HC3.1. POPULATION EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS AND HOUSING EXCLUSION

Definitions and methodology

This indicator presents available data at national level on the number of people experiencing homelessness and housing exclusion, as reported by public authorities in OECD and EU countries. Data are drawn from the OECD Questionnaire on Affordable and Social Housing (QuASH) and other available sources. Data are available for 42 countries, including all OECD countries and the following non-member countries: Croatia, Cyprus, Romania and South Africa (Table HC 3.1.A1).

Comparing national-level estimates of homelessness and housing exclusion across countries is difficult, due to a range of methodological challenges.

National definitions vary widely across countries, limiting international comparability. This indicator presents a collection of available statistics in line with the national statistical definition of homelessness in OECD, EU and key partner countries, drawing on the ETHOS Light Typology of Homelessness and Housing Exclusion to the extent feasible (see Box HC3.1.2). The ETHOS Light typology is generally consistent with the conceptual framework outlined in the proposal for a Council Recommendation on fighting housing exclusion (European Commission, 2026).[1]

The type of count can be differentiated between *point-in-time* counts and *flow* counts, which are not comparable and thus presented separately in this indicator:

- *Point-in-time count:* Data are collected at a single point-in-time, generally through a coordinated street count and/or an enumeration of people staying in shelters for people experiencing homelessness on a given night. Point-in-time counts thus present a "snapshot" of homelessness at a single time and place.

[1] The *Proposal for a Council recommendation on fighting housing exclusion* defines housing exclusion as "situations in which individuals or households lack access to adequate and/or secure housing;" housing exclusion "encompasses notably homeless people (i.e. the roofless or houseless) and those living involuntarily in precarious housing situations, such as in inadequate or insecure housing". Accordingly, in line with the proposed Council recommendation, homelessness can be understood as referring to people living rough, or staying in emergency accommodation or temporary accommodation for the homeless (ETHOS Light 1, 2, 3), while housing exclusion encompasses ETHOS Light 1, 2 and 3, in addition to people living in institutions, living in non-conventional dwellings due to a lack of housing, and people living temporarily with family or friends (ETHOS Light 4, 5 and 6).

This document, as well as any data and any map included herein, are without prejudice to the status of or sovereignty over any territory, to the delimitation of international frontiers and boundaries and to the name of any territory, city or area.

The statistical data for Israel are supplied by and under the responsibility of the relevant Israeli authorities. The use of such data by the OECD is without prejudice to the status of the Golan Heights, East Jerusalem and Israeli settlements in the West Bank under the terms of international law.

Note by the Republic of Türkiye: The information in this document with reference to "Cyprus" relates to the southern part of the Island. There is no single authority representing both Turkish and Greek Cypriot people on the Island. Türkiye recognises the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus (TRNC). Until a lasting and equitable solution is found within the context of the United Nations, Türkiye shall preserve its position concerning the "Cyprus issue".

Note by all the European Union Member States of the OECD and the European Union: The Republic of Cyprus is recognised by all members of the United Nations with the exception of Türkiye. The information in this document relates to the area under the effective control of the Government of the Republic of Cyprus.

Please cite as: OECD (2026), OECD Affordable Housing Database - indicator HC3.1. People experiencing homelessness and housing exclusion, https://oe.cd/ahd

LAST UPDATED: 11/09/2026

- *Flow count:* Data are collected over a given period of time, such as the enumeration of all people who have stayed in a shelter over the course of the year.

Refer to *Data and comparability issues* below and the key OECD resources in Box HC3.1.1.

Discussion of national homelessness strategies can be found in indicator *HC3.2 National Strategies for combatting homelessness* of the OECD Affordable Housing Database.

Box HC3.1.1. Key OECD resources on homelessness and housing exclusion

As a complement to this indicator, refer to the following key data and publications that have been developed with support from the European Commission in the context of the Lisbon Declaration on the European Platform on Combatting Homelessness:

- The series of ***OECD Country notes: Data on homelessness and housing exclusion***, which presents key data and information on homelessness and housing exclusion, including national estimates, socio-demographic breakdowns (where available), statistical definitions and data collection methods, as well as selected information on national strategies to address homelessness in OECD and EU countries.
- The ***OECD Monitoring Framework to Measure Homelessness***, designed to help governments improve homelessness measurement and monitoring, presents common approaches to collect data on homelessness and identifies their key characteristics, strengths, limitations, and common implementation challenges.
- The ***OECD Toolkit to Combat Homelessness*** helps policy makers design and implement strategies to combat homelessness, structured around nine building blocks.
- An OECD working paper, ***What is driving homelessness and housing exclusion in OECD and EU countries? A review of the literature and cross-national data*****,** which examines the main drivers of homelessness and housing exclusion by bringing together evidence from the academic literature and cross-national data on past housing difficulties.

Additional work on homelessness and housing exclusion is under development, including:

- An OECD report, ***Measuring unsheltered and "hidden" homelessness in Germany: Lessons from OECD countries****,* which reviews data collection approaches across OECD countries and draws lessons for improving the measurement of unsheltered and "hidden" homelessness (November 2026).
- A **Blueprint for integrated action plans to combat homelessness,** which draws on relevant social, housing, and health policies, and a **Framework to monitor and evaluate policy progress on homelessness** (July 2027).

Further discussion of homelessness and housing exclusion can also be found in the 2020 OECD Policy Brief, *Better data and policies to fight homelessness in the OECD* (also available in French) and the 2024 OECD Policy Brief, *Challenges to measuring homelessness among migrants*.

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Key findings

There is no internationally agreed definition of homelessness, and statistical definitions of homelessness vary widely across countries.

There is no internationally agreed definition of homelessness and housing exclusion, and statistical definitions vary widely across countries.

Within the European Union, many countries rely on the ETHOS Light Typology of Homelessness and Housing Exclusion, which aims to provide a common language for assessing and comparing homelessness and housing exclusion (Box HC3.1.2). The typology categorises different types of experiences of homelessness and housing exclusion, including, *inter alia,* people living rough (e.g., people living in the streets or in public spaces, ETHOS Light 1), people staying in emergency accommodation (e.g., overnight shelters, ETHOS Light 2) and temporary accommodation for the homeless (e.g., homeless hostels, temporary accommodation, ETHOS Light 3), as well as people temporarily "doubling up" with family or friends, also known as "sofa surfing" (ETHOS Light 6).

Box HC3.1.2. The ETHOS Light typology: A common framework to define and measure homelessness and housing exclusion

At European level, the European Federation of National Organisations Working with the Homeless (FEANTSA) developed a typology to define data collection on homelessness called *ETHOS: The European Typology of Homelessness and Housing Exclusion*, as well as a streamlined version, *ETHOS Light*. These typologies illustrate the multiple dimensions of homelessness and are conceived to provide a common language for transnational exchanges on homelessness, enabling authorities to indicate which categories are used in the statistical definition of homelessness in their country. Not all countries will characterise individuals in each of the categories below as "homeless".

The ETHOS Light typology proposes to categorise people experiencing homelessness or housing exclusion as follows:

1. *People living rough*: Living in the streets or public spaces without a shelter that can be defined as living quarters (e.g., public spaces/external spaces)
2. *People in emergency accommodation:* People with no place of usual residence who move frequently between various types of accommodation (e.g., overnight shelters)
3. *People living in accommodation for the homeless*: People living in accommodations for the homeless, where the period of stay is time-limited and no long-term housing is provided (e.g., homeless hostels, temporary accommodation, transitional supported accommodation, women's shelter or refuge accommodation)
4. *People living in institutions*: People who stay longer than needed in health institutions needed due to lack of housing; and people in penal institutions with no housing available prior to release
5. *People living in non-conventional dwellings due to lack of housing*: where accommodation is used due to a lack of housing and is not the person's usual place of residence (e.g., mobile homes, non-conventional buildings or temporary structures)
6. *People living temporarily in conventional housing with family or friends* due to lack of housing

Nevertheless, national data collection strategies and estimates still vary significantly across countries.

Source: FEANTSA (2018), www.feantsa.org/download/fea-002-18-update-ethos-light-0032417441788687419154.pdf.

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Cross-national differences in statistical definitions

There are considerable differences across countries, and in some cases within countries, in the scope of the statistical definition of homelessness and housing exclusion. In some countries, the statistical definition is particularly narrow, such as in Japan, where only "people who live their daily life in a park, a riverbed, at a road, a station or other institutions" are considered in homelessness statistics (considered ETHOS Light 1); similarly, in Mexico, the data refer only to rough sleepers (ETHOS Light 1). In other countries, such as Sweden, Switzerland and Norway, the statistical definition broadly covers all six categories of the ETHOS Light typology (see Table HC 3.1.A1 and the OECD Country Notes: Data on Homelessness and Housing Exclusion).

Moreover, some national homelessness statistics cover living situations that extend beyond the ETHOS Light framework. For instance, Australia's statistical definition includes people living in an inadequate dwelling, a dwelling without tenure or with an initial tenure that is short and not extendable, or in a dwelling that does not allow them to have space for social relations. In New Zealand, in addition to people that could be considered in ETHOS Light 1, 2, 3, 5 and 6, the statistical definition also includes people living in uninhabitable housing (e.g., dilapidated dwellings). The statistical measurement of this type of living situation has been operationalised as people living in a dwelling that lacks one of six basic amenities: drinkable tap water, electricity, cooking facilities, a kitchen sink, bath or shower, or a toilet.

Even when statistical definitions are similar across countries, differences in the data collection approach(es), the extent of accommodation types that are surveyed in homelessness data collection efforts, as well as the type of count generated (point-in-time or flow), the frequency of data collection and geographic coverage, make cross-country comparison difficult (see *Data and comparability issues* below).

More than 2.6 million people in the OECD – and over 1.4 million in the EU – are experiencing homelessness and housing exclusion, according to the latest figures.

Across the OECD, at least 2.6 million people are reported to be experiencing homelessness and housing exclusion, including more than 1.4 million people in the European Union, according to the latest government statistics. As shown in Table HC 3.1.A1, the number of people reported to be experiencing homelessness represents less than 1% of the population in all countries for which data are available, with the exception of Czechia (1.5%), New Zealand (2.3%), and the Slovak Republic (1.3%). In Czechia and New Zealand, the large share of people experiencing homelessness can be partially explained by the broad statistical definition of homelessness, which extends beyond the ETHOS Light typology. In the Slovak Republic, the data are based on an estimate of individuals for whom an exact address or location within municipalities could not be determined in the Census, thus likely contributing to the large reported proportion of people experiencing homelessness.

Most people experiencing homelessness are in temporary or emergency accommodation

To facilitate international comparison, Figure HC 3.1.1 presents cross-country data on the number of people experiencing homelessness whose living situation corresponds to ETHOS Light categories 1, 2 or 3, per 10 000 people in 2026 (or the most recent year available). Point-in-time and flow data are reported separately.

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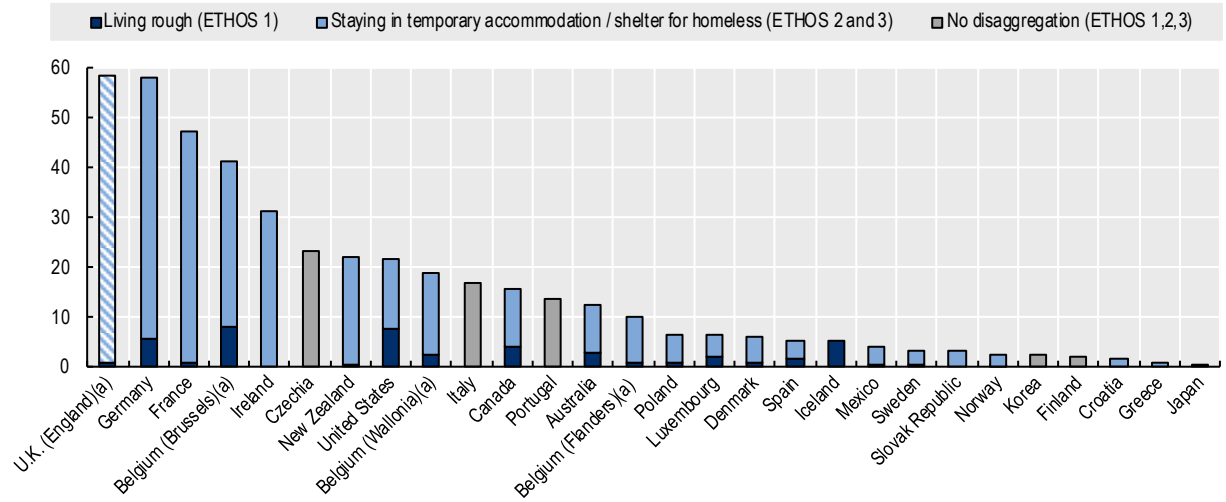
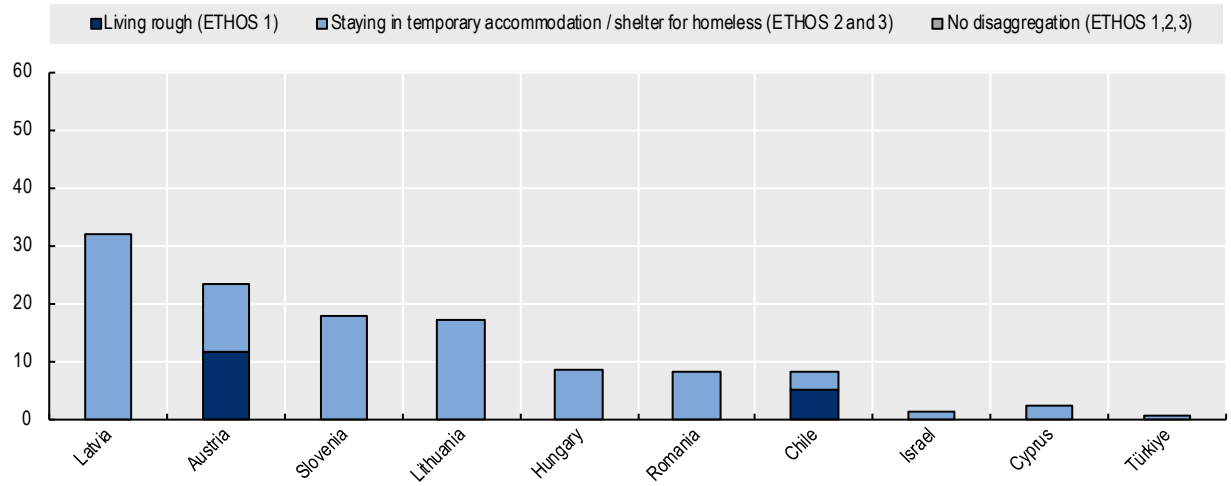
Figure HC3.1.1. The distribution of homelessness varies considerably across countries.

People experiencing homelessness who are living rough (ETHOS Light 1) or staying in emergency accommodation or accommodation for the homeless (ETHOS Light 2 and 3), per 10 000 people, 2026 or latest year[1,2,3,4]

A. Point-in-time data



B. Flow data



Notes: (a) The *OECD Country Note: Data on Homelessness and Housing Exclusion* for these countries is forthcoming.
1. Data for Australia, Canada, Germany, Italy, Korea, Norway, and the United States include people living in unconventional dwellings (e.g., tents). 2. Data for the United Kingdom (England) refer to the number of households experiencing homelessness per 10,000 households for ETHOS Light 2 and 3; and the population experiencing homelessness per 10,000 people for ETHOS Light 1. 3. Data refer to 2026, except for Belgium (Flanders), Canada, Croatia, Czechia, Finland, Hungary, Ireland, Israel, Japan, Türkiye, United Kingdom (England), United States (2025); Austria, Belgium (Brussels, Wallonia), Cyprus, Denmark, Germany, Italy, Korea, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Portugal, Romania, Slovenia (2024); Chile, New Zealand, Sweden, France, Norway, Spain (2022); Australia, Iceland, Slovak Republic (2021); Mexico (2020). 4. Population data used to calculate the share of people experiencing homelessness refer to the same year as the homelessness data, except for Canada, Croatia, Czechia, Finland, Greece, Hungary, Israel, Japan and Poland, for which population data refer to 2024.
Source: For homelessness estimates: OECD Questionnaire on Affordable and Social Housing (QuASH). For population estimates: https://www.oecd.org/en/data/indicators/population.html. For individual country sources, please see OECD Country Notes: Data on homelessness and housing exclusion.

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Key findings include:

- In countries with available data, most people experiencing homelessness are sheltered in temporary or emergency accommodation. On average in 17 OECD countries that report data for only ETHOS Light 1 and ETHOS Light 2 and 3, the vast majority (79%) of people experiencing homelessness are accommodated in temporary or emergency shelter, compared to around 21% who are sleeping rough.
- Across countries with point-in-time data, Germany, France, the United Kingdom (England), Belgium (Brussels), and Ireland report over 25 people living rough or staying in emergency or temporary accommodation (ETHOS Light 1, 2, 3) per 10 000 people (households, in the case of ETHOS Light 2 and 3 the United Kingdom (England)). Meanwhile, fewer than three people living rough or staying in emergency or temporary accommodation per 10 000 people were enumerated in Norway, Korea, Finland, Croatia, Greece and Japan.
- Among countries with flow data, Latvia reports roughly 32 people living rough or staying in emergency or temporary accommodation per 10 000 people, compared to fewer than 5 people in Israel, Cyprus, and Türkiye.
- There is no discernible trend between the type of count (PIT or flow) and the number of people experiencing homelessness. Despite flow counts having a longer reference period, four of the five countries with the highest reported rate of homelessness use a PIT count. This unexpected result may be explained by countries with PIT counts having more expansive statistical definitions of homelessness and/or more extensive collection methods.

Women typically account for a smaller share of people experiencing homelessness in national statistics, but this is partly due to how homelessness is defined and counted.

Across 29 countries with gender-disaggregated data, women account for a smaller share of the population experiencing homelessness, relative to men, in all countries except New Zealand where the share is roughly equal (Figure HC3.1.2).

Nevertheless, there are wide cross-country differences in the share of women experiencing homelessness, ranging from 51% in New Zealand to 6% in Japan. Across countries with point-in-time data, women account for, on average, around 27% of people experiencing homelessness; among countries with flow data, women account for around 23% of people experiencing homelessness, on average.

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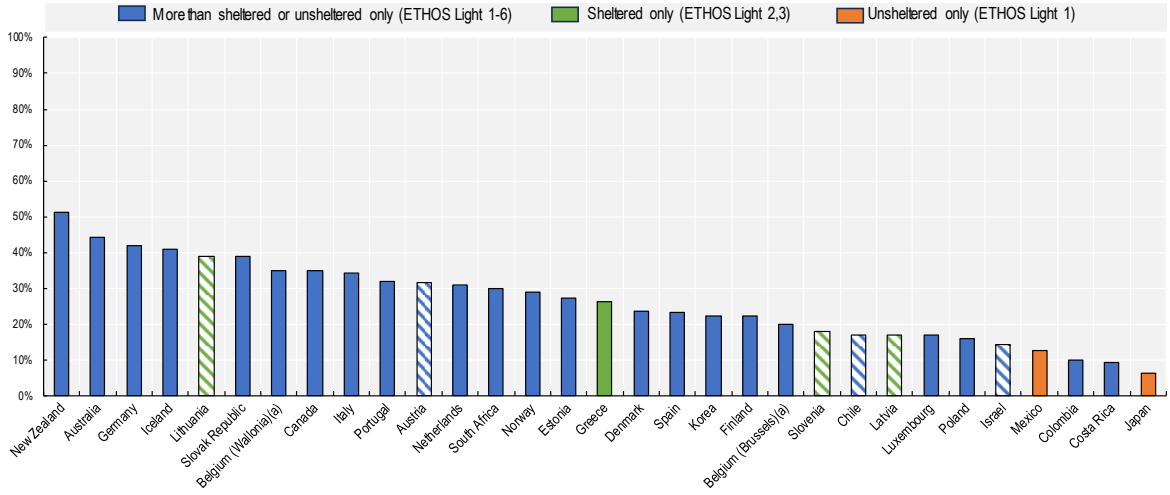
Figure HC3.1.2. Women typically account for a smaller share of people considered homelessness in national statistics, driven in part by how homelessness is defined and counted.

Share of women as a percentage of people experiencing homelessness, by ETHOS Light definition, point-in-time vs. flow data, 2026 or latest year



Notes: (a) The *OECD Country Note: Data on Homelessness and Housing Exclusion* for these countries is forthcoming.
1. Data are based on point-in-time counts, with the exception of countries marked with cross-hatching, where data are based on flow counts.
2. The gender breakdown refers to the headline estimate of homelessness in each country, along the statistical definition of each country.
3. The category "More than sheltered or unsheltered only (ETHOS Light 1-6)" includes countries that report homelessness data for more than ETHOS Light 1 only or ETHOS Light 2 and 3 only; additional categories may include ETHOS Light 4, 5 and/or 6. 4. Data refer to 2026, except for Canada, Finland, Israel, Japan (2025); Austria, Belgium (Brussels, Wallonia), Denmark, Germany, Italy, Korea, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Slovenia, Portugal (2024); Chile, New Zealand, Sweden, United States (2023); Norway, South Africa, Spain (2022); Australia, Estonia, Iceland, Slovak Republic (2021); Colombia (2017-2021); Mexico (2020).
Source: OECD Questionnaire on Affordable and Social Housing (QuASH). For individual country sources, please see OECD Country Notes: Data on homelessness and housing exclusion.

The smaller share of women in homelessness statistics can be explained by a range of factors.

First, women tend to experience homelessness differently than men and are generally less visible, and thus harder to capture in standard data collection approaches (Lloyd and Plouin, 2024). For instance, when faced with homelessness, women are more likely to rely on informal supports, such as staying temporarily with family or friends, rather than finding accommodation in shelters designed for people experiencing homelessness or living rough (Bretherton, 2017). Moreover, women are more likely experience “hidden homelessness” and may not be captured by homelessness statistics (Box HC3.1.3).

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Box HC3.1.3. What is "hidden homelessness"?

There is no formal definition of "hidden homelessness," and definitions differ across countries. The term can be used i) broadly, to describe people experiencing homelessness or housing exclusion who are not captured in official statistics; and/or ii) more narrowly, to refer to specific living arrangements, such as staying temporarily with family or friends because of lack of housing.

The *OECD Monitoring Framework to Measure Homelessness* (OECD, 2025) adopts a broad definition of hidden homelessness to refer to people whose living situation corresponds to one of the categories outlined in the ETHOS Light typology (see Table 1), but who do not appear in official statistics on homelessness. This may include, for instance:

- people who are not in contact with any administrative support services, and are thus not registered in any service database;
- people who are not eligible for support services, or are not considered a priority case to access limited public support services, and thus do not seek out support;
- (linked to the above) people who avoid visible public spaces whilst experiencing unsheltered homelessness (ETHOS Light 1), and are thus not counted as part of data collection approaches based on street counts; and/or
- people living in unsustainable or inadequate shelter (ETHOS Light 5) or temporarily staying with friends or family (ETHOS Light 6). In these cases, the term "hidden homelessness" may refer to individuals whose living situations are excluded because the national statistical definition, or are not captured by the data collection methods.

The forthcoming OECD report, *Measuring unsheltered and "hidden" homelessness in Germany: Lessons from OECD countries* (expected November 2026), reviews data collection approaches across OECD countries and draws lessons for improving the measurement of these forms of "hidden" homelessness. Findings suggest that in practice, countries interpret and operationalise hidden homelessness in different ways, depending on both the legal and statistical definitions of homelessness, as well as data collection methods. Some countries apply the term broadly to refer to diverse forms of homelessness that remain outside official statistics, while others apply it to a more narrowly defined living situation, most commonly temporary stays with family, friends or acquaintances.

There are also many methodological differences in how homelessness is defined and measured that contribute to cross-country differences.

As shown in Figure HC3.1.2, the **scope of the statistical definition** is one factor that helps to explain some cross-country differences. New Zealand and Australia are among the countries that report the largest share of women experiencing homelessness (51% and 44%, respectively) – two countries with a broad statistical definition of homelessness. By contrast, Japan and Mexico, with the narrowest statistical definitions (covering only rough sleepers, ETHOS Light 1), report among the smallest shares of women experiencing homelessness (6% and 13%, respectively). Generally, across countries, women tend to make up a very small share of people living rough (ETHOS Light 1), while the gap is generally narrower for people staying in emergency accommodation (ETHOS Light 2) or accommodation for the homeless (ETHOS Light 3). For instance, in Germany in 2024, women accounted for around 18% of people sleeping rough (ETHOS Light 1), 43% of people staying in emergency or temporary accommodation (ETHOS Light 2 and 3), and nearly 37% of people staying with family or friends (ETHOS Light 6) (Federal Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs (Germany), 2024). Thus, countries with a very narrow definition that focus specifically on people living rough are likely to report a smaller share of women experiencing homelessness. However, the scope of the statistical definition is just one factor and does not fully explain cross-country differences.

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Further, as discussed below in the *Data and comparability issues* section, **differences in data collection approaches**, including their scope, design and implementation, can significantly affect the quality and coverage of the data, including with respect to data coverage of women experiencing homelessness. For instance, data collection approaches that focus exclusively on street counts may record a smaller share of women experiencing homelessness in national statistics, as women tend to be less likely to visibly sleep rough. In contrast, homelessness statistics that rely on census data or a combination of data collection methods may be better equipped to account for the diverse experiences of women experiencing homelessness.

Public policy can also play a role. For instance, in the United Kingdom (England) women represent a large share of people experiencing homelessness staying in sheltered accommodation. This is likely because pregnant women, single parents with dependent children, and people who are homelessness as a result of being a victim of domestic violence are identified as groups who have a "priority need" for accommodation under the national homelessness legislation (cf. England's Homelessness Code of Guidance for Local Authorities).

Other methodological challenges contribute to cross-country differences in the reported share of women experiencing homelessness. For example, in 20 countries for which data are available, women staying in shelters for people experiencing domestic violence are not surveyed as part of service-based collection methods upon which national homelessness statistics are based (Table HC3.1.1). However, cross-country data on the number of women experiencing homelessness who are staying in shelters for people experiencing domestic violence is not available.

Between 2023 and 2026, the number of people experiencing homelessness and/or housing exclusion increased in 15 countries, and remained stable or decreased in 5 countries, based on the latest available data.

Although cross-country comparability of homelessness and housing exclusion trends is limited (see *Data and comparability issues*, below), available national data provide insights into recent developments within countries. Table HC3.1.A2, available in the accompanying excel file, presents the reported number of people experiencing homelessness and/or housing exclusion around 2018, around 2023, and in 2026 or the latest available year.

Comparisons between 2023 and 2026 (or the nearest available years) suggest two broad patterns:

- In 15 countries with comparable data, the reported number of people experiencing homelessness and/or housing exclusion increased between 2023 and 2026 (or nearest available years).
- In five countries – Canada, Japan, Korea, Latvia, and Cyprus – the reported number of people experiencing homelessness or housing exclusion remained stable or decreased between 2023 and 2026 (or nearest available years).

Data limitations prevent comparisons over time in all other countries. For instance, in seven countries, data are available for both 2023 and 2026, but changes in definitions, data collection approaches or geographic coverage inhibit comparability.

The population experiencing homelessness and housing exclusion is heterogeneous.

Homelessness is a dynamic phenomenon, with people experiencing homelessness in different ways. In most countries, a smaller, but more visible, share of individuals experiences prolonged periods of homelessness, or transitions in and out of homelessness over the course of several weeks, months or years (i.e., "chronically homeless"). Meanwhile, in most countries a larger share of individuals experiences homelessness for only a short period before finding a more stable housing solution (i.e., "transitionally" or "temporarily" homeless) (OECD, 2015).

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Data suggest that there are varied and complex experiences of homelessness and housing exclusion. Depending on the country, homelessness and housing exclusion is prevalent among specific groups, including women, youth, older people, families with children, the foreign-born population, as well as people with disabilities and LGBTI+ individuals. However, some countries do not collect and/or report such disaggregated data. The countries and groups featured below thus represent an incomplete assessment of the diversity of homelessness experiences; data and information draw on the *OECD Country Notes: Data on homelessness and housing exclusion*.

- Although few countries report age-disaggregated data, **young people** account for a significant share of people experiencing homelessness in some countries. For instance, in Germany, youth aged under 25 years old accounted for 37% of the total population experiencing homelessness, and while youth aged 15-29 represented 31% of the total population experiencing homelessness in Australia.
- **Older people** make up an important share of the population experiencing homelessness and housing exclusion in several OECD countries. The share of older-aged people in Poland (aged 60 and over), Greece (aged 67 and over), and Italy (aged 65 and over) represented around 30% of the total population experiencing homelessness.
- **Families with children** accounted 9% of households experiencing homelessness and housing exclusion in the Netherlands and 8% in Canada.
- Homelessness and housing exclusion rates among **migrants** (defined in most cases as the **foreign-born population)** are particularly high in many OECD countries, yet cross-national comparative data are not available. For more information on difficulties enumerating foreign-born populations experiencing homelessness, see the OECD Policy Brief, *Challenges to measuring homelessness among migrants*.

Data and comparability issues

Significant methodological challenges hamper data collection on homelessness and housing exclusion.

Definitional differences

As discussed above, differences in statistical definitions drive some of the variation in the reported incidence of homelessness across countries. These differences hamper international comparison and an understanding of the differences in homelessness rates and risks across countries. For instance, several countries that adopt a broader definition of homelessness report a higher incidence of homelessness, like Australia and New Zealand, relative to countries with a narrower definition, such as Chile, Portugal or Japan. Different definitions of homelessness can also co-exist within the same country, depending on the purpose and the collecting authority, producing considerable differences in homelessness estimates for the same territory.

However, definitional differences do not fully explain the variation in homelessness rates across countries: several countries with a broad definition of homelessness report among the lowest incidences of homelessness, such as Norway, Poland, Finland and Denmark. Figure HC3.1 (above) accounts for these definitional differences by presenting cross-country data on homelessness for ETHOS Light categories 1, 2 and 3 only.

Limitations of data collection approaches

Beyond definitional differences, there are several challenges in the scope and methods of data collection that might affect measuring the full extent of homelessness (see the *OECD Monitoring*

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Framework on Homelessness (OECD, 2025)). Data on homelessness are typically based on the following collection methods, each with its strengths and limitations in terms of how well it captures different types of living situations:

- *Street counts*: an estimate of the number of people sleeping rough at a point-in-time;
- *Service-based methods*: information obtained from a broad range of service providers that support people experiencing homelessness;
- *Population censuses and Household surveys*: a count or a sample of a given population at a point in time (e.g. Population Census; special module on homelessness in household survey);
- *Administrative data*: records collected by different institutions/organisations (e.g., health data, criminal justice records, social services data, etc.) and used to extrapolate the number of people experiencing homelessness;
- *Advanced sampling methods*: a statistical method, such as "capture-recapture," comparing independent samples from two or more sources of data to estimate the total number of people experiencing homelessness;
- *By-name lists and Information management systems on homeless individuals*: the collection of comprehensive demographic and identifying information on people experiencing homelessness, which may be collected via *registry weeks.*

Further, the scope, design and implementation of each data collection approach vary widely, which can significantly affect the quality and coverage of the data. For instance, with respect to street counts, the geographic perimeter is not systematic across (or even within) countries. In addition to enumerating people sleeping on public streets, the coverage of street counts may (or may not) include parks, public transport, emergency rooms, parking garages or other places that, depending on the country context, may be used by rough sleepers.

Moreover, in the case of service-based methods, there is no systematic approach to determining which types of services and emergency or temporary accommodation are included in data collection efforts, and which are left out. The selection of services to be surveyed may be narrowly defined (e.g., restricted to overnight shelters and temporary accommodation), or may be quite broad (e.g., to also include food banks, social service centres, health clinics, etc.). As a result, homelessness data resulting from service-based methods (often captured by ETHOS Light 2 and 3) are not fully comparable across countries. Table HC3.1.1 provides an overview of cross-country differences in the inclusion of children and temporary accommodation for specific groups in the national headline estimate of homelessness.

Across 42 OECD and EU countries:

- Over half (27 countries) include children under the age of 18 years;
- Half (21 countries) include temporary accommodation for victims of domestic violence;
- Around a quarter (11 countries) include temporary accommodation for asylum seeker; and
- One third (14 countries) include temporary accommodation for refugees.

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Table HC3.1.1. Homelessness data do not systematically include children, or people staying temporarily in specific types of emergency accommodation.

Inclusion of children and people staying in temporary accommodation for victims of domestic violence, asylum seekers and refugees in national homelessness statistics

	Yes	No
Children (<18)	Australia, Austria, Belgium (Brussels)[a], Belgium (Flanders)[a], Belgium (Wallonia)[a], Canada, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Mexico, New Zealand, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovak Republic, Slovenia, South Africa, United Kingdom (England)[a], United Kingdom (Northern Ireland), United Kingdom (Wales), United Kingdom (Scotland), United States.	Chile, Croatia, Finland, Hungary, Iceland, Israel, Korea, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Norway, Spain, Sweden, Türkiye.
Temporary accommodation for victims of domestic violence	Australia, Belgium (Brussels)[a], Belgium (Flanders)[a], Belgium (Wallonia)[a], Canada, Chile, Colombia, Czechia, Finland, France, Italy, Lithuania, Mexico, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovak Republic, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom (England)[a], United States.	Austria, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Denmark, Estonia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Japan, Korea, Latvia, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Slovenia, Türkiye, United Kingdom (Northern Ireland), United Kingdom (Wales), United Kingdom (Scotland).
Temporary accommodation for asylum seekers	Australia, Belgium (Brussels), Belgium (Flanders), Belgium (Wallonia), Canada, Colombia, Costa Rica, France, Mexico, New Zealand, Portugal, Romania, Spain.	Austria, Chile, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Korea, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Slovak Republic, Slovenia, South Africa, Sweden, Türkiye, United Kingdom (England)[a], United Kingdom (Northern Ireland), United Kingdom (Wales), United Kingdom (Scotland), United States.
Temporary accommodation for refugees	Australia, Belgium (Brussels)[a], Belgium (Flanders)[a], Belgium (Wallonia)[a], Canada, Colombia, Costa Rica, France, Germany, Mexico, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Spain, United Kingdom (England)[a].	Austria, Chile, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Korea, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Slovak Republic, Slovenia, South Africa, Sweden, Türkiye, United Kingdom (Northern Ireland), United Kingdom (Wales), United Kingdom (Scotland), United States.

Note: (a) The *OECD Country Note: Data on Homelessness and Housing Exclusion* for these countries is forthcoming.
Source: OECD Questionnaire on Affordable and Social Housing (QuASH). For individual country sources, please refer to the OECD Country Notes: Data on Homelessness and Housing Exclusion.

Experiences of homelessness over the life course

Point-in-time estimates do not capture the total number of people who may have experienced homelessness or housing exclusion over the course of their lifetime. Evidence from *Eurostat's 2023 module on housing difficulties,* found that, on average across EU countries, around 5% of adults report having experienced at least one episode of housing difficulty in their lives (Eurostat, 2023). A past "housing difficulty" covers a range of living situations, such as sleeping rough, staying in emergency accommodation, living in unconventional housing or staying with friends or relatives out of necessity. Among respondents who reported at least one episode of housing difficulty, over 80% reported having stayed with family or friends out of necessity, highlighting the often hidden nature of housing insecurity (see Box HC3.1.3).

More information on what is driving homelessness and housing exclusion over the life course in OECD and EU countries can be found in the OECD working paper, *What is driving homelessness and housing exclusion in OECD and EU countries? A review of the literature and cross-national data*.

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Additional methodological challenges

Incomplete geographic coverage and limited frequency and consistency of data collection represent additional methodological challenges. For instance, some national data only cover cities or towns of a certain size (Italy, the United States); in Belgium, data are collected for each region and, due to methodological differences, cannot be aggregated to produce a national estimate. Even in the presence of national guidelines for homelessness counts conducted at subnational level, jurisdictions may interpret and apply the guidelines differently, leading to local homelessness estimates that are difficult to compare within a country.

Frequency and consistency of data collection also pose challenges. Efforts have been made through the OECD Questionnaire on Social and Affordable Housing (QuASH) to collect information on the number of people experiencing homelessness over several years. Nevertheless, it was not possible to collect data for the same years for all countries as the timing of homelessness counts is not harmonised across countries. For instance, two OECD countries collect data on a monthly (Ireland) or quarterly (United Kingdom (England)) basis. More commonly, countries collect homelessness data annually (e.g. Austria, Finland, Japan, the Netherlands and Portugal) or every two years (Poland). Some countries conduct regular homeless counts at longer intervals: every five years (Australia and New Zealand), six years (Sweden) or ten years (the Slovak Republic).

In some cases, changes to the definition and/or methodology underlying data collection do not allow for reliable comparison over time. Some countries do not have a regular system of data collection on homelessness in place, and/or rely on information from one-off surveys.

Further discussion of methodological issues in homelessness data collection can be found in the *OECD Monitoring Framework on Homelessness* (OECD, 2025), and the forthcoming OECD report, *Measuring unsheltered and "hidden" homelessness in Germany: Lessons from OECD countries* (expected November 2026).

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Table HC3.1.A1 Estimates of homelessness and disaggregation by ETHOS Light category

Country	% of total population	Headline estimate	Breakdown of headline estimate (ETHOS Light Typology)						Year	PIT or FLOW	Are children included?	Inclusion of temporary accommodation for specific groups	Source
			ETHOS 1	ETHOS 2	ETHOS 3	ETHOS 4	ETHOS 5	ETHOS 6					
Australia	0.48%	122,494	7,636	Included under ETHOS 3	24,286	Not included	Included under ETHOS 1	16,597	2021	PIT	Yes	Accommodation for: Asylum seekers ☒ Refugees ☒ Victims of domestic violence ☒	OECD Questionnaire on Affordable and Social Housing (QuASH); Australian Bureau of Statistics (2021), Census of Population and Housing
Austria	0.23%	21,073	10,726	10,797	Included under ETHOS Light 2	Not included	Not included	Not included	2024	Flow	Yes	Accommodation for: Asylum seekers ☐ Refugees ☐ Victims of domestic violence ☐	OECD Questionnaire on Affordable and Social Housing (QuASH); Bundesministerium für Soziales, Gesundheit, Pflege und Konsumentenschutz (Federal Ministry of Social Affairs, Health, Care and Consumer Protection) 2025; Registrierte Obdach- und Wohnungslosigkeit;
Belgium: Brussels[(a)]	0.78%	9,777	992	2,535	1,628	357	2,649	1,539	2024	PIT	Yes	Accommodation for: Asylum seekers ☒ Refugees ☒ Victims of domestic violence ☒	OECD Questionnaire on Affordable and Social Housing (QuASH); Pierre, A. (2024), Dénombrement des personnes sans-chez-soi en Région de Bruxelles-Capitale ; Bruss'help and King Baudouin Foundation, (2023), Bruss'help street count. https://brusshelp.org/images/Rapport_denombrement_2024_FR
Belgium: Flanders[(a)]	0.31%	21,428	653	446	5,925	2,512	2,307	6,769	2025	PIT	Yes	Accommodation for: Asylum seekers ☒ Refugees ☒ Victims of domestic violence	OECD Questionnaire on Affordable and Social Housing (QuASH); http://statbel.fgov.be.
Belgium: Wallonia[(a)]	0.53%	19,387	873	692	5,382	1,542	2,812	6,721	2024	PIT	Yes	Accommodation for: Asylum seekers ☒ Refugees ☒ Victims of domestic violence ☒	Source: OECD Questionnaire on Affordable and Social Housing (QuASH); Extrapolation based on territory counting – adults & children (2024 global report); http://statbel.fgov.be.

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Country	% of total population	Headline estimate	Breakdown of headline estimate (ETHOS Light Typology)						Year	PIT or FLOW	Are children included?	Inclusion of temporary accommodation for specific groups	Source
			ETHOS 1	ETHOS 2	ETHOS 3	ETHOS 4	ETHOS 5	ETHOS 6					
Canada	0.16%	65,083	17 620	36 716	10 747	Not included	Included under ETHOS 1	Not included	2025	PIT	Yes	Accommodation for: Asylum seekers ☒ Refugees ☒ Victims of domestic violence ☒	OECD Questionnaire on Affordable and Social Housing (QuASH); Infrastructure Canada (2025) Everyone Counts
Costa Rica	0.14%	7,378	Included in headline estimate but not specified	Included in headline estimate but not specified	Included in headline estimate but not specified	Not included	Not included	Not included	2026	PIT	Yes	Accommodation for: Asylum seekers ☒ Refugees ☒ Victims of domestic violence ☐	OECD Questionnaire on Affordable Housing (QuASH); Instituto Mixto de Ayuda Social, Target Population System (SIPO
Chile	0.11%	20,775	10,212	5,172	600	4,172	Not included	537	2023	Flow	No	Accommodation for: Asylum seekers ☐ Refugees ☐ Victims of domestic violence ☒	Ministry of Social Development (2023), Social Street Registry
Colombia	0.07%	34,091	Included in headline estimate	Included in headline estimate	Included in headline estimate	Included in headline estimate	Included in headline estimate	Not included	2017-2021	PIT	Yes	Accommodation for: Asylum seekers ☒ Refugees ☒ Victims of domestic violence ☒	National Administrative Department of Statistics (2021), Census of Street Dwellers
Croatia	0.01%	617	Not included	Included in headline estimate but not specified	Included in headline estimate but not specified	Not included	Not included	Not included	2025	PIT	No	Accommodation for: Asylum seekers ☐ Refugees ☐ Victims of domestic violence ☐	OECD Questionnaire on Affordable Housing (QuASH); Ministry of Labour, Pension System, Family and Social Policy (2023), Internal data
Cyprus	0.02%	225	Not included	225	Included under ETHOS 2	Not included	Not included	Not included	2024	Flow	Yes	Accommodation for: Asylum seekers ☐ Refugees ☐ Victims of domestic violence ☐	OECD Questionnaire on Affordable and Social Housing (QuASH); Social Welfare Services Report
Czechia	1.50%	160,517	11,641	Included under ETHOS Light 1	13,890	4,769	8,167	11,000	2025	PIT	Yes	Accommodation for: Asylum seekers ☐ Refugees ☐ Victims of domestic violence ☒	OECD Questionnaire on Affordable and Social Housing (QuASH); Count of individuals in selected categories of the ETHOS classification (Sčítání osob z vybraných kategorií klasifikace ETHOS – 2025)

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Country	% of total population	Headline estimate	Breakdown of headline estimate (ETHOS Light Typology)						Year	PIT or FLOW	Are children included?	Inclusion of temporary accommodation for specific groups	Source
			ETHOS 1	ETHOS 2	ETHOS 3	ETHOS 4	ETHOS 5	ETHOS 6					
Denmark	0.10%	5,989	503	317	2,721	184	Not included	1,447	2024	PIT	Yes	Accommodation for: Asylum seekers ☐ Refugees ☐ Victims of domestic violence ☐	OECD Questionnaire on Affordable and Social Housing (QuASH); Danish Centre for Social Science Research (2024), Mapping of Homelessness in Denmark
Estonia	0.08%	1,068	Not included	Included in headline estimate but not specified	Included in headline estimate but not specified	Included in headline estimate but not specified	Not included	Included in headline estimate but not specified	2021	PIT	Yes	Accommodation for: Asylum seekers ☐ Refugees ☐ Victims of domestic violence ☐	OECD Questionnaire on Affordable and Social Housing (QuASH); Statistics Estonia (2023), Census 2021
Finland	0.08%	4,579	Included in ETHOS 2	758	409	467	Not included	2,945	2025	PIT	No	Accommodation for: Asylum seekers ☐ Refugees ☐ Victims of domestic violence ☒	OECD Questionnaire on Affordable and Social Housing (QuASH); Centre for State-Subsidised Housing Construction (2025) Asunnottomat 2025.
France	0.49%	333,000	~5500	~316000	Included in ETHOS 2	Not included	~11200	Not Included	2022	PIT	Yes	Accommodation for: Asylum seekers ☒ Refugees ☒ Victims of domestic violence ☒	OECD Questionnaire on Affordable Housing (QuASH); DIHAL (2023)
Germany	0,63%	531,600	47,300	439,500	Included in ETHOS 2	Not included	Included in ETHOS 1	60,400	2024	PIT	Yes	Accommodation for: Asylum seekers ☐ Refugees ☒ Victims of domestic violence ☐	OECD Questionnaire on Affordable and Social Housing (QuASH); Federal Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs (BMAS), 2022; Federal Ministry for Housing, Urban Development and Construction (BMWSB), 2024;Homeless Reporting Act homelessness report
Greece	0.01%	809	Not included	529	280	Not included	Not included	Not included	2026	PIT	Yes	Accommodation for: Asylum seekers ☐ Refugees ☐ Victims of domestic violence ☐	OECD Questionnaire on Affordable Housing (QuASH); Greek Ministry of Social Cohesion and Family (2026), Digital registry of homeless structures
Hungary	NA	NA	NA	4,576	3,630	NA	NA	NA	2025	Flow	No	Accommodation for: Asylum seekers ☐ Refugees ☐ Victims of domestic violence ☐	OECD Questionnaire on Affordable and Social Housing (QuASH) ; KENYSZI database

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Country	% of total population	Headline estimate	Breakdown of headline estimate (ETHOS Light Typology)						Year	PIT or FLOW	Are children included?	Inclusion of temporary accommodation for specific groups	Source
			ETHOS 1	ETHOS 2	ETHOS 3	ETHOS 4	ETHOS 5	ETHOS 6					
Ireland	0.31%	16,734	Not included	16,734	Included in Ethos 2	Not included	Not included	Not included	2025	PIT	Yes	Accommodation for: Asylum seekers ☐ Refugees ☐ Victims of domestic violence ☐	OECD Questionnaire on Affordable and Social Housing (QuASH); Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage (2023/2025). Pathway Accommodation and Support System (PASS)
Iceland	0.34%	1,272	194	Included in headline estimate but not specified	Included in headline estimate but not specified	Not included	Not included	Not included	2021	PIT	No	Accommodation for: Asylum seekers ☐ Refugees ☐ Victims of domestic violence ☐	OECD Questionnaire on Affordable and Social Housing (QuASH); Statistics Island (2021), Population Census
Israel	0.04%	4,055	Included in headline estimate but not specified	746	513	Included in headline estimate but not specified	Included in headline estimate but not specified	Not included	2025	Flow	No	Accommodation for: Asylum seekers ☐ Refugees ☐ Victims of domestic violence ☐	OECD Questionnaire on Affordable and Social Housing (QuASH); Israel Central Bureau of Statistics, 2023, Local authority data collection
Italy	0.17%	100,650	Included in headline estimate but not specified	Included in headline estimate but not specified	Included in headline estimate but not specified	Not included	Included in headline estimate but not specified	Not included	2024	PIT	Yes	Accommodation for: Asylum seekers ☐ Refugees ☐ Victims of domestic violence ☒	OECD Questionnaire on Affordable and Social Housing (QuASH); ISTAT (2024), Permanent Census of Population and Housing; and OECD calculations
Japan	0.002%	2,591	2,591	Not included	Not included	Not included	Not included	Not included	2025	PIT	Unknown	Accommodation for: Asylum seekers ☐ Refugees ☐ Victims of domestic violence ☐	OECD Questionnaire on Affordable and Social Housing (QuASH); Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare (2025), National Survey on the Actual Conditions of Homelessness (approximate survey)
Korea	0.02%	12,725	Included in headline estimate but not specified	Included in headline estimate but not specified	Included in headline estimate but not specified	Not included	Included in headline estimate but not specified	Not included	2024	PIT	No	Accommodation for: Asylum seekers ☐ Refugees ☐ Victims of domestic violence ☐	OECD Questionnaire on Affordable and Social Housing (QuASH); Ministry of Health and Welfare (2025), Status study on the homeless.

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Country	% of total population	Headline estimate	Breakdown of headline estimate (ETHOS Light Typology)						Year	PIT or FLOW	Are children included?	Inclusion of temporary accommodation for specific groups	Source
			ETHOS 1	ETHOS 2	ETHOS 3	ETHOS 4	ETHOS 5	ETHOS 6					
Lithuania	0.17%	4,945	Not included	2,604	2,341	Not included	Not included	Not included	2024	Flow	Yes	Accommodation for: Asylum seekers ☐ Refugees ☐ Victims of domestic violence ☒	OECD Questionnaire on Affordable and Social Housing (QuASH); Statistics Lithuania (2023), Annual survey of social services
Luxembourg	0.06%	429	143	219	68	Not included	Not included	Not included	2024	PIT	No	Accommodation for: Asylum seekers ☐ Refugees ☐ Victims of domestic violence ☐	OECD Questionnaire on Affordable and Social Housing (QuASH); Ministry of Family Affairs, Integration and the Greater Region (2022), Annual Activity Report; Ministry of Family Affairs, Solidarity, Living Together and Reception of Refugees (2024), Cinquième Recensement des personnes sans-abri et sans domicile au Luxembourg
Latvia	0.32%	5,971	Not included	5,971	Included under ETHOS 2	Not included	Not included	Not included	2024	Flow	Yes	Accommodation for: Asylum seekers ☐ Refugees ☐ Victims of domestic violence ☐	OECD Questionnaire on Affordable and Social Housing (QuASH); Ministry of Welfare (2024), Reports on Social Services and Social Assistance
Mexico	0.01%	5,778	5,778	3,907	41,102	149,275	169,836	Not included	2020	PIT	Yes	Accommodation for: Asylum seekers ☒ Refugees ☒ Victims of domestic violence ☒	OECD Questionnaire on Affordable and Social Housing (QuASH); Population and Housing Census (2020) (Censo de Población y Vivienda)
Netherlands	0.18%	33,000	Included in headline estimate but not specified	Included in headline estimate but not specified	Included in headline estimate but not specified	Not included	Included in headline estimate but not specified	Included in headline estimate but not specified	2024	PIT	No	Accommodation for: Asylum seekers ☐ Refugees ☐ Victims of domestic violence ☐	OECD Questionnaire on Affordable and Social Housing (QuASH); Statistics Netherlands (CBS) (2024), Homelessness in the Netherlands Study

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Country	% of total population	Headline estimate	Breakdown of headline estimate (ETHOS Light Typology)						Year	PIT or FLOW	Are children included?	Inclusion of temporary accommodation for specific groups	Source
			ETHOS 1	ETHOS 2	ETHOS 3	ETHOS 4	ETHOS 5	ETHOS 6					
Norway	0.06%	3,325	66	1,330	Included under ETHOS 2	600	Included under ETHOS 2	997	2022	PIT	No	Accommodation for: Asylum seekers ☐ Refugees ☒ Victims of domestic violence ☒	OECD Questionnaire on Affordable and Social Housing (QuASH); Norwegian State Housing Bank and Norwegian Institute for Urban and Regional Research, Nationwide Mapping Study on Homelessness
New Zealand	2.30%	112,496	333	72	11,123	Not included	7,233	24,768	2023	PIT	Yes	Accommodation for: Asylum seekers ☒ Refugees ☒ Victims of domestic violence ☒	OECD Questionnaire on Affordable and Social Housing (QuASH); Statistics New Zealand (2024), Census of Population and Dwellings
Poland	0.09%	31,985	3,585	5,006	15,863	3,974	3,557	2,465	2026	PIT	Yes	Accommodation for: Asylum seekers ☐ Refugees ☒ Victims of domestic violence ☒	OECD Questionnaire on Affordable and Social Housing (QuASH); Ministry of Family and Social Policy (2026), National Research on the Number of Homeless People
Portugal	0.14%	14,476	9,403	Included under ETHOS 1	5,073	Not included	Not included	Not included	2024	PIT	Yes	Accommodation for: Asylum seekers ☒ Refugees ☒ Victims of domestic violence ☒	OECD Questionnaire on Affordable and Social Housing (QuASH); National Strategy for the Integration of Homeless People 2025-2030, Characterization Survey of Homeless People 2024
Romania	0.08%	15,343	Not included	Included in headline estimate but not specified	Included in headline estimate but not specified	Not included	Not included	Not included	2024	Flow	Yes	Accommodation for: Asylum seekers ☒ Refugees ☒ Victims of domestic violence ☒	OECD Questionnaire on Affordable Housing (QuASH); Ministry of Labour, Family, Youth and Social Solidarity (2024), Reports from Local Authorities; Ministry of Labour, Family, Youth and Social Solidarity (2024), Reports from social services providers

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Country	% of total population	Headline estimate	Breakdown of headline estimate (ETHOS Light Typology)						Year	PIT or FLOW	Are children included?	Inclusion of temporary accommodation for specific groups	Source
			ETHOS 1	ETHOS 2	ETHOS 3	ETHOS 4	ETHOS 5	ETHOS 6					
Slovak Republic	1.31%	71,076	Not included	Included in headline estimate but not specified(b)	1,863	Included in headline estimate but not specified	5,196	Not included	2021	PIT	Yes	Accommodation for: Asylum seekers ☐ Refugees ☐ Victims of domestic violence ☒	OECD Questionnaire on Affordable and Social Housing (QuASH); Statistical Office of the Slovak Republic (2023), Population and Housing Census 2021
Slovenia	0.18%	3,800	Not included	Included in headline estimate but not specified	Included in headline estimate but not specified	Not included	Not included	Not included	2024	Flow	Yes	Accommodation for: Asylum seekers ☐ Refugees ☐ Victims of domestic violence ☐	OECD Questionnaire on Affordable and Social Housing (QuASH); Social Protection Institute of the Republic of Slovenia (2022), Social Welfare Programme Monitor
South Africa	0.09%	55,719	Included in headline estimate	Included in headline estimate	Not included	Not included	Included in headline estimate	Not included	2022	PIT	Yes	Accommodation for: Asylum seekers ☐ Refugees ☐ Victims of domestic violence ☒	OECD Questionnaire on Affordable and Social Housing (QuASH); A Profile of Homeless Persons in South Africa, 2022 (Statistics South Africa, 2025)
Spain	0.06%	28,552	7,277	Included under ETHOS 3	18,567	Not included	2,709	Not included	2022	PIT	No	Accommodation for: Asylum seekers ☒ Refugees ☒ Victims of domestic violence ☒	OECD Questionnaire on Affordable and Social Housing (QuASH); National institute of Statistics (Instituto Nacional de Estadística), 2022, Survey of the homeless people (Encuesta a las personas sin hogar) (EPSH)
Sweden	0.26%	27,377	580	1,623	1,416	2,713	303	3,186	2023	PIT	No	Accommodation for: Asylum seekers ☐ Refugees ☐ Victims of domestic violence ☒	National Board for Health and Welfare (2017), National homelessness survey.
Switzerland	0.04%	3,810	Included in headline estimate but not specified	Included in headline estimate but not specified	Included in headline estimate but not specified	Included in headline estimate but not specified	Included in headline estimate but not specified	Included in headline estimate but not specified	2021	PIT	Unknown	Accommodation for: Asylum seekers: Unknown Refugees : Unknown Victims of domestic violence: Unknown	Federal Housing Office (BWO), 2022, Homelessness in Switzerland Report

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Country	% of total population	Headline estimate	Breakdown of headline estimate (ETHOS Light Typology)						Year	PIT or FLOW	Are children included?	Inclusion of temporary accommodation for specific groups	Source
			ETHOS 1	ETHOS 2	ETHOS 3	ETHOS 4	ETHOS 5	ETHOS 6					
Türkiye	0.004%	3,974	Not included	Included in headline estimate but not specified	Included in headline estimate but not specified	Not included	Not included	Not included	2025	Flow	No	Accommodation for: Asylum seekers ☐ Refugees ☐ Victims of domestic violence ☐	Ministry of Family and Social Services (MoFSS), 2023, Accommodation Project for the Homeless
United States	0.19%	745,652	266,320	414,547	62,817	Not included	Included under ETHOS 1	Not included	2025	PIT	Yes	Accommodation for: Asylum seekers ☐ Refugees ☐ Victims of domestic violence ☒	Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), Annual Point in-Time Count.
United Kingdom: England [a,b]	NA	**140,030 households + 4,763 individuals**	4,763 individuals	21,870 households	113,240 households	Not included	Not included	Not included	2025	PIT	Yes	Accommodation for: Asylum seekers ☐ Refugees ☒ Victims of domestic violence ☒	Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government, and Rough Sleeping Data Framework.
United Kingdom: Northern Ireland [a,b]	1.32% of households	**10 141 households**	Included in headline estimate	Not included	Not included	205 households	Included in headline estimate	Included in headline estimate	July 2022 – June 2023	Flow	Yes	Accommodation for: Asylum seekers ☐ Refugees ☐ Victims of domestic violence ☐	Department of Communities (DfC), Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency (NISRA) and the Norther Ireland Housing Executive (NIHE) (2023), Northern Ireland Homelessness Bulletin
United Kingdom: Scotland [a,b]	1.27% of households	**32 242 households**	Included in headline estimate	Not included	Not included	1 668 households	186 households	15 672 households	April 2022 – March 2023	Flow	Yes	Accommodation for: Asylum seekers ☐ Refugees ☐ Victims of domestic violence ☐	Cabinet Secretary for Social Justice and Ministry of Housing (2023), Homelessness in Scotland Bulletin
United Kingdom: Wales [a,b]	0.94% of households	**12 537 households**	Included in headline estimate	Not included	Not included	Included in headline estimate	Included in headline estimate	Included in headline estimate	April 2022 – March 2023	Flow	Yes	Accommodation for: Asylum seekers ☐ Refugees ☐ Victims of domestic violence ☐	National Statistics (2023), Homelessness Statistics

Note: The breakdown into ETHOS Light categories may not match the headline estimate, as the latter might include data beyond the scope of ETHOS Light categorisation. For more detailed information on homelessness data, please see the OECD Country Notes: Data on Homelessness and Housing Exclusion. (a) The *OECD Country Note: Data Homelessness and Housing Exclusion* for this country is forthcoming. (b) Data for the United Kingdom refer to the number of households, with the exception of ETHOS Light 1 (England).
Source: OECD Questionnaire on Affordable and Social Housing (QuASH).

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Table HC3.1.A2: Reported number of people experiencing homelessness around 2018, around 2023 and 2026 or latest year[1,2,3,4]

Country	Around 2018	Around 2023	2026 or latest year
Australia		122,494	
Austria	22,740	19,667	21,073
Belgium (Flanders)[(a)]		20,363	21,428
Belgium (Brussels)[(a)]		7,134	9,777
Belgium (Wallonia)[(a)]			19,387
Canada	40,713	66,494	65,083
Chile	14,013	20,775	
Colombia	34 091		
Costa Rica	3,404	4,530	7,378
Czechia	83,000	159,800	160,517
Denmark	6,635	5,789	5,989
Estonia	864	1 068	
Finland	5,482	3,429	4,579
France		333 000	
Germany		262,600.00	531,600
Greece		1,387	809
Iceland		1,272	
Ireland	9,724	13,179	16,734
Israel		3,900	4,055
Italy		96,197	100,650
Japan	4,977	3,065	2,591
Korea	17,532	14,404	12,725
Latvia	6,877	5,997	5,971
Lithuania	4,806	4,317	4,945
Luxembourg	347	696	429
Mexico		5778	
Netherlands	39,300	30,600	33,000
New Zealand	99,462	112,496	
Norway		3,325	
Poland	30,330	31,042	31,985
Portugal	6,044	10,773	14,476
Slovak Republic		71,076	
Slovenia	3,969	3,575	3,800
Spain		28 552	
Sweden	33 269	27,377	
Switzerland		3,810	
Türkiye		5,285	3,974
United Kingdom (England) [(a,b)]		3,898 (individuals) + 105,760 (households)	4,763 (individuals) + 140,030 (households)
United Kingdom (Northern Ireland)	12 512 (households)	10 141 (households)	
United Kingdom (Scotland)	30 280 (households)	32 242 (households)	
United Kingdom (Wales)	11 715 (households)	12 537 (households)	
United States	552,830	653 104	745,652
Croatia	561	632	

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Country	Around 2018	Around 2023	2026 or latest year
Cyprus	129	383	225
Romania		8,436	15,343
South Africa		55719	

.. Not available, | break in series

Notes: a) The *OECD Country Note: Data Homelessness and Housing Exclusion* for this country is forthcoming. b) Data for the United Kingdom (England) include households staying in temporary accommodation and people enumerated in the Rough Sleeping Snapshot.

1. Data for around 2018 refer to 2021 for Croatia; 2020 for Canada; 2019 for Czechia and Poland; 2018-2019 for United Kingdom (Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales); 2017 for Denmark, Latvia, Sweden, and Cyprus; 2016 for Korea and the Netherlands.

2. Data for around 2023 refer to 2024 for Belgium (Flanders), Canada, Poland, and Croatia; 2022-2023 for United Kingdom (Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales); 2022 for Austria, Belgium (Brussels), Czechia, Denmark, Germany, Greece, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Norway, Portugal, Romania, Spain and Türkiye; 2021 for Australia, Estonia, Iceland, Israel, Italy, Korea, Slovak Republic and Switzerland; 2020 for Mexico.

3. Data for 2026 or latest year refer to 2025 for Canada, Croatia, Czechia, Finland, Hungary, Ireland, Israel, Japan, Türkiye, the United Kingdom (England), and the United States; 2024 for Austria, Belgium (Brussels, Wallonia), Denmark, Germany, Italy, Korea, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Portugal, Slovenia, Cyprus and Romania.

Source: OECD Questionnaire on Affordable and Social Housing (QuASH); For individual country sources, please see the OECD Country Notes: Data on Homelessness and Housing Exclusion.

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