

Homelessness in Small Countries, Development of Services and Future Vision

Homelessness in Iceland has increased in recent years. In 2012, a survey showed that 179 people in Reykjavík were homeless, a 30% increase since 2009. The group has expanded and the composition has changed since 2012. Most people suffer from severe alcohol and drug problems and / or mental health problems. With an expanding group of homeless people, the need for specific housing increases, and in the last 15 years has changed dramatically for specific housing measures that provide homeless persons with active substance abuse.

In the presentation policy in housing for homeless people will be introduced with emphasis on Iceland's special status as a small nation. In Iceland, there are few homeless people (roofless) who do not suffer from a serious health problem and a multitude of problems. Therefore, the said group of homeless people in Iceland is much weaker than what appears to be in major cities abroad.