
Residential setting

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Identifying and Definitional Attributes

Data Dictionary: NCSDD
Knowledgebase ID: 000587 Version number: 1
Metadata type: DATA ELEMENT
Registration Authority: NCSIMG Admin status: SUPERSEDED
Effective date: 01-MAR-05
Definition: The setting in which a person resides.
Context: Linking human service outcomes with people's housing situations has been identified as an important step in providing better targeted services. Collecting information about residential setting also gives an indication of the type and variety of settings to which agencies deliver their services when providing assistance. This data element assists when making comparisons of data from administrative data collections with data from the five yearly Census of Population and Housing, and to assist in analyses of de-institutionalisation.

Relational and Representational Attributes

Datatype: Numeric
Representational form: CODE
Representation layout: N
Minimum Size: 1
Maximum Size: 1
Data Domain: 1 Private setting
 2 Community based setting
 3 Institutional setting
 4 None/homeless/public place
 9 Not stated/ inadequately described

Guide For Use: To meet program or service specific needs, the categories used in individual data collections may be more detailed than those in the settings classification of the NCCS V2, but they should always be mappable to categories in the NCCS V2. Categories used in individual community services data collections such as the Home and Community Care (HACC), Commonwealth State/Territory

Disability Agreement (CSTDA) and the Supported Accommodation Assistance Program (SAAP) have been mapped to the settings classification in the National Classifications of Community Services.

Code 1. Private setting: A largely self contained dwelling intended for occupation by one or more usual residents, or movable, makeshift or improvised dwelling occupied by one or more usual residents, regardless of whether the dwelling is owned, being purchased or being rented privately, publicly or through a community organisation. This includes, Owner/purchaser/renter occupied dwellings and Unsupported independent living facilities.

For example houses, flats, units, hotels/motels, caravan, craft in a marina, a houseboat, independent living in a retirement village (where no support services are provided as a package with the accommodation) and makeshift and improvised dwellings (such as humpies).

Code 2. Community based setting: This type of setting includes Short-term crisis or emergency accommodation facility, Supported independent residential facility, Transitional accommodation facility, Supported accommodation facility (where support is provided together with the accommodation as a package) and Supported independent living.

The distinguishing features of a community based setting as opposed to private:

- An adult accommodated in a community setting has less control or choice, over when, where and how, they undertake basic personal activities than in a private setting (eg. shared or scheduled meals, communal laundry, etc.).
- In community based settings some form of service by paid staff is generally provided in association with occupancy of a dwelling.
- The person has more choice or control over such activities in a community based setting than in an institutional setting.
- Persons living in community settings are generally housed in domestic scale sized dwellings.
- Located within the general community, in areas where other people live privately.

Code 3. Institutional setting: This category includes Hospital (including psychiatric), Special purpose residential facility (including those that provide 'out of home' placements for children who cannot live with their families), Community care unit and Custodial settings, (prisons, remand centres, corrective institutions for children/youth).

It also includes larger institutions for people with disabilities, larger institutional supported accommodation facilities, convents and monasteries, boarding schools and residential colleges. The distinguishing features of an institutional setting (as opposed to community):

- Existence of a regulatory or licensing body.
- Accommodation units are usually not self contained.
- Adult residents have little or no control over when, where and how they undertake basic personal activities (eg. shared or scheduled meals, communal laundry, etc.).
- They are generally situated out of the general community (eg. gaols, hospitals).
- They are often of a larger scale than community settings.

Should difficulties arise concerning the categorisation of a setting, refer to the features listed below for guidance:

- Level of choice/control
- Scale/size - Location within/outside of general community
- Existence of a regulatory or licensing body
- Paid staff.

Code 4 None/homeless/public place includes non dwelling living rough and informal housing.

Code 9 Not stated/inadequately described is not for use on primary collection forms. It is primarily for use in administrative collections when transferring data from data sets where the item has not been collected.

Collection Methods: This data element could be used to describe the residential setting of individual persons, groups of people or households.

Administrative Attributes

Source Document:

Source Organisation: Australian Institute of Health and Welfare

Data Element Links

Information Model Entities linked to this Data Element

NCSIM Accommodation/living characteristic

Data Agreements which include this Data Element
