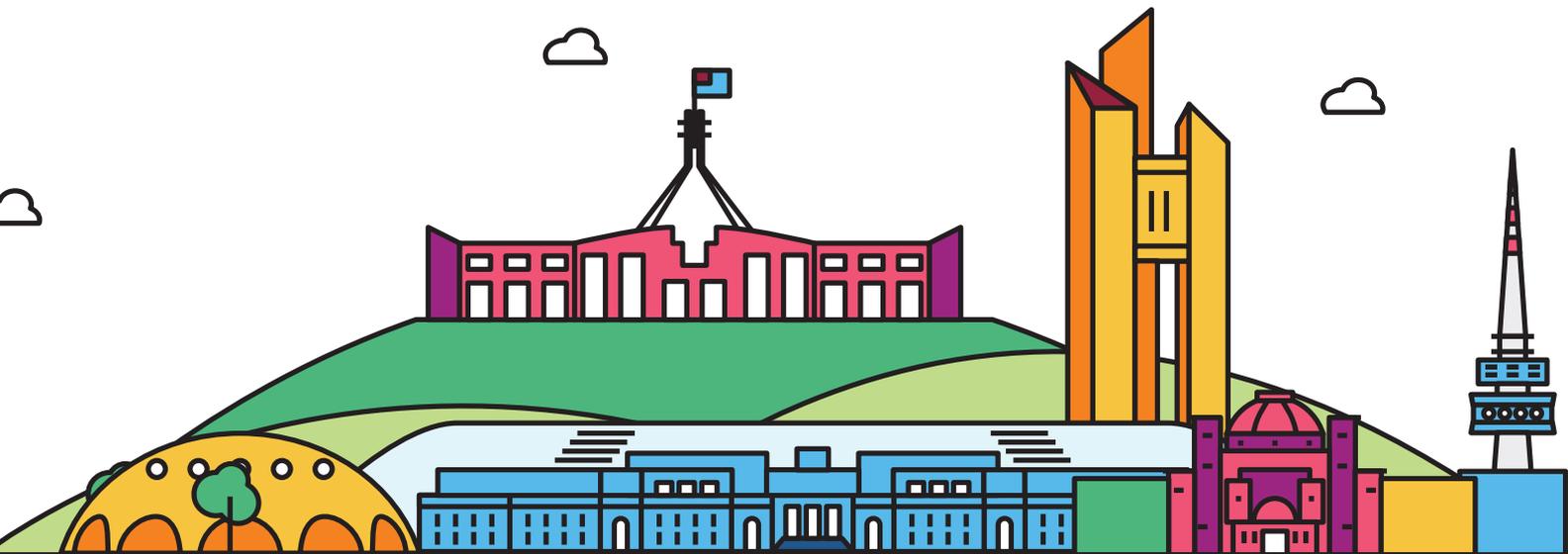


CANBERRA

VitalSigns[®]

2021

Taking the pulse of our Community



Hands
Across
Canberra
Your Community Foundation



THE
SNOW
FOUNDATION



Vital Signs Canberra 2021
is a community-led research
initiative that explores four
key themes.



Health



Education and
Employment



Housing



Belonging

These themes were decided by
the Canberra community when
developing the inaugural Vital
Signs 2018 Report.

Vital Signs is a global research
methodology designed to help
identify a community's successes
and challenges.

Acknowledgment to Traditional Custodians

We wish to acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land of the ACT, the Ngunnawal people. We wish to acknowledge and pay respect to their continuing culture and the contributions their elders past, present and future make to the life of this city and region.

Hands Across Canberra and The Snow Foundation

Hands Across Canberra in partnership with The Snow Foundation is pleased to present our second Vital Signs Report: Vital Signs 2021. This follows the inaugural Vital Signs Report which we released in 2018. As organisations focused on supporting people who experience economic and social disadvantage, we have engaged with the Canberra community, through the lens of disadvantage, to deliver Vital Signs 2021.

Our Goal

Vital Signs 2021 seeks to raise awareness of the strengths and challenges within our community by identifying trends, priorities and opportunities. It aims to create the incentive to build community action and help determine where to focus attention and resources to have the greatest impact.

Vital Signs Data

Vital Signs 2021 includes more indicators than the Vital Signs 2018 Report. It highlights aspects of disadvantage and difference with a gender lens applied in many instances. All the data is publicly accessible and a summary with links is available at www.handsacrosscanberra.org.au/vital-signs

This document generally reflects the data available at 30 June 2021, although in some indicators more recent data has been included. In a few instances, the 2016 Census was the most recent source.

Vital Signs Canberra 2021 provides a snapshot of our unique city, grounded in data and local knowledge focused on the four themes of Health, Education and Employment, Housing and Belonging. It provides an insight into our community and shows different realities for many people across the city:

- The large majority of ACT residents find their local area and the ACT region as a whole, highly liveable
- Most ACT residents, including those from non-English speaking backgrounds, feel Canberra is a welcoming city
- A significantly higher proportion of 3 year olds are enrolled in preschool than the Australian average
- Unlike other states and territories, around one in three Canberra workers are employed in one industry - Public Administration and Safety, and mostly work in public service roles for either the federal or territory government
- The ACT has the highest average weekly earnings in Australia, a highly educated workforce and low unemployment
- The ACT has the lowest proportion of people indicating that Government Support has been their main source of income in the last two years compared to the Australian figure
- However, 38,300 are living in poverty of whom 8,000 are children
- Lack of affordable housing remains the biggest challenge confronting people on low incomes in the Canberra community, and Canberra is the most expensive capital city in which to rent
- Over the last five years, the overall CPI has risen at a higher rate in Canberra than nationally
- A third of ACT adults reported a financial position which indicates they have relatively high vulnerability to financial shocks, with limited ability to cope with events such as loss of income or sudden large expenses
- On the positive side, adults living in the ACT have higher levels of personal wellbeing, better financial positions and better access to transport than the Australian average, but are challenged by higher cost of living and somewhat lower levels of social connection
- Notably, young people were less likely to feel a strong sense of belonging, and more likely to have poorer mental health, to feel lonely and lack some social connection, and to be underemployed
- Significantly, the ACT Government has become the first jurisdiction to commit to legislative reform to raise the age of criminal responsibility
- We can celebrate Canberrans strong commitment to donating and to volunteering
- Looking into the future, the proportion of the ACT population aged 65 years+ will almost double in the next 40 years

COVID-19 Statement

This Report has been produced during the COVID-19 pandemic and much of the sourced data will have been significantly impacted. Some of these impacts are immediate and obvious such as the rise in calls to domestic violence assistance services or the increased demand for mental health services.

Other impacts may take some time to become evident. The pandemic, associated government financial and other assistance, and public health measures such as lockdowns have impacted service delivery and potentially the number of people receiving assistance as well as the levels of assistance available. COVID-19 may have also affected the collection and processing of data.

While many of the consequences of COVID-19 may be unknown for some time, we believed it was an important Report to complete, in order to shine a light on issues and challenges facing those experiencing disadvantage or vulnerability in our community.

Vital Signs Canberra ScoreCard

What we can celebrate

What we need to improve

HEALTH



High rates of participation in sport or physical activity

High immunisation rates for Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander children



High rates of self-harm and poor mental health

Obesity rates, particularly in adults

EDUCATION AND EMPLOYMENT



High average education levels, highest weekly wages

High numbers of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander children attending preschool programs

High migrant employment rates



Equity in educational outcomes

Developmental vulnerability of our children

HOUSING



The largest per capita investment in public housing

Increasing energy-efficiency in existing public housing and private rentals

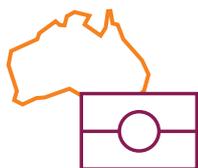


Housing affordability and availability

High rates of rental stress

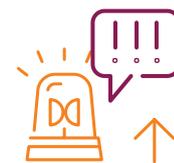
Social housing shortfall and waiting times

BELONGING



Majority agree with cultural diversity and are proud of First Nations cultures

High levels of trust in people, voluntary work, and donations



The volume of incidents reported, and crisis calls regarding domestic and family violence and sexual assault

Our Canberra:



431,800

Population 415,900

36

Median age 34

AGE



19%
82,613
Children
0-14 years



13%
56,438
Youth
15-24 years



54%
234,313
Adults
25-64 years



13%
57,851
Senior Citizens
65+ years

POPULATION 65+ IS FORECAST TO ALMOST DOUBLE IN THE NEXT 40 YEARS

MULTICULTURAL



28%

Born overseas

26%

Net overseas migration 2,400

ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER PEOPLE



1.9%

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people

1.8%

3%

children aged 0-17 years

DISABILITY



19%
80,000
people live
with disability

16%



6%
25,800
live with a
profound or
severe core
activity limitation

5%



22%
of people with
a reported
disability are
in the **highest
income quintile**
(30% with
no reported
disability)



15%
of people with a
reported disability
are in the **lowest
income quintile**
(3% with no
reported disability)

SEXUAL ORIENTATION



16,900

people have a sexual
orientation other
than heterosexual



Where appropriate we have compared data from our Vital Signs 2018 report.

INCOME



\$1,237

ACT median weekly income

↓ \$1,297



\$958

Australia median weekly income

↑ \$877

The ACT has the highest average weekly earnings in Australia

POVERTY



9%

General population



11%

Children 0-14 years



44%

Children in sole parent families



39%

People aged 65+ who are renting

People receiving income support while looking for work

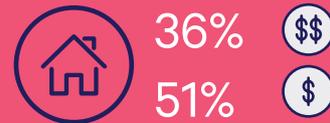
March 2020	7,135
May 2020	14,858
June 2021	9,341 - 30% higher than pre covid level



38% of people in poverty are in wage-earning households, of whom **72%** are families with children, 36% are relying on part time work



1 in 3 adults reported a financial position which indicates they have relatively high vulnerability to financial shocks, with limited ability to cope with events such as loss of income or sudden large expenses



For households in the **lowest income quintile** essential goods and services make up **51%** of household expenditure, (36% for those in the **highest income quintile**)

Self-rated household financial position

	Poor/very poor/ just getting along	Reasonably comfortable
2020	33.1%	41.9%
2019	28.5%	47.3%

Over the last five years, prices have grown significantly for these essential items



Health up **19%**



Electricity up **28%**
Gas up **26%**



Housing up **16%**



Health

Key Messages and Trends

- The ACT has the highest life expectancy in Australia despite the majority of adults being overweight or obese
- Low activity levels in children are reflected in their obesity rate which is above the national level
- Most Canberrans drink alcohol, but not at risky levels
- Most older persons in the ACT live at home and report their health to be good, very good or excellent
- Mental health declined, especially from 2019 to 2020
- The suicide rate for males is 3 times higher than for females while ambulance attendance rates for females involving a suicide attempt are the highest in the country
- The ACT continues to have the lowest bulk-billing rate in Australia

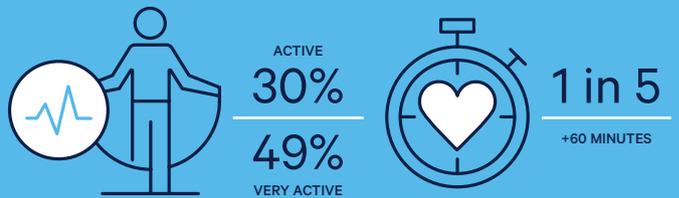
HEALTHY LIVING

PHYSICAL ACTIVITY

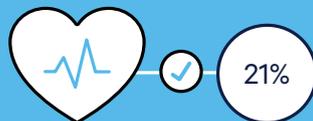
95% (aged 15+) participated in sport or physical activity in the last 12 months



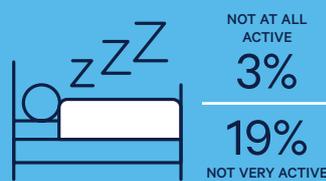
Children (aged 5-15 years) self-rate their physical activity as **Active 30%** or **Very Active 49%**. However, only **one in five** are meeting the physical activity guideline for children (60 minutes or more of physical activity per day)



63% adults aged 18-64 years undertook 150 minutes or more of exercise in the last week (Australia 55%)



21% Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people met the physical activity guidelines (Australia 11%)



Less than a quarter of adults self-rate their physical activity as 'not at all active' (3%) or 'not very active' (19%)



60% of adults aged 18-64 years describe their day as mostly sitting (Australia 44%)

OVERWEIGHT/OBESITY

64% of adults (Australia 67%) and 29% of children (Australia 25%) are either overweight or obese



ALCOHOL CONSUMPTION

80% had consumed alcohol in the previous 12 months with 14% exceeding the lifetime risk guideline (Australia 17%) down from 22% in 2007



IMMUNISATION RATES

The coverage rate for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children



CHRONIC DISEASE

49% of adults reported having a chronic condition, such as arthritis, asthma, cancer, diabetes, mental illness, or heart disease, and 20% had at least two conditions, similar to national figures



DEMENZA

4,865 people are living with dementia in the ACT

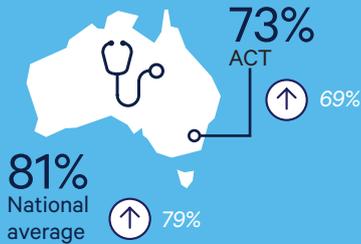


Where appropriate we have compared data from our Vital Signs 2018 report.

ACCESS

GENERAL PRACTITIONERS

ACT continues to have the lowest bulk-billing rate in Australia at 73% compared to the national average of 81%



GP FTE 95



ACT has a rate of 95 GP FTE per 100,000 (Australia 116). 49% are female (Australia 40%)

WAITING TIMES

ACT has the 3rd highest number of days waited for Elective Surgery at the 50th percentile

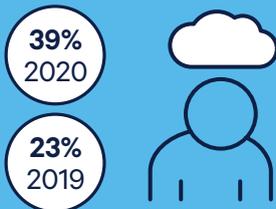
ACT	48 days
Australia	39 days

Indigenous People

ACT	50 days
Australia	49 days

MENTAL HEALTH

Those reporting fair or poor mental health increased from 2019



There was an increase of adults reporting high rates of distress

Groups more likely to report **moderate to high distress** than the ACT Average

2020	2019
Unemployed 88%	Unemployed 56%
Renters 68%	LGBTIQA+ 52%
LGBTIQA+ 68%	Single parents 49%
ACT Avg 47%	ACT Avg 30%

People with a mental health diagnosis were more likely than people with no mental health diagnosis to report preventable risk factors for chronic disease, such as smoking (18% and 8% respectively), inadequate physical activity (33% and 26%), long-term risky alcohol use (45% and 33%) and overweight/obesity (68% and 55%)

GENDER



17% Female 11% Male report an anxiety-related condition
12% Female 9% Male experience depression or feelings of depression



Of the 647 hospitalisations for self-harm reported, 72% were female. Females per 100,000 were second highest behind NT

↑ 506 hospitalisations 76%



The suicide rate for males was more than three times higher than females. This is consistent with the national figure

Ambulance attendance for suicide attempts (per 100,000)
ACT is the highest for females and males*

	All	Female	Male
ACT	60.5	77.4	41.3
NSW	41.3	48.1	33.9

*NSW, VIC, TAS, ACT only

ABORIGINAL & TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER PEOPLE



40% (aged 2+) reported experiencing mental or behavioral conditions (Australia 24%)

YOUTH



Self-Harm rose from 17 to 21 per 100,000 youth (highest of all 8 jurisdictions)

A deterioration in **Mortality** rising from 31 to 40 per 100,000 youth

Psychological Distress rose from 20% to 27% (2nd largest of the jurisdictions)

LGBTQA+ YOUTH 14-21



80% experienced high or very high levels of psychological distress during the past four weeks

55% had seriously considered attempting suicide in the past 12 months

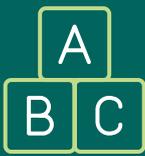


Education and Employment

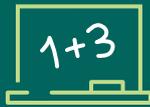
Key Messages and Trends

- We continue to have a highly educated workforce and low unemployment
- A significantly higher proportion of 3 year olds are enrolled in preschool than the Australian average
- We have high rates of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander kids attending a preschool program and completing Year 12
- Our youth unemployment rate is significantly lower than the national average
- Our gender pay gap was significantly narrower than the national figure
- We had the largest percentage growth in new businesses of any state/territory despite confidence in business conditions falling in 2020

EDUCATION



71% of 3-year olds enrolled in preschool (Australia 60%)



96% of children enrolled in a preschool program in the year before full-time schooling (Australia 88%)



91% Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children attended a preschool program



49% of children were developmentally on track in all five Australian Early Development Census domains (Australia 55%)



25% of children were developmentally vulnerable on 1 or more domains, an increase from 2015 (Australia 22%)



12% of children were developmentally vulnerable on 2 or more domains, an increase from 2015 (Australia 11%)

EQUITY



Performance gap between the mean scaled score of the most and least advantaged groups of students

Reading
52 NAPLAN points (2019)
57 NAPLAN points (2018)

Numeracy
44 NAPLAN points (2019)
45 NAPLAN points (2018)

The difference between the suburbs with the highest and lowest percentages of children developmentally vulnerable in two or more domains was 34.3 percentage points in 2018, an increase from 26.5 per cent in 2009



65% Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children are on track in the language and cognitive skills (school-based) domain and 30% are most likely to be developmentally vulnerable in the social competence domain, an increase from 2018

YEAR 12 NUMBERS AND CERTIFICATES



Year 10-12 retention rate for all students in 2020 was 90% (same as 2019)

Female
94%

Male
87%

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students was 94%, an increase of 13% from 2019 (Australia 62%)

Received a Tertiary Entrance Statement

46% of Year 12 students received a Tertiary Entrance Statement



46% Year 12 students

22% Year 12 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS



In July 2021 there were 10 international student arrivals, a 99.8% decrease compared with pre-COVID levels

There were 10,257 Higher education enrolments in 2021 compared to 12,689 in 2019. However, there were only 2,967 commencements in 2021 compared to 4,388 in 2019

EMPLOYMENT



27%
work part-time
(Australia 32%)



50%
are female
(Australia 47%)



15%
are aged
15-24 years
(Australia 14%)



16%
are aged 55
years+
(Australia 20%)



11%
are self-
employed
(Australia 16%)

HIGHLY EDUCATED WORKFORCE

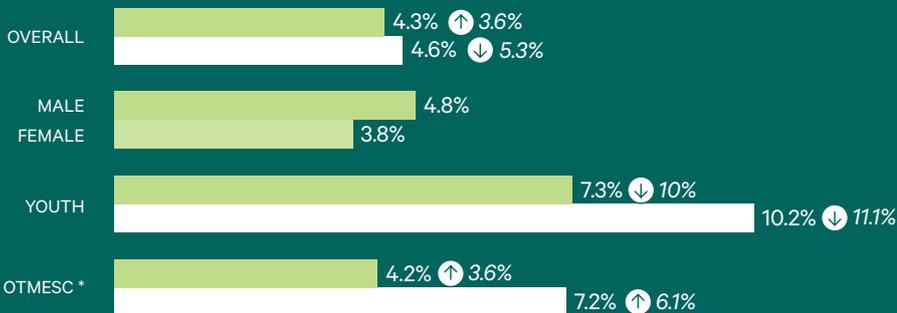
49% of people employed in the ACT hold a Bachelor degree or higher (Australia 36%)

↑ 43% ACT ↑ 31% (Australia)

81% of Canberrans aged 15-64 years have a Year 12 Certificate (or equivalent), the highest in Australia

↑ 78%

UNEMPLOYMENT



■ ACT unemployment rate ■ National unemployment rate

Participation rate for males was 75.9% and for females was 66.9%

*Other than Main English Speaking Countries

UNDEREMPLOYMENT



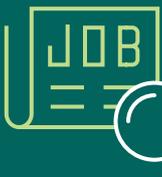
Underemployment rate

6.4% (↑ 5.4%)
8.3% (Australia) (↓ 8.5%)
Men 5.2% Women 7.7%

Underutilisation rate

(unemployed and underemployed)
10.7% (↑ 9.1%)
12.9% (Australia) (↓ 13.9%)
Men 10% Women 11.5%

YOUNG PEOPLE



The largest improvement was seen in Employment and Opportunity. Difficulty Finding Work also improved, falling from 82% to 78%. *NEET improved, falling from 6% to 3% in 2019

Education and Skills declined between 2015 and 2019 due to a 7% fall in participation in VET

*Not in Employment, Education or Training

DISABILITY



63% of people with a disability are employed compared to 84% of people with no reported disability

MIGRANTS

92% of recently arrived migrants have held a job since their arrival

100% Males and 79% Females of recently arrived migrants have held a job since their arrival



GENDER PAY GAP



The ACT's gender pay gap stood at 7.9%, the second lowest behind South Australia (Australia 14.2%)

↓ 13.1%

BUSINESS OWNERSHIP / ENTREPRENEURSHIP

5.8% growth in the number of businesses - an increase of 1,732 to 31,499 total - the largest percentage growth in any state/territory (Australia 3.8%)



5.8%
INCREASE

↑ 4.5%



Where appropriate we have compared data from our Vital Signs 2018 report.



Housing

Key Messages and Trends

- Lack of affordable housing remains the biggest challenge confronting people on low incomes in the Canberra community with a rapidly increasing number of older women at risk of or homeless
- Housing is the most significant expense for low-income households in the ACT
- There is a shortfall in social housing of 3,100 houses
- Canberrans are less likely to access Specialist Homelessness Services
- Canberra is currently the most expensive capital city in which to rent
- We have the highest rate of rental stress among lower income private rental households

HOUSING STRESS

HOUSING TENURE

34% are renting, the highest since 1994-95. 40% have a mortgage (Australia 37%), 25% owned their home outright, a decrease from our last report at 30% and the lowest since 1994-95

34% of people with a reported disability own their own home without a mortgage



RENT



Median weekly rent in Canberra is \$630 for houses and \$500 for units, compared to national median weekly rents of \$477 for houses and \$427 for units



The ACT has the highest rate of rental stress among low-income private rental households, at 73%



Canberra has 43% (9,400) of low-income households in rental stress, which has been increasing since 2009-10

Out of 1,002 private rental properties advertised in Canberra, none were affordable for households on working age social security payments. An extremely small proportion were affordable for households receiving the age pension or on the minimum wage

Of those Canberrans receiving Commonwealth Rental Assistance, 36% are in rental stress (ie paying more than 30% of their income on rent), 10% are spending more than 50% of their income on rent (Australia 7%) the highest proportion in Australia % for the previous 4 years are significantly higher



74% of young people age under 24 receiving Commonwealth Rental Assistance, are paying more than 30% of their income in rent (Australia 58%)



Over the past five years the CPI change for rents in Canberra has been a 10% increase (Australia 1%)



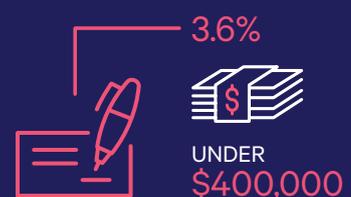
The current vacancy rate for available houses to rent is 0.7% down from 1.1% in July 2020

HOUSE PRICES

The median house price in June 2021 is \$1,015,833, the highest quarter on quarter increase and year on year increase of all the capital cities



3.6% of houses sold in the 12 months to May 2020 transacted at a price under \$400,000 compared to 16.8% in 2015



Where appropriate we have compared data from our Vital Signs 2018 report.

HOMELESSNESS

PRIORITY HOUSING



Applicants for priority public housing in the ACT are waiting 339 days for a property

SOCIAL HOUSING



Current estimated (2016) social housing shortfall is 3,100. 7% of households live in social housing (Australia 4%)

ROUGH SLEEPERS



13% of people with a reported disability rent from ACT Housing compared to 2% with no reported disability



There were 54 rough sleepers, a doubling since 2011. (Most recent data is from the 2016 Census)

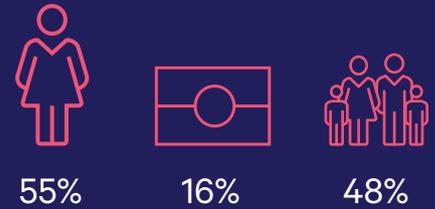
SPECIALIST HOMELESSNESS SERVICES



4,143 clients sought assistance in 2019-20. The average number of people seeking assistance in any month has increased by 14% from 1,629 in 2017-18 to 1,861 in 2020-21



54% were homeless on first presentation (Australia 43%). 46% who were homeless were assisted into housing. 89% who were at risk of homelessness were assisted into housing



55% were female and 16% were Indigenous both lower than the Australian rate. 48% were families with children



Persons in the ACT are less likely to access Specialist Homelessness Services 1:111 persons in the ACT 1:86 for Australia

- KEY COHORTS (PER 10,000)
- 717.6 Indigenous persons
 - 36.2 with mental health issues
 - 30.3 experiencing domestic and family violence



1,616 ACT clients sought assistance because of Domestic or Family Violence. This was lower than the Australian rate of 47.0 in 2019-20 and 46.6 in 2018-19

	2019-20	2018-19
ACT	37.9	30.3
Australia	47.0	46.6

Rate per 10,000

LGBTQA+ YOUNG PEOPLE

21% had experienced one or more forms of homelessness in their lifetime (Australia 24%), and 8% in the last 12 months (Australia 12%)



21% reported that their experience/s of homelessness were related to being LGBTQIA+ (Australia 26%)





Belonging

Key Messages and Trends

- Most ACT residents feel Canberra is a welcoming city
- ACT adults are confident that human rights are protected in the ACT
- Canberra has the highest proportion of people who feel they can trust most people
- The ACT has the lowest adult Imprisonment rate in Australia
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander imprisonment rates for adults and children are disproportionately high
- Nearly a third of all children in out of home care are Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children
- Significantly more students reported strong school identification in 2020
- A significant number of LGBTQA+ youth reported feeling unsafe or uncomfortable at secondary school due to their sexuality or gender identity
- Canberrans demonstrate strong commitment to donating and to volunteering

COHESION

DIVERSITY

94% of Canberrans agree that it is good to have cultural diversity (Australia 85%)



86% agree that Canberra is accepting of people from different cultures

84% agree that there is room for a variety of languages/ cultures

82% agree that Australia is better off because it has many different races/cultures

Is Australia a racist country?



35% disagreed, 45% agreed and 20% were unsure or neither agreed or disagreed

70% of adults agreed that they felt proud of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures (Australia 57%), and 84% agreed that these cultures are important to Australia's identity as a nation (Australia 79%)

DISCRIMINATION

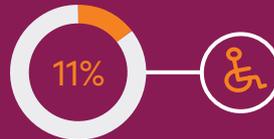
Of the 208 discrimination complaints received by the ACT Human Rights Commission in 2019-2020, 90 (43%) listed Disability as a ground of complaint, 48 listed Race, 25 listed Victimization, 20 Sex and 20 Sexual Harassment

51%
Disability



18% reported they had experienced discrimination in the last 12 months (Australia 13%), the second highest in the country

11% of people 15+ years with a disability had experienced discrimination



Confidence that human rights are respected and protected in the ACT

TRUST

Canberra has the highest proportion of people who feel they can trust most people at 71% (Australia 61%)

ACT 71%
Australia 61%

CRIME RATES



In 2019-20 there was an 8% decrease in reported crimes against the person from the previous year. In the same period there was an 11% decrease in reported crimes against property

Sexual Assaults against young people more than doubled between 2015-2019 from 142.20 to 359.10 per 100,000 youth

DOMESTIC AND FAMILY VIOLENCE

In 2020 there were 3,158 Family Violence incidents.

In 2021 to the end of July there have been 2025 Family Violence incidents

263 INCIDENTS PER MONTH - 2020

289 INCIDENTS PER MONTH - 2021



In 2019-20 the Canberra Rape Crisis Centre received 25,848 crisis calls, in 2011-12 it received 8,911

Victim Support ACT recorded a 304% increase in the provision of hours needed for sexual assault counselling - 1,964 hours 2020-21 486 hours in 2016-17



57% increase in the number of sex offences reported over five years, from 2014. Reports for 2020 dropped to 449

Where appropriate we have compared data from our Vital Signs 2018 report.

PERSONS IN CUSTODY

In the June quarter 2021:

ACT had the lowest imprisonment rate in Australia, a 7% decrease

The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander imprisonment rate was 16 x higher but the second lowest in Australia

50% of female prisoners and 25% of male prisoners were Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders

SAFETY

87% of adults find their local area a safe place to live

16% feel that it is unsafe to walk outside in their local area at night

6% feel it is unsafe to walk outside in their local area during the day



87%
FEEL SAFE

INCLUSION

STUDENTS

66% of students in ACT public schools report strong school identification up from 60%

LGBTQA+ STUDENTS

57% felt unsafe or uncomfortable at secondary school due to their sexuality or gender identity in the past 12 months (Australia 60%)

ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER CHILDREN

Children in out of home care

30% (213) are Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander – 3rd highest in Australia

LGBTQA+ YOUTH

Forms of harassment young people had experienced based on their sexuality or gender identity in the past 12 months

	ACT	Australia
Verbal	40%	41%
Sexual	28%	23%
Physical	9%	10%

TRANSPORT

81% found it easy to get to places, 16% sometimes had difficulty, and 3% often or always had difficulty



YOUNG PEOPLE IN CUSTODY

YOUTH DETENTION

On an average day 70 children aged 10-17 in the ACT were on a community-based order or in detention, 3 were aged 10-13 years and 76% were male



76%

SUPERVISION

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander youth were 9 x more likely to be under supervision than non-Indigenous youth

9 X

MORE LIKELY TO BE UNDER SUPERVISION

SOCIAL CONNECTION

Groups who were significantly more likely to report low levels of traditional social connection in 2019

ACT Avg 44%

LGBTIQA+ 73%

Lived in ACT <3 years 67%

Living in apartments 61%

Those less likely to report low social connection were those aged 65+ 30%

Groups who were significantly more likely to report low levels of phone/online social connection

ACT Avg 38%

Males 45%

Moderate or severe disability 43%

Aged 65+ 48%

PARTICIPATION

28% FREQUENT
53% MODERATE
19% LOW

Adult participation in one or more community events / activities

YOUTH

93% were enrolled to vote - the highest of all jurisdictions. Youth rates of Cultural Participation rose from 59% to 97%



93% WERE ENROLLED TO VOTE

CONTRIBUTION

VOLUNTEERING

ACT ranks the highest in the country for the following



39% INFORMAL VOLUNTEERING IN THE LAST 4 WEEKS (32% Australia)



31% VOLUNTARY WORK THROUGH AN ORGANISATION IN THE LAST 12 MONTHS (Australia 25%)

CHARITABLE GIVING

36% INDIVIDUAL TAXPAYERS MAKING A DONATION. ACT is the highest (Australia 29%)



\$773 AVERAGE DONATION



DISABILITY

38% of people 15+ years with a disability living in a household reported having avoided situations due to their disability in the last 12 months (Equal highest with TAS across all jurisdictions)



15+ YEARS





Hands Across Canberra together with The Snow Foundation would like to thank the many individuals and organisations who have participated in the production of this report.

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**Australian
Community
Philanthropy**

Vital Signs is a community check-up conducted by community foundations around the world that measures the vitality of our communities and identifies significant trends in a range of areas critical to quality of life. With special thanks to the Toronto Foundation for developing and sharing the Vital Signs concept. The Vital Signs logo and program is used with permission from Community Foundations of Canada. Australian Community Philanthropy manages the licensing of Vital Signs within Australia.

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