

National Statistics - Homelessness

LONG-TERM HOMELESSNESS

Data from the *Report on Government Services (Productivity Commission)* shows there has been a 25% increase in recent years in the number of people in 'persistent homelessness' (people without stable housing for long periods), with approximately 37,779 people experiencing this across 2023-24.

ABC News January 2025 'Grim numbers as Australians experiencing long-term homelessness rise by 25 per cent.'
ABC News November 2024 'Services overwhelmed as 3 million at risk of becoming unhoused, says Homelessness Australia report.'

More than 56,000 people who needed crisis or long-term accommodation in 2024-25 couldn't be assisted by homelessness services due to lack of available housing options.

Mission Australia January 2026 'ROGS reveals worsening housing and homelessness crisis.'

YOUTH HOMELESSNESS

A quarter of those experiencing homelessness in Australia are aged between 10-24 years of age.

Half of those aged 15-24 years who reached out to specialist homelessness services were turned away each night because they could not be accommodated.

YFoundations report: 'The reality is Australia is experiencing a youth homelessness crisis.' 10 April 2025

RENTAL STRESS

A report commissioned by *Homelessness Australia* estimates 2.7- 3.2 million Australians are now at risk of homelessness due to rental stress, low income and poor access to affordable housing.

ABC News November 2024 'Services overwhelmed as 3 million at risk of becoming unhoused, says Homelessness Australia report'

2026 Report on Government Services shows more than 2 in 5 (43%) of low-income renters are in rental stress and at risk of homelessness, even with government rental assistance.

Over 250,000 households were waiting for social housing in 2024-25, including over 122,000 in greatest need, and waitlists have grown by about 12%.

Mission Australia January 2026 'ROGS reveals worsening housing and homelessness crisis.'

Independent housing advocacy reports have found that for many Australians:

- You need an income of about \$130,000 a year just to avoid rental stress on a typical unit – much higher than the median income of approximately \$72,500.

The Guardian March 2025 'Staggeringly high: Australian renters need \$130k income to afford average property, report shows.'

'WORKING POOR'

There has been a 5% rise in the number of families with children seeking homelessness services, while the number of families already experiencing homelessness entering services increased by approximately 11%.

news.com.au August 2025 'Alarm over surge in Australian 'working poor''



If you or someone you know needs support,
please call our helpline on 13 18 12.

