stays that fail to put families on a pathway to permanent housing. This results in people, especially, families, cycling through the system over and over again creating even more of an avoidable financial burden on the city.

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