

# Household—homeless status (Commonwealth State Housing Agreement)

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## Identifying and definitional attributes

**Metadata item type:** Data Element Concept

**METEOR identifier:** 269748

**Registration status:** [Housing assistance](#), Retired 10/02/2006

**Definition:** Homeless, for the purpose of the Commonwealth-State Housing Agreement (CSHA) priority access national standard, is defined as a household with no housing or a household residing in temporary or emergency accommodation at the time of housing allocation. It includes households who:

- lived in accommodation provided by a Supported Accommodation Assistance Program agency or some other form of emergency accommodation;
- were totally without permanent shelter (e.g. wandered from place to place, slept out on the street or on park benches);
- lived in shelter that was unlawful such as those who were forced to squat in derelict buildings; or
- stayed temporarily with friends or relatives in the short term (e.g. up to a maximum of 6 weeks duration).

**Context:** The CSHA priority access national standard identifies applicants who at the time of allocation were homeless or who did not have access to safe, secure and affordable housing. The definition of 'homeless' used in this standard is narrow and focuses on persons who experienced primary and secondary homelessness (excluding people residing in boarding houses) according to the definitions developed by Chamberlain.

The CSHA priority access national standard draws a distinction between the 'homeless' category and the categories which address the safety, security and affordability of housing. It would therefore have been inappropriate to use the SAAP Homeless definition, as it is a broader concept and is inclusive of persons who did not have access to safe, secure and adequate housing.

## Object Class attributes

### Identifying and definitional attributes

**Object class:** [Household](#)

**Definition:** A group of two or more related or unrelated people who usually reside in the same dwelling, and who make common provision for food or other essentials for living; or a single person living in a dwelling who makes provision for his or her own food and other essentials for living, without combining with any other person.

**Context:** Together with family, household is considered one of the basic groups of social aggregation. Information on household numbers and composition aids in identifying groups within the population such as Indigenous households or the number of people living alone.

**Specialisation of:** [Person/group of persons](#)

### Collection and usage attributes

**Guide for use:**

For housing data collections, the number of tenancy agreements is a practical proxy for calculating the number of households receiving housing assistance.

The persons in the group may pool their incomes and have a common budget to a greater or lesser extent: they may be related or unrelated persons, or a combination of both.

Only usual residents of the household are included as members of the household. Visitors to a household are, by definition, excluded from the household.

## Source and reference attributes

**Origin:** CSHA Public rental housing data manual 2001-02

## Property attributes

### Identifying and definitional attributes

**Property:** [Homeless status](#)

**Definition:** An indicator of a state of homelessness.

### Source and reference attributes

**Submitting organisation:** Australian Institute of Health and Welfare

## Data element concept attributes

### Source and reference attributes

**Submitting organisation:** Australian Institute of Health and Welfare

### Relational attributes

**Data Elements implementing this Data Element Concept:** [Household—homeless status \(Commonwealth State Housing Agreement\), code N Housing assistance, Retired 10/02/2006](#)