

Homeless (SAAP)

Identifying and definitional attributes

Metadata item type: Glossary Item

METEOR identifier: 327316

Registration status:

- [Housing assistance](#), Standard 01/03/2005

Definition: A person is homeless if he or she does not have access to safe, secure and adequate housing. Unsafe, insecure and inadequate housing includes housing:

- in which the client did not feel safe (this can include the client's own home);
- in which the client did not have a legal right to continued occupation of their home (security of tenure);
- that lacked the amenities or resources necessary for living (such as adequate heating, plumbing or cooking facilities); and
- provided by a Supported Accommodation Assistance Program (SAAP) agency or other emergency accommodation agency.

Collection and usage attributes

Guide for use: This is the broadest definition of homeless and is not used for Commonwealth-State Housing Agreement (CSHA) reporting purposes. The definition of homeless that is used in CSHA data collections can be found in the 'Household - Greatest need status' metadata item.

Comments: There is considerable concern over the number of homeless people in society and the assistance they require.

Collecting information on homeless people is problematic, as the concept of 'homelessness' encompasses elements in addition to whether, someone resides in a dwelling or not.

A SAAP client should either be homeless or at imminent risk of becoming homeless, as defined by the SAAP Act. A person who requires the support of a SAAP worker to maintain their current housing situation is at imminent risk.

Source and reference attributes

Submitting organisation: SAAP National Data Collection Agency

Australian Institute of Health and Welfare

Origin: SAAP National Data Collection collectors manual, 2001-02.

Relational attributes

Related metadata references: Supersedes  [Homeless SAAP, version 2, DEC, NHADD, NHDAMG, Superseded 01/03/2005.pdf](#) (13.9 KB) *No registration status*

Has been superseded by [Homelessness](#)

- [Housing assistance](#), Standard 23/08/2010

**Metadata items which use
this glossary item:**

[Community Housing DSS 2018-](#)

- [Housing assistance](#), Standard 10/05/2019

[Household—greatest need reason, code N](#)

- [Housing assistance](#), Superseded 01/05/2013

[Household—greatest need reason, code N](#)

- [Housing assistance](#), Superseded 30/08/2017

[Supported Accommodation Assistance Program client—homeless period](#)

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