

Table 26a **Scottish dwellings below the Tolerable Standard (BTS)**

Numbers and percentages

	1996	2003	2005	2008	2010 <sup>2</sup>	2012	2013	2014 <sup>3</sup>	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022 <sup>4</sup>	2023	
<b>Number of dwellings (000s)</b>																		
Private	All	18	17	13	14	70	70	52	44	35	31	22	37	31	–	–	672	643
	Owned outright	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	12	13	–	–	364	337
	Mortgaged	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	15	10	–	–	252	225
	Private rented	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	10	9	–	–	56	80
Social	All	3	3	1	0	15	15	19	4	7	7	3	12	9	–	–	60	51
	Local authority	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	10	7	–	–	42	27
	Housing association	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	3	*	–	–	19	24
All		21	20	14	14	84	87	71	48	42	38	24	49	39	–	–	732	694
<b>Percentage of dwellings</b>																		
Private	All	1.3	0.3	0.6	0.7	4.0	4.0	3.0	2.5	1.7	1.5	1.0	2.0	2.0	–	–	35.0	34.0
	Owned outright	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1.0	1.0	–	–	37.0	35.0
	Mortgaged	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	2.0	1.0	–	–	40.0	36.0
	Private rented	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	4.0	3.0	–	–	19.0	27.0
Social	All	0.5	0.2	0.3	0.0	2.4	2.5	3.1	0.6	1.1	1.0	0.4	2.0	1.0	–	–	10.0	8.0
	Local authority	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	2.0	2.0	–	–	11.0	7.0
	Housing association	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1.0	*	–	–	8.0	9.0
All		1.0	0.3	0.5	0.6	3.6	3.7	3.0	2.0	1.5	1.3	0.8	2.0	2.0	–	–	29.0	27.0

Source: Scottish Government, Scottish House Condition Survey (SHCS) 2023 (Table HC9a and HC9b) and earlier SHCS time-series data.

- Notes:
1. The Tolerable Standard (BTS) is a 'condemnatory' standard, which means it is not reasonable to expect people to live in a dwelling that falls below it.
  2. From April 2009, the Tolerable Standard was amended to include additional criteria, covering thermal performance and electrical safety, which led to a significant increase in the fail rate in 2010 while data-processing adjustments introduced in 2014 may have generated some minor discontinuities with previous years.
  3. The incorporation of the House Condition Survey into the wider Scottish Household Survey in 2012 may have introduced some discontinuities in the survey method and observed results.
  4. From 2022, the measurement of the Tolerable Standard was amended to include criteria relating to smoke, heat, and carbon monoxide alarms, which led to a sharp rise in the overall percentage BTS from 2% in 2019 to 29% in 2022.
  5. The 2020 SHCS was not completed due to Covid-19 restrictions. The 2021 survey precluded internal inspections and could not assess compliance with the Tolerable Standard.
  6. The 'All' category includes additional households living rent-free that could not be assigned to a specific tenure.
  7. 'Owner-occupation' has been replaced with 'owned outright' and 'mortgaged' to align with the tenure reporting categories in the source data.
  8. A \* means figures have been suppressed because of small sample size.