

# Risk of homelessness

## Identifying and definitional attributes

<b>Metadata item type:</b>	Glossary Item
<b>Synonymous names:</b>	Homelessness; risk homelessness
<b>METEOR identifier:</b>	401065
<b>Registration status:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <a href="#">Housing assistance</a>, Standard 23/08/2010</li></ul>

**Definition:** A person is at **risk of homelessness** if they are at risk of losing their accommodation.

A person may be at risk of homelessness if they are experiencing one or more of a range of factors or triggers that can contribute to homelessness.

Risk factors include:

- Financial stress (including due to loss of income, low income, gambling, change of family circumstances).
- Housing affordability stress and housing crises (pending evictions/foreclosures, rental and/or mortgage arrears).
- Inadequate or inappropriate dwelling conditions, including accommodation which is unsafe, unsuitable or overcrowded.
- Previous accommodation ended.
- Relationship/family breakdown.
- Child abuse, neglect or environments where children are at risk.
- Sexual abuse.
- Domestic/family violence.
- Non-family violence.
- Mental health issues and other health problems.
- Problematic alcohol, drug or substance use.
- Employment difficulties and unemployment.
- Problematic gambling.
- Transitions from custodial and care arrangements, including out of home care, independent living arrangements for children aged under 18, health and mental health facilities/programs, juvenile/youth justice and correctional facilities.
- Discrimination including racial discrimination (e.g. Aboriginal people in the urban rental market).
- Disengagement with school or other education and training.
- Involvement in or exposure to criminal activities.
- Antisocial behaviour.
- Lack of family and/or community support.
- Staying in a boarding house for 12 weeks or more without security of tenure.