



FACT SHEET



*A home is a right
not a privilege*

About the CEO Sleepout

Since its inception in 2006, the Vinnies CEO Sleepout has raised more than \$42 million to fund Vinnies homeless services across Australia. This unique event enables business leaders to actively combat homelessness by learning more about the issue and experiencing a little discomfort by sleeping out themselves

Key facts

- In 2017, more than 1,200 business leaders raised \$5.6 million across Australia.
- The national target in 2018 is to raise \$6.4 million.
- The NSW target is to raise \$2.3 million. We can only achieve this with your help.

2018 Vinnies CEO Sleepout Aims

- Bring the issue of homelessness to the forefront, inspire action and effect long-term change.
- Attract 1,800 participating business, government and community leaders to take part in events held at eleven locations across Australia
- Attract Corporate Australia to host 'Community Sleepouts' with their staff base, raise awareness and take part in the events their CEO is supporting





From 2011 to 2016, Australia saw a 20% increase in the number of people sleeping rough – that’s 8,200 people living on the streets, in tents or in improvised dwellings.

Housing stress and homelessness

Housing costs are arguably the single biggest driver of disadvantage and homelessness in Australia. With housing costs rising over the last 10 years at twice the rate of inflation, housing is the largest area of expenditure for Australian households and causes housing stress when the cost of housing is high relative to income.

In NSW, the affordable housing crisis is pushing more people into homelessness, and ABS Census data released in March 2018 makes grim reading. The number of people experiencing homelessness across the state has grown by 37% since 2011 to almost 38,000 people – that’s more than 50 in every 10,000 residents.

Women are the most vulnerable

Domestic and family violence is the number one reason why women and children seek support from Vinnies and other specialist homelessness services, with more than 35% having been affected.

Women and girls make up around 59% of all people who access specialist homelessness services. They can be Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander, from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds, live in rural and remote locations, be older, experience mental illness, disability or isolation.





Homelessness statistics from the 2016 Census

- There were 116,427 people in Australia classified as 'homeless' on census night (up 37% from 102,439 persons in 2011)
- The number of people living in improvised dwellings, tents or sleeping out in 2016 was 8,207, up from 6,810 in 2011
- There were 17,503 people living in boarding houses on census night in 2016, up from 14,944 in 2011
- Much of the increase in homelessness between 2011 and 2016 was reflected in people living in 'severely' crowded dwellings, up from 41,370 in 2011 to 51,088 in 2016
- People who were born overseas and arrived in Australia in the last five years accounted for 15% (17,749 persons) of all persons classified as homeless on census night in 2016
- Youth (aged 12 to 24 years) made up 32% of people living in 'severely' crowded dwellings, 23% of people in supported accommodation for the homeless and 16% of people staying temporarily in other households in 2016
- Nearly 60% of people experiencing homelessness in 2016 were aged under 35, and 42% of the increase in homelessness was in the 25-34 age group (up 32% to 24,224 people in 2016)
- The number of people experiencing homelessness aged 55 and above steadily increased over the past three censuses, from 12,461 in 2006, to 14,581 in 2011 and 18,625 in 2016 (a 28% increase between 2011 and 2016).
- The rate of older people experiencing homelessness has also increased, from 26 per 10,000 of the population in 2011 up to 29 in 2016
- The male homelessness rate increased to 58 males per 10,000 males enumerated in the 2016 census, up from 54 in 2011; while the rate for females remained steady at 41 per 10,000 females
- The homelessness rate rose by 27% in New South Wales



Background: The CEO Sleepout

The Vinnies CEO Sleepout is a unique way for business leaders to actively combat the issue of homelessness by rising to the challenge and experiencing a small portion of what it is like to sleep out themselves for a night. The night is an experiential, no frills affair. CEOs are given nothing more than a beanie, a sheet of cardboard, a cup of soup and are responsible for finding a place to bed down for the night. The event is an educational experience that takes the CEOs on a journey and aims to break stereotypes by detailing the different faces of homelessness in Australia.

The money raised has funded new projects, assisted with the provision of existing homeless services and will allow Vinnies homelessness services to expand their programs to assist people experiencing homelessness through crisis accommodation, assistance to obtain semi-permanent and permanent accommodation, domestic violence support and access to counselling, life and occupational skills, legal advice and education.

The 2018 event will be held at 11 locations across the country, bringing thousands of business, community and government leaders together to help break the cycle of homelessness and poverty in Australia by fostering awareness and raising funds to support the continuation and expansion of Vinnies services and initiatives.

Background: St Vincent de Paul Society Support Services

Every night in Australia, thousands of people stay in crisis accommodation facilities run by community organisations like the St Vincent de Paul Society.

Across NSW the St Vincent de Paul Society has a number of different services and programs to assist people experiencing homelessness and help them break out of the cycle of homelessness.

The Society is one of the leading providers of homeless services in Australia. Our Vinnies Conference members work at the grassroots level in communities across the state. These members provide a significant level of support for those people who are struggling financially who may be at risk of homelessness.

IN THE 2016-17 FINANCIAL YEAR:

- **St Vincent de Paul Society members helped 60,388 people, providing \$17.4 million in financial assistance, 16,917 home visits and more than 61,000 hours of their time.**
- **Our services and good works helped 12,943 people, providing 81,464 bed nights and 274,552 meals.**