

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.

*The name has been changed for privacy and confidentiality purposes. Images are for illustrative purposes only.

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

62%
(296) identify as male

37%
(177) identify as female

<1%
identify as gender diverse

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**

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

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 20225 using the AHVTT tool, available at 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

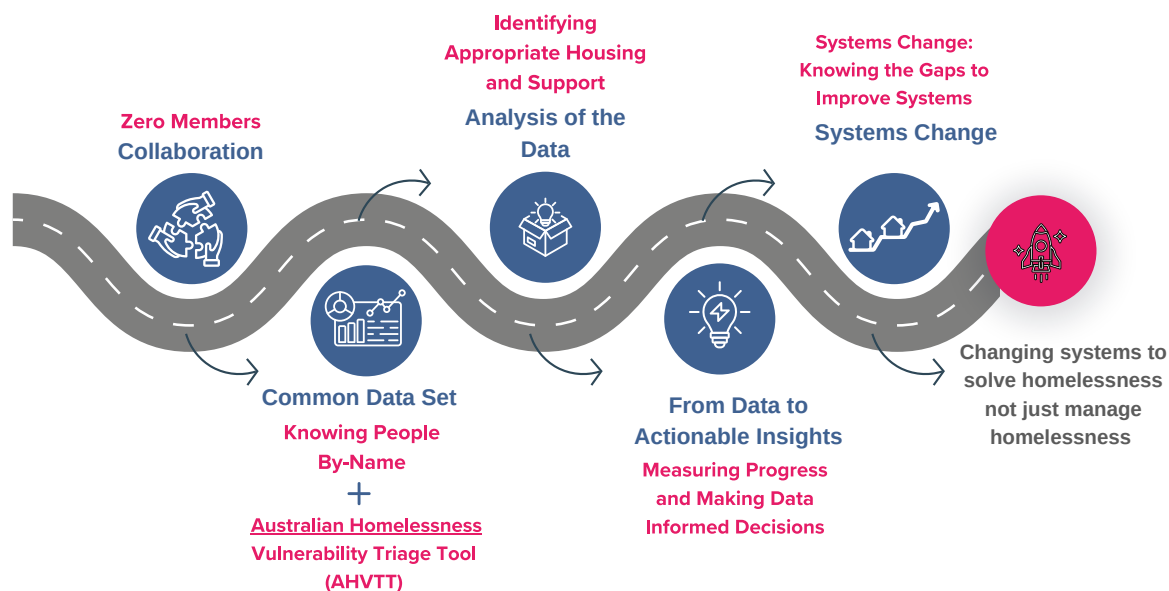
Our purpose is to identify the essential conditions needed to ensure homelessness is rare, brief and non-recurring. This will enable government, services, providers and agencies to better understand the needs of people experiencing homelessness or at risk.

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.

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