

# The clipped wing generation

Analysis of adults living at home with their parents

**From the Shelter policy library**

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# Shelter

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## Adults living at home – Where and why?

### Summary

Shelter commissioned exclusive tables from the Census 2011 and a YouGov survey of adults living at home with their parents. This was to better understand:

- The exact locations where adults living at home with their parents is most common
- The main reasons that lie behind families living in this way

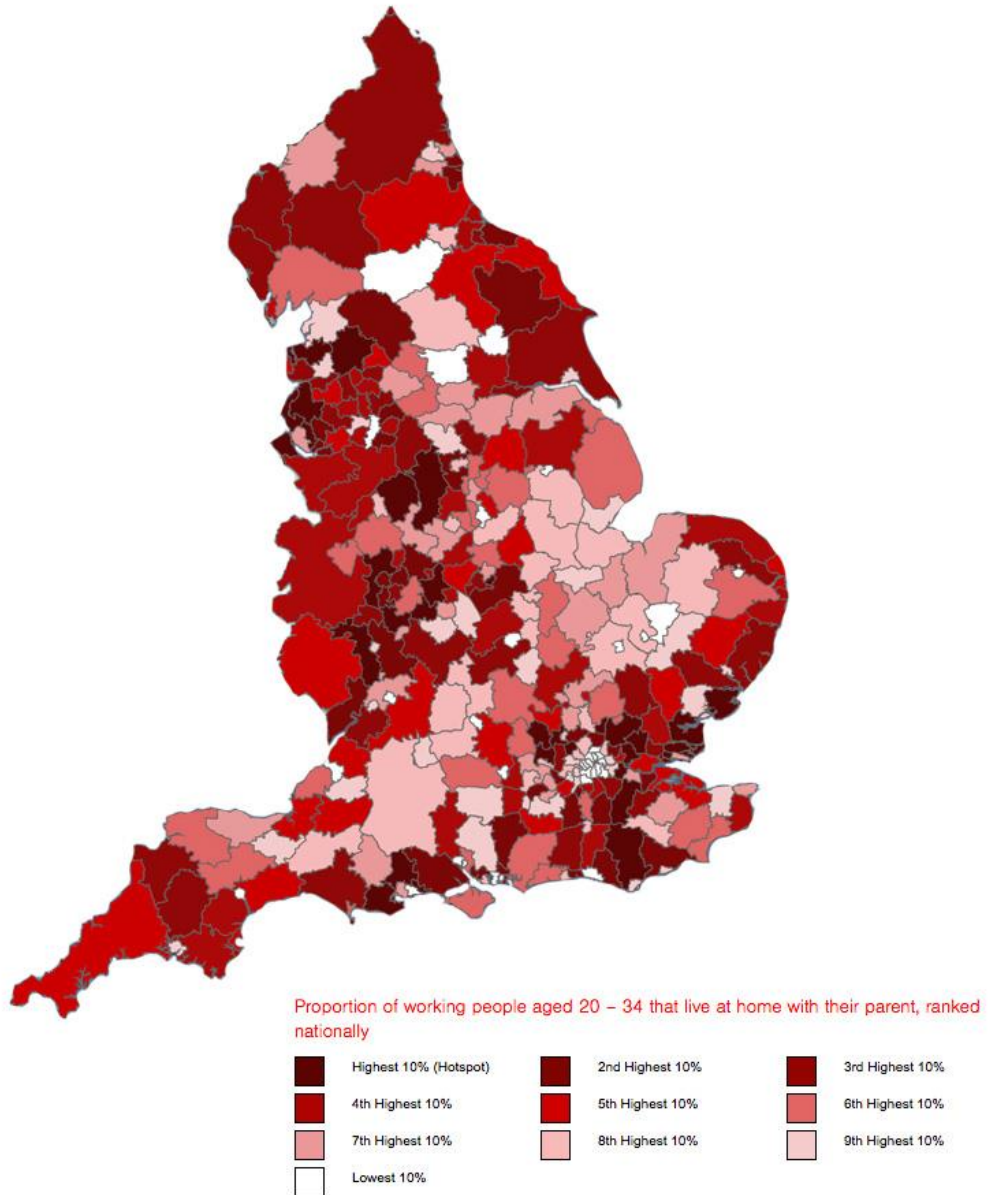
This adds rich detail to the national and regional statistics on adults living at home with their parents that are already published by the [ONS](#). In common with the ONS, the new analysis focuses on people aged 20 – 34 years old, and this report particularly focuses on working people living in this way. This new research has revealed:

- The lack of affordable housing<sup>1</sup> is by far the main reason that people aged 20 – 34 and in work give for living at home with their parents. Among this group 67% said housing affordability was a factor in their living arrangements, and nearly half (48%) said it was the one main factor. Less than three in ten working adults aged 20-34 and living at home with their parents say they want to live with them (27%) – meaning that for 73%, it is in no way a desired choice.
- Over half of working adults aged 20 – 34 who live at home with their parents (52%) are worried that this is holding them back from having an independent life.
- The majority (75%) of young adults living at home with their parents were working. Of the 2.62 million people aged 20 - 34 that were living at home with their parents at the time of the 2011 Census, nearly 2 million (1.97 million) of these were working.
- There is very little difference in the breakdown of working between the living at home and living independently populations.
- There are concentrations of local authority areas with high proportions of adults living at home in East Essex, West Essex/ Hertfordshire, Merseyside/ Lancashire and the West Midlands. In these hotspots, 4 in 10 or more working people aged 20-34 were living at home with their parents. Many of these areas are on or near established commuter routes, but some, such as the top hotspot in East Essex, are a considerable distance from the nearest major city.
- Although we know from the YouGov survey that the availability and affordability of housing is the main reason lying behind why many adults are living at home in their 20s and 30s, the local areas where this is most common do not appear to be correlated to low wages or high rents. The closest relationship found is that areas with high proportions of working adults living at home also have high proportions of people in the right age range to have children aged 20 – 34. Young adults priced out of our major cities appear, simply, to be concentrated in the areas where their parents live.

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<sup>1</sup> When asked 'Which, if any, of the following are/were reasons why you live/lived with your parent(s)/ grandparent(s) at their home in the last 12 months? (Please tick all that apply)', answered: Rent too expensive or saving for mortgage deposit or waiting for a council house'

## Map



An interactive version of this map can be viewed on our [website](#).

## Background

The topic of adults living in the parental home into their 20s and 30s has gained particular currency since the latest publication of the ONS figures on this in January 2014. This showed a significant upward trend in the numbers of people with these living arrangements in the UK, with a record number in 2013. The [annual ONS report](#) is extremely revealing, but has limitations. It does not report below the regional level, and is subject to a margin of error and limitations on how it can be broken down, because it is based on sample surveys.

Additionally, little is known for certain about the reasons why so many young adults are living in this way. There is [debate](#) over the extent to which the cost of housing, personal choice or other factors are responsible.

## What does this research tell us that is new?

For the first time, the Census figures give a definitive set of national, regional and local figures on adults living at home with their parents, which are not subject to sampling error.

Other new details include splitting non-working students out from others not working and data on the types of professions adults living at home are working in.

The Census figures do not reveal anything about the reasons why people are living in this way and the YouGov survey was commissioned to understand this better. The survey data reveals in detail the reasons why adults live at home with their parents and examines some of the impacts this has on the whole family.

## Methodology

### Census

Shelter commissioned the ONS to generate bespoke tables showing a detailed breakdown of adults living at home with their parents by age, working status and local authority area and complimentary tables showing the whole population with the same breakdowns in order to calculate the percentage results based on the Census in this report. All Census data is Crown Copyright. The full tables are publicly available on the ONS website<sup>2</sup>.

The Census tables are based on non-dependent children – these are people living in the family home with their parents and/or grandparents<sup>3</sup> who are aged 18 or over, or are aged 16-17 but are not in full-time education. If a person moves into their parent's home to care for

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<sup>2</sup> <http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/about-ons/business-transparency/freedom-of-information/what-can-i-request/published-ad-hoc-data/index.html>

<sup>3</sup> For simplicity we refer to 'living at home with parents' throughout this report, but grandparents are always included in this definition.

them this would be included, but if a parent moves into a home their child owns or rents to be cared for this would not count. This is the standard ONS definition of an 'adult living at home' and is the same base definition that is used in ONS figures on this topic. In common with the ONS, the report focuses on the 20-34 age group, primarily to aid consistent comparison with the wider population<sup>4</sup>, but also because our survey results suggests the reasons why those over 35 live at home with their parents are somewhat different. In this report, we particularly focus on people who are working and living at home with their parents. This report focuses on data for England, but full data for Wales is available via the ONS website.

## Survey

Shelter commissioned YouGov to carry out a survey of 1,255 adults (18+) who were currently living at home with their parents, or had been in the last twelve months. 1,036 of these were aged 20 or above, and 250 were aged 20-34, working and currently living at home with their parents. Parents who have themselves had an adult child living with them in the last two years were surveyed separately (760). Fieldwork was undertaken between 20th and 24th June 2014. Total sample size was 9,370 adults. The figures were weighted to be representative of all UK adults (aged 18+). The survey was carried out online.

Sample sizes are quoted on tables and charts throughout this report.

## Limitations

This research focused only on those adults who are able to live at home with their parents. However, it is very important to consider that not all people have an equal – or even any – opportunity to be an adult living at home. Many people living in England do not have living parents (particularly further up the age range), or their parents may be living outside the UK. If a person's parents are living in the UK, factors such as the size of their home and its location will influence the feasibility of a person living in their home.

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<sup>4</sup> This is because of the demographic differences between different local areas, particularly differences in the age profile of the 20+ population. If we use all people 20 and above to compare, areas with higher populations aged in their 70s and older will likely appear to have a smaller %s of adults living at home – at the top of the age range people are very unlikely to have parents alive, but also their own children will be in the older age groups where living at home is rarer. Additionally the 20+ population includes retired people and is not useful for comparisons of the working population.

## How many adults are living at home and where are they concentrated?

This section presents a summary of the new Census data. It begins with national and regional breakdowns, and ends with an examination of the local hotspots. Table 1 below shows the total number of people aged 20 and over, and the number of people aged 20-34 who were living at home with their parents at the time of the 2011 Census. It also shows the proportions of these groups made up by adults living at home. The final two columns are from the existing ONS figures, for the closest matching time period available.

**Table 1: National and regional figures on people living at home with their parents, and comparison with existing ONS figures**

	Number: Adults living with parent(s) – aged 20+	% of: 20+ Adults that are living with parent(s)	Number: Adults living with parent(s) – aged 20-34 [1]	% of: 20- 34 year old adults that are living with parent(s) [1]	Existing ONS figures: Adults living with parent(s) – aged 20- 34, UK, 2010-12 [2]	Existing ONS % of: 20-34 year old adults that are living with parent(s), 2010-12 [2]
<b>England</b>	3,254,220	8%	2,621,606	24%	2,508,000	N/A
<b>UK (Existing ONS figures)</b>					3,020,000	24%
<b>North East</b>	165,609	8%	131,602	26%	131,000	25%
<b>North West</b>	472,779	9%	379,157	27%	369,000	26%
<b>Yorkshire &amp; the Humber</b>	301,914	8%	242,463	23%	238,000	22%
<b>East Midlands</b>	257,094	7%	206,194	24%	188,000	22%
<b>West Midlands</b>	380,214	9%	303,581	28%	289,000	28%
<b>East of England</b>	344,031	8%	278,854	26%	263,000	25%
<b>London</b>	580,019	9%	479,095	21%	440,000	20%
<b>South East</b>	481,261	7%	389,167	24%	382,000	25%
<b>South West</b>	271,299	7%	211,493	23%	208,000	23%
<b>Wales</b>	201,550	9%	158,041	28%	135,000	24%
<b>Sources: [1] Calculated from tables commissioned by Shelter from the ONS. Census 2011, Crown Copyright [2] ONS report, January 2014. Note ONS figures in top right columns relate to UK. 2010-12 figures taken to offer comparison with 2011 census</b>						

Table 1 above shows us that:

- In total there were 3.25 million people aged 20 or older living as adults in the family home in England.
- 2.62 million were aged 20-34. This is the ONS definition of an adult living at home, and is the basis of their annual reports.
- When compared like-for-like, the new Census figures are very close to the sample survey based figures previously published by ONS, at both national and regional levels. This suggests that we can be confident in the accuracy of the previously published data, and also suggests that the new data is based on the same definitions as that already published by ONS, and can be reliably broken down further.
- When this group is defined as aged 20-34, London has the lowest percentage of adults living at home (21%). This is in common with the annual ONS findings. However, when all adults aged 20 or above are included, London has the highest percentage of adults living at home, at 9.4%. This is driven by a relatively high number of people (100,000) aged over 35 in London who live with their parents.

Understanding the size of the working population that are living at home with their parents, and whether there are differences in the breakdown of working and not working between those living at home and independently is also important. Tables 2, 3 and 4 examine working people living at home with their parents in more detail.



**Table 2: National and regional figures on *working* people living at home with their parents**

	Number: Adults living with parent(s) – aged 20+ and <i>working</i>	% of those aged 20+ and <i>working</i> who are adults living with parent(s)	Number: Adults living with parent(s) – aged 20-34 and <i>working</i>	% of adults 20-34 and <i>working</i> who are living with parent(s)	% of adults living with parent(s) aged 20- 34 who are <i>working</i>	% of adults living with parent(s) aged 20-34 who are <i>not</i> <i>working</i> (excluding <i>students</i> )	% of adults living with parent(s) or grandparent(s) aged 20-34 who are <i>students who</i> <i>are not</i> <i>working</i>
<b>England</b>	2,393,403	10%	1,967,987	25%	75%	17%	8%
<b>North East</b>	117,765	11%	96,682	28%	73%	20%	7%
<b>North West</b>	342,555	11%	282,866	28%	75%	18%	8%
<b>Yorkshire &amp; the Humber</b>	217,374	9%	178,975	24%	74%	19%	7%
<b>East Midlands</b>	191,931	9%	157,856	25%	77%	17%	7%
<b>West Midlands</b>	275,048	11%	223,680	29%	74%	18%	8%
<b>East</b>	267,654	10%	222,101	27%	80%	14%	6%
<b>London</b>	392,907	10%	325,094	20%	68%	18%	14%
<b>South East</b>	376,341	9%	310,713	25%	80%	14%	6%
<b>South West</b>	211,828	9%	170,020	23%	80%	15%	5%
<b>Wales</b>	145,504	11%	117,908	29%	75%	19%	7%
<b>Source: Calculated from tables commissioned by Shelter from the ONS. Census 2011, Crown Copyright.</b>							

Table 2 above shows that:

- 2.4 million people aged 20 or above are working and living at home with their parents. This is 10% of all working people aged 20 and over.
- Just under two million adults (1.97 million) aged 20 – 34 are working and living at home with their parents. This is 25% of all working people aged 20 – 34 in England.
- Three-quarters (75%) of adults aged 20 - 34 and living at home with their parents are in work, 17% are unemployed or inactive (but not students), and 8% are full-time students who are not working.

- Adults living at home who are in work is most common in the South East and South West regions, and least common in London, where a higher percentage of adults living at home are unemployed or inactive.

The question of whether adults living at home are more or less likely to be working than those living independently is also important to consider.

**Table 3: 20-34 year olds - Comparison of working status between those living at home with parents and those living independently**

	% working	% unemployed or economically inactive (excluding students)	% unemployed or economically inactive and a student
<b>Aged 20-34, living independently</b>	73%	18%	9%
<b>Aged 20-34, living at home with parents</b>	75%	17%	8%
<b>Source: Shelter commissioned table, ONS, Census 2011, Crown Copyright.</b>			

These figures lend themselves to the conclusion that there is very little difference in the working profile of those living independently compared to those living at home with their parents.

When considering this finding, we must remember that the opportunity to live at home with your parents is not open to all – many people do not have living parents, or their parents live outside England. Previous Shelter surveys has suggested that people that are in lower social grade groups or unemployed are less likely to have the option of moving back in with their parents available to them.

The new Census data also included a breakdown of the types of work adults living at home were employed in.

**Table 4: Working adults living at home with parents – types of job/ profession using Standard Occupational Classification<sup>5</sup>**

	Number of adults living with parents, 20+, by profession (SOC)	% of people aged 20 + and working in these professions that are adults living at home with parents	Number of adults living with parents, 20-34, by profession (SOC)	% of people working in these professions aged 20-34 that are adults living at home with parents
<b>All in work</b>	2,393,403	10%	1,967,987	25%
<b>Managers, directors and senior officials</b>	134,189	5%	103,300	17%
<b>Professional occupations</b>	246,843	6%	202,218	14%
<b>Associate professional and technical occupations</b>	307,782	10%	263,948	21%
<b>Administrative and secretarial occupations</b>	292,097	10%	237,978	28%
<b>Skilled trades occupations</b>	324,110	12%	255,513	31%
<b>Caring, leisure and other service occupations</b>	228,267	10%	201,128	26%
<b>Sales and customer service occupations</b>	353,183	19%	321,272	38%
<b>Process, plant and machine operatives</b>	352,388	16%	225,520	29%
<b>Elementary occupations</b>	344,592	14%	275,400	30%
<b>Source: Shelter commissioned table, ONS, Census 2011, Crown Copyright. Based on SOC classifications, see below for more detail on SOC classification.</b>				

Table 4 above provides a breakdown of the types of work adults living at home with their parents are doing, and shows what proportion of workers in each job type are living at home. It shows that living at home with your parents is more common among lower graded jobs, and less common in professional and managerial jobs, which tend to be much higher paid, and is what would be expected. Nevertheless, around one in seven 20-34 year olds in a managerial or professional occupation is living at home with their parents.

The rest of this section details the local level findings, which are the key new aspect of this report. The local results are mapped on the Shelter [website](#). All rankings are based on the working 20-34 year old working population, to iron out skewing by the demographics of the comparison population, as mentioned previously.

<sup>5</sup> The job types use SOC, the ONS method of classifying different types of work, more details here <http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/guide-method/classifications/current-standard-classifications/soc2010/index.html>

Hotspots of adult children living at home are spread all over England, and include a range of types of areas, although some interesting concentrations include:

- East Essex
- Merseyside and Lancashire
- West Midlands

The hotspots are very similar regardless of whether we analyse by all adults living at home (see table 5), or just those working (see table 6).

**Table 5: number and %s of 20+ and 20-34 year olds that are living at home with parents – top 20 local authority areas in England ranked by % of 20-34 year olds living at home**

	Area	Region/ locality	Number of people aged 20+ who are living at home with parents	% of people aged 20+ who are living at home with parents	Number of people aged 20-34 who are living at home with parents	% people aged 20-34 who are living at home with parents
1	Castle Point	Benfleet, Canvey, Essex	7,091	10.3%	5,785	44.2%
2	South Staffordshire	West Midlands	8,132	9.5%	6,569	41.6%
3	Rochford	East Essex	6,196	9.6%	5,009	41.5%
4	Sefton	Bootle, Southport	23,093	10.8%	18,337	41.4%
5	Knowsley	Merseyside, adj. Liv'pool	14,250	13.1%	11,224	41.2%
6	East Dorset	South West, Wimborne	5,082	7.3%	4,019	40.8%
7	Maldon	East Essex	3,978	8.3%	3,292	40.2%
8	South Bucks	South East, Beaconsfield	4,627	9.0%	3,913	39.2%
9	Oadby and Wigston	Leicester suburb	4,537	10.8%	3,649	38.6%
10	Havering	NE London, Romford	20,598	11.4%	16,997	38.5%
11	Solihull	West Midlands	15,137	9.6%	12,273	37.5%
12	Epping Forest	West Essex	9,432	9.8%	7,736	37.2%
13	Chiltern	Bucks, Amersham and Chesham	5,358	7.7%	4,379	37.1%
14	Ribble Valley	Lancs, Clitheroe	3,396	7.8%	2,741	36.7%
15	Bexley	SE London	19,024	11.1%	15,839	36.5%
16	Broxbourne	Hertfordshire	7,620	10.9%	6,330	36.4%
17	Bromsgrove	West Midlands	5,981	8.2%	4,859	36.3%
18	North Warwickshire	West Midlands	4,424	9.2%	3,508	36.3%
19	Staffordshire Moorlands	North Staffs	6,400	8.4%	4,999	36.2%
20	Wirral	Merseyside	24,130	9.9%	19,128	36.0%

Source: Shelter commissioned table, ONS, Census 2011, Crown Copyright.

**Table 6: Number of working 20+ and number and % of working 20-34 year olds that are living at home with their parents – top 20 local authority areas in England**

	Area	Number of people 20+ working and living at home	Number of working people aged 20-34 who are living at home with parents	% working people aged 20-34 who are living at home with parents
1	Castle Point	5,670	4,756	45.1%
2	Rochford	5,080	4,253	42.3%
3	South Staffordshire	6,436	5,291	41.9%
4	Knowsley	9,679	7,990	41.7%
5	Sefton	16,797	13,779	41.4%
6	East Dorset	4,159	3,384	41.3%
7	Maldon	3,240	2,738	41.1%
8	Havering	15,997	13,436	39.2%
9	Oadby and Wigston	3,368	2,728	38.6%
10	South Bucks	3,685	3,147	38.3%
11	Solihull	11,701	9,667	38.0%
12	Bexley	14,457	12,252	37.4%
13	Epping Forest	7,407	6,177	37.3%
14	West Lancashire	5,960	4,858	37.0%
15	Tendring	5,989	4,801	36.8%
16	Broxbourne	6,013	5,072	36.7%
17	Ribble Valley	2,831	2,339	36.7%
18	Bromsgrove	4,659	3,862	36.5%
19	Chiltern	4,203	3,477	36.4%
20	North Warwickshire	3,510	2,860	36.0%

Source: Shelter commissioned table, ONS, Census 2011, Crown Copyright.

Further analysis is required to fully understand any correlations between high rates of adults living at home with their parents and other socio-economic factors. Areas with highest concentrations appear mixed in terms of affluence – areas such as Castle Point (Essex), and Knowsley are among the most deprived in the country, but the top 20 also includes areas such as East Dorset and South Bucks which are more affluent areas.

Table 7 below shows the results of a preliminary test of factors which could potentially be related to particular areas having a high rate of adults living at home. Local Authorities were first split into quartiles according to the commonality of working adults living at home. The table shows the median ranking of areas in each quartile for adults living at home by the four factors

tested – wages, rents, the proportion of 45-64 year olds in the local population, and index of multiple deprivation ranking.

**Table 7: Adults living at home, wages, rents, % of population aged 45-64, and IMD ranking**

Local Authority Areas in Quartiles: Adults aged 20-34 working and living at home	Median ranking: Median wage	Median ranking: Median 1 bedroom flat rent	Median ranking: % 45-64 year olds in total population	Median ranking: Index of Multiple Deprivation rank (2010)
<b>Quartile 1 (highest rates)</b>	153	153	89	200
<b>Q2</b>	177	199	102	166
<b>Q3</b>	178	196	154	154
<b>Q4 (lowest rates)</b>	136	93	272	118

Sources: Shelter commissioned table, ONS, Census 2011, Crown Copyright. Wages: ASHE survey, ONS, 2013. Rents: VOA, 2014. 45-64 year olds: Census 2011, Crown Copyright. IMD: DCLG, 2010. Figures in the table are the median rankings of the Local Authorities in each adults living at home quartile.

Table 7 above shows that of the factors we examined, the hotspots appear most influenced by the commonality of people of the right age to have children aged 20-34 – areas where more people have the opportunity and possibility of living with their parents. Areas with high rates of adults living with parents are likely to also have high proportions of people in this 45-64 demographic. Our preliminary test, above, suggested no clear link with wages or rents and only a potentially weak link with IMD ranking. However, further analysis is needed to understand the full range of factors associated with some areas having more adults living at home.

The following tables show the local areas within each region of England that have the highest rates of working adults aged 20-34 living at home with their parents.

Table 8: Focus on North England

Rank (nat.)	Rank (reg.)	Area	Number of people living at home with parents, aged 20+	% of people 20-34 that live at home with parents	% of working people 20-34 that are living with parents	% of adults living at home that are working (20+)
<b>North East</b>						
39	1	South Tyneside	11,168	33%	33%	70%
63	2	Sunderland	21,034	32%	33%	70%
68	3	Redcar & Cleveland UA	9,010	32%	32%	69%
85	4	Northumberland UA	18,511	30%	31%	74%
132	5	Hartlepool UA	5,831	29%	29%	66%
<b>North West</b>						
4	1	Sefton	23,093	41%	41%	73%
5	2	Knowsley	14,250	41%	42%	67%
14	3	Ribble Valley	3,396	37%	37%	83%
20	4	Wirral	24,130	36%	36%	71%
24	5	Wyre	6,763	35%	35%	77%
26	6	West Lancashire	7,867	35%	37%	76%
37	7	St. Helens	13,367	34%	34%	72%
40	8	Stockport	19,563	33%	32%	75%
41	9	Halton UA	9,589	33%	33%	73%
65	10	South Ribble	7,245	32%	31%	80%
<b>Yorkshire &amp; Humber</b>						
43	1	Ryedale	2,745	33%	32%	81%
60	2	Craven	2,874	32%	32%	82%
77	3	East Riding of Yorkshire UA	18,262	31%	31%	76%
97	4	Rotherham	16,712	30%	30%	72%
101	5	Selby	4,819	30%	29%	80%
118	6	Hambleton	4,668	29%	29%	82%
168	7	Scarborough	5,760	27%	28%	74%
Source: Shelter commissioned table, ONS, Census 2011, Crown Copyright.						



Table 9: Focus on Midlands

Rank (Nat)	Rank (reg)	Area	Number of people living at home with parents, aged 20+	% of people 20-34 that live at home with parents	% of people working 20-34 that are living with parents	% of adults living at home that are working (20+)
<b>East Midlands</b>						
9	1	Oadby and Wigston	4,537	39%	39%	74%
25	2	Derbyshire Dales	3,865	35%	35%	81%
33	3	North East Derbyshire	6,323	34%	34%	76%
38	4	Harborough	4,647	33%	32%	79%
51	5	Blaby	5,958	32%	31%	79%
55	6	South Northamptonshire	4,520	32%	31%	82%
73	7	High Peak	5,440	31%	31%	76%
98	8	Amber Valley	7,242	30%	30%	77%
104	9	Gedling	6,972	30%	28%	75%
109	10	North West Leic.	5,593	29%	29%	76%
<b>West Midlands</b>						
2	1	South Staffordshire	8,132	42%	42%	79%
11	2	Solihull	15,137	38%	38%	77%
17	3	Bromsgrove	5,981	36%	37%	78%
18	4	North Warwickshire	4,424	36%	36%	79%
19	5	Staffordshire Moorlands	6,400	36%	36%	78%
34	6	Malvern Hills	3,998	34%	35%	78%
35	7	Lichfield	6,587	34%	34%	77%
45	8	Dudley	22,904	33%	33%	74%
49	9	Wychavon	6,736	32%	32%	78%
64	10	Walsall	20,675	32%	34%	70%
Source: Shelter commissioned table, ONS, Census 2011, Crown Copyright.						

Table 10: Focus on London and South West

Rank (Nat)	Rank (reg)	Area	Number of people living at home with parents, aged 20+	% of people 20-34 that live at home with parents	% of working adults 20-34 that are living with parents	% of adults living at home that are working (20+)
<b>London</b>						
10	1	Havering	20,598	39%	39%	78%
15	2	Bexley	19,024	37%	37%	76%
27	3	Harrow	22,849	35%	34%	71%
47	4	Redbridge	25,090	32%	32%	68%
50	5	Enfield	27,360	32%	33%	69%
61	6	Bromley	21,344	32%	31%	75%
99	7	Croydon	28,499	30%	29%	71%
111	8	Sutton	13,584	29%	29%	77%
131	9	Hillingdon	21,948	29%	31%	76%
183	10	Brent	28,955	27%	25%	67%
<b>South West</b>						
6	1	East Dorset	5,082	41%	41%	82%
29	2	Christchurch	2,764	35%	34%	77%
31	3	Purbeck	2,705	34%	34%	79%
52	4	Forest of Dean	4,819	32%	33%	78%
71	5	South Hams	4,096	31%	30%	77%
81	6	West Dorset	4,780	31%	31%	81%
83	7	Stroud	6,130	31%	30%	80%
95	8	Torrige	3,372	30%	31%	79%
102	9	West Devon	2,721	30%	30%	77%
105	10	Teignbridge	6,415	30%	30%	79%

Source: Shelter commissioned table, ONS, Census 2011, Crown Copyright.

Table 11: Focus on South East and East of England

Rank (Nat)	Rank (reg)	Area	Number of people living at home with parents, aged 20+	% of people 20-34 that live at home with parents	% of working adults 20-34 that are living with parents	% of adults living at home that are working (20+)
<b>South East</b>						
8	1	South Bucks	4,627	39%	38%	80%
13	2	Chiltern	5,358	37%	36%	78%
23	3	Sevenoaks	7,303	35%	36%	81%
28	4	Wealden	8,190	35%	35%	79%
30	5	Tandridge	5,184	34%	34%	79%
36	6	Rother	4,603	34%	34%	73%
44	7	Mole Valley	4,765	33%	32%	80%
46	8	Epsom and Ewell	5,059	33%	32%	80%
48	9	New Forest	9,821	32%	33%	80%
53	10	Fareham	6,636	32%	32%	80%
54	11	Lewes	5,581	32%	33%	77%
56	12	Havant	7,713	32%	33%	79%
57	13	East Hampshire	6,319	32%	32%	81%
59	14	Spelthorne	6,999	32%	32%	82%
62	15	Surrey Heath	5,317	32%	32%	82%
<b>East of England</b>						
1	1	Castle Point	7,091	44%	45%	80%
3	2	Rochford	6,196	42%	42%	82%
7	3	Maldon	3,978	40%	41%	81%
12	4	Epping Forest	9,432	37%	37%	78%
16	5	Broxbourne	7,620	36%	37%	79%
21	6	Three Rivers	6,175	36%	35%	78%
22	7	Brentwood	5,114	36%	35%	80%
32	8	Tendring	8,057	34%	37%	74%
42	9	Hertsmere	7,195	33%	34%	77%
58	10	Uttlesford	4,511	32%	31%	81%
79	11	Suffolk Coastal	6,198	31%	31%	79%
80	12	Babergh	4,666	31%	31%	80%
Source: Shelter commissioned table, ONS, Census 2011, Crown Copyright.						

## Why are adults living at home?

This section outlines the findings of a YouGov survey of 1,255 adults (18+) who were currently living at home with their parents, or had been in the last twelve months. The results below are based on sub-groups of this sample, for example 250 working adults currently living at home with their parents and aged 20-34. See individual tables for the relevant base sizes.

The first two tables examine results for people working and currently living at home with their parents, Table 12 shows all factors mentioned, Table 13, shows the one main factor.

**Table 12: Reasons for living at home with parents – working adults aged 20 and over, and aged 20 - 34**

Adults currently living at home and working	Aged 20 and over, working	20-34 years old, working
Rent is/was too expensive for me	45%	47%
I want/wanted to save up for a mortgage deposit	32%	35%
I want/wanted to live with my parents	25%	27%
I am/was studying	17%	20%
I am/was unemployed	15%	16%
I need/needed to save money to pay off debts	15%	15%
It is/was to look after my parent(s)/grandparent(s)	8%	5%
I am/was waiting for social housing/a council house	1%	1%
Other	13%	10%
<b>Reasons associated with affordability/availability of housing (Net: Rent too expensive/saving for mortgage deposit/waiting for a council house)</b>	<b>64%</b>	<b>67%</b>
Base: 323 people aged 20 or above, currently living at home with their parent (s) or grandparent (s), and in work. 250 aged 20-34.		

**Table 13: And which ONE of the following would you say is/was the MAIN reason? Based on those working and currently living at home with parents.**

Adults currently living at home and working	Aged 20 and over, working	20-34 years old, working
Rent is/was too expensive for me	26%	27%
I want/wanted to save up for a mortgage deposit	20%	20%
I want/wanted to live with my parents	14%	15%
I am/was studying	10%	12%
I am/was unemployed	7%	7%
I need/needed to save money to pay off debts	6%	6%
It is/was to look after my parent(s)/ grandparent(s)	5%	3%
I am/was waiting for social housing/ a council house	1%	1%
Other	10%	6%
<b>Reasons associated with affordability/availability of housing (Net: Rent too expensive/saving for mortgage deposit/waiting for a council house)</b>	<b>47%</b>	<b>48%</b>
Base: 323 people aged 20 or above, currently living at home with their parent(s) or grandparent(s), and in work. 250 aged 20-34.		

If the results are based on all young adults living at home with their parents, not just those working, the affordability of housing remains the most commonly cited reason (51% of 20-34 year olds said expensive rents, saving for a deposit or waiting for a council house was a factor in them living at home, 35% said it was the one main factor).

Tables 12 and 13 show that although a number of other factors – studying, being unemployed and an element of personal choice – are important in understanding why so many people live at home with their parents, the affordability and availability of housing is by far the biggest factor lying behind why so many adults are living at home with their parents.

The reasons why people aged 35 and over live at home do appear to be somewhat different (not shown in tables) – affordability and access to housing was still the most commonly cited option listed (21%), but a higher number of people aged 35 and above and living at home with their parents (31%) said ‘other’. As would be expected, studying is a lesser factor among this age group, and looking after parents a greater one. Further exploration into the ‘other’ reasons over 35s have for living at home is needed, but our findings suggest that as a group, their reasons for doing so tend to be slightly different to 20-34 year olds.

## **The impact of living at home with your parents into adulthood**

The YouGov survey also explored the impact that living at home into adulthood had. These results will be added to this report, once released to the media. The result below formed part of our media release in July and can be included here:

- Being held back from having an independent life was the most commonly cited impact, with 52% of working adults aged 20-34 and living at home agreeing that this is a worry for them.

## **Conclusion**

Adults living at home with their parents into their 20s and 30s, even if working, is just one of the many symptoms of the housing crisis. This report reveals the numbers, exact locations and reasons why for the first time, showing just how critical it is for us to build the affordable housing needed by this and future generations of young people.

Liam Reynolds

Research Officer

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