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## Tough on the street in Bondi

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4



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A homeless man on Oxford St, Bondi Junction / Pic: Tim Hunter  
Source: DailyTelegraph

[< Prev \(#\)](#)

of 2

[Next > \(#\)](#)

• [\(#1\)](#) • [\(#2\)](#)

## **A SHORTAGE of accommodation for homeless people in Sydney's eastern suburbs is pushing desperate men and women on to the streets in increasing numbers.**

These are the lesser-known rough-sleepers who call the eastern suburbs home.

More than 120 people in the eastern suburbs are homeless, according to the 2011 Census.

The national rate of homelessness is 49 people for every 10,000, up 8 per cent since 2006.

**It comes after a middle-aged man burned to death when the candles he was using set fire to the Woollahra garage he was sleeping in.** (<http://www.dailytelegraph.com.au/news/nsw/homeless-man-died-trying-to-escape-a-freezing-night/story-fni0cx12-1226683410220>)

While the inner city has services like the Matthew Talbot Hostel, which has 98 crisis beds, the options fall with each kilometre east. Jewish House in Bondi offers crisis accommodation but cannot house all those looking for a bed.

"Once you get out of Kings Cross and Surry Hills, there are only one or two options for crisis accommodation,," Jewish House CEO Rabbi Mendel Kastel said.

Omar Abidin from Bondi's Norman Andrews House drop-in centre said an increasing number of at-risk people were being pushed out of accommodation by rising rental prices.