CENTRAL QUEENSLAND HOMELESSNESS VULNERABILITY SNAPSHOT

OCTOBER 2026

CQ Zero is a data driven, coordinated response to ending homelessness within Central Queensland.

CQ Zero has been in operation since December 2024 and since then has identified over 300 individuals experiencing homelessness within the region.

The data collected provides valuable information on people's needs, assists in triaging the most vulnerable, and helps advocate for systems change.

Population

260 Adults
55 Children

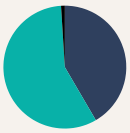
Group Types



Families - **21**
Individuals - **180**
Youth - **71**

Demographics

46%
First Nations
Identifying



Female - **41%**
Male - **59%**
Other - **<1%**

Homeless History

2Y 1M
Average time homeless

27Y
Longest time homeless

ROUGH SLEEPING **40%** of individuals/families were sleeping rough, meaning they are sleeping on the streets, cars, and parks

TEMPORARY ACCOMMODATION **60%** of individuals/families were residing in crisis accommodation or hotels

Daily Needs

26% do not have access to food and water

45% do not have money to take care of daily needs

50% do not have people they can rely upon or care about them

Safety

61% experienced violence in the past year

44% thought about hurting themselves

41% do not feel safe where they sleep

Health System Usage

41% were high health service system users





21% were taken in an ambulance to the hospital 5 or more times in the past year



31% went to the emergency department 5 or more times in the past year



23% were admitted to hospital for 5 or more nights in the past year

Health

84% experienced at least one health, mental health or substance use issue



61%
have a diagnosed mental health condtion

25%
have a brain injury or traumatic head injury

48%
have serious ongoing health issues

50%
regularly use substances like drugs or alcohol

COMMON HEALTH ISSUES

Out of those with a diagnosed mental or physical health condition:

- **55%** have anxiety
- **41%** have clinical depression
- **35%** have PTSD
- **24%** have asthma
- **24%** have dental problems
- **18%** have heart related diseases/issues

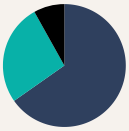
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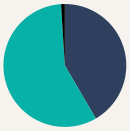
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OCT. 2026 Homelessness Movement

Entering into Homelessness

- **0** Returned From Housing
- **14** Newly Identified
- **0** Returned from Inactive

156
Total number of people active on our BNL

65 Sleeping Rough
91 Temporary Accom.

Exiting out of Homelessness

- **0** Housed
- **1** Moved to Inactive

Additional Data

- **42%** do not seek medical help when unwell
- **40%** faced discrimination when trying to access services
- **36%** do not have access to a shower when they need it
- **51%** have never had a tenancy or house in their own name
- **29%** have lived in foster care and/or out of home care
- **75%** have a *moderate* complexity support need

CQ Zero is supported by Country to Coast Queensland with received funding from the Australian Government