

# State Owned and Managed Indigenous Housing data collection – 2010–11 Data Quality Statement

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# State Owned and Managed Indigenous Housing data collection – 2010–11 Data Quality Statement

## Identifying and definitional attributes

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## Data quality

### Data quality statement summary:

### Summary

- 2010–11 low income cut-offs (that is, the 40th percentile of equivalised gross household incomes for the 2010–11 financial year) were not available so the 2009–10 cut-offs were used in their place. As a result, it is expected that the number of low income households will be under-reported.
- Care should be taken when comparing NSW 2010–11 data with those for previous reporting periods as a change in their client management system has led to the potential for changes in the descriptors.
- West Australian households and dwellings that were previously reported under the state owned and managed Indigenous housing (SOMIH) program are, as of 2010–11, being reported under public rental housing.

### Description

Jurisdictions provide a range of SOMIH programs and maintain administrative data sets about these programs. These data sets are provided annually to the AIHW. The data in this collection contain information about SOMIH dwellings, households assisted and households on the waiting list, during 2010–11 and at 30 June 2011.

**Institutional environment:** The Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW) is a major national agency set up by the Australian Government under the *Australian Institute of Health and Welfare Act 1987* (Cwth) to provide reliable, regular and relevant information and statistics on Australia's health and welfare. It is an independent statutory authority established in 1987, governed by a management Board, and accountable to the Australian Parliament through the Health and Ageing portfolio.

The AIHW aims to improve the health and wellbeing of Australians through better health and welfare information and statistics. It collects and reports information on a wide range of topics and issues, ranging from health and welfare expenditure, hospitals, disease and injury, and mental health, to ageing, homelessness, disability and child protection.

The Institute also plays a role in developing and maintaining national metadata standards. This work contributes to improving the quality and consistency of national health and welfare statistics. The Institute works closely with governments and non-government organisations to achieve greater adherence to these standards in administrative data collections to promote national consistency and comparability of data and reporting.

One of the main functions of the AIHW is to work with the states and territories to improve the quality of administrative data and, where possible, to compile national datasets based on data from each jurisdiction, to analyse these datasets and disseminate information and statistics.

The Australian Institute of Health and Welfare Act 1987, in conjunction with compliance to the *Privacy Act 1988*, (Cwth) ensures that the data collections managed by the AIHW are kept securely and under the strictest conditions with respect to privacy and confidentiality.

For further information see the AIHW website [www.aihw.gov.au](http://www.aihw.gov.au).

The AIHW receives, compiles, edits and verifies the SOMIH data in collaboration with jurisdictions, who retain ownership of the data and must approve any jurisdiction level output before it is released. The finalised data sets are used by the AIHW for collation, reporting and analysis.

**Timeliness:** The reference period for the SOMIH collection is based on the financial year (ending 30 June). The specific reference period for these data is 2010–11.

Data are collected and published annually. The data for the 2010–11 reference period were due to be signed off by the jurisdictions and provided to AIHW by 22 of September 2011. A number of jurisdictions failed to meet this deadline with NSW signing off on 6 of October 2011, ACT signing off on 4 of November 2011 and SA signing off on 13 of January 2012.

Summary items and performance indicators from the 2010–11 SOMIH collection were first published in the *Report on Government Services 2012* in January 2012.

**Accessibility:** Annual data is reported in *Housing Assistance in Australia* (this publication), the *Report on government services 2012*  
[http://www.pc.gov.au/\\_\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0009/114975/59-government-services-2012-chapter16.pdf](http://www.pc.gov.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0009/114975/59-government-services-2012-chapter16.pdf) and the *COAG Reform Council's NAHA Report*  
<http://www.coagreformcouncil.gov.au/reports/housing.cfm>.

Disaggregated data and unit record data may be requested through the national data repository and provided subject to jurisdiction approval. Contact [housing@aihw.gov.au](mailto:housing@aihw.gov.au) for further details.

**Interpretability:** The annual publication (*Housing assistance in Australia*) provides a range of information to assist interpretation of data, including descriptions of the main programs and a glossary. Detailed metadata and definitions relating to this data source can be found in the National Housing Assistance Data Dictionary (AIHW Cat no. HOU147). Supplementary information can be found in the public rental housing collection manual which is available upon request from the AIHW at [housing@aihw.gov.au](mailto:housing@aihw.gov.au).

**Relevance:**

The data collected are an administrative by-product of the management of SOMIH programs run by the jurisdictions and conform well in terms of scope, coverage and reference period.

Not all jurisdictions have a separately identified or funded SOMIH program. In these cases all social housing dwellings managed by jurisdictions are reported in the public rental housing data collection.

Classifications used for income and greatest need are not consistent across jurisdictions and are mapped to a common standard.

Not all jurisdictions collect or update all data items for every tenant so substitutions are made in some cases.

Data collected are appropriate for reporting outputs from the SOMIH programs of state and territory governments.

Specific State/Territory issues are:

**Victoria**

- Victoria's SOMIH program ended on 30 September 2010, when management of tenancies in SOMIH properties was transferred to Aboriginal Housing Victoria. These dwellings are now classified as Indigenous community housing. A small number of SOMIH tenants and properties transferred to public housing. No SOMIH dwellings are reported for Victoria for 2009-10 onwards.

**Western Australia**

- Western Australia has ceased to have a SOMIH program in 2010–11. Dwellings and households that were previously reported in SOMIH have been transferred to PH.

**Northern Territory**

- Indigenous housing was provided in the Northern Territory through community housing (before 2010–11) or public housing (2010–11 onwards).

**Australian Capital Territory**

- The Australian Capital Territory does not have a separately identified or funded Indigenous housing program. Social housing assistance for Indigenous people is provided through public housing and Indigenous community housing.

**Accuracy:**

There are some known accuracy issues with the data collected:

- The administrative data sets from which this collection is drawn have inaccuracies to varying degrees including missing data, out-of-date data and data coding or recording errors
- Not all jurisdictions capture all data items so substitution is required to calculate some outputs of this collection. Data items affected are gross and assessable income. In addition, disability status is derived using the receipt of a disability pension as a proxy in some jurisdictions
- Low income cut-offs for 2010–11 (that is, the 40th percentile of equivalised gross household incomes for the 2010–11 financial year) were not available so the 2009-10 cut-offs were used in their place. As a result, it is expected that the number of low income households will be underreported;
- For some jurisdictions, disability data may be self-identified and not mandatory under program eligibility requirements
- Many jurisdictions do not update income information for non-rebated households, so outputs produced using data from these households should be used with caution
- Estimates produced using the Accessibility/Remoteness Index of Australia are rounded and this may cause discrepancies between estimates produced for regions and those produced for the total of the regions.

Specific State/Territory issues are:

**New South Wales**

A total of 37% of SOMIH households (1,580) are excluded from affordability calculations due to missing income information.

**South Australia**

The rental stress figures for South Australia have been supplied by the jurisdiction rather than calculated using the unit record data due to errors in the data.

**Tasmania**

While need assessments for SOMIH applicants consider some greatest need factors, details are not recorded in the Tasmanian Housing Information System. As such, greatest need status and allocations are not reported for SOMIH applicants.

**Coherence:**

Care is required when comparing outputs across jurisdictions. Differences in the data collected and which records are included or excluded from a calculation can affect the coherence of the outputs. This particularly relates to scope and coverage of dwellings across states and territories.

Coherence over time has been affected by changes in methodology:

- Low-income figures measured cannot be compared with low income figures produced before 2009-10 due to a change in methodology.
- Overcrowding and underuse figures measured cannot be compared with figures produced before 2009-10 due to a change in methodology.

The bedroom entitlement policies of state and territory housing authorities may differ from those of the Canadian National Occupancy Standard which is used in dwelling use calculations.

Specific State/Territory issues are:

**New South Wales**

Care should be taken when comparing 2010–11 data with previous reporting periods as a change in the client management system has led to the potential for changes in the descriptors.

Care should be taken when comparing the number and proportion of low income households with that for previous reporting periods as there has been a change to reported household incomes: as of 2010–11, Commonwealth rent assistance is no longer included in household income. This will lead to an increase in the number of households identified as low income.

For the total number of new applicants in the waiting list who have a 'greatest need', data are not comparable with those for years before 2009-10, where households with 'very high rental housing costs' were excluded because 'high private rental costs' is not deemed a reason for 'priority' housing in NSW.

**Western Australia**

Households and dwellings that were previously reported under the SOMIH program are, as of 2010–11, being reported under PH. As such, 2010–11 figures are not comparable with those for previous years.

**Source and reference attributes**

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

**Relational attributes****Related metadata references:**

Has been superseded by [State Owned and Managed Indigenous Housing data collection, 2011-12; Quality Statement](#)  
[AIHW Data Quality Statements](#), Superseded 05/06/2015