

Unsettled: Life in Australia's private rental market

Choice, National Shelter and the National Association of Tenant Organisations (NATO) have recently collaborated to research and publish a 24 page report entitled "Unsettled: Life in Australia's private rental market" (February 2017).

The report notes that Australia has traditionally been a nation of homeowners but more and more people are renting. Between 1994-5 and 2013-14 the number of Australians renting increased from 25.7% to 31%. While home ownership offers many advantages, renting is not necessarily bad for consumers or society. Many advanced economies such as Germany have low levels of home ownership but Australia lacks many of the protections other countries currently provide to renters.

Some key points from the report:

- 83% of Australian renters have no fixed-term lease or are on a lease 12 months long or less
- 75% of renters agree or strongly agree that competition amongst applicants for a rental property is fierce
- 61% of renters have had an issue while searching for a property over the past five years
- 50% of renters are concerned about being 'blacklisted'
- 48% of renters have a personal income of less than \$35,000 a year

To read the report in it's entirety, please click here: [Unsettled: Life in Australia's private rental market](#) and [National Shelter Media Release](#) and [Shelter SA Media Release](#).

If you or people in your network have experiences of renting in Australia it would be great if you could blog, tweet, share about them - using the hashtag #RentInOz . If you have any queries, please call Kate Cowmeadow on 0478 192 420 or Adrian Pisarski from National Shelter on 0417 975 270. For more information in South Australia please contact Dr. Alice Clark, Executive Director of Shelter SA, on 0425 060 649 or via email: alice.clark@sheltersa.asn.au