

# Homes fit for study

NUS conducted research with 2,870 students in higher education looking at their experiences in the private rented sector. The research looks at every part of student renting, from house-hunting, to issues once they move in, to getting their deposit back once they leave. NUS is calling for action to improve students' experiences of renting. To find out more, read the full report at: [www.nus.org.uk/homesfitforstudy](http://www.nus.org.uk/homesfitforstudy)

## Signing for a property

Compared to those who found their house through their university or students' union, those who rented from a letting agent:

Paid on average  
**£400**  
more to set up  
their tenancy

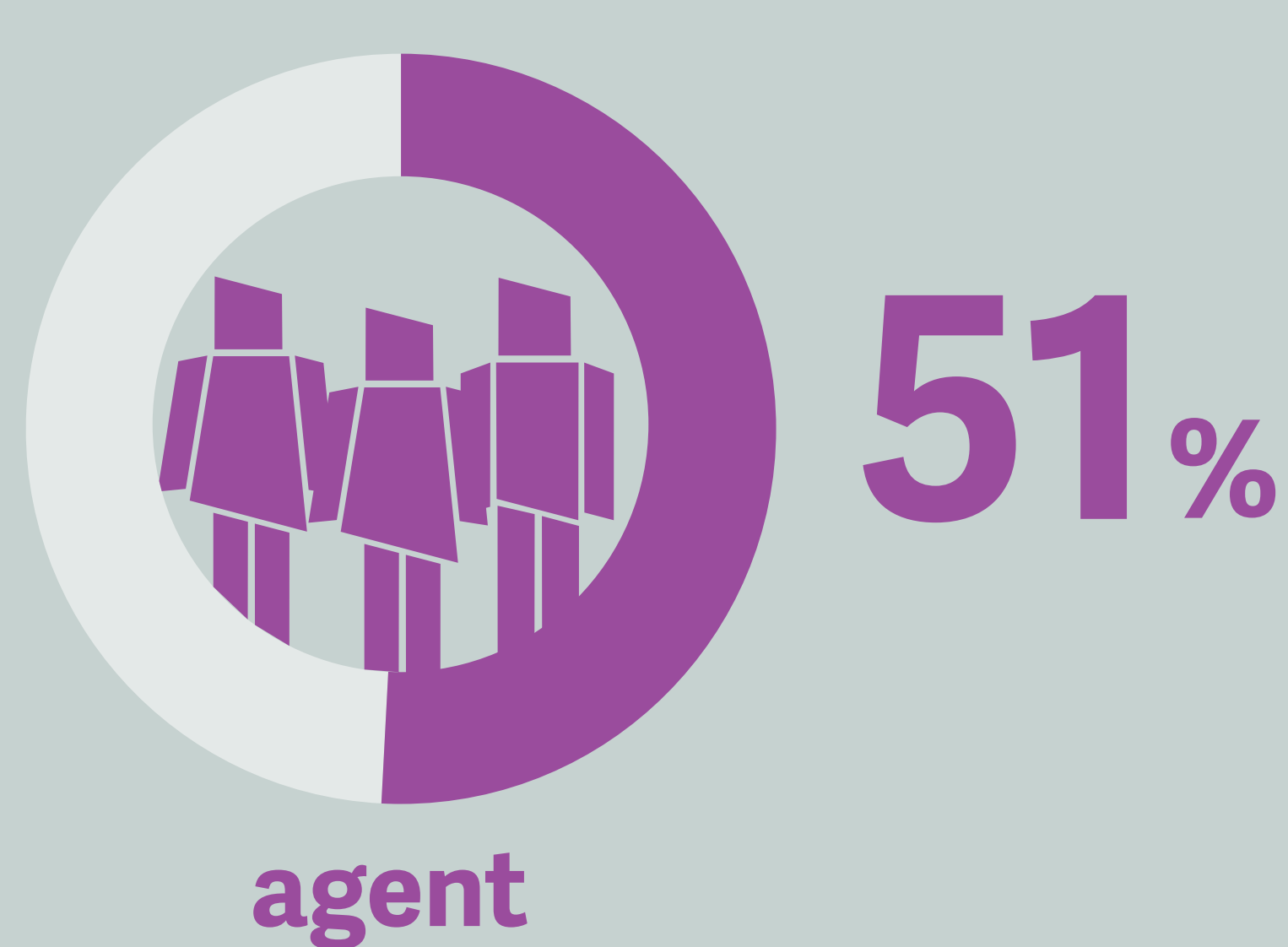


and were **66%**  
more likely to have negative  
experiences such as pressure  
to sign a contract

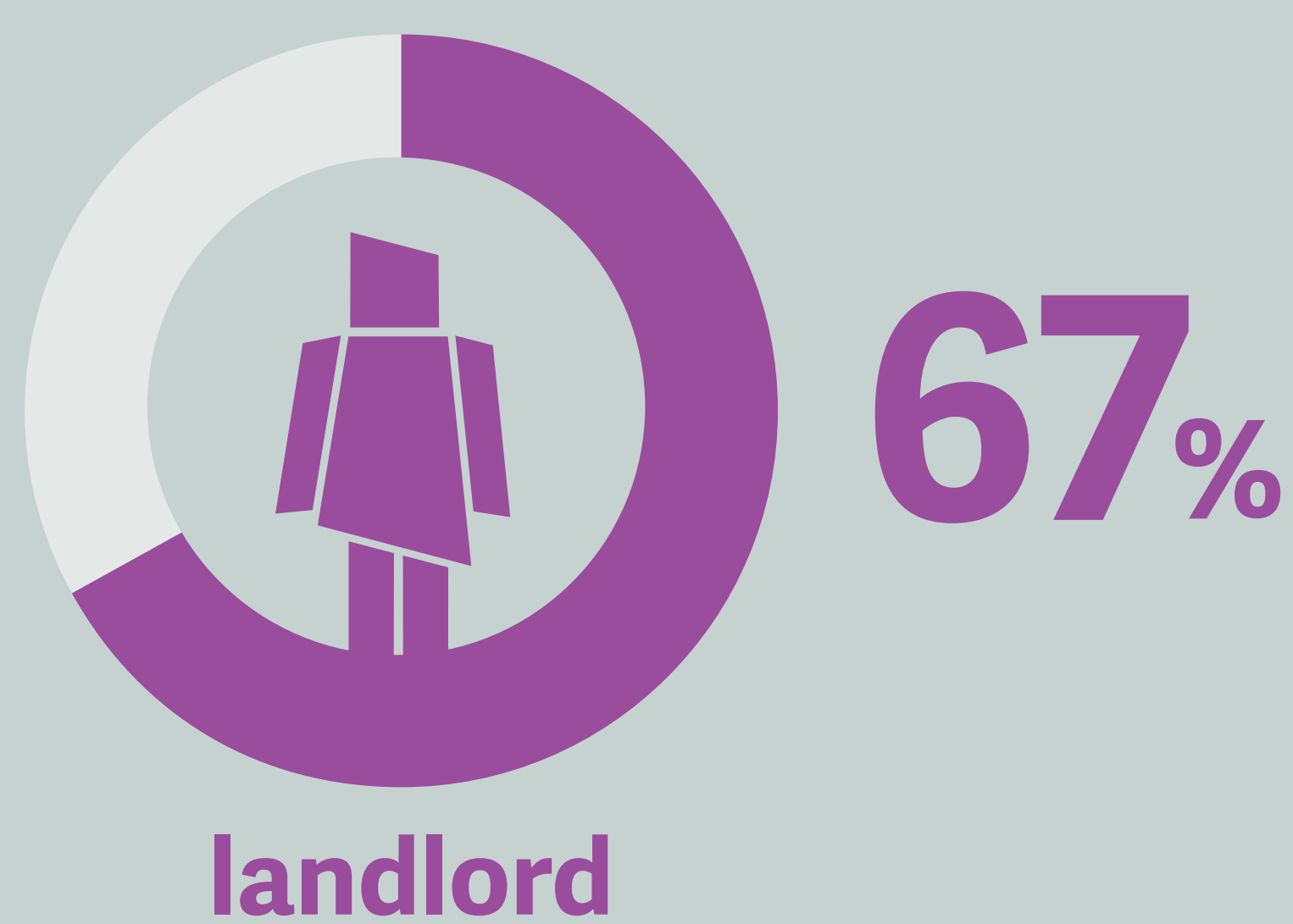


## Letting agents

Only just over half of those whose home was managed by an agent were satisfied overall



Compared to two thirds who dealt with their landlords directly



## Housing costs

**51%** paid over £500 when they signed for their property

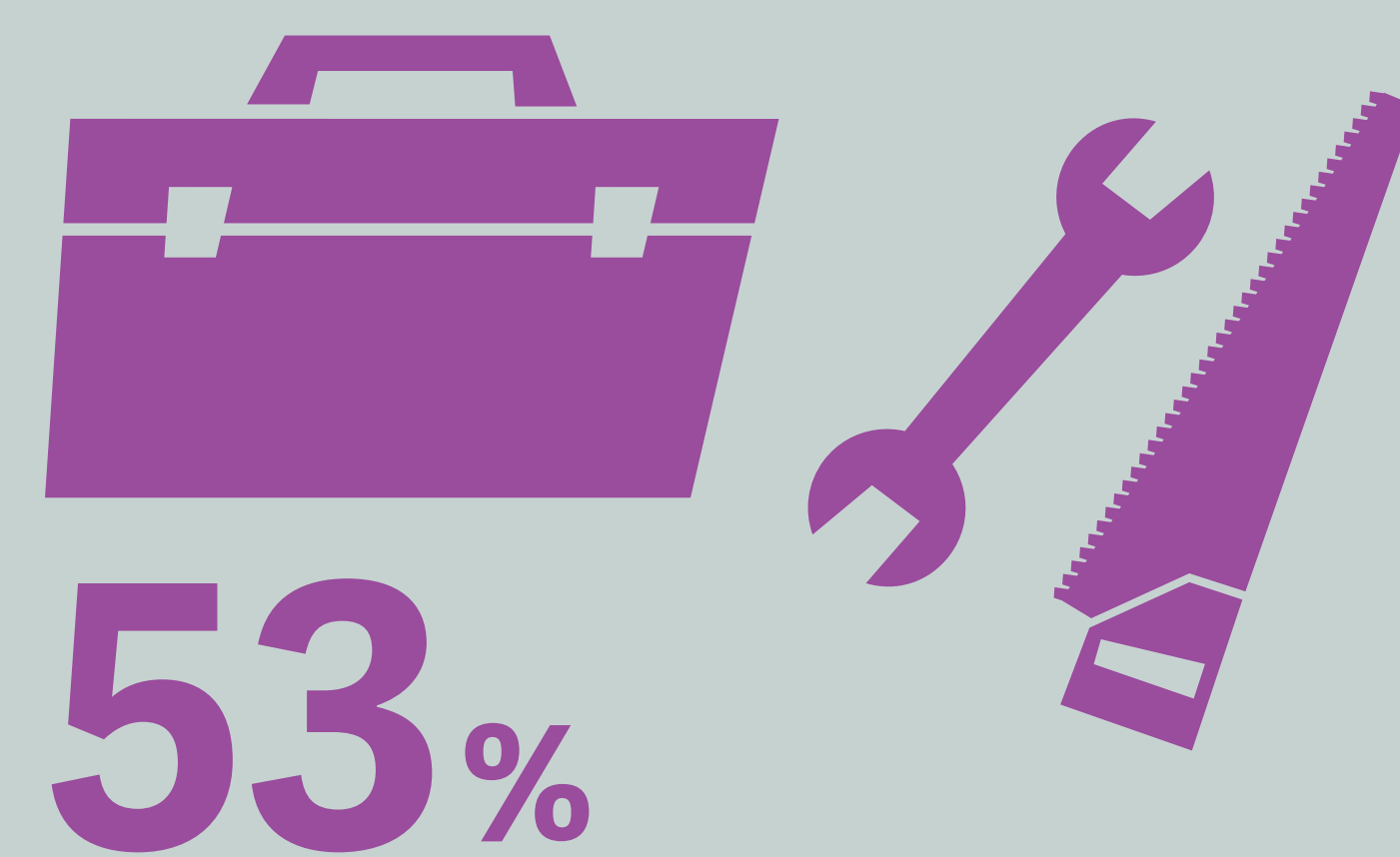
**£500+**

and **37%**  
got into debt to meet these costs



## Repairs and day-to-day issues

More than half had experienced delays in getting repairs carried out



and more than a third had difficulty getting in touch with their landlord or agent



## Deposits

Only just over half were sure that their deposit had been protected



and two fifths had some or all of their deposit withheld



Three quarters disagreed with the deductions, but very few managed to get them changed



## State of housing

**61%**  
had damp, mould or condensation in their home

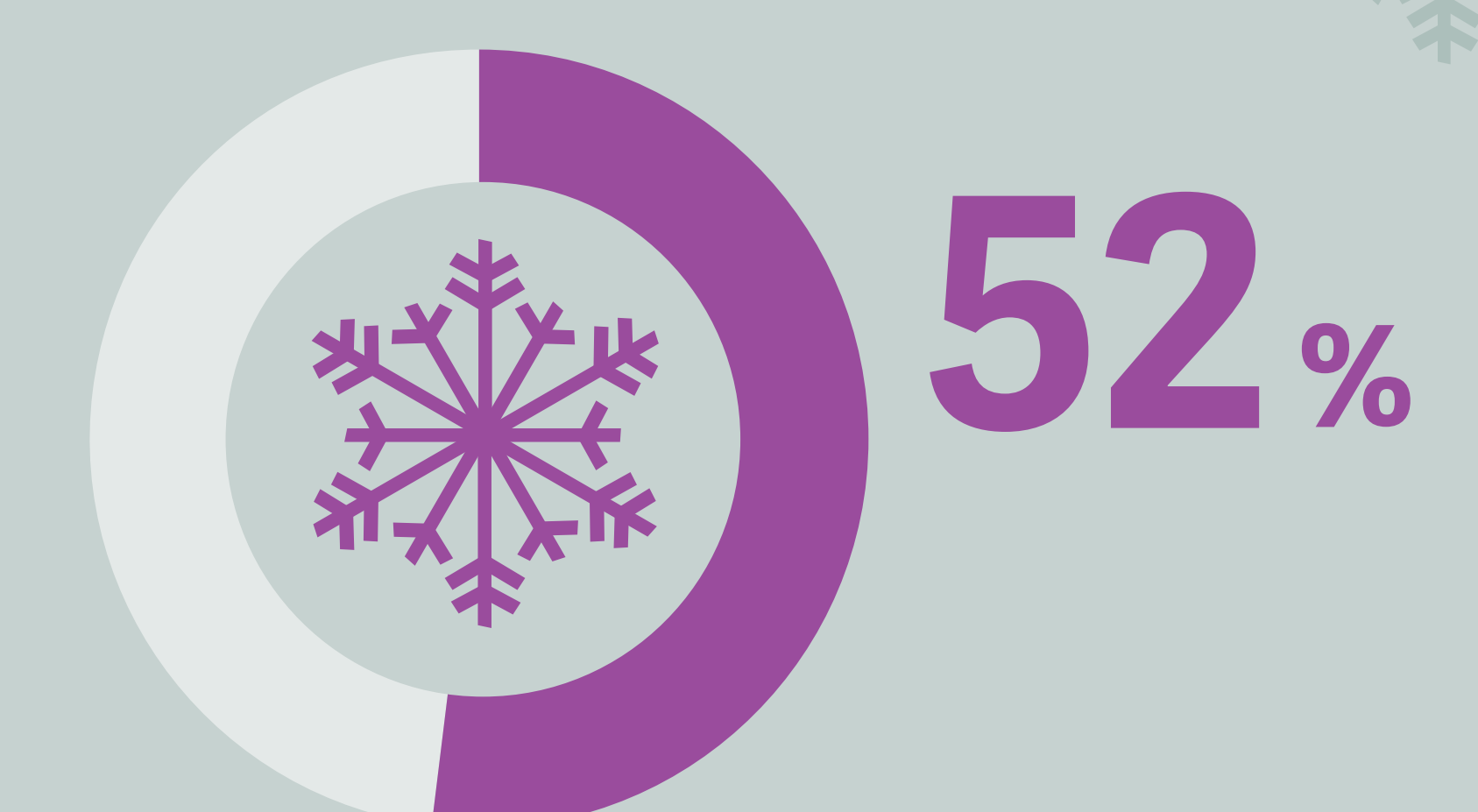


**24%**  
had slugs, mice or another infestation



## Students and energy

More than half have felt uncomfortably cold in their home



and two fifths struggle to pay energy bills

