

# NSW housing: a factsheet

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*Quick guide to key housing facts and figures<sup>1</sup>*

## **Housing Stress** — pages 4 to 6

In NSW, 50% of lower income households with a mortgage were experiencing mortgage stress in 2013-14.

In NSW, 76% of lower income renter households were experiencing rental stress in 2013-14.

## **Homeownership** — pages 4, 7, 8

In NSW, 2.3% of home purchase stock was affordable for very low income households and 9.5% was affordable for low-income households in December 2015.

## **Private rental** — pages 5, 6, 9, 10

In NSW, 9.5% of rental stock was affordable for very low income households and 30.6% was affordable for low-income households in December 2015.

Across Sydney, 92% of very low income households were paying rents that they could not afford on census day 2011.

## **Social housing** — pages 11 to 14

In NSW there were 59,035 applicants waiting for social housing at 30 June 2015.

Across NSW there has been a decrease of 12% in the supply of public housing stock over the last twelve years.

## **Homelessness** — pages 15, 16

In NSW there were 28,190 homeless people on census day 2011.

In NSW in 2014-15, 23% and 12% of people who used homelessness services reported their main reason for doing so was 'housing crisis' and 'domestic or family violence' respectively.

In NSW in 2014-15, Aboriginal persons represented 27% of those who used homelessness services.

## Dwellings and Households

On census day 2011 in New South Wales there were 2,864,569 private dwellings<sup>2</sup>. In Sydney this figure was 1,720,390 private dwellings<sup>3</sup>.

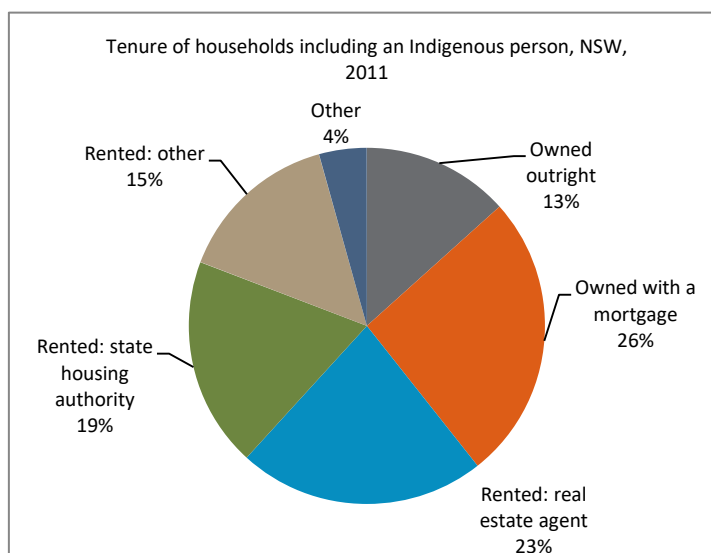
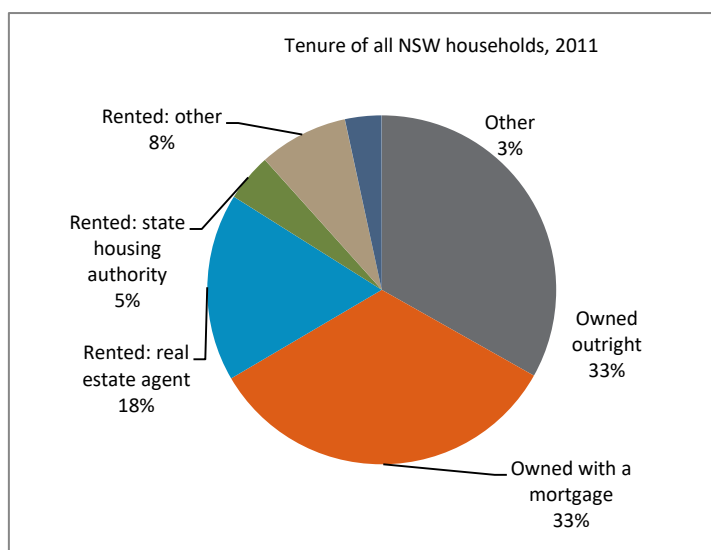
On census day 2011 in New South Wales there were 2,471,221 households<sup>4</sup>. In Sydney this figure was 1,521,337 households<sup>5</sup>

A third of NSW households are homeowners and another one-third mortgagees, and 26% are private renters and 5% renting in social housing. An estimate at 30 June 2014 shows a similar breakdown, except with less than 4% (3.7%) now renting in social housing.<sup>6</sup>

The NSW homeownership rate is declining. In 2001, 68% of households were owner-occupied. In 2014 that number has dropped to 63%, a fall of 4.3 percentage points. The whole-of-Australia homeownership rate was 69% in 2001 and 65% in 2014, a fall of 3.9 percentage points.<sup>7</sup>

The tenure profile of households that includes an Aboriginal person differs from that for the NSW total. In 2011 Aboriginal households were:

- less likely to be homeowners (39%, compared to 66% of NSW households generally);
- more likely to be in private rental (23%, compared to 18% of NSW households generally);
- more likely to be in public housing (19%, compared to 5% of NSW households generally).<sup>8</sup>



## Dwellings and households

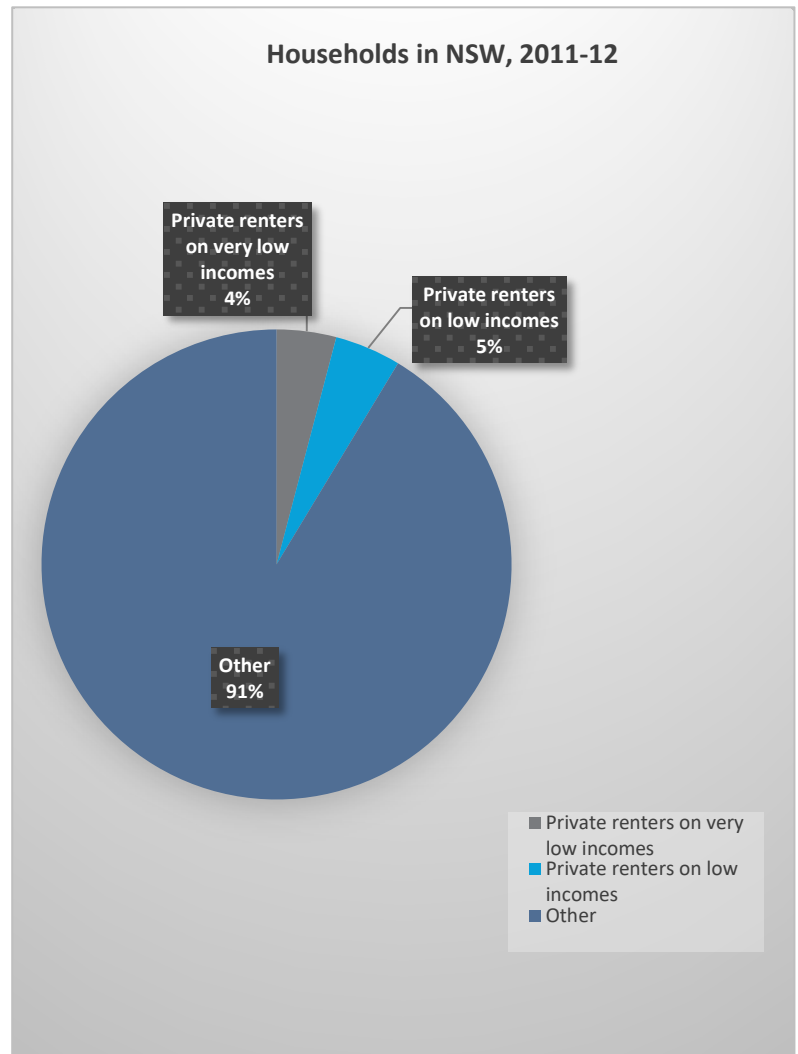
Lower-income households are defined as those in the bottom 40% of the income distribution.

The number of NSW households that was classified as lower-income households in 2013-14 was 1,199,700<sup>9</sup>.

Lower-income households can be broken down into 'very low' and 'low income' households. These are the bottom two quintiles of the income distribution.<sup>10 11</sup> (Quintiles comprise five equal groups into which a population can be divided.)

The most vulnerable households are very low and low income private renters. In NSW on census day 2011, they numbered some 239,400 households, comprising almost 20% of all households in the private rental market.<sup>12</sup>

The chart opposite shows that 9% of NSW households in 2011-12 were private renters on very low and low incomes.<sup>13</sup>



## Housing stress

What is 'housing stress'? It is a measure of housing affordability and draws attention to the 'stress' of having insufficient income after paying for the cost of housing. Lower-income households (defined as those households in the bottom 40% of income distribution) who pay more than 30% of their gross income on housing are said to be experiencing 'housing stress'.<sup>14</sup>

Homeowners may face 'mortgage stress'. Renters may face 'rental stress'

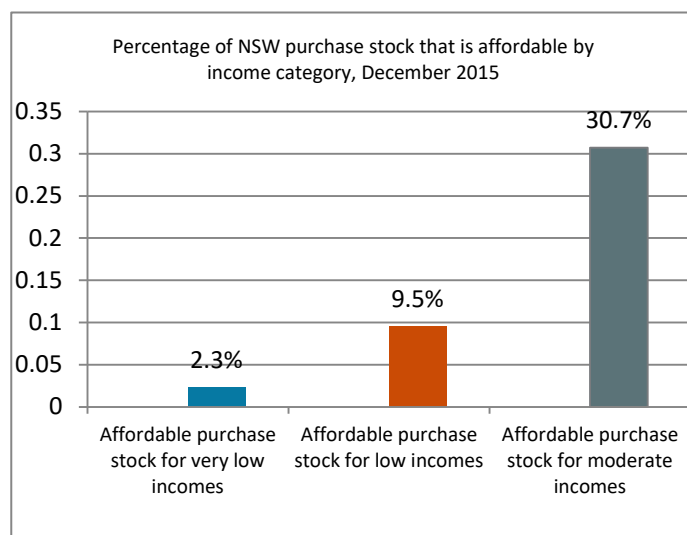
### *Homeownership*

In NSW 50% of lower-income households with a mortgage were in mortgage stress in 2013-14, compared to the national rate of 47%.<sup>15</sup>

There is an insufficient supply of affordable housing stock available for purchase in New South Wales — in December 2015:

- 2.3% of home purchase stock was affordable for very low income households;
- 9.5% was affordable for low-income households; and
- 30.7% was affordable for moderate-income households.<sup>16</sup>

You will find information about a Sydney Housing Affordability Index for different locations at Endnote 17.<sup>17</sup>



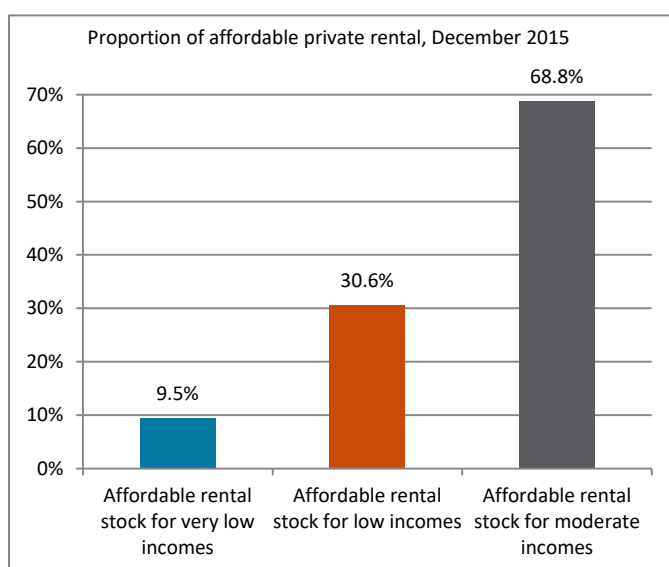
## Housing stress

### *Private rental*

In NSW 76% of lower-income renter-households were in rental stress in 2013-14, compared to the national rate of 68%.<sup>18</sup>

In NSW 61% of very low income households and 38% of low income households were paying unaffordable rents in 2013-14. This is an increase of 7% for each category over a 2-year period.<sup>19</sup>

There is a shortage of dwellings for rental in the private market for households with very low to moderate incomes in New South Wales – in December 2015: 9.5% of rental stock was affordable for very low income households; 30.6% was affordable for low-income households; and 68.8% was affordable for moderate-income households.<sup>20</sup>



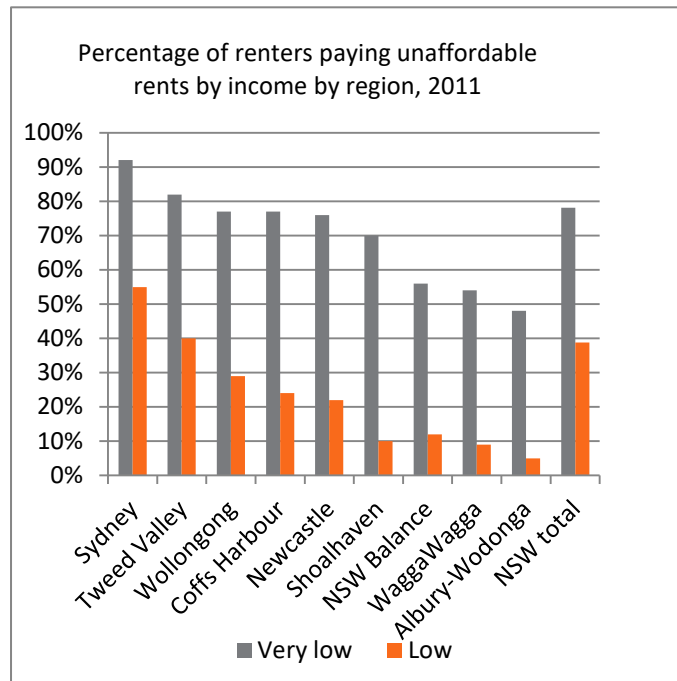
## Housing stress

### Private rental (continued)

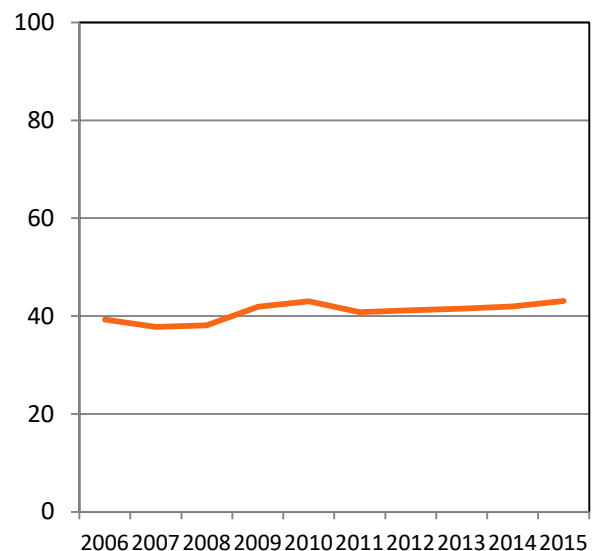
The proportion of renter-households in New South Wales in rental stress on census day 2011 was<sup>21</sup>: 78% of very low income renter-households, which is the same as the national rate; 39% of low income renter households, compared to the national rate of 32%.

How this breaks down across the regions is shown in the table opposite.<sup>22</sup> In Sydney 92% of very low income households and 55% of low income households were paying unaffordable rents in 2011. In Newcastle the figures were 76% and 22% respectively. In Wollongong they were 77% and 29% respectively. In Coffs Harbour they were 77% and 24% respectively. In Shoalhaven they were 70% and 10% respectively. In Tweed Valley they were 83% and 40% respectively<sup>23</sup>. You will find information about a Rental Affordability Index for different locations at Endnote (<sup>24</sup>).

Commonwealth Rent Assistance (CRA) is paid to persons receiving income support from the Federal Government to help meet housing costs and reduce housing stress. However, in 2015, 43% of NSW households receiving CRA were in rental stress.<sup>25</sup>



Percentage of NSW income units receiving CRA paying more than 30% of income on rent



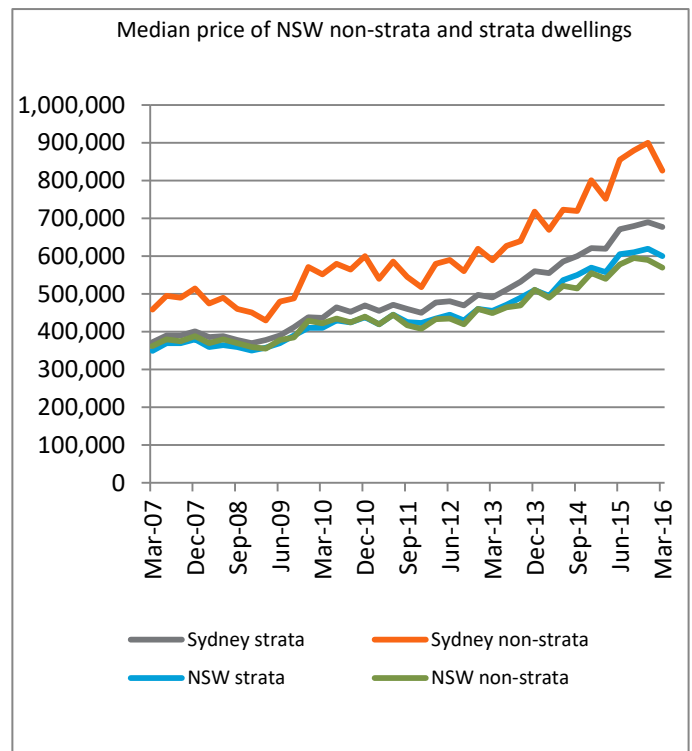
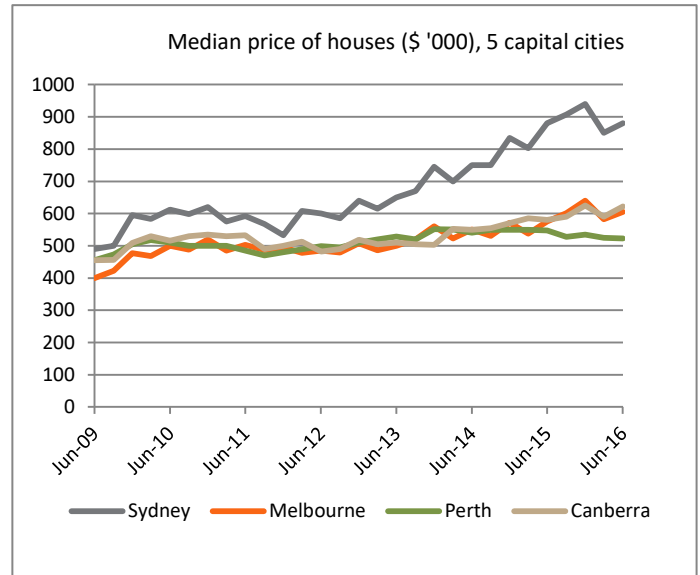
## Homeownership

Sydney has the most heated market for private housing amongst capital cities in Australia, retaining this position in the June 2016 quarter. The median house price in Sydney in the June 2016 quarter was \$880,000. (This excludes 'units'.) Sydney's median house price in the June 2016 quarter represented a 3.5% increase from the March 2016 quarter. Sydney's median house price in the March 2016 quarter represented a 5.9% increase from the March 2015 quarter.<sup>26</sup>

This sharp increase in the price for private housing over the past year is replicated across New South Wales. From March 2015 quarter to March 2016 quarter :

- median prices for non-strata dwellings in Sydney increased by 9.8%; and
- median prices for non-strata dwellings across New South Wales increased by 5.6%.<sup>27</sup>

('Non-strata' refers to 'separate houses' and 'strata' refers to 'flats and units'.)



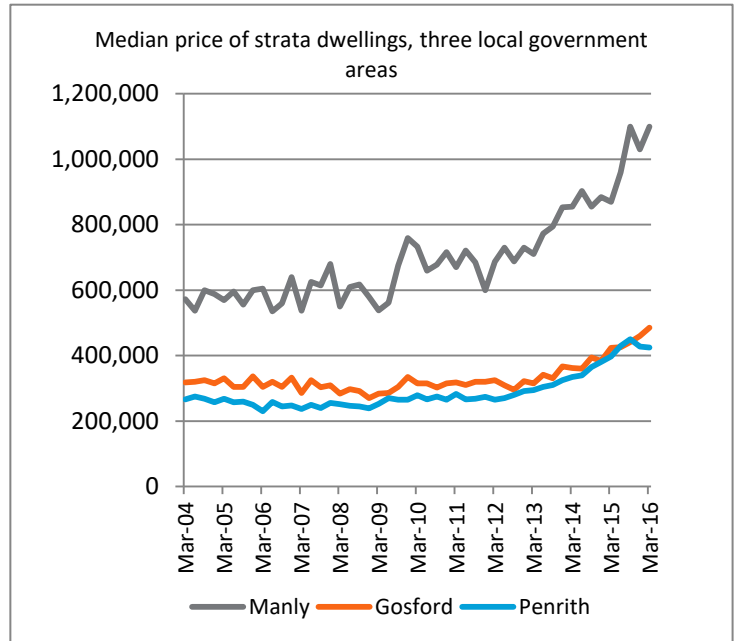




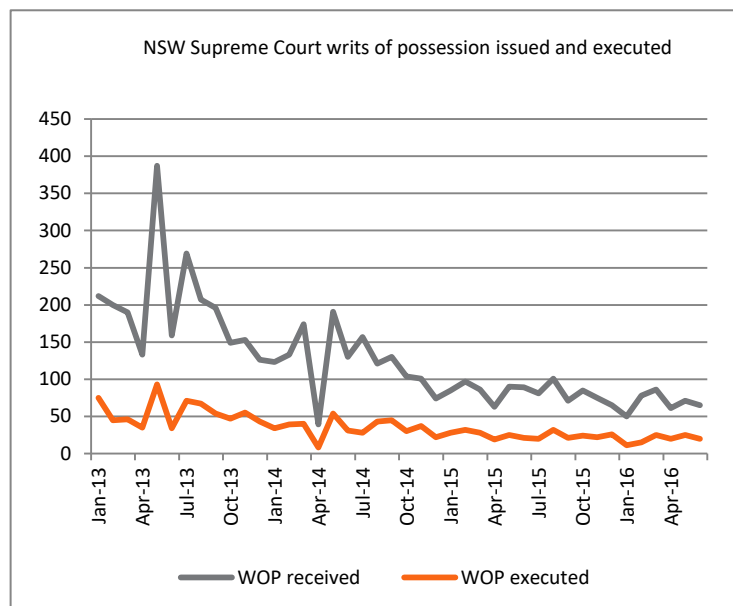
## Homeownership

There is some variation among local housing markets. This can be seen in the median sales price for a strata dwelling in a sample of local government areas:<sup>28</sup>

- Manly – from \$870,000 in March 2015 quarter to \$1,100,000 in March 2016 quarter;
- Gosford – from \$424,000 in March 2015 quarter to \$485,000 in March 2016 quarter;
- Penrith – from \$397,000 in March 2015 quarter to \$425,000 in March 2016 quarter.



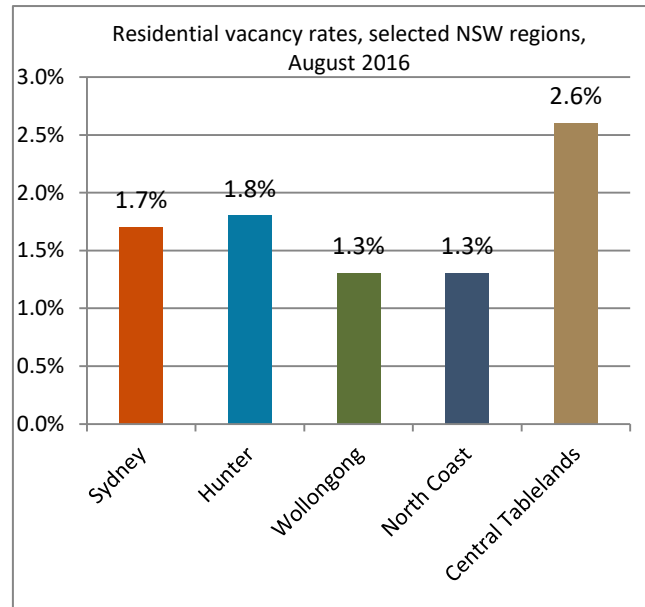
Home repossessions indicate the extent of financial pressure on mortgage-holders. In June 2016, 65 writs of possession were issued by the NSW Supreme Court. 20 dwellings were repossessed by banks and building societies (31% of the writs were executed) and 45 borrowers were able to make arrangements with the lenders to avoid repossession.<sup>29</sup>



## Private rental

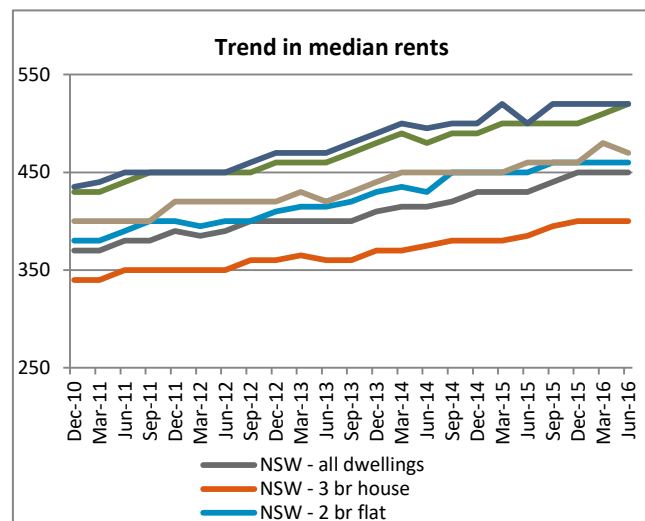
Vacancy rates for dwellings in the private housing market are generally low in New South Wales.<sup>30</sup> A vacancy rate of 3% is considered to indicate a balance between supply and demand, which provides leeway for households to move between home.

Over the June 2016 quarter the median rent for new tenancies for all dwellings in NSW remained unchanged at \$450 per week. Over the same quarter, the median rent for new tenancies for all dwellings in Greater Sydney increased by 2.0% to \$520 per week.



Over the twelve month period, the median rent for new tenancies for all dwellings across the state increased by 4.7% and in Greater Sydney increased by 4.0%.

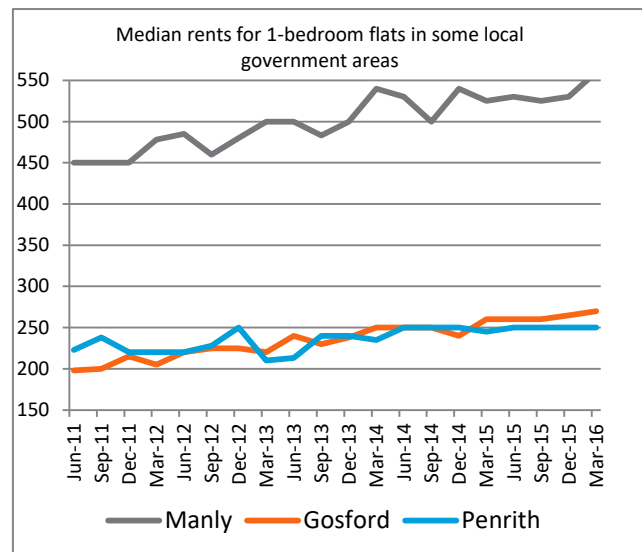
Outside the greater metropolitan region, median rents for new tenancies for 2-bedroom flats/units increased by 2.1% both over the quarter and over the year.<sup>31</sup>



## Private rental

Median weekly rents for a 1-bedroom dwelling in a sample of local government areas varied according to location over the twelve months:

- Manly – from \$530 in June 2015 quarter to \$585 in June 2016 quarter, a 10.4% increase.
- Gosford – from \$260 in June 2015 quarter to \$275 in June 2016 quarter, a 5.8% increase;
- Penrith – unchanged at \$250 between June 2015 and June 2016 quarters.<sup>32</sup>



## Social housing

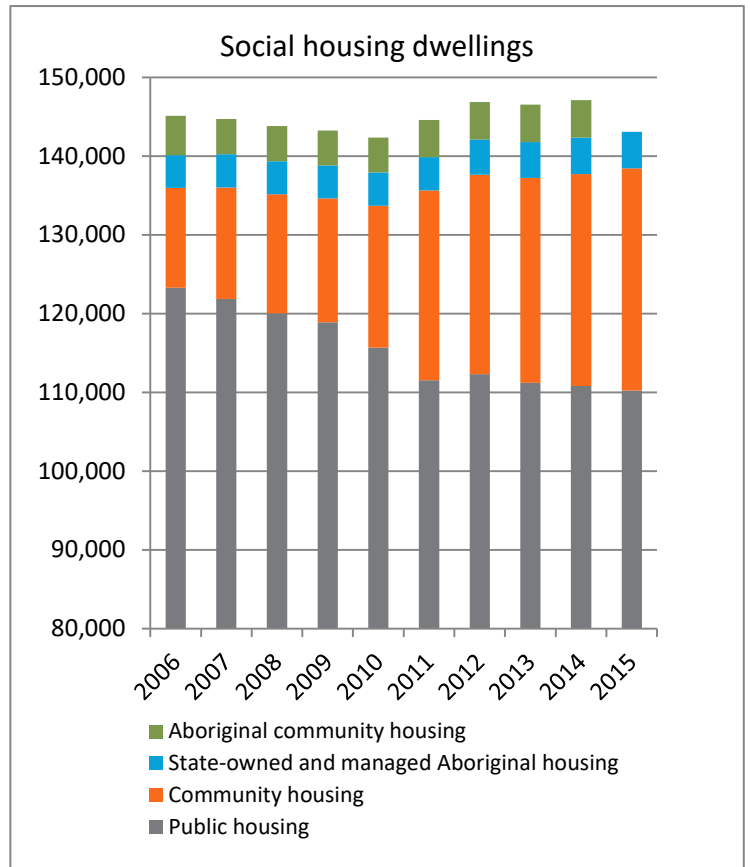
Social housing includes public housing, community housing, state-owned and -managed Aboriginal housing, and Aboriginal community housing organisation housing.

There were some 147,800 social housing dwellings in New South Wales at 30 June 2015. The number of Aboriginal community housing dwellings at 30 June 2015 is still to be published and, thus, Aboriginal community housing dwellings at this date are excluded from the top bar chart. However, the figure of 147,800 social housing dwellings assumes that the numbers of Aboriginal community housing dwellings in 2015 were the same as in 2014.<sup>33</sup>

There were 143,895 social housing dwellings, excluding Aboriginal community housing, in New South Wales at 30 June 2015. This represents an increase of only 0.1% of dwellings over a twelve month period.<sup>34</sup>

There were 59,035 applicants waiting for social housing in New South Wales at June 2015. This represents a decrease of 1% over a twelve month period.<sup>35</sup>

The number of social housing applicants shows a decrease of 0.5% over the number in 2008.<sup>36</sup>



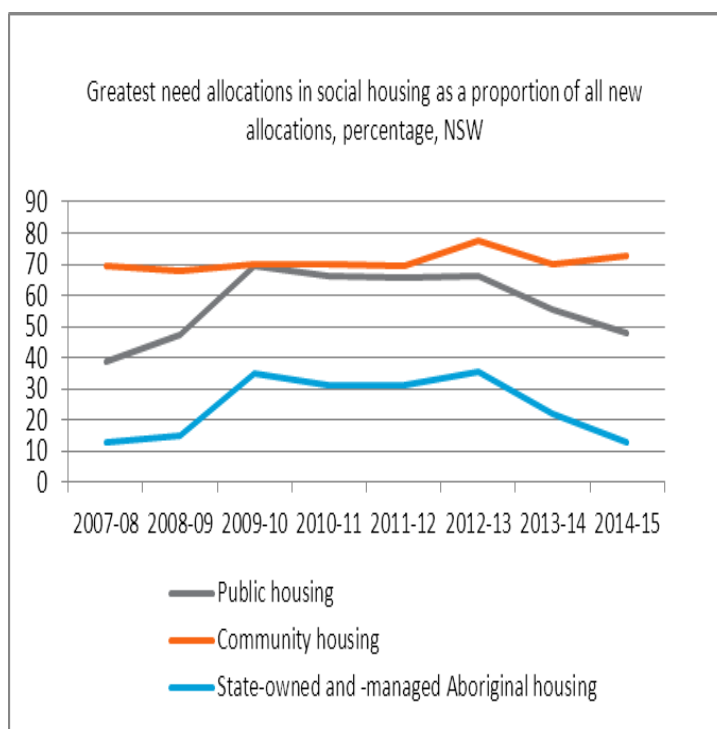
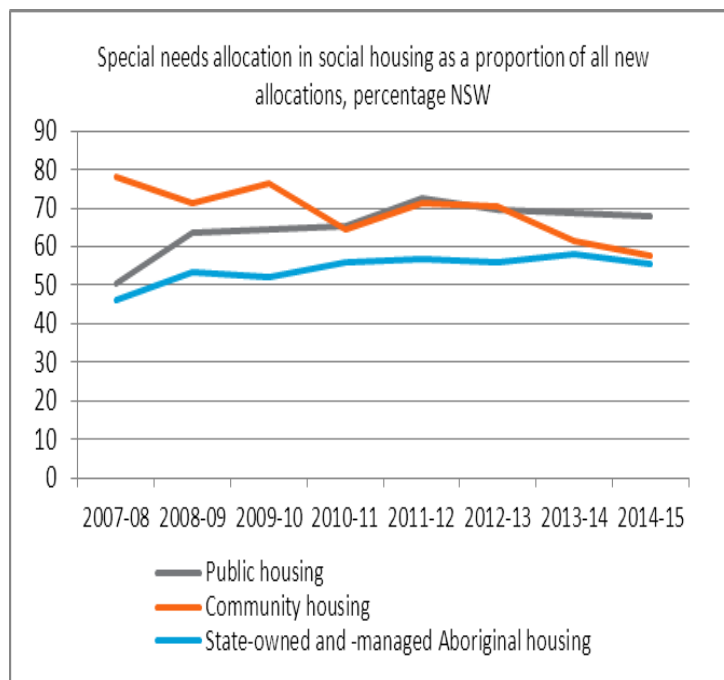
## Social housing

Eligibility for social housing is primarily based on having a household income below a limit by the relevant social-housing provider. The gross weekly income eligibility limits for public housing (at September 2016) were single adults \$595, and couples \$820. Where the household includes children, the limit increases by \$225 for additional adult child 18 years and over, \$290 for first child under 18 years and \$95 for each additional child under 18 years.<sup>37</sup>

Households with ‘special needs’ are given preference in the allocation of social housing.<sup>38</sup>

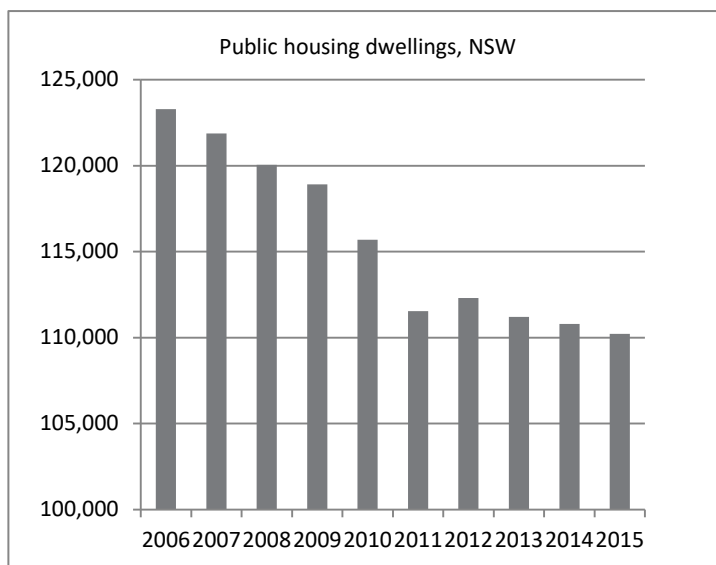
Of new allocations in NSW in 2014-15, 68.0% in public housing, 57.7% of households in community housing and 55.6% of households in state-owned and -managed Aboriginal housing were to households with special needs.<sup>39</sup>

Households in ‘greatest need’ are also given priority in social housing allocation — reasons for ‘greatest need’ include homelessness, health conditions being aggravated by housing, and life or safety being at risk in accommodation.<sup>40</sup> In NSW in 2014-15, 48.0% of newly-assisted households in public housing had a greatest need.<sup>41</sup> This percentage figure represents a decrease of more than one quarter over a two year period.

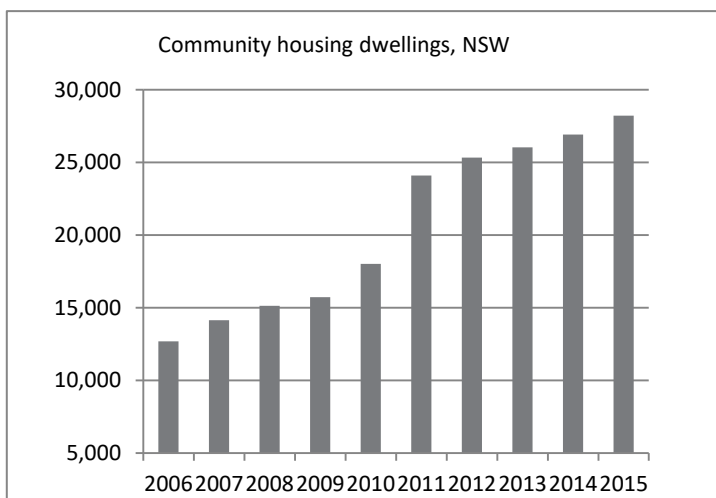


## Social housing

Public housing comprised 75% of the NSW social housing sector at 30 June 2015. At this date, there were 110,214 public housing dwellings in NSW. There has been a 12% decrease in supply in the NSW public housing subsector over the last twelve years.<sup>42</sup>

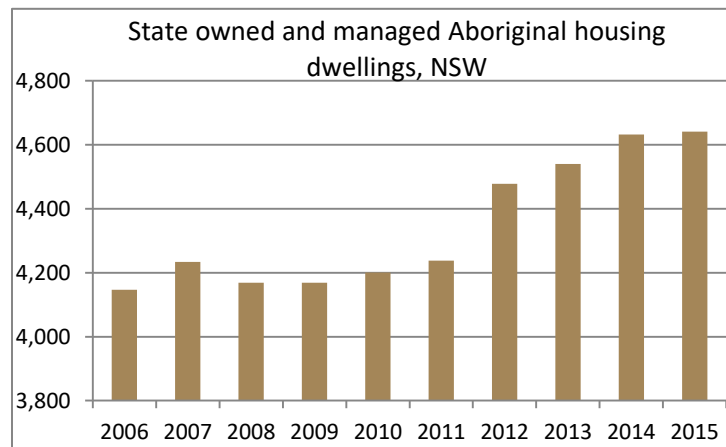


Community housing comprised 19% of the NSW social housing sector at 30 June 2015. At this date, there were 28,214 community housing dwellings in NSW. There has been a 381% increase in the number of community housing dwellings over the last twelve years, although less than a 5% increase over the last 12 months.<sup>43</sup>



## Social housing

Aboriginal Housing Office (AHO) dwellings comprised 3% of the NSW social housing sector at 30 June 2015. At this date, there were 4,641 AHO dwellings in NSW. There has been a 16% increase in the number of AHO dwellings over the last twelve years.<sup>44</sup>



At 30 June 2014, there were 248 Aboriginal community housing organisations in NSW, including 95 that were funded or registered by the state government.<sup>45</sup> Aboriginal community housing organisations comprised 3% of the NSW social housing sector at 30 June 2014.<sup>46</sup>



## Homelessness

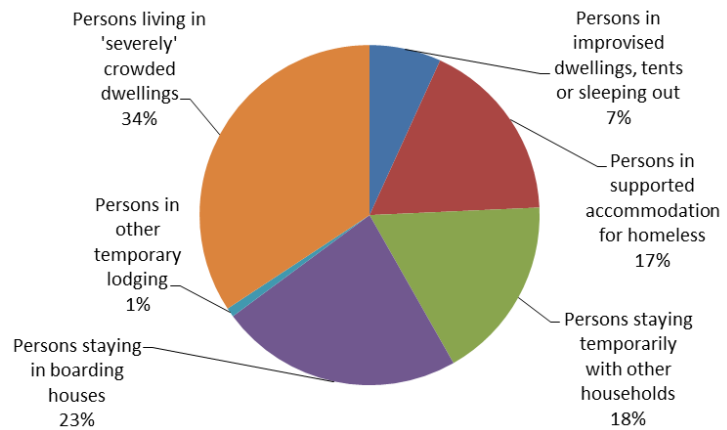
There were an estimated 28,190 homeless people in New South Wales on the night of the Census of Population and Housing in 2011. This was a 26.9% increase from the 22,219 estimated to be homeless in NSW in 2006. Most of the increase between 2006 and 2011 is attributed to a 63.6% increase in the number of people living in 'severely overcrowded' dwellings.<sup>47</sup>

In 2011, 26.8% of the total population of homeless people in Australia were located in New South Wales. Of all the states and territories, NSW had the largest number of homeless people in Australia in 2011.<sup>48</sup>

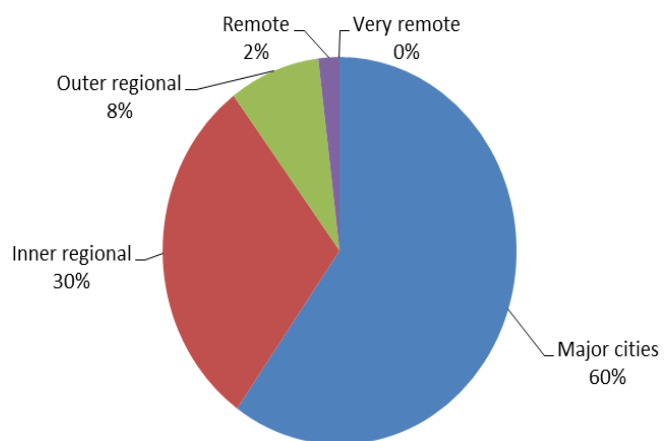
The NSW homeless population in 2011 was comprised of people living in improvised dwellings or sleeping rough (7%), as well as other groups such as people staying in homelessness services (17%) and people living in 'severely overcrowded' dwellings (34%).<sup>49</sup>

In 2011, 60% of the people living in improvised dwellings or tents, or who were sleeping out in NSW were living in major cities.<sup>50</sup>

Composition of homeless population



Location of people who are in improvised dwellings, tents or sleeping out





## Homelessness

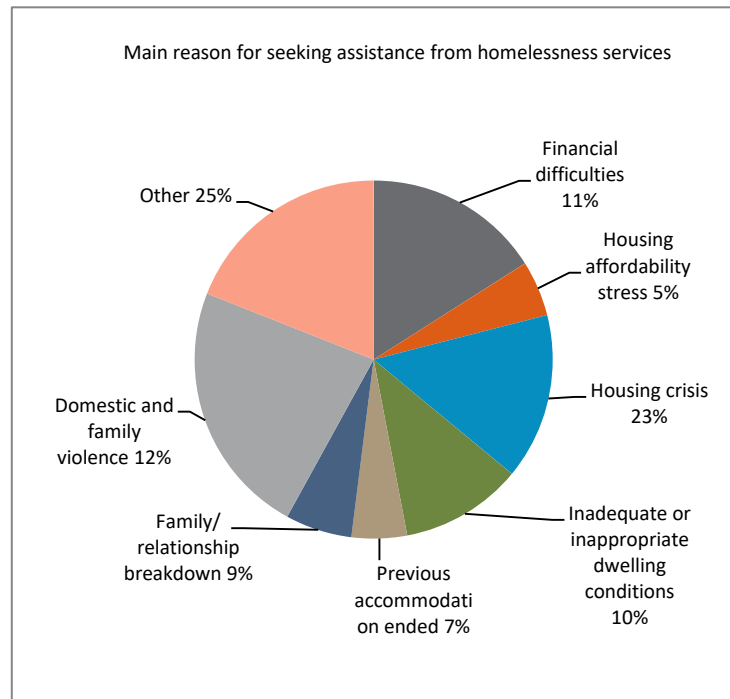
In 2014-15, 48,262 people used homelessness services.<sup>51</sup> The most common main reasons for seeking assistance from homelessness services in 2013-14 were:

- housing crisis (23%);
- domestic and family violence (12%); and
- financial difficulties (11%)<sup>52</sup>

In 2014-15, 11,925 Aboriginal persons used homelessness services, compared with 32,665 non-Aboriginal persons, representing 27% of users.

Nationally, in 2014-15, there were 693 Aboriginal persons per 10,000 head of the population who used homelessness services, compared to a rate of 80 non-Aboriginal persons per 10,000 of the population.<sup>53</sup>

Aboriginal people are 'over-represented' in the population of homeless people in NSW. In 2011, 7.8% of the homeless population were Aboriginal<sup>54</sup>, whereas only 2.5% of the population identified as Aboriginal.<sup>55</sup>



## Notes

- <sup>1</sup> You will find other useful housing factsheets at: [www.shelternsw.org.au/publications/factsheets](http://www.shelternsw.org.au/publications/factsheets). This includes factsheets on housing affordability in 8 marginal electorates in NSW. Shelter NSW produced these factsheets prior to the 2016 Federal elections. For other electorates across New South Wales, you may make your own factsheets using the format and links to the necessary information at: [www.shelternsw.org.au/publications/factsheets/guide-producing-factsheet-housing-issues-your-electorate](http://www.shelternsw.org.au/publications/factsheets/guide-producing-factsheet-housing-issues-your-electorate).
- <sup>2</sup> Viewed on 16 February 2015 at <http://profile.id.com.au/australia/dwellings?WebID=100&BMID=40&reportFormat=PDF>. The number of dwellings comprises both occupied and unoccupied dwellings. Of these 9.3% are unoccupied.
- <sup>3</sup> Viewed on 16 February 2015 at <http://profile.id.com.au/australia/dwellings?WebID=250&BMID=40&reportFormat=PDF>. The number of dwellings comprises both occupied and unoccupied dwellings. Of these 6.9% are unoccupied.
- <sup>4</sup> Viewed on 16 February 2015 at <http://profile.id.com.au/australia/household-size?WebID=100> Table 17 referenced in Footnote 8 below provides the number of 2,766,100 households in NSW, but from a different source.
- <sup>5</sup> Viewed on 16 February 2015 at <http://profile.id.com.au/australia/household-size?WebID=250>.
- <sup>6</sup> Australian Bureau of Statistics, 'Housing Occupancy and Costs, 2013-14', Cat 4130.0, Released 16/10/2015, State and territory data 1994-95 to 2013-14, Table 17 (NSW households, Selected household characteristics).
- <sup>7</sup> Melbourne Institute of Applied Economic and Social Research, 'The Household, Income and Labour Dynamics in Australia Survey: Selected Findings from Waves 1 to 14', University of Melbourne University, 2016, viewed on 24 November 2016 at [https://www.melbourneinstitute.com/downloads/hilda/Stat\\_Report/statreport\\_2016.pdf](https://www.melbourneinstitute.com/downloads/hilda/Stat_Report/statreport_2016.pdf); Leon Della Bosca, 'Housing affordability in the spotlight after HILDA report findings' viewed on 24 November 2016 at: <https://www.yourlifechoices.com.au/news/home-ownership-numbers-dwindling>
- <sup>8</sup> Australian Bureau of Statistics, 'Census of Population and Housing, 2011, ATSI peoples (Indigenous) profile, NSW', cat. no. 2002.0, table 10.
- <sup>9</sup> Australian Bureau of Statistics, 'Housing Occupancy and Costs, 2013-14', Cat 4130.0, Released 16/10/2015, State and Territory tables 1994-95 to 2013-14, Table 17 (NSW households, Selected household characteristics).
- <sup>10</sup> On census night 2011, the income thresholds for households in Australians were: a very low income household was 0 to \$584 per week (or \$30,500 or less per year); a low income household was \$585 to \$1,074 per week (or \$30,501 to \$56,000 per year).
- <sup>11</sup> Kath Hulse, Margaret Reynolds and Judith Yates, 'Changes in the supply of affordable housing in the private rental sector for lower income households, 2006-11', Australian Housing and Urban Research Institute at Swinburne University of Technology and The University of Sydney, December 2014, AHURI Final Report No. 235, pp 8 (Table 1), 25,26, 73 (Table A15).
- <sup>12</sup> Estimates derived from Kath Hulse, Margaret Reynolds and Judith Yates, 'Changes in the supply of affordable housing in the private rental sector for lower income households, 2006-11', pp 74-79 (Tables A17 to A 22) and Australian Bureau of Statistics, 'Housing Occupancy and Costs, 2011-12', Cat 4130.0, State and territory data 1994-95 to 2011-12, Table 17. For the purposes of this estimate, we have taken the total household numbers from the latter (ABS) publication.
- <sup>13</sup> Same references as Footnote 11.

<sup>14</sup> National Housing Supply Council, *Housing supply and affordability issues*, March 2013, p.143. The '30/40 rule' uses a 30% housing cost ratio to determine potential affordability problems, defines lower-income households as those in the lowest two quintiles of the equivalised disposable income distribution and assesses housing costs in relation to *gross* household income (Judith Yates and Michelle Gabrielle, 'Housing affordability in Australia', Australian Housing and Urban Research Institute, 2006, p.14). Ryanti Miranti and Binod Nepal, 'Housing stress in Australia 2007', National Centre for Social and Economic Modelling (University of Canberra, 2008) define housing stress as the situation where a family's housing costs are more than 30% of its *disposable* income and the family is in the bottom two quintiles of the equivalised income distribution.

<sup>15</sup> Australian Bureau of Statistics, '2013-14 Survey of Income and Housing', unpublished data with computations provided by Dr. Judy Yates, Honorary Associate Professor, School of Economics, University of Sydney. The 2013-14 SIH collected information from a sample of households over the period July 2013 to June 2014. The figures provided are the proportion of mortgagors in the lowest 40% of the income distribution facing direct housing costs of 30% or more of income.

<sup>16</sup> Centre for Affordable Housing, 'Local Government Housing Kit Database', table M3b. Viewed on 26 September 2016 at [www.housing.nsw.gov.au/Centre+For+Affordable+Housing/NSW+Local+Government+Housing+Kit/Local+Government+Housing+Kit+Database.htm](http://www.housing.nsw.gov.au/Centre+For+Affordable+Housing/NSW+Local+Government+Housing+Kit/Local+Government+Housing+Kit+Database.htm).

<sup>17</sup> City Futures Research Centre at University of NSW have developed a Sydney Housing Affordability Index which you can check out at <https://cityfutures.be.unsw.edu.au/cityviz/affordability-index/>

<sup>18</sup> Same reference as Footnote 15.

<sup>19</sup> Australian Bureau of Statistics, 'Housing Occupancy and Costs, 2013-14', Cat 4130.0, Released 16 October 2015, Additional tables - low income rental households, Tables 1 and 2 (Proportion of low income rental households spending more than 30 percent of their gross income on housing costs, by State and Territory, selected household characteristics, 2013-14 and 2011-12 respectively).

<sup>20</sup> Centre for Affordable Housing, 'Local Government Housing Kit Database', table M3a.

<sup>21</sup> Same reference as Footnote 12.

<sup>22</sup> Same reference as Footnote 10. The table shows the proportion of renters in the lower 40% of income distribution with housing costs of more than 30% of income. Very low income (Q1) households constitute the lowest 20% of the distribution and low income (Q2) constitute the next 20%.

<sup>23</sup> Kath Hulse, Margaret Reynolds and Judith Yates, 'Changes in the supply of affordable housing in the private rental sector for lower income households, 2006-11', Tables 1, A17 to A 22.

<sup>24</sup> National Shelter, Community Sector Banking and SGS Economics and Planning have formed a partnership to develop and release a Rental Affordability Index (RAI) every six months. Quarters 2 and 4, 2015 and Quarter 2, 2016 are available. The last was released on 23 November 2016. You can obtain a RAI for Postcode in Greater Sydney-Newcastle-Illawarra and Local Government Area elsewhere across New South Wales. Scores of under 120 are deemed 'unaffordable'. Check out RAI at [www.sgsep.com.au/publications/rental-affordability-index](http://www.sgsep.com.au/publications/rental-affordability-index).

<sup>25</sup> Steering Committee for the Review of Government Services Provision, 'Report on government services provision, 2016', Productivity Commission, 2016, table GA.29.

<sup>26</sup> Australian Bureau of Statistics, 'Residential property price Indexes: eight capital cities, June 2016', cat. No. 6416.0, 20 September 2016, table 4. The table presents data for unstratified (city-wide) median prices for established houses, by city, by quarter.

<sup>27</sup> Housing NSW, *Rent and Sales Report*, no.116, 2016, tables 9 and 10, viewed on 26 September 2016 at [www.housing.nsw.gov.au/About+Us/Reports+Plans+and+Papers/Rent+and+Sales+Reports/Overview.htm](http://www.housing.nsw.gov.au/About+Us/Reports+Plans+and+Papers/Rent+and+Sales+Reports/Overview.htm).

<sup>28</sup> Housing NSW, *Rent and Sales Report*, no.116, table 10.

<sup>29</sup> Unpublished data supplied to Shelter NSW by NSW Attorney-General's Department, 8 September 2016.

<sup>30</sup> SQM Research viewed on 26 September 2016 at [www.sqmresearch.com.au](http://www.sqmresearch.com.au).

<sup>31</sup> Housing NSW, *Rent and Sales Report*, no. 116, tables 1, 3, 4 and 5.

<sup>32</sup> Housing NSW, *Rent and Sales Report*, no. 116, table 4.

<sup>33</sup> Steering Committee for the Review of Government Service Provision, 'Report on government services 2016', table 17A.3. Crisis and transitional housing is a form of social housing. Funding for the Crisis Accommodation Program (CAP) was separately reported under the former Commonwealth–State Housing Agreement. Crisis Accommodation Program data was last reported in the Australian Institute of Welfare, 'Crisis Accommodation Program' (Housing assistance data development series) 2008–09 report, but the Australian Institute of Welfare data has not been used in calculating the total social housing supply in this factsheet. Data for crisis and transitional housing is not separately identified in 'Report on government services 2016', but it might be indirectly reported under other forms of social housing (see page 17.3). The community housing dwelling data in the 'Report on government services 2016' might include dwellings which provide crisis accommodation, but there is currently no way of identifying and reporting these types of dwellings separately. Government-owned and managed Aboriginal housing does not comprise the entire Aboriginal social housing sector: it refers to that part financed through the Commonwealth–state/territory multilateral funding agreements. Government-owned and managed Aboriginal housing does not include social housing provided by Aboriginal organisations (such as land councils) with finance from other sources. Government-subsidised community housing does not comprise all of the non-profit, non-government affordable rental housing sector: it refers to social housing provided through the Commonwealth–state/territory multilateral funding agreements by non-Aboriginal organisations, and does not include affordable rental housing provided by community organisations with finance from other sources; it specifically does not include nonmarket rental housing provided under disability and aged care programs. (Although this housing is a form of social housing, conventional discourse seems to derive classifications from government-funding sources and programs.) The numbers indicates the numbers of dwellings at 30 June of each financial year. The apparent discrepancy between the figures referred to in Endnotes 33 and 34 is explained by the different sources.

<sup>34</sup> Housing Pathways. Viewed on 26 September 2016 at [www.housingpathways.nsw.gov.au/data/assets/pdf\\_file/0003/332274/2015-EWT-Overview-table.pdf](http://www.housingpathways.nsw.gov.au/data/assets/pdf_file/0003/332274/2015-EWT-Overview-table.pdf).

<sup>35</sup> Housing Pathways. Viewed on 29/2/2016 at [www.housingpathways.nsw.gov.au/data/assets/pdf\\_file/0003/332274/2015-EWT-Overview-table.pdf](http://www.housingpathways.nsw.gov.au/data/assets/pdf_file/0003/332274/2015-EWT-Overview-table.pdf).

<sup>36</sup> Steering Committee for the Review of Government Service Provision, 'Report on government services 2016', tables 17A.5, 17A.6, 17A.7. In April 2010, NSW implemented an integrated social housing waiting list, combining public and community housing into a single list (so that community housing waiting list data is now reported as public housing waiting list data). The social housing waiting lists data in this table covers the combined public housing and community housing waiting list, and the waiting list for state-owned and -managed Aboriginal housing, but do not include waiting list data from Aboriginal community housing organisations whose tenancy allocations processes are independent of government (table 17A.8). The public housing waiting list data and the state-owned and -managed Aboriginal housing waiting list data exclude applicants for transfer, but the community housing waiting list data does include applicants for transfer. Any apparent discrepancy between the figures referred to in Endnotes 35 and 36 is explained by the different sources.

<sup>37</sup> Housing Pathways, Viewed on 26 September 2016 at

<http://www.housingpathways.nsw.gov.au/additional-information/policies/social-housing-eligibility-and-allocations-policy-supplement#hi>.

<sup>38</sup> Households with special needs are defined as: households that have a member with disability, a main tenant aged under 25 or 75 and over, or households defined as Indigenous households. Indigenous households in SOMIH are not considered special needs households, as SOMIH is an Indigenous-targeted program. For SOMIH, special needs households are those that have either a household member with disability or a principal tenant aged 24 years or under, or 50 years or over. (Steering Committee for the Review of Government Service Provision, 'Report on government services 2016', page 17.41-17.42).

<sup>39</sup> Steering Committee for the Review of Government Service Provision, 'Report on government services 2016', tables 17A.12, 17A.13, 17A.14.

<sup>40</sup> Households in greatest need are defined as: low-income households if, at the time of allocation, household members were subject to one or more of the following circumstances: they were homeless, their life or safety was at risk in their accommodation, their health condition was aggravated by their housing, their housing was inappropriate to their needs, they had very high rental housing costs. A low-income household for the greatest need definition is a household that satisfies an eligibility test to receive housing assistance. (Steering Committee for the Review of Government Service Provision, 'Report on government services 2016', page 17.40.).

<sup>41</sup> Steering Committee for the Review of Government Service Provision, 'Report on government services 2016', table 17A.9, 17A.10, 17A.11.

<sup>42</sup> Steering Committee for the Review of Government Service Provision, 'Report on government services 2016', table 17A.3.

<sup>43</sup> Steering Committee for the Review of Government Service Provision, 'Report on government services 2016', table 17A.3. Community housing here refers to social housing provided through Commonwealth-state/territory multilateral funding agreements by non-Aboriginal organisations. It does not include affordable rental housing provided by community organisations with finance from other sources; it specifically does not include submarket rental housing provided under disability and aged care programs. There were 28,431 community housing dwellings managed by community housing associations shown on the 'Directory of Housing Associations' viewed on 15 February 2016 at [www.communityhousing.org.au/F3\\_directory.html](http://www.communityhousing.org.au/F3_directory.html). Any apparent discrepancy between the figure in the 'Report on government services' and that figure is explained by the different sources. Unpublished data shows 33,731 community housing dwellings managed by community housing associations at March 2016, but this figure includes both social and affordable dwellings.

<sup>44</sup> Steering Committee for the Review of Government Service Provision, 'Report on government services 2016', table 17A.3. Government-owned and managed Aboriginal housing does not comprise the entire Aboriginal social housing sector: it refers to that part financed through the Commonwealth-state/territory multilateral funding agreements on housing, and does not include social housing provided by Aboriginal organisations (for example, land councils) with finance from other sources.

<sup>45</sup> Steering Committee for the Review of Government Service Provision, 'Report on government services 2016', table 17A.8.

<sup>46</sup> Data is unavailable for 2015.

<sup>47</sup> Australian Bureau of Statistics, 'Census of Population and Housing: estimating homelessness, 2011', p. 6 and table 3.1, pp. 16–17. People are assessed as living in 'severely crowded' dwellings where the dwellings require four or more extra rooms to accommodate them, under the Canadian National Occupancy Standard.

<sup>48</sup> Australian Bureau of Statistics, 'Census of Population and Housing: estimating homelessness, 2011', November 2012, table 3.1, p.16; Australian Bureau of Statistics, 'Census of Population and Housing: estimating homelessness, 2006', September 2012, table 1.1, p.47. The ABS defines a person as being homeless where they do not have suitable accommodation alternatives and their current living arrangement: is in a dwelling that is inadequate; has no tenure, or if their initial tenure is short and not extendable; or does not allow them to have control of, and access to space for social relations (Australian Bureau of Statistics, 'Information paper: a statistical definition of homelessness', 4 September 2012, p.11).

<sup>49</sup> Australian Bureau of Statistics, 'Census of Population and Housing: estimating homelessness, 2011', table 3.1, p.16.

<sup>50</sup> Australian Bureau of Statistics, 'Census of Population and Housing: estimating homelessness, 2011, remoteness by state and territory of usual residence', 28 November 2012, table 1.

<sup>51</sup> Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, 'Specialist homelessness services, 2014-15', 11 December 2015, Supplementary tables - National, table CLIENTS.2

<sup>52</sup> Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, 'Specialist homelessness services, 2014-15: NSW, supplementary tables', 11 December 2015, Table NSW CLIENTS.14

<sup>53</sup> Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, 'Specialist homelessness services, 2014-15'. Viewed on 14 March 2016 at [www.aihw.gov.au/homelessness/specialist-homelessness-services-2014-15/indigenous-clients/](http://www.aihw.gov.au/homelessness/specialist-homelessness-services-2014-15/indigenous-clients/).

<sup>54</sup> Australian Bureau of Statistics, 'Census of Population and Housing: estimating homelessness, 2011', table 3.1, p.16.

<sup>55</sup> Australian Bureau of Statistics, '2011 census quickstats', viewed on 1 February 2013 at [www.abs.gov.au/websitedbs/censushome.nsf/home/quickstats?opendocument&navpos=220](http://www.abs.gov.au/websitedbs/censushome.nsf/home/quickstats?opendocument&navpos=220).