

Geographic Differences in Reason for Shelter Application and Entry

In all but four of the 59 New York City community districts, eviction was the leading reason families listed for applying to shelter.

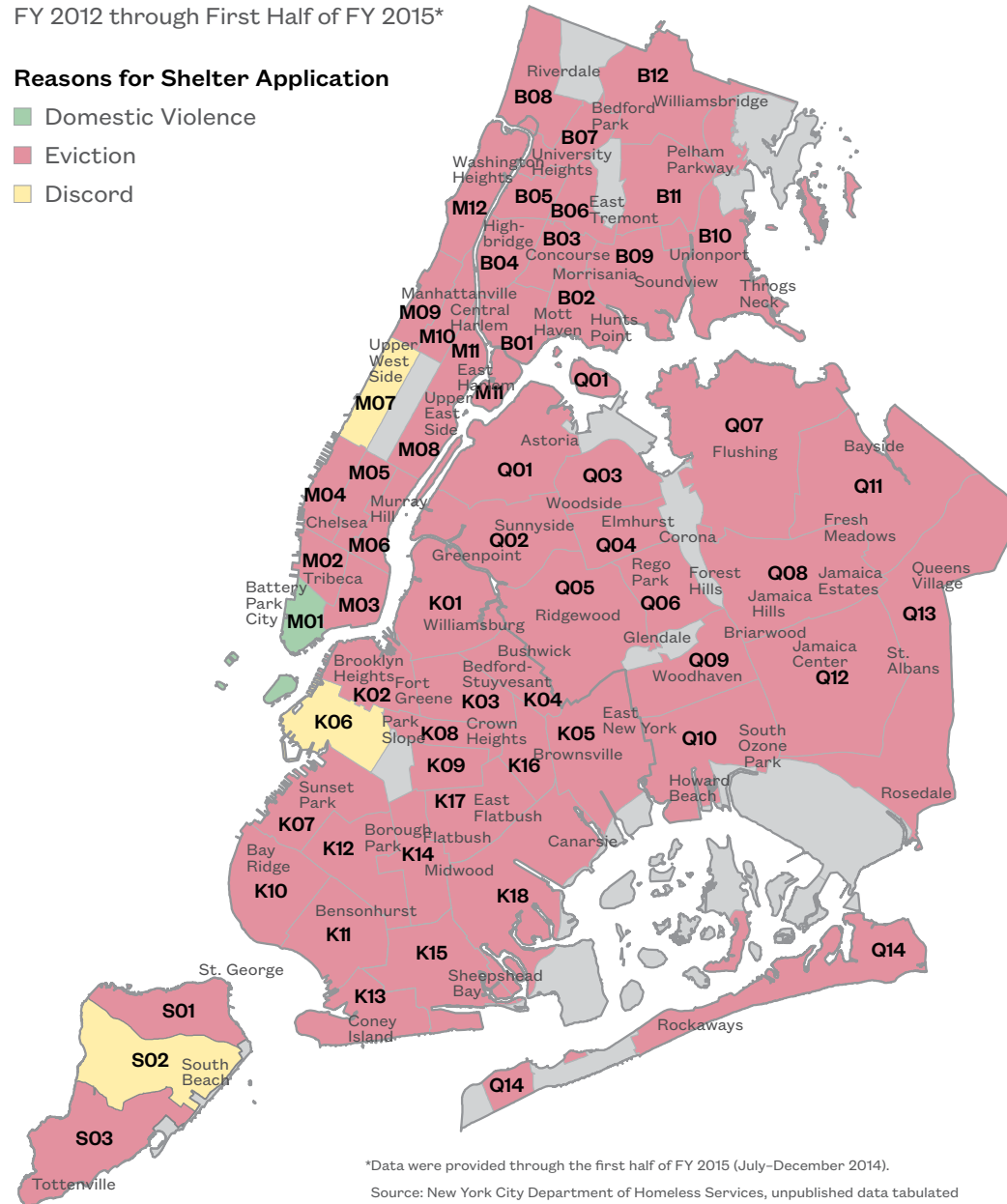
While New York City homeless prevention policy focuses on eviction, this issue may be only a symptom of the underlying problem. The factors driving homelessness are more complex.

Most Common Reason for Families with Children to Apply for Shelter, by Community District

FY 2012 through First Half of FY 2015*

Reasons for Shelter Application

- Domestic Violence
- Eviction
- Discord



*Data were provided through the first half of FY 2015 (July–December 2014).
Source: New York City Department of Homeless Services, unpublished data tabulated by the Institute for Children, Poverty, and Homelessness, FY 2012–FY 2015.

The most frequent reason that families were found eligible to enter shelter by community district was split fairly evenly between eviction (30 community districts) and domestic violence (27 community districts).

Policies focused solely on housing are clearly limited. At the community level, domestic violence plays an equally important role as eviction in shelter entry.

Most Common Reason Families with Children Were Found Eligible, by Community District

FY 2012 through First Half of FY 2015*

Reasons for Shelter Eligibility

- Domestic Violence
- Eviction
- Immediate Return
- Overcrowding



*Data were provided through the first half of FY 2015 (July–December 2014).

Source: New York City Department of Homeless Services, unpublished data tabulated by the Institute for Children, Poverty, and Homelessness, FY 2012–FY 2015.