

Only **3 in 10 clients**  
who experienced  
**homelessness** were  
assisted into housing.





IT'S TIME TO END HOMELESSNESS

## Top 3 Reasons for Clients Seeking Assistance Across Victoria

**44%** Domestic & Family Violence

**40%** Housing Crisis

**39%** Financial Difficulties



Source: Australian Institute of Health and Welfare 2016 - 2017

**1 in 5** 

Australians experiencing homelessness are  
**ABORIGINAL AND TORRES  
STRAIT ISLANDER PEOPLE**

yet they represent only

→ **3 in 100** of Australia's  
total population

**Launch**  
HOUSING

IT'S TIME TO END  
HOMELESSNESS

**60%**

of people experiencing  
homelessness were

**UNDER  
35 YEARS  
OLD**



[launchhousing.org.au](http://launchhousing.org.au)

Source: ABS 2016 Census

**Launch**  
HOUSING

IT'S TIME TO END  
HOMELESSNESS

# 24,817

people in Victoria were  
**EXPERIENCING  
HOMELESSNESS**  
in 2016

**11.3%**  
**increase**  
from 2011



[launchhousing.org.au](http://launchhousing.org.au)

Source: ABS 2016 Census

## Australia's homelessness problem is growing.

**116,000**

Australians  
were homeless  
on Census  
night 2016.



That's a  
**14%**  
increase from  
2011 to 2016

**8,200**

were sleeping rough on Census night 2016,  
20% higher than 2011.

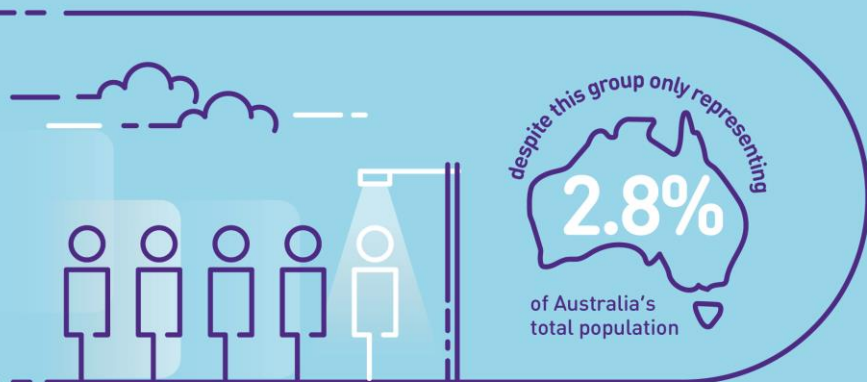


**We need action on homelessness now.**

**Indigenous Australians are nearly 10x more likely to experience homelessness.**

**22%**

of Australians experiencing homelessness are Indigenous Australians



**35%**

increase in Indigenous Australians sleeping rough 2011-2016.

**We need action on homelessness now.**

## Overcrowded accommodation is on the rise.

**51,000+**

Australians were living in severely overcrowded housing on Census night 2016.



That's a  
**23%**  
increase from  
2011 to 2016



In severely overcrowded housing there's no personal living space or privacy. Cramped living negatively affects wellbeing and outcomes.

**We need action on homelessness now.**



## Particular groups are at higher risk of homelessness.

Homelessness is complex with many causes:

- domestic violence
- financial difficulties
- family breakdown
- lack of affordable housing.



Australia has  
**SKYROCKETING  
HOUSING COSTS**  
and a lack of  
**SOCIAL AND  
AFFORDABLE  
HOUSING**

**200,000**

Australians are on housing wait lists.



**24%**

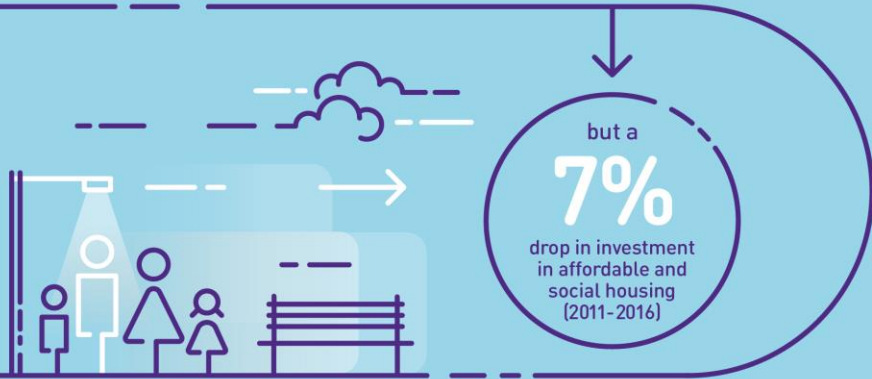
experiencing homelessness are affected by this housing crisis.

**We need action on homelessness now.**

## Policy inaction on housing affordability is responsible for increasing homelessness.

**29%**

increase in spending on homelessness services.



Social housing:

**4%**

of all dwellings in Australia



**18%**

of all dwellings in the UK



The rising cost of housing is a key contributor to poverty.

**613,000**

people have fallen below the poverty line due to high housing costs...

**229,000**

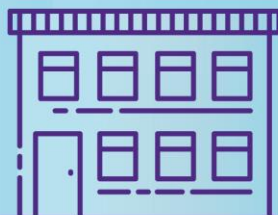
of whom are children.



Growing pressure on lower income renters paying over

**30%**

of their income is placing many at increased risk of homelessness.



The housing crisis is rapidly increasing as an immediate cause of homelessness. Less affordable housing available means it's harder to break the cycle.

**We need action on homelessness now.**

## Welfare cuts and penalties = shortage to cover basic housing and living costs.

There have been  
cuts to welfare  
support

and a 5-fold increase  
in penalties, leaving  
many without  
payments.



**\$447.20** p/wk  
Disability Support Pension

**\$269.40** p/wk  
Newstart Allowance

**-\$177.80** p/wk

Shortfall (Minimum wage: \$694.90 per week)



People reliant on these social security payments are at  
even higher risk of housing stress and homelessness.

**We need action on homelessness now.**

## Well thought out policies and programs matter.

Increase in Rough Sleeping: — — — — —

20% ↑  
Australia

35% ↑  
NSW

3% ↑  
VIC



### The difference?

Successful and well-resourced programs in Victoria like Housing First, Street to Home and Rough Sleepers Initiative.



But they only work if they're well-funded, and there's access to enough affordable housing.

**We need action on homelessness now.**

**1 in 2** women with  
children seeking  
homelessness services in  
Victoria is escaping a violent  
home



Homelessness can happen  
at **any age**.

**12%** of people  
experiencing  
homelessness are aged **55+**



## Young people experiencing homelessness often:

1. Couch surf
2. Sleep rough
3. Sleep in cars
4. Stay in emergency accommodation
5. Stay at hostels and motels

