

Homelessness Statistics

- Total number of people experiencing homelessness: In Australia, according to the 2021 census, around 122,000 people were experiencing homelessness on an average night (up from 116,000 in 2016).
- Homelessness in Victoria: Of the population in Australia who are experiencing homelessness, around 25% (30,660) are located in Victoria.
- Gender distribution: In Australia, homelessness is more common for people identifying as male than it is for those identifying as female.
- Transgender and gender diverse individuals: People identifying as Trans or GD make up around 20% have experienced housing instability or homelessness.
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander representation: People identifying as Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander make up around 20% of people experiencing homelessness in Australia. This is an unfair high percentage as First Nations people comparatively make up 3.8% of the Australia population.
- Recent immigrants: 15% of people experiencing homelessness were born overseas and arrived in Australia in the last 5 years.
- Youth homelessness: In 2021, young people aged between 12 and 24 years made up almost a quarter of all people experiencing homelessness, with 23% of the homeless population sitting in this age range.
- Older individuals: 15.8% of people experiencing homelessness were aged 55 years and over.
- Increase among women and girls: Since the ABS census in 2016, the number of women and girls experiencing homelessness has risen by 10%.
- Average age of death among homeless individuals: An investigation by The Guardian Australia, found that for people experiencing homelessness in Australia, the average age of death was 44.5 years. This is compared to the average age of death for all Australians being 77.
- Importantly, these statistics do not include those living on the poverty line and at risk of experiencing homelessness.

Source: The above statistics on homelessness in Australia are mainly sourced from the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) 2021 Census and various reports by The Guardian Australia.