

Why Families Apply for and Are Deemed Eligible for Shelter

The top three reasons for families to apply for shelter during the first half of FY 2015 were: eviction (29%), discord (28%), and domestic violence (16%).

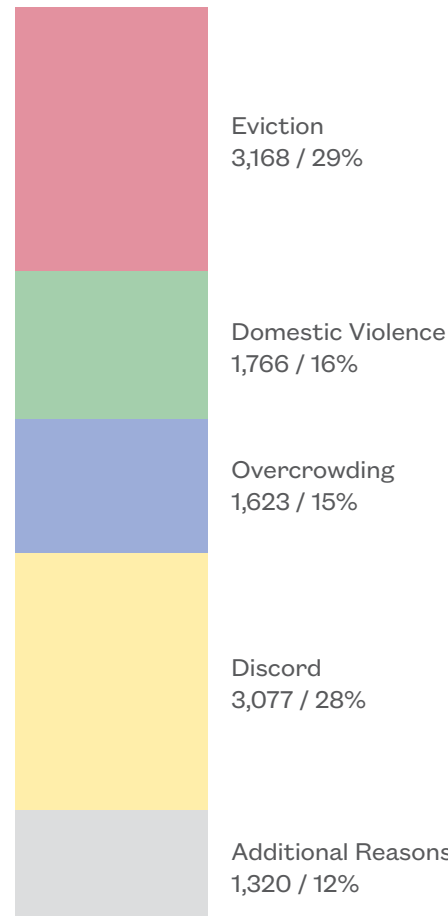
The three primary reasons that families were determined to be eligible for shelter were: domestic violence (28%), eviction (27%), and overcrowding (19%).

Over the six-month period from July–December 2014, 60% of families with children who applied for shelter were found eligible.

The six-month eligibility rate is the proportion of families who applied for shelter over a six-month period who were deemed eligible for shelter. That the six-month eligibility rate is higher than the typical monthly eligibility rate highlights how many families who are ultimately found eligible for shelter applied more than once.

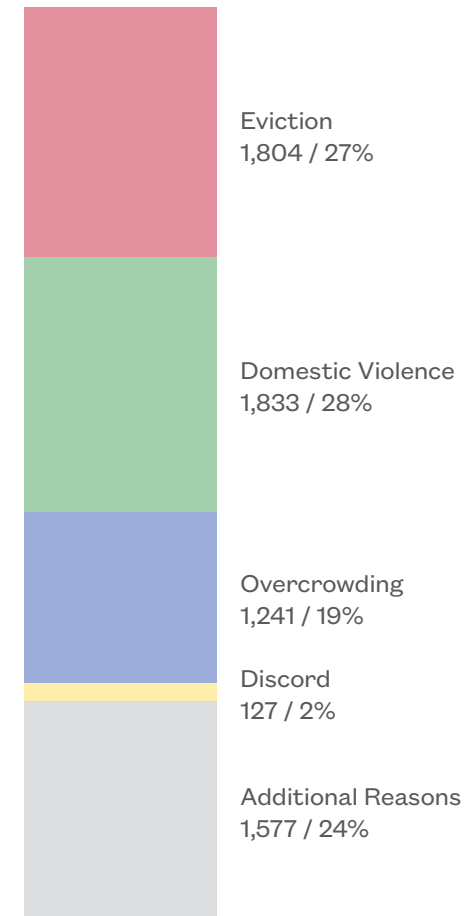
Reasons for Shelter Application, Citywide

Number and Percent of Families with Children Applying for Shelter, by Primary Reason for Application July–December 2014



Reasons Families Found Eligible for Shelter, Citywide

Number and Percent of Families with Children Found Eligible for Shelter, by Primary Reason for Eligibility July–December 2014



Note: A family's reason for application does not necessarily match their reason for eligibility. Families who applied multiple times were unduplicated by fiscal year. A list of additional reasons can be found in the Glossary of Terms.

Source: New York City Department of Homeless Services, unpublished data tabulated by the Institute for Children, Poverty, and Homelessness, FY 2015.