



THE FACTS

- There are officially more than **116,000** Australians experiencing homelessness every night across Australia. 42% are female and 58% are male.
- Many Australians experience events in their lives that may place them at risk of homelessness. It is estimated that around **44%** of low-income households experience affordability issues due to rental stress and around **1 in 4** women have experienced some form of domestic and family violence in their lifetime. Other risk factors include mental illness and family instability.
- Australia has a shortfall of over **500,000** rental dwellings that are affordable and available to households on the lowest 40% of incomes.
- On any given day across Australia, specialist homelessness services were supporting nearly **57,000** people. Over **9,900** were young people presenting alone.
- The reasons for people seeking help from specialist homelessness support services in 2015-16 include:
 - fleeing domestic and family violence - 38%
 - housing affordability and financial difficulties - 60%
 - mental health, medical issues or substance abuse - More than 20% of people
 - unstable housing - 24% of young people presenting alone sought assistance because of this.
- In 2015-16 Specialist Homelessness Services were unable to provide assistance in **70,653** instances.
- Around **9,000** Western Australians experience homelessness on any given night.

Reference

ABS Census of Population & Housing, 2016

Homelessness Australia, HA Position Paper 2017