Tasmanian Community Services Industry Snapshot 2026

TasCOSS conducted a pulse check of Tasmanian community service organisations to build an up-to-date picture of the financial and organisational pressures facing the industry. **Here is what they told us.**

Financial strain

53%

of organisations expect to make a loss this financial year.

Rising costs

92–94%

reported increased costs for wages (92%), administration (93%) and fuel (94%), among other impacts.

Wages are the most significant budget pressure, reported by 88%.

Demand is outstripping capacity

81%

of organisations have experienced increased demand without additional resources.

Organisations are losing funding

58%

of organisations have experienced a reduction in funding in the past 12 months.

Funding not keeping pace

87%

have not received funding to cover mandated wage increases. Three-quarters (76%) disagree that government funding covers the full cost of service delivery or enables future planning.

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Community service organisations are doing everything they can to maintain support for Tasmanians despite increased demand, rising costs and inadequate funding. The pulse check shows this is becoming increasingly difficult, with organisations drawing on reserves, stretching staff and volunteers, changing how services are delivered and, in many cases, scaling back services.

People are being turned away

60%

of organisations have had to turn people away due to a lack of resources.

Services are being reduced

48%

of organisations have reduced service delivery due to financial pressures.

Reduced staff hours

42%

of organisations have reduced staff hours in the past 12 months due to financial pressures.

What the industry says needs to change

The strongest priorities identified through the pulse check are:

76%
Better indexation

So funding keeps pace with the actual cost of doing business.

66%
Funding for mandated wage increases

So organisations are not forced to absorb workforce cost increases from already stretched budgets.

53%
Longer-term funding agreements

To provide greater certainty and allow organisations to plan their workforce and services for the future.