

# Women with Children and Single Mothers

*Women with children experience particular financial pressures, compared to women who do not have dependent children.*

More than half (51%) have asked for financial help from family or friends in the past 12 months (compared to 34% of women who live alone and 26% of women who live with a partner but have no children).

Women who are single parents are one of the cohorts most affected by a lack of affordable housing in their communities. Three in ten (29%) say their current housing situation is not suitable or appropriate for their family's needs (compared to 18% of all women).

Compared to women in other living arrangements, they are least likely to feel safe in their home, safe in the area where they live, and secure in their housing situation.

*Three in five women who are single parents could not pay utility bills on time in the past 12 months.*

Women with children often feel discriminated against as rental applicants, and families are often subject to crowding due to a lack of affordable, larger homes in their communities.

**“ You are not guaranteed you'll get a place because the landlords pick and choose. There's discrimination against single parents with kids over couples with two incomes.”**

Women who are single parents struggle to access housing finance and feel that the dream of home ownership is largely out of reach.

**“ You get told you are a high risk as a single parent, looking for finance. I feel disadvantaged as a result of being a single mum.”**

This excerpt is from the report **Women's Housing Needs in Regional Australia** accessible at [ywcahousing.org.au/research](http://ywcahousing.org.au/research)



**YWCA**  
**National Housing**  
Women Building Futures