

FACS statistics quarterly report summary

The Department of Family and Community Services (FACS) quarterly statistical report summary complies with our Website Accessibility Policy. More information on our policy can be found at https://www.facs.nsw.gov.au/site_information/accessibility.

Social housing report – Quarter 1, 2016-17

This factsheet provides an overview of key quarterly social housing data, and accompanies the interactive report published on the [FACS Statistics](#) website.

About the quarterly report

The report for Quarter 1, 2016-17 is the fourth quarterly update published using the interactive web-based tools on the [FACS Statistics](#) website. Five quarterly data reports are available in this report, commencing from Quarter 1 2015-16 (1 July 2015) to Quarter 1 2016-17 (ending 30 September 2016).

Social housing quarterly data are categorised against four main themes:

1. Fair access to social housing

Includes measures relating to new allocations of housing, and households assisted with temporary accommodation.

Key trends for the current quarter (Quarter 1, 2016-17) include:

- There was a 1.3% decrease in new households in social housing this quarter compared to the same quarter last year.
- There was a slight increase in new allocations to households in greatest need for frail aged households and Aboriginal households compared to the same quarter last year. There was a 3.1% decrease for households with a disability and remained stable for families with children under 18 years.
- There was a 26.4% increase in the number of households accessing temporary accommodation compared to the same quarter last year.

2. Stability and security of tenure

Includes measures for public and Aboriginal housing tenure, the types of residential agreements, and housing transfers.

Trends for these measures have remained largely stable over the five quarter reporting period:

- More than 50% of households in public housing, and more than 40% in Aboriginal housing have had tenancy for more than 10 years.
- Most residential agreements are continuous – 55.8% for public housing, and 46.6% for Aboriginal housing. There has been a slight decline in the number

of these types of agreements since the previous quarter, and a small increase in the number of 10-year agreements.

For the current reporting period (Quarter 1, 2016-17):

- There was a 6.3% decrease in public and Aboriginal housing household transfers compared to the same quarter last year.
- Common reasons why tenants transferred include medical conditions (231) and at risk or harassment (155).

3. Supporting pathways to independence

Includes data on the use of housing assistance products (other than social housing, such as Bond Loans) and statistics on private rental or ownership exits.

For the current reporting period (Quarter 1, 2016-17):

- The most used housing assistance products were Bond Loans (3,615 households), Advance Rent (2,101) and Start Safely (1,627). The use of these private rental assistance products increased from the previous quarter.
- Hunter New England (1,481) and South Western Sydney (1,423) had the highest number of households assisted with housing products, while the Far West (62) and Northern Sydney (122) districts had the least.
- In 2015-16, 546 households (74.5%) who were assisted with Start Safely did not return for further social housing assistance 12 months later. This measure is collected and reported on an annual basis.

4. Meeting social housing needs

Includes key statistics relating to public and Aboriginal housing supply and demand.

Compared with the previous quarter, there has been:

- For public housing, a slight increase in two bedroom and three bedroom allocations. A 2% decrease in studio/one bedroom allocations and a slight decrease in four (and over) bedroom allocations.
- For Aboriginal housing, a 2.4% increase in three bedroom and a slight increase in four (and over) bedroom allocations. A slight decrease in studio/one bedrooms allocations and a 2.9% decrease in two bedroom allocations.

As at 30 September 2016:

- There was a 97.9% social housing occupancy rate in NSW.
- There were 141,504 occupied social housing properties in the current quarter.