

---

# Special needs status

---

**Important note: This is an archived metadata standard from the AIHW Knowledgebase. For current metadata standards and related information please access METeOR, the AIHW's Metadata Online Registry at <http://meteor.aihw.gov.au>**

## *Identifying and Definitional Attributes*

Data Dictionary: NHADD  
Knowledgebase ID: 000699                      Version number: 2  
Metadata type: DERIVED DATA ELEMENT  
Registration Authority: NHDAMG                      Admin status: SUPERSEDED  
Effective date: 01-MAR-05

Definition: Low income households:  
- that satisfy the Indigenous household definition; or  
- that have a household member with a disability; or  
- where the principal tenant is aged 24 years or under; or  
- where the principal tenant is aged 75 years or over.

Context: This item is used in the CSHA 'special needs' national performance indicator (P5) which aims to capture groups in the population that experience specific difficulties accessing the private rental market. It is recognised that not all households falling into this standard would necessarily have a special housing need.

---

## *Relational and Representational Attributes*

Datatype: Numeric  
Representational form: CODE  
Representation layout: N  
Minimum Size: 1  
Maximum Size: 1

Data Domain: 1                      Special needs  
                  2                      Not special needs  
                  9                      Not stated / inadequately described

Guide For Use: A low income household for the CSHA special needs definition is a household who satisfies an eligibility test to receive CSHA funded program assistance.  
1. Indigenous household: defined in this data dictionary under 'Indigenous household'.  
For state/territory owned and managed Indigenous housing the category 'Indigenous household' will not be included in the

CSHA special need standard as this program is targeted to Indigenous Australians.

2. Person with a disability: defined in this data dictionary under 'Disability Grouping - International' which defines four broad groups of disability: physical/diverse, intellectual/learning, psychiatric and sensory/speech disability.

3. Principal tenant aged 24 years or under: the principal tenant is defined as the person or principal person whose name appears on the tenancy agreement. It is usually the same as the 'reference person', which is defined in this data dictionary.

4. Principal tenant aged 75 years or more: the principal tenant is defined as the person or principal person whose name appears on the tenancy agreement. It is usually the same as the 'reference person', which is defined in this data dictionary.

For State and Territory Owned and Managed Indigenous Housing, the category 'where principal tenant is aged 75 years or more' is replaced with 'where the principal tenant is aged 50 years or more'. This age is selected as it is consistent with that used by the Commonwealth Department of Health and Ageing for planning the provision of aged care services. It acknowledges that the need for aged care may begin at younger ages for Indigenous people than for their non-Indigenous counterparts due to the reduced life expectancy of Indigenous people and the higher burden of illness.

Collection Methods: The special needs categories identified in the national standard are not exclusive. That is, a household may be counted in more than one special need category. Each household should only be counted once, regardless of how many special need categories they meet or how many members of the household have a special need.

Related metadata: relates to the data element concept Indigenous household version 1  
relates to the data element Support required flag version 1  
relates to the data element Age version 1  
relates to the data element concept Disability version 1

---

### *Administrative Attributes*

Source Document: Public rental housing data manual 2001-02

Source Organisation: Australian Institute of Health and Welfare

---

### *Data Element Links*

*Information Model Entities linked to this Data Element*

*Data Agreements which include this Data Element*

---