



## Headlines on Housing Exclusion & Homelessness for the EU Semester 2018

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## Introduction

This working document presents headline statistics & trends on housing exclusion & homelessness for AU, BE, CZ, DK, DE, IE, ES, FR, IT, LU, HU, NL, PT, SK, FI, SE, UK. It aims to support Commission services working on Country Analysis for the 2018 Semester. The 17 MS selected are ones for which FEANTSA (the European Federation of National Organisations working with the Homeless) considers, based on the information available to us, that housing exclusion & homelessness warrant specific attention in the 2018 Country Analysis.

For each MS, a table is presented summarizing 2015 performance on the main housing exclusion indicators available from EUSILC<sup>1</sup>. A table presents each indicator for the total population and the poor population (less than 60% median income). The country's ranking out of 28 is indicated in brackets. Evolution 2010 – 2015 and evolution 2014 – 2015 are also presented. Trends to watch are highlighted.

In addition to the EU SILC data, the latest homelessness statistics & trends are presented for each country. The source here is national data, as there are no comparable stats available on homelessness at EU level.

This is a working document that aims to support the Commission services preparing Country Reports. Questions and requests for further information are very welcome. As new homelessness figures will be available by end November for several MS, FEANTSA will be happy to feed these in to Commission services. Please contact Ruth Owen for more information [ruth.owen@feantsa.org](mailto:ruth.owen@feantsa.org)

## AUSTRIA

<b>AUSTRIA</b>			
Indicator	2015	Evolution 2010-2015	Evolution 2014-2015
Housing cost overburden	Total: 6,4% (8e) Poor: 34,8% (17e)	Total : -15% Poor: -5%	Total: -3% Poor: -5,2%
Total housing costs (PPS)	Total: 515,9 (20e) Poor: 495,6 (21e)	Total: +10,3% Poor: +8,1%	Total: +1,5% Poor: +0,4%
Rent/mortgage arrears	Total: 3,4% (15e) Poor: 10,2% (14e)	Total: -12,8% Poor: -17,7%	Total: -8,1% Poor: +3%
Overcrowding	Total: 15% (17e) Poor: 34,1% (16e)	Total: +25% Poor: +14,4%	Total: -2% Poor: -0,3%
Severe housing deprivation	Total: 4,3% (17e) Poor: 11,4% (17e)	Total: +7,5% Poor: +3,6%	Total: +16,2% Poor: +22,6%
Inability to keep home adequately warm	Total: 2,6% (5e) Poor: 8% (5e)	Total: -31,6% Poor: -11,1%	Total: -18,8% Poor: +3,9%

**AU Homelessness:** Statistics Austria reports that 12,786 people were registered as homeless in 2015. Using a different methodology, the Social Affairs Ministry reported that 15,090 people were registered as homeless in 2016. This is 3,691 more people than in the base year 2008, when 11,399 people were recorded (an increase of 32%)<sup>2</sup>.

<sup>1</sup> NB Data from 2015 is the latest available in EUSILC. These indicators are the basis for FEANTSA's composite Housing Exclusion Index, published each Winter

<sup>2</sup> Statistik Austria (2017): Armut und soziale Ausgrenzung in Österreich. Indikatoren 2008 bis 2016. Präsentation am 25. Oktober 2017.

## BELGIUM

<b>BELGIUM</b>			
Indicator	2015	Evolution 2010-2015	Evolution 2014-2015
Housing cost overburden	Total: 9,4% (19e) Poor: 37,6% (18e)	Total : +6% Poor: -1%	Total: -9,6% Poor: -11,7%
Total housing costs PPS	Total: 517,3 (21e) Poor: 501,2 (23e)	Total: +9,8% Poor: +13,2%	Total: -0,2% Poor: -1%
Rent/mortgage arrears	Total: 3,1% (13e) Poor: 12,1% (23e)	Total: -8,8% Poor: +26%	Total: -8,8% Poor: -3,2%
Overcrowding	Total: 1,6% (2e) Poor: 6,5% (3e)	Total: -61,9% Poor: -52,6%	Total: -20% Poor: -27%
Severe housing deprivation	Total: 0,9% (3e) Poor: 4,1% (6e)	Total: -52,6% Poor: -30,5%	Total: 0% Poor: +7,9%
Inability to keep home adequately warm	Total: 5,2% (10e) Poor: 14,8% (11e)	Total: -7,1% Poor: -8,6%	Total: -3,7% Poor: -19,1%

**BE Homelessness:** No statistics on homelessness are available at federal level. In Brussels, the total number of people living in homelessness and housing exclusion on a given night in November has almost doubled in 8 years. It rose from 1729 in 2008 to 3386 in 2016. There has been a 72% increase in the number of people counted rough sleeping in two years, from 412 in 2014 to 707 in 2016<sup>3</sup>. A regional study in Flanders enumerated 5378 homeless people in Flanders in 2014<sup>4</sup>.

## CZECH REPUBLIC

<b>CZECH REPUBLIC</b>			
Indicator	2015	Evolution 2010-2015	Evolution 2014-2015
Housing cost overburden	Total: 10,4% (21e) Poor: 48% (24e)	Total : +7% Poor: -3%	Total: -1% Poor: +8,8%
Total housing costs PPS	Total: 392,3 (16e) Poor: 374,8 (17e)	Total: +18,2% Poor: +31%	Total: +1,2% Poor: +3,7%
Rent/mortgage arrears	Total: 2,7% (12e) Poor: 10,7% (16e)	Total: -22,9% Poor: -35,5%	Total: -27% Poor: -34,4%
Overcrowding	Total: 18,7% (18e) Poor: 40,4% (19e)	Total: -16,9% Poor: -8,4%	Total: -6% Poor: -9,6%
Severe housing deprivation	Total: 3,3% (15e) Poor: 11% (15e)	Total: -26,7% Poor: -14,1%	Total: -5,7% Poor: -14,7%
Inability to keep home adequately warm	Total: 5% (9e) Poor: 13,5% (9e)	Total: -3,8% Poor: +20,5%	Total: -18% Poor: -13,5%

**CZ Republic Homelessness:** As pointed out in the 2017 Country Report, the total number of homeless people and people at risk of losing housing was estimated at around 187 000 in 2015. The estimated need for homeless shelters is double the current available capacity.

<sup>3</sup> La Strada (2017) *Dénombrement des sans-abris et mal logés en Région de Bruxelles-Capitale*, available at : [https://www.lastrada.brussels/portail/images/PDF/20171012\\_Strada\\_Denomb\\_Rapport\\_FR\\_V7\\_POUR\\_BAT.pdf](https://www.lastrada.brussels/portail/images/PDF/20171012_Strada_Denomb_Rapport_FR_V7_POUR_BAT.pdf)

<sup>4</sup> See [https://www.kuleuven.be/lucas/nl/Onderzoek/Welzijn\\_Armoede\\_SocialeUitsluiting/Nulmeting\\_DakenThuisloosheid](https://www.kuleuven.be/lucas/nl/Onderzoek/Welzijn_Armoede_SocialeUitsluiting/Nulmeting_DakenThuisloosheid)

## DENMARK

DENMARK			
Indicator	2015	Evolution 2010-2015	Evolution 2014-2015
Housing cost overburden	Total: 15,1% (25e) Poor: 66,8% (27e)	Total : -31% Poor: -6%	Total: -3,2% Poor: -1,9%
Total housing costs PPS	Total: 701,7 (27e) Poor: 577,3 (25e)	Total: -8,6% Poor: +7,4%	Total: +1,3% Poor: -0,8%
Rent/mortgage arrears	Total: 2,5% (11e) Poor: 10,2% (13e)	Total: -7,4% Poor: +54,5%	Total: -21,9% Poor: +3%
Overcrowding	Total: 8,1% (12e) Poor: 27,2% (15e)	Total: +11% Poor: +36%	Total: -1,2% Poor: +9,7%
Severe housing deprivation	Total: 2,8% (13e) Poor: 10,4% (14e)	(2011-2015)* Total: +7,7% (2011-2015)* Poor: +50,7%	Total: +21,7% Poor: +50,7%
Inability to keep home adequately warm	Total: 3,6% (7e) Poor: 12,7% (7e)	Total: +89,5% Poor: +159,2%	Total: +24,1% Poor: +119%

**DK Homelessness:** The sixth nationwide survey of homelessness was published in 2017<sup>5</sup>. The survey has been conducted every other year since 2007. Homelessness in Denmark is still increasing. In 2017, 6,635 people were homeless, an increase of 8% compared with 2015. Homelessness increased in all cities except Odense. As highlighted in the 2017 Country Report, youth homelessness is increasing particularly fast, from 799 to 1.014, corresponding to a growth rate of 27 % between 2015 and 2017. This probably reflects inadequate benefits for people under 30 years old and a lack of affordable housing.

## GERMANY

GERMANY			
Indicator	2015	Evolution 2010-2015	Evolution 2014-2015
Housing cost overburden	Total: 15,6% (26e) Poor: 51,9% (26e)	Total : +8% Poor: +23%	Total: -1,9% Poor: -4,6%
Total housing costs PPS	Total: 700,9 (26e) Poor: 545,4 (24e)	Total: +9,4% Poor: +18,6%	Total: +4,9% Poor: +0,7%
Rent/mortgage arrears	Total: 2,2% (8e) Poor: 5,8% (8e)	Total: +10% Poor: +9,4%	Total: +4,8% Poor: 0%
Overcrowding	Total: 7% (9e) Poor: 17,3% (9e)	Total: -1,4% Poor: -10,4%	Total: +6,1% Poor: +6,1%
Severe housing deprivation	Total: 1,8% (9e) Poor: 5,2% (10e)	Total: -14,3% Poor: -17,5%	Total: -5,3% Poor: -14,8%
Inability to keep home adequately warm	Total: 4,1% (8e) Poor: 12,7% (8e)	Total: -18% Poor: -19,1%	Total: -16,3% Poor: -4,5%

**DE Homelessness:** Homelessness in Germany has been clearly on the increase in recent years. While there are still no national statistics on the extent of homelessness, regional and local data show a

<sup>5</sup> Benjaminsen, L (2017) *Hjemløshed i Danmark 2017. National kortlægning*, VIVE - Det Nationale Forsknings- og Analysecenter for Velfærd, available at: <https://www.sfi.dk/publikationer/hjemloshed-i-danmark-2017-13453/>

drastic increase in recent years. Point in time data for 30 June each year show an increase of more than 22 % for North Rhine-Westphalia, Germany's most populated regional state, from 20,470 in 2014 to 25.050 in 2016<sup>6</sup>. In large cities the increase has been dramatic. For example, in Berlin numbers of homeless people in shelters and temporary accommodation have risen by 50 % from 20,000 at the end of 2015 to 30,000 towards the end of 2017, many of the additional homeless people being refugees who have been granted international protection but cannot find affordable permanent housing. The last nationwide estimate by the national alliance of services for homeless people (BAG W) assessed a total of 335,000 homeless people in Germany in 2014 (annual prevalence number) and warned that numbers could exceed half a million by 2018. A new estimate will be released by the end of November<sup>7</sup>.

## IRELAND

IRELAND			
Indicator	2015	Evolution 2010-2015	Evolution 2014-2015
Housing cost overburden	Total: 4,6% (3e) Poor: 18,2% (3e)	Total : -6% Poor: -21%	Total: -25,8% Poor: -32,8%
Total housing costs PPS	Total: 451,4 (18e) Poor: 371,8 (16e)	Total: +13,5% Poor: +2,1%	Total: 0% Poor: -5,3%
Rent/mortgage arrears	Total: 1,5% (3e) Poor: 2,4% (6e)	Total: -81,5% Poor: -87%	Total: -31,8% Poor: +9,1%
Overcrowding	Total: 3,4% (4e) Poor: 6% (2e)	Total: 0% Poor: -22,1%	Total: -5,6% Poor: -21,1%
Severe housing deprivation	Total: 1,1% (5e) Poor: 2,9% (3e)	Total: +120% Poor: +314,3%	Total: -8,3% Poor: -6,5%
Inability to keep home adequately warm	Total: 9% (16e) Poor: 19,1% (16e)	Total: +32,4% Poor: +19,4%	Total: +1,1% Poor: +12,4%

**IE Homelessness:** There is ample evidence that the homelessness situation has continued to worsen since last year. The total number of people homeless rose by 25% from September 2016 to September 2017. The most recent figures from the Department of Housing, Planning, Community & Local Government show a record total of 8,374 people homeless and living in emergency homeless accommodation in Ireland in September 2017. Nationally, there are 5,250 adults and 3,124 children homeless. 37% of those living in emergency accommodation are children in homeless families. In Dublin, where the problem is particularly acute, the Dublin Region Homeless Executive recorded 1138 families with 2146 children in homeless accommodation in one week in September 2017<sup>[1]</sup>. The official homeless figure does not include people who are homeless but living with family/friends, women in refuges for domestic violence, or asylum seekers who have been accepted as refugees but are unable to move out of specialised accommodation because of the unavailability of housing.

Most homeless families are still hosted in temporary accommodation at a cost to the public finances that exceeds the provision of social housing solutions. The Government is currently reviewing its 'Rebuilding Ireland' strategy. While there has been a small increase in housing construction, key targets have not been met, eg. eliminating the use of hotels as emergency accommodation for families by July 2017, construction targets for social housing, overall construction targets. Despite the introduction of 4% limits on rent increases in certain areas (Rent Pressure Zones) private sector rents have continued to rise for 21 consecutive months.

<sup>6</sup> [http://www.sozialberichte.nrw.de/sozialberichterstattung\\_nrw/kurzanalysen/Kurzanalyse-2-2017.pdf](http://www.sozialberichte.nrw.de/sozialberichterstattung_nrw/kurzanalysen/Kurzanalyse-2-2017.pdf)

<sup>7</sup> [http://www.bagw.de/de/themen/zahl\\_der\\_wohnungslosen/](http://www.bagw.de/de/themen/zahl_der_wohnungslosen/)

[1] Dublin Region Homeless Executive, see <http://www.homelessdublin.ie/homeless-families>

## SPAIN

SPAIN			
Indicator	2015	Evolution 2010-2015	Evolution 2014-2015
Housing cost overburden	Total: 10,3% (20e) Poor: 38,1% (19e)	Total : +6% Poor: +8%	Total: -5,5% Poor: -3,8%
Total housing costs PPS	Total: 343 (14e) Poor: 322,5 (15e)	Total: -2,5% Poor: -5,1%	Total: +1,4% Poor: +0,2%
Rent/mortgage arrears	Total: 6,2% (26e) Poor: 15,9% (26e)	Total: -3,1% Poor: +16,1%	Total: -13,9% Poor: -15,9%
Overcrowding	Total: 5,5% (6e) Poor: 11,4% (5e)	Total: +10% Poor: +23,9%	Total: +3,8% Poor: +5,6%
Severe housing deprivation	Total: 1,5% (7e) Poor: 3,4% (4e)	Total: -16,7% Poor: +3%	Total: -11,8% Poor: -34,6%
Inability to keep home adequately warm	Total: 10,6% (19e) Poor: 23,3% (17e)	Total: +41,3% Poor: +49,4%	Total: -4,5% Poor: -0,9%

**ES Homelessness:** According to National Statistics Institute, the daily average of people who stayed in homelessness services grew by 20.5% in 2016 compared to 2014<sup>8</sup>. Homeless shelters in Spain received an average of 16,437 people daily during the year 2016. This figure is 20.5% higher than that registered in the previous survey carried out in 2014. The average occupancy reached 85.9%, a figure higher than that observed in 2014, which was 81.8%. Data from major cities also indicates stark increases. In Barcelona, a survey of homeless people in May 2017 found 3383 homeless people, up from 2799 the previous year, an increase of 21%<sup>9</sup>. The proportion of young people, women and persons with disabilities is increasing. In Madrid, 2059 homeless people were identified as homeless in one night in 2016. This is probably at least a 20% underestimate as the count was affected by wet weather<sup>10</sup>.

## FRANCE

FRANCE			
Indicator	2015	Evolution 2010-2015	Evolution 2014-2015
Housing cost overburden	Total: 5,7% (5e) Poor: 21,5% (5e)	Total : +12% Poor: -3%	Total: +11,8% Poor: +2,9%
Total housing costs PPS	Total: 505,6 (19e) Poor: 467,8 (19e)	Total: +20,7% Poor: +12,4%	Total: +8,9% Poor: +4,2%
Rent/mortgage arrears	Total: 5,6% (24e) Poor: 16,1% (27e)	Total: -8,2% Poor: -14,4%	Total: -3,4% Poor: -4,7%
Overcrowding	Total: 7,4% (11e)	Total: -19,6%	Total: +4,2%

<sup>8</sup> INE (2017) *Centros de atención a personas sin hogar - Año 2016*, available at [http://www.ine.es/dyngs/INEbase/es/operacion.htm?c=Estadistica\\_C&cid=1254736176925&menu=ultiDatos&idp=1254735976608](http://www.ine.es/dyngs/INEbase/es/operacion.htm?c=Estadistica_C&cid=1254736176925&menu=ultiDatos&idp=1254735976608)

<sup>9</sup> XAPSSL (2016) *The situation of homelessness in Barcelona. Evolution and intervention policies*. Albert Sales, Joan Uribe, Inés Marco, available at [http://www.bcn.cat/barcelonainclusiva/ca/2016/2/sense\\_sostre2015\\_ang.pdf](http://www.bcn.cat/barcelonainclusiva/ca/2016/2/sense_sostre2015_ang.pdf) and XAPSSL (2017) *forthcoming* <sup>10</sup> <http://www.madrid.es/portales/munimadrid/es/Inicio/Actualidad/Noticias/La-ciudad-de-Madrid-rompe-con-la-tendencia-de-crecimiento-de-personas-que-duermen-en-la-calle?vgnextfmt=default&vgnextoid=8c59a462b0e1a510VgnVCM1000001d4a900aRCRD&vgnnextchannel=a12149fa40ec9410VgnVCM100000171f5a0aRCRD>

	Poor: 20,9% (11e)	Poor: -18,4%	Poor: -0,9%
Severe housing deprivation	Total: 2,3% (12e) Poor: 7,8% (13e)	Total: -23,3% Poor: -20,4%	Total: 0% Poor: -6%
Inability to keep home adequately warm	Total: 5,5% (11e) Poor: 16,3% (12e)	Total: -3,5% Poor: +6,5%	Total: -6,8% Poor: +8,7%

**FR Homelessness:** The 2017 Country Report stated that “homelessness levels are high and continue to rise; 141 000 homeless people were recorded in 2012, which is a 50 % increase since 2001”. There are ample indications that the situation remains alarming.

Monitoring of the demand for shelter via the 115-emergency shelter number provides a good indication of the scale and nature of the homelessness problem<sup>11</sup>. Between June – July 2016 and June – July 2017, the number of requests for accommodation increased by 32%; the number of callers by 17%. The increase in people seeking accommodation affects almost all types of households: 10% increase for single men, 14% for single women, 23% for families, and 26% for couples without children. The number of unaccompanied minors was four times higher in 2017 than 2016.

Increasing family and child homelessness is a cause for concern. Across 40 departments excluding Paris, half of the requests for shelter on the night of the 4<sup>th</sup> September were made by families. Of the 1,172 minors requesting shelter that night, 63% did not obtain it. In Paris, only one out of ten families that requested shelter that night obtained it. More than 350 minors were thus left without shelter. Due to lack of accommodation, a substantial proportion of homeless families are stay in hotels, where the living conditions have serious consequences for child development, safety and well-being.

Nearly 16,000 people were living in informal settlements or slums in 2017 in France.<sup>12</sup> Children living in these conditions have very low levels of schooling.

In 2017, the Country Report also raised concern about the affordability of housing for lower income groups. The table above shows that these concerns remain relevant, whilst proposed measures to cut housing benefit are likely to increase housing exclusion amongst poor people.

## ITALY

ITALY			
Indicator	2015	Evolution 2010-2015	Evolution 2014-2015
Housing cost overburden	Total: 8,6% (14e) Poor: 32,9% (14e)	Total : +12% Poor: +11%	Total: +1,2% Poor: +3,1%
Total housing costs PPS	Total: 327,4 (10e) Poor: 296,9 (13e)	Total: -1% Poor: +2%	Total: -1,1% Poor: +5,8%
Rent/mortgage arrears	Total: 5,4% (23e) <a href="http://federationsolidarite.org/publications-federation/barometre-115/8092-barom%C3%A8tre-115-10-juin-10-juillet-2018">http://federationsolidarite.org/publications-federation/barometre-115/8092-barom%C3%A8tre-115-10-juin-10-juillet-2018</a> Poor: 12,7% (24e)	Total: +20% Poor: +13,4%	Total: +10,2% Poor: +23,3%
Overcrowding	Total: 27,8% (20e)	Total: +14,4%	Total: +2,2%

<sup>11</sup> BAROMÈTRE DU 115 : ENQUÊTE FLASH RÉALISÉE LE 4 SEPTEMBRE ZÉRO ENFANT A LA RUE : ON EST LOIN DU COMPTE !, see <http://federationsolidarite.org/publications-federation/barometre-115/8092-barom%C3%A8tre-115-10-juin-10-juillet-2018>

<sup>12</sup> SOURCES : DIHAL, AVRIL 2017 ; ASSOCIATION TRAJECTOIRES, « HABITANTS DES BIDONVILLES EN FRANCE », MAI 2017

	Poor: 43,8% (21e)	Poor: +15%	Poor: +1,9%
Severe housing deprivation	Total: 9,6% (23e) Poor: 18,9% (22e)	Total: +37,1% Poor: +25,2%	Total: +1,1% Poor: +7,4%
Inability to keep home adequately warm	Total: 17% (23e) Poor: 35,9% (23e)	Total: +46,6% Poor: +28,2%	Total: -5,6% Poor: -6,3%

**IT Homelessness:** The 2017 Country Report stated that “there were some 650 000 families on waiting lists for social housing and over 50 000 homeless people were recorded”. The homelessness and housing situation remain a cause for concern in 2018. Service providers working with homeless people report an increase in demand amongst young people (18-25 years old), asylum seekers, undocumented migrants, families, women and job seekers with lower skills levels. At the same time, demand is also increasing amongst single men with repeated or sustained experience of homelessness<sup>13</sup>. 4/10 homeless people captured in the ISTAT survey are Italian nationals. 4/10 are have been living for more than four years on the street. Foreign homeless people are, on average, younger and have higher levels of education. 14% of the surveyed homeless people are women. This proportion has been increasing in recent years. Only 14% of the surveyed homeless population has a severe mental illness and/or drug/alcohol abuse problems.

## LUXEMBOURG

LUXEMBOURG			
Indicator	2015	Evolution 2010-2015	Evolution 2014-2015
Housing cost overburden	Total: 6% (6e) Poor: 27,9% (9e)	Total : +28% Poor: +14%	Total: -11,8% Poor: -9,7%
Total housing costs PPS	Total: 525,4 (25e) Poor: 629,9 (28e)	Total: +6,3% Poor: +15,3%	Total: +2,5% Poor: +6,5%
Rent/mortgage arrears	Total: 3,2% (14e) Poor: 11,1% (18e)	Total: +128,6% Poor: +152,3%	Total: +45,5% Poor: +88,1%
Overcrowding	Total: 6,8% (8e) Poor: 19,8% (10e)	Total: -12,8% Poor: -20,5%	Total: +1,5% Poor: -8,3%
Severe housing deprivation	Total: 1,7% (8e) Poor: 6,8% (11e)	Total: -26,1% Poor: -20%	Total: +6,2% Poor: +25,9%
Inability to keep home adequately warm	Total: 0,9% (1 <sup>st</sup> ) Poor: 3,3% (2e)	Total: +80% Poor: +94,1%	Total: +50% Poor: +65%

**LU Homelessness:** There is a lack of comprehensive data collection on homelessness in Luxembourg. However, there are indications that homelessness is worsening. The annual evaluation of the Ministry of The Family’s “winter action plan” in collaboration with Caritas, Inter-Actions and the Red Cross Evaluation indicates an ongoing rise in the number of people using homeless services in the context of the plan. The evaluation showed that 297 different homeless individuals were identified during winter 2008/2009. This figure has risen every year since, reaching 828 in 2013/2014, 674 in 2014/2015, 522 in 2015/2016 and 864 in 2016/17.

## HUNGARY

HUNGARY			
Indicator	2015	Evolution 2010-2015	Evolution 2014-2015

<sup>13</sup> fio.PSDs Member Monitoring (2017)

Housing cost overburden	Total: 8,5% (13e) Poor: 31,5% (12e)	Total : -25% Poor: -14%	Total: -33,6% Poor: -18%
Total housing costs PPS	Total: 246,1 (8e) Poor: 202,6 (8e)	Total: -6,6% Poor: -6,4%	Total: -11% Poor: -10,7%
Rent/mortgage arrears	Total: 6% (25e) Poor: 10,7% (17e)	Total: +7,1% Poor: +4,9%	Total: -17,8% Poor: -27,7%
Overcrowding	Total: 41,1% (23e) Poor: 62% (28e)	Total: -12,9% Poor: -11%	Total: -1,9% Poor: -2,8%
Severe housing deprivation	Total: 15,5% (27e) Poor: 35% (27e)	Total: -12,4% Poor: -17,3%	Total: -10,4% Poor: -16,9%
Inability to keep home adequately warm	Total: 9,6% (17e) Poor: 24,7% (19e)	Total: -10,3% Poor: +6,5%	Total: -17,2% Poor: -16%

**HU Homelessness:** Homelessness is a significant problem in Hungary. A survey of homeless services carried out on the 3<sup>rd</sup> February in 2016<sup>14</sup> recorded 10,206 homeless people using these services.

## NETHERLANDS

THE NETHERLANDS			
Indicator	2015	Evolution 2010-2015	Evolution 2014-2015
Housing cost overburden	Total: 14,9% (24e) Poor: 51,4% (25e)	Total : +6% Poor: +18%	Total: -3,2% Poor: +0,6%
Total housing costs PPS	Total: 817,9 (28e) Poor: 615,1 (27e)	Total: +0,7% Poor: +4,1%	Total: +1% Poor: -0,7%
Rent/mortgage arrears	Total: 3,7% (16e) Poor: 11,7% (22e)	Total: +19,4% Poor: +39,3%	Total: -17,8% Poor: -10,7%
Overcrowding	Total: 3,3% (3e) Poor: 13,2% (6e)	Total: +65% Poor: +193,3%	Total: -5,7% Poor: -17%
Severe housing deprivation	Total: 1% (4e) Poor: 4,9% (8e)	Total: +100% Poor: +308,3%	Total: +66,7% Poor: +113%
Inability to keep home adequately warm	Total: 2,9% (6e) Poor: 8,2% (6e)	Total: +26,1% Poor: -14,6%	Total: +11,5% Poor: -8,9%

**NL Homelessness:** Increasing homelessness is a cause for concern in the NL. The Central Bureau of Statistics estimated that there were 31,000 homeless people on one night in 2016, including 12,400 young people between 18 and 30 years<sup>15</sup>. The total number of homeless people had increased from 25,000 people in 2013 (24%). There was a 50% increase in the number of young homeless people between 2015 and 2016.

## PORTUGAL

PORTUGAL			
Indicator	2015	Evolution 2010-2015	Evolution 2014-2015

<sup>14</sup> Győri, P., Gurály, Z., and Szabó, A. (2016), Gyorsjelentés a hajléktalan emberek 2016 február 3-1 kérdőíves adatfelvételéről [Report on the Third of February Homeless Survey in Hungary – 2016]. Available at: <http://www.bmszki.hu/sites/default/files/field/uploads/f-3-2013-englishfinal.pdf>

<sup>15</sup> Central Bureau of Statistics (CBS) (2016), available at: <https://www.cbs.nl/nl-nl/nieuws/2016/51/dakloos-vaker-jong-enniet-westers>

Housing cost overburden	Total: 9,1% (17e) Poor: 33,5% (15e)	Total : +117% Poor: +111%	Total: -1,1% Poor: -0,6%
Total housing costs PPS	Total: 263,2 (9e) Poor: 234,2 (9e)	Total: +23,7% Poor: +42,4%	Total: -0,8% Poor: -3,5%
Rent/mortgage arrears	Total: 4,4% (21e) Poor: 11,1% (19e)	Total: -8,3% Poor: +13,3%	Total: -24,1% Poor: -13,3%
Overcrowding	Total: 10,3% (13e) Poor: 21% (12e)	Total: -29,5% Poor: -5,8%	Total: 0% Poor: -0,5%
Severe housing deprivation	Total: 4,7% (18e) Poor: 11,2% (16e)	Total: -16,1% Poor: +5,7%	Total: -14,5% Poor: -14,5%
Inability to keep home adequately warm	Total: 23,8% (24e) Poor: 43,3% (25e)	Total: -20,9% Poor: -12,9%	Total: -15,9% Poor: -8,8%

### PT Homelessness: New stats available 10<sup>th</sup> Nov 2017

#### SLOVAKIA

SLOVAKIA			
Indicator	2015	Evolution 2010-2015	Evolution 2014-2015
Housing cost overburden	Total: 9,1% (18e) Poor: 34,5% (16e)	Total : +20% Poor: -2%	Total: +1,1% Poor: -5,2%
Total housing costs PPS	Total: 331 (12e) Poor: 269,4 (12e)	Total: +22,8% Poor: +21,5%	Total: +5,1% Poor: -1,9%
Rent/mortgage arrears	Total: 3,9% (18e) Poor: 11,4% (21e)	Total: -42,6% Poor: -21,9%	Total: -13,3% Poor: -0,9%
Overcrowding	Total: 37,8% (22e) Poor: 57,6% (25e)	Total: -5,7% Poor: -1,4%	Total: -2,1% Poor: -1%
Severe housing deprivation	Total: 4,2% (16e) Poor: 15,2% (21e)	Total: +10,5% Poor: +42,1%	Total: -2,3% Poor: -22,8%
Inability to keep home adequately warm	Total: 5,8% (13e) Poor: 17,8% (13e)	Total: +31,8% Poor: +14,1%	Total: -4,9% Poor: -20,5%

**SK Homelessness:** The housing and homelessness problems highlighted in the 2017 report remain a cause for grave concern. No policy initiatives have been undertaken to improve the homelessness and housing exclusion situation. As the Commission highlighted in 2017, housing allowance eligibility requirements, which prevent access for Roma living in undocumented dwellings and homeless people, are a serious concern. A survey of people using homeless shelters in Bratislava in 2016 found that only 15 out of 494 (3%) were receiving housing allowance. Furthermore, Slovakia made a commitment to modify the allowance in the National strategy of housing policy until 2020 (Konceptcia statnej bytovej politiky do roku 2020). No progress has been thus far.

Similarly, no changes have been made to the State Housing Development Fund loans available to municipalities to build social housing. The Slovak statistical office collects data on the total number of flats and of social flats constructed annually<sup>16</sup>. In 2013, 15 100 flats were constructed, including 1065 social flats. In 2014, 14 895 flats were constructed, including 680 social flats. In 2015, 15 471 flats were constructed, including 339 social flats. In 2016, 15 672 flats were constructed, including only 336 social flats. The decline in social housing production is alarming given the lack of alternative policy

<sup>16</sup> [http://www.statistics.sk/pls/elisw/objekt.send?uic=3167&m\\_sso=4&m\\_so=21&ic=10](http://www.statistics.sk/pls/elisw/objekt.send?uic=3167&m_sso=4&m_so=21&ic=10)

instruments to effectively address homelessness and housing exclusion amongst low income and vulnerable groups.

New information on the housing situation of homeless people will be available in the updated Atlas of Roma Communities due in 2018.

## FINLAND

FINLAND			
Indicator	2015	Evolution 2010-2015	Evolution 2014-2015
Housing cost overburden	Total: 4,9% (4e) Poor: 20,4% (4e)	Total : +17% Poor: +24%	Total: -3,9% Poor: -3,8%
Total housing costs PPS	Total: 436,2 (17e) Poor: 379,1 (18e)	Total: +11,7% Poor: +9,9%	Total: +2% Poor: +1,9%
Rent/mortgage arrears	Total: 4,6% (22e) Poor: 11,1% (20e)	Total: -2,1% Poor: -21,8%	Total: -2,1% Poor: -2,6%
Overcrowding	Total: 6,7% (7e) Poor: 21% (13e)	Total: +9,8% Poor: +20%	Total: -4,3% Poor: +1%
Severe housing deprivation	Total: 0,7% (2e) Poor: 2% (2e)	Total: -22,2% Poor: -9,1%	Total: 0% Poor: +5,3%
Inability to keep home adequately warm	Total: 1,7 (3e) Poor: 3,7% (3e)	Total: +21,4% Poor: +5,7%	Total: +13,3% Poor: +12,1%

**FI Homelessness:** Housing costs, highlighted in the 2017 report, remains a cause for concern, despite Finland's overall impressive performance on delivering the right to housing. Lowest income households and younger people face housing market disadvantage at disproportionately high rates. Helsinki in particular has a highly pressured housing market.

Finland is exceptional in the European Union in that it is approaching the eradication of recurrent and long-term homelessness<sup>17</sup>. The 2016-2019 Action Plan for Preventing Homelessness in Finland is the third stage of the implementation of an integrated homelessness strategy, which began in 2008. In 2008, 7 960 single people and 300 families were recorded as homeless, in a country of some 5.3 million people.<sup>18</sup> In 2012, 7850 single people and 450 families were reported as homeless in the annual count. By 2016, the levels were 6684 lone homeless people and 325 families.

## SWEDEN

SWEDEN			
Indicator	2015	Evolution 2010-2015	Evolution 2014-2015
Housing cost overburden	Total: 7,5% (11e) Poor: 38,9% (20e)	Total : +15% Poor: -2%	Total: -3,8% Poor: -4%
Total housing costs PPS	Total: 532,2 (23e) Poor: 497,2 (22e)	Total: +12,7% Poor: +22,7%	Total: -1,8% Poor: +5,4%
Rent/mortgage arrears	Total: 2,4% (10e) Poor: 7,1% (9e)	Total: +4,3% Poor: +4,4%	Total: +41,2% Poor: +20,3%
Overcrowding	Total: 11,6% (14e) Poor: 36,1% (18e)	Total: +4,5% Poor: +20,3%	Total: +8,4% Poor: -0,6%

<sup>17</sup> N Pleace (2017) *The Action Plan for Preventing Homelessness in Finland 2016-2019: The Culmination Of An Integrated Strategy to End Homelessness?* European Journal of Homelessness, Vol 11.

<sup>18</sup> ARA <http://www.ara.fi/en-US>

Severe housing deprivation	Total: 2% (10e) Poor: 7% (12e)	Total: +25% Poor: +55,6%	Total: +25% Poor: +29,6%
Inability to keep home adequately warm	Total: 1,2% (2e) Poor: 2,5% (1 <sup>st</sup> )	Total: -29,4% Poor: -41,9%	Total: +50% Poor: -7,4%

**SE Homelessness:** Sweden continues to face a housing affordability challenge, especially for poor people. The number of homeless people was estimated to be around 34,000 by a national survey in 2011. The results of an updated national mapping will be available at the end of November 2017<sup>19</sup>.

## UNITED KINGDOM

UNITED KINGDOM			
Indicator	2015	Evolution 2012-2015*	Evolution 2014-2015
Housing cost overburden	Total: 12,5% (22e) Poor: 40,3% (21e)	Total : +71% Poor: +55%	Total: 0% Poor: -3,4%
Total housing costs PPS	Total: 615,4 (24e) Poor: 604,4 (26e)	Total: +35,5% Poor: +61,9%	Total: +4,5% Poor: +12,3%
Rent/mortgage arrears	Total: 3,8% (17e) Poor: 9,2% (12e)	Total: +11,7% Poor: +27,8%	Total: +2,7% Poor: +19,5%
Overcrowding	Total: 7,3% (10e) Poor: 14% (7e)	Total: +4,3% Poor: +2,2%	Total: 0% Poor: 0%
Severe housing deprivation	Total: 2,2% (11e) Poor: 5% (9e)	Total: +10% Poor: +19%	Total: -8,3% Poor: -7,4%
Inability to keep home adequately warm	Total: 7,8% (15e) Poor: 18,4% (14e)	Total: -3,7% Poor: -4,2%	Total: -17% Poor: -8,9%

**UK homelessness:** It is important to stress that homelessness data, levels, trends and policies vary across the devolved administrations of the UK.

There is evidence of a significant increase in homelessness in England:

- 88,410 homeless households applied for homelessness assistance during 2016-17<sup>20</sup>. The total number of rough sleepers recorded in Autumn 2016 was 4,134. This was up 565 (16%) from the autumn 2015 total of 3,569<sup>21</sup>. The number of rough sleepers has increased by 135% since 2010.
- The number of homeless households in temporary accommodation has also increased, rising from fewer than 49,000 in March 2011 to around 77,000 in March 2017<sup>22</sup>.

The shortage of affordable housing, cuts to local authority's housing and homelessness budgets, and welfare reform are drivers of this increase. Current housing and homelessness policy has been shown

<sup>19</sup> NBHW (2011), Hemlöshetoch utestängning fran bostadsmarknaden 2011 – omfattning och karaktär (Overview of homelessness and housing exclusion 2011 – Scope and characteristics)

<sup>20</sup> National Audit Office (2017) *Homelessness: Report by the Comptroller and Auditor General*, Department for Communities and Local Government, available at: <https://www.nao.org.uk/report/homelessness/>

<sup>21</sup> Department for Communities & Local Government (2016) *Rough sleeping in England: autumn 2016*, 25 January 2017, available online at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/rough-sleeping-in-england-autumn-2016>

<sup>22</sup> Department for Communities & Local Government (2017) *Statutory homelessness and homelessness prevention and relief, England: January to March 2017*, available online at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/statutory-homelessness-and-homelessness-prevention-and-relief-england-january-to-march-2017>

to be both inefficient and ineffective. The National Audit Office has criticized the government's "light touch" and lack of strategy on homelessness, concluding that this "cannot be considered value for money" stating that<sup>23</sup>:

"Homelessness in all its forms has significantly increased in recent years, and at **present costs the public sector in excess of £1 billion a year**. It appears likely that the decrease in affordability of properties in the private rented sector, of which welfare reforms such as the capping of Local Housing Allowance are an element, have driven this increase in homelessness. Despite this, the government has not evaluated the impact of its welfare reforms on homelessness, or the impact of the mitigations that it has put in place... In recent years the Department took a light touch approach to working with local authorities. It is difficult to understand why the Department persisted with this approach in the face of such a visibly growing problem".

In Scotland, the number of homelessness applications decreased in recent years, mainly due to the impact of a strong focus on prevention of homelessness. Between 1 April 2016 and 31 March 2017, Local Authorities received a total of 34,100 homelessness applications. This is a reduction of 826 (-2%) applications over the previous year. Applications where a household member reported sleeping rough at least once during the last 3 months prior to application has reduced since 2002/03, from 13% of all applications in 2002/3, to 8% in 2016-17.<sup>24</sup> On 31 March 2017, the latest snapshot figures shared there were 10,873 households in temporary accommodation, an increase of 330 households since last year.

In Wales, the 2017 Homelessness Monitor report found an "overwhelming consensus that the new statutory homelessness framework ushered in by the Housing (Wales) Act 2014 has had an array of positive impacts"<sup>25</sup>. Almost two thirds of households assessed as at risk of homeless were prevented from becoming homeless. However, the number of applications and the number of people in temporary accommodation appear to be increasing, as is rough sleeping. A 2016 survey enumerated 313 rough sleepers across Wales, compared with 240 in 2015. This probably reflects the impact of welfare reform measures.

In Northern Ireland, 18,628 households presented as homeless in 2015-16, a decrease of 5% from the previous year (19,621). The household types with the highest number of homeless presenters in 2015-16 were single males (34%) and families (32%). There had been a 4% increase between 2013-2014 and 2014-2015.<sup>26</sup>

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<sup>23</sup> National Audit Office (2017)

<sup>24</sup> <http://www.gov.scot/Resource/0052/00521186.pdf>

<sup>25</sup> [https://www.crisis.org.uk/media/237651/the\\_homelessness\\_monitor\\_wales\\_2017\\_es.pdf](https://www.crisis.org.uk/media/237651/the_homelessness_monitor_wales_2017_es.pdf)

<sup>26</sup> <https://www.communities-ni.gov.uk/sites/default/files/publications/communities/ni-housing-stats-15-16-full-copy.pdf>

\* Break in series in 2012 for all indicators in UK & in 2011 for severe housing deprivation in Denmark.