

# National Affordability Housing Agreement: 3: Proportion of Australians who are homeless, 2010

## Identifying and definitional attributes

<b>Metadata item type:</b>	Indicator
<b>Indicator type:</b>	Indicator
<b>Short name:</b>	Proportion of Australians who are homeless, 2010.
<b>METEOR identifier:</b>	410009
<b>Registration status:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <a href="#">Homelessness</a>, Standard 16/02/2011</li></ul>
<b>Description:</b>	The proportion of Australians who are homeless (primary homeless + secondary homeless + tertiary homeless, as defined by Chamberlain and MacKenzie in <i>Counting the Homeless 2006</i> ).
<b>Indicator set:</b>	<a href="#">National Affordable Housing Agreement (2010) Homelessness</a> , Standard 16/02/2011
<b>Quality statement:</b>	<a href="#">National Affordable Housing Agreement: 3:Proportion of Australians who are homeless, 2010 QS</a> Homelessness, Standard 16/02/2011

## Collection and usage attributes

<b>Population group age from:</b>	Total Australian population.
<b>Population group age to:</b>	Total Australian population.
<b>Computation description:</b>	Number of people who are homeless / Number of Australians.
<b>Numerator:</b>	Number of people who are homeless.

### Numerator data elements:

<b>Data Element / Data Set</b>
<b>Data Element / Data Set</b>
<b>Data Source</b> <a href="#">ABS 2006 Census of Population and Housing</a>
<b>Data Element / Data Set</b>
<b>Data Source</b> <a href="#">Counting the Homeless 2006 national and state and territory reports.</a>
<b>Data Element / Data Set</b>
<b>Data Source</b> <a href="#">AIHW Supported Accommodation Assistance Program (SAAP) National Data Collection 2007-08</a>
<b>Data Element / Data Set</b>
<b>Data Source</b> <a href="#">National Census of Homeless School Students 2006</a>

<b>Denominator:</b>	Number of Australians.
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**Denominator data elements:**

**Data Element / Data Set**

[Person—area of usual residence, geographical location code \(ASGC 2006\) NNNNN](#)

**Data Source**

[ABS 2006 Census of Population and Housing](#)

**Disaggregation data elements:**

**Data Element / Data Set**

**Data Element**

Homelessness three tier classification and definition of homelessness as defined by Chamberlain and MacKenzie (primary homeless, secondary homeless, and tertiary homeless).

**Data Source**

[Counting the Homeless 2006 national and state and territory reports.](#)

**Data Element / Data Set**

[Person—Australian state/territory identifier, code N](#)

**Data Source**

[ABS 2006 Census of Population and Housing](#)

**Data Element / Data Set**

[Person—date of birth, DDMMYYYY](#)

**Data Source**

[ABS 2006 Census of Population and Housing](#)

**Data Element / Data Set**

[Person—sex, code N](#)

**Data Source**

[ABS 2006 Census of Population and Housing](#)

**Data Element / Data Set**

[Person—Indigenous status, code N](#)

**Data Source**

[ABS 2006 Census of Population and Housing](#)

**Data Element / Data Set**

[Person—area of usual residence, geographical location code \(ASGC 2006\) NNNNN](#)

**Data Source**

[ABS 2006 Census of Population and Housing](#)

**Comments:**

2006 Census data (not adjusted by undercount estimates).

No data is currently available for the numerator number of homeless Australia's for 2007-2008 and 2008-2009.

The latest data that are available refer to year 2006-2007 (specifically with the reference date 8 August 2006\_ and appear in the Chamberlain and MacKenzie national and state/territory Counting the Homeless 2006 reports. The estimates are based on data from the 2006 Census, 2006-2007 Supported Accommodation Assistance Program (SAAP) and the 3rd National Census of Homeless School Students).

At the AIHW/ABS hosted Housing and Homelessness data Workshop (30 March 2009) jurisdictional representatives agreed that the definition of homelessness for COAG reporting purposes should be as used in the National Partnership Agreement on Homelessness. It was also agreed that long term residents of caravan parks should be enumerated but are not within scope of the formal definition for homelessness.

In the National Partnership Agreement (NPA) on homelessness, homeless people are described in terms of three categories. The three categories are consistent with those used in Counting the Homeless 2006 reports:

- Primary homelessness means people without conventional accommodation, including people living on the streets and in other public places such as parks, squatting in buildings, or using vehicles for temporary shelter (the term rough sleeping, which also appears in the NPA, is taken to be synonymous with primary homelessness.)
- Secondary homelessness means people staying in emergency or transitional accommodation and people residing temporarily with other households because they have no accommodation of their own. It also includes people staying in emergency or transitional accommodation provided by governments and non-government organisations and people residing in boarding houses for 12 weeks or less.
- Tertiary homelessness means people living in boarding houses on a medium to long term basis for over 12 weeks.

## Representational attributes

**Representation class:** Rate

**Data type:** Point in time

**Unit of measure:** Person

## Indicator conceptual framework

**Framework and dimensions:** [Shelter and housing](#)

## Data source attributes

**Data sources:****Data Source**

[ABS 2006 Census of Population and Housing](#)

**Frequency**

Every 5 years

**Data custodian**

Australian Bureau of Statistics

**Data Source**

[Counting the Homeless 2006 national and state and territory reports.](#)

**Frequency**

Variable

**Data custodian****Data Source**

[AIHW Supported Accommodation Assistance Program \(SAAP\) National Data Collection 2007-08](#)

**Frequency**

Annual

**Data custodian**

Australian Institute of Health and Welfare.

**Data Source**

[National Census of Homeless School Students 2006](#)

**Frequency**

Ad hoc

**Data custodian**

## Accountability attributes

**Reporting requirements:**

Intergovernmental Agreement on Federal Financial Relations for the National Affordability Housing Agreement (NAHA), annual.

**Organisation responsible for providing data:**

Australian Institute of Health and Welfare.

**Accountability:**

SCRGSP (Steering Committee for the Review of Government Service Provision) 2009, National Agreement performance information 2008-09: National Affordable Housing Agreement, Productivity Commission, Canberra.

The report was released by the COAG Reform Council in 2010.

**Benchmark:**

NPA on Homelessness Baseline: 104,676 Australian who are homeless in 2006.

Benchmark: By 2013 a decrease of 7% (less than 97,350 homeless people).

**Further data development / collection required:** The AIHW has been funded through the Commonwealth appropriation to develop a new national homelessness data collection which is to become operational on 1 July 2011. The new data collection will be client-based and collect data on clients receiving homelessness services as well as the nature and impact of the resulting services responses. The collection will also seek to improve and incorporate data from crisis and transitional accommodation services.

Before the new homelessness data collection is operational and ready to be used for COAG reporting, AIHW and ABS will, under the guidance of HHIMG and in collaboration with other experts, put in place a development plan to further improve the interim proxy measure for the next two CRC reporting rounds.

Suggestions have also been made on reviewing the methodology of the Counting the Homeless reports which will include a review of the three-tier homelessness categorisation and definition of homelessness. The review will be conducted under the guidance of HHIMG and in collaboration with FaHCSIA, AIHW, ABS and subject matter experts.

## Source and reference attributes

**Submitting organisation:** Australian Institute of Health and Welfare.

**Steward:** [Housing and Homelessness Information Management Group](#)