

Indigenous Community Housing Collection, 2014-15; Quality Statement

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Identifying and definitional attributes

Metadata item type:	Data Quality Statement
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Data quality

Data quality statement summary:	Description
	<p>Data are provided annually to the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW) by jurisdictions and are sourced from Indigenous Community Housing Organisations (ICHOs) via surveys, the jurisdiction's administrative systems and dwelling audits conducted by jurisdictions.</p> <p>The annual data collection captures information about ICHOs, the dwellings they manage and the households assisted at 30 June 2015. Financial information is for the year ending 30 June 2015.</p> <p>Summary</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• All states and territories provide the AIHW with Indigenous Community Housing (ICH) data from their administrative systems. The AIHW compiles these data for national reporting in the <i>Report on Government Services (RoGS)</i>. The data are also published in AIHW reports.• In many cases complete data were not available for all dwellings or ICHOs in a given jurisdiction.• National outputs and indicators were calculated using only those jurisdictions where complete information was available and valid.

Institutional environment: The 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 corporate Commonwealth entity established in 1987, governed by a [management Board](#), and accountable to the Australian Parliament through the Health 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 data sets based on data from each jurisdiction, to analyse these data sets and disseminate information and statistics.

The [Australian Institute of Health and Welfare Act 1987](#), in conjunction with compliance to the [Privacy Act 1988](#), (Commonwealth of Australia) 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

Timeliness: The AIHW receives, compiles, edits and verifies the data in collaboration with jurisdictions. The finalised data sets are signed off by the jurisdictions and used by the AIHW for reporting and analysis. Data are collected annually for the financial year ending 30 June. The reference period for this collection is the 2014–15 financial year and is mostly a 30 June 2015 snapshot.

Accessibility: Annual data are reported in [Housing Assistance in Australia 2016](#). Data will also be reported in the *Report on Government Services 2017*.

Users can request additional disaggregation of data which are not available online or in reports (subject to jurisdiction approval) via the AIHW's online data request system at <https://datarequest.aihw.gov.au/layouts/AdHocDataRequest/LodgeRequest.aspx/>. Requests that take longer than half an hour to compile are charged for on a cost-recovery basis. General enquiries about AIHW publications can be made to the Digital and Media Communications Unit on (02) 6244 1026 or via email to info@aihw.gov.au.

Interpretability: Metadata and definitions relating to this data source can be found in the National Housing and Homelessness Data Dictionary (AIHW Cat no. HOU269) <http://www.aihw.gov.au/publication-detail?id=60129543695>.

Supplementary information can be found in the housing collection data manuals available upon request.

Relevance: The ICH data collection contains information about ICHOs, the dwellings they manage and the households assisted.

An ICHO is any organisation that is responsible for managing medium to long term housing for Indigenous people. This includes community organisations such as resource agencies and land councils, which have a range of functions, provided that they manage housing for Indigenous people.

The data collection only includes information about ICHOs that received government funding for the provision of housing assistance within the financial year, with the exception of counts of known unfunded ICHOs (D19b) and the number of permanent dwellings managed by these unfunded ICHOs (D1b).

Accuracy: Reported findings are based on data provided by jurisdictions to the AIHW.

There are known data quality issues:

- For the 2014-15 collection period, jurisdictions differed regarding how they sourced ICH data. New South Wales predominantly sourced their data from Aboriginal Community Housing Providers (ACHPs). Victoria sourced data from ICHOs. Data in Queensland, Western Australia, South Australia and the Northern Territory were sourced from administrative systems. Northern Territory also sourced data from surveys and performance reports. Tasmania sourced their data from both administrative systems and surveys. These differences may limit comparability across jurisdictions.
- Data were not provided for all ICHOs—the data may not be representative of all ICHOs operating within the 2014-15 reporting period, the dwellings they managed or the households they assisted.
- This collection does not include an Indigenous identifier—all households are assumed to include at least one Indigenous member.

Specific State/Territory issues:

New South Wales

- Data from 2012-13 and earlier reporting periods may not be comparable to the current reporting period due to a change in reporting methods.
- New South Wales is now able to report information about funded ICHOs, the dwellings they managed and the households they assisted. Prior to 2012-13, New South Wales reported proxy information about providers that were actively registered with the Aboriginal Housing Office. Some of these registered providers were not funded. This change in the population reported within the data collection may have contributed to the reported decrease in the number of funded ICHOs in 2012-13 and the reported changes across a number of descriptive data and performance indicators.
- Improved coverage since 2013-14 resulted in increased rental data compared to previous years.
- Information on additional bedrooms required for a household was not available for the 2014-15 collection period.

Victoria

- There has been a decline in the survey-return rate over the last several years, particularly from non-registered ICHOs in the 2014-15 reporting period. Thus, care is advised when comparing this data with data from previous years.

Queensland

- Data about households living in permanent dwellings are not comparable with previous data. From 2012-13, missing household records were no longer imputed by Queensland. Prior to 2012-13, these data were imputed based on the assumption that there was one household living in each permanent dwelling. Care is advised when comparing household data from previous years.
- Implementation of new rent procedures in 2013-14 resulted in higher reported rents for both 2013-14 and 2014-15.
- Data for total recurrent expenditure and net recurrent costs are identical due to the unavailability of required data. Queensland only holds information on maintenance and upgrades costs which are currently funded in communities with government tenancy management. Since maintenance costs are a component of all three measures, and the only data available, all measures record the same total.

Western Australia

- Historically, where only partial information was known when calculating overcrowding, Western Australia imputed the remaining information. This change in methodology contributed to the reported increase in the number of households included in the calculation of overcrowding and may have contributed to the reported decrease in overcrowding from 2013-14 onwards.

South Australia

- From 2012-13, information is only reported for tenancies managed by the

state housing authority and not tenancies managed by ICHOs (with the exception of an estimated count of permanent dwellings managed by funded ICHOs). This change in methodology contributed to the reported decrease in the size of the sector and variations in performance indicator results.

- Data for rates of overcrowding were available for the current reporting period. However, values cannot be compared to those from both 2012-13 and 2013-14, as unexpected data quality issues contributed to a lack of availability of overcrowding data for these two reporting periods.

Tasmania

- Information on households, including the number of additional bedrooms required, is not reported by ICHOs. As a result, this information is not available for national testing.
- A new arrears policy was implemented in 2012-13. This has contributed to improvements in data quality for rent since 2013-14.

Northern Territory

- The Northern Territory government has advised that approximately 4,000 dwellings were transferred from Indigenous housing to remote public housing between 2008-09, and a further 631 dwellings were transferred in 2009-10. The number has since increased to 5,025, as at 30 June 2015. These dwellings were not reported in either the ICH data collection or the public rental housing data collection. The Northern Territory government has advised that they are aiming to report on these dwellings as part of the Public Housing collection from 2015-16.
- Performance indicators, reported as proportions have been adjusted for non-response by excluding unknown values and missing responses from the denominator. The national performance indicators, reported as proportions, were calculated using data from only those jurisdictions where both numerator and denominator were available and valid. In the absence of an independent and reliable national data set containing information about the size and characteristics of the ICH sector, no other attempt was made to correct the data for errors (e.g., where no information was provided for an ICHO, where there were missing records for specific households/dwellings managed by an ICHO, for missing records, or for unknown values).

Coherence:

Data for individual jurisdictions may not be comparable to previous years due to differences in the accuracy of the data over time (e.g., reflecting differences in how the data for the collection were sourced by jurisdictions, the number and profiles of ICHOs for which data were provided/not provided, the completeness of the data reported for some ICHOs and the instances of unknown values recorded for some data items). There have been a variety of different data quality issues each year. For specific caveats on previous years' data, consult the footnotes and DQS in the relevant edition of the *Housing Assistance in Australia* report.

From 2009–10, the scope of most data items within the ICH collection was restricted to ICHOs that received funding within the financial year. This is consistent with the scope of the 2006–07 and earlier collections. In comparison, in the 2007–08 and 2008–09 collections, more data items reflected the performance of both funded and unfunded ICHOs.

Previously, the Australian Government had administrative responsibility for some ICHOs in Victoria, Queensland and all ICHOs in Tasmania. Data for these dwellings were reported collectively under the jurisdiction 'Australian Government'. In 2009, responsibility for these ICHOs was transferred to the respective jurisdiction. Data for these dwellings are now reported under the relevant state or territory.

Specific State/Territory issues:

New South Wales

- For the 2014-15 reporting period, data for the number of permanent dwellings tenancy managed by funded ICHOs largely came from ACHPs that were registered with Aboriginal Housing Organisations (AHOs).
- A reduction in rent collected from tenants in permanent dwellings was observed in 2014-15. This was due to a large number of properties for which

occupancy remained unknown.

- The majority of data for housing maintenance expenditure came from AHOs.
- Complete data for capital expenditure at the organisational level was unavailable in 2013-14. Thus, capital expenditure data for permanent dwellings in 2014-15 may not be comparable to that of the previous reporting period.

Victoria

- From 2009–10, both Aboriginal Housing Victoria and ICHO activity was reported, since assuming administrative responsibility for the former Community Housing and Infrastructure Program (CHIP), previously managed by the Commonwealth. For the two years prior to 2009–10, Victoria reported Aboriginal Housing Victoria activity only.

Queensland

- For the 2014-15 collection period, Queensland sourced ICH data from its administrative systems. From 2015-16, data will be sourced from the Community Housing (CH) survey. The ICH version of the survey will be sent to a small number of remote communities who manage their own tenancies.

Tasmania

- In 2012-13, data for net recurrent costs included costs for depreciation on rental housing which resulted in identical information for total and net recurrent costs. This has been excluded in the 2013-14 data. Thus, data may not be comparable with previous years.
- Due to data quality issues, data for several household indicators are not comparable between the two collection periods of 2013-14 and 2014-15.

South Australia

- From 2012-13, data are only reported for tenancies managed by the state housing authority. Prior to 2012-13, all dwelling and household data were based on tenancy and asset audit data.

Australian Capital Territory

- ACT reported having no in-scope providers in 2014-15.

Northern Territory

- For 2014-15, data relate to permanently occupied dwellings. No distinction is made between permanent and improvised dwellings, due to a change in the funding methodology with permanent occupied dwellings being funded regardless of their construction type. Thus, caution is advised when comparing data for 2014-15 with that of previous years.

Source and reference attributes

Submitting organisation: Australian Institute of Health and Welfare

Relational attributes

Related metadata references:

Supersedes [Indigenous community housing 2013-14 Data Quality Statement](#)
[AIHW Data Quality Statements](#), Superseded 31/05/2016

Has been superseded by [Indigenous Community Housing Collection, 2015-16: Quality Statement](#)
[AIHW Data Quality Statements](#), Superseded 06/06/2018