

# BRISBANE ZERO HOMELESSNESS SNAPSHOT

Unlocking systems  
to end homelessness

**BRISBANE  
ZERO**

## INDIVIDUALS

1 JULY 2024 – 30 JUNE 2025

Across Brisbane there are individuals with unique experiences, strengths and challenges experiencing homelessness. They often don't have a safe place to sleep and limited access to services and support. Street homelessness is the most visible form of homelessness, but it is not the only and not the biggest form of homelessness.

This data snapshot provides information about individuals on the Brisbane By Name List experiencing homelessness in Brisbane. We thank these individuals for their participation and treat the information they have shared with us with respect and dignity.

**2,486** individuals experienced homelessness at some point during the past year, **923** were women

**1,184**  
individuals  
were  
homeless for  
the first  
time

**60** returned to homelessness from a permanent house, **19** were women

**445** cycled through homelessness

**285**  
housed,  
**130** were women



**2,201**  
still  
require  
permanent  
housing,  
**793** are women



**1,475** individuals became disengaged for various reasons, **495** were women

This data only includes the people who have chosen to appear on the By Name List, we know this data could be much higher.

### Making Human Experiences Visible within the System:

#### There is hope

Damien\* is a 63-year-old Aboriginal man who has spent years cycling in and out of homelessness—moving between rough sleeping, short-term accommodation, and brief tenancies. Over at least six years without stable housing, his physical and mental health were significantly impacted. He needed a safe, permanent home to manage his health—and the right supports in place to stay housed.



In 2023, Damien lost his tenancy. He didn't have NDIS supports during that time, which may have contributed to the loss. The Brisbane Zero Collaboration joined efforts to develop a strategy for First Nations people over 45 to focus on the specific needs of older First Nations people. Service providers within the Brisbane Zero Collaboration joined efforts to understand Damien's needs, and coordinate access to suitable housing and supports.

In late 2024, Damien moved into permanent home. With supports now wrapped around him, he has a safe, stable foundation that gives him a better chance to manage his health and stay housed.

## Brisbane By Name List

The By-Name List helps us to identify every person sleeping rough (on streets, in parks, tents, cars or cycling through motels and emergency accommodation) in Brisbane, their needs and the support services required.

### Individuals identified through the By-Name List

**2,486** individual adults experienced homelessness at some point during the past year, 923 women

**1,252** (50%) slept rough at some point in the year, 410 (44%) were women

**615** identify as First Nations people

**44** years, Average Age, Individuals

**1,541**  
(62%)  
identify as male

**923**  
(37%)  
identify as female

**13**  
<1%  
identify as gender diverse

## 285 Individuals housed

**130** (46%) women

**73** (26%) identify as First Nations people

### Individuals who achieved housing

Housing type	Individuals n=285	Individual women n=130
Public housing	33% (95)	28% (36)
Community housing	28% (81)	28% (37)
Private rental	20% (57)	28% (37)
Permanent boarding	7% (19)	8% (11)
Other	7% (19)	3% (4)
Self-housed	3% (8)	2% (3)
Supportive housing	1% (3)	2% (2)
Aged care	1% (3)	0% (0)





## Individuals surveyed

Individuals on the By-Name List were surveyed using The Australian Homelessness Vulnerability Triage Tool (AHVTT). The tool aims to help homelessness services to match housing and support for the most vulnerable people experiencing homelessness in their community. Based on people's disclosed information, it helps to provide the right housing, healthcare and community services for individuals, youth, and families.

### Individuals surveyed

**475** experiencing homelessness, or at risk of homelessness

**156** (33%) identify as First Nations people

**44** years, Average Age



### Health and wellbeing

- 87%** (413) experienced at least one health or substance use issue
- 66%** (312) diagnosed mental health condition
- 54%** (256) ongoing serious health issue
- 43%** (205) regularly use substances
- 30%** (141) do NOT seek medical help when sick
- 25%** (120) brain injury or head trauma

### Top 5 primary health or mental health issues

- 1. Anxiety** 39% (187)
- 2. Clinical Depression** 31% (145)
- 3. PTSD** 25% (120)
- 4. Neurodevelopment disorder** 11% (50)
- 5. Bi-Polar** 10% (48)

### Health system usage

- 28%** (135) **admitted to hospital 5 or more times** in the past year
- 25%** (118) been to a **hospital emergency department** 5 or more times in the past year
- 18%** (86) **taken an ambulance 5 or more times** in the past year



### History of Housing & Homelessness

**3 years** average of last time they had a **permanent place live**

**59%** (279) **sleeping rough** at the time of survey

**48%** (230) **left or lost housing due to violence** in the home

**39%** (185) left or lost housing because **family or friends caused them to get evicted**

**20%** (96) had **experienced living in a foster or group home**

### Social and Daily needs

- 57%** (272) **do not have enough money** to take care of day to day needs
- 48%** (230) **do not have access to a shower**
- 48%** (230) disclosed they **do not have people they can rely upon** or who care about them
- 33%** (158) **do not have access to food & water**



### Safety

- 61%** (291) **experienced violence** within the past year
- 57%** (271) **do not feel safe** where they sleep
- 41%** (195) had **5 or more interactions with police** in the past year

## Gathering the data

Of the 2,486 individuals on the By-Name List, 475 were surveyed by Brisbane Zero members between 1 July 2024 and 30 June 2025 using the AHVTT tool, available at [brisbane.zero.org.au](http://brisbane.zero.org.au). All individuals consented to participating in the survey. All data captured has been de-identified and recorded according to Confidentiality and Privacy Principles.

## Data-driven change

The data aims to drive change through:

- Providing valuable information on the needs of people experiencing homelessness and what their needs are to assist in triaging the most vulnerable and advocating for system change.
- Capturing and making sense of what is happening to people who enter the homelessness service system, when they cycle through this system and what their housing situation is upon leaving the system; make informed decisions about resourcing, focusing and directing services and supports.

## Sustainable change requires cross-sector collaboration

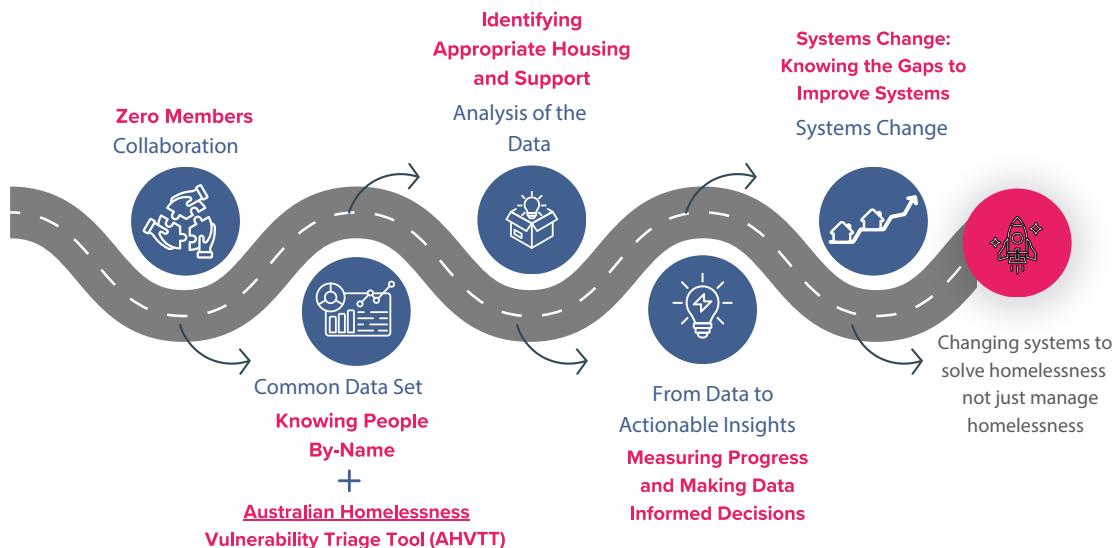
Our purpose is to identify the essential conditions needed to ensure homelessness is rare, brief and non-recurring. This will enable government, services, providers and agencies to better understand the needs of people experiencing homelessness or at risk.

## A shared desire for solutions

Through collaboration, data-driven insights, and advocacy around tailored housing solutions, we work towards preventing, reducing and ending homelessness in our community.

## Homelessness is solvable

Brisbane Zero is part of the Advance to Zero national initiative of the Australian Alliance to End Homelessness, that support local collaborative efforts to end homelessness – one community at a time. It aims to end and prevent homelessness for individuals, youth and families with children, starting with those who are or have been sleeping rough. Through collaboration, data-driven insights, and advocacy around tailored housing solutions, we work towards preventing, reducing, and ending homelessness in our community.



Brisbane Zero is a collaborative partnership with organisations who strive to achieve optimal housing outcomes and support for as many people as possible. Brisbane Zero is supported by the Ellen Whitty Trust and Department of Housing and Public Works Queensland.

Data for this financial year homelessness snapshot includes contribution from the following Brisbane Zero regional members:

