



Two Years On – Prospects for Housing the Territory’s Homeless

26 April 2022

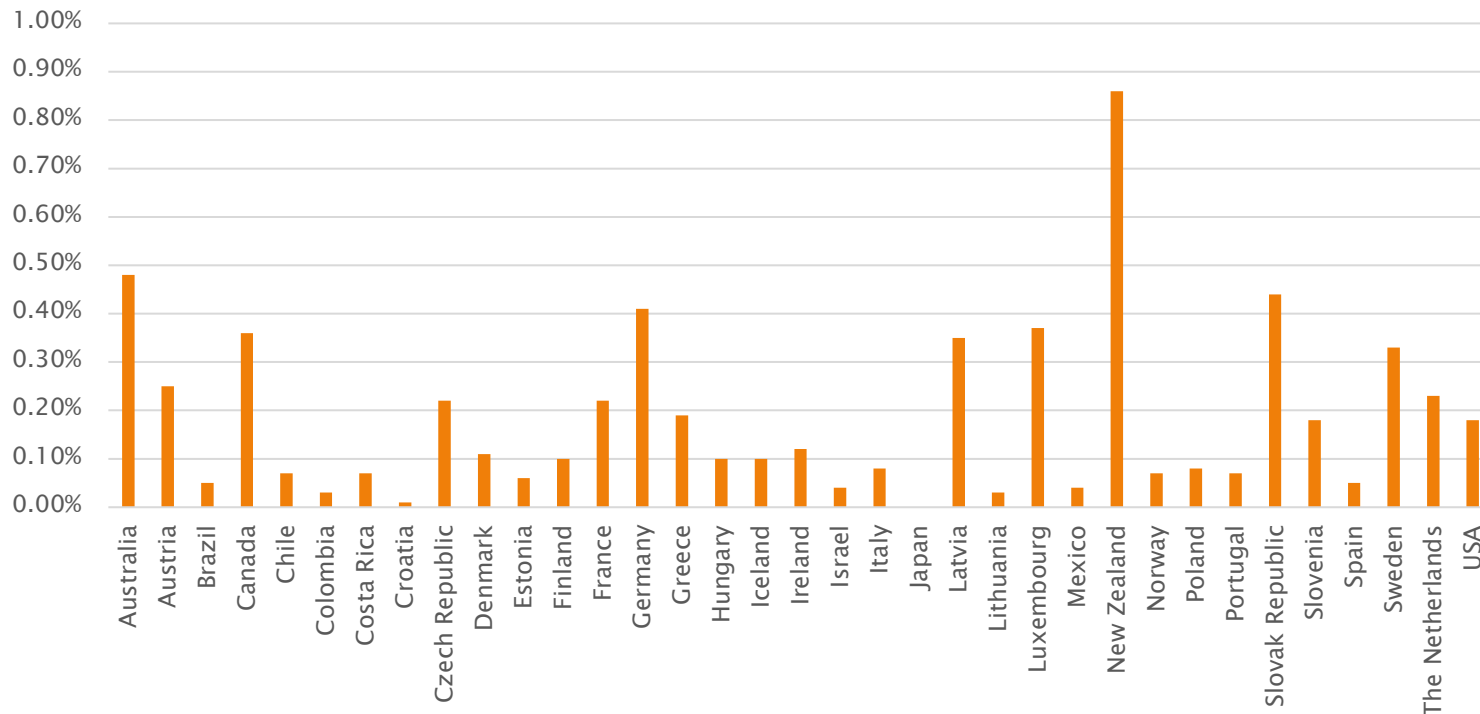
National Housing and Homelessness Forum Darwin

Today

- High level view of Homelessness in the NT
- What's happened since April 2019
- Big themes and opportunities
- Implications for advocacy

Comparative Rates of Homelessness

Homelessness as % of Population



Source: OECD, Affordable Housing Database, Table HC 3.1.1a (last updated 27/5/21)

Northern Territory – Frontier and Outlier

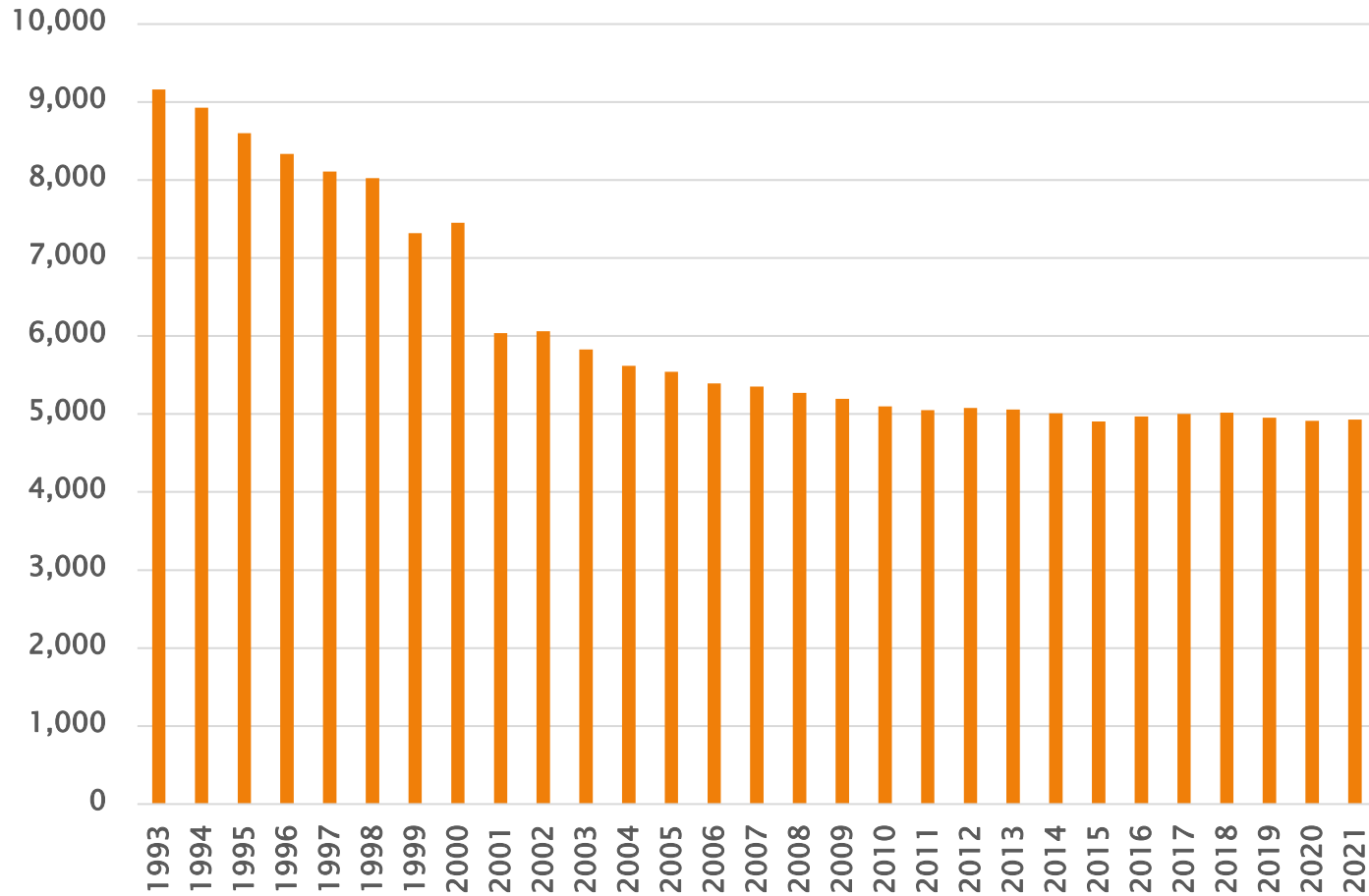
Country	Homeless as % of total population
New Zealand	0.86%
Australia	0.48%
Slovak Republic	0.44%
Northern Territory	5.6%

Source: OECD Affordable Housing Database, HC3.1 Homeless Population, last updated 27/5/21

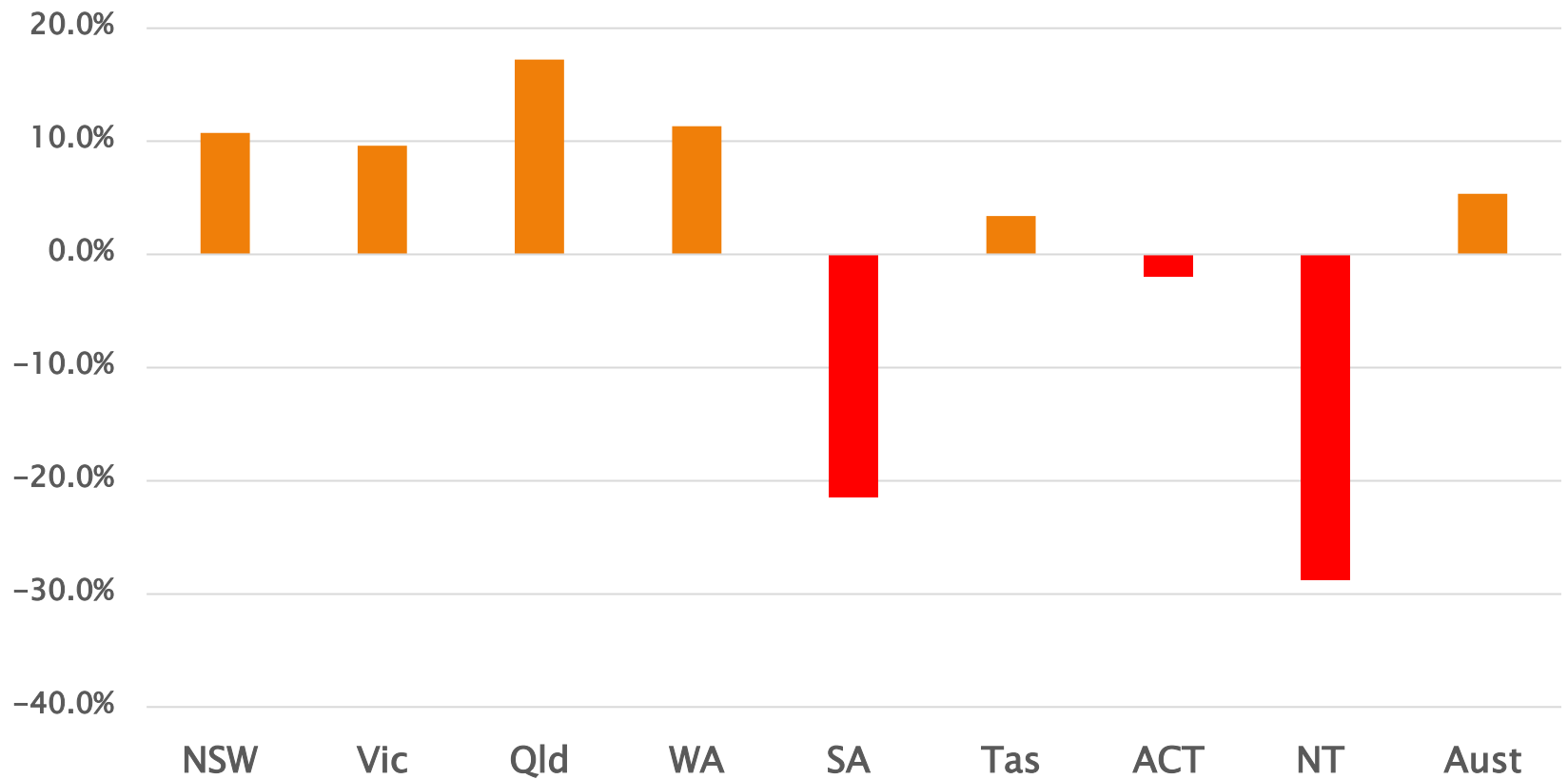
Fast Facts

- NT Population 250,000
- Est. homeless population 13,727 (Census 2016)
- 12x national average
- 88.5% identify as Aboriginal persons
- 83% in severely overcrowded dwellings
- 71% in remote communities
- 10,000 house shortfall and growing
- 54% of houses in remote communities overcrowded

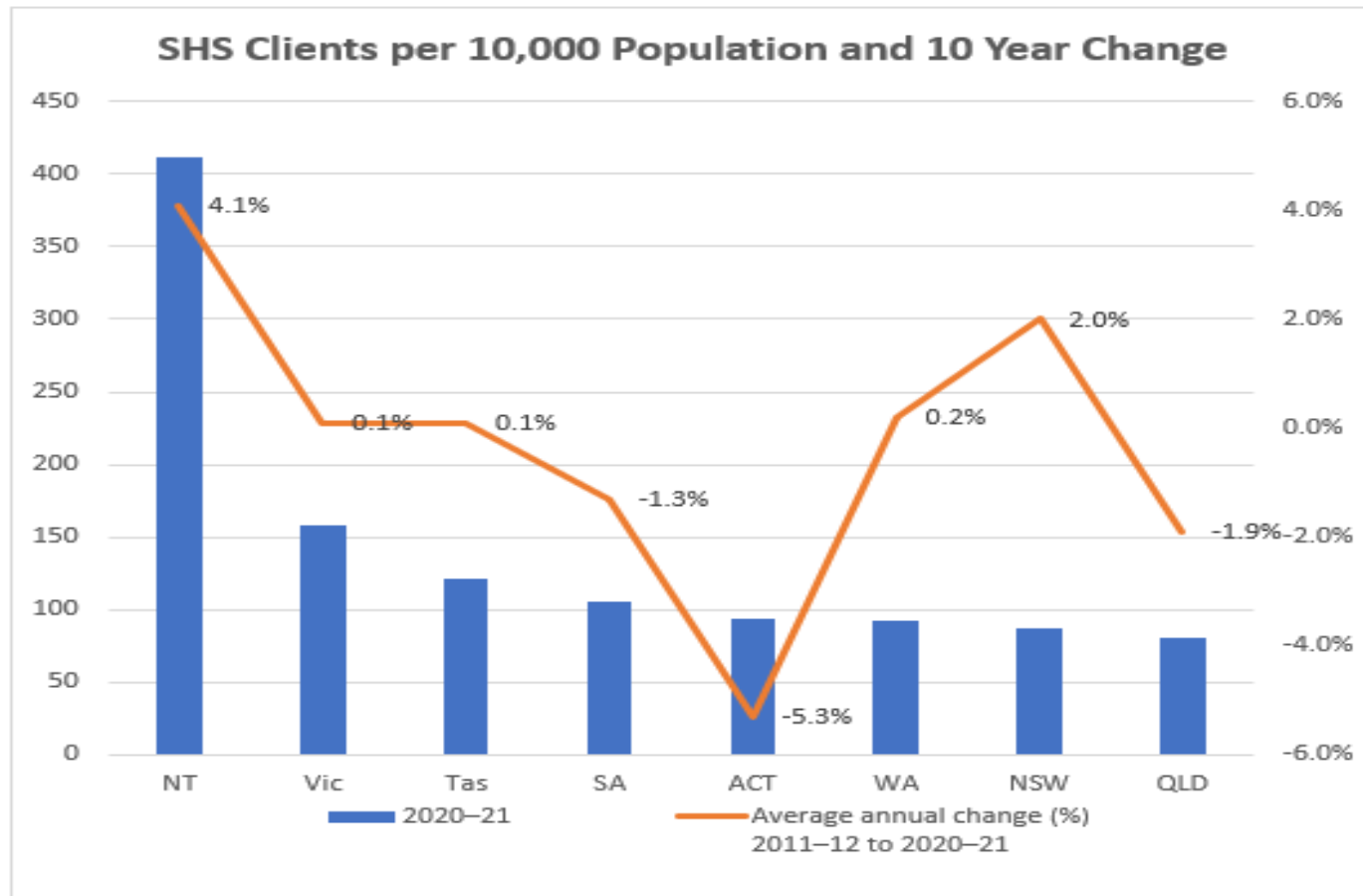
Public housing asset decline (NT Urban)



Change in Total Social Housing Stock – past 20 years



10 Year Trend – Bucking the Trend



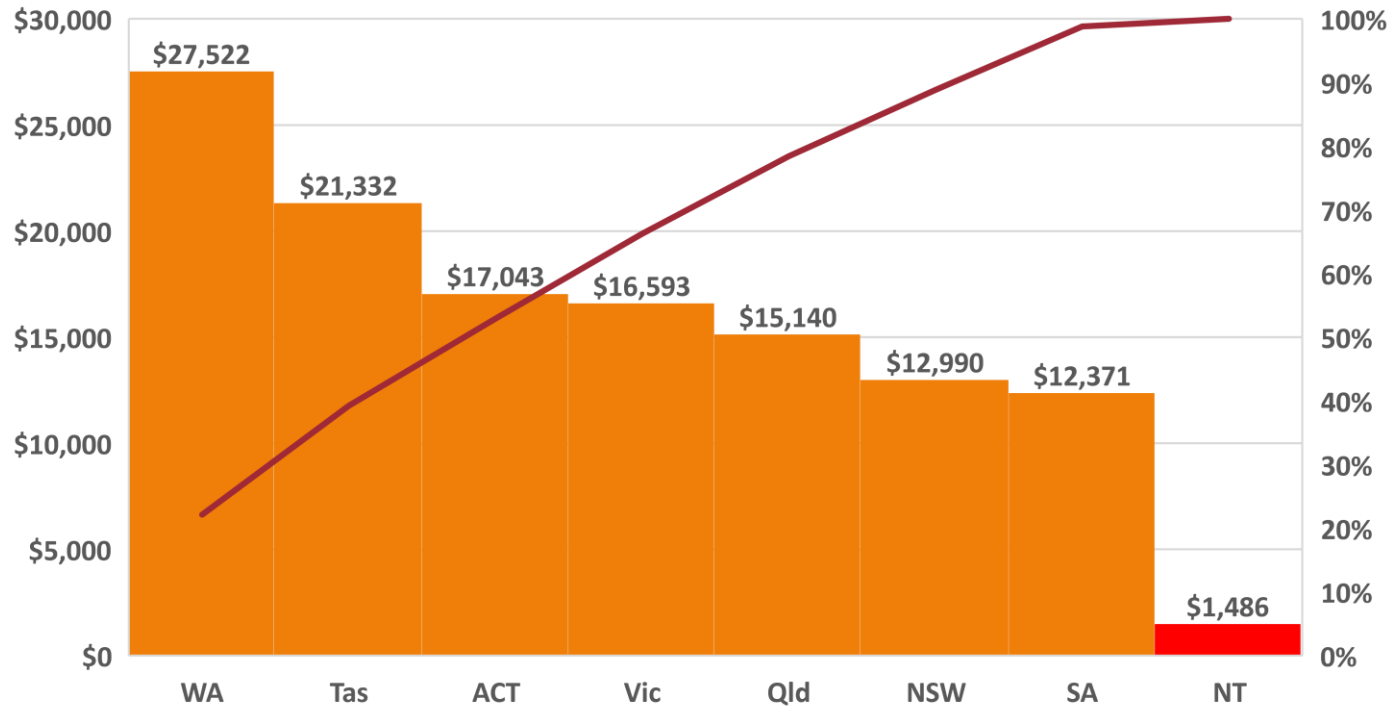
Priority SHS Cohorts – NT vs National

Client Profile	NT Number of Clients	NT rate	National Average rate	NT vs. National Average rate (number of times NT is greater)
Clients are Aboriginal	7984	968.9	832.0	1.2
Clients have experienced Domestic and Family Violence	4650	188.0	46.6	4.0
Clients have a current Mental Health issue	1046	42.3	34.6	1.2
Young people presenting alone	1367	55.3	17.2	3.2
Clients Leaving Care	281	11.4	2.7	4.2
Children with Care and Protection Orders	414	16.7	3.7	4.5
Clients exiting Custodial Settings	250	10.1	3.8	2.7
Clients with problematic Drug or Alcohol issues	974	39.4	11.2	3.5
Clients aged 55 or older	737	29.8	9.7	3.1
Clients with a Disability	184	7.4	2.9	2.6

Note: All rates are per 10,000 estimated resident population.

Anything Odd Here?

Australian Government Real Expenditure under NHHA
(\$ per person)



NHHA Allocations to States and Territories in 2021

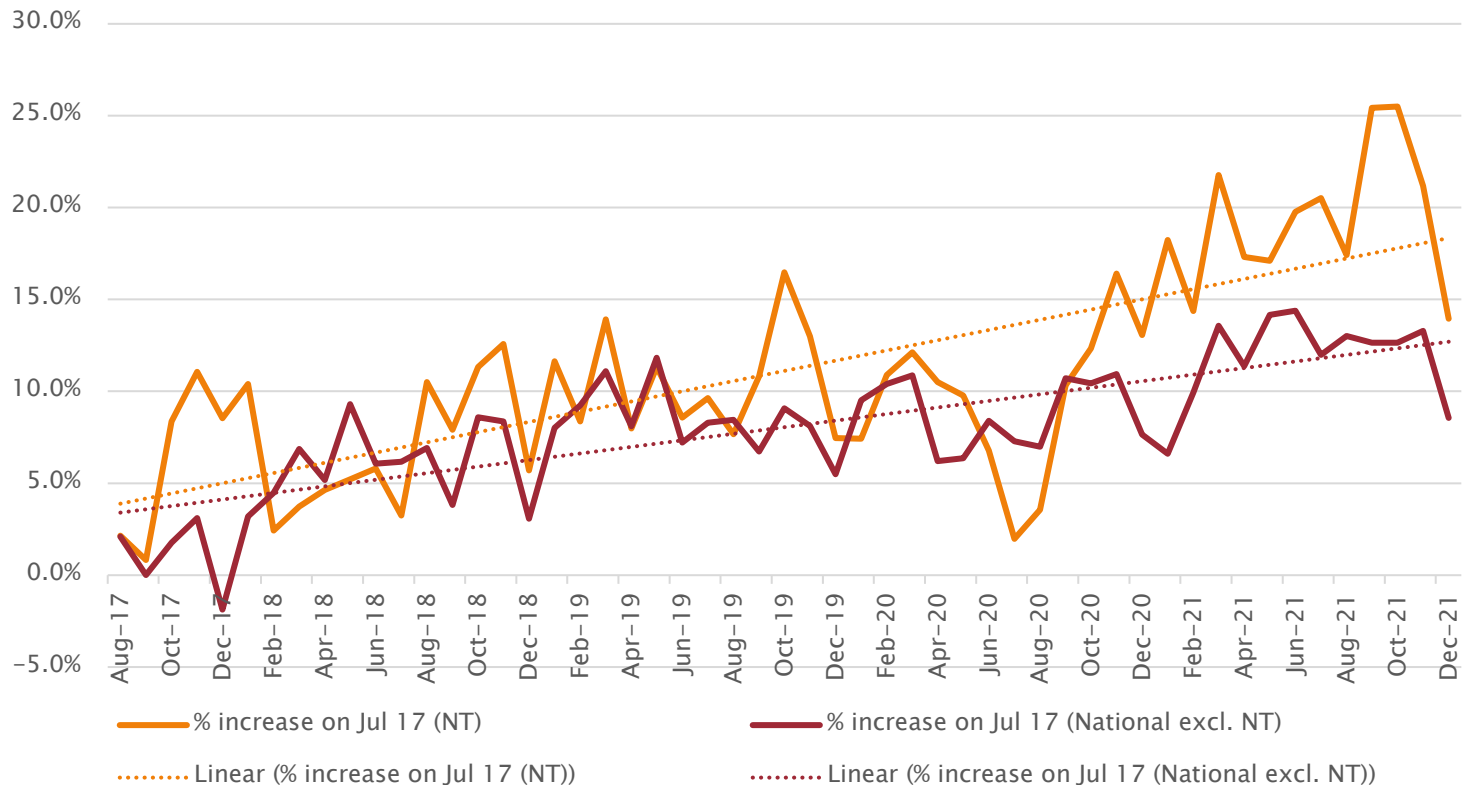
State / Territory	Estimated Homeless 2016 Census	Homeless Rate per 10,000	NHHA Commonwealth Funding Allocation (\$ million)	Ranking (Highest to lowest on homelessness count)	Ranking (Homelessness funding received)
NSW	37,715	50.4	489.9	1	1
Victoria	24,817	41.9	411.8	2	2
Queensland	21,671	46.1	328.1	3	3
Western Australia	6,224	36.4	171.3	6	4
South Australia	9,005	37.1	111.4	5	5
Tasmania	1,622	31.8	34.6	7	6
ACT	1,596	40.2	27.2	8	7
NT	13,727	599.4	20.4	4	8
TOTAL	116,427		1,594.5		

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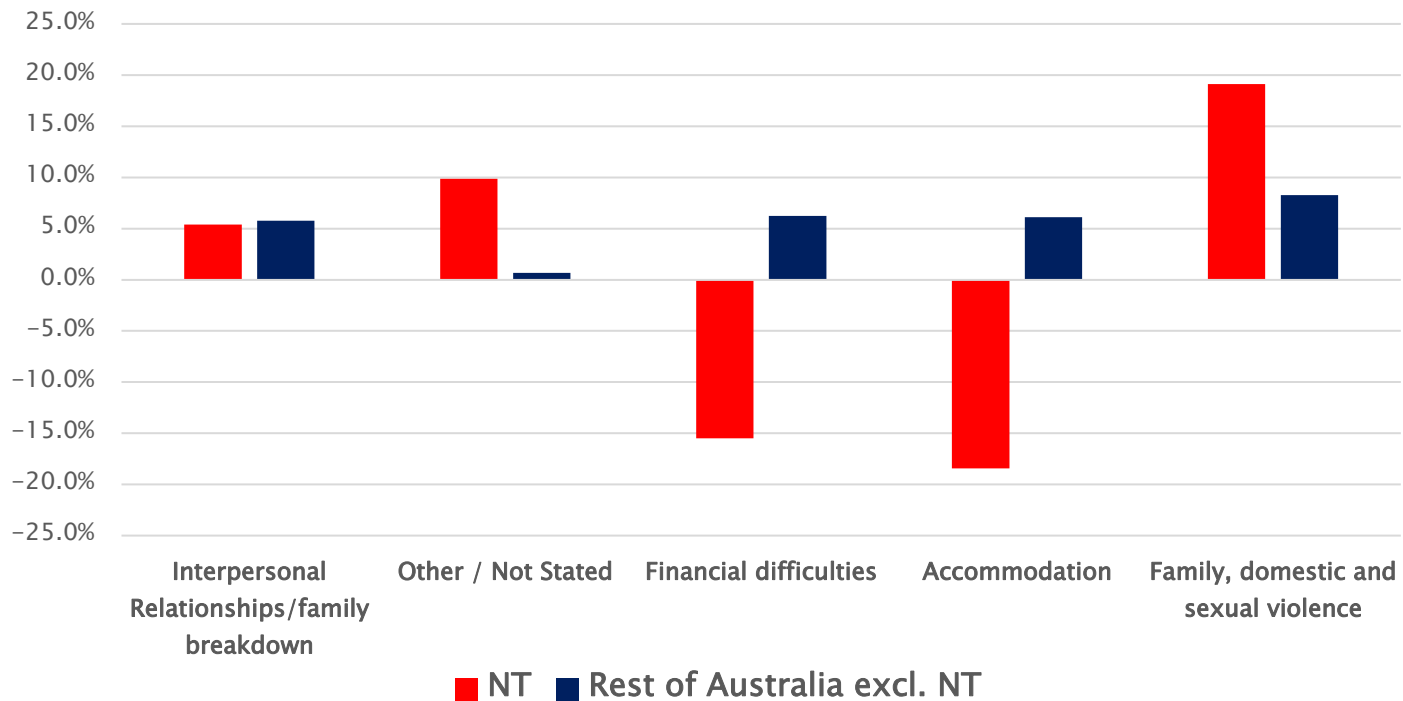
Soaring higher: Demand for services

Monthly SHS Presentations – Increase on July 2017 (base)

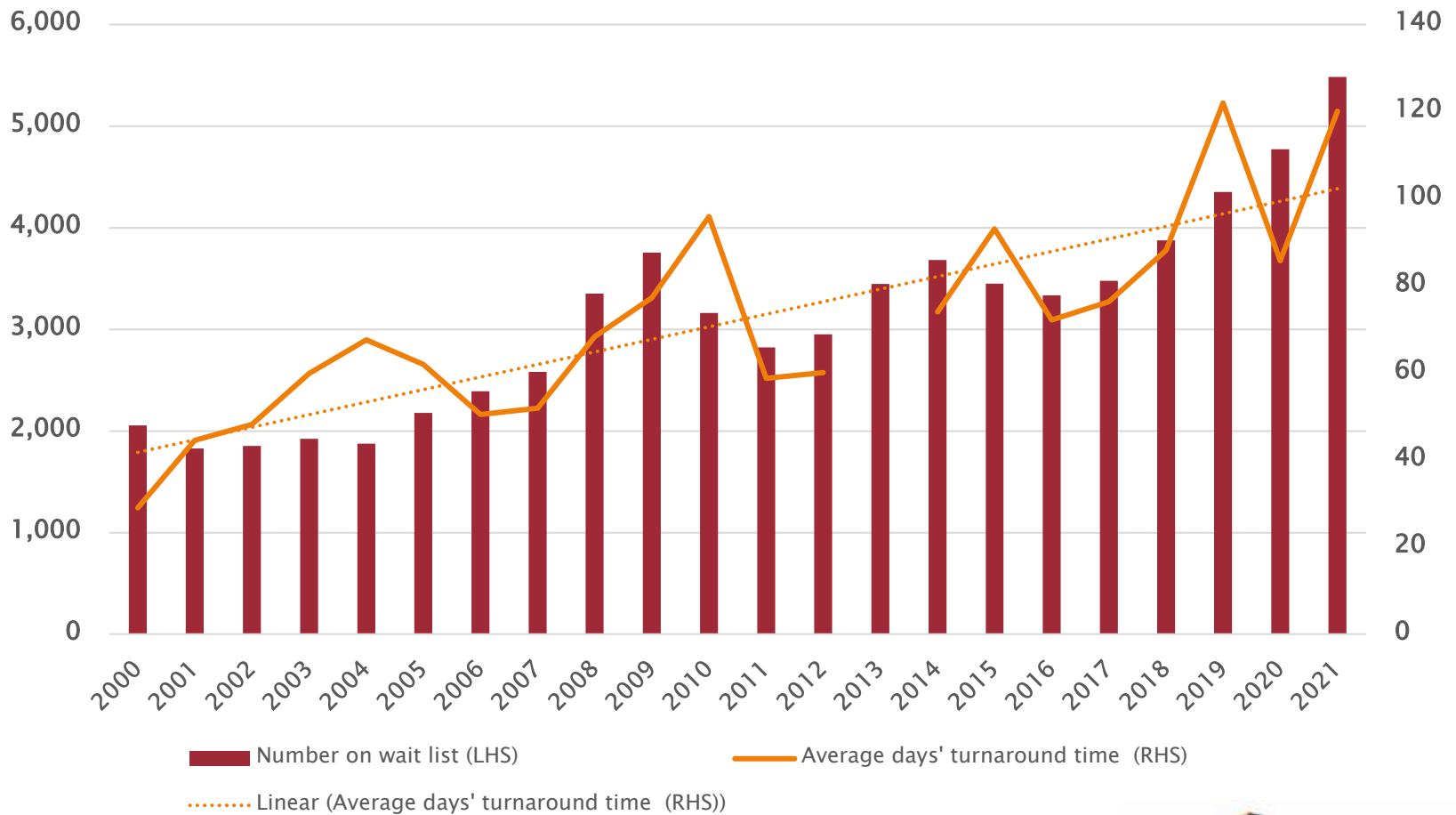


Disturbing trend on DFSV

4 year Change in Presentations (2018 to 2021 inclusive)
5 Most Frequent Reasons for Assistance



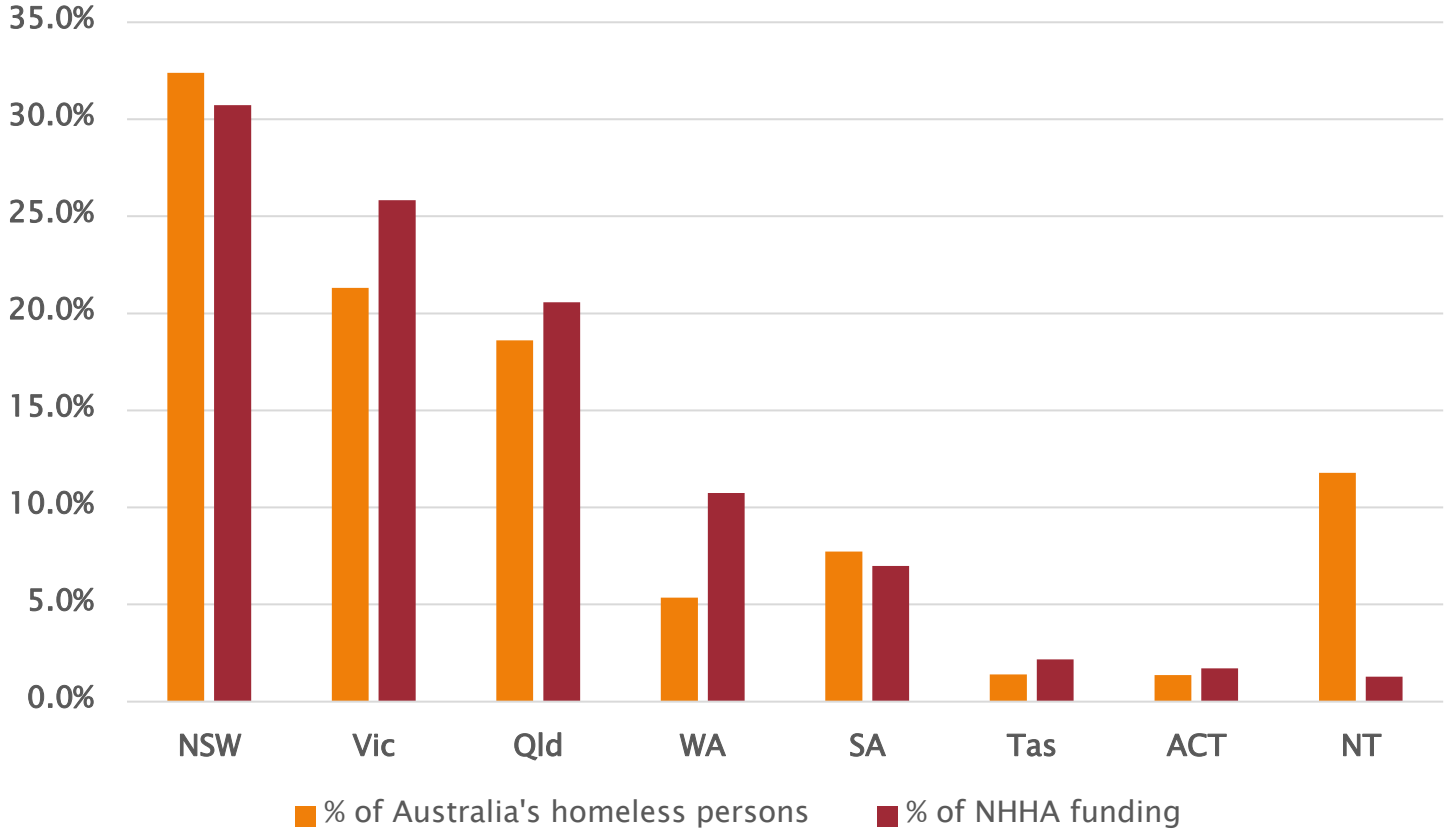
Territorians on Public Housing Wait Lists: Waiting Longer



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Funding Allocation versus Need



\$167 Million would go a Long way

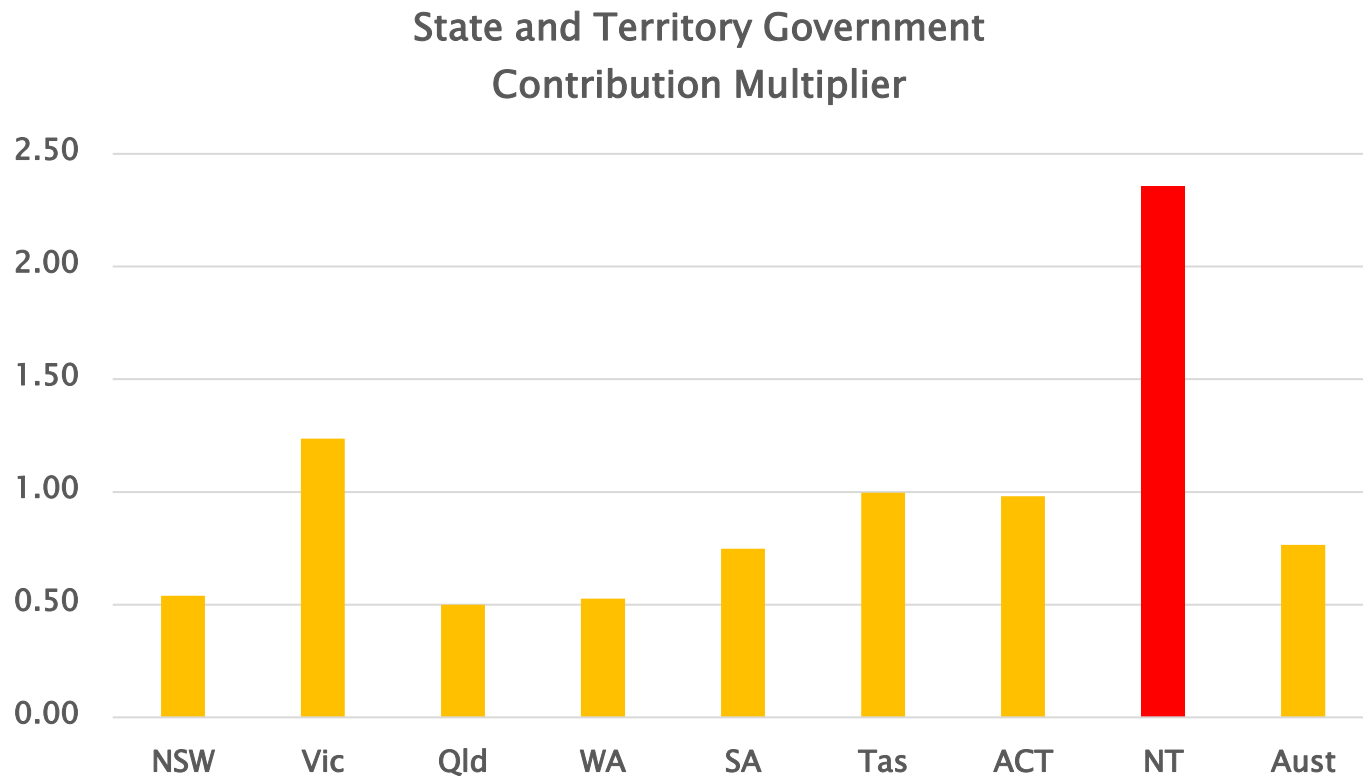
Unknown Demand
(73 remote communities
and >500 homelands)

Unmet Demand
(from 4 urban centres)

Met Demand



Allocate funding to those that need it most



A Good Place to Start



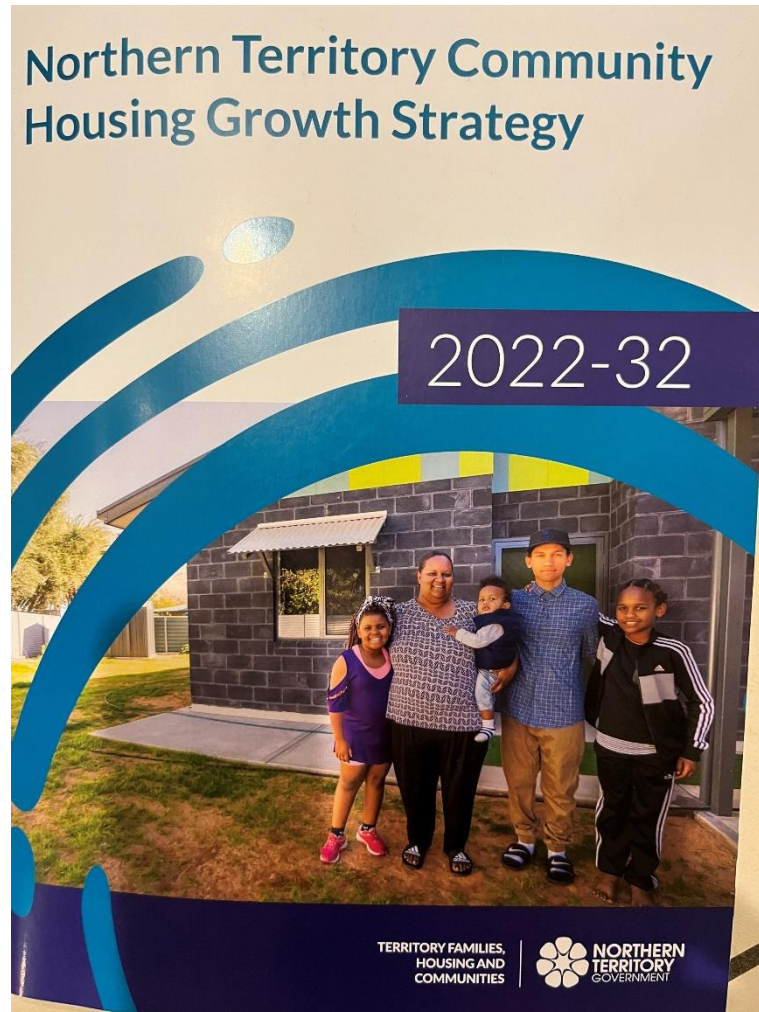
COVID-19

- Vulnerabilities
- Knowledge gaps, service gaps
- Motels vs in situ
- Short-stay accommodation
- Assertive Outreach

Infrastructure and Regional Development

- Regional housing crisis – vacancy rates, rent increases
- Infrastructure Australia Plan
- NT Infrastructure Commissioner
- Industry and population growth, key worker housing
- Housing as a constraint to economic growth
- Strategic land use and zoning

Community Housing



Aboriginal Housing Advocacy



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Cutting through

- What's cutting through, what's not?
- Why aren't we getting the cut-through we need?
- Are there other approaches and emerging themes?
- Will we learn from COVID-19 experience?
 - Can we get reasonable rent controls?
 - Ending rough sleeping
- Who can we partner with?

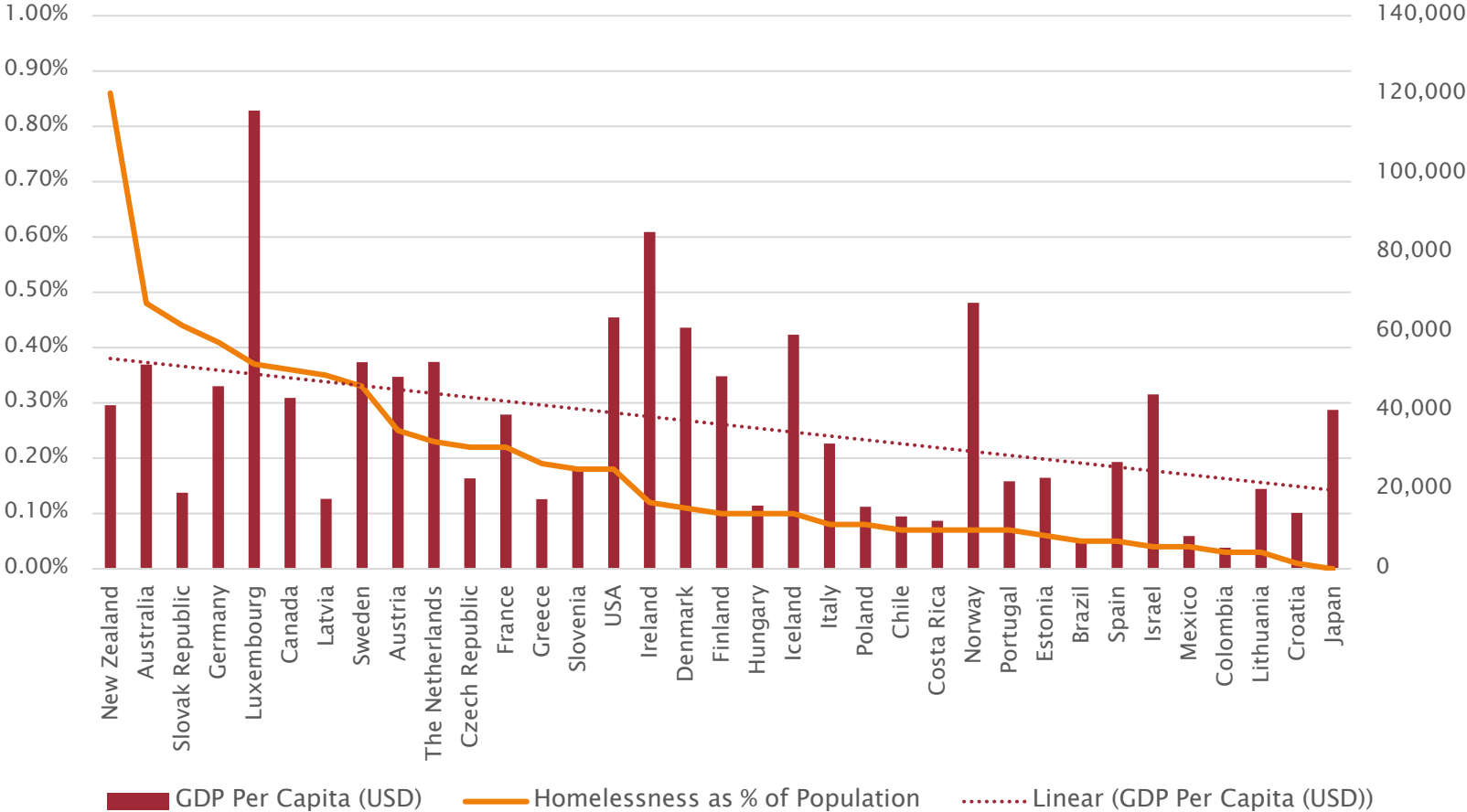
(National) Leadership

"There's no reason why there should be homelessness in a country like New Zealand. We've said from the outset that we believe we're a country that has the prosperity and the empathy to make sure that everyone is housed"

Jacinda Adern, May 2018



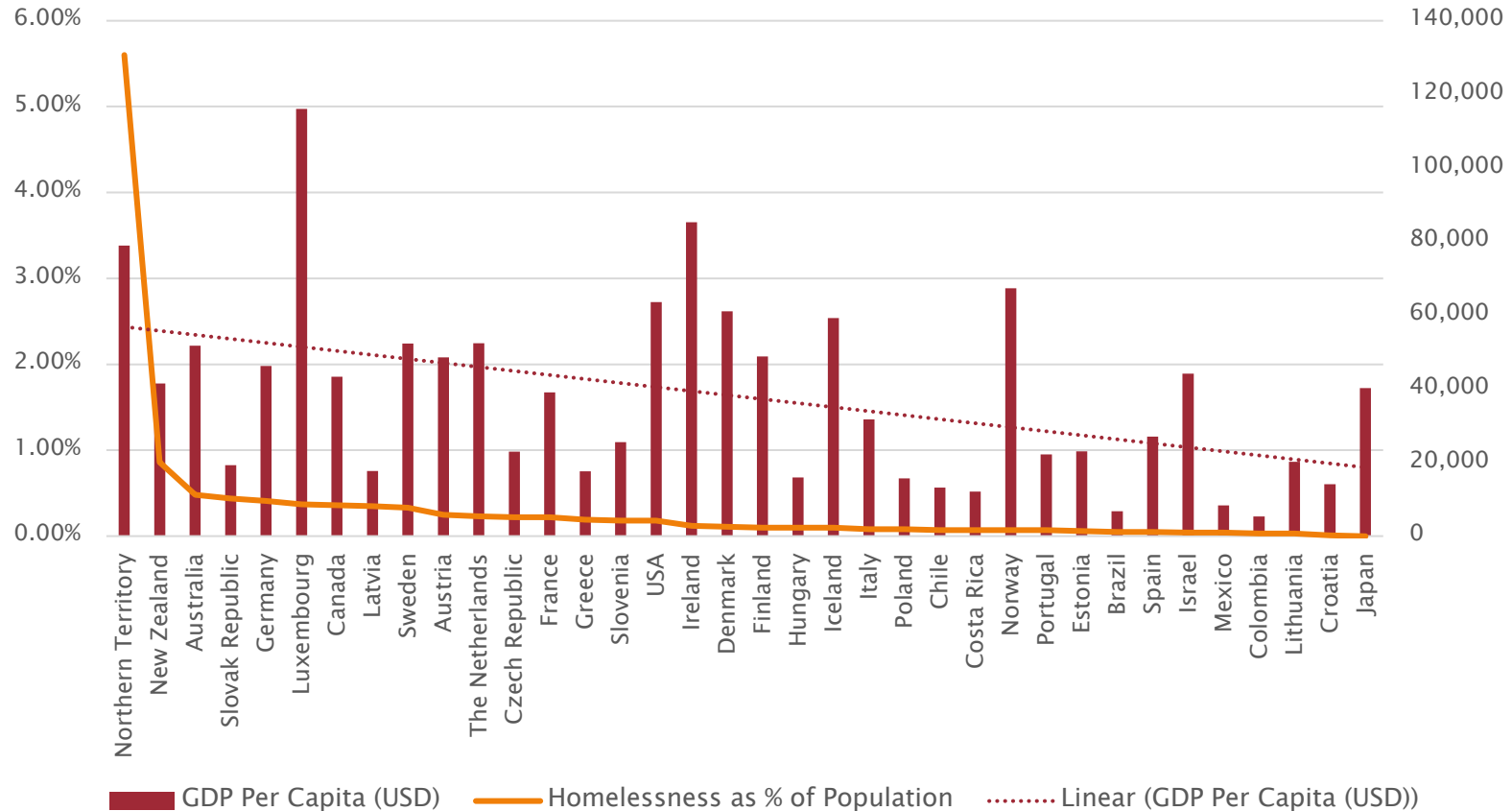
Homelessness and GDP Per Capita



Source: World Bank and OECD and Remplan (EDA)



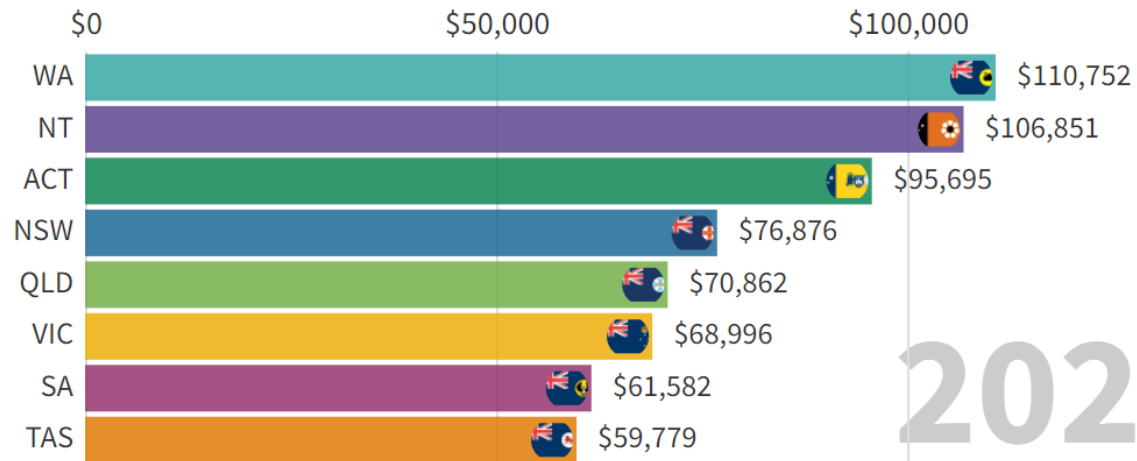
NT and the Prosperity Argument



Source: World Bank, OECD and Remplan (Economic Development Australia)

High Wealth Highest Poverty

Gross State Product per capita, States & Territories of Australia



Source: ABS

