

# Income unit

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# Income unit

## Identifying and definitional attributes

**Metadata item type:** Object Class

**Synonymous names:** Income unit

**METEOR identifier:** 608087

**Registration status:** [Housing assistance](#), Standard 30/08/2017

**Definition:** One person or a group of related persons within a [household](#), whose command over income is shared, or any person living in a non private dwelling who is in receipt of personal income.

**Context:** Income units are restricted to relationships of marriage (registered or de facto) and of parent/[dependant](#) who usually reside in the same household. This means that an income unit can be defined as:

- a married couple or sole parent, and dependent children only
- a married couple only with no dependent children present
- a person who is not related to any other household member either by marriage or by the parent/dependant relationship.

This is the standard statistical unit for analyses of economic wellbeing, and can be an important measure in assessing the needs and circumstances of individuals and families.

## Source and reference attributes

**Submitting organisation:** National Housing Data Development Committee

## Relational attributes

**Related metadata references:** Supersedes [Income unit](#)  
[Community Services \(retired\)](#), Standard 31/08/2007  
[Housing assistance](#), Superseded 30/08/2017

See also [Centrelink income unit](#)  
[Housing assistance](#), Standard 11/04/2005

**Data Element Concepts implementing this Object Class:** [Income unit—income unit identifier](#)  
[Housing assistance](#), Standard 30/08/2017  
[Income unit—income unit type](#)  
[Community Services \(retired\)](#), Standard 31/08/2007  
[Housing assistance](#), Standard 30/08/2017  
[Income unit—relationship to household reference person](#)  
[Housing assistance](#), Standard 30/08/2017