



# Monitoring and Measurement of Homelessness

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# Agenda

- Structure and strategies in Norway
- Monitoring tools and measurement of homelessness

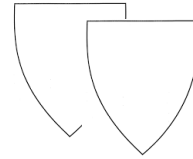
# The Norwegian structure on housing policy

## The state



### Husbanken

## The municipalities



### 365 municipalities

## Private sector



### Private sector / Private marked

Parliament, Government,  
Ministry of Local  
Government and Regional  
Development

- Policies
- Legal framework
- The state budget of Norway
- National strategies
- Finance
- Initiate projects
- Public institutions

- Secure and proficient handler of financial instruments
- Driver of digitalization
- A partner for municipalities and other housing policy actors
- National center of social housing knowledge and competence

- Planning- and building authority
- Land-use regulations
- Land- and housing supply
- Housing for the needy

- Financial banking
- Construction
- Manage
- Private housing marked
- Trade

## SOCIAL MISSION



Adequate and secure housing for all

## ROLES



- Safe and efficient manager
- Digital driver
- Professional supporter
- National knowledge role

## INSTRUMENTS 2023

**Loan facility:** 21 mrd NOK kr

### Grants:

- housing allowances – 4,619 mrd kr
- subsidies for rental housing– 400 mill kr
- investment grants nursing homes and assisted living facilities–2,950 mrd kr
- student accommodation grants – 871,4 mill kr
- Energy measures grants for social housing – 263,7mil kr
- housing and development grants – 21,7 mill kr

### Digital services (per 2021)

- 4 600 caseworkers / users in the municipalities
- «Mitt kundeforhold»: 47 500 users
- Startskudd: 37 000 applications for start-up loans
- 81 % digital housing allowance applicants
- Husbanken.no: 1,3 mill users



**Husbanken**  
2023

## 8 NATIONAL OFFICES

- Loans and grants
- Municipality and market
- Digitization
- Knowledge
- Management and development
- Control
- Finances and common services
- Communication

## 4 REGIONAL OFFICES

Available to municipalities across the country

- Municipality strategy
- Loans and grants

## ORGANIZATION

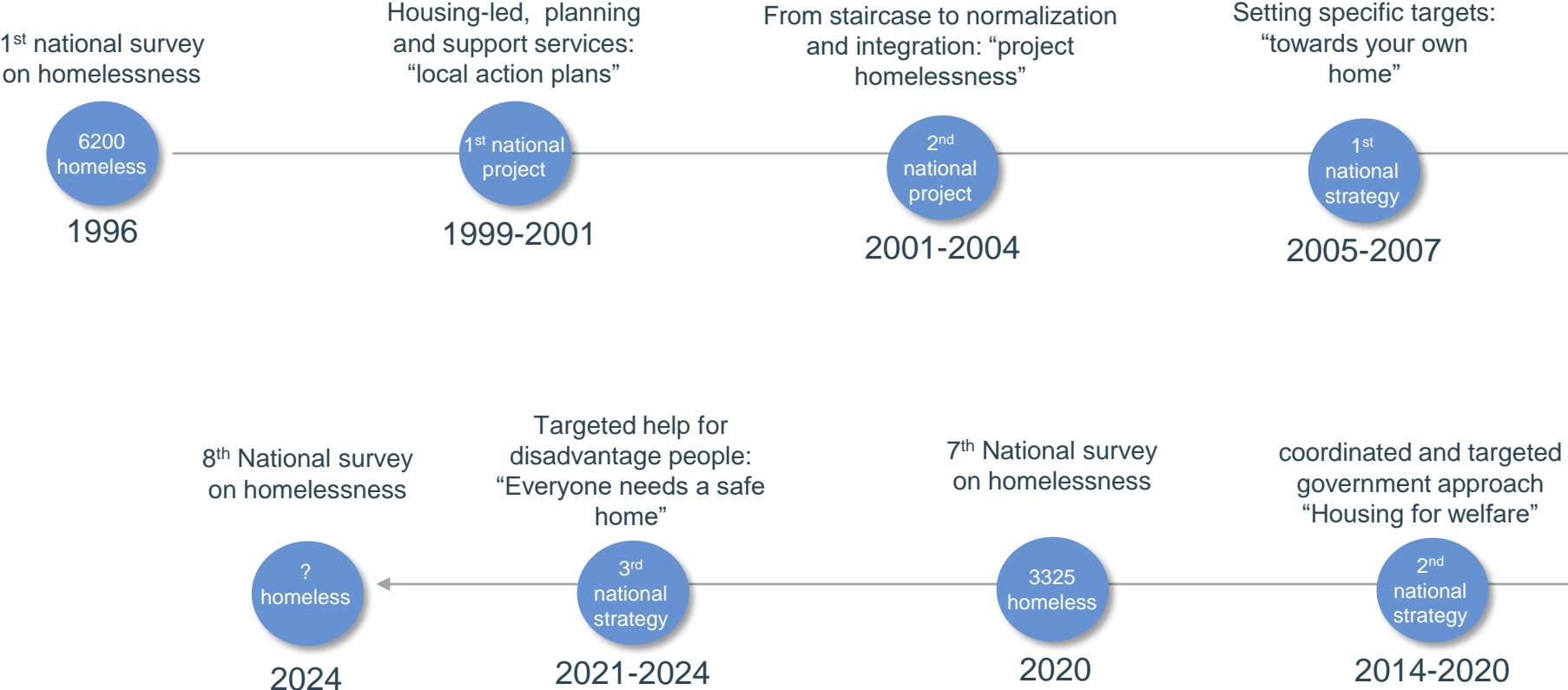


Employees:

**287**

Operating budget  
**353,7 mill. kr**

# Long term strategical work and national strategies





“Everyone needs a safe home”

Alle trenger  
et trygt hjem

Nasjonal strategi for den sosiale boligpolitikken (2021-2024)



## Alignment between the 3<sup>rd</sup> national strategy and Husbankens vision

contribute to more people  
being able to become  
homeowners

Renting as a safe option

Social sustainability in  
housing policy

Clear roles, and necessary  
knowledge and  
competence

### Relevant measures in the national strategy:

Prepare more frequent overviews of  
homelessness

[We all need a safe place to call home - National strategy for social housing policies \(2021-2024\) - regjeringen.no](#)

## Surveying homelessness at more frequent intervals

- “The Government wishes to supplement the four-yearly surveys with more frequent studies of the situation of homeless people in Norway. In the future, new digital solutions for municipal rented accommodation will be used to generate data on homelessness. Until these solutions are in place, the Norwegian State Housing Bank will prepare an annual report based on existing sources, to estimate the number of homeless people and analyze developments.”
- Mission form the Ministry in 2021: “Husbanken shall, in collaboration with the other welfare directorates, propose national indicators for the work to prevent and combat homelessness. Among other things, the indicators shall form the basis for the annual reporting in the national budget.”
- Four national indicators have been selected that can show something about the extent and development of homelessness.

# Special effort towards



Zero homelessness



Secure housing for children  
and young people



People with disabilities should, on an  
equal footing with others, be able to  
choose where and how they live



Contribute to more suitable housing  
for the elderly



Increase financing of  
housing in rural areas





## Adequate and secure housing for all

Husbanken shall contribute to preventing people from becoming disadvantaged in the housing market, and the disadvantaged being able to obtain and retain suitable housing.

In order for the disadvantaged in the housing market to live well and safely in suitable housing, Husbanken will support and follow-up all municipalities in the use of financial instruments, and offer digital platforms, events, networks, information and training.

# New Challenges - Cost of living

- Rising inflation
- Rising interest rates
- Rising house prices
- Rising house rent
- Weak exchange rates
- Low level of construction of new houses and apartments
- Over 50,000 refugees from Ukraine



# OECD - Monitoring framework: Approaches to collect data on homelessness

**Point-in-time counts** (e.g., street counts, survey of shelter users on a specific date)

None

**Registry weeks/By-name lists** (e.g., week-long count, including an assignment of a case manager to offer supports to individuals)

None

**Service-based sampling** (e.g., data on users of services, collected in cooperation with service providers)

National survey every 4. year (NIBR Dyb) on assignment from Husbanken

Selected municipalities surveys/data e.g. Oslo and Bergen (annual or biannual)

**Administrative data** (e.g., health records, criminal justice records, social services data, etc.)

National indicators:

Temporarily Housing/Shelter number of persons per year (Statistics Norway KOSTRA)

Housing situation for cases on social assistance/benefit - Homeless per year (Statistics Norway KOSTRA)

Evictions carried out by the judicial/police authorities annual (National Police Directorate/Husbanken)

Number of homeless people mapped in “BrukerPlan”. (Persons with drug addiction and mental disorders in the municipalities) (annual or biannual)

**Census of the general population and household surveys** (e.g., Census; special module on homelessness in household survey)

## Definition homeless in Norway



A homeless person is defined as a person who does not own or rent a home;

- does not have any accommodation for the coming night
- lives in makeshift or temporary housing arrangements
- stays temporarily with close relatives, friends, or acquaintances
- lives in a correctional service or an institution and is due for release within two months without a home to go to

## Who is homeless?

3 325 homeless people (week 48 in 2020), can be divided into three main challenges:

### **Long-term homeless**

people who experience homelessness as a recurring situation over several years

### **Acutely homeless**

people who experience homelessness as a new acute problem caused by e.g., divorce, domestic violence

### **"New" groups homeless**

new types of homelessness or groups with rapid increase in numbers e.g., young people, women and immigrants

### Key numbers:

49% struggle with substance abuse and

29% mental illnesses

25% are acute homeless

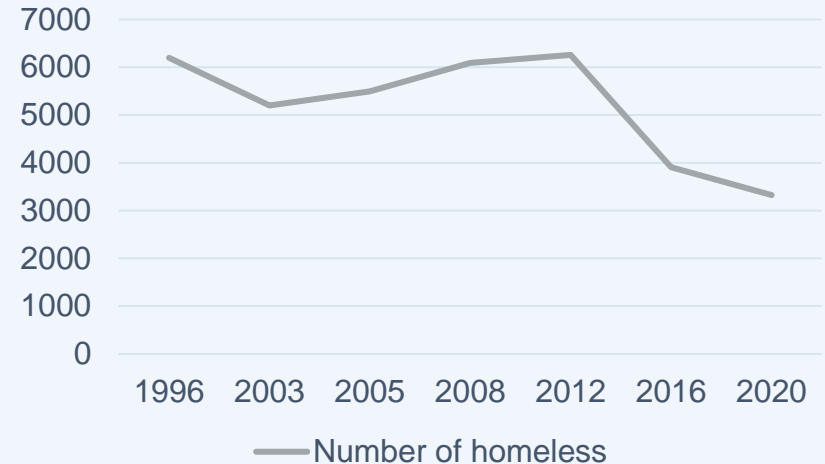
16% are under the age of 25

33% are not born in Norway

29 % are women

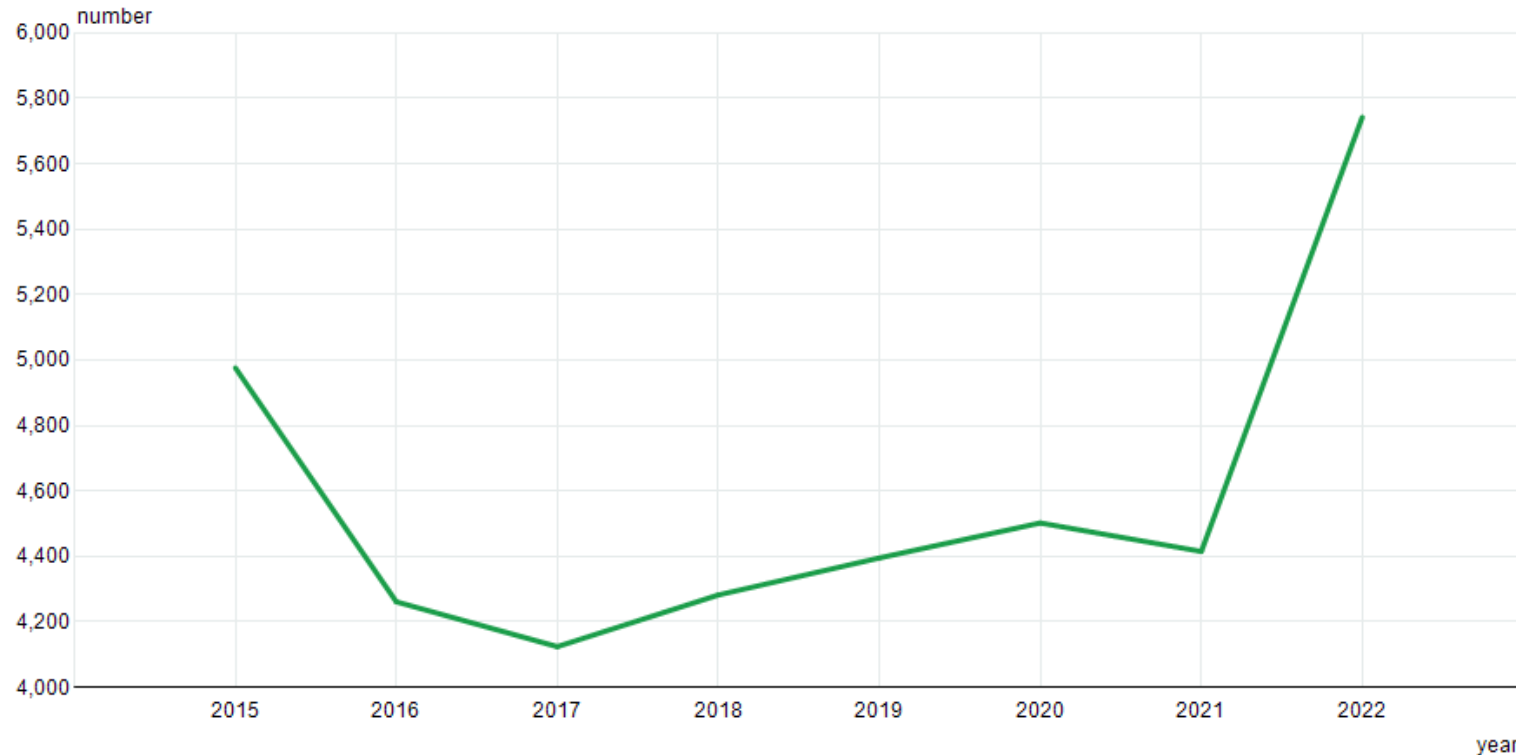
## What remains to be done to take homelessness down to zero?

- The effort against homelessness has yielded results – reduced by half from 2012 to 2020
- A lot of great work has been done, but the job is not finished
- What remains to be done to take homelessness down to zero?



# Temporary Housing/Shelter

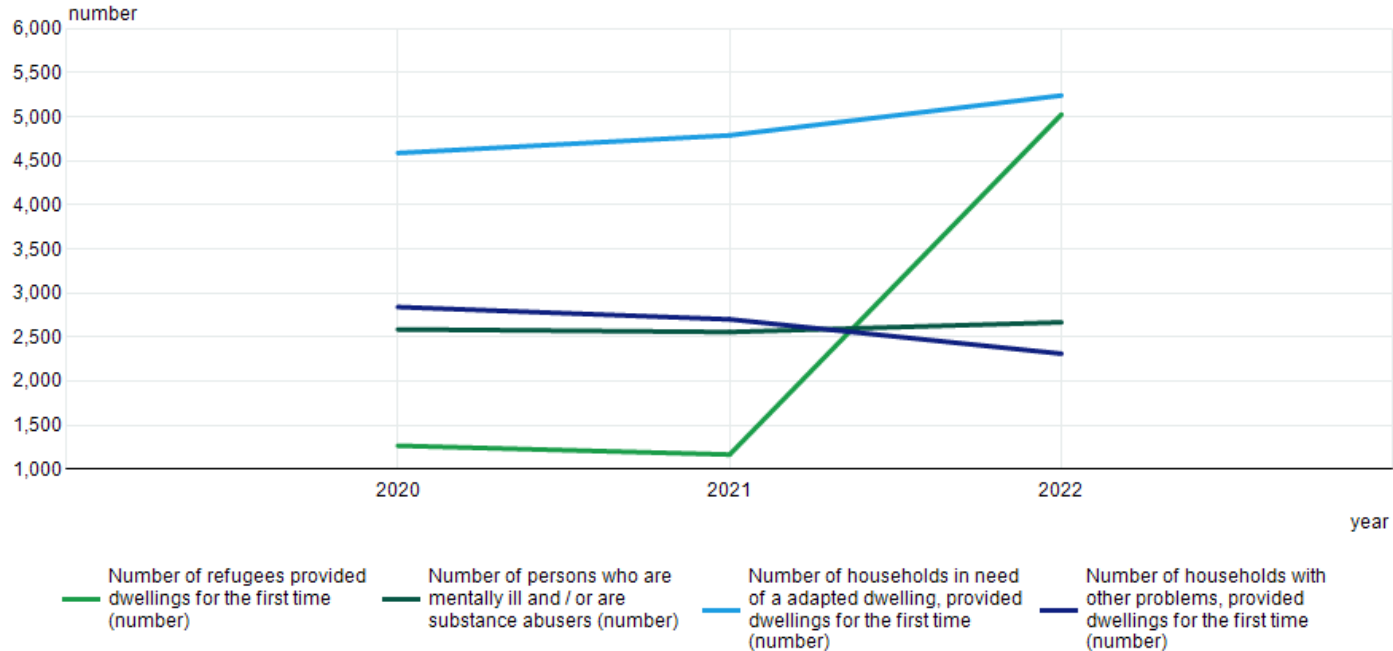
12015: Temporary residents and night homes, by year. The whole country, Number of temporary residents in municipal dwellings, in total (number).



Source: Statistics Norway

# Target groups - moved into municipal/social housing

13140: Key figures, Allocation of municipal dwellings disposed for rental , by contents and year. The whole country.

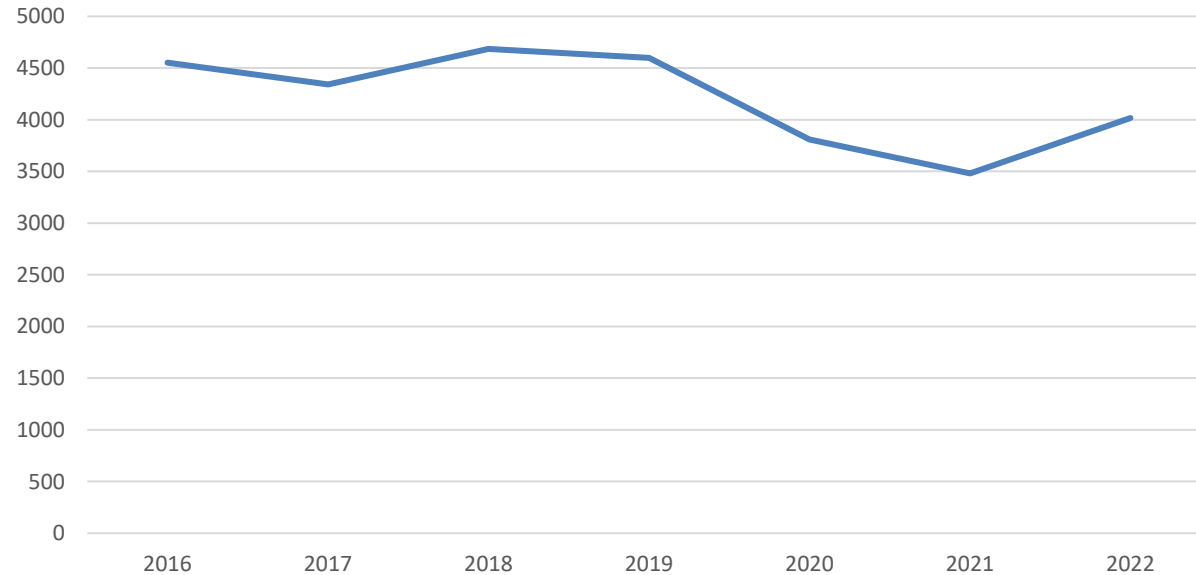


Source: Statistics Norway



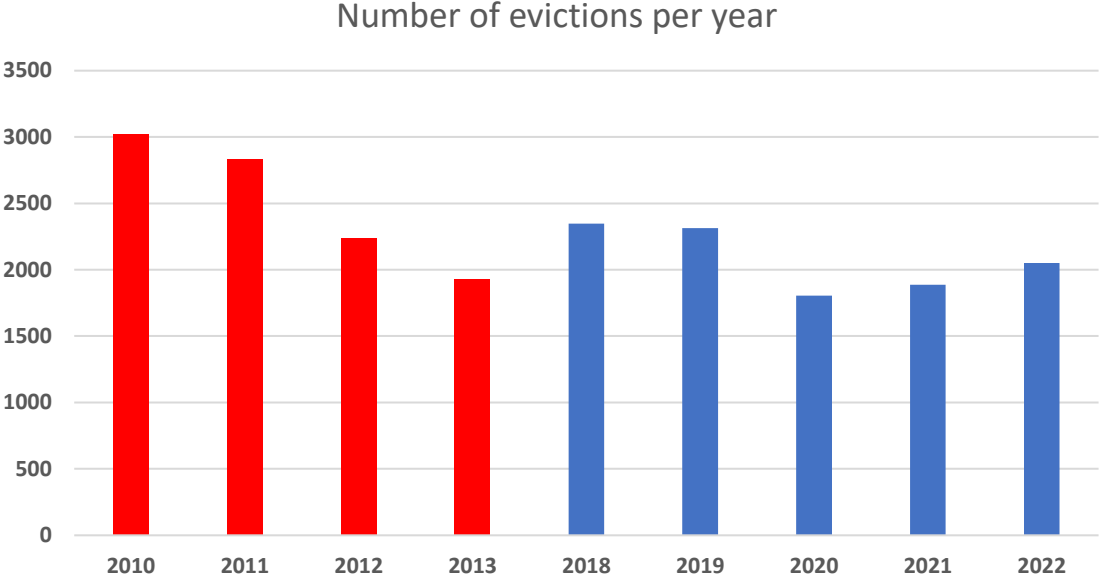
# Housing situation for cases on social assistance - Homeless

Without suitable housing (number)



Source: Statistics Norway

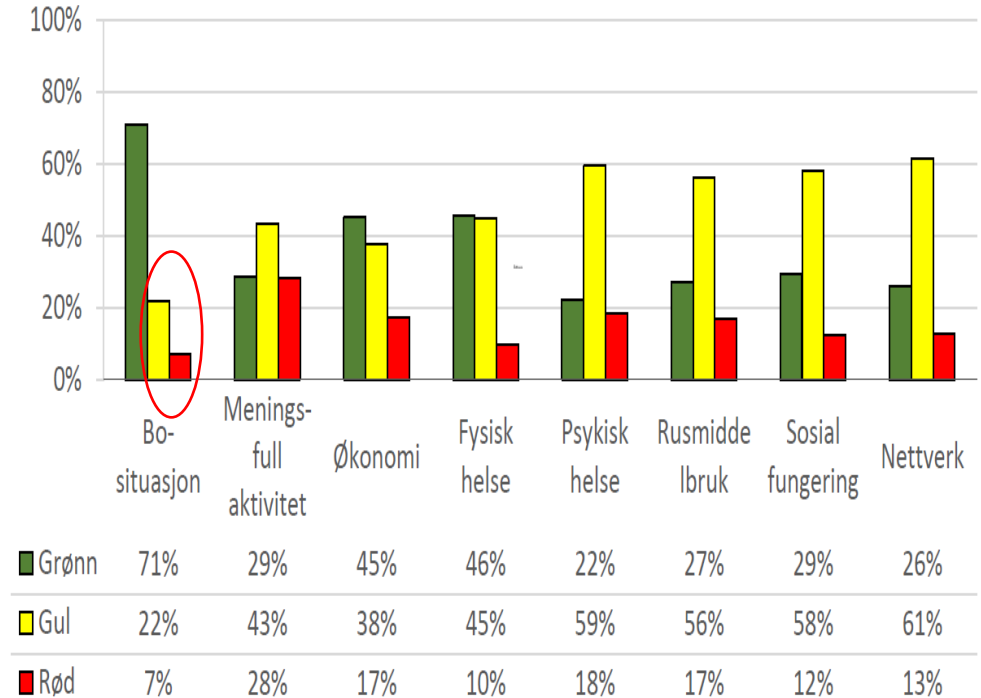
# Evictions carried out by the judicial/police authorities



Source: National Police Directorate/Husbanken

# BrukerPlan (User Plan)

- Number of homeless people mapped in “BrukerPlan”
- Persons with drug addiction and mental disorders in the municipalities
- System for mapping and planning
- National report based on the data made by Stavanger University Hospital (KORFOR)
- Annual or biannual
- 2 054 homeless (red)
- Mapping stopped temporary in 2021 due problems regarding duty of confidentiality and privacy regulations



**Figur 1.** Levekårsområder. Prosentandeler av mottakere med rusproblemer. (N= 22 404).

# What remains to be done to take homelessness down to zero?

## Access to enough suitable housing

Complexity increases the need for more indicators and data

KOBO – The Norwegian State Housing Bank collaborates with several local municipalities to develop a digital system for municipal rental housing (Kobo). The system will facilitate the process of applying for allocating and managing municipal rental housing, as well as following up residents and collecting data. It will provide future opportunities to identify people who have experienced homelessness among applicants for social housing.

Number of homeless week 48

