



AUSTRALIA / 2022

# Homelessness and women

Across Australia, the biggest driver of women experiencing homelessness is family and domestic violence.

Women are more likely to use homelessness services because they have lower incomes than men on average, and so are more vulnerable to being unable to afford a home, and because more women and girls experience family and domestic violence.

Some women are more likely to experience homelessness than others. Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander women, women with disability, women from migrant or refugee backgrounds, and women with a mental illness are more vulnerable to homelessness.

### What can be done?

Provision of safe and affordable social housing provides women with choices in the rental market and a housing option if they need to leave a violent home and rebuild their life. Many women and children fleeing violence will also need support to manage the transition from a violent home, and to support recovery.

### MAIN REASONS WOMEN AND GIRLS SEEK SUPPORT FROM HOMELESSNESS SERVICES.

**38%**

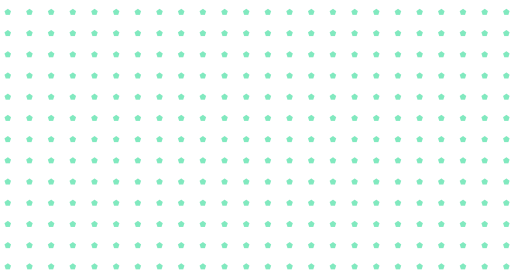
Domestic and Family Violence.

**29%**

Housing crisis, inappropriate housing or accommodation ending.

**15%**

Financial issues and housing affordability.



**167,388**

women and girls came to homelessness services in 2020-21.

**24%**

were girls or young women aged between 0 and 18.

**68%**

were women aged 18-55 years.

**88,907**

had experienced family and domestic violence.

### References

1. Gender Equity Insights, Workplace Gender Equality Agency, 2018.
2. AIHW SHS Annual Data, 2020-21, Data Tables, Clients.1.