A person is homeless if he or she does not have access to safe, secure and adequate housing. Unsafe, insecure and inadequate housing includes housing:
- in which the client did not feel safe (this can include the client’s own home);
- in which the client did not have a legal right to continued occupation of their home (security of tenure);
- that lacked the amenities or resources necessary for living (such as adequate heating, plumbing or cooking facilities); and
- provided by a SAAP agency or other emergency accommodation agency.

There is considerable concern over the number of homeless people in society and the assistance they require. Collecting information on homeless people is problematic, as the concept of 'homelessness' encompasses elements in addition to whether someone resides in a dwelling or not. A SAAP client should either be homeless or at imminent risk of becoming homeless, as defined by the SAAP Act. A person who requires the support of a SAAP worker to maintain their current housing situation is at imminent risk.
Administrative Attributes

Source Document: SAAP National Data Collection collectors manual, 2001-02
Source Organisation: SAAP National Data Collection Agency
Australian Institute of Health and Welfare

Comments: 

Data Element Links

Information Model Entities linked to this Data Element
Data Agreements which include this Data Element