



HOMELESSNESS IN SWEDEN

KEY STATISTICS

National data collection is carried out by the National Board of Health and Welfare every six years over one week in April. The survey covers people in 4 broad categories:

1. "Acute" homelessness;
2. Institutional and longer term care;
3. Long-term housing on the secondary housing market;
4. Insecure housing.

In several large cities, data collection takes place more frequently.

Latest Statistics (2017)

The 2017 count by the National Board of Health and Welfare identified 33,300 homeless people in total. This covers most of the ETHOS typology, and can be broken down into the following living situations:

1. Public space / outdoor: 647
2. Tent Caravan / camping site: 343
3. Shelters: 1,229
4. Hotel / hostel: 1,903
5. Temporary accommodation: 1,325
6. Women's emergency centres: 464
7. Supported housing: 3,300
8. Transitional supported housing, e.g. training flats: 2,452
9. Social lease/municipal lease: 13,800
10. Institutions - discharge within 3 months: 1,397
11. Correctional institution / custody - discharge within 3 months: 705
12. Involuntary staying with family / relatives: 2,452
13. Involuntary staying with friends / acquaintances: 2,300
14. Private sublet, shorter than 3 months: 560
15. Temporarily renting a room, less than 3 months, from a private individual: 1,980
16. Other: 1,600

INCREASE/DECREASE IN NUMBER OF HOMELESS PEOPLE

In 2017, according to the National Board of Health and Welfare survey, the data shows increases in "acute homelessness" and homeless parents. Although the number of inhabitants in Sweden has increased and the housing market is under considerable strain, the number of homeless reported was less or almost as many as in the year 2011. There could be a "bug" in counting when 18% of all municipalities did not reply to the survey.

CHANGE IN PROFILE OF HOMELESS PEOPLE

Women and foreign born inhabitants represent an increasing proportion of the homeless population. And those of who we see most of sleeping rough is not counted.

POLICIES & STRATEGIES

National Strategy

There is no up-to-date national strategy. The previous strategy was *Homelessness, Multiple Faces, Multiple Responsibilities – A Strategy to Combat Homelessness and Exclusion from the Housing Market, 2007-2009*.

There are currently regional strategies against homelessness in the larger cities, such as Stockholm, Gothenburg and Malmö.

REMARKS ON KEY POLICY
DEVELOPMENTS**Positive**

- Homelessness is a little bit more prioritized on national level and larger cities are cooperating more on local homeless strategies.
- The Swedish HUB www.bostadforst.se have spread Housing first knowledge around Sweden. they been doing different courses for both officials and civil society in 15 larger municipalities, for 6-700 persons.
- The Swedish national Housing First network work in close cooperation with the Swedish HUB project.

Negative

- The government has no national strategy and
- 2017 national data collection showed that the acute homelessness and homeless parents with children under 18 year increases. Next data collection is 2023.
- Mobile EU citizens, people without paper, unaccompanied children are excluded from the data collection.