Person—living arrangement, code N

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# Person—living arrangement, code N

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| Identifying and definitional attributes | |
| Metadata item type: | Data Element |
| Short name: | Living arrangement |
| METEOR identifier: | 270385 |
| Registration status: | [Community Services (retired)](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/1), Standard 01/03/2005  [Disability](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/16), Standard 07/10/2014 |
| Definition: | Whether a person usually resides alone or with others, as represented by a code. |
| Data Element Concept: | [Person—living arrangement](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/269813) |
| Value Domain: | [Living arrangement code N](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/270889) |

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| Value domain attributes | | |
| Representational attributes | | |
| Representation class: | Code | |
| Data type: | Number | |
| Format: | N | |
| Maximum character length: | 1 | |
|  | **Value** | **Meaning** |
| Permissible values: | 1 | Lives alone |
|  | 2 | Lives with family |
|  | 3 | Lives with others |
| Supplementary values: | 9 | Not stated/inadequately described |

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| Collection and usage attributes | |
| Guide for use: | CODE 2 Lives with [**family**](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/351499):  If the person's household includes both family and non-family members, the person should be recorded as living with family. 'Living with family' should be considered to include de facto and same sex relationships.  On occasion, difficulties can arise in deciding the living arrangement of a person due to their type of accommodation (e.g. boarding houses, hostels, group homes, retirement villages, residential aged care facilities).  In these circumstances the person should be regarded as living alone, except in those instances in which they are sharing their own private space/room within the premises with a significant other (e.g. partner, sibling, close friend). |

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| Source and reference attributes | |
| Submitting organisation: | Australian Institute of Health and Welfare |

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| Data element attributes | |
| Collection and usage attributes | |
| Collection methods: | Generally this metadata item is collected for the person's usual living arrangement, but may also, if required, be collected for a person's main living arrangement or living arrangement at a particular time reference point. |
| Comments: | It is important to record the type of living arrangement for a person in order to develop a sense of the level of support, both physically and emotionally, to which a person may have access. |
| Source and reference attributes | |
| Submitting organisation: | Commonwealth and State/Territory Home and Community Care Officials |
| Origin: | National Health Data Committee  National Community Services Data Committee  Commonwealth Department of Health and Family Services 1998. Home and Community Care Data Dictionary. Version 1.0. Canberra: DHFS. |
| Relational attributes | |
| Related metadata references: | Is re-engineered from  [Living arrangement, version 3, DE, NCSDD, NCSIMG, Superseded 01/03/2005.pdf](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/273950)  (15.6 KB)  *No registration status* |
| Implementation in Data Set Specifications: | [Commonwealth State/Territory Disability Agreement NMDS - 1 July 2006](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/317350)  [Community Services (retired)](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/1), Superseded 14/12/2008  ***DSS specific information:***    The CSTDA NMDS defines ‘usual’ as where the person usually resides for four or more days per week on average. If it is difficult to determine the person’s ‘usual’ residential setting for the reporting period, the setting the person resided in during the reference week, and their living arrangements in that setting, should be reported.  In most instances, homeless people should be coded as living alone.  People living in residential settings such as group homes and hostels may consider that they live alone or live with others. The expressed views of the service user should be used to determine whether they live alone or with others.  Code 3 Lives with others includes sharing with friends or a carer (where the carer is not a family member).  [Commonwealth State/Territory Disability Agreement NMDS (July 2008)](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/372123)  [Community Services (retired)](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/1), Superseded 11/11/2009  ***DSS specific information:***    The CSTDA NMDS defines ‘usual’ as where the person usually resides for four or more days per week on average. If it is difficult to determine the person’s ‘usual’ residential setting for the reporting period, the setting the person resided in during the reference week, and their living arrangements in that setting, should be reported.  In most instances, homeless people should be coded as living alone.  People living in residential settings such as group homes and hostels may consider that they live alone or live with others. The expressed views of the service user should be used to determine whether they live alone or with others.  Code 3 Lives with others includes sharing with friends or a carer (where the carer is not a family member).  [Disability services carer details cluster](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/484552)  [Community Services (retired)](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/1), Standard 10/04/2013  [Disability](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/16), Standard 13/08/2015  [Disability services client details cluster](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/484543)  [Community Services (retired)](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/1), Standard 10/04/2013  [Disability](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/16), Standard 13/08/2015  [Disability Services NMDS 2009-10](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/386485)  [Community Services (retired)](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/1), Superseded 15/12/2011  ***Implementation start date:*** 01/07/2009 ***DSS specific information:***    The DS NMDS defines ‘usual’ as where the person usually resides for four or more days per week on average. If it is difficult to determine the person’s ‘usual’ residential setting for the reporting period, the setting the person resided in during the reference week, and their living arrangements in that setting, should be reported.  In most instances, homeless people should be coded as living alone.  People living in residential settings such as group homes and hostels may consider that they live alone or live with others. The expressed views of the service user should be used to determine whether they live alone or with others.  Code 3 Lives with others includes sharing with friends or a carer (where the carer is not a family member).  [Disability Services NMDS 2010-11](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/428708)  [Community Services (retired)](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/1), Superseded 15/12/2011  ***Implementation start date:*** 01/07/2010 ***DSS specific information:***  The DS NMDS defines ‘usual’ as where the person usually resides for four or more days per week on average. If it is difficult to determine the person’s ‘usual’ residential setting for the reporting period, the setting the person resided in during the reference week, and their living arrangements in that setting, should be reported.  In most instances, homeless people should be coded as living alone.  People living in residential settings such as group homes and hostels may consider that they live alone or live with others. The expressed views of the service user should be used to determine whether they live alone or with others.  Code 3 Lives with others includes sharing with friends or a carer (where the carer is not a family member).  [Disability Services NMDS 2011-12](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/461636)  [Community Services (retired)](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/1), Superseded 13/03/2013  ***Implementation start date:*** 01/07/2011 ***DSS specific information:***  The DS NMDS defines ‘usual’ as where the person usually resides for four or more days per week on average. If it is difficult to determine the person’s ‘usual’ residential setting for the reporting period, the setting the person resided in during the reference week, and their living arrangements in that setting, should be reported.  In most instances, homeless people should be coded as living alone.  People living in residential settings such as group homes and hostels may consider that they live alone or live with others. The expressed views of the service user should be used to determine whether they live alone or with others.  Code 3 Lives with others includes sharing with friends or a carer (where the carer is not a family member).  [Disability Services NMDS 2012-14](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/461640)  [Community Services (retired)](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/1), Standard 13/03/2013  ***Implementation start date:*** 01/07/2012 ***Implementation end date:*** 30/06/2014 ***DSS specific information:***  The DS NMDS defines ‘usual’ as where the person usually resides for four or more days per week on average. If it is difficult to determine the person’s ‘usual’ residential setting for the reporting period, the setting the person resided in during the reference week, and their living arrangements in that setting, should be reported.  The service user's living arrangements must relate to the same place described in the ['service user postcode'](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/429894) and ['residential setting'](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/386445).  People living in residential settings such as group homes and hostels may consider that they live alone or live with others. The expressed views of the service user should be used to determine whether they live alone or with others.  Code 3 'Lives with others' includes sharing with friends or a carer (where the carer is not a family member).  [Disability Services NMDS 2014-15](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/569749)  [Disability](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/16), Superseded 29/02/2016  ***Implementation start date:*** 01/07/2014 ***Implementation end date:*** 30/06/2015 ***DSS specific information:***  The Disability Services Minimum Data Set (DS NMDS) defines ‘usual’ as where the person usually resides for four or more days per week on average. If it is difficult to determine the person’s ‘usual’ residential setting for the reporting period, the setting the person resided in during the reference week, and their living arrangements in that setting, should be reported.  The service user's living arrangements must relate to the same place described in the ['service user postcode'](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/429894) and ['residential setting'](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/386445).  People living in residential settings such as group homes and hostels may consider that they live alone or live with others. The expressed views of the service user should be used to determine whether they live alone or with others.  Code 3 'Lives with others' includes sharing with friends or a carer (where the carer is not a family member).  [Disability Services NMDS 2015–16](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/617391)  [Disability](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/16), Superseded 28/09/2016  ***Implementation start date:*** 01/07/2015 ***Implementation end date:*** 30/06/2016 ***DSS specific information:***  The Disability Services Minimum Data Set (DS NMDS) defines ‘usual’ as where the person usually resides for four or more days per week on average. If it is difficult to determine the person’s ‘usual’ residential setting for the reporting period, the setting the person resided in during the reference week, and their living arrangements in that setting, should be reported.  The [**service user's**](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/502689) living arrangements must relate to the same place described in the [service user postcode ('Address—Australian postcode, code (Postcode datafile) {NNNN}')](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/429894) and '[Person—residential setting, NDA code N[N]](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/386445)'.  People living in residential settings such as group homes and hostels may consider that they live alone or live with others. The expressed views of the service user should be used to determine whether they live alone or with others.  Code 3 'Lives with others' includes sharing with friends or a carer (where the carer is not a family member).  [Disability Services NMDS 2016–17](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/637867)  [Disability](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/16), Superseded 15/12/2017  ***Implementation start date:*** 01/07/2016 ***Implementation end date:*** 30/06/2017 ***DSS specific information:***  The Disability Services National Minimum Data Set (DS NMDS) defines ‘usual’ as where the person resides for four or more days per week on average. If it is difficult to determine the person’s ‘usual’ residential setting for the reporting period, the setting the person resided in during the reference week, and their living arrangements in that setting, should be reported.  The [**service user's**](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/502689) living arrangements must relate to the same place described in the service user postcode ('[Address—Australian postcode, code (Postcode datafile) {NNNN}](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/429894)') and '[Person—residential setting, accommodation type (NDA) code N[N]](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/621477)'.  People living in residential settings such as group homes and hostels may consider that they live alone or live with others. The expressed views of the service user should be used to determine whether they live alone or with others.  Code 3 'Lives with others' includes sharing with friends or a carer (where the carer is not a family member).  [Disability Services NMDS 2017–18](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/664954)  [Disability](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/16), Superseded 05/07/2019  ***Implementation start date:*** 01/07/2017 ***Implementation end date:*** 30/06/2018 ***DSS specific information:***  The Disability Services National Minimum Data Set (DS NMDS) defines ‘usual’ as where the person resides for four or more days per week on average. If it is difficult to determine the person’s ‘usual’ residential setting for the reporting period, the setting the person resided in during the reference week, and their living arrangements in that setting, should be reported.  The [**service user's**](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/502689) living arrangements must relate to the same place described in the service user postcode ('[Address—Australian postcode, code (Postcode datafile) NNNN](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/611398)') and '[Person—residential setting, accommodation type (NDA) code N[N]](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/621477)'.  People living in residential settings such as group homes and hostels may consider that they live alone or live with others. The expressed views of the service user should be used to determine whether they live alone or with others.  Code 2 'Lives with family' includes living with parents, a partner (married, de facto and same sex relationships), male relatives (sons, brothers, uncles, nephews, male cousins, grandfathers, male grandchildren, step sons and so on), female relatives (daughters, sisters, aunts, nieces, female cousins, grandmothers, female grandchildren, step daughters and so on) and foster family.  Code 3 'Lives with others' includes sharing with friends or a carer (where the carer is not a family member).  [Disability Services NMDS 2018–19](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/698074)  [Disability](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/16), Standard 05/07/2019  ***Implementation start date:*** 01/07/2018 ***Implementation end date:*** 30/06/2019 ***DSS specific information:***  The Disability Services National Minimum Data Set (DS NMDS) defines ‘usual’ as where the person resides for four or more days per week on average. If it is difficult to determine the person’s ‘usual’ residential setting for the reporting period, the setting the person resided in during the reference week, and their living arrangements in that setting, should be reported.  The [**service user's**](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/502689) living arrangements must relate to the same place described in the service user postcode ('[Address—Australian postcode, code (Postcode datafile) NNNN](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/611398)') and '[Person—residential setting, accommodation type (NDA) code N[N]](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/621477)'.  People living in residential settings such as group homes and hostels may consider that they live alone or live with others. The expressed views of the service user should be used to determine whether they live alone or with others.  Code 2 'Lives with family' includes living with parents, a partner (married, de facto and same sex relationships), male relatives (sons, brothers, uncles, nephews, male cousins, grandfathers, male grandchildren, step sons and so on), female relatives (daughters, sisters, aunts, nieces, female cousins, grandmothers, female grandchildren, step daughters and so on) and foster family.  Code 3 'Lives with others' includes sharing with friends or a carer (where the carer is not a family member).  [Home and Community Care MDS 2009](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/379878)  [Community Services (retired)](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/1), Recorded 16/11/2009  ***Implementation start date:*** 11/05/2006 |