



HOUSING CRISIS CONTINUES TO UNFOLD IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA

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We need to stop thinking that homelessness and housing stress only affects the poorest people in South Australia. The latest release of the [National Rental Affordability Index](#) (NRAI)¹ shows that over 40% of households in Adelaide are experiencing extreme to severe housing unaffordability.

Living in unaffordable housing can have a crippling economic and social effect. When families are forced to live in housing that is not affordable, we are negatively impacting the wellbeing and development of our children.

Domestic violence is the leading cause of homelessness in South Australia. By having such a critically unaffordable housing market for households with one income, it is almost impossible for people leaving domestic violence situations to find a new home in the private rental market. **The housing affordability crisis exacerbates the impact of domestic violence.**

Dr Alice Clark, Executive Director of Shelter SA, the peak body for housing, said today, “our efforts to turn off the tap of homelessness and domestic violence in South Australia will continue to fail to prevent the harm that is being caused to our most vulnerable citizens” and, “we urgently need a National housing strategy”.

The results of the NRAI come in the midst of a federal election campaign that has seen housing become a major political issue. Shelter SA, through [National Shelter](#), is running a campaign to ensure that politicians know exactly what the community wants in regards to housing. The [#VoteHome campaign](#) is petitioning for real change to be made to the housing system so that those who are forced to live in housing stress can see some light at the end of the tunnel.

We must address housing affordability. Now is the time to do it.

NRAI Interactive Map available here <http://www.sgsep.com.au/maps/RAI.html>

EXPLAINING THE NRAI METHODOLOGY

The NRAI analyses rental prices and incomes over geographical areas to provide an Index score. The NRAI also provides a map that displays a colour coded NRAI score for each suburb. Because of the methodology, high density areas are reasonably consistent in their results, while outer suburb areas with small sample sizes can experience large fluctuations in Index scores between NRAI releases.

For media enquiries and local explanations of the NRAI please contact Alice Clark, Executive Director, Shelter SA - 0425 060 649, @DrAliceClark www.sheltersa.asn.au

¹ National Rental Affordability Index by National Shelter, SGS Economics, Community Sector Banking