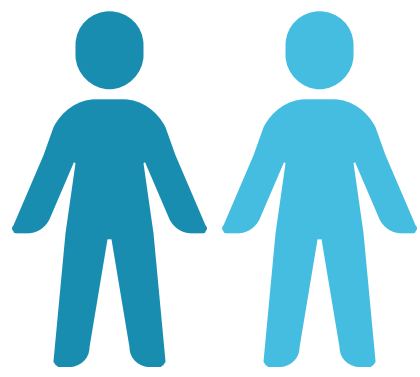
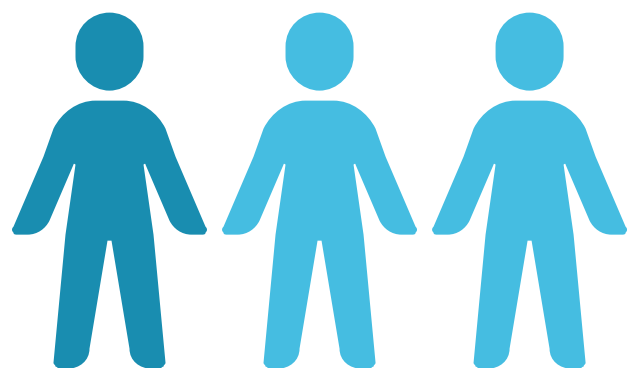


AUSTRALIA HAS A YOUTH HOMELESSNESS CRISIS.

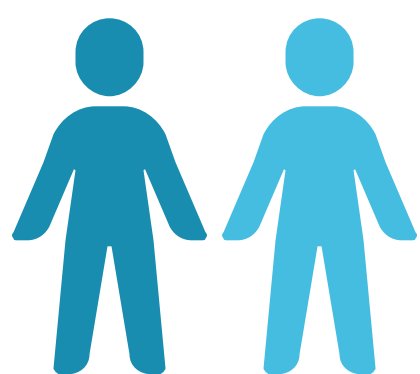
ALMOST 46,000 YOUNG PEOPLE (UNDER 25) ARE CURRENTLY EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS IN AUSTRALIA.



47% needed long-term housing.



1 in 3 were seeking help due to family or domestic violence.

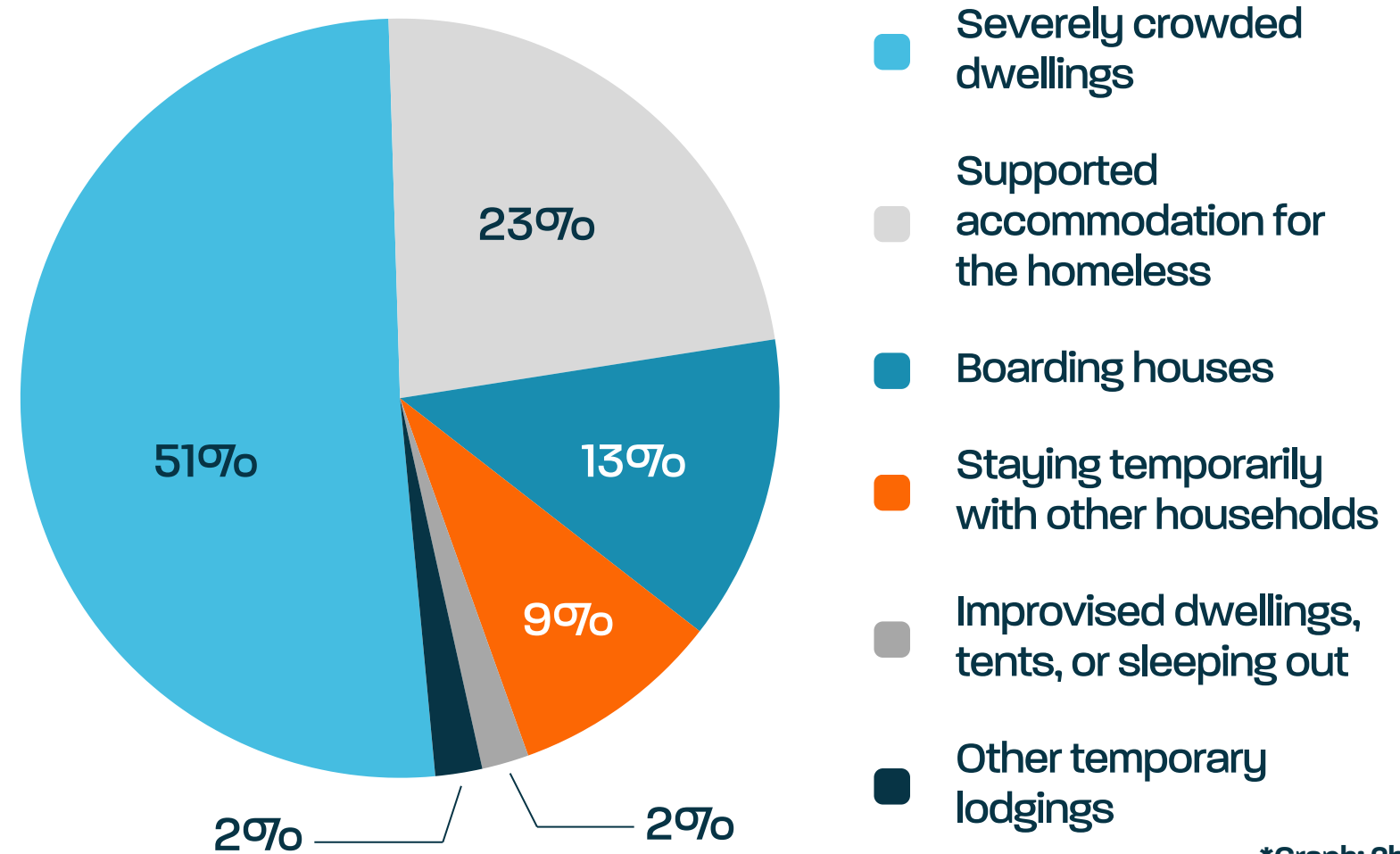


48% had a current mental health issue.

According to the 2021 Australian census, approximately 45,850 were experiencing homelessness on census night, 2021. With the rising cost of living, and housing pressure in Australia, this number is likely still growing.^{2a}

Plus, in 2022-23, approximately 38,000 young people presented alone to specialist housing services, in need of accommodation, support for living skills, mental and physical health services, and more.

ACCOMMODATION TYPES FOR HOMELESS YOUTH



*Graph: 2b

For these young people, homelessness will almost certainly disrupt their education, harm their job opportunities, diminish their social networks, and ultimately put them at greater risk of experiencing recurring homelessness.³

EVERYONE DESERVES A SECURE AND STABLE PLACE TO LIVE, AND SUPPORT TO BUILD INDEPENDENCE AND RESILIENCE.

1. AIHW, Specialist homelessness services annual report 2022–23, 2a. ABS, Estimating Homelessness: Census 2021, 2b. ABS estimating homelessness: Census 2021, Graph 4. Proportion of youth experiencing homelessness by homeless operational group(a) and sex, Australia, 2021 3. Scutella et al, Journeys Home Research Report No. 1, 2012

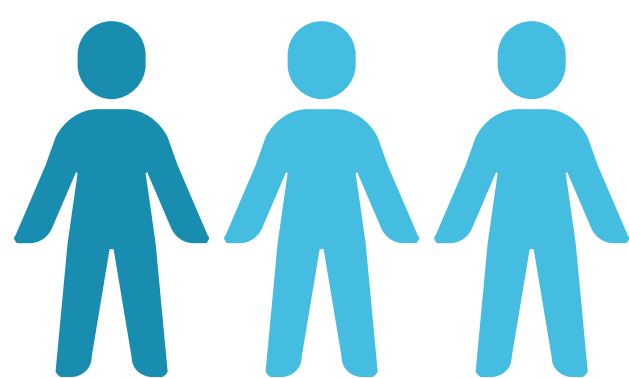


REASONS WHY YOUNG PEOPLE EXPERIENCE HOMELESSNESS

The reasons for a young person to be at risk or experiencing homelessness are often personal and complex. Some of the main reasons are:

- Family and domestic violence
- Housing crisis (e.g. eviction)
- Crowded or inappropriate living conditions
- Relationship/family breakdown
- Housing affordability stress
 - Previous accommodation ended
 - Financial difficulties
 - Transition from other care arrangements¹

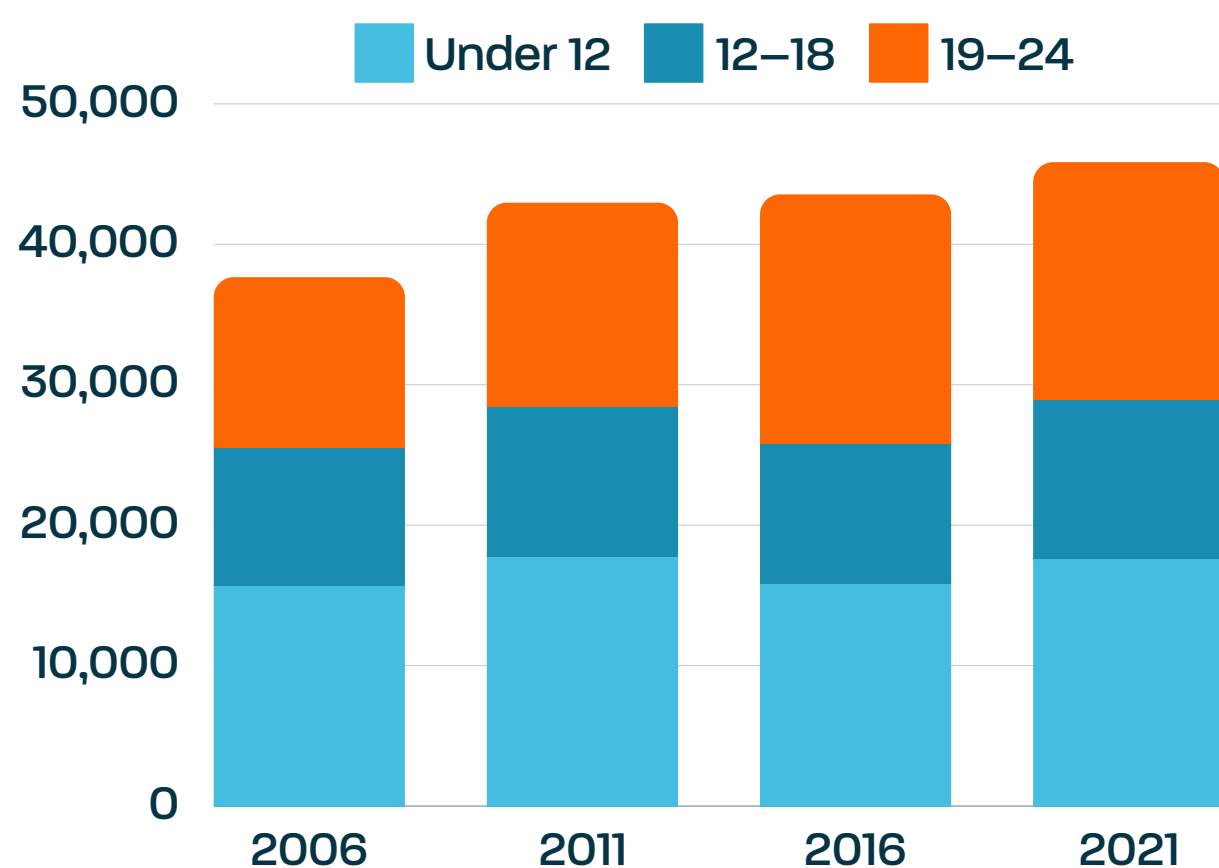
Many also struggle with physical health complications, alcohol or substance abuse issues, mental health issues, or physical and intellectual disabilities.



32%* identify as indigenous,⁷ despite indigenous Australians representing only **3.2%** of the population.⁴

*of young people presenting alone to specialist homelessness services in 2022-23

Young indigenous Australians are also at a much higher risk of experiencing homelessness than non-indigenous Australians due to “a continuity of dispossession, racism, profound economic disadvantage and cultural oppression.”⁵



YOUTH HOMELESSNESS IN AUSTRALIA OVER TIME

Since 2006, there has been a 29% increase in young people (12-24) experiencing homelessness in Australia, from 37,661 in 2006 to 45,850 in 2021, due to changes in economic and societal systems, and population growth.^{2a}

YOU CAN TAKE ACTION TO HELP END YOUTH HOMELESSNESS IN AUSTRALIA. EVERY YOUNG PERSON DESERVES A SAFE PLACE TO LIVE.

4. ABS, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people: Census, 2021
Population: Census, 2021

5. Tually, S., Tedmanson, D., Habibis, D., McKinley, K., Akbar, S., Chong, A., Deuter, K. and Goodwin-Smith, I. (2022) Urban Indigenous homelessness: much more than housing, AHURI



INDIGENOUS AUSTRALIAN OVER-REPRESENTATION IN OUT-OF-HOME CARE

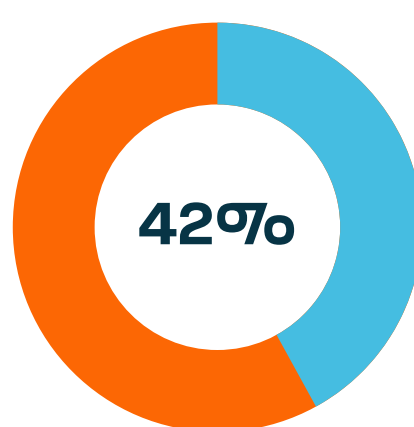


INDIGENOUS AUSTRALIAN CHILDREN ARE:

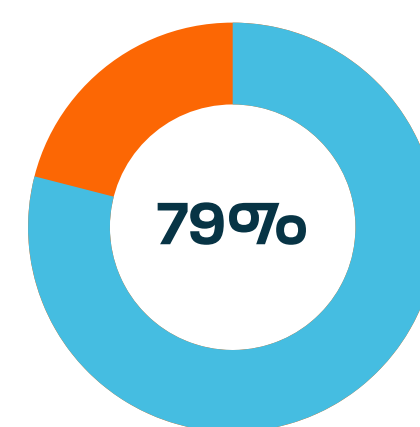
10 x MORE LIKELY TO ACCESS SPECIALIST HOMELESSNESS SERVICES

10 x MORE LIKELY TO BE LIVING IN OUT-OF-HOME CARE.

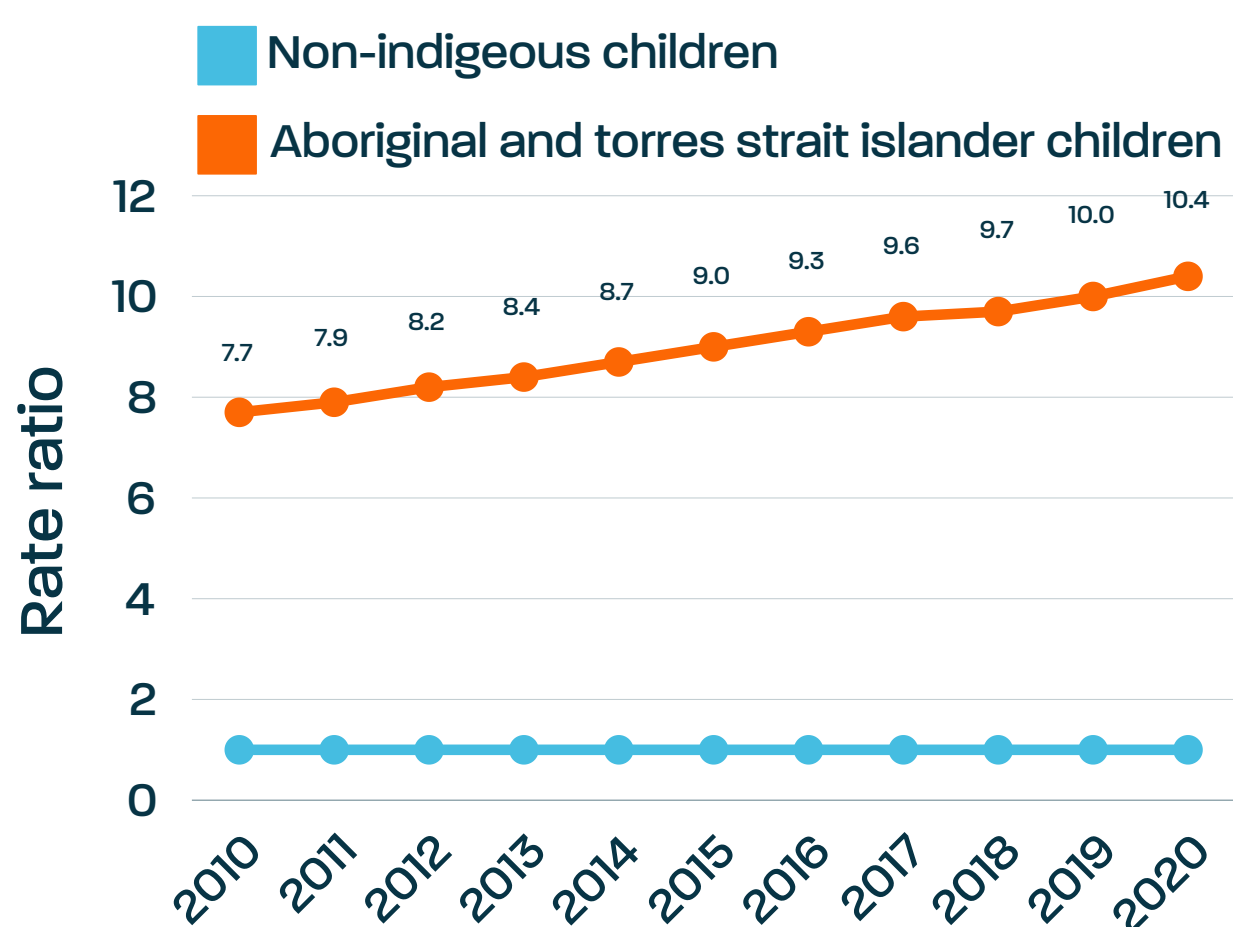
Indigenous Australians face countless structural factors and service gaps that affect child and family wellbeing, driven by institutionalised racism and discrimination, and inter-generational trauma from the stolen generations.



Indigenous children make up 42% of Australians in out-of-home care, despite representing only 5% of all children in Australia.



79% of indigenous children in care are in long-term 'permanent' care, making them less likely to reunite with birth parents.



The number of indigenous children in out of home care is projected to increase by 39% in the next 10 years.

This is 5 x the rate of growth projected for non-Indigenous children.

CALL FOR INVESTMENT IN COMMUNITY-LED SOLUTIONS AND A NATIONAL COMMISSIONER FOR ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE TO ELIMINATE THE INDIGENOUS OVER-REPRESENTATION IN OUT-OF-HOME CARE.

All statistics and information on this page is drawn from the Family Matters Report, 2023.

