

# Public Rental Housing data collection, 2012-13; Quality Statement

Exported from METEOR (AIHW's Metadata Online Registry)

© Australian Institute of Health and Welfare 2024

This product, excluding the AIHW logo, Commonwealth Coat of Arms and any material owned by a third party or protected by a trademark, has been released under a Creative Commons BY 4.0 (CC BY 4.0) licence. Excluded material owned by third parties may include, for example, design and layout, images obtained under licence from third parties and signatures. We have made all reasonable efforts to identify and label material owned by third parties.

You may distribute, remix and build on this website's material but must attribute the AIHW as the copyright holder, in line with our attribution policy. The full terms and conditions of this licence are available at <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/>.

Enquiries relating to copyright should be addressed to [info@aihw.gov.au](mailto:info@aihw.gov.au).

Enquiries or comments on the METEOR metadata or download should be directed to the METEOR team at [meteor@aihw.gov.au](mailto:meteor@aihw.gov.au).

# Public Rental Housing data collection, 2012-13; Quality Statement

## Identifying and definitional attributes

<b>Metadata item type:</b>	Data Quality Statement
<b>METEOR identifier:</b>	590732
<b>Registration status:</b>	<a href="#">AIHW Data Quality Statements</a> , Superseded 05/06/2015

## Data quality

### Data quality statement summary:

### Summary

- The data collected are an administrative by-product of the management of public rental housing programs run by the jurisdictions and conform well in terms of scope, coverage and reference period.
- 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data sets from which this collection is drawn have inaccuracies to varying degrees, including missing data, out-of-date data and data coding or recording errors.
- 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. Coherence over time has been affected by changes in methodology.

### Description

All states and territories provide a range of public housing 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 public rental housing (PH) dwellings, households assisted and households on the waiting list during 2012–13 and at 30 June 2013.

**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](#) 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](#), (Cth) 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 public rental housing data in collaboration with jurisdictions, which 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 Public Housing (PH) collection is based on the financial year (ending 30 June). The specific reference period for these data is 2012–13.

Data are collected and published annually. The data for the 2011–12 reference period were due to be signed off by the jurisdictions and provided to AIHW by 13 September 2013. Only three jurisdictions met the deadline. Two jurisdictions requested an extension and met the deadline for the extension granted. The remaining jurisdictions failed to meet the deadline with one providing sign-off on 25 September 2013.

Summary items and performance indicators were due and reported to the Productivity Commission by the AIHW on 27 September.

Summary items and performance indicators from the 2012–13 PH collection were first published in the [Report on Government Services 2014](#) in January 2014.

**Accessibility:** Annual data is reported in Housing Assistance in Australia and the [Report on Government Services 2014](#).

Disaggregated data and unit record data may be requested from the national housing data repository via the AIHW website and may be provided subject to the relevant approvals. For further information, contact [housing@aihw.gov.au](mailto:housing@aihw.gov.au).

**Interpretability:** Detailed metadata and definitions relating to this data source can be found in the [Public rental housing data set specification](#) on METeOR. 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 public rental housing programs run by the jurisdictions and conform well in terms of scope, coverage and reference period.

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

Not all jurisdictions collect or update all data items for every tenant so data item substitutions are made in some cases. In the instances where gross income is not available then assessable income is used in its place and vice versa.

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

**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.
- For some jurisdictions, disability information may be self-identified and not mandatory for tenants to report under program eligibility requirements.
- Indigenous status is self-identified and not mandatory for tenants to report 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 (ARIA) based remoteness areas are rounded and this may cause discrepancies between estimates produced for regions and those produced for the total of the regions.
- Disaggregation can lead to small cell sizes which are volatile - very small cells have been suppressed to protect confidentiality.

Specific State/Territory issues are:

#### **New South Wales**

- The total number of Indigenous households has been supplied by the jurisdiction rather than calculated using the unit record data as the NSW public housing system undercounts Indigenous tenancies.
- Since a system change in 2010, there have been problems encountered when linking files. Where date variables contradict between files, they are recoded to system missing.

#### **Tasmania**

- There were two main issues that impacted on application and tenancy data in 2012-13 that did not follow usual processes. This resulted in some missing data. This involved the allocation of public housing to victims of the Tasmanian bushfires and the return of tenancies following the conclusion of a supported tenancy program.

#### **Queensland**

- There is a single waitlist for all Queensland social housing. As a result applicants counted under the PH program may also be listed for CH properties.

**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.

Coherence over time has been affected by changes in methodology:

- Measurements using low income cannot be compared with low income figures produced prior to 2009-10 due to a change in methodology.
- Measurements of overcrowding cannot be compared with figures produced prior to 2009-10 due to a change in methodology.
- Measurements of underutilisation cannot be compared with figures produced prior to 2011-12 due to a change in methodology.

Specific State/Territory issues are:

#### **Tasmania**

- In March 2013, 475 public housing dwellings were transitioned to be managed by the community sector.

## **Data products**

**Implementation start date:** 01/07/2012

## **Source and reference attributes**

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

## **Relational attributes**

**Related metadata references:** Supersedes [Public Rental Housing data collection, 2011–12; Quality Statement AIHW Data Quality Statements](#), Superseded 05/06/2015

Has been superseded by [Public Rental Housing data collection, 2013-14; Quality Statement AIHW Data Quality Statements](#), Superseded 31/05/2016