

YOUTH HOMELESSNESS MATTERS DAY

16th APRIL

43,226

children and young people (under 25 years) presented on their own to a specialist homelessness service (SHS)*

The most common reasons young people sought assistance from an SHS in 2023–24 were:

- Domestic and family violence
- Housing crisis
- Relationship/family breakdown

Nationally, half of the young people who tried to get a bed in a crisis refuge in 2023–24 were turned away

because services aren't sufficiently funded to accommodate them

Approx one-third of young people presenting alone to Specialist Homelessness Services

identified as Indigenous*

Young SHS clients presenting alone were more likely to be couch surfing, compared with any other SHS client group.

Couch surfing leaves young people vulnerable to servitude, exploitation and abuse

We're calling on national and state governments to make ending youth homelessness a national priority by developing a targeted plan and

funding the services needed to achieve this objective.

* Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (2024), Specialist Homelessness Services Annual Report 2023–24

