

Befragende Stelle/Einrichtung:

Survey of the living situations of homeless and unhoused people in Cologne

The city of Cologne wants to improve the living situation of its unhoused and homeless citizens. Please answer the following questions if you live on the street, in temporary housing, or are staying with family or friends temporarily. Thank you!

1. We are not asking for your full name to keep your answers anonymous.

First letter of first name: _____

First letter of last name: _____

On what day of the month were you born? _____

In what year were you born? _____

In this first section we ask questions about your living situation and about you personally.

2. Since when do you live in Cologne?

Since the year _____

3. In one of the last seven nights, did you...

Check all that apply.

1. ... sleep outside, for example on the street, under a bridge, in a park, or entry way?

Yes No

2. ...sleep in a makeshift shelter, like a garden shed, a shack, a condemned building, a barn, basement, attic, tent, camper van, or car?

Yes No

3. ... stay overnight with friends, a partner, or family member, even though you do not live there permanently and do not have your own rental agreement?

Yes No

4. Do you live alone, or with other people?

I live alone.

I live with a partner.

I live with a partner and a child/ children under the age of 18.

I am a single parent and live with a child/children under the age of 18.

I live with other family members (grandparents, siblings, aunt, uncle).

I live with a group of homeless people.

I live in the household of another person/ family.

Other. Please specify: _____

I prefer not to answer.

5. If you live with children, how old are they?

____ years ____ years ____ years ____ years
____ years ____ years ____ years ____ years

Please answer separately for each child.

I prefer not to answer.

6. And how old are you?

____ years

I prefer not to answer.

7. And what is your gender?

Female

Male

Nonbinary / other

I prefer not to answer.

8. What country were you born in?

In Germany

In _____

Please specify your country of birth here.

I prefer not to answer.

9. What is your nationality?

German

Other: _____

Please specify your nationality here.

I am stateless.

I prefer not to answer.

10. What is your educational background?

I went to school in Germany, and ...

Check all that apply.

- did not earn a degree.
- have a Sonderschulabschluss/ Förderschulabschluss (degree from a special needs school).
- have a Hauptschulabschluss (lower secondary school degree).
- have the Mittlere Reife (secondary school degree).
- have Abitur (secondary school degree, general qualification for university entrance).
- started but did not finish occupational training.
- finished occupational training / earned a trade degree.
- started college / university but did not earn a degree.
- earned a college / university degree.

I did not go to school in Germany, and ...

Check all that apply.

- went to school in another country for _____ years.
- I started occupational training / university in another country but did not earn a degree.
- I completed occupational training / a university degree in another country.
- My foreign degree(s) is (are) recognized in Germany.
- My foreign degree(s) is (are) not recognized in Germany.
- I can communicate well / very well in German.
- My German is good enough to get by.
- I only speak a little / no German.

I prefer not to answer.

11. What income do you have?

Check all that apply.

I do not have any income.

I have income in form of ...

Benefits from the Jobcenter (SGB II)

Bürgergeld, Hartz IV, Tagessätze

Benefits from the social welfare office, "Sozialamt"

Sozialhilfe,
Grundsicherung im
Alter

Unemployment benefits from the unemployment agency, "Arbeitsagentur"

Pension

e.g. old age pension, orphan's pension, disability pension

Money for students, university students, or apprentices

e.g. BAB, BAföG

Social benefits for parents and children

e.g. Kindergeld, Elterngeld, Unterhaltsvorschuss vom Jugendamt

Alimony and / or child support payments

Paid work

e.g. taxed income, Minijob, 520-Euro-Job, self-employment

Undeclared work

Begging, panhandling, collecting bottles, etc.

Others: _____

I live off of the income of another household member.

I prefer not to answer.

12. Do you have debts?

Check all that apply.

No.

Yes, I only get negative Schufa statements.

German credit rating institution

Yes, I have debts with an energy provider, or owe back rent.

Yes, I'm in debt to my health insurance.

Yes, I have other debts.

I prefer not to answer.

The pages that follow address your living situation, homelessness, and search for housing in Cologne.

13. We would like to know what led to your homelessness.

Check all that apply.

- I had my own apartment with rental agreement in Germany, but lost it.
- I became homeless after aging out of the youth welfare system.
- I moved out of my parents'/family's house and did not have an apartment.
- I am a refugee and have never had an apartment in Germany.
- I'm from another country (but not a refugee) and have never had an apartment in Germany.
- Other: _____
- I prefer not to answer.

14. How long have you been homeless in Germany?

- Less than 3 months
- 3 months to 1 year
- 1 to 5 years
- Over 5 years
- I prefer not to answer.

15. Do you need help or assistance in your search for housing?

You only have to answer the questions on the following page, if you have ever lost an apartment in Germany before. If you haven't, skip forward to question 19.

16. Why did you lose your last apartment?

Check all that apply.

I owed back rent.

Due to incarceration.

For other reasons:

I prefer not to answer.

Please feel free to give all the reasons for losing your apartment.

17. Was the apartment you lost in Cologne?

Yes

No

I prefer not to answer.

18. If the apartment you lost was in Cologne, did you try to get help before losing it?

No, I did not try to get help in Cologne.

Yes, I ...

Check all that apply.

asked the Jobcenter for help.

asked a public office for help: Amt für Wohnungswesen, ResoDienste, Fachstelle Wohnen

Went to a different outreach organization for help:

Other: _____

I prefer not to answer.

19. Are you searching for an apartment?

Check all that apply.

- Yes, I'm looking for listings, and / or I'm on a waitlist.
- Yes, and I'm getting assistance from:

- Yes, but not actively at the moment.
- No, because _____
- I prefer not to answer.

20. When was the last time you viewed an apartment for rent in Germany?

- This year
- Second half of 2022
- Before
- Never
- I prefer not to answer.

21. Do you have a "Wohnberechtigungsschein"?

Subsidized housing permit

- Yes No
- I prefer not to answer.

22. Have you ever stayed at an emergency or sleep shelter in Cologne?

- Yes No
- I prefer not to answer.

23. Why are you currently not staying / sleeping in a facility like that?

Check all that apply.

- I was unaware that was available in Cologne.
- The shelter is full./ I can't get a spot.
- You're only allowed to stay for a few days at a time.
- You're not allowed to stay there during the day.
- I have been banned.
- I can find better places to sleep.
- Too many people for me.
- It's too dirty for me.
- It's too dangerous for me. e.g. fear of theft, violence, sexual harassment
- The rules are too strict. e.g. no visitors, ban on drugs and/ or alcohol
- My partner and I can't stay together.
- I can't share a room with my family.
- My pet(s) can't stay with me.
- It's inaccessible: no elevator, too many stairs, other obstacles
- I'm LGBTQI* and have been mistreated by ... You are lesbian, gay, bi, trans*, intersexual or queer.
 - employees of the shelter.
 - other people staying at the shelter.
- I'm foreign and have been mistreated by ...
 - employees of the shelter.
 - other people staying at the shelter.
- Other: _____
- I prefer not to answer.

In this next section we will be asking about your experiences with services here in Cologne and about other assistance you might need.

24. Do you regularly go to social counseling services?

- Yes, I get counseling / advice from a local organization / service like Rochus, Café Auszeit, Frauenfachberatung OASE, Vringstreff, Wendepunkt » or migrant / refugee services.**

If you don't use these services, why?

- I don't know where to go.**

- I know where to go, but ...**

I'm scared.

I don't know how to get there.

Getting there takes too long.

I don't have a ticket for public transport.

The business hours don't work for me.

It's not accessible, no elevator, too many stairs, other obstacles.

The employees don't speak my language.

I have been turned away.

I don't feel welcome there.

I'm LGBTQI* and have been mistreated there.

I'm foreign and have been mistreated there.

Lesbian, gay, bi, trans*,
intersexual or queer.

The counseling offers don't help me.

I don't need counseling.

Other: _____

- I prefer not to answer.**

25. Do you regularly take up health care services for homeless people?

- Yes, I get medical care from a local service here in Cologne** like a mobile clinic (Looks e.V., Annohaus, Café Victoria, B.O.J.E), or through addiction services or a safe consumption site.

If you do not get medical care through a local service for homeless people, why?

- When I'm sick, I go to the doctor or hospital.**

- I don't know where to go.**

- I know where to go, but ...**

Check all that apply.

- I'm scared.

- I don't know how to get there.

- Getting there takes too long.

- I don't have a ticket for public transport.

- The business hours don't work for me.

- It's not accessible, no elevator, too many stairs, other obstacles.

- The employees don't speak my language.

- I have been turned away.

- I don't feel welcome there.

- I'm LGBTQI* and have been mistreated there.

Lesbian, gay, bi, trans*,
intersexual or queer.

- I'm foreign and have been mistreated there.

- The counseling offers don't help me.

- I don't need counseling.

- Other: _____

- I prefer not to answer.**

26. How is your general health?

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="radio"/> Very good/ good | <input type="radio"/> Satisfactory |
| <input type="radio"/> Not that good/ bad | <input type="radio"/> I prefer not to answer. |

27. Do you have any illnesses or serious physical impairments?

If so, are you receiving treatment?

Yes	No
-----	----

Yes, I have ...

Check all that apply.

Diabetes

Tuberculosis

another chronic lung condition

Hepatitis C

HIV / Aids

open wounds/ sores

a mental illness

an alcohol addiction

an addiction to illegal drugs

an addiction to prescription medication

a gambling addiction

another illness: _____

another illness: _____

I have physical impairments and need accessibility devices.

e.g. wheelchair, walker, hearing aid

No, I have no illnesses or impairments.

I prefer not to answer.

28. Do you regularly make use of other social services for homeless people?

- Yes, I make use of local social services** like soup kitchens, pantries, and the Kleiderkammer, and/ or frequent places like Café Auszeit, GULLIVER, or Diakoniehaus Salierring.

If you don't make use of these services, why?

- I don't know where to go.**

- I know where to go, but ...**

- When I'm sick, I go to the doctor or hospital.**

- I don't know where to go.**

Check all that apply.

- I know where to go, but ...**

- I'm scared.

- I don't know how to get there.

- Getting there takes too long.

- I don't have a ticket for public transport.

- The business hours don't work for me.

- It's not accessible, no elevator, too many stairs, other obstacles.

- The employees don't speak my language.

- I have been turned away.

- I don't feel welcome there.

- I'm LGBTQI* and have been mistreated there.

Lesbian, gay, bi, trans*, intersexual or queer.

- I'm foreign and have been mistreated there.

- I prefer not to answer.**

29. Have you ever experienced discrimination or violence in Cologne?

Verbal, physical, sexual assault, exclusion, isolation

Yes: _____

No

I prefer not to answer.

30. If you answered yes to the last question, were you targeted because of your gender or sexual orientation?

Yes No

I prefer not to answer.

If yes, what can the city do to protect you better?

31. Are you trans?

You identify with a gender different from the one that was assigned to you at birth.

Yes No

I prefer not to answer.

32. Are you ...

heterosexual?

homosexual (lesbian or gay) or bisexual?

Other: _____

e.g. Asexual

I prefer not to answer.

33. Which negative and / or positive experiences have you had with the “Ordnungsamt” (public order office) police, security services at the train station or airport, or private security services?

34. What can the city of Cologne do to improve your life?

Immediately/ short term:

Over the course of a year:

I prefer not to answer.

If you have children, or are originally not from Germany, we have a few more questions for you. If not, you are done! Thank you for your help!

If you live with children...

35. Do you receive benefits for education and participation, “Bildung und Teilhabe” (BuT) for your children?

- No
- Yes, ...
 - for school excursions, and class trips.
 - for lunch.
 - 15 € for participation in the social and cultural life of the community (Sports club, music lessons, ...).
 - for tutoring.
 - transportation assistance for students, school supply budget
- I don't know.
- I prefer not to answer.

Check all that apply.

36. Is one of your children member in a club?

- Yes No
- I prefer not to answer.

37. Does one of your children go to a community / youth center?

- Yes No
- I prefer not to answer.

38. Do your children have regular contact with children of similar age outside of school or daycare?

Yes No

I prefer not to answer.

39. Do you have a pediatrician?

Yes No

I prefer not to answer.

40. Do you go to medical check-ups with your children?

Yes No

My children are beyond this age.

I prefer not to answer.

Your children are entitled to 11 medical check-ups before they turn 18.

41. If your children go to school, do they have a quiet place to do homework where you're staying?

Yes No

I prefer not to answer.

If you are not originally from Germany...

42. How long have you been in Germany?

- Less than 3 months.
- Between 3 months and 1 year.
- Between 1 and 5 years.
- Longer than 5 years.
- I prefer not to answer.

43. What is your immigration status?

- I'm a EU citizen, and ...
 - have permanent residency.
 - work here.
 - am looking for work here.
- I'm not from the EU, and have...
 - permanent residency in the EU (**unbefristete Niederlassungserlaubnis**).
 - temporary residence permit (**Aufenthaltserlaubnis**) for 3 years. e.g. recognized refugee status
 - temporary residence permit (**Aufenthaltserlaubnis**) for 1 year. e.g. subsidiary protection
 - I have been allowed to stay in Germany short term, my status is unclear (Aufenthaltsgestattung, Duldung)
- I have no valid paper work, and no legal residency in Germany.
- Other: _____
- I prefer not to answer.