

Homelessness hotspots

AUSTRALIA

The findings

This significant piece of research explores the rates of homelessness across Australia by geographic area over the ten year period from 2001 - 2011. It is the second phase of earlier research into the structural drivers of homelessness, completed in 2011/12. The key findings demonstrate the significant proportion of homelessness in northern and central Australia. It also highlights the significant rise in homelessness in outer metropolitan growth areas of cities such as Melbourne.

- Homelessness is highest in the northern most part and central Australia and in small pockets of our major cities
- The rate of homelessness in the Northern Territory is almost 15 times the national average.
- The 10% of regions with the highest rate of homelessness account for 42% of all homelessness
- The top 10% of regions with the highest rates of homelessness saw those rates increased on average 90% over the ten years.
- Regions where homelessness increased most are clustered around the coastal fringe, and in the metropolitan regions of our mainland state capitals.
- Homelessness rates are rising in areas which have a shortage of affordable housing (relative to demand) and fewer homelessness services.
- Homelessness rates fell in regions with a better supply of affordable rental housing
- Regions with high income inequality and particular demographic profiles also tend to have higher homelessness.

Rates of homelessness in states and territories:

States and territories	2001 Rate per 10,000	2011 Rate per 10,000	Percentage change in rates of homelessness from 2001-2011
New South Wales	36.4	40.8	12.09%
Victoria	38.9	42.6	9.51%
Queensland	54.8	45.8	-16.42%
South Australia	39.8	37.5	-5.78%
Western Australia	53.6	42.8	-20.15%
Tasmania	27.5	31.9	16.00%
Northern Territory	904.4	730.7	-19.21%
Australian Capital Territory	30.4	50	64.47%
Australia	50.8	48.9	-3.74%



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Top ten increases in rate of homelessness in Australia by location:


Location	State/Territory	Percentage change
Fyshwick - Pialligo - Hume	Australian Capital Territory	210%
Campbelltown (NSW)	New South Wales	138%
Woden	Australian Capital Territory	134%
Hurstville	New South Wales	130%
Tea Tree Gully	South Australia	120%
Nathan	Queensland	120%
Richmond - Windsor	New South Wales	114%
Merrylands - Guildford	New South Wales	105%
Gosnells	Western Australia	101%
Monash	Victoria	98%

The ten areas nationally with the highest rate of homelessness:

Location	State/Territory	Rate of homelessness per 10,000
East Arnhem	Northern Territory	2878.00
Daly - Tiwi - West Arnhem	Northern Territory	1985.67
Katherine	Northern Territory	1286.33
Barkly	Northern Territory	1283.12
Alice Springs	Northern Territory	681.78
Kimberley	Western Australia	385.79
Far North	Queensland	313.42
Darwin City	Northern Territory	266.72
Adelaide City	South Australia	248.69
Outback - North	Queensland	237.89

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