

A STEP FORWARD

2016 CENSUS

Of the 116,427 Australian's homeless on census night

20% Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander

Compared to only 3% of the Australian population

Australian Bureau of Statistics, 2016

STUDY POPULATION

This infographic shows changes in health service use for Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander public housing tenants comparing 12 months before to 12 months after entering their public housing tenancy.

998

Aboriginal public housing tenants in WA between 2009-2013



76% female
24% male

housed by:
20% NPAH*
80% priority housing



“ The fear of being homeless again, makes me want to do whatever I need to stay here. ”

- Tenant Survey respondent



12% decrease

in the number of people presenting to the **emergency department**

10% decrease



of people admitted to an **inpatient unit**

“ The day we got the phone call for our own house was such a relief! Everyone was so happy to have our own place called **HOME** ”

- Tenant Survey respondent

* NPAH= National Partnership Agreement on Homelessness

Findings in this summary are generated from:

Wood, L., Flatau, P., Zaretsky, K., Foster, S., Vallesi, S. and Miscenko, D. (2016) What are the health and social and economic benefits of providing housing and support to formerly homeless people? AHURI Final Report No. 265. <http://www.ahuri.edu.au/research/final-reports/265>



CENTRE for SOCIAL IMPACT



Australian Housing and Urban Research Institute

59%
decrease



in the number of **days**
spent in ICU

*“ I would just to thank
all my support people for
there help because I
wouldn't be where I am
today ”*

- Tenant Survey respondent

*“ Myself and my 4
children were living in my
sisters house, sharing one
room with mattresses on
the floor. It wasn't very
comfortable and my kids
were unhappy about our
living arrangements but
they knew we had nowhere
else to go. We were so
excited when we got the
news that we had been
given our house ”*

- Tenant Survey respondent



24%
decrease

of people admitted to
psychiatric care

\$959k

health system cost savings
across the 998 formerly homeless
participants in a single year

IMPLICATIONS

- 1** Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander's vastly over-represented in homelessness statistics
- 2** Alternative and innovative solutions are needed to help address Aboriginal homelessness
- 3** Housing alone is not sufficient; support is needed
- 4** Housing is healthcare and can help significantly reduce health utilisation costs

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