

HOMELESSNESS AND THE ABORIGINAL* COMMUNITY

17%

of Aboriginal people in Victoria sought assistance from a homeless service in 2018

OVER 4000

Aboriginal households in Victoria were on the Social Housing Register in 2019

Percentage of households renting in social housing in 2016

21% VS 4%

Aboriginal households Non-Aboriginal households

Australia's Aboriginal population is only 3% yet the rate of homelessness in the Aboriginal community is 20%

In 2016 7.6% of Victorian Aboriginal households were considered

SEVERELY OVER CROWDED

compared to 3.6% of non-aboriginal households

Percentage of homeowners in Australia 2016

38%

Aboriginal households VS

66%

Non - Aboriginal households



The primary driver for homelessness for both the Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal women is family violence

*Aboriginal is inclusive of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People. Data referenced from Australian Institute of Health and Welfare Reports.

Homelessness in Australia's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities is a result of long standing government policies and practices that have discriminated against community since colonisation and have resulted in long lasting harm to this day. The impacts on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people include the dispossession of land, the forced removal of children from family, shortened life spans, multiple chronic health conditions, intergenerational trauma,

intergenerational poverty, overrepresentation in the criminal justice system and ongoing deaths in custody. First Nations people still remain the most marginalised and socioeconomically disadvantaged of all Australians today and the homelessness crisis in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities is but another symptom of institutional racism and discrimination from government that still continues. Our communities deserve better.

If you are experiencing housing distress you can call 1800 825 955 which will direct you to your local housing access point.

ELIZABETH MORGAN HOUSE ABORIGINAL WOMEN'S SERVICE
Call 03 94039400 or go to www.emhaws.org.au

