Household—greatest need reason, code N

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Household—greatest need reason, code N

Identifying and definitional attributes

Metadata item type:	Data Element
Short name:	Greatest need reason
METEOR identifier:	462210
Registration status:	Housing assistance, Superseded 30/08/2017
Definition:	The reason as to why a household has been identified as being in greatest need of priority access to services, as represented by a code.

Data element concept attributes

Identifying and definitional attributes

Data element concept:	Household—greatest need reason
METEOR identifier:	462208
Registration status:	Housing assistance, Superseded 30/08/2017
Definition:	The reason as to why a household has been identified as being in greatest need of priority access to services.
Object class:	Household
Property:	Greatest need reason

Value domain attributes

Identifying and definitional attributes

Value domain:	Household in greatest need code N
METEOR identifier:	456547
Registration status:	Housing assistance, Superseded 30/08/2017
Definition:	A code set representing the reason a household has been identified as being in greatest need of priority access to services.

Representational attributes

Representation class:	Code	
Data type:	Number	
Format:	N	
Maximum character length:	1	
	Value	**Meaning**
Permissible values:	1	Homeless
	2	Life or safety at risk in accommodation
	3	Health condition aggravated by housing
	4	Housing inappropriate to needs
	5	Very high housing costs
	6	Other

Supplementary values:	9	Not stated/inadequately described

Collection and usage attributes

Guide for use:

Code 1   Homeless

Homeless, for the purpose of the priority access national standard, is defined as a household with no housing or a household residing in temporary or emergency accommodation at the time of housing allocation. It includes households who:

- lived in accommodation provided by a Supported Accommodation Assistance Program (SAAP) agency or some other form of emergency accommodation;
- were totally without permanent shelter (e.g. wandered from place to place, slept out on the street or on park benches);
- lived in shelter that was unlawful such as those who were forced to squat in derelict buildings; or
- stayed temporarily with friends or relatives in the short term (e.g. up to a maximum of 6 weeks duration).

Code 2   Life or safety was at risk in their accommodation

This includes situations where people were:

- subject to domestic violence; or
- subject to sexual/emotional abuse; or subject to child abuse; or at risk of violence or who feared for their safety in the home environment.

  Violence is defined as any incident involving the occurrence, attempt or threat of either physical or sexual assault. Physical assault involves the use of physical force with the intent to harm or frighten a person. The threat to harm should only be included if it is believed the harm is likely to be carried out. Sexual assault includes acts of a sexual nature against a person's will through the use of physical force, intimidation or coercion, or any attempts to do this.

Code 3   Health condition aggravated by housing:

It includes people who lived in the following situations:

- Medical condition or **disability** which rendered their housing unsuitable (e.g. disabled person who required modified accommodation, elderly persons who were housebound due to mobility problems in highset dwellings); appropriate housing stock was either not available, or not available at an affordable cost, in the private rental market (e.g. dwellings with appropriate modifications for a person with a disability); a health condition or disability which was caused or exacerbated by the living situation.

Code 4   Housing inappropriate to needs:

This category captures housing situations that indicate a person did not have access to safe and secure housing at the time of allocation and these situations are not included in categories 1 to 3 above (people with housing affordability issues are captured in category 5). Inappropriate housing includes persons who:

- lived in poor housing locations that resulted in isolation from community services, social networks and support systems, and these services and supports were necessary to maintain independent living. This category includes families that were divided due to their housing situation; or lived in overcrowded situations where an additional two bedrooms was required for adequate housing according to the **proxy occupancy standard**; or were unable to access accommodation in the private rental market due to discrimination. Discrimination refers to a person who was treated unfairly because they belonged to a particular group of people. Types of discrimination include: sex; race; age; marital status; sexual orientation; or disability (Anti-discrimination Board); or lived in situations where their tenure was insecure and they had received an eviction notice (either written or verbal) and they had no access to adequate legislative protection; or lived in housing that had severe structural or other maintenance problems (e.g.

property had been declared unfit for human habitation, severe dampness, lacked essential facilities such as cooking or bathroom).

Code 5   Very high housing costs:

This category identifies households that paid 41% or more of their income in rent at the time of housing allocation. This definition is not intended to suggest that households paying between 30-41% of income on rent live in affordable housing situations. The definition aims to capture the group of the population who experience the more severe end of housing affordability problems and the group for which literature suggests are least able to decrease their housing costs.

Data element attributes

Collection and usage attributes

Collection methods:	More than one greatest need reason can be recorded for a household.
	In counting the total number of greatest need households, each household should only be counted once.
Comments:	The definition of 'homeless' used here for the priority access national standard is different to the SAAP **Homeless** definition.
	It should be noted that as housing assistance allocation practices vary across:

- states and territories within a collection
- across data collections within states and territories

caution should be used when interpreting information and/or making comparisons in relation to this metadata item.

Source and reference attributes

Submitting organisation:	National Housing Data Development Committee

Relational attributes

Related metadata references:	Supersedes Household—greatest need reason, code N Housing assistance, Superseded 01/05/2013
	Has been superseded by Household—greatest need reason, code N Housing assistance, Standard 30/08/2017
	See also Household—greatest need date, DDMMYYYY Housing assistance, Superseded 30/08/2017
Implementation in Data Set Specifications:	Household (housing assistance) cluster Housing assistance, Superseded 01/05/2013
	Household (housing assistance) cluster Housing assistance, Superseded 30/08/2017
	Waitlist (housing assistance) cluster Housing assistance, Superseded 30/08/2017 ***DSS specific information:*** Greatest need reason is only recorded if the household has been identified as a greatest need household.