
Living arrangements

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: NCSDD
Knowledgebase ID: 000527 Version number: 2
Metadata type: DATA ELEMENT
Registration Authority: NCSIMG Admin status: SUPERSEDED
Effective date: 01-SEP-03
Definition: Whether the person lives with other related or unrelated persons.
Context: Client support needs:
It is important to record the type of living arrangements 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.

Relational and Representational Attributes

Datatype: Numeric
Representational form: CODE
Representation layout: N
Minimum Size: 1
Maximum Size: 1
Data Domain: 1 Lives alone
2 Lives with spouse/ partner
3 Lives with either spouse/ partner and other family member(s) and/or carer (including foster family)
4 Lives with other family members
5 Lives with other members of the community
6 Other arrangements
9 Not stated/ inadequately described

Guide For Use: On occasion, difficulties can arise in deciding the living arrangements of a person due to their type of accommodation (for example, boarding houses, hostels, retirement villages, etc). 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 (eg partner, sibling, close friend, etc).

In most instances, homeless people should be coded as living alone.

Collection Methods: Generally this item is collected for the person's usual living arrangements, but may also, if required, be collected for a person's main living arrangements or living arrangement at a particular time reference point.

Related metadata: relates to the data element Carer co-residency version 1
supersedes previous data element Living arrangements version 1
relates to the data element Marital status version 1
relates to the data element Family type version 2
relates to the data element Household type version 2
relates to the data element Relationship in household version 2
relates to the data element Informal carer version 2

Administrative Attributes

Source Document: Australian Institute of Health and Welfare : Data Comparisons
(internal document, not published)

Source Organisation: Australian Institute of Health and Welfare

Comments: This data element is tied in with other data elements such as Dwelling, Tenure type, Residential setting and Landlord type etc. Given that various sectors within community services collect and define information pertaining to such data elements differently, it is difficult to suggest general standards on what should constitute Living arrangements. The categories presented in the data domain above have attempted to represent all sectors in community services.

Data Element Links

Information Model Entities linked to this Data Element

NCSIM Accommodation/living characteristic

Data Agreements which include this Data Element
