Share of renter households moderately or severely rent burdened by income, New York City

The key data points for this visualization are the share of renter households that spend more than 30 percent of their pre-tax income on rent (considered moderately burdened) and those spending more than 50 percent of their income on rent (considered severely rent burdened).

These shares can be broken out separately for households by income range. By also including the rent burden shares for an earlier year, the visualization can also show how these burdens have been changing over time.

The following example shows how to create the visualization using New York City data.

**Share of households moderately or severely rent burdened by income in New York City**

![Bar chart showing rent burdened shares by income band and year](chart.png)

Source: American Community Survey (accessed via American Fact Finder)

**Interpretation of New York City example**

Rent burden is highest for the lowest income households. For example, 15.9 percent of households with incomes below $20,000 were moderately rent burdened and 61.5 percent were severely rent burdened in 2016. Moreover, the share of households that were rent burdened worsened between 2006 and 2016 for households at all income groups earning more than $20,000 per year.

This figure compares the moderately and severely rent burdened shares of households in 2006 and 2016 for households at different income bands in New York City. Higher income renters had lower rent burdens overall. 77.5 percent of households with
incomes below $20,000 were rent burdened. Moreover, rent burden has worsened for households with incomes above $50,000.

**How to construct**
The data is downloaded from [American Fact Finder](https://factfinder.census.gov/faces/nav/jsf/pages/index.xhtml). Specifically, data is obtained from [TABLE B25074 HOUSEHOLD INCOME BY GROSS RENT AS A PERCENTAGE OF HOUSEHOLD INCOME IN THE PAST 12 MONTHS](https://factfinder.census.gov/faces/connexPage.xhtmlnorthQD?viewName=PC856&step=1) for the one-year ACS estimates for 2005 through 2017. Moderately rent burdened households are renter households that spend between 30 and 50 percent of their income on gross rent as a share of all renter households; severely rent burdened households spend over 50 percent of their income on rent as a share of all renter households. The table provides this information broken out by income band; income bands can be combined as needed. A major caveat in the figure presented here is that the 2006 values above are in $2006 and the 2016 values above are in $2016, so these income bands are not a perfect comparison. Dollar values can be adjusted for inflation using the [Consumer Price Index Inflation Calculator provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics](https://www.bls.gov/data/inflation_calculator.htm) to adjust incomes and rents. In order to compare exact income buckets, calculate these indicators using the Public Use Micro Sample.

**Figure note**
Data are shown for a single geography (New York City in this example). The data are displayed as a stacked column chart with each column representing a different year and income band. The colors of the stacked bar chart denote the level of rent burden.