

Household—household composition, code N{.N}

Identifying and definitional attributes

Metadata item type:	Data Element
Short name:	Household composition
METEOR identifier:	301755
Registration status:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Housing assistance, Superseded 04/06/2013 [Non Dictionary]
Definition:	The composition of the household based on the relationship between household members, as represented by a code.
Data Element Concept:	Household—household composition

Value domain attributes

Representational attributes

Representation class:	Code
Data type:	Number
Format:	N{.N}
Maximum character length:	2

Permissible values:

Value	Meaning
1	Family
1.1	Sole parent with dependant(s) only
1.2	Couple only
1.3	Couple with dependant(s) only
1.4	Family (with other family member(s) present)
1.5	Family (with non-related member(s) present)
2	Non family
2.1	Single (person living alone)
2.2	Group (unrelated adults)

Supplementary values:

Value	Meaning
9	Not stated/inadequately described

Collection and usage attributes

Guide for use: A household should at least contain a member that is 16 years of age or more. If a household does not contain at least one member 16 years of age or over, it should be classified as Unknown.

A dependant is defined as someone who lives in the primary care of parent(s), carer or guardian, is aged 24 years and under and:

- is studying full-time (ages 5 and over); and/or
- is not in receipt of a pension, payment or benefit (e.g. Youth Allowance) or a Prescribed Education Scheme payment (e.g. ABSTUDY); and/or
- has an annual income of no more than the amount specified by Centrelink for basic eligibility for Family Tax Benefit Part A.

A family is defined as two or more persons, one of whom is at least 15 years of age, who are related by blood, marriage (registered or defacto), adoption, step or fostering, and who are usually resident in the same household.

Code 1.5. Family (with non-related member(s) present): Can include people who are not related to the primary family, but are a family themselves.

Code 9. Not stated/inadequately described: Includes not available, not collected, not classifiable, not stated, and inadequately described.

Data element attributes

Collection and usage attributes

Guide for use: It should be noted that only usual residents of a household are considered when describing and categorising households by Household type. Visitors to a household are, by definition, excluded from the household. Usual residence of members of a household is defined as '...that address at which the person has lived or intends to live for a total of 6 months or more' (Census Dictionary 1996).

Other households, including multiple family households may be broken down further to show households with only family members present and those with non-family members present. A family household with only family members present is a household where every individual forms a familial relationship to one of the families belonging to the household. This relates to the ABS Household type definition.

Comments: For the ABS the household is analysed on the basis of the existence or non-existence of family structure and the presence of unrelated household members, rather than on the basis of sex or age, for example

Source and reference attributes

Submitting organisation: National Housing Data Development Committee

Origin: CSHA Public rental housing data manual 2001-02

SCRCSSP (Steering Committee for the Review of Commonwealth/ State Service Provision) 1999. Canberra: AusInfo.

Centrelink 2005. A guide to Australian Government payments—20 March to 30 June 2005.

Reference documents: Australian Bureau of Statistics 1996. [Census Dictionary](#) (Cat. no. 2901.0). Viewed 13 October 2005.

Relational attributes

Related metadata references:

Supersedes [Household—household composition, code N{.N}](#)

- [Housing assistance](#), Superseded 10/02/2006

Has been superseded by [Household—household composition, housing assistance code N](#)

- [Housing assistance](#), Superseded 30/08/2017

© Australian Institute of Health and Welfare 2015–2022

This product, excluding the AIHW logo, Commonwealth Coat of Arms and any material owned by a third party or protected by a trademark, has been released under a Creative Commons BY 3.0 (CC BY 3.0) licence. Excluded material owned by third parties may include, for example, design and layout, images obtained under licence from third parties and signatures. We have made all reasonable efforts to identify and label material owned by third parties.

You may distribute, remix and build upon this work. However, you must attribute the AIHW as the copyright holder of the work in compliance with our attribution policy available at www.aihw.gov.au/copyright. The full terms and conditions of this licence are available at <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by3.0/au/>.

Enquiries relating to copyright should be addressed to the Head of the Communications, Media and Marketing Unit, Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, GPO Box 570, Canberra ACT 2601.