Homelessness count in Ljubljana

EU Homelessness Counts project

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Homelessness COUNTS

Funded by the European Union

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Past research on homelessness in Slovenia

Existing studies have been limited.

Available data:

- Regular report on number of users of homeless services by Social Protection institute
- Survey data on past experience of homelessness (Filipovič Hrast et al. 2023)
- Few local, but not comprehensive counts (Ljubljana) – e.g. Dekleva and Razpotnik (2007)
- Census data on homeless very limited (those having permanent residence registered at NGO, municipality)

Homelessness in Slovenia – survey data

	Number	*Share (in %)*
Experienced homelessness and housing exclusion	65	6,5
• Experienced eviction	9	0,9
• Hidden homelessness (living temporarily with firends…)	55	5,5
• Living in shelters, in places not inteded for housing, on the street	7	0,7

In: Filipovič Hrast et al. 2023

Homelessness Counts – EU project

ETHOS 1:

- based on users of soup kitchens, day centres for homeless and other day centres, users of Red cross and Caritas services for homeless, users of health care service for people without health insurance
- Survey+ count carried out by a team of outreach workers on the count day, zoning based on know spots in the city to outreach workers and in wider city centre

ETHOS 2: small number of night shelters (for homeless, for homeless drug abusers)

ETHOS 3:

- Shelters for homeless people
- Women's shelters, shelters for victims of violence
- Supported housing programmes
- Youth shelter

ETHOS 4: not included

ETHOS 5 and 6: included if experienced by users of above services

Survey

Survey developed by all the partners within EU Homelessness Counts project

Major data collection on the 8th of October, but some flexibility to allow inclusion of services that only operate once a week

Paper and online questionnaire (mainly paper version used in the field)

The questionnaires were filled in by the respondents themselves with the help of professionals who assisted the respondents with reading, writing or any additional explanation or clarification of questions when needed.

Code used for anonymising the respondents to avoid double counts

Summary of key results of the Ljubljana count

ETHOS Light category		# 414	%
1	in public spacee	78	18,8
2	in emergency accommodation	23	5,6
3	in accommodation for PEH or temporary housing	121	29,2
4	in institutions (e.g. prison, hospital)	14	3,4
5	in unconventional dwellings	106	25,6
6	temporarily staying with family or friends	72	17,4

ETHOS Light 1-6

ETHOS Light category		Adults #222	%
1	in public space	78	35,1
2	in emergency accommodation	23	10,4
3	in accommodation for PEH or temporary housing	121	54,5

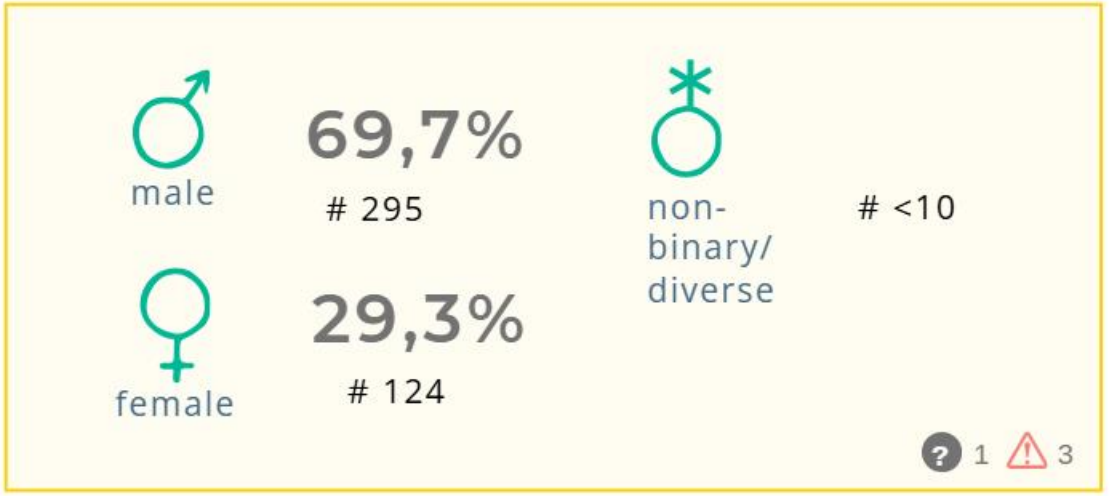
ETHOS Light 1-3

Subcategories of ETHOS Light 1 and 3

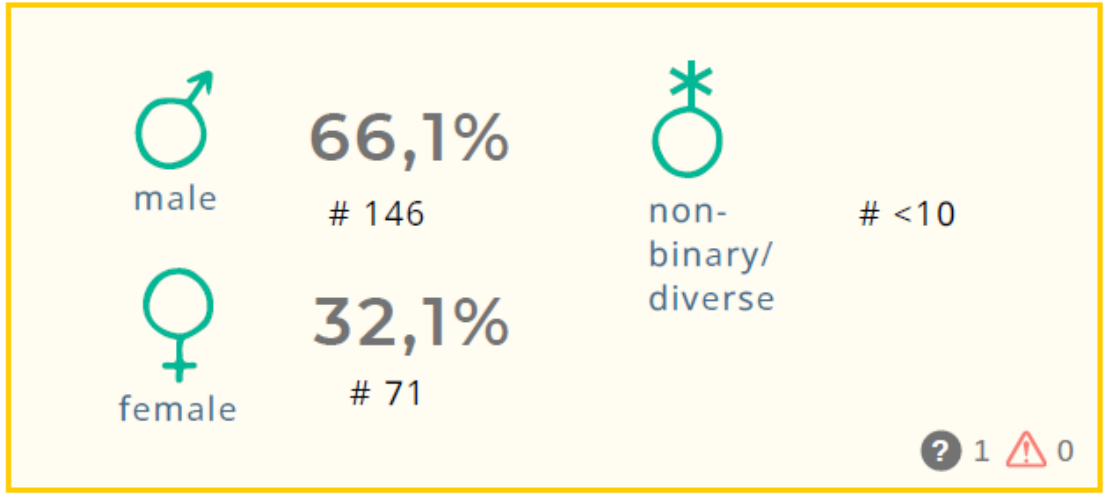
		Number	*Valid %*
Valid	Public space: e.g. street, park, car	42	71,2
	Public transport: e.g. bus (station), train (station)	9	15,3
	Private space with public access: e.g. tent, parking lot	8	13,6
	Total	59	100,0
Missing	Unknown / no response	19	
	Systemic	348	
	Total	367	
Total		426	

		Number	*Valid %*
Valid	Shelter for PEH, temporary housing	15	13,9
	Supported housing programmes	48	44,4
	Accommodation programmes for women	45	41,7
	Total	108	100,0
Missing	Unknown / no response	13	
	Systemic	305	
	Total	318	
Total		426	

ETHOS Light 1-6

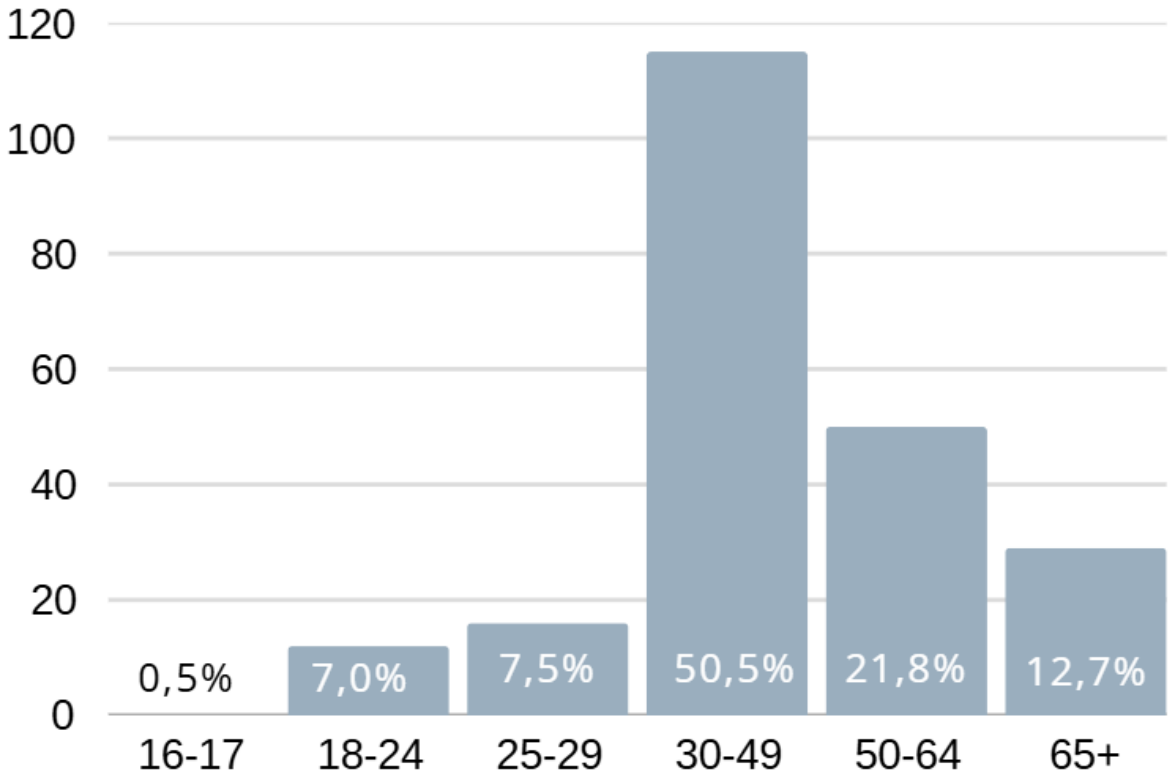


ETHOS Light 1-3



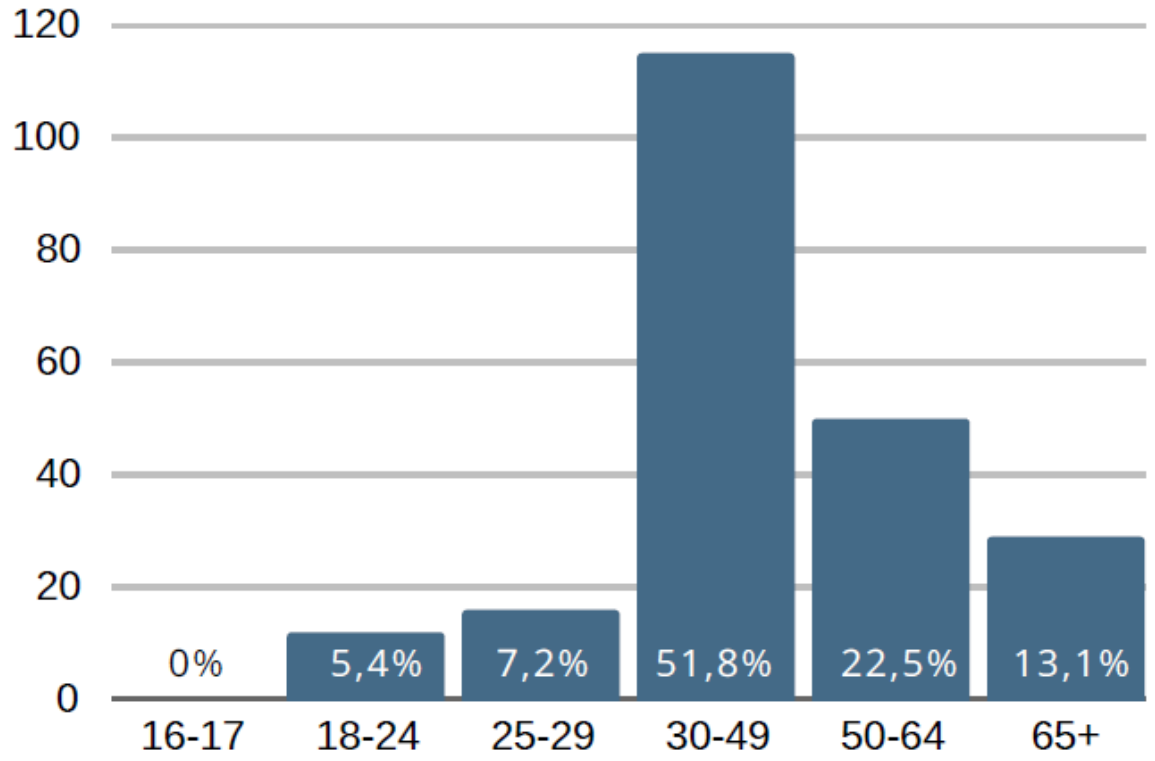
Age groups (# 426) ? 0 ⚠ 0

ETHOS Light 1-6



Age groups (# 222) ? 0 ⚠ 0

ETHOS Light 1-3



ETHOS Light 1-6

Household (# 418) ? 8 ⚠ 0

66,5%
Single
278

8,4%
Lone parent living with child(ren)
35

4,5%
Couple living without child(ren)
19

10,0%
Couple living with child(ren)
42

Other (10,3%)

ETHOS Light 1-3

Household (# 222) ? 0 ⚠ 0

68,0%
Single
151

12,6%
Lone parent living with child(ren)
28

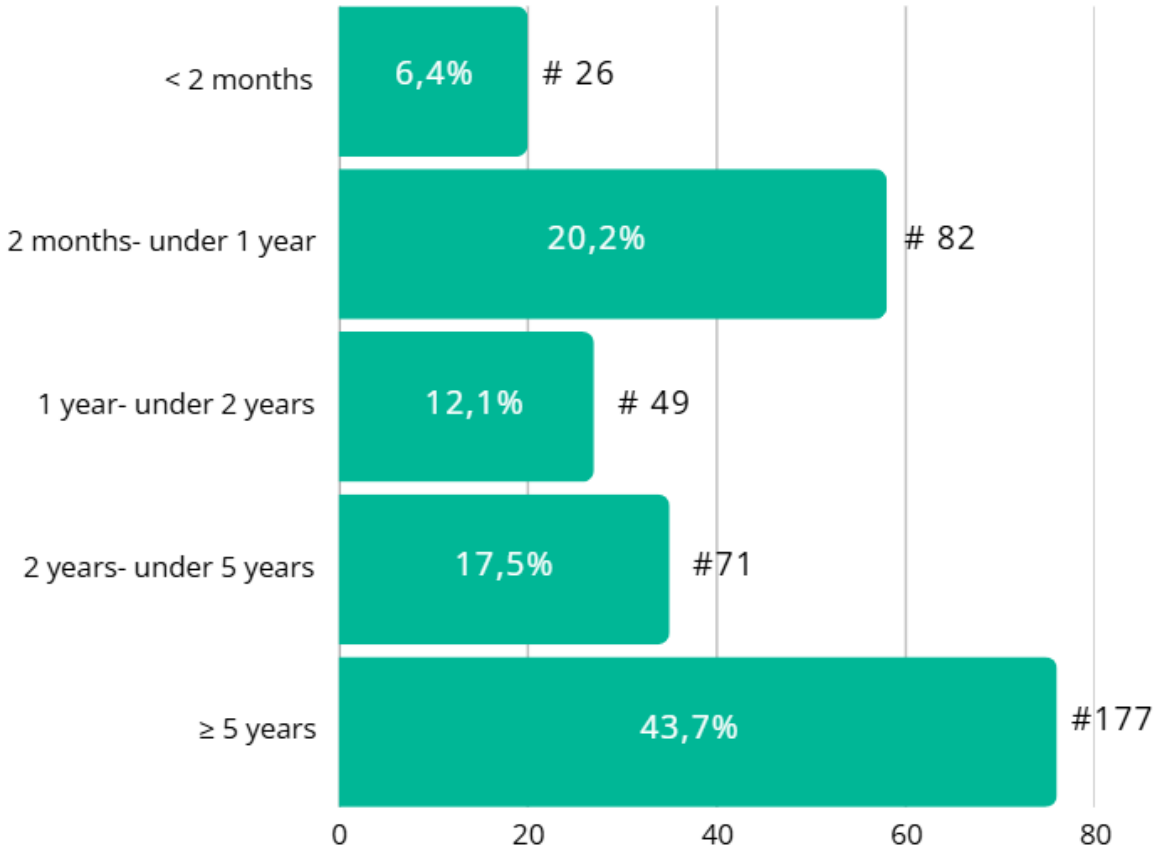
Couple living without child(ren)
<10

Couple living with child(ren)
<10

Other (13,1%)

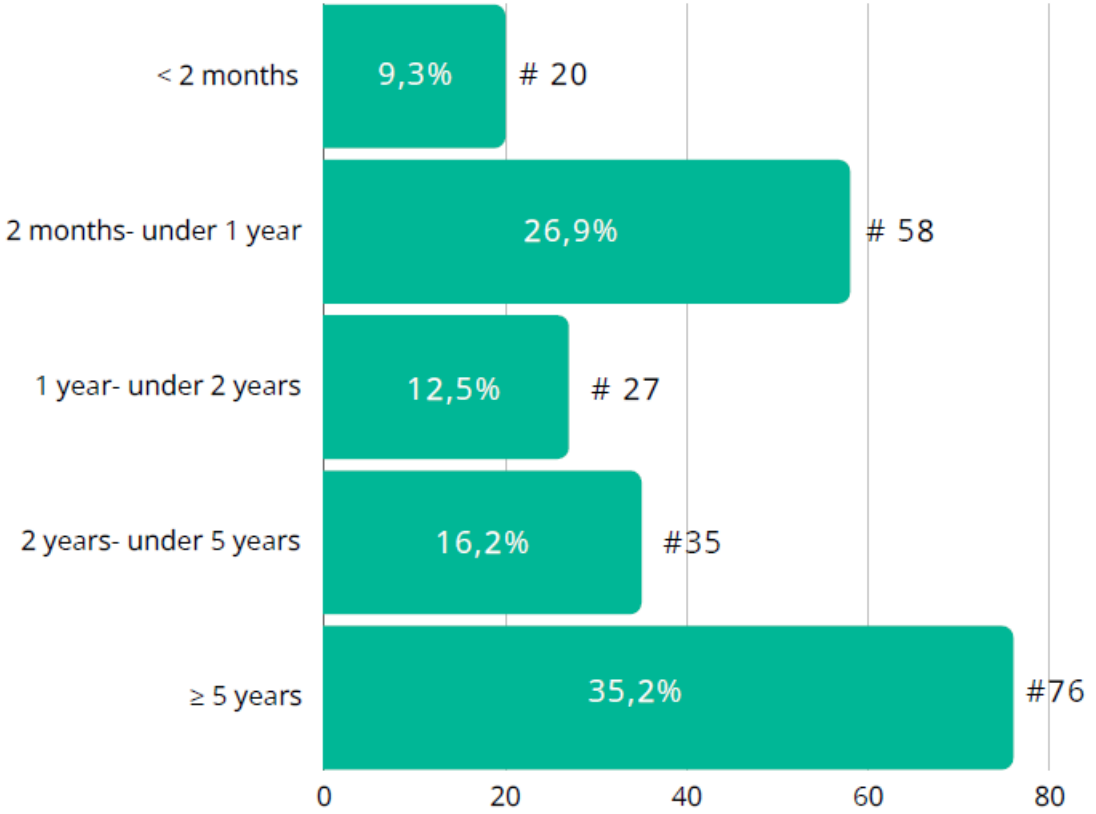
Duration (# 405) ? 21 ⚠ 0

ETHOS Light 1-6



Duration (# 216) ? 6 ⚠ 0

ETHOS Light 1-3



ETHOS Light 1-6

Triggers leading to homelessness (# 426) ? 37 ⚠ 0

41,8%

Family issues

178

32,9%

Financial reasons

140

22,3%

Domestic abuse

95

23,9%

Health related issues, including addiction

102

13,4%

Eviction/ tenancy loss

57

Exit from an institution (4,9%), migration (7,0%), other (4,7%)

Note: people could choose up to 3 responses

ETHOS Light 1-3

Triggers leading to homelessness (# 206) ? 16 ⚠ 0

43,7%

Family issues

90

35,4%

Financial reasons

73

26,2%

Domestic abuse

54

23,3%

Health related issues, including addiction

48

13,1%

Eviction/ tenancy loss

27

Exit from an institution (6,3%), migration (4,4%), other (6,3%)

Note: people could choose up to 3 responses

PRISON		*Number*	*Valid %*
Valid	Yes	127	31,4
	No	278	68,6
	Total	405	100
Missing	Unknown/ no response	21	
Total		426	
YOUTH CARE			
Valid	Yes	52	13,1
	No	344	86,9
	Total	396	100
Missing	Unknown/ no response	30	
Total		426	
PSYCHIATRIC HOSPITAL			
Valid	Yes	145	36,5
	No	252	63,5
	Total	397	100
Missing	Unknown/ no response	29	
Total		426	

Share of persons according to experience of institutionalization: ETHOS Light 1-6

Share of persons by type of income

	Nr.	*%*
Permanent or temporary employment	41	9,6
Unemployment benefit	8	1,9
Sickenss or disability benefit	19	4,5
Minimum income schemes	229	53,8
Old age pension	40	9,4
Informal income	51	12,0
No income	61	14,3
Other	26	6,1
Other benefits	26	6,1
Unknown / no response	36	8,5
Total	426	126,2*

**Note: Respondents could choose multiple answers.*

Share of persons by citizenship and residence status (for persons who are not citizens of the Republic of Slovenia)

		Number	Valid %
Valid	Citizenship of the Republic of Slovenia	333	78,5
	Nationality of a European Union member state	24	5,7
	Nationality of a country outside European Union	65	15,3
	No citizenship	2	0,5
	Total	424	100,0
Missing	Unknown / no reponse	2	
	Total	426	

		Number	Valid %
Total	Permanent resident	38	40,9
	Temporary resident	23	24,7
	Residence status in procedure	7	7,5
	Undocumented resident	14	15,1
	Other (e.g. the Erased)*	5	5,4
	Total	87	100,0
Missing	Unknown / no response	6	
	Total	93	

Conclusions

- Results show an expected sociodemographic structure of people experiencing homelessness
- However high share of those experiencing homelessness for more than 5 years indicates lack of long-term solutions
- High share of ETHOS 3 in supported accommodation – showing recent developments in the field, but potentially specific for Ljubljana
- High likelihood of underestimation of children and young as well as migrants due to methodological choices and constraints
- Underestimation of ETHOS 6

- Distinction between ETHOS 1 and 5 – blurred, comparability?
- Role of services and their support – high for first count, but… widening the number of services included in 2025 count presents a challenge