

## HC3.1 HOMELESS POPULATION

### Definitions and methodology

This indicator presents available data at national level on the number of people reported by public authorities as homeless. Data are mainly taken from the 2016 OECD Questionnaire on Affordable and Social Housing (QuASH 2016). Overall, 29 out of 35 reporting countries provided data on the number of homeless (See Table HC 3.1.1 in Annex I below).

There is no internationally agreed definition of homelessness. Therefore, this indicator presents a collection of available statistics on homelessness in OECD and EU countries in line with definitions used in national surveys (comparability issues on the data are discussed below). Some countries have different official definitions of homeless: they may use a definition for the purpose of data collection but use another one or several definitions for policy purposes, i.e. in the framework of policy measures aimed at tackling homelessness. In this indicator we refer only to the statistical definition used for data collection purposes.

Detail on what is included in the number of homeless, i.e. the definition used for statistical purposes, is presented in Table HC 3.1.2 at the end of this indicator. To facilitate comparison of the content of homeless statistics across countries, it is also indicated whether the definition includes the following categories (based on “ETHOS Light”, see Box 3.1 below):

- *People living Rough*: Living in the streets or public spaces without a shelter that can be defined as living quarters
- *People in emergency accommodation*: People with no place of usual residence who move frequently between various types of accommodation
- *People living in accommodation for the homeless*: Including Homeless Hostels; temporary accommodation; Transitional Supported Accommodation; Women’s shelter or refuge accommodation
- *People living in institutions*: Including people who stay longer than needed in health institutions needed due to lack of housing; and people in penal institutions with no housing available prior to release
- *People living in non-conventional dwellings due to lack of housing* : where accommodation consists of mobile homes, non-conventional building or temporary structure, and is used due to a lack of housing and is not the person’s usual place of residence
- *People living temporarily in conventional housing with family and friends* due to lack of housing
- *Other*: elements linked with the person’s living conditions or status not included above, according to which he/she is counted as homeless

## Key findings

***Homelessness counts in most countries include rough sleepers, people living in accommodation for the homeless and in emergency temporary accommodation, but definitions of homelessness vary across countries.***

Statistics from all countries include rough sleepers, except for data on Austria, Estonia, and Slovenia where rough sleepers are not separately identifiable. Data in most countries (22 countries) cover people living in accommodation for the homeless and people living in emergency accommodation (21 countries). About half of the surveyed countries also cover people living in non-conventional dwellings and people living temporarily with family and friends due to lack of housing, while only 7 countries also include people living in institutions in their homelessness statistics. Details are provided in Table HC 3.1.2, in Annex I.

***In all countries less than 1% of the population is reported as homeless.***

As shown in table HC 3.1.1 below, the number of people reported as homeless accounts for less than 1% of the population in all responding countries.

Australia, the Czech Republic and New Zealand report a relatively large incidence of homelessness, and this is partly explained by the fact that these countries adopt a broad definition of homelessness. In Australia people are considered as homeless if they have “*no other options to acquire safe and secure housing are without shelter, in temporary accommodation, sharing accommodation with a household or living in uninhabitable housing*”. In the Czech Republic the term homeless covers “*persons sleeping rough (roofless), people who are not able to procure any dwelling and hence live in accommodation for the homeless, and people living in insecure accommodation and people staying in conditions which do not fulfil the minimum standards of living [...]*”. In New Zealand homelessness is defined as “*living situations where people with no other options to acquire safe and secure housing: are without shelter, in temporary accommodation, sharing accommodation with a household or living in uninhabitable housing.*”

The country with the smallest share of homeless persons is Japan (0.004% of the population in 2015) where figures only refer to people sleeping rough. For further information on the national definitions used to collect data on homelessness, see Table HC 3.1.1.

Although the homeless are a small share of the population, these figures still represent a significant number of people. Among the higher reported figures, the United States report 564,708 homeless people, and Canada, France and Australia all report having over 100 thousand homeless people in their most recent surveys.

**Table HC 3.1.1: Estimated number of homeless people, 2015 or latest year available <sup>1</sup>**

	Year	Number of homeless	Homeless as % of total population <sup>2</sup>	Figures include <i>more than</i> persons 1) living rough, 2) living in emergency accommodation, and 3) living in accommodation for the homeless?
Australia	2011	105,237	0.47%	Yes
Austria	2014	14,603	0.17%	No
Canada	2011	150,000	0.44%	No
Chile	2011	12,255	0.16%	No
Croatia	2013	462	0.01%	No
Czech Republic (3)	2015	68,500	0.65%	Yes
Denmark	2013	6,138	0.10%	Yes
Estonia	2011	864	0.06%	Yes
Finland	2015	7,200	0.13%	Yes
France	2012	141,500	0.22%	No
Germany (4)	2014	335,000	0.42%	Yes
Greece	2009	21,216	0.19%	Yes
Hungary	2014	10,068	0.10%	Yes
Ireland	2015	3,625	0.08%	No
Italy (5)	2014	50,724	0.08%	No
Japan	2015	6,235	0.00%	No
Latvia	2011	2,342	0.11%	Yes
Lithuania	2011	857	0.03%	No
Luxemburg	2006	715	0.15%	Yes
Mexico	2010	40,911	0.04%	Yes
Netherlands	2015	31,000	0.18%	Yes
New Zealand	2015	41,207	0.94%	Yes
Norway	2012	6,259	0.13%	Yes
Poland	2015	36,161	0.10%	Yes
Portugal	2009	2,133	0.02%	No
Slovenia	2015	2,700	0.13%	No
Spain	2012	22,938	0.05%	No
Sweden	2011	34,000	0.36%	Yes
United Kingdom (6)	2015-16	(57,750 households)	0.25% (households)	Yes, but limited to certain priority categories
United States	2015	564,708	0.18%	Yes

1. Information is missing for Belgium, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Iceland, Israel, Italy, Korea, Malta, Romania, the Slovak Republic, Switzerland and Turkey.

2. 2. refers to population on first of January of the year of reference, see OECD Population and vital statistics database, [http://stats.oecd.org/Index.aspx?DataSetCode=ALFS\\_POP\\_VITAL](http://stats.oecd.org/Index.aspx?DataSetCode=ALFS_POP_VITAL)

3. Czech Republic: an additional 119,000 people are considered at risk of homelessness, including persons living in unsuitable conditions (e.g. atypical, informal residential buildings) and legally insecure housing.

4. Germany: no official statistics are available at federal level on the number of homeless. Figures in table HC 3.1.1 refer to estimates published yearly by the Federal Association for the Support of Homeless (Bundesarbeitsgemeinschaft Wohnungslosenhilfe e.V. , or BAG W). The Federal Government regularly refers to these figures in its reports on poverty and wealth since 2001.

5. Italy: Based on a survey carried out among homeless service users in 158 municipalities. The number of homeless people reported represents 0.24% of the population registered as resident in the surveyed municipalities.

6. United Kingdom: Data refer to England only. They refer to the number of households applying for housing assistance to local authorities who are accepted as statutory homeless during the year of reference.

Sources: OECD Questionnaire on Affordable Housing, 2016; for Denmark, information was retrieved from the 2014 OECD Questionnaire on Social and Affordable Housing and figures updated using the same source (Benjaminsen, L., and Lauritzen, H. H., 2015); for Italy: ISTAT (2014), *Le persone senza dimora*.

***Homelessness has increased in recent years in Denmark, England, France, Ireland, Italy, the Netherlands and New Zealand, but fallen in Finland and the United States***

Although comparability of data across countries is limited (see Data and comparability issues, below), it is possible to identify trends in homelessness within some OECD countries, based on available information from national sources. A number of countries have experienced an increase in homelessness in recent years, namely Denmark, England, France, Ireland, the Netherlands, and New Zealand.

In **Denmark**, the most recent homeless survey (Benjaminsen and Lauritzen, 2015) shows that there were 6,138 homeless people in Denmark in the first week of February 2015, up from 5,820 in 2014 and 4,998 in 2009. The number of homeless youth aged between 25 and 29 has increased significantly. Furthermore, about one-half of the homeless have been homeless for less than a year, showing a continued influx of newly homeless people into the statistics.

In **England** local authorities have a statutory duty under the Housing (Homeless Persons) Act of 1977 to secure suitable accommodation for unintentionally homeless households who are in a priority need category. The latter include, for instance, people with dependent children, people who are homeless as a result of emergencies such as flood, fire or other disasters, pregnant women, persons who are vulnerable because of old age, mental illness or disability, vulnerable care leavers, and persons fleeing violence. Data on homeless requests for accommodation and acceptances are regularly produced by local authorities and published by the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG). Although DCLG also publishes statistics on rough sleeping and on prevention and relief efforts by local authorities, the UK Statistics Authority in a recent report (UK Statistics Authority, 2015) concluded that only the statutory homeless figures could be considered 'national statistics'. Data on statutory homelessness show there has been a significant increase in homeless acceptances over the past five years, from 50,290 households in 2011-12 to 57,750 in 2015-16 (DCLG, 2016).

In **France**, figures on homelessness were collected by INSEE in 2001 and 2012 through a survey among users of homeless shelters and centers for meals distribution, in agglomerations of more than 20,000 inhabitants, during a week between January and March. The 2012 survey registered a total 103,000 adults using the services. Compared to the previous survey, the scope was enlarged in 2012 to include additional types of providers of homeless services. On a comparable basis, the number of homeless has increased by 44% since 2001 (Yaouancq et al., 2013).

In **Ireland**, official homelessness data is produced monthly by local authorities since 2014. Data captures details of individuals in State-funded emergency accommodation, and arrangements that are overseen by local authorities. While during the last week of December 2014 there were 2,858 homeless individuals in emergency accommodation and 407 families including 800 children, in December 2015 there were 3,625 individuals and 775 families including 1616 children. Monthly reports from the first half of 2016 recorded further increases in the number of homeless in emergency accommodation, particularly in Dublin (DHPCLG, 2016).

In **Italy**, data on homelessness are collected by ISTAT in cooperation with the Ministry of Labor and Social Policy, fio.PSD (the Federation of Organizations Working with Homeless People), and Caritas,

through a survey of homelessness services users in 158 municipalities (ISTAT, 2014). The survey shows an increase in homeless persons, from 47,648 in 2011 to 50,724 in 2014.

In **the Netherlands**, the number of homeless persons increased since 2009: 31,000 persons were counted as homeless in 2015, compared to 17,800 in 2009. In 2015, 82% of homeless were male and 18% female. 49% are Dutch nationals, and 51% were foreign born. The composition of the homeless population has remained relatively stable since 2010, with the only significant increase in the proportion of foreign born nationals of non-western origins (Statistics Netherlands, 2016). Figures published by Statistics Netherlands include people who on the first of January of each year are using day and night shelters for the homeless, persons registered on welfare registry as being without permanent residence, and persons registered as homeless by the national Alcohol and Drugs Information System (LADIS).

In **New Zealand** the number of homeless increased significantly over the past decade. Based on the most recent three Census rounds, in 2001 there were 28,649 homeless, 34,000 in 2006, and 41,207 in 2015 (University of Otago, 2016).

In **Poland** homelessness increased from 30,700 persons in 2013 to 36,160 in 2015. Data were gathered through the National research on the number of homeless people, which was held throughout Poland during one night in February 2013 and one in January 2015.

**Finland** is often regarded as an example of successful implementation of measures tackling homelessness (Busch-Geertsema et al. 2014). Governments have included the fight against homelessness in their programmes since the 1990s, and the Housing First principle has featured as a key element in the Finnish homelessness strategy since 2008, including the conversion of former institutional shelters into supported housing with permanent tenancies. According to a survey by the Housing Finance and Development Centre of Finland (ARA, 2015) completed by 282 cities and municipalities, the number of homeless people halved between 1990 to 2014, from 16,000 to about 7500.

In the **United States**, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development has released an annual report on the extent of homelessness since 2007—the Annual Homeless Assessment Report (AHAR). The estimates in the report combine two different sources: the Point-in-Time count (PIT) as well as one-year estimates of sheltered homeless from Homeless Management Information Systems (HMIS). PIT data show a constant decrease from 671,888 homeless in 2007 to 649,917 in 2010 and 564,708 in 2015.

## Data and comparability issues

Definitional differences drive variations in the reported incidence of homelessness across countries and hamper international comparisons and the understanding real differences in homelessness rates and risks.

Besides definitional differences, there are a number of flaws in the scope and methods of data collection which might affect measuring the real extent of homelessness. For instance, administrative data can provide good data on the users of homeless services but they leave out people who are not in contact with services providers or local authorities. Furthermore, geographical coverage of data collection often does not include the whole national territory but only municipalities with a certain number of inhabitants. A full description of methodological issues in homelessness data collection is beyond the scope of this indicator but more in-depth information can be found in Busch-Geertsema et al., 2014, and OECD, 2015.

Frequency and consistency of data collection also pose some problems. Efforts have been made through the OECD Questionnaire on Social and Affordable Housing to collect information on the number of homeless persons over several years. Nevertheless, it was not possible to collect data for the same years for all countries as the timing of homelessness counts is not harmonized across countries. In some cases, changes to the definition and/or methodology underlying data collection does not allow for reliable comparison over time. Some countries do not have a regular system of data collection on homelessness in place, and rely on information from one-off surveys without reference to one another.

**Box 1: Toward a shared definition of homelessness in Europe?**

At European level, the European Federation of National Organisations Working with the Homeless (FEANTSA) has developed a typology to define data collection on homelessness called ETHOS: the European Typology of Homelessness and Housing Exclusion. ETHOS shows the multiple dimensions of homelessness and is conceived as a means of improving understanding and measurement of homelessness, and to provide a common "language" for transnational exchanges on homelessness. A shortened version of ETHOS designed for data collection purposes was also developed ("ETHOS Light"). Despite this attempt at a common standard, national data collection strategies and estimates still vary significantly within the European Union. However, ETHOS has become an important reference, cited in many national documents in Europe but also in some non-European countries. Furthermore, the European Commission and the Conference of European Statisticians (CES) attempted to encourage the use of a standardised definition of homelessness in the 2011 round of Censuses. A definition of homelessness was recommended, distinguishing between 'primary homelessness' (persons living in the streets or without shelter), and 'secondary homelessness' (persons with no place of usual residence who move frequently between various types of accommodation and persons usually resident in long-term shelters or similar arrangements for homeless people). Nevertheless, there was variation in the manner in which CES recommendations were interpreted and implemented.

**Sources and further reading:**

Busch-Geertsema, V. et al. (2014), *Extent and Profile of Homelessness in European Member States - A statistical update*. European Observatory on Homelessness, Brussels

DCLG (2016), England Statutory Homelessness, Live Table 784, <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistical-data-sets/live-tables-on-homelessness>, extracted on 11 August 2016

DHPCLG Homelessness Data, <http://www.housing.gov.ie/housing/homelessness/other/homelessness-data> accessed on 15 November 2016

Edgar, B., et al. (2007) Measurement of Homelessness at European Union Level. European Commission, [http://ec.europa.eu/employment\\_social/social\\_inclusion/docs/2007/study\\_homelessness\\_en.pdf](http://ec.europa.eu/employment_social/social_inclusion/docs/2007/study_homelessness_en.pdf)

FEANTSA (2016), ETHOS Typology on Homelessness and Housing Exclusion, <http://www.feantsa.org/en/toolkit/2005/04/01/ethos-typology-on-homelessness-and-housing-exclusion?bcParent=27>

Frazer H. and Marlier E. (2010), Homelessness and housing exclusion across EU Member States, Analysis and suggestions on the way forward by the EU Network of independent experts on social inclusion, European Commission, Brussels <http://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?catId=1025&langId=en&newsId=1402&furtherNews=yes>

ISTAT (2014), *Le persone senza dimora*, <https://www.istat.it/it/archivio/175984>

OECD (2015), *Integrating Social Services for Vulnerable Groups: Bridging Sectors for Better Service Delivery*, OECD Publishing, Paris. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/9789264233775-en>

Statistics Netherlands (2016) , Homelessness data, <http://statline.cbs.nl/Statweb/publication/?VW=T&DM=SLNL&PA=80799ned&D1=a&D2=a&D3=a&HD=150303-1405&HDR=T,G2&STB=G1>, accessed on 15 November 2016

UK Statistics Authority (2015), *Assessment of compliance with the Code of Practice for Official Statistics: Statistics on Homelessness and Rough Sleeping in England*, United Kingdom Statistics Authority, London

University of Otago (2016) "Homelessness accelerates between censuses", *Media release*, University of Otago

U.S. HUD, Homelessness Data Exchange, <http://www.hudhdx.info/>, accessed on 1 September 2016

Yaouancq, F. et al. (2013), "L'hebergement des sans-domicile en 2012", *INSEE Premiere* N. 1455, INSEE, Paris

**ANNEX 1**

**Table HC 3.1.2: Definition of homelessness used for the purpose of data collection<sup>1</sup>**

	Definition of homelessness used for data collection	Including people:						
		Sleeping Rough	In emergency accommodation	Living in accommodation for the homeless	Living in institutions	Living in non-conventional dwellings due to lack of housing	Living temporarily with family or friends due to lack of housing	Other categories included / notes
Australia	People are considered as homeless if they do not have suitable accommodation alternatives and they live in a dwelling that is inadequate, or does not allow them to have control of and access to space for social relations, or if they have no tenure, or their initial tenure is short and not extendable,.	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	People living in boarding houses (due to lack of suitable accommodation alternatives); people living in severely crowded dwellings
Austria	"Registered homelessness": number of people who have a note of their status of homelessness ( <i>Vermerk des Obdachlosenstatus</i> ) or are registered in accommodations for the homeless	No	No	Yes	No	No	No	People who have note of their status of homelessness
Canada	There is no nationally agreed definition of homelessness. Figures refer to an annual estimate of the size of the shelter-using population in Canada	No	Yes	yes	No	No	No	



	Definition of homelessness used for data collection	Including people:						Other categories included / notes
		Sleeping Rough	In emergency accommodation	Living in accommodation for the homeless	Living in institutions	Living in non-conventional dwellings due to lack of housing	Living temporarily with family or friends due to lack of housing	
Chile	People who sleep in public or private places without an infrastructure that can be characterized as housing, even if its house is in a precarious state. This excludes families and people living in squatter settlements. People that lacking a fixed, regular and adequate accommodation for the night, find a one-night residence , paying or not for this night-service, in places run by public or private entities that provide temporary shelter. This group incorporates people who stay in nursing homes and hospices, run by charity or business.	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	
Czech Republic	Homeless is a general term for the heterogeneous group of population covering both visible homeless people, i.e. persons sleeping rough (roofless), and people who are not able to procure any dwelling and hence live in accommodation for the homeless, as well as people living in insecure accommodation and people staying in conditions which do not fulfil the minimum standards of living in the particular cultural and social environment.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Persons living in unsuitable conditions (e.g. atypical, informal residential buildings) and legally insecure housing.
Denmark (2)	People are considered homeless if they do not have a dwelling (owned or rented) or room, but are forced to use temporary housing alternatives, or live temporarily without a lease contract with relatives, friends or acquaintances. People with no place to stay the coming night are also	Yes	Yes	Yes	No*	Yes	Yes	

	Definition of homelessness used for data collection	Including people:						
		Sleeping Rough	In emergency accommodation	Living in accommodation for the homeless	Living in institutions	Living in non-conventional dwellings due to lack of housing	Living temporarily with family or friends due to lack of housing	Other categories included / notes
	considered homeless.							
Estonia	A homeless person is a person, who has no legal relationship (ownership, lease agreement, permanent accommodation agreement) to any buildings, rooms or parts thereof that would qualify as housing and who has no source of income necessary for acquiring a place to live and no social skills to change his or her status in the given circumstances.	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	
Finland	Homeless people include those living outdoors, in various temporary shelters and night shelters and institutions due to lack of a dwelling (e.g. shelters, nursing homes, psychiatric hospitals, institutions for mentally handicapped). Also, former convicts with no known residence are included as well as persons living temporarily with friends and relatives.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	
France	People who have spent the night before the survey in homeless shelters or other accommodation provided by a support organization, or in places not meant for human habitation (streets, gardens, railway stations : unsheltered homeless).	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	

	Definition of homelessness used for data collection	Including people:						
		Sleeping Rough	In emergency accommodation	Living in accommodation for the homeless	Living in institutions	Living in non-conventional dwellings due to lack of housing	Living temporarily with family or friends due to lack of housing	Other categories included / notes
Germany	Persons who do not hold a legal right to occupy a dwelling, either as tenant or owner-occupier or through permission to occupy the dwelling from the owner.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Greece	..	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Hungary	Homeless people are persons without any registered place of residence (except for persons whose registered places of residence are accommodation for homeless people), and any person who spends nights in public areas or premises not designed for housing purposes.	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	
Ireland	Reported figures refer to persons in state funded emergency accommodation, overseen by local authorities. A person is regarded by a housing authority as being homeless if — (a) there is no accommodation available which, in the opinion of the authority, he, together with any other person who normally resides with him or who might reasonably be expected to reside with him, can reasonably occupy or remain in occupation of, or (b) he is living in a hospital, county home, night shelter or other such institution, and is so living because he has no accommodation of the kind referred to in paragraph (a), and he is, in the opinion of the authority, unable to provide accommodation from his own resources.	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	

	Definition of homelessness used for data collection	Including people:						
		Sleeping Rough	In emergency accommodation	Living in accommodation for the homeless	Living in institutions	Living in non-conventional dwellings due to lack of housing	Living temporarily with family or friends due to lack of housing	Other categories included / notes
Japan	A homeless person is defined as a person who lives in a park, a riverbed, at a road, a station or other institutions and leads his/her daily life without purpose.	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	
Latvia	Primary homeless persons include persons living in streets or without a shelter or living quarter.	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	
Lithuania	A homeless person is a person who has no dwelling at the time the Census is carried out and who spends nights in incidental basements, staircases, heating rooms, abandoned buildings, huts etc.	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	
Luxemburg	The definition of homeless covers: roofless people, houseless people, people living in insecure housing and people living in inadequate housing.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Mexico	No information available on the definition used by National Ministry of Statistics and Geography (INEGI)							
New Zealand	Homelessness is defined as living situations where people with no other options to acquire safe and secure housing: are without shelter, in temporary accommodation, sharing accommodation with a household or living in uninhabitable housing.	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Persons living in uninhabitable housing

	Definition of homelessness used for data collection	Including people:						Other categories included / notes
		Sleeping Rough	In emergency accommodation	Living in accommodation for the homeless	Living in institutions	Living in non-conventional dwellings due to lack of housing	Living temporarily with family or friends due to lack of housing	
Norway	A person is homeless when he/she lacks a place to live, either rented or owned, and finds him/herself in one of the following situations: has no place to stay for the night; i referred to emergency or temporary shelter accommodation; is a ward of the correctional and probation service and due to be released in two months at the latest; is a resident of an institution and due to be discharged in two months at the latest; lives with friends, acquaintances or family on a temporary basis.	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Poland	A homeless person is a person who does not stay in "living accommodation" and who is not registered for permanent residence, or a person who does not stay in "living accommodation" and is registered for permanent residence in a dwelling which is not adequate for living.	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	
Portugal	People presently without shelter.	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	
Slovenia	Homeless are those who use night shelters (emergency accommodation), accommodation for homeless and those who use different day programmes for homeless	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	People who use different day programmes for homeless

	Definition of homelessness used for data collection	Including people:						
		Sleeping Rough	In emergency accommodation	Living in accommodation for the homeless	Living in institutions	Living in non-conventional dwellings due to lack of housing	Living temporarily with family or friends due to lack of housing	Other categories included / notes
Spain	People sleeping rough, people living in emergency accommodation provided by the local authority or an NGO, people staying in long-stay group accommodation provided by the local authority or an NGO (non-emergency centres, shelters for victims of domestic violence, centres for asylum seekers or irregular migrants), people living in buildings that would commonly be considered unsuitable for human habitation, people living in temporary accommodation such as pensions or guest houses, people living in squats.	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	
Sweden	Including 1) Acute homelessness (Emergency accommodation, overnight shelters, women's shelters, rough sleeping. Hotels, campsites, hostels, caravans, mobile homes, etc.). 2) Institutional care, category housing, penal institutions (Penal or correctional institutions, healthcare institutions, treatment centres). 3) Long-term housing solutions (Housing solutions provided by the municipal social services, temporary accommodation, transitional supported accommodated housing). 4) Short-term housing solutions (Temporary living in conventional housing with friends, acquaintances, family or relatives. Temporary (less than three months) sublet contracts in conventional housing. The person must have been in contact with social	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	

	Definition of homelessness used for data collection	Including people:						Other categories included / notes
		Sleeping Rough	In emergency accommodation	Living in accommodation for the homeless	Living in institutions	Living in non-conventional dwellings due to lack of housing	Living temporarily with family or friends due to lack of housing	
	services or other care providers to be included in the statistics).							
United Kingdom (2)	Number of households who after applying for housing assistance are accepted by local authorities as being "Statutory homeless" (i.e. those who are unintentionally homeless and fall into a 'priority need' category. Somebody is statutorily homeless if they do not have accommodation that they have a legal right to occupy, which is accessible and physically available to them (and their household) and which it would be reasonable for them to continue to live in. It would not be reasonable for someone to continue to live in their home, for example, if that was likely to lead to violence against them (or a member of their family).	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Figures only include those who are unintentionally homeless and who are in 'priority need' categories (see table HC 1.1.C)

	Definition of homelessness used for data collection	Including people:						
		Sleeping Rough	In emergency accommodation	Living in accommodation for the homeless	Living in institutions	Living in non-conventional dwellings due to lack of housing	Living temporarily with family or friends due to lack of housing	Other categories included / notes
United States	The Point-in-Time (PIT) count is a count of sheltered and unsheltered homeless persons on a single night in January. HUD requires that Continuums of Care conduct an annual count of homeless persons who are sheltered in emergency shelter, transitional housing, and Safe Havens on a single night. Continuums of Care also must conduct a count of unsheltered homeless persons every other year (odd numbered years).	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	

1. Information is missing for Belgium, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Iceland, Israel, Italy, Korea, Malta, Romania, the Slovak Republic, Switzerland and Turkey.
2. Denmark: persons living in institutions are only considered homeless if they are to leave the institution within the next month without any new place to stay
3. United Kingdom: information refers to England only

Sources: OECD Questionnaire on Affordable Housing, 2016 and 2014.