

A Comprehensive Review and Assessment of Indigenous Housing Data

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List of Acronyms

ABS	Australian Bureau of Statistics
ACHP	Aboriginal Community Housing Provider
ADA	Australian Data Archive
AHCD	Australian Housing Conditions Dataset
AHO	Aboriginal Housing Office
AHV	Aboriginal Housing Victoria
AIHW	Australian Institute for Health and Welfare
ARC	Australian Research Council
ASGS	Australian Statistical Geography Standard
CH	Community Housing
CHINS	Community Housing and Infrastructure Needs Survey
CHP	Community Housing Provider
CNOS	Canadian National Occupancy Standard
CRA	Commonwealth Rent Assistance
CTG	Closing the Gap
CSV	Comma-separated Values
DFFH	Department of Families, Fairness and Housing
DCJ	Department of Communities and Justice
DSS	Department of Social Services
FTE	Full-time Equivalent
HAFF	Housing Australia Future Fund
HILDA	Household, Income and Labour Dynamics in Australia
HPF	Health Performance Framework
IBA	Indigenous Business Australia
ICH	Indigenous Community Housing
ICHO	Indigenous Community Housing Organisation
IEO	Index of Education and Occupation
IER	Index of Economic Resources
IRSAD	Index of Relative Socio-economic Advantage and Disadvantage
IRSD	Index of Relative Socio-economic Disadvantage
IRSEO	Indigenous Relative Socio-economic Outcomes
JSON	JavaScript Object Notation
LGA	Local Government Area
LIEF	Linkage Infrastructure, Equipment and Facilities
LSAC	Longitudinal Study of Australian Children

LSIC	Longitudinal Study of Indigenous Children
NASHH	National Agreement on Social Housing and Homelessness
NATSIHS	National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Survey
NATSISS	National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Survey
NIAA	National Indigenous Australians Agency
NRSCH	National Regulatory System for Community Housing
NSHS	National Social Housing Survey
NSW	New South Wales
NSWALC	NSW Aboriginal Land Council
NT	Northern Territory
RHIP	Remote Housing Investment Package
PES	Post Enumeration Survey
PH	Public Housing
QLD	Queensland
RIFIC	Regional Insights for Indigenous Communities
RoGS	Report on Government Services
SA	South Australia
SAS	Statistical Analysis System
SEIFA	Socio-Economic Indexes for Areas
SH	Social Housing
SHHS	Specialist Housing and Homelessness Services
SHS	Specialist Homelessness Services
SOMIH	State-owned and Managed Indigenous Housing
SPSS	Statistical Package for the Social Sciences
STATA	Statistical Software Package
TAS	Tasmania
TRG	Technical Reference Group
TSV	Tab-separated Values
VHR	Victorian Housing Register
VIC	Victoria
XLS/XLSX	Excel Spreadsheet/Excel Worksheet
XML	Extensible Markup Language

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A Note on Terminology

Throughout this report, unless referring to a type or name of an organisation, we have used the terms 'Indigenous' and 'Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander'. We acknowledge that the terminology used in this space is contested and that the term 'First Nations' may be preferred by some individuals and groups.

Acknowledgement of Country

The authors acknowledge Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as the First Peoples of what is commonly referred to as Australia, and we deeply respect these peoples as the Traditional Custodians of the lands, rivers, seas and sky throughout.

We respect the past, current, and emerging Elders and Knowledge Holders and acknowledge the continuous living and diverse Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures, including languages, customs, traditions, knowledge systems, and governance.

Executive Summary

Comprehensive and culturally informed data is essential to developing effective housing policies and programs that meet the needs and aspirations of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

There is a need to directly capture **Indigenous voices** on housing experiences, conditions, tenure, affordability, overcrowding, homelessness, and aspirations. This data must reflect household demographics and geographic diversity, including remote areas.

Equally important is data from **housing providers**—both mainstream and Indigenous-led—covering housing stock, occupancy, service delivery, financial sustainability, and governance.

Workforce data is also essential, including staff qualifications, roles and experiences, to support planning and retention in the sector.

This report presents key findings, data gaps, limitations and recommendations from research that undertook a comprehensive review and assessment of current and previous publicly available Indigenous housing data. Our review identified 31 accessible data sources that provided primary or secondary data relating to Indigenous housing; 19 of these were national-level data sources and 12 were state or territory-level.

The 31 data sources were categorised into housing-focused and non-housing-focused datasets, and further distinguished by their specificity to Indigenous populations.

Housing-focused data sources (24 total)

- **Indigenous-specific (9 sources):** These include national and jurisdictional data sources such as the Community Housing and Infrastructure Needs Survey (CHINS), Housing Statistics for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People, and the Indigenous Community Housing (ICH) data collection. They provide insights into housing stock, tenure, and conditions primarily within the Indigenous community housing and SOMIH sectors and many allow granular locational level analysis. However, these datasets often lack direct input from Indigenous householders and omit data on private housing. Some of these data sources are outdated and may not provide an accurate reflection of the current status of Indigenous housing.
- **Non-Indigenous specific (6 sources):** These datasets (e.g. Australian Housing Conditions Dataset [AHCD], Specialist Homelessness Services [SHS] data collection) allow geographic disaggregation but rarely distinguish Indigenous from non-Indigenous households. They often exclude key indicators like housing need, client satisfaction, service delivery or governance. Some datasets are significantly outdated.
- **Mixed data sources (9 sources):** These combine Indigenous and general population data (e.g. Census - Estimating Homelessness, Report on Government Services [RoGS]). While some support trend analysis, most do not allow critical housing metrics to be disaggregated for Indigenous and non-Indigenous households. Data is also limited in scope with key housing

data on service delivery, organisational governance and the housing workforce not included. Data accessibility issues also hinder in-depth analysis.

Non-housing focused data sources (7 total)

- **Indigenous-specific (4 sources):** Datasets such as the Longitudinal Study of Indigenous Children (LSIC), National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Survey (NATSIHS), and National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Survey (NATSISS) provide culturally informed insights into Indigenous households. These surveys involve Indigenous-led design and data collection but offer limited housing-specific data and are often outdated.
- **Non-Indigenous specific (3 sources):** General surveys like the Census, Household, Income and Labour Dynamics in Australia (HILDA) Survey, and Longitudinal Study of Australian Children (LSAC) include data on housing and allow disaggregation for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. While they are ongoing and validated, several limitations affect their usefulness for Indigenous housing analysis: small sample sizes of Indigenous participants, exclusion of remote areas (notably in the HILDA), under-representation in the Census, outdated data (especially in the Census and LSAC), and limited detail on Indigenous housing conditions and experiences.

Key limitations across data sources

- **Indigenous data sovereignty:** Acknowledgement of, and adherence to, Indigenous data sovereignty principles was rarely specified for the data sources. With only two exceptions, the datasets are managed by non-Indigenous led government departments and agencies; data sharing arrangements with Indigenous organisations and communities were not stated.
- **Representation and inclusion:** For many data sources based on survey data, the number of Indigenous respondents was relatively small and some did not include remote locations in their scope. The ability to extrapolate findings to the full Indigenous population is therefore limited.
- **Cultural appropriateness:** Most datasets (and especially general population ones) were not co-designed with Indigenous people and lacked culturally appropriate data collection, potentially compromising data accuracy.
- **Under-enumeration in the Census:** Since many secondary datasets rely on Census data, the persistent undercounting of Indigenous people impacts the accuracy of these sources.
- **Data linkage gaps:** Aside from the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) and the Australian Institute for Health and Welfare (AIHW), there was limited integration across datasets, restricting the potential for holistic insights into Indigenous housing experiences.

A comprehensive assessment of the information collected by these data sources was subsequently undertaken. The assessment focused on the coverage, quality, cultural relevance, and usefulness of the data for informing Indigenous housing policy and service delivery. The assessment distinguished between household data, housing provision data and workforce data.

Key findings

- **Household data:** Fourteen datasets drew upon data that had been collected from Indigenous households/people. The data was strongest in relation to household information (such as household size, structure and characteristics), tenure type and landlord type, dwelling type and size, and housing affordability. However, the data is often basic, lacking depth on housing experiences, conditions and aspirations. Many surveys involve only a small sample of Indigenous respondents and frequently exclude remote areas, limiting representativeness.
- **Provider data:** Twenty datasets provided data that had been collated from housing providers, mostly focusing on housing provision in the Indigenous community housing and SOMIH sectors. While these sources offer insights into housing stock and occupancy, they often lack data on other key indicators including dwelling vacancies, social housing applications and waiting lists, service delivery, client characteristics and outcomes, workforce, governance and shared-decision-making approaches, and capacity building.
- **Workforce data:** No data sources include information collected from or about the workforce providing housing services to Indigenous people across Australia. This presents major challenges for workforce planning and development.

Key gaps identified

1. **Limited cultural relevance and participation:** Most datasets were not co-designed with Indigenous communities, and data collection often lacks cultural appropriateness.
2. **Under-representation:** Indigenous people are under-represented in general population surveys, and data on remote communities is especially sparse.
3. **Inadequate housing experience data:** There is a lack of data on Indigenous peoples' perceptions of housing quality, suitability, and impacts on wellbeing and social/economic participation.
4. **Missing pathways and aspirations information:** Little is known about housing pathways or Indigenous aspirations for home ownership and the barriers they face.
5. **Private and mainstream social housing gaps:** Despite high numbers of Indigenous people living in private housing, data in this area is extremely limited. Similarly, public and community housing data is insufficiently disaggregated by Indigeneity.
6. **Outdated or inconsistent data:** Much of the available data is outdated or inconsistent across jurisdictions, hindering national analysis and monitoring.
7. **Lack of governance and decision-making data:** Despite policy emphasis on shared decision-making (e.g., Closing the Gap [CTG]), there is no data on governance models, capacity building, or partnerships in housing services.
8. **Workforce:** No data exists on the size, characteristics or experiences of the housing workforce supporting Indigenous householders, despite its strategic importance.

Recommendations for future data collections

1. **Uphold Indigenous data sovereignty and participation:** All housing data initiatives should be co-designed with Indigenous communities and the Indigenous community-controlled housing (ICCH) sector. Embedding Indigenous data sovereignty principles across data governance, collection, access and use is essential. A national forum should be convened to guide data activities, and the under-representation of Indigenous peoples in national survey collections be addressed.
2. **Improve data access and transparency:** Expand public access to Indigenous housing data and the inclusion of disaggregated indicators. Increase transparency as to how data informs government decisions and establish a centralised Indigenous housing data portal.
3. **Update and integrate datasets:** Ensure housing data is regularly updated and harmonised across jurisdictions. Enable safe, ethical data linkage across domains to understand housing's broader social impacts.
4. **Address gaps in housing experience and aspirations:** Invest in targeted, culturally appropriate data collection that reflects Indigenous housing quality and affordability, housing suitability and crowding, homelessness, housing pathways and aspirations, using measures meaningful to communities.
5. **Strengthen housing provision data:** Enhance datasets to include information on climate impacts, housing-related infrastructure and essential services, repairs and maintenance, dwelling vacancies and waiting lists, and service delivery outcomes.
6. **Expand data coverage of private and mainstream social housing:** Improve data on Indigenous people living in private rental and mainstream housing. Ensure mainstream datasets include Indigenous identifiers to support disaggregation.
7. **Address governance, decision-making and capacity-building gaps:** Collect data on governance models, decision-making processes, capacity-building needs and Indigenous participation in housing planning and service delivery, aligned with CTG commitments.
8. **Prioritise workforce data collection:** Develop national data on the Indigenous housing workforce including workforce size and composition, roles, qualifications, skills and wellbeing. Data collection activities should align with successful models in other sectors and be integrated with broader housing data strategies, particularly for ICCHOs.

Conclusion

Current Indigenous housing data in Australia is fragmented, shallow in scope, and largely disconnected from Indigenous perspectives and needs. Addressing these gaps—particularly around cultural relevance, disaggregation, and data on housing experience and workforce—is critical for improving housing outcomes and aligning efforts with Indigenous-led priorities and reforms.

1. Overview and Methodology

This report presents key findings and recommendations from a comprehensive review and assessment of current and previous Indigenous housing data. This research was undertaken by researchers from the University of Adelaide and funded by the National Indigenous Australians Agency (NIAA). This chapter of the report provides an overview of the aims of the research and outlines the methodology used.

1.1. Overview

The 2020 *National Agreement on Closing the Gap* (CTG) has acknowledged the important role that housing plays in improving life outcomes for Indigenous Australians. Housing is one of 17 socio-economic areas targeted in CTG with an identified outcome that “Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people secure appropriate, affordable housing that is aligned with their priorities and need”.¹ Collaborative approaches to work towards this goal are currently being developed between the Commonwealth, state and territory governments, and Indigenous organisations.

Quality data is needed to both inform future Indigenous housing policy development, and measure progress against targets such as those in CTG. However, as highlighted by leading Indigenous academic Professor Marcia Langton, “the lack of reliable and consistent disaggregated data for Indigenous Australians is striking, resulting in the paucity of evidence-based Indigenous policy-making”.²

Currently there are major limitations in the existing data relating to Indigenous households and their housing circumstances.³ These limitations include an under-representation of Indigenous people, the use of culturally inappropriate methodologies, and a focus on basic housing infrastructure, rather than individual experiences of housing. As a result of deficiencies in current housing data, the Productivity Commission has recommended the need to “identify improvements to existing housing and homelessness datasets, develop new datasets to address gaps in the housing evidence base, and identify opportunities to link datasets”.⁴

However, a comprehensive and critical overview of current and previous Indigenous housing data collections has been lacking. This review is vital to better support evidence-based decision-making around potential improvements to existing housing datasets, and to prioritise the essential features of newly created datasets. Our research sought to provide such an evidence

¹ Australian Government (2020). *National Agreement on Closing the Gap*, p30. <https://www.closingthegap.gov.au/national-agreement>

² Langton, M. (2017). *Indigenous Data Sovereignty Symposium: The Importance of Data Sovereignty for Communities*, p3. https://mspgh.unimelb.edu.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0006/2507919/IDS-Symposium-Program-Final.pdf

³ Equity Economics and Development Partners (2024). *Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Housing Data Review*. <https://www.equityeconomics.com.au/report-archive/aboriginal-and-torres-strait-islander-housing-data-review>

⁴ Productivity Commission (2022). *In Need of Repair: The National Housing and Homelessness Agreement Study Report*, p42. <https://www.pc.gov.au/inquiries/completed/housing-homelessness/report/housing-homelessness.pdf>

base by systematically reviewing current and previous publicly available Indigenous housing data collections to identify strengths, weaknesses and gaps. In doing so, our project provides an important starting point from which improvements in Indigenous housing data can be made.

The research had three main aims:

1. Review current and previous Indigenous housing data collections to identify strengths, weaknesses and gaps
2. Ascertain Indigenous housing representative's priorities on Indigenous housing data requirements
3. Develop recommendations for improvements to Indigenous housing data collection, including the development of new Indigenous housing datasets.

1.2. Methodology

The project used a mixed methods approach and was comprised of three key stages: (1) an initial roundtable and consultations with key stakeholders, (2) a review and assessment of Indigenous housing data, and (3) a final roundtable with key stakeholders. Further detail on each stage of the research is provided below. Ethical approval for the research was obtained from the University of Adelaide's Human Research Ethics Committee.

1.2.1. Stage 1 - Stakeholder engagement

At the onset of the research, engagement occurred with key stakeholders including Indigenous housing stakeholders, data custodians and relevant Australian Government Departmental/ Agency representatives. The purpose of the initial stakeholder engagement was to inform the subsequent assessment of Indigenous housing data. Occurring via a roundtable and consultations, the engagement sought to identify what data items, units of analysis and measures are of central importance when considering Indigenous housing.

An initial roundtable was held in Canberra in September 2024. The roundtable was attended by 15 stakeholders including data custodians and representatives from federal government departments and agencies with an interest in Indigenous housing. Additional written feedback was also provided by six representatives who had been unable to attend the roundtable.

Consultations were undertaken with key Indigenous housing stakeholders from November 2024 to February 2025. Feedback was received in written or interview format from 12 stakeholders representing Indigenous housing peak bodies and Indigenous community housing organisations (ICHOs) at national and state/territory levels across Australia.

The roundtable and consultation discussions centred on four key questions:

1. What do you currently use Indigenous housing data for?
2. What are the elements of the data that make it most valuable and useful?
3. What can't you do because you don't have the right data?
4. What data is needed to address this gap?

Summary of roundtable and consultation discussions

The stakeholder engagement indicated that Indigenous housing data is used for a wide range of purposes including advocacy and policy development, policy and program evaluation, and identifying priority housing needs. The data also supports funding decisions and the planning of housing and homelessness services. The aspects of Indigenous housing data that were perceived to be most valuable include the timeliness and granularity of data, and the ability to link it with other datasets to understand broader outcomes. Having strong quantitative metrics that covers key housing indicators greatly enhances its usefulness, as does longitudinal data that enables the tracking of trends and future projections. Housing data was perceived to be most useful when easily accessible, verifiable, and malleable.

Many limitations were observed within the current Indigenous housing data. Basic data gaps were reported, including unreliable recording of Indigenous status, and limited information on housing stock, need and aspirations. A lack of the right data was perceived to limit the ability of stakeholders to make informed decisions around resource allocation, funding and policy design. Housing data limitations were also seen by stakeholders to prevent adequate regional-level analysis, and hamper the development of tailored, culturally appropriate housing solutions for Indigenous people. Further challenges included infrequent data collection, data inaccuracies and limited data linkage with non-housing sectors. Limited data sharing and data sovereignty further hampered collaboration and accountability.

To address these existing Indigenous housing data limitations, stakeholders highlighted a need for comprehensive and foundational housing datasets that include cultural and community context. In addition, robust data on key housing indicators (such as overcrowding, unmet housing need, and householder experiences) and the accurate recording of Indigenous status would further support informed decision-making. More effective data use would also be supported by improved data collection, linkages and sharing. Additionally, investments in modern data platforms, better data quality, and more frequent data collection were perceived as being critical.

Full summaries of the key themes arising from the initial roundtable and consultations are provided in Appendix 1 (Sections A.1.1. and A.1.2. respectively).

1.2.2. Stage 2 - Data review and assessment

Informed by the initial stakeholder engagement, a systematic and comprehensive assessment was then undertaken of available data relating to Indigenous housing.

The data review and assessment occurred in several steps.

First, a desktop search was conducted to identify relevant Indigenous housing data sources.⁵ Sources were included in the review if they met the following criteria:

1. The data had to include information on Indigenous housing and/or homelessness, i.e. Aboriginal and Torres Strait households and their housing circumstances, Indigenous housing provision and/or the Indigenous housing workforce
2. The selection of data sources was confined to an Australian context, with data collected at a national or state/territory level
3. The data could pertain to current or previous data collections (from 2005 onwards)
4. Each source needed to have data that was accessible to the policy and research community.

This report therefore excludes an assessment of (i) non-publicly available data, (ii) government reporting on housing investment (e.g. current intergovernmental agreements relating to housing and homelessness such as the National Agreement on Social Housing and Homelessness [NASHH], the Housing Australia Future Fund [HAFF], and the Social Housing Accelerator fund), (iii) reporting of housing financial assistance programs,⁶ and (iv) data focusing specifically on housing construction and related infrastructure.

A list of potential data sources was collated and shared with stakeholders involved in the roundtable and consultations for verification. The final list included 31 accessible data sources⁷ (19 national and 12 state/territory sources) that provided primary or secondary data on Indigenous housing.⁸ The data sources included census, survey and administrative data collections.

Second, an overview of each national and state/territory data source was produced including key information: e.g. focus and type of housing data collected; dates, frequency and mode of data collection; if ongoing or completed; sample (size, scope, response rate); unit of analysis; data coverage; data governance and sovereignty; data availability and format; and links to the data source.

⁵ A data source is the place or origin where data can be obtained. For this research, the identified data sources included databases, websites and government records that contained data relating to housing provision for Indigenous peoples.

⁶ This includes data on the Commonwealth Rent Assistance program, state and territory government funded Private Rent Assistance and Home Purchase Assistance programs (see <https://www.aihw.gov.au/reports/housing-assistance/housing-assistance-in-australia/contents/financial-assistance>), and the Indigenous Business Australia (IBA) Indigenous Home Ownership Program (see <https://www.housingdata.gov.au/visualisation/home-ownership/indigenous-home-ownership-program-key-data>).

⁷ Most of the data sources provided publicly available data via government agency or department websites. Access to some of the survey datasets (e.g. AHCD, HILDA, LSAC, and LSIC) was available from various data archive websites at no cost to approved researchers. In addition to providing publicly available data, the ABS and AIHW also provide options to purchase bespoke data. For example, access to more detailed, unpublished data from the national housing and homelessness data collections can be requested from the AIHW but this is usually subject to costs. In such cases our data review and assessment only reported on the data that was publicly available.

⁸ The ABS Survey of Income and Housing was not included in this review as the publicly available data is not disaggregated by Indigeneity (see <https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/economy/finance/household-income-and-wealth-australia/2019-20> and <https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/people/housing/housing-occupancy-and-costs/latest-release>).

Third, the national and state/territory data sources were assessed (both individually and as a whole) to identify their strengths and weaknesses. This included consideration of the quality and usefulness of the sources against the findings of the initial stakeholder engagement. Attention was paid to (i) the type and level of housing data collected and (ii) the extent of Indigenous representation (in the sample, research design, data collection and data governance).

Fourth, a list of key data topics and data items was developed for the review process.⁹ The list of data items was informed by both what the academic community seeks to understand about Indigenous housing as well as what Indigenous housing stakeholders, departmental representatives and data custodians seek to understand and use the data for. Learnings from previous Indigenous housing research and Australian statistical standards also informed the data item list development. For each data item, a detailed description was created to outline the anticipated type and level of information. Separate data topics, items and descriptions were developed for data collected from Indigenous households/people, organisations who provide housing to Indigenous people, and workers employed by housing providers; this information is presented in Tables 2 – 4 (Appendix 3).

Fifth, the review of Indigenous housing data was then undertaken. Survey documentation and available datasets were closely interrogated to identify relevant information and, for each source, this was reviewed against the selected data items. Separate reviews were undertaken for data that had been collected from Indigenous people/households, housing providers, and housing workers. Tables 5-10 (in Appendix 3) present the detailed results of the data review exercise.

Finally, an assessment was then undertaken of the collated data to understand what it can tell us about Indigenous housing. This process included an assessment of the level and detail of information that was available for each data item, identified the housing topics and data items that have sufficient data, and those with limited or no available information. Once this had been completed, an overall assessment of the current key gaps in Indigenous housing data was undertaken. This step included consideration of the quality and usefulness of the data against the findings of the initial stakeholder engagement.

1.2.3. Stage 3 - Final roundtable and development of recommendations

The research concluded with a final roundtable with Indigenous housing stakeholders, data custodians and relevant Australian Government Departmental and Agency representatives. Held in June 2025, this roundtable discussed the findings from the data assessment and review (i.e. the Stage 2 research) and informed the development of recommendations for future data collection activities. Further stakeholder feedback was received via virtual consultations and email. A summary of the roundtable discussions and additional feedback is presented below.

⁹ A data item is an individual piece or unit of data that is important or relevant to the topic being studied. For example, tenure type, dwelling characteristics, and housing affordability are all discrete data items.

Summary of final roundtable discussions and feedback

The final roundtable discussions and stakeholder feedback highlighted major gaps in the Indigenous housing data that should be addressed in future data collections. Key gaps included data on the Indigenous housing workforce, CTG targets, funding allocations, and housing supply. Existing Indigenous housing data was described as often being outdated, fragmented or lacking clarity; as such, improved data was considered needed in areas such as homelessness, repairs and maintenance, housing suitability, and the lived experience of housing. Enhanced data on specific sectors – home ownership, the private rental market, community housing and affordable housing – was seen to be required to understand the full spectrum of Indigenous housing. A need for stronger data linkage was also observed that can identify the impacts of housing for other social determinants (e.g. health and education), and for housing data that covers both urban and remote contexts.

Stakeholders raised several factors that should be considered when future Indigenous housing data collections are being developed. These included data collections being co-designed with the ICH sector to reflect community priorities and uphold data sovereignty principles. It was observed that investment will be needed to support this approach, along with the development of place-based data partnerships to provide timely and localised insights. Stakeholders also acknowledged current power imbalances between governments and the ICH sector in relation to housing data, noting that these could be addressed via greater transparency around housing policy and funding processes. While data linkages were recognised as providing valuable insights, it was felt that linkages should respect participant consent and ensure that their use is of benefit to Indigenous people. Improving access to Indigenous housing data, investing in both quantitative and qualitative data collections, and making data central to future planning on Indigenous housing and homelessness were also perceived to be essential steps forward.

The recommendations arising from the third stage of the research are discussed in Chapter 6 and a full summary of the key themes from the final roundtable and stakeholder feedback is provided in Appendix 1 (Section A.1.3.).

1.3. Report structure

This report presents the findings from the data review and assessment exercise, and recommendations for future data collections. Chapter 2 provides an overview of the national and state/territory data sources that were included in the review. The key findings from the review and assessment of Indigenous housing data are then presented in Chapters 3 to 5. The final chapter – Chapter 6 – outlines the overall strengths and gaps of the data, along with recommendations for future Indigenous housing data collections that arise from the project.

2. Indigenous Housing Data – What is Needed and Where can it be Found

2.1. What Indigenous housing data is needed

The stakeholder engagement (Stage 1) highlighted that comprehensive data is essential for developing effective policies and programs that meet the housing needs and aspirations of Indigenous people. Quality data is also needed to effectively measure progress against housing targets such as those in CTG.

Of primary importance, data is required that hears from Indigenous people and householders themselves about their housing circumstances and experiences. In order to understand current and future housing demand, detailed data pertaining to Indigenous households is needed including their size, composition, demographic makeup and geographic location. Data on housing tenure, landlord type and housing stability is also important for planning and funding purposes, as well as providing an understanding of housing security. Likewise, accurate data is needed on the type and size of dwellings occupied by Indigenous people, particularly in relation to overcrowding. Given the importance of good quality housing to health and wellbeing outcomes, detailed information on housing conditions and access to essential services is vital. Data is also needed to assess the particular impacts rising housing costs and affordability pressures that are evident across Australia are having for Indigenous households. To aid a fuller understanding of housing need, accurate data on Indigenous homelessness is needed (e.g. on the prevalence, types and underlying causes). Moreover, data on housing satisfaction and aspirations is critical for shaping policies and programs that are responsive, culturally relevant and can meet the diverse housing needs of Indigenous people.

In addition to data that supports understanding of the housing circumstances and experiences of Indigenous people, information is also needed about housing provision to Indigenous people. Given that Indigenous people live across all housing sectors, it is important that this data covers both mainstream and Indigenous community-controlled housing organisations. Key data requirements to ascertain current housing provision include detailed information on housing stock, infrastructure and occupancy. In order to measure Indigenous housing need, accurate data on social housing applications, waitlists and allocations is also vital, along with data on homelessness. Likewise, to assess how well housing supports are meeting the needs of Indigenous people, information on service delivery is crucial. Further, data is required on capacity building needs and initiatives within the housing sector to support culturally appropriate service delivery (e.g. tenancy management and support). To monitor the financial viability and sustainability of the Indigenous housing sector, data on the financial arrangements of housing providers is necessary. There is also a need for data on the governance arrangements that are operating in the housing sector to explore progress towards true partnership and shared decision-making under CTG. Lastly, detailed workforce data is required to help develop a strong and skilled workforce that can more effectively support Indigenous householders.

Alongside organisational workforce information, detailed data is needed directly from the workers who provide housing services and supports to Indigenous people. To better understand this workforce, information is vital about the workers themselves including their socio-demographic characteristics, qualifications and skills. To inform future workforce planning, it is essential that data is collected about worker roles, career pathways, and experiences within the housing sector (e.g. working conditions and job satisfaction). Such data supports the development of attraction and retention strategies to ensure a skilled and sustainable workforce.

Data that is additionally important, but which was not included in this review includes funding and financing data and data focused on broader housing and community related infrastructure.

2.2. Indigenous housing data sources

Our review identified 31 current and previous data sources that provided publicly available primary and secondary data on some of the key topics discussed above; nineteen of these were national-level data sources and 12 were state or territory-level. Table 1 lists the national and state/territory data sources that were assessed for the review, also identifying the status and focus of each data source. A brief overview of these data sources is presented below. Descriptions of each data source, and an assessment of their respective strengths and weaknesses are provided in Appendix 2.

Table 1: List of national and state/territory data sources

National Data Sources	Data Source Status		Focus of Data Source				
	Ongoing	Completed	Housing focused	Non-housing focused	Indigenous-specific	Non-Indigenous specific	Indigenous and non-Indigenous specific
Australian Housing Conditions Dataset (AHCD)							
Census of Population and Housing (Census)							
Census – Estimating Homelessness							
Closing the Gap (CTG) Outcome Area 9 Data							
Community Housing and Infrastructure Needs Survey (CHINS)							
Community Housing (CH) Data Collection							
Household, Income and Labour Dynamics in Australia (HILDA) Survey							
Housing Statistics for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People							
Indigenous Community Housing (ICH) Data Collection							
Journeys Home Survey							
Longitudinal Study of Australian Children (LSAC)							
Longitudinal Study of Indigenous Children (LSIC)							
National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Survey (NATSIHS)							
National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Survey (NATSISS)							
National Social Housing Survey (NSHS)							
Public Housing (PH) and State-owned and Managed Indigenous Housing (SOMIH) Data Collections							
Regional Insights for Indigenous Communities (RIFIC)							
Report on Government Services (RoGS) Part G (Housing and Homelessness)							

Specialist Homelessness Services (SHS) Data Collection							
State/Territory Data Sources							
New South Wales Aboriginal Housing Office (NSW AHO) Dwellings Data							
New South Wales Social Housing (NSW SH) Delivery Report							
Northern Territory Remote Housing Investment Package (NT RHIP) Dat							
Queensland Community Housing (QLD CH) Data							
Queensland Indigenous Community Housing (QLD ICH) Data							
Queensland Public Housing and State-owned and Managed Indigenous Housing (QLD PH and SOMIH) Data							
South Australia Public Housing (SA PH) Data							
South Australia State-owned and Managed Indigenous Housing (SA SOMIH) Data							
Tasmania Social Housing (TAS SH) Data							
Aboriginal Housing Victoria (AHV) Data							
Victorian Housing Register (VHR) Data							
Victoria Social Housing (VIC SH) Allocation Data							

2.1.1. Overview of national data sources

Nineteen national data sources were identified as including relevant information on Indigenous housing in Australia. The focus of these data sources varied: 12 provided housing-focused data, whilst seven were non-housing focused data collections (but included some information on Indigenous housing). The data sources also varied as to whether the information they contained related to an Indigenous-specific or general sample: eight sources were Indigenous-specific, seven were general-focused, and a further four incorporated both Indigenous and non-Indigenous specific data.

Within the national data, differences were found as to the source of the data: fourteen were primary data sources (ten survey collections and four administrative data collections), four were secondary data products,¹⁰ and one source incorporated both primary and secondary data.¹¹ Twelve of the data sources utilised data collected from Indigenous people and/or households, six from organisations who provide housing to Indigenous people, and one drew upon data collected from both groups; none of the sources collected information from workers employed by housing providers. While the majority of the data collections were ongoing, three had been concluded (with no stated plans for further data collection) and only included historic data.

The national data sources were all managed by non-Indigenous led departments and agencies: six by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS), six by the Australian Institute for Health and Welfare (AIHW), four by the Department of Social Services (DSS), two by the Productivity Commission, and one by the Australian Data Archive (ADA).

2.1.2. Overview of state and territory data sources

Twelve publicly available state and territory data sources were identified as including information on Indigenous housing. All of the datasets were housing focused and drew from primary administrative data sourced from organisations who provide housing to Indigenous people. None of the state and territory data sources were focused on data that had been collected from Indigenous householders, or workers employed by housing providers. Five of the data sources were Indigenous-specific, two were non-Indigenous focused, and a further five datasets included both Indigenous and non-Indigenous specific data. Most of the data sources were ongoing and included current data, but three only included historic data.

The majority (10) of the data sources were managed by non-Indigenous led state or territory government departments; only two of the data custodians were Indigenous led organisations (i.e. Aboriginal controlled housing organisations).

¹⁰ Census – Estimating Homelessness, CTG Outcome Area 9 data, Housing Statistics for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People and the RIFIC. The housing data contained within these sources is primarily drawn from the ABS Census.

¹¹ The RoGS includes secondary data from the Census and various AIHW-collated housing and homelessness collections. Additional primary data is directly sourced by the Productivity Commission for inclusion in the RoGS.

2.3. Overall strengths and limitations of the data sources

The data sources varied considerably as to their scope and coverage ranging from the Census, which seeks to collect household data from every person present in Australia on Census night, through to state/territory administrative datasets covering specific types of social housing provision in their respective jurisdictions. The overall strengths and limitations of the data sources are discussed below, separating out those data collections which were specifically focused on housing and those that were not.

Some overarching data limitations should be noted. Acknowledgement of, and adherence to, Indigenous data sovereignty principles was rarely specified for the data sources. Also, with the exception of the NSW AHO and Victorian AHV data, the datasets are managed by non-Indigenous led government departments and agencies; data sharing arrangements with Indigenous organisations and communities were not stated.

The representativeness of the data included in these sources was a further common issue. For many of the surveys, the number of Indigenous respondents was relatively small. In the HILDA dataset, for example, Indigenous people are acknowledged to be under sampled, and relatedly, the survey does not sample people in ABS defined Very Remote locations, and is known to inadequately sample people in ABS defined Remote locations.¹² Hence, the ability to extrapolate findings to the full Indigenous population is limited. Furthermore, the estimations provided in the Census (and those data collections which rely on this source) may be inaccurate due to the under-enumeration of Indigenous people. Moreover, a majority of the survey data sources (and particularly those focused on general populations) were not co-designed with Indigenous people, nor were culturally appropriate data collection methods used which may impact upon the veracity of the information collected. Finally, with the exception of the ABS and AIHW data, a lack of linkages between the identified data sources was apparent which prevents more comprehensive understanding of Indigenous households and their housing circumstances.

2.3.1. Housing focused data sources

Twenty-four data sources (twelve national and twelve state/territory) had a specific focus on housing.

2.3.1.1. Indigenous-specific data sources

Nine of these data sources were Indigenous-specific data collections which had been designed to collate information on Indigenous housing.¹³ These sources provided a range of information on the Indigenous community housing and SOMIH sectors including on housing stock and condition, occupancy and tenure. In addition to the sector-specific data, some of the sources presented

¹² Venn, D., & Hunter, B. (2018). Poverty transitions in non-remote Indigenous households: The role of labour market and household dynamics. *Australian Journal of Labour Economics*, 21(1), 21-44.

¹³ CTG data, CHINS, Housing Statistics, ICH Data Collection, NSW AHO data, NT RHIP, QLD ICH data, SA SOMIH data and VIC AHC data.

information on particular housing indicators and topics (including housing suitability and overcrowding, housing affordability, ICHO operations, discrete community infrastructure and services, and program outcomes). All of the Indigenous-specific housing data was available at a state and territory level and some of the data sources (most notably the jurisdictional ones) enabled analysis at a more granular locational level.

Limitations were, however, found with the Indigenous-specific housing data. None of the datasets were specifically designed to collect data from Indigenous households/people and, hence, direct perceptions of housing circumstances and experiences were largely missing. The data that was available was limited to the characteristics of Indigenous households/people living in Indigenous community housing and SOMIH. Furthermore, the scope of housing data included in the jurisdictional datasets was also fairly restrictive; typically providing limited information relating to a single type of social housing provision. As the sources (both at a national and state/territory level) focused primarily on social housing, they provided very little information on Indigenous people living in the private housing sector. The currency of many of the data sources was a further issue. For example, although providing very detailed data on ICHOs and discrete Aboriginal communities, the CHINS data is now almost twenty years old. In addition, several data sources (the CTG data and Housing Statistics) drew primarily from the Census with the most recent data collection occurring in 2021, and some of the administrative jurisdictional data was not up to date. Hence, much of the Indigenous-specific housing data may not provide an accurate reflection of the current status of Indigenous housing.

2.3.1.2. Non-Indigenous specific data sources

A further six housing data sources were not specifically focused on Indigenous households/people, instead providing information on the general population.¹⁴ These datasets mostly provided information across mainstream housing provision and the homelessness sector; in addition, the AHCD presents data on both the public and private housing sectors. Much of the data could be disaggregated across a range of geographical levels to support granular analysis. All of the data could be freely accessed for research and policy purposes via downloadable files permitting more detailed data analysis.

A key weakness of the non-Indigenous specific housing datasets was the utility of the data in relation to Indigenous housing. Much of the data (for community housing and public housing) did not differentiate between the housing support provided to Indigenous and non-Indigenous households. The relevance of the homelessness data is also limited as Journeys Home only includes a small number of Indigenous respondents and the SHS captures those seeking formal support (and so may under-estimate the true extent of homelessness).

The non-Indigenous specific housing data excluded information on some key housing indicators including housing need, client satisfaction and outcomes, service delivery, financial and

¹⁴ AHCD, AIHW CH Data Collection, Journeys Home, SHS Data Collection, QLD CH data, SA PH Data.

governance arrangements, and the housing/homelessness workforce. With the exception of the AHCD, the data did not provide insights into private housing markets. Again, some of the data was fairly dated (e.g. Journeys Home concluded in 2014, and the SA SOMIH data was from 2021-2022) and may not accurately reflect current housing need.

2.3.1.3. Mixed data sources

The remaining nine housing data sources contained both Indigenous-specific and general population data.¹⁵ These datasets contained a range of data on homelessness and social housing. The latter included tenant experiences, public housing and SOMIH provision, and social housing applications and allocations. Much of the data provided was both current and historical, enabling up-to-date and longer-term trends in Indigenous housing to be observed.

As with the non-Indigenous specific housing datasets, a key limitation of the mixed data collections was the usefulness of the information in relation to Indigenous housing. A majority of the data (and especially the data focused on mainstream housing provision) could not be disaggregated for Indigenous and non-Indigenous households. Moreover, the scope of the data was limited and did not include coverage of several key housing topics, most notably on service delivery, organisational governance and the housing workforce. Issues were also found with regard to data accessibility as some of the jurisdictional data could only be accessed in tabular form on the relevant website which restricted further analysis.

2.3.2. Non-housing focused data sources

Seven of the data sources (all at a national level) were non-housing focused but included data on Indigenous housing.

2.3.2.1. Indigenous-specific data sources

Four of these data sources were Indigenous-specific data collections.¹⁶ Although not specifically focused on housing, the data sources still provide valuable information on Indigenous people and their housing experiences. In contrast to the other data sources, Indigenous people were actively involved in the design of each of these datasets. For the three survey data sources, efforts have also been made to support culturally appropriate research methods.¹⁷ For example, the LSIC employs Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Research Administration Officers to engage with participating families and conduct interviews. Furthermore, for the latter data source, data access is restricted to ensure that analysis and reporting of the LSIC data is undertaken in a culturally sensitive way.

¹⁵ Census – Estimating Homelessness, NSHS, AIHW PH and SOMIH data collection, RoGS, NSW SH Delivery Report, QLD PH and SOMIH data, TAS SH data, VIC Housing Register data, and VIC SH Allocation data.

¹⁶ LSIC, NATSIHS, NATSISS and RIFIC.

¹⁷ The AIATSIS Code of Ethics for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Research outlines principles for the conduct of research with Indigenous peoples and communities. These include the need for Indigenous self-determination, leadership and engagement throughout the design and conduct of such research.

Given the scope of these data sources, the information provided does not include all key housing indicators, e.g. housing satisfaction and aspirations. With the exception of the NATSIHS, a key issue with the data is its currency. The most recent data provided by the LSIC and RIFIC is from 2021, whilst the NATSISS concluded in 2014-2015. Thus, the data provided may not reflect the current status of Indigenous housing conditions and need.

2.3.2.2. Non-Indigenous specific data sources

The final three data sources were data collections undertaken with a general population sample.¹⁸ Each of the datasets capture a broad range of household data and also include some information on housing circumstances. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander status is collected in each of the surveys and all data items can be disaggregated for Indigenous households/people. Rigorous validation processes are undertaken to ensure the accuracy and consistency of the data, with the data freely available in several formats. Furthermore, each of the surveys are ongoing data collections enabling housing trends for Indigenous people to be observed.

A key issue with these data sources is the sampling of Indigenous people. Both the HILDA and LSAC include only a relatively small number of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander participants, limiting the relevance of the data. Moreover, as the scope of the HILDA survey is on urban and regional areas, Indigenous people living in remote locations are not included in the sample frame. Whilst the ABS has implemented a range of special measures to increase the enumeration of Indigenous people in the Census, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people continue to be under-represented; this may impact upon the accuracy of the collated housing data. In addition, the data available for the Census and LSAC is somewhat dated and may not reflect more recent changes that have occurred in Indigenous housing. These data sources also contain fairly limited data on housing and, in particular, do not collect information on the housing conditions, experiences and aspirations of Indigenous households.

¹⁸ Census, HILDA and LSAC.

3. Indigenous Housing Data Review and Assessment – Indigenous Households and People

Comprehensive information on the housing circumstances and experiences of Indigenous people is vital to support the development of targeted policy and programs that can appropriately address their housing needs and aspirations. This chapter presents the key findings from the review and assessment of Indigenous household/people data, discussing (i) the data topics and items reviewed, (ii) the data sources drawn from, and (iii) the data that is available at a national and/or state and territory level.

3.1. Data sources

The data pertaining to Indigenous households/people was drawn exclusively from 14 national data sources.^{19,20} None of the state and territory datasets contained data collected directly from Indigenous householders. Figure 1 and Tables 5 and 6 (in Appendix 3) present the data review for Indigenous households/people.

3.2. Review and assessment of data

3.2.1. Household

Understanding of the size, composition and location of Indigenous households is required to inform policy and program development pertaining to current and future housing needs. Data on the characteristics of Indigenous household members is also essential to support disaggregation and identification of the housing needs/experiences of specific subgroups of Indigenous people (i.e. older people, young people, single parent households etc.). Fourteen of the national data sources were able to provide some household information; however, the type and level of this data varied, as did the relevance for Indigenous households.

3.2.1.1. Household characteristics

Many of the national datasets included information on the total number of people living in a household. While all household members could potentially be captured in the data (i.e. there is no cap on the number), a couple of restrictions were evident. Although the Census asked how many people were present in a dwelling on Census night, if more than six people were resident then the questionnaire needed to either be completed online or an extra paper form requested.

¹⁹ AHCD, Census of Population and Housing, Census – Estimating Homelessness, CTG Outcome Area 9 data, HILDA survey, Housing Statistics for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People, Journeys Home survey, LSAC, LSIC, NATSIHS, NATSISS, NSHS, RIFIC and RoGS.

²⁰ Five of these data sources (Census – Estimating Homelessness, CTG Outcome Area 9 data, Housing Statistics for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People, RIFIC and RoGS) provide secondary data on Indigenous households and people. Our review outlines the relevant data that is included in each of these sources; as a result, the reporting may include data that is also available within other primary and/or secondary data sources included in the report.

In addition, the RIFIC only presents household size in categories; households including seven or more persons are presented together and, therefore, the range of household sizes contained within this category is not available.

Household structures vary and can include, for instance, a couple with no children, a couple with children, a one parent family with children, single person living alone and a variety of shared living arrangements. While specific information on this data item was not always collected directly from Indigenous people in the data sources, household structure could be inferred from other questions (e.g. relationships between household members).

Only the AHCD, LSAC and LSIC collated detailed information on the number of children and adults present within the household. The latter two datasets also provided more detailed information on this item with LSAC collecting data on the number of children, adults and older adults within the household; and the LSIC, the number of children, young adults and adults. In some of the remaining data sources,²¹ information on the breakdown of household members could be derived from questions relating to the age of household members.

The national data sources provided a wide range of demographic data on household members. The content of this information varied according to the purpose of the data collection. For example, the NATSIHS collected detailed data on health and wellbeing, whereas the LSAC and LSIC had a strong focus on family relationships and child development indicators. All of the general population data sources collected data on the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander status of participants. Several of the Indigenous-specific datasets²² also presented data on Indigenous cultural identity, cultural participation, and experiences of discrimination/racism. Information on the age and sex of household members was commonly collected, along with data on health and disability, marital status and family relationships, education and employment. Data on other topics such as life satisfaction, major life events and stressors, service use, and involvement with the criminal justice system were collected to a lesser degree.

The availability of data on whether current household members were permanent or temporary occupants was mixed. While the NATSISS and NSHS collected information on 'usual' household residents, other data sources (such as the Census, HILDA, LSAC and the LSIC) also sought to identify household members who were temporarily absent from the home. In addition, the Census and Census – Estimating Homelessness data sources identify people who are visiting or living temporarily in the household.

3.2.1.2. Household location

The housing-specific data collections²³ which draw upon other data sources, present household data using a range of Australian Statistical Geography Standard (ASGS) ABS structures, e.g. by Australia, state and territory jurisdictions and, often, by remoteness area. Limited data is also

²¹ Census, HILDA, NATSIHS and NATSISS.

²² LSIC, NATSIHS and NATSISS.

²³ Census – Estimating Homelessness, CTG data, Housing Statistics and RIFIC.

available by Indigenous Region (IREG), Indigenous Area (IARE) and Indigenous Location (ILOCL) and statistical areas. The Housing Statistics and RIFIC data also presents household information by Local Government Area (LGA). For most of the national data collected by survey methodologies,²⁴ the postal address of participants is collected. From this a variety of ASGS ABS and non-ABS structures can be derived.

Several of the data sources (both housing and non-housing focused)²⁵ either present or can infer information about the socio-economic status of the household location; and specifically by Socio-economic Indexes for Areas (SEIFA), Index of Relative Socio-economic Advantage and Disadvantage (IRSAD), Index of Relative Socio-economic Disadvantage (IRSD), Index of Education and Occupation (IEO), Index of Economic Resources (IER) and Indigenous Relative Socio-economic Outcomes (IRSEO).

3.2.2. Tenure

For funding and planning purposes, data is needed as to the number of Indigenous households living in each tenure and landlord type. Information on the tenure arrangements that are currently in place for Indigenous households is also important to understand issues around housing security. Data on housing tenure is available in 12 of the national data sources.

3.2.2.1. Tenure type

While the specific variables collected on tenure type varies across the datasets, all differentiate between households living in a property they own or rent. For the former, further differentiation is frequently given as to whether the property is owned outright or with a mortgage. Many of the survey data sources²⁶ collect data on 'other' tenure types including living in a home that is purchased under a shared equity scheme or a rent-to-buy arrangement, or occupied rent free or under a life tenure scheme.

3.2.2.2. Landlord type

Information on landlord type is also provided by the above data sources, i.e. if a household is renting, who they are renting from. While the focus of the CTG data and NSHS is on social housing providers,²⁷ broader detail is found within the survey data collections and also the ABS Housing Statistics. In these datasets, differentiation in landlord type is often given between a private landlord/real estate agent, state/territory housing authority, a community or co-operative housing provider, manager of a residential/caravan park, an employer, a relative (in the same or different household) and other.

²⁴ For example, the Census, HILDA, Journeys Home, LSAC, LSIC, NATSIHS and NATSISS.

²⁵ Census, CTG data, Housing Statistics, LSIC and NATSIHS.

²⁶ For example, the Census, HILDA, LSAC, LSIC, NATSIHS and NATSISS.

²⁷ CTG data and NSHS.

Only the AHCD provides further information on housing tenure, including data on participant reasons for renting rather than owning a property, e.g. preference, flexibility, affordability, personal circumstances. Likewise, the AHCD was the only data source to report on the type and length of current tenure agreement.

3.2.3. Overcrowding

Particularly given the focus of Target 9a of CTG, accurate data is needed on the type of dwellings in which Indigenous people live and whether these homes are of an appropriate size. While debate remains over the definition and measurement of overcrowding, the most commonly used measure in Australia is the Canadian National Occupancy Standard (CNOS). It sets out the number of required bedrooms for households based on number of occupants, their age, gender and relationships between them. However, the CNOS does not consider householder perceptions as to the adequacy of the size of their home.

Six of the datasets contained direct data on household overcrowding. Overcrowding could also be derived in other survey datasets²⁸ from variables pertaining to household members (number, age and relationship) and dwelling size. While the NSHS also collects data on whether dwelling size meets household needs, this data is not openly accessible to the policy and research community.

3.2.3.1. Measuring overcrowding

Several data collections provided information on the measure used to ascertain whether a home is considered to be overcrowded.²⁹ In each instance, the CNOS was used. The appropriateness of the CNOS in assessing overcrowding for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people has been questioned.³⁰ Given this, it is important that experiences of overcrowding are captured to understand (i) whether crowding is considered to be a stressor or not for Indigenous household members, and (ii) the impacts that overcrowding has for the household (both the type of impacts and if these are positive or negative). However, with the exception of the Journeys Home Survey and the LSIC which respectively ask respondents if their homes have adequate sleeping space or felt too crowded, no other Australian data collections include this information.

3.2.3.2. Experiences of overcrowding

Several of the data sources³¹ which drew upon other data collections provided information on the proportion of Indigenous households living in appropriately sized or overcrowded dwellings. These data collections also indicated the additional number of bedrooms needed by the

²⁸ For example, the Census, LSAC, NATSIHS and NATSISS.

²⁹ Census, Census – Estimating Homelessness, CTG data, Housing Statistics, and NATSIHS.

³⁰ Dockery, A. M., Moskos, M., Isherwood, L., and Harris, M. (2022). How many in a crowd? Assessing overcrowding measures in Australian housing. AHURI Final Report, No. 382, Australian Housing and Urban Research Institute Limited.

³¹ For example, CTG data, Housing Statistics and RIFIC.

household to prevent overcrowding. Additionally, the Housing Statistics and RIFIC provide information on underutilisation including the number of spare bedrooms an Indigenous household may have in their home.

The Journeys Home Survey and the LSIC were the only survey collections that collected specific information on crowding. While both surveys asked participants if their household was experiencing overcrowding, Journeys Home also collected data on whether the participant had their own bedroom or had to share with others (and how many). The Census – Estimating Homelessness dataset also contains information on homeless operational groups which include people living in crowded dwellings.

3.2.4. Quality of housing

Previous research has suggested that Indigenous people often live in poorer quality housing compared to non-Indigenous households.³² Poor quality housing can negatively impact mental and physical health, family relationships, and educational and economic participation. In order to understand this issue further, detailed data is needed about the dwellings in which Indigenous people live including structural conditions, property facilities, repair and maintenance requirements, and access to reliable essential services. Half of the national data sources provide accessible information, to a varying degree, on housing quality. In addition, while the NSHS collects information on dwelling characteristics and housing conditions, this data is not accessible for analysis.

3.2.4.1. Dwelling characteristics

Consistent data is provided across data sources relating to the structure of the property in which Indigenous people live.³³ This data includes both permanent and non-permanent dwellings with differentiation commonly given as to whether the dwelling is a separate house, a semi-detached/row house or terrace/townhouse, or a unit/flat/apartment; most of these data sources also include categories for caravan/tent/cabin, and improvised home/camp. In addition, the AHCD, NATSIHS and NATSISS collect data on the number of stories a dwelling has (if relevant to type). While the Census does not collect data on dwelling structure directly from participants, this information can be sourced from the ABS Address Register.

Data pertaining to dwelling size is also contained in these data sources (with the exception of Journeys Home). However, this data is limited to the number of bedrooms in a property, with similar information not available regarding the number of bathrooms and living areas. Only the AHCD provides accessible data on the age of the dwellings in which Indigenous people live.

³² Moskos M, L Isherwood, M Dockery, E Baker & A Pham. (2022) 'What works' to sustain Indigenous tenancies in Australia. AHURI Final Report, No. 374, Australian Housing and Urban Research Institute Limited.

³³ AHCD, HILDA, Housing Statistics, Journeys Home, LSAC, LSIC, NATSIHS and NATSISS.

3.2.4.2. Housing conditions

More limited data is available on the housing conditions experienced by Indigenous households. Only five data sources provide an assessment of the overall condition of the dwelling;³⁴ and for the HILDA Survey, this rating only pertains to the external condition of the home and is provided via interviewer observation rather than from the householder themselves. A further five datasets contain data on major structural problems occurring within dwellings;³⁵ in this instance, fairly consistent information is collected, e.g. relating to electrical and plumbing problems, cracks in walls and floors, walls or windows now straight, wood rot or termite damage, issues with foundations or sagging floors, roof defects, and rising damp. In contrast, the CTG data provides information on the proportion of Indigenous households living in dwellings with no major structural problems.

3.2.4.3. Household facilities

Data on the household facilities present in Indigenous homes is available in six datasets.³⁶ This data includes information on the type of facilities available; the CTG and Housing Statistics data categorise these facilities as to their purpose, e.g. for preparing food, washing clothes/bedding, washing people and sewerage facilities. In contrast, the NATSIHS and NATSISS collate information on specific facilities such as stove/oven/other cooking facilities, fridge, toilet, bath/shower, washing machine, kitchen sink and laundry tub. All of these datasets also seek to ascertain whether household facilities are in working order. The Journeys Home Survey, meanwhile, contains more limited information on facilities, i.e. whether the dwelling has adequate toilet and cooking facilities.

Rather than focusing on the household facilities described above, the AHCD seeks to ascertain whether the dwelling has security and safety measures, as well as a range of features, such as rainwater tanks, insulation and solar panels. In addition, the HILDA uses interviewer observations to assess the safety features present in a dwelling.

3.2.4.4. Repairs and maintenance

Information on housing repairs and maintenance is very limited. Beyond the information described above regarding potential structural problems that may need repair, only the LSIC provides further information. This includes collecting participant perceptions as to whether it is easy (or not) to have repairs fixed and the main reasons why it may be difficult to get necessary repairs fixed, i.e. the landlord takes a long time to do repairs or isn't interested in doing repairs, difficulty getting tradespeople, too expensive to do repairs, or too hard to get materials. None of the data sources provide information on who is responsible for repairs and maintenance (e.g. the householder, landlord or property manager) and the usual length of time repairs take to be

³⁴ AHCD, CTG data, HILDA, Housing Statistics and Journeys Home.

³⁵ AHCD, Housing Statistics, LSIC, NATSIHS and NATSISS.

³⁶ AHCD, CTG data, Housing Statistics, Journeys Home, NATSIHS and NATSISS.

completed. However, longitudinal studies such as the LSIC allow an understanding of how long repair and maintenance issues persist for Indigenous householders.

3.2.4.5. Essential services

Target 9b of CTG highlights the need for Indigenous households to received adequate essential services (e.g. power, water, wastewater and solid waste management).³⁷ However, data on the essential services available to dwellings is limited to two data sources. The Journeys Home Survey asks participants whether the place in which they are living has electricity, whilst the LSIC collects data on whether an Indigenous household is experiencing issues with their water connection, gas or electrical supply and sewage connection.

3.2.5. Housing affordability

Cost of living expenses – including housing costs (both mortgage and rental payments) – have risen considerably in recent years. Indeed housing affordability has become a major national and international challenge. Data can assist in understanding the impact that housing affordability is having for Indigenous people, including information on the levels of housing stress currently being experienced. Ten national data sources included data on housing affordability and/or housing stress.

3.2.5.1. Affordability of housing

All of the survey datasets (with the exception of the NSHS) provided information on the income of household members, along with the Housing Statistics data and the RIFIC. The type of information available, however, varied. Total personal income (for the respondent and/or household members) was collected by the Census, Journeys Home, LSAC and LSAC. Meanwhile, gross household income was provided by the AHCD and Housing Statistics data. The HILDA, NATSIHS, NATSISS and the RIFIC contain data on both household and personal income. Some sources allowed income to be specified by respondents,³⁸ while other sources used pre-determined income categories.³⁹

Some of the data sources also provided information on the source(s) of personal and/or household income.⁴⁰ The income sources typically included wages/salary, income from a business or partnerships, and government pensions/benefits/allowances. The inclusion of further income sources varied across the data sources and included superannuation, interest, dividends, royalties, investments, CDP/CDEP payments, child support, workers compensation and native

³⁷ Target 9b states that: By 2031, all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander households (i) within discrete Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander communities receive essential services that meet or exceed the relevant jurisdictional standard; (ii) in or near to a town receive essential services that meet or exceed the same standard as applies generally within the town (including if the household might be classified for other purposes as a part of a discrete settlement such as a “town camp” or “town based reserve”).

³⁸ Housing Statistics, Journeys Home, LSAC, NATSIHS and NATSISS.

³⁹ AHCD, Census, HILDA, LSIC and RIFIC.

⁴⁰ AHCD, HILDA, LSAC, LSIC, NATSIHS and NATSISS.

title payments. The Journeys Home Survey only collected information on the type of Centrelink payment received and not broader income sources.

Data on housing costs was available in nine national datasets.⁴¹ Although typically this included the total rent or mortgage payments paid by the household for their dwelling, the focus of the RIFIC was specifically on rental payments. Given the current focus of the LSAC and LSIC on younger people, the study youth participating in these studies were also asked about any board payments they made.

Information on other housing-related costs (e.g. household insurance, rates, repairs and maintenance) was not available in any of the data sources. Nor was data collected on the receipt of housing financial assistance such as Commonwealth Rent Assistance (and whether this was sufficient to avoid housing stress). The AHCD was the only data source that reported on perceptions of housing affordability, and in particular on whether the rent or mortgage payments paid by the household were considered affordable or not.

3.2.5.2. Housing stress

Many of the national surveys⁴² collected information on housing stress, and in particular, the challenges experienced with paying rent or mortgage payments. For those participants who were falling behind with their rent or mortgage repayments, the Journeys Home survey also sought to understand how far in arrears they were and the reasons for this.

The data typically went beyond housing to look at broader financial issues, e.g. how well off financially the household was, and the perceived capacity of participants to quickly raise money in an emergency. Information was also collected on the issues households faced by not having enough money, e.g. unable to pay bills on time, going without meals, not being able to heat or cool their home, and pawning or selling something to get money.⁴³ These surveys also collected data on whether participants had had to approach friends, family members or welfare agencies for financial help or support. The AHCD, meanwhile, focused on whether respondents had enough money left for essential and non-essential expenditure, and savings/ investment after paying for their housing.

While the NSHS also asked whether respondents had struggled to make ends meet and pay their rent and bills, the utility of this data was limited (as the data from public and community housing tenants was not disaggregated by Indigenous status and was not available at all for Indigenous community housing tenants). For the Census, the occurrence and severity of housing stress can be derived from the variables on household income and housing costs. Of all the data sources, only the Census identified the measure used to ascertain housing stress, i.e. that mortgage or rental payments are more than 30 per cent of household income.

⁴¹ AHCD, HILDA, Housing Statistics data, Journeys Home, LSAC, LSIC, NATSIHS, NATSISS and RIFIC.

⁴² AHCD, HILDA, Journeys Home, LSAC, LSIC, NATSIHS and NATSISS.

⁴³ Journeys Home, LSAC, LSIC, NATSIHS and NATSISS.

3.2.6. Homelessness

In order to formulate appropriate policy and programs to address Indigenous homelessness, accurate data is needed on the incidence of homelessness, the forms of homelessness being experienced and the reasons for homelessness. This data can also inform estimations on the level of Indigenous housing need in Australia.

3.2.6.1. Incidence and type of homelessness

Data on the incidence of homelessness for Indigenous people is provided in several national data collections. The number of people experiencing homelessness and/or rates of homelessness across Australia can be found in the Census – Estimating Homelessness data, the Housing Statistics data, the RIFIC and the RoGS. With the exception of the RIFIC, these data sources also provide information on the types of homelessness being experienced, with this data categorised by ABS Homelessness Operational Groups, i.e. people living in improvised dwellings, tents, or sleeping out; supported accommodation for the homeless; temporarily with other households; boarding houses; other temporary lodgings; or severely crowded dwellings. In addition, the Census – Estimating Homelessness and Housing Statistics data includes information on people at high-risk of homelessness who are living in ‘Other Marginal Housing’, i.e. other crowded dwellings, other improvised dwellings, or marginally housed in caravan parks.

3.2.6.2. Experiences of homelessness

Several of the national survey datasets provide accessible information on experiences of homelessness.⁴⁴ This data includes the housing situation of respondents and whether they are currently without a permanent place to live. Information is also collected on previous incidences of homelessness, including the number of times homelessness has occurred and, for Journeys Home and NATSISS, how long the most recent period of homelessness lasted. Each of the four data sources also provide information on where respondents have stayed whilst homeless, with options including: staying with family or friends; in a caravan or tent, in a boarding house/hostel; night shelter, homeless shelter or refuge; squatting; and sleeping rough.

3.2.6.3. Reasons for homelessness

These four datasets also explore reasons for being without a permanent place to live. While the list of possible reasons varies across each data source, common reasons include financial difficulties, relationships issues, family violence, natural disaster, alcohol/drug issues, mental illness, and employment issues. Reasons for homelessness that directly related to housing were also collected in the data⁴⁵ and included eviction, building or renovating a home, a tight housing or rental market, ending of a lease, overcrowding and damage to the previous home.

⁴⁴ Journeys Home, LSAC, LSIC and NATSISS.

⁴⁵ Journeys Home, LSIC and NATSISS.

3.2.7. Satisfaction with housing

Housing is an important contributor in improving life outcomes. Therefore, it is important to understand how satisfied (or not) Indigenous people are with their homes and the area in which they live. This includes data that can highlight how well housing meets current needs, neighbourhood perceptions, and any housing issues that are experienced. Eight of the national data sources – all surveys undertaken directly with respondents – include information on housing satisfaction.

3.2.7.1. Housing satisfaction

Only four of the survey datasets include indications of overall satisfaction with housing.⁴⁶ While, the AHCD, HILDA and Journeys Home seek to understand general satisfaction with a respondent's home or housing situation, the NSHS collects data on tenant satisfaction with housing services (both overall services provided and maintenance services). Although this latter data is available for Indigenous tenants living in other forms of social housing, the data is unavailable for the Indigenous community housing sector.

Data is even more limited when one seeks to understand if housing adequately meets Indigenous people's needs. The NSHS is the only source that provides detailed information on this topic, examining whether needs are met or not met on a broad range of housing aspects. This includes the number of bedrooms, size of living spaces, privacy of the home, safety and security, access to outdoor space, easy access from the street, car parking, and whether necessary fixtures or structural modifications have been made. The NSHS also collects data on whether the dwelling meets the tenant's needs for access to family and friends, local amenities and services, and employment. However, as with the housing satisfaction data, this information is unavailable for Indigenous community housing tenants. In addition, the AHCD reports on whether a dwelling is suitable for working or studying at home (in terms of space, utilities, privacy, etc).

A further important element of housing adequacy is habitability and thermal comfort. There is a growing need to build climate resilience (especially in the context of remote communities); thus, factors such as satisfaction with the comfort of a home in hot or cold weather and a dwelling's energy efficiency need to be considered. Again, the AHCD and NSHS are the only data sources to collect information on this topic, i.e. on whether a respondent's home is at a comfortable temperature during winter and summer, and for the NSHS, the energy efficiency of the dwelling.

Beyond the data noted above on major structural issues and housing adequacy, only the AHCD provides accessible data on the type of housing issues that may be experienced by Indigenous households. This includes restrictions on how a property can be used, challenges in keeping the home cool or warm, delays in the landlord or property manager actioning issues, unjustified rent increases, noise problems and difficulties with neighbours. In addition, the LSIC asks whether

⁴⁶ AHCD, HILDA, Journeys Home and NSHS.

respondents have experienced 'housing problems' over the previous 12 months, but clarification about the nature of these is not sought.

3.2.7.2. Satisfaction with neighbourhood

More information is available in the survey datasets on householder perceptions of the area in which they live. A variety of data is collected on this topic, most commonly around the perceived safety of the neighbourhood.⁴⁷ This information ranges from overall feelings of safety to more specific detail on perceived safety during the day and after dark, and whether it is safe for children to play outside in the day. Data is also available on issues that may occur within the local neighbourhood⁴⁸ such as the risk of natural disaster; anti-social behaviour and criminal activity; the state of local footpaths, roads and street lighting; if there is heavy traffic on the street where they live; difficulties with noise from neighbours or the outside area; issues with alcohol, drugs and family violence; and how responsive the local council or government is to addressing these issues.

Several data sources⁴⁹ also present information on community relationships including whether participants feel part of their local community, if neighbours get along and are willing to help each other, if there is strong community leadership or if there is conflict within the neighbourhood.

Five of the datasets⁵⁰ provide data on the availability of neighbourhood amenities and/or services. The LSAC, NATSISS and NSHS collect information on whether the local neighbourhood has adequate access to facilities such as shops, parks, and sports and recreation areas. The LSIC, meanwhile, asks the participating young people for their views on where they live including whether there are lots of 'fun things' to do or not. Participant perspectives on community belonging and good things about the area in which they live (e.g. closeness to family and cultural connection) are also collected in the LSIC via open text questions. In addition, the NSHS reports on whether householder needs are met in relation to access to places of cultural or religious significance.

Data is also collected⁵¹ on whether the local area has sufficient services including medical services, schools, community services, banks and public transport. More limited data is available exploring whether Indigenous householders have experienced problems accessing specific services (NATSIHS) and the reasons why (NATSIHS and NATSISS).

⁴⁷ HILDA, Journeys Home, LSAC, LSIC, NATSISS and NSHS. The NSHS data on perceptions of safety is not disaggregated by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander status for public housing and community housing tenants.

⁴⁸ AHCD, HILDA, LSAC and NATSISS.

⁴⁹ HILDA, LSAC, NATSISS and NSHS. The NSHS data on neighbour support is not available for Indigenous community housing tenants; in addition the public housing and community housing data is not disaggregated by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander status.

⁵⁰ LSAC, LSIC, NATSIHS, NATSISS and NSHS. The NSHS data on neighbourhood amenities and services is not available for Indigenous community housing tenants.

⁵¹ LSAC, NATSISS and NSHS.

3.2.8. Experiences of housing

Finally, to support the development of culturally appropriate housing policy and programs, data is needed on the housing experiences of Indigenous people. This includes the impact that housing has across a range of personal domains, and the stability or precariousness of housing. Data is also needed about the pathways that Indigenous people take through various housing tenure types and the aspirations they hold for their future housing. Eight of the national data sources (all direct surveys) provided a varying degree of data on the housing experiences of Indigenous people across Australia.

3.2.8.1. Impacts of housing

There was very limited data on the impact of housing circumstances for household members. Only the AHCD and NSHS provide detailed data on this topic. For the NSHS this information has a specific focus on the potential benefits to tenants of living in social housing. The purported benefits included feeling more settled, enjoying better health, being more able to cope with life events, feeling part of the local community, able to continue living in their chosen area, managing rent or money better, feeling more able to improve their job situation, and having better access to services and public transport; the NSHS data, however, did not include responses on this topic from Indigenous community housing tenants.

Housing can impact strongly on a range of socio-economic domains such as education, employment and health and it is important that this information is additionally collected. The AHCD is the only source that directly seeks to understand householder perspectives on housing impacts. This includes the perceived effect that the participant's current housing circumstances has on their physical health, mental health, financial circumstances, social life, and participation in education and/or employment. The survey also asks whether any household members have sustained physical injury due to 'bad aspects' of their housing. Potentially housing impacts could also be inferred in other survey sources⁵² from data collated on householder socio-demographic characteristics and housing circumstances.

3.2.8.2. Housing stability

Whilst a little more data was available on housing stability, this information was mostly focused on the length of current tenure.⁵³ Only the Journeys Home Survey provided data on security of tenure including the status of the respondent's current housing situation (i.e. secure, at risk of homelessness or homeless) and whether they would be able to stay at their current dwelling for the next three months without being asked to leave.

⁵² For example, the Census, HILDA, Journeys Home, LSAC, LSIC, NATSIHS and NATSISS.

⁵³ Journeys Home, LSIC and NATSISS.

3.2.8.3. Housing moves

More data was available on the housing moves made by Indigenous people. Four of the surveys collected data on the number of house moves made by a participant since the last round of data collection.⁵⁴ The AHCD and HILDA Survey also provide information on the number of times a participant has moved in the last five and 10 years respectively. In addition, as the Census collects information on where the respondent usually lives at the time of the Census, and one and five years before, house moves can be inferred.

The HILDA, Journeys Home, LSIC and NATSISS also collect detailed information as to the reason for any house moves. The reasons provided were extensive and related to a range of domains including housing, employment, health, education, family and lifestyle. The housing-related reasons included the property no longer being available; eviction; wanting a smaller, larger or better home; reducing rent or mortgage payments; overcrowding; and purchasing their own home.

Some data was also available on intentions to move house.⁵⁵ Furthermore, the Journeys Home survey collected information on whether a respondent was currently looking for another place to live, how long they had been looking and any barriers they faced. Only the AHCD reports on the reasons why an Indigenous person may decide to move house such as cost, location, issues with the landlord or property manager, issues with neighbours, tenancy restrictions, and property size or quality.

3.2.8.4. Housing pathways

Beyond data in Journeys Home as to whether a respondent was on a waiting list for public or community housing, the data sources did not provide any direct information on housing pathways. This included a lack of information on the pathways that occur within a housing tenure or between housing tenures, e.g. transitions from social housing into private housing markets. Despite a lack of direct data, housing pathways may potentially be analysed in longitudinal surveys (such as HILDA, LSAC and LSIC) that provide household unit data relating to housing moves.

3.2.8.5. Housing aspirations

The data sources also contained very little information on the housing aspirations of Indigenous people including their preferences around home ownership. Only the AHCD provided data on future housing plans asking participants (i) where they would ideally like to be living in 12 months' time (i.e. in their own home with a mortgage/owned outright, in the same/different rental property, or other) and (ii) if they thought they would ever purchase a property and, if so, when). There was no data available on the factors that support and prevent home ownership.

⁵⁴ HILDA, Journeys Home, LSAC and LSIC.

⁵⁵ AHCD, LSAC and LSIC.

3.3. Strengths and limitations of the Indigenous household data

Fourteen of the national data sources provided primary or secondary data that had been collated from Indigenous households. Data is readily available on household size and structure, with a range of data also reported on the socio-demographic characteristics of permanent household members. However, the household data was much more limited as to the collection of data with, and about, temporary occupants. Whilst much of the household location data was available over a range of ASGS structures, data collections with Indigenous households living in remote locations was more limited. In addition, the sample of Indigenous people included in many of the survey data sources providing household data was relatively small, which limits the extent to which the data can be statistically manipulated.

While data on tenure type and landlord type was typically collected in the Indigenous-specific data sources, more detailed information on tenure was lacking. This included information about reasons for renting and tenure agreements (i.e. their type and length). Fairly limited data was also available on overcrowding. Several of the data sources provided information on the occurrence and level of overcrowding being experienced by Indigenous households; these sources primarily drew upon Census data and used the CNOS to measure overcrowding. However, the Census may under-estimate the incidence and/or severity of household crowding experienced by Indigenous people and the cultural appropriateness of the CNOS has also been questioned. Beyond this, data was extremely limited on the experience of crowding with no data at all on the impacts crowding has (both positive and negative) for household members.

Much of the data collected from Indigenous people collated information on dwelling type, the number of bedrooms a property has, and to a very limited extent, the age of the dwelling. More detailed dwelling data was lacking including on the number of bathrooms and living spaces a property may have. Limited information was available on the housing conditions experienced by Indigenous people, for example about the structural conditions of the dwelling and household facilities. Where this was available, this data was fairly consistently collected. Meanwhile, data on housing repairs and maintenance was very limited including on who held responsibility for this, the length of time repairs took to be completed, and any challenges experienced in getting repairs completed. Data on essential services to the home (such as water, electricity and sewerage), and any issues the household may face with regard to these services was nearly non-existent.

The data sources provided sufficient levels of information around housing affordability. A large majority of the survey datasets collected data on household and/or personal income and, to a lesser degree, on income sources. While data on rental and mortgage payments was collated, perceptions around housing affordability were scarce, and information on other housing-related costs (such as insurance, rates and repairs) was not available. In addition, many of the national surveys include data on the financial challenges experienced by Indigenous households. Rather than specifically measuring the occurrence and severity of housing stress, however, this data

typically explored perceptions around the financial capacity of the household including issues faced by not having sufficient money.

Several of the national data sources provided data on the incidence and types of homelessness being experienced by Indigenous people across Australia. However, these sources primarily relied on data from the Census which may provide an under-estimation of the true prevalence of Indigenous homelessness. Although some data was also available in other survey collections on experiences of, and reasons for, homelessness, the sample of Indigenous participants in most of these sources was very small.

Despite the important role housing plays in improving life outcomes, there was extremely little data on housing satisfaction. Only one source – the NSHS – provided detailed information on housing adequacy, but this data was limited to social housing tenants (and excluded those living in Indigenous community housing). Very limited data was available on satisfaction with the habitability and thermal comfort of dwellings. Similarly, only the AHCD reported on the housing issues that may be experienced by Indigenous people in relation to their home, landlord or local community. More detailed data captured the perceptions of Indigenous households about the area in which they live including on safety, community relationships, and the availability of neighbourhood amenities and services.

With the exception of housing moves, the datasets included little data on the housing experiences of Indigenous households. In particular, there was very limited direct data on the impacts that their housing circumstances have for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. Likewise, there was scant data on housing pathways (both within or between tenure types) and on the future housing aspirations of Indigenous people (including preferences for home ownership).

4. Indigenous Housing Data Review and Assessment – Housing Providers

In addition to data on the housing circumstances of Indigenous people, detailed information is needed about housing provision to Indigenous people. A range of data is required that provides information on housing providers including their locations, governance and financial arrangements, and workforces. Data on Indigenous housing provision - housing stock and dwelling occupancy, housing need, client information and service delivery - is also vital to understand the current scale of this support and any issues that are being experienced. This chapter presents the key findings from the review and assessment of data collated from housing providers that is accessible for policy and research purposes.

4.1. Data sources

The housing provider data was drawn from eighteen national and state/territory data sources.^{56,57} Figure 2 and Tables 7 and 8 (in Appendix 3) present this element of the data review.

Not all of the information included in these national and state/territory datasets differentiated between the housing provided to Indigenous and non-Indigenous households. This was particularly the case for some of the public and community housing provider data sources. Hence, the discussion below only includes those data sources where the available information for a data item was disaggregated by Indigeneity.

4.2. Review and assessment of data

4.2.1. Description of housing providers

In order to understand the scope of Indigenous housing across Australia, data is required about the organisations who provide housing to Indigenous people. This includes information on the number of providers, the sector in which they operate, and their location. This is especially pertinent for the Indigenous community-controlled housing sector where many providers are unregistered and precise knowledge is lacking about the organisations working with Indigenous households.

4.2.1.1. Housing sector

All of the data sources were focused on social housing provision; four data sources reported specifically on Indigenous community housing, two each on public housing and community

⁵⁶ At a national-level, these sources were the CHINS, RoGS, and various AIHW collated housing and homelessness data collections (for CH, ICH, PH and SOMIH, and SHS). The review of the housing provider data also drew upon all of the state/territory data sources and covered a range of jurisdictions (New South Wales, Northern Territory, Queensland, South Australia, Tasmania and Victoria).

⁵⁷ The housing provider data available in the RoGs includes secondary data sourced from the AIHW collated national collections. In this chapter we provide an overview of the data contained in the RoGs and, as such, there may be some overlap with the reporting of the AIHW data collections.

housing, and one each on SOMIH and SHS. The remaining eight data sources covered a range of social housing sector types.

4.2.1.2. Organisation location

A majority of the housing provider data was available at a state or territory level. The only exceptions to this were the CHINS and QLD CH datasets which collected more detailed postcode level data of the included housing provider organisations.

4.2.2. Housing stock

Our previous research on the Indigenous housing system has highlighted that there is considerable unmet housing need.⁵⁸ In order to support decision-making for future housing provision, data is required to fully understand the current level of Indigenous housing stock, including the size, location, type and condition of this stock. Information is also needed on the availability of essential infrastructure that supports the development of social housing. Ten data sources (four national and six state/territory datasets) provide relevant and accessible information on housing stock.

4.2.2.1. Stock numbers

At a national and state/territory level, data is available on the total number of dwellings within the SOMIH and Indigenous community housing sectors. Several of the datasets provide further detail on housing stock in the Indigenous community housing sector. At a national level, for example, the RoGS presents data on the number of dwellings managed by funded ICHOs only. In addition, the CHINS provides more detailed information on the housing present within Indigenous communities specifying the number of private dwellings and houses provided for community members and workers. At a state/territory level, the NSW AHO dwellings data provides counts of dwellings by managing organisation - grouped by Aboriginal community housing providers (ACHPs), community housing providers (CHPs), Department of Communities and Justice (DCJ) and total. Finally, the NT RHIP data gives up-to-date counts of dwellings including those that have been approved; are ready to be tendered; are under procurement, construction or extension; are completed; or with disability modifications.

While various national and state\territory data sources also provide information on the number of dwellings within the public and community housing sectors, a specific breakdown of the data as to the dwellings tenanted by Indigenous people is not available.

⁵⁸ Moskos, M., Milligan, V., Benedict, R., Habibis, D., Isherwood, L. and van den Nouwelant, R. (2025). Indigenous housing support in Australia: the lay of the land, AHURI Final Report No. 434, Australian Housing and Urban Research Institute Limited, Melbourne.

4.2.2.2. Stock locations

A range of information on the location of dwellings in the SOMIH and Indigenous community housing sectors is also provided in the data. The national datasets reporting on this data item present information for state and territory jurisdictions. In addition, the AIHW SOMIH data is available at an SA4 region level. Some of the state/territory data is available at a more granular level,⁵⁹ presenting stock locations by LGA, postcode and/or suburb. The AHO website also states that their dwellings data is available by 'DCJ district', 'AHO region', and 'Greater Sydney/regional NSW'.

More granular data on the location of Indigenous community housing stock is provided at a community level in the CHINS and the NT RHIP data. The CHINS also provides stock numbers by location type, i.e. discrete community, outstation/homeland, town/locality.

Data differentiated by remoteness areas (i.e. major city, inner regional, outer regional, remote, very remote) is presented for SOMIH⁶⁰ and also for the Indigenous community housing sector.⁶¹

4.2.2.3. Dwelling type

Accessible information on dwelling type is more limited. Within the national data only the CHINS and AIHW SOMIH data collection provide a count by dwelling type, i.e. by separate house, semi-detached/townhouse, flat/unit/apartment, and other. At a jurisdictional level, specification of dwelling type is provided in the NSW AHO dwellings data, and the SOMIH data for QLD and SA.

Furthermore, the CHINS and QLD ICH datasets differentiate between permanent and temporary/improvised dwellings, and the VIC AHV data by long-term and short/medium term accommodation.

4.2.2.4. Dwelling size

Various data is available as to the size of the dwellings tenanted by Indigenous households. A count of dwellings by number of bedrooms is provided nationally⁶² and at a state/territory level.⁶³ The AIHW ICH data collection also provides dwelling counts according to the suitability of dwelling size (i.e. overcrowded, underutilised and suitable/adequate). In addition, the total number of bedrooms available within the Indigenous community housing sector across Australia is presented in the RoGS.

4.2.2.5. Stock condition

The national and state/territory data relating to the condition of Indigenous housing primarily focuses on the number of dwellings that are tenantable, untenable or undergoing major

⁵⁹ NSW AHO, QLD ICH and SOMIH, SA SOMIH and VIC AHV data.

⁶⁰ AIHW PH and SOMIH data collections and RoGS.

⁶¹ AIHW ICH data collection, NSW AHO dwellings data and QLD ICH data.

⁶² CHINS and the AIHW ICH and SOMIH data collections.

⁶³ ICH data for NSW and QLD, and the SOMIH data for QLD and SA.

redevelopment; this data is available for SOMIH⁶⁴ and, to a lesser degree, for the Indigenous community housing sector (in Queensland only).

More detailed information on the condition of Indigenous housing stock is available in three data sources.⁶⁵ For all social housing sectors, the RoGS provides data on the proportion of households living in a dwelling with at least four working facilities and not more than two major structural problems. The CHINS, meanwhile, provides a range of data on repairs and household facilities including the number of dwellings: (i) that had repairs/maintenance work, or a housing condition assessment undertaken or planned; (ii) needing minor/no repairs, major repairs or replacement; (iii) with or without cooking, washing or toilet facilities; and (iv) with or without access to shared facilities. Finally, in Victoria, the AHV data provides information on repairs; specifically on the percentage of urgent repairs completed within 24 hours and non-urgent repairs completed within 14 days.

4.2.2.6. Suitability to environment

No data was found at either a national or state/territory level regarding the suitability of housing dwellings to environment.

4.2.2.7. Related housing infrastructure

Very limited data was available regarding housing infrastructure and essential services. The NT RHIP data provides information on land servicing under the auspices of the package including the number of lots approved, underway and completed. Detailed information was collected by the CHINS on the availability of essential services (i.e. water, electricity, gas and sewerage systems) within Indigenous communities including sources, the number of homes connected, the organisations responsible for repairs and maintenance, and service charges. The CHINS also collated data on supply issues for water, electricity, sewerage systems and drainage; the available data includes information on interruptions (and the reasons, frequency, length and number of dwellings affected). While the CHINS data included information on upgrades that were needed to water quality, testing and treatment, none of the data sources reported on any upgrades that were needed to other essential services.

4.2.2.8. Changes in housing stock

Similarly, very little data was found regarding changes in the housing stock that is available to Indigenous people. At a national level, the CHINS was the only data source providing information on housing stock changes. This included information (from the 12 months prior to data collection) on the number of dwellings in each community that had been built, purchased, written off or demolished, and sold (overall and to former tenants). At a state/territory level, the NSW AHO data reports on the number of new dwellings that are awaiting management

⁶⁴ AIHW SOMIH data collection, RoGS, QLD SOMIH and SA SOMIH data.

⁶⁵ CHINS, RoGS and VIC AHV data.

allocation; however, it is unspecified as to whether these properties were built, transferred or purchased by the AHO. While the NT RHIP data provides counts of dwellings (to be tendered, are under procurement/construction/extension, and completed), changes in housing stock over time cannot be observed as the data is updated monthly and historical data is overwritten and not presented.

4.2.3. Dwelling occupancy

Criticisms have been levelled that social housing properties are at times standing vacant when they could be tenanted to those awaiting allocation. Accurate data is required regarding the occupancy status of Indigenous housing, the reasons why properties are unoccupied and current timeframes for re-letting. Eight data sources (four national and four state or territory) provide information on dwelling occupancy that is publicly available.

4.2.3.1. Occupancy status of dwellings

The data sources provide some information on occupancy status within the Indigenous community housing and SOMIH sectors including data on the number of dwellings that are occupied⁶⁶ and unoccupied or unallocated.⁶⁷ Meanwhile, other data sources provide data on occupancy rates for SOMIH and Indigenous community housing.⁶⁸ While for some datasets, information on occupancy status is disaggregated by location (e.g. state/territory, remoteness, LGA), there is no such specification by dwelling type and size.

Data on the reasons as to why social housing properties are unoccupied is more limited. In general, where this information is available, the data primarily relates to whether dwellings are untenable and/or undergoing major redevelopment.⁶⁹ Only the CHINS and the QLD SOMIH data seeks to elicit further reasons why properties may be vacant. In the CHINS, the specified reasons as to why dwellings may be unoccupied (for two weeks or more at the time of surveying) include: between tenants, cultural reasons, uninhabitable, wet season, being repaired, water equipment failure, tenant is away, lack of facilities/services, lack of transport/road access, and awaiting approval/certification for occupancy. In contrast, the reasons for vacancies provided in the QLD SOMIH data include dwellings that are newly constructed or purchased, undergoing major redevelopment work, are offline or not available to rent through normal processes due to dwelling condition (e.g. uninhabitable condition and still waiting for repair) or dwelling management (e.g. held for sale, transfer or other management purpose), are considered hard-to-let or there is no suitable applicant.

⁶⁶ RoGS, QLD ICH, QLD SOMIH and SA SOMIH data.

⁶⁷ CHINS, NSW AHO and QLD ICH data.

⁶⁸ AIHW SOMIH data collection and RoGS.

⁶⁹ QLD ICH and SOMIH, SA SOMIH data.

4.2.3.2. Re-letting timeframes

Very limited data at a national and jurisdictional level is available on re-letting timeframes. Only the CHINS, RoGS (for SOMIH), and VIC AHV dataset provide information on the average number of days taken to allocate a dwelling to new tenants. In addition, the QLD SOMIH data records vacancy start and end dates for each individual property, along with the total number of days vacant.

4.2.3.3. Housing exits

Data on Indigenous tenant exits from social housing is extremely scarce and, where available, only pertains to Indigenous households living in SOMIH. The AIHW data collection provides data on the number of Indigenous people exiting SOMIH over the previous year. Tenant exits can also be inferred in the QLD SOMIH dataset from the date that housing assistance was completed for each household.

It is important to understand the reasons why Indigenous people may exit a tenancy and whether this is a chosen or enforced decision. However, none of the data sources provide information on the reasons for tenant exits, e.g. eviction, a housing transfer request or personal choice.

4.2.4. Housing need

As described above, estimated levels of unmet need for Indigenous housing are high – both currently and projected into the future. Comprehensive data can support the identification of current housing need including information on the number of recent applicants for social housing, those who are on housing waiting lists and those allocated a property. This data will assist in informing accurate projections as to the number, type, and size of the new housing required by Indigenous people. Nine data sources (three national and six state/territory) include data on some – but not all – aspects of housing need.

4.2.4.1. Housing applications

Data on the housing applications made by Indigenous people is extremely limited and unavailable at a national level. Within Victoria, the Housing Register data provides various information on applications for social housing within the state. This includes the number of social housing applications made over the previous year including new and transfer applications. Information is also given as to the number of household applications that include one or more individuals who identify as Indigenous (and if these applications are considered as being priority access or not). Within the QLD SOMIH data, information on new applications can be inferred from the data, including the number, application type (new or transfer), and by greatest need (indicator and reasons).

There is no publicly available data about the characteristics of Indigenous people who apply for social housing, for example, on family structure, the age and sex of household members, or the

size of the home required. Nor is there data on whether applicants are from selected priority groups, e.g. those experiencing homelessness or crisis situations, with special housing needs, facing family violence, young people leaving care, those engaged with the justice system, older people, and people with disability or mental health issues.

4.2.4.2. Waiting lists

Similarly, data about Indigenous people who are waiting for social housing is very limited and only pertains to SOMIH. The AIHW SOMIH data collection and the RoGS provide information at a national level of the number of Indigenous people on the waiting list for SOMIH. Data is also available as to whether these people have been classified as being in 'greatest need' and, in the RoGS data, the number of people living in SOMIH who have requested a housing transfer. There is no further national data on the average length of time Indigenous people wait for a social housing property, nor about the characteristics of those on the waiting list including whether they are from selected priority groups.

Within the state/territory data, Queensland is the only jurisdiction with publicly available information on waiting lists for social housing. For SOMIH applicants only, the overall size of the waiting list and the average length of time waiting for a property can be inferred from the household data (i.e. on the current status of a housing application and the date of the application was made). Some characteristics of those households awaiting allocation to SOMIH in Queensland are also provided, e.g. whether they are a new applicant or requesting a transfer, their greatest need indicator and, if applicable, the reason for this (i.e. homeless, life or safety at risk in accommodation, health condition aggravated by housing, housing inappropriate to needs or very high housing costs).

4.2.4.3. Housing allocations

The majority of the data on the housing needs of Indigenous people is focused on housing allocations. While information on housing allocations is available for all social housing sectors at national and jurisdictional levels, most of this data pertains to SOMIH. At a national level, data on SOMIH allocations⁷⁰ includes information on the overall number of new households assisted, and new allocations by greatest and/or special need status. The RoGS data also includes information on the proportion of new SOMIH tenancies allocated to households in selected equity groups. Moreover, the AIHW data collections for community housing, public housing and SOMIH include data on allocations made by special need status (with the special need categories including households with at least one Indigenous member).

Similar data on the housing allocations made to Indigenous people is also contained within the state and territory datasets for the Indigenous community housing sector (in New South Wales), community housing (in Queensland and Victoria), public housing (in Queensland, South Australia

⁷⁰ AIHW SOMIH data collection and RoGS.

and Victoria), SOMIH (in Queensland, South Australia and Victoria), and for social housing as a whole (in Victoria).

However, data that goes beyond the number of allocations and provide detailed characteristics of these households is more limited. Data is provided in the AIHW SOMIH data collection on the sex and age of the main tenant, household composition, disability status, and low-income status (disaggregated for new allocations and transferred households). At a state and territory level, the NSW SH Delivery Report provides – for Aboriginal housing – the family type and age group of the head tenant. Meanwhile, the SA SOMIH dataset on new allocations contains variables on household composition, and whether a household includes a child/older adult/younger person, and/or is paying less than market rent.

For SOMIH, some data is also available at a national and jurisdictional level on the length of time Indigenous people are on a housing register before being allocated a property. This includes the time waited by greatest need status.⁷¹ The AIHW SOMIH data collection also includes the time waited for allocation by special need status, household composition and the number of bedrooms required. Although not provided directly, the length of time prior to allocation can also be calculated from the dates of application and approval in the QLD SOMIH data.

More limited data is available on the type of housing allocated. At a national level, only the AIHW SOMIH data collection includes data on allocations by dwelling type and number of bedrooms. In addition, the jurisdictional data provides information on the number of bedrooms in allocated Indigenous community housing properties, and the number of newly allocated SOMIH dwellings by LGA.⁷²

4.2.5. Householder/client information

In order to provide appropriate housing services, comprehensive data is required on the characteristics of Indigenous householders currently being supported by housing providers. This includes detailed information collected by housing providers on client numbers and characteristics, client satisfaction and outcomes achieved, as well as the identification of any tenancy issues and how effectively these are resolved. Around half of the data sources (six national and eight state/territory) contained information on Indigenous clients or households.

4.2.5.1. Clients

Much of the data on this topic focused on the Indigenous households who received services from housing providers. At a national level, data was provided on the number of households and/or household members living in community housing, Indigenous community housing, public housing, SOMIH, and all types of social housing.⁷³ While this data was typically available at a national and state/territory level, the data on the number of Indigenous households living in

⁷¹ RoGS, AIHW SOMIH data collection and SA SOMIH data.

⁷² NSW SH Delivery Report and SA SOMIH data respectively.

⁷³ AIHW data collections (CH, ICH, PH and SOMIH), CHINS and RoGS.

social housing was also available by remoteness area and for discrete Aboriginal communities.⁷⁴ At a jurisdictional level, household number data was available for New South Wales (for public housing and Indigenous community housing), Queensland (community housing, Indigenous community housing and SOMIH), and South Australia (public housing and SOMIH); the latter data was disaggregated to LGA.

The data sources varied as to the level of detail they provided on the characteristics of Indigenous clients and households. For some, only the Indigenous status of the household was available;⁷⁵ and where provided, other key characteristics were not able to be disaggregated for Indigenous households. Other datasets provided a range of data on household characteristics with a majority of this data concentrated on the SOMIH sector,⁷⁶ e.g. length of tenure, income, disability, greatest need indicator/reason, sex and age, and household composition.

Data was also available for the SHS sector with information on the number of Indigenous clients accessing SHS presented in the RoGS and SHS collection. A wide range of data on client characteristics was also reported in these data sources. The RoGS provided information on economic participation/labour force status, education status/enrolment, income source and housing needs before SHS support. The SHS collection, meanwhile, gave information on Indigenous clients by sex and age groups, if they were new or returning, main language spoken other than English, family unit type/living arrangement, reason for seeking assistance, housing situation/homelessness status at first presentation, and by vulnerability characteristics (i.e. if experiencing domestic violence, mental health, drug/alcohol issues).

4.2.5.2. Overcrowding

The Indigenous housing data provides information collated by housing providers on household overcrowding. Data is reported on the number of Indigenous households living in overcrowded conditions across Australia.⁷⁷ In addition, at a jurisdictional level, the NT RHIP Data compares the proportion of homes that are overcrowded at baseline and currently (with this data also available for some discrete Aboriginal communities). Information on the suitability of dwelling size is also available in the AIHW ICH and SOMIH data collections and SA SOMIH data; whilst the RoGS and AIHW SOMIH data collection provide specific data on households living in SOMIH who experience underutilisation of dwelling size. Only limited data is available on the level of overcrowding experienced by Indigenous households, i.e. the number of additional bedrooms needed by each household.⁷⁸

⁷⁴ AIHW SOMIH data collection and CHINS respectively.

⁷⁵ AIHW CH and ICH data collections, and SA PH data.

⁷⁶ AIHW PH and SOMIH data collections; NSW ICH data; QLD CH, PH and SOMIH data; RoGS; SA SOMIH data.

⁷⁷ In the AIHW CH, PH and SOMIH data collections, and in the RoGS for all social housing sectors.

⁷⁸ RoGS ICH and QLD CH data.

4.2.5.3. Rental stress

There is extremely limited administrative data as to whether Indigenous households across Australia are experiencing rental stress. The QLD CH data identifies the proportion of low-income Indigenous households paying more than 30 per cent of their gross income in rent and are, therefore, considered to be experiencing rental stress. The presence of rental stress can also be inferred for Indigenous households living in SOMIH; the RoGS data reports on the proportion of household gross income spent on rent for low-income households. Whilst not specifically focused on rental stress, the QLD Public Housing and SOMIH data provides information on the rent charged to each household, their income, if they receive a rebate, and if so the amount). In addition, the SA SOMIH data reports on the number of households paying less than market rent.

4.2.5.4. Client satisfaction and outcomes

Data on client satisfaction with their dwelling and housing services is also very sparse. At a national level, only the RoGS provides information on overall customer satisfaction, and specifically around whether amenity and location aspects are perceived as meeting client needs; for Indigenous households, this data is only available for SOMIH. Victoria is the only state and territory jurisdiction with data on client satisfaction; the AHV data source presents information on tenant satisfaction with their housing and maintenance services, and consideration of their views by the housing provider.

Housing provider data on the outcomes achieved by their clients is fairly limited, e.g. with regard to housing stability, wellbeing, physical health, social and economic participation. For SOMIH only, the RoGS presents the self-reported benefits of living in social housing on wellbeing, social connection and economic participation. No accessible data on client outcomes was found at a state or territory level for any of the various social housing sectors.

More data was available on client outcomes for Indigenous people who engage with the SHS sector. The RoGS presents data on whether the service needs of clients were met, along with their post-support economic participation/labour force status, education status/enrolment, income source, and housing status. A range of client outcomes were also captured in the SHS data collection including whether client goals were met, and more specifically, on their housing situation at the end of support.

4.2.5.5. Tenancy agreements

There is extremely limited information in the data sources on tenancy agreements within Indigenous housing. Only one data source (the NSW SH Delivery Report) provided information on tenancy agreements, i.e. the number and proportion of agreements for Aboriginal housing that were time-limited (for up to two years, five years or 10 years) or continuous.

4.2.5.6. Tenancy issues

Similarly, there was very little data on tenancy issues that may be experienced across the various social housing sectors in which Indigenous people live. Only the VIC AHV data provided information on rent arrears (i.e. rent overdue as a proportion of total rent charged) and complaint resolution (i.e. the proportion of complaints resolved within 30 days). No further detailed data was available on these data items, nor on other tenancy issues such as evictions.

4.2.5.7. Housing pathways

No administrative housing data was available on the housing pathways undertaken by Indigenous households, including pathways through tenure types (for all clients and specifically for those involved with intersecting service systems such as family violence, justice, out-of-home care and mental health). While the NSW SH Delivery Report provided data on the number of households exiting from social housing to the private rental market or home ownership, this information was not disaggregated for Indigenous households.

4.2.6. Financial considerations

The financial viability and sustainability of the Indigenous housing sector is vital if the housing needs of Indigenous people are to be met both now and into the future. It is, therefore, important that data is available that shows the financial arrangements present within the sector, including organisational income, expenditure and capital stock value. Information is also needed about the different funding programs for Indigenous housing that are in operation across Australia and the outcomes achieved from these. Seven of the data sources (two national and five state/territory) reported data on financial matters within Indigenous housing.

4.2.6.1. Organisational income and expenditure

Limited data was presented on the income of the organisations providing housing services to Indigenous people across Australia and, where available, this primarily centred on the Indigenous community housing sector. The CHINS provided the most detailed data; for each ICHO surveyed, information was collected on total organisational income, the sources of this income, and an income breakdown by each source. At a jurisdictional level, the QLD ICH data provided data on the funding status of ICHOs, i.e. whether they were funded or unfunded. In addition, the NT RHIP data included information on the program budget provided from the NT and Australian Governments (with the total amount of funding given, along with the specific funding allocated to capital, repairs and maintenance). The only other source of data on organisational income was the QLD SOMIH data which reported on one income source, i.e. rent collection rates.

More data was available on organisational expenditure within Indigenous housing. Again the CHINS provided detailed data at an organisational level, reporting on ICHO expenditure (i.e. total, type and expenditure breakdown by type). The RoGS, meanwhile, provided comprehensive expenditure data for the Indigenous community housing and SOMIH sectors. This included state

and territory government expenditure provided for each social housing program type, with this information broken down by net recurrent expenditure and capital expenditure; however, the data on public housing and community housing expenditure was not disaggregated for Indigenous households. More detailed expenditure data was also provided in the RoGS for the Indigenous community housing sector (i.e. real recurrent, capital and net recurrent expenditure) and SOMIH (net recurrent expenditure per dwelling, capital costs and payroll tax).

At a jurisdictional level, the QLD SOMIH data reported on net recurrent expenditure, the average cost of providing assistance per dwelling, annual depreciation and interest payments. Finally, the NT RHIP data included data on expenditure by the NT and Australian Government (in total, and specifically for capital expenditure, and repairs and maintenance).

4.2.6.2. Rent collection

Several of the Indigenous housing data sources – at both a national and state/territory level – provided data on rent collection. The RoGS contained data (i) for SOMIH on the total rent charged in real terms and the total market rent of all dwellings (for which rent is charged in real terms), and (ii) for Indigenous community housing, on the total rent collected and charged. The CHINS collected data from ICHOs on the total rent charged, the method of rent calculation, and any additional charges included in rental payments. In Queensland, data was available on the total rent charged to Indigenous tenants (for SOMIH) and the market rent of each dwelling (for public housing and SOMIH). The average market rent of each SOMIH dwelling was also available for South Australia.

Only one data source provided data on the value of capital stock; for SOMIH, the Queensland housing data provided the value of capital stock used in the provision of housing (i.e. land, buildings, plant and equipment).

4.2.6.3. Funding programs

Only two of the data sources provided data on funding programs that support Indigenous households. As discussed above, the RoGS data provides information on social housing program expenditure for each state and territory jurisdiction. Additionally, the NT RHIP data provides data on the various programs provided under the auspices of the package, reporting on a series of key program outcomes.

4.2.7. Governance

Strong governance arrangements are vital to the growth of the Indigenous housing sector and can also support improved housing outcomes for Indigenous people. Moreover, the priority reforms established under CTG emphasise the importance of a true partnership approach and shared decision-making in the sector. Data is, therefore, needed on the governance models and approaches to shared and local decision-making that are operating within the sector. Data which can identify capacity building initiatives and needs (both for mainstream housing providers and

the Indigenous community housing sector) is also essential. Despite this importance, only two of the data sources (the CHINS and NT RHIP data) provided any evidence on this topic.

4.2.7.1. Governance arrangements

With a focus on Indigenous-led organisations, the CHINS was the only dataset which provided information on governance arrangements within the housing sector. Data was collated as to whether each ICHO surveyed had a Board, if Board members were the same as elected Community Council members, and how often their Board met.

4.2.7.2. Shared/local decision-making approaches

Information on decision-making approaches was extremely limited within the Indigenous housing data. The only data source which touched on this topic was the NT RHIP which tracked the number of engagement visits conducted under the package to remote communities. None of the data sources contained any information as to how shared and local decision-making approaches under CTG Priority Reform 4 are being actioned by government and housing organisations. Nor was data available on the outcomes of such approaches.

4.2.7.3. Capacity building

Likewise, no data was available on the capacity building needs of organisations providing housing to Indigenous people or on any capacity building initiatives that are currently occurring.

4.2.8. Service delivery

Concerns have been highlighted in regard to the housing support received by Indigenous households, especially the ability of mainstream organisations to provide culturally appropriate housing services. Consequently, improved service delivery has been identified as a priority action in the CTG Housing Sector Strengthening Plan with a goal of identifying clearly defined service standards and requirements. To support this goal, data on the types of housing services that are being provided to Indigenous households, as well as the outcomes achieved, is needed. Six of the data sources (three national and three state/territory) include information about the housing services provided to Indigenous households.

4.2.8.1. Tenancy management

Tenancy management data was available for the Indigenous community housing, SOMIH and SHS sectors. For the former, the CHINS collected data from Indigenous organisations about whether they manage housing stock and, if so, have a written housing management plan. Further jurisdictional data on the Indigenous community housing sector in New South Wales and Queensland included information as to who was responsible for the provision of tenancy management services, e.g. ICHOs or the state housing department. For SOMIH, the only data pertaining to tenancy management services was provided in the Queensland data which gave the

dates when housing assistance had commenced for each household and (if applicable) completed.

Detail on the provision of accommodation services via the SHS sector to Indigenous people across Australia was provided in the RoGS and SHS data collection. This included data on accommodation provision such as short-term/emergency, medium-term/transitional, and long-term housing. Information was also reported as to the number of such services that had been provided and the proportion of Indigenous clients who had had their accommodation needs successfully met.

More detailed information on the type of tenancy management services offered by Indigenous housing providers, e.g. allocations, tenancy agreements, bond/rent collection, inspections, etc., was not identified in the data. Nor was data available on tenancy management service outcomes for any of the social housing sectors.

4.2.8.2. Tenancy support

Very limited publicly available data on tenancy support service delivery and outcomes was found; the only information on this topic was provided in the SHS data collection. This data source reported on assistance that had been provided to Indigenous clients to sustain their housing tenure including preventing tenancy failure/eviction, assistance to prevent foreclosure or mortgage arrears, and referral to other services. The SHS data included the number of such services that had been provided in total and as a proportion of those whose need for tenure assistance had been identified.

No data on tenancy support within social housing was found including the type of tenancy support services provided to Indigenous households, e.g. tenant support and education, tenancy issue resolution, capacity building, and service co-ordination. Likewise, data was not available on Indigenous tenants' experiences of the tenancy education/supports they receive, nor on the outcomes achieved.

4.2.8.3. Property management

There was no public data at either a national or state/territory level on the property management services provided by Indigenous housing providers including repairs and maintenance, property construction and property acquisition.

4.2.8.4. Culturally appropriate services

Finally, data was lacking as to whether the services provided by Indigenous housing providers are culturally safe and tailored to meet the needs of Indigenous households.

4.2.9. Workforce

The CTG Housing Sector Strengthening Plan has identified the Indigenous housing workforce as being a key area for action. This includes the need for a national strategy which can support a dedicated and skilled Indigenous housing workforce. Organisational data is, therefore, needed that enables the comprehensive mapping of the current workforce providing housing supports to Indigenous people including its size, composition and demographics. A broad view of the workforce is needed including frontline workers providing tenancy management and support, as well as staff responsible for administration, and property supply and management. It is vital, however, that this includes workforce data from housing providers in both the mainstream and Indigenous-controlled housing sectors. To support the ongoing provision of housing to Indigenous people, data is also required as to any challenges being experienced by the sector in relation to worker attraction, retention and skills. Only two datasets (one national and one state/territory) provided workforce information, and the data included in each was extremely limited.

4.2.9.1. Workforce size

No datasets provided information on the size of the workforce providing housing support to Indigenous households across Australia. The only dataset which contained some information on this data item was the NT RHIP Data, which presented the proportion of Aboriginal employment (by headcount and Full-time Equivalent [FTE]) under the package. This data was available for the package as a whole, and also for individual communities across the territory.

4.2.9.2. Composition of workforce

Again, accessible data on the composition of the workforce providing housing support to Indigenous people is very limited. The CHINS collected basic information on the primary property manager within each ICHO surveyed, e.g. their employment status (whether they were a paid employee, a volunteer or an employee of a property management company), Indigenous status, and whether they had received specific training on dwelling management.

No further data was available on job roles, e.g. management, administration, frontline staff and maintenance staff (and the number of workers in each classification). Nor was information reported on worker demographics such as Indigenous status, sex and age.

4.2.9.3. Employment arrangements

Similarly, no data was available at a national or jurisdictional level on the employment arrangements of Indigenous housing workers. This included information on agreement types (e.g. permanent, fixed-term, casual) and contract types (e.g. award, enterprise agreement, common law contract, individual flexibility agreement) along with the number of workers subject to each.

4.2.9.4. Skill shortages

There was no reported data on skill shortages within the workforce providing housing support to Indigenous people. This includes a lack of data on the presence of skill shortages for each role classification and the reasons for skill shortages, e.g. lacking specialist knowledge, location of the organisation, financial constraints, lack of available training, recruitment being too slow, and a lack of suitable applicants. Nor was there data on how any skill shortages are being addressed, whether through training, the existing workforce working longer hours, services being sub-contracted or outsourced, staff employed on short-term contract basis, wages or conditions being increased, and reduced service provision.

4.2.9.5. Vacancies

Finally, there was no available data on vacancies in the workforce providing housing support to Indigenous people. This included an absence of information on the total number of vacancies across various job types (by FTE and actual positions). Data was also lacking on whether difficulties are experienced in filling job vacancies and the reasons why, e.g. a lack of suitable applicants or the location of the organisation.

4.3. Strengths and limitations of the housing provider data

Eighteen national and state/territory sources provided accessible data that was collated from organisations providing housing to Indigenous people. The vast majority of these data sources were focused on social housing provision. However, much of the information in the datasets pertaining to mainstream social housing could not differentiate between the housing provided to Indigenous and non-Indigenous people. Consequently, the housing provider data that was foremost relevant to this research was mostly focused on the Indigenous community housing and SOMIH sectors.

A range of data relating to housing stock was available for Indigenous community housing and SOMIH at a national level and for some state and territory jurisdictions. This included information on dwelling numbers that was available across various geographical structures. While data was also commonly reported on dwelling size, information on stock type (such as dwelling type and permanent/temporary accommodation) and changes in housing stock was more limited. Moreover, data on the condition of Indigenous housing stock was limited in scope and primarily focused on the number of SOMIH dwellings that are tenantable, untenable or undergoing major redevelopment. Likewise, data on the suitability of Indigenous housing to the environment and related housing infrastructure was very sparse. While the CHINS provided the most detailed data on housing stock (with a focus on ICHOs and discrete Indigenous communities), its usefulness is limited given how dated this evidence is.

Occupancy data for Indigenous households was also only available for the Indigenous community housing and SOMIH sectors both nationally and within certain jurisdictions (New South Wales, Queensland and South Australia). This included data on the number of dwellings that are

occupied, unoccupied or unallocated. Only the CHINS and QLD SOMIH data provided detailed information on the reasons why vacant dwellings were not tenanted. Very limited data was also directly available on re-letting timeframes (only for SOMIH nationally and Indigenous community housing in Victoria) and exits from social housing (again for SOMIH nationally). None of the data sources, however, provided any information on the reasons for tenant exits.

Despite the importance of understanding the true extent of housing need for Indigenous people, data relating to this topic is somewhat limited in the information collected from housing providers. Direct data on the number of social housing applications was only available for Victoria, and there was no public data at all about the characteristics of Indigenous households who apply for social housing including whether applicants come from selected priority groups. Similarly, data on Indigenous households who are currently waiting for social housing is very limited and only pertains to the number of households awaiting allocation to SOMIH (nationally and for Queensland). No further national-level data is available on average waiting times or the characteristics of Indigenous households on the waiting list.

Most of the data collected from housing providers on the housing needs of Indigenous people is centred on housing allocations. A range of information on allocations to SOMIH is available nationally, whilst community and public housing data focused on the number of allocations made by special need status (including to Indigenous households). Moreover, data on the number of housing allocations made to Indigenous households is also available for social housing programs in some jurisdictions. Data on the characteristics of Indigenous households who are allocated social housing is far more limited and only available for SOMIH (nationally and for South Australia) and for Aboriginal housing in New South Wales. Likewise, data on the time taken to allocation and the size of the dwelling provided is focused on the national SOMIH data, and also for the latter data item, Indigenous community housing in New South Wales.

Data was more readily identified on the Indigenous households who receive housing services. While data was available on the number of households living in each type of social housing across Australia, more detailed information on household characteristics was concentrated on the SOMIH sector (both at a national and jurisdictional level). Fairly detailed socio-demographic data was also available for Indigenous clients who receive SHS support.

Information on the incidence of overcrowding was reported for all social housing sectors nationally. In contrast, only limited data is available on the level of overcrowding that is experienced (for Indigenous community housing nationally and community housing in Queensland). Administrative data on rental stress was sparse, with the QLD CH data the only source providing direct information on this data item. Likewise, data on client satisfaction and outcomes was limited in scope, and had a focus on Indigenous people living in SOMIH. A greater amount of data on client outcomes was available for the SHS sector where a range of post-support outcomes were captured. No nationally available, and very limited jurisdictional, data was found relating to tenancy agreements or tenancy issues that may be experienced by

Indigenous tenants. Nor was any data available on the housing pathways undertaken by Indigenous people for any of the housing sectors.

Although public data on housing provider income was very limited, some information was available on organisational expenditure and rent collection for the Indigenous community housing and SOMIH sectors nationally. In addition, several jurisdictional sources reported on these data items for specific programs. The CHINS provided very detailed data on ICHO income, expenditure and rent collection; however, as discussed above, the age of this data is an issue for its relevance for understanding contemporary issues in Indigenous housing.

Accessible data on governance and decision-making approaches within Indigenous housing is extremely scarce. With the exception of data collected by the CHINS on ICHO boards, no data was found on governance arrangements, shared and local decision-making approaches, and capacity building needs and initiatives.

Only a small number of the identified data sources included evidence on housing service delivery to Indigenous people. No national-level data was available on the provision of tenancy management, tenancy support and property management services (including client experiences and outcomes achieved) for any of the social housing sectors. At a jurisdictional level, data on these services was solely focused on which organisation had responsibility for tenancy management services in the Indigenous community housing sectors in NSW and Queensland. Only the SHS data collection provided detailed data on service provision, specifically on the accommodation and tenancy support services provided to Indigenous clients and the outcomes that had been achieved. Data was lacking about the cultural appropriateness of the services provided by housing providers and whether these meet the needs of Indigenous people.

Finally, there was extremely limited evidence within the housing provider data about the workforce who support Indigenous households. No data was identified – at either a national or jurisdictional level – regarding the size and composition of the workforce, employment arrangements, skills shortages and vacancies.

5. Indigenous Housing Data Review and Assessment – Housing Workers

Beyond data that can be provided by housing organisations about their workforce, more detailed information is needed from workers themselves. This allows for a more in-depth understanding of the workforce providing housing services to Indigenous people, including those responsible for tenancy management and support, and property supply and management. Information is needed on workforce composition and roles, qualifications and career pathways, experiences of working in the sector, and future work intentions. Such data would support the identification of evidence-based priorities for future workforce development in Indigenous housing.

5.1. Data sources

Despite the importance of comprehensive data on the housing workforce, none of the identified national or state/territory data sources included data collected directly from workers providing housing support to Indigenous people (see Tables 9 and 10 in Appendix 3).

5.2. Review and assessment of data

5.2.1. Demographic information

Comprehensive data on who works with Indigenous householders would provide vital understanding of the current composition of the workforce. It would also provide evidence as to who the sector is attracting and potential challenges that could be addressed by future workforce planning. Detailed socio-demographic information would also support the disaggregation of workforce data and enable the specific work experiences and needs of different subgroups (e.g. Indigenous and non-Indigenous workers) to be identified. However, data on the socio-demographic characteristics of workers and their location is not currently collected.

5.2.2. Qualifications and training

The collection of information on the level and type of qualifications held by workers and the training they undertake and need, will enable assessment as to whether the workforce is appropriately qualified and skilled in working with Indigenous households. The data sources that were reviewed for this project did not provide any information on workforce qualifications, e.g. their highest level of schooling, post-school qualifications and current studies. Nor was data available on training within the housing sector including the type of training undertaken, the aims of the training or identification of future training needs.

5.2.3. Employers and roles

Data is also needed as to the specific housing sector in which workers operate and the types of roles they are employed in. However, our assessment of accessible housing data did not provide information on the organisations that workers are employed by (e.g. Government agency,

state/territory housing department, CHP, ICHO and private housing provider) or about their job role (e.g. management, administration, frontline housing staff, repair and maintenance staff).

5.2.4. Employment conditions

Employment conditions within a sector can contribute strongly to worker attraction, turnover and retention. Hence, it is important to understand the current working conditions present within the Indigenous housing sector and to enable comparison with other sectors within the community services field. None of the identified Indigenous housing data sources provided information on employment arrangements, working hours (both worked and preferred hours), or the wages received by the workforce.

5.2.5. Job satisfaction

Job satisfaction is a significant contributor to worker retention and turnover. Therefore, data is needed around the factors which contribute to job satisfaction and those which make Indigenous housing workers feel dissatisfied with their work. Data on job satisfaction, however, was absent from the Indigenous housing data, e.g. with regard to pay, job security, the work itself, hours worked, skill development, workplace support and relations, workplace flexibility and workload. Nor did the data reveal any information regarding worker perceptions as to the best and worst aspects of their job.

5.2.6. Career pathways

In order to improve attraction into the housing workforce it is essential to understand who comes into the sector, which industries they come from and why. Data is also needed to support understanding of career pathways within housing, and the reasons for job movement within the sector.

A review of the data, however, indicated that there is currently no data pertaining to worker attraction and tenure within Indigenous housing. Hence, information is absent on the length of time staff have worked for their current organisations, and on the reasons why workers choose a career in Indigenous housing. None of the 31 national and state/territory data sources included information on career pathways into and within housing. This includes a lack of data on a worker's last paid job before first working in housing, if they previously worked in housing before beginning their current job and reasons for choosing their current organisation, e.g. changing personal circumstances, working conditions, location, availability of employment, and organisational reputation or values.

5.2.7. Future work intentions

Finally, sufficient worker retention is necessary to ensure the future sustainability of the Indigenous housing workforce. Hence, evidence is required around future work intentions and the reasons why workers may wish to leave their current job either to move to another housing

provider or out of the sector altogether. However, data is currently absent on workforce perceptions as to where they expect to work in the future, if they are actively seeking employment outside their current employer (or indeed beyond Indigenous housing) and the reasons for this, e.g. to advance their career, take on a new role, personal circumstances, to obtain better working conditions or closer location to home, a change of industry or retirement.

5.3. Strengths and limitations of the housing worker data

None of the national or jurisdictional datasets that were identified for this review included data that had been sourced directly from workers employed by organisations providing housing to Indigenous people. Hence, comprehensive data is lacking on socio-demographic characteristics, qualifications and training, employing organisations and job roles, employment conditions, job satisfaction, career pathways and future work intentions.

6. Indigenous Housing Data – Strengths, Gaps and Recommendations

Our review provides for the first time a comprehensive understanding of the full extent of Indigenous housing data currently made publicly available in Australia. This final chapter of the report presents a summary of the overall strengths and limitations of this Indigenous housing data and identifies the key gaps found in this review. Our assessment is largely consistent with and extends the work undertaken by Equity Economics in 2024. Recommendations are outlined as to how these gaps should be addressed to ensure that future data collections better provide robust and informative data on Indigenous housing.

6.1. Overall strengths and limitations of Indigenous housing data

Our review identified and assessed 31 national and/or state and territory data sources that included publicly available evidence pertaining to Indigenous housing.

Fourteen of these datasets (all national-level data) drew upon data that had been collected from Indigenous households/people. Most of these sources reported on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people living in both the private and social housing sectors. The data was strongest in relation to household information (such as household size, structure and characteristics), tenure type and landlord type, dwelling type and size, and housing affordability. However, much of the data provided on these topics was fairly basic in nature, and detailed information on housing conditions, satisfaction and experiences (including housing impacts, pathways and aspirations) was mostly lacking. Furthermore, several of these data sources are not current and, therefore, the information provided is dated. Also, around half of the survey datasets included in this component of the review were undertaken with a general population sample and, thus, the proportion of Indigenous participants is relatively small. Therefore, caution when extrapolating to Indigenous people across Australia is necessary.

Eighteen national and jurisdictional data sources provided data that had been collated from housing provider organisations. Whilst covering all social housing sectors across Australia, much of the data on public and community housing was not specifically available for Indigenous housing tenants; hence, the majority of the relevant housing provider data focused on the Indigenous community housing and SOMIH sectors with further data also available for the SHS sector. The topics with the most amount of relevant data included information on housing stock (numbers, size and type), occupancy rates, housing allocations, client numbers, and overcrowding; but again this information primarily centred on Indigenous community housing and SOMIH. There were many other key housing indicators for which little, or no, evidence was found in the housing provider data sources. This included data on dwelling vacancies, social housing applications and waiting lists, service delivery, client characteristics and outcomes, workforce, governance and shared-decision-making approaches, and capacity building. As before, the currency of several of the housing provider data sources was an issue.

Finally, none of the data sources included in this review contained any data that had been collected from workers providing housing services to Indigenous households. Hence, data on a range of topics from workforce characteristics to employment conditions and job satisfaction could not be evidenced.

Data that is additionally important, but which was not included in this review includes funding and financing data, and data focused on broader housing and community related infrastructure.

6.2. Key gaps in Indigenous housing data

The mapping and review of Indigenous housing data sources identified several key gaps in the current data.

At present, accessible data relating to Indigenous households is fairly basic in scope and, at times, outdated. For example, with the exception of the AHCD, Journeys Home and NSHS, surveys conducted with Indigenous people/households have not specifically focused on capturing housing experiences and needs. Moreover, many of these data collections have not been designed specifically with, and for, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and the data is not collected in a culturally appropriate way. In addition, the representation of Indigenous people in most of the non-Indigenous specific survey data collections is relatively small which limits the usefulness of this data. Coverage of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander households living in remote areas is especially sparse. Issues also arise as to the currency of some of these data sources and, hence, whether this evidence is reflective of the current housing experiences of Indigenous people.

Furthermore, there are considerable gaps in the data that is currently available for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people within the household data collections. This data is especially limited on the perceptions of Indigenous people/households about their housing circumstances such as the quality of their home, whether it meets their needs, and the challenges they may face in securing a suitable dwelling. There is also a scarcity of data collected directly from Indigenous people about the impacts that housing has on their physical and mental wellbeing, social and economic participation, and financial circumstances. Other gaps in the data centre on housing pathways, with little information on the pathways that Aboriginal and Torres Strait people take within, and between, housing tenures (including transitions from social housing into private housing markets). Finally, data on the housing aspirations of Indigenous people/households is extremely limited, particularly around their views on home ownership and, if this is desired, consideration of the barriers and facilitators to achieving this goal.

Accessible data collated from housing providers on Indigenous housing provision is likewise limited in its currency and coverage. Despite the majority of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people living in the private housing sector,⁷⁹ there is a lack of data on the private rental and

⁷⁹ Moskos, M., Milligan, V., Benedict, R., Habibis, D., Isherwood, L. and van den Nouwelant, R. (2025). Indigenous housing support in Australia: the lay of the land, AHURI Final Report No. 434, Australian Housing and Urban Research Institute Limited, Melbourne.

home ownership markets. The administrative datasets relating to social housing and homelessness service provision outlined in this review are largely a response to the reporting requirements associated with government funding. Whilst data on the private sector would be extremely informative, at present there are no similar reporting imperatives in place to encourage such data collections. Similarly, considerable gaps are apparent in the data on housing provision to Indigenous people/households within mainstream social housing. Many Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people live in public housing and, to a lesser degree, community housing; comprehensive data on these sectors is vital to fully understand the current scale of Indigenous social housing provision and the levels of unmet need.

Whilst some data is available on service provision in the Indigenous community housing, SOMIH and SHS sectors, this evidence is by no means complete. Several key housing indicators are lacking in the data especially around housing need (e.g. social housing applications and waiting lists) and the characteristics of Indigenous people who receive housing support. Gaps are also present in the data pertaining to the various elements of housing service delivery and the outcomes that are achieved from service provision. Moreover, despite the CTG Priority Reforms highlighting the importance of partnership and shared decision-making in the housing sector, data is completely lacking on governance and shared decision-making approaches, as well as on capacity building needs and initiatives.

Limited disaggregation by Indigenous status was found in the publicly available housing provider data, and in particular the datasets pertaining to mainstream social housing; this clearly limits the utility of the data in supporting understanding of current housing provision to Indigenous people. In addition, as with the householder data, some of the housing provider data sources are not recent and do not provide a current picture of Indigenous housing across Australia. A further gap is the lack of accessible administrative housing data for all state and territory jurisdictions; and where this information is available, the type and level of data reported is not consistent. For example, whilst all state and territory governments are required to collate housing data for reporting purposes (e.g. for the AIHW and RoGS), only a few jurisdictions provide public access to this information.

A final key gap centres on the workforce providing housing services to Indigenous people/households. The CTG Housing Sector Strengthening Plan has highlighted the importance of this workforce in Indigenous housing provision. However, within the housing provider data there is no information available on the size, composition and skills of this workforce. In addition, there are no data sources that focus on workers and seek to understand their experiences of working in the sector. This lack of evidence presents considerable challenges for future workforce planning and development.

6.3. Recommendations for future Indigenous housing data collection activities

Drawing from both the review findings and the final roundtable held with key departmental representatives, data custodians and Indigenous housing leaders, we make the following recommendations for future Indigenous housing data collection activities.

1. Uphold Indigenous data sovereignty principles, ensure cultural relevance and Indigenous participation

- 1.1. Co-design all housing data initiatives with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities and the ICCH sector to ensure cultural appropriateness, accuracy and community ownership.
- 1.2. Embed Indigenous data sovereignty principles in all stages of data governance, development, collection, access and use.
- 1.3. Convene a national Indigenous housing data forum with Indigenous leaders and experts to guide data activities and uphold Indigenous data rights.
- 1.4. Address power imbalances between governments and the ICCH sector by increasing visibility around housing program funding flows, assessment criteria, and decision-making.
- 1.5. Address the persistent under-representation of Indigenous peoples—particularly those living in remote areas—in national survey collections.

2. Improve data access and transparency

- 2.1. Increase public availability of existing data, including more detailed disaggregation by Indigenous status, region and community.
- 2.2. Increase transparency in government policy and funding decisions by clarifying what data is used and how it is assessed.
- 2.3. Data to evaluate government procurement, contracting and regulation in relation to Indigenous housing.
- 2.4. Develop a centralised, accessible data portal for Indigenous housing data.

3. Update and integrate datasets

- 3.1. Establish mechanisms for regular updating of Indigenous housing data to ensure timeliness and accuracy.
- 3.2. Support cross-jurisdictional efforts to harmonise data definitions, indicators, and reporting requirements.
- 3.3. Promote safe and ethical data linkage across domains (e.g. health, education, justice) to understand housing's broader social impacts.

4. Address critical data gaps on housing experiences and aspirations

- 4.1. Undertake targeted, culturally appropriate data collection with Indigenous households on housing quality and affordability, housing suitability and crowding, homelessness, housing pathways and home ownership aspirations.

- 4.2. Incorporate culturally meaningful measures of housing suitability, moving beyond mainstream indicators such as the CNOS.

5. Strengthen data on housing provision

- 5.1. Enhance existing datasets to include information on:

- Climate impacts on housing and energy efficiency of dwellings
- Repairs and maintenance (responsive, cyclical and planned)
- Housing-related infrastructure and essential services
- Dwelling vacancies and waiting lists
- Service delivery outcomes.

6. Expand data coverage of private and mainstream social housing

- 6.1. Invest in data systems that capture the experiences of Indigenous people living in private rental and mainstream public/community housing.
- 6.2. Require mainstream datasets to include Indigenous identifiers and support disaggregation where sample sizes allow.

7. Address gaps in governance, decision-making and capacity-building data

- 7.1. Collect data on governance models and decision-making processes used in housing services, particularly in relation to shared accountability and alignment with CTG commitments.
- 7.2. Track the participation and outcomes of Indigenous organisations in housing planning, funding, and service delivery partnerships.
- 7.3. Collect data on capacity-building needs and initiatives both within mainstream social housing and the ICH sector.

8. Prioritise workforce data collection

- 8.1. Develop a national dataset focused on the Indigenous housing workforce, including:
 - Roles (including frontline, maintenance and administration roles)
 - Qualifications, training and skills
 - Workforce size, composition, retention, satisfaction, and wellbeing.
- 8.2. Align data collection activities with successful models in other sectors (e.g. health, aged care) and ensure this data informs strategic workforce development.
- 8.3. Include workforce data collection within broader housing sector data strategies, particularly for ICCHOs.

Appendix 1 – Themes from Roundtables and Stakeholder Consultations

A1.1. First roundtable – summary of discussions and additional feedback

1. What do you currently use Indigenous housing data for?

Policy design and understanding impacts of policy decisions:

- Specialist housing and homelessness services (SHHS) data - used within government in policy space to make compelling case for topical issues to receive budget funding (e.g. housing) – what's been done, what should be done
- Data helps to tell story/provide numbers – but not just importance of numeric aspect as also consider people's experience in housing when formulating policy

Sharing of regional level data:

- Priority Reform Four for the CTG National Agreement is about providing this data and making it available to Indigenous decision makers

Identifying priority needs:

- Community data project is providing housing data and quality services at community scale
- Use data in early stages of identifying housing priorities, e.g. in remote communities – also work directly with communities to ascertain priorities

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Performance Framework (HPF):

- Contains 68 measures – housing is one component
- Use variety of available data – census, health survey, social survey (AIHW/ABS) – have collaboration with AIHW to source data then do analysis and intersection
- HPF has looked at national picture then state and territory as well as remoteness
- Housing component looks at home ownership, rental, public housing; also focus on overcrowding and housing quality

Making funding decisions:

- Assessment of grant round applications
- Needs-based funding decisions, e.g. 2021 Census data contributed to decisions on division of National Agreement on Social Housing and Homelessness (NASHH) funds between the states – led to increase in funding for NT

Developing grant funding programs for social and community housing, public housing, affordable housing, home ownership:

- Use of rental housing affordability data and home ownership data

Development of homelessness service programs:

- Use of rough sleeping data/number of Aboriginal people accessing homelessness programs and services

Decision-making regarding the demand and supply of new housing development programs for Aboriginal housing:

- Data on number of dwellings in demand/number of dwellings contracted, built and tenanted
- Data on number of ACCOs operating the area

Sharing housing data with ACCOs to assist them in planning for their communities including:

- Housing Register data – allocations, applications data for Aboriginal people by different location areas, household group, bedroom preferences, priority applications (from family violence and homelessness support services, emergency management, special housing needs, priority transfers)
- Aboriginal households currently living in public and community housing by age, household type, gender, length of tenure

Reporting on Closing the Gap:

- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander housing data is primarily used for reporting on the targets and indicators in socio-economic area 9 (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people secure appropriate, affordable housing that is aligned with their priorities and need)
 - Reporting on this target is based on data available from the ABS Census of Population and Housing
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander housing data is also used for reporting on supporting indicators in other socio-economic outcome areas, which highlights the importance of housing across the lifecycle and the interconnectedness of the socio-economic outcome areas
 - For example, socioeconomic outcome area 13 (family safety) includes a number of supporting indicators that intersect family and domestic violence with housing and homelessness services.
- CTG dashboard also currently reports on two of the 11 supporting indicators under socio-economic outcome area 9
 - Structural problems including functional health hardware – sourced from the ABS NATSIHS - <https://www.pc.gov.au/closing-the-gap-data/dashboard/se/outcome-area9/acceptable-standard-of-housing>
 - Social housing dwellings per 100 households by location – sourced from the AIHW - <https://www.pc.gov.au/closing-the-gap-data/dashboard/se/outcome-area9/social-housing>

Data for the RoGS:

- RoGS is an annual report that provides information on the equity, effectiveness and efficiency of government services in Australia - Section 18 presents data on the performance of governments in providing social housing
- Indigenous housing data is sourced from the AIHW for:
 - SOMIH
 - Indigenous community housing
- NSHS data is also sourced from the AIHW and used for the following indicators:
 - Dwelling condition
 - Customer satisfaction
 - Sustainability – social sustainability, measured as ‘Amenity/Location’
 - Wellbeing, social and economic participation

Reporting functions for the Overcoming Indigenous Disadvantage report:

- The Overcoming Indigenous Disadvantage report measures the wellbeing of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people across 52 indicators across a range of areas including governance, leadership and culture, early childhood, education, economic participation, health, home environment and safe and supportive communities.

2. What are the elements of the data that make it most valuable and useful?

Ability to link data:

- To understand broader outcomes of Indigenous housing

Disaggregation of data useful as allows comparison of:

- Outcomes for Indigenous and general populations
- Place-based outcomes for Indigenous people

Homelessness statistics capture Indigenous experiences well and are helpful as broken down into very small areas:

- Highlights over-representation of Indigenous people in homelessness/severely overcrowded housing

Data requirements:

- Easily accessed and manipulated
- When data is verified

RoGS data:

- SOMIH data is available for all RoGS housing indicators

3. What can't you do because you don't have the right data?

Geographic scale of data:

- Need full understanding of coverage/scale of data – help understand what you are looking at/talking about

Lack of data on the functionality/suitability of housing:

- Not enough to count number of houses as there is a lot of housing with no clean water or electricity – need this data to understand broader impacts, e.g. on health, childhood, education, employment, wellbeing, child protection
- Challenging to get disaggregated data for Indigenous people

Lack of relevant recent survey data:

- NATSISS – more than 10 years old now – still referenced but non-contemporary
- Other surveys run instead including mainstream social survey - lack of funding for NATSISS

Ability to link more with other non-housing data sets:

- Provide opportunity to see how housing determines other outcomes and vice versa
- Would be able to truly answer questions/tease out longitudinal and causal relationships – very complex, system wide view of things
- Still need to recognise limitations in large, linked administrative datasets for Indigenous populations – concerns that this data may bias conversations rather than focus being on filling data gaps
- Also Indigenous people especially under-represented in some datasets, e.g. tax data – impacts understanding on measures for private market affordability, home ownership programs

State and territory administrative data is limited:

- Available data is a reflection of the service systems that are delivered - these limitations need to take this into account when considering causal relationships
- Program evaluation data can compensate somewhat for lack of administrative data

Lacking basic data:

- Importance of understanding demographic characteristics of households - don't have very good idea of who is living in the homes
- Data on housing stability, social and affordable housing, community housing – need to know how many dwellings in each sector

Indigenous status not reliable in data:

- Issue as doesn't provide true representation so difficult to make comparisons with non-Indigenous population

- ABS has found demographic increase of Indigenous population but also huge amount of non-demographic increase that influences rates and ratios calculated in the HPF – need to look at different lenses
- Homelessness data has about 10% unknown Indigenous status. Looking at long-term trends when there is an increase in Indigenous numbers over time, there is a drop in unknown status as people get more comfortable identifying as Indigenous - have to be very careful taking longitudinal viewpoint when using the data
- Differences for some people in their identification as Indigenous across multiple government data sets. Choice of freedom – may want to identify as Indigenous in one sector but not in another – also continued mistrust in government agencies/holding Indigenous data and identifying to them

Data on rental stress/assistance:

- Not captured well for Indigenous people as quite a small subgroup – especially in NT where there is limited private rentals in a lot of areas
- Have CRA in the rental market but not an anchor point for understanding individual's needs and wants in their rental market opportunities – no way to adjust CRA level because don't have right kind of data to inform program changes
- Don't have access to easily understood affordability data for Aboriginal people

CNOS is not appropriate measure:

- Not good fit for modelling overcrowding for Australia or Indigenous people
 - Issues as is being used to determine housing need
 - Needs/suitability is broader than number of bedrooms
 - Cultural appropriateness of the definition of overcrowding in the context of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture
- Also what Indigenous people consider is overcrowding is not what the model thinks it is, e.g. may have three or four generations in family but consider this as their family unit rather than overcrowding

Lack of data for remote communities:

- Issue as data is not available to inform policy so how does government make decisions?
- For example, where states receive funding for capital works or repairs, it is necessary to know which communities to target and what is needed in each community.
- Sometimes, it can be challenging for states to have sufficient data to assess need and meet their respective policy targets.
- This varies from state to state, e.g., NT is more advanced in knowing what's within their 73 communities (via their Joint Council) but is not a complete list.

Housing focus is on remote communities at expense of urban areas:

- Half of Indigenous people live in major cities but are small proportion of urban populations (whereas in remote areas there are more Indigenous people than non-Indigenous) – need to take that into consideration when analysing data to see if issues really are different for non-remote/remote areas
- Issues with unevenness of access in urban areas, e.g. to rental housing, jobs, quality education, transport, services – often living in outer suburbs
- Need to better understand private housing market, impact of being part of general housing system

Measurement of unmet need challenging:

- UNSW City Futures Group were recently commissioned to do a housing needs analysis for Indigenous households – constructed measure using ABS Census data
- Equity Economics have also developed a different measure.
- Limitations in data informing these measures

Connection between severe overcrowding and long-term impacts unclear as proxy measures are not good enough:

- Need better evidence to ascertain if causal relationship or relationship is more about housing quality than overcrowding
- Shows importance of data linking to bring together information rather than using single lens

Data collection issues:

- Often data collection done by employing people within community who have relationships with the person they've been asked to interview – survey respondents don't feel comfortable sharing information
- ABS moving away from face-to-face to electronic data collection – won't work in remote communities and disadvantages people

Cost of Indigenous data collections:

- Expensiveness of Indigenous surveys due to e.g. training, travel, weather, time to build relationships and trust

Need to recognise that there are different types of data on Indigenous housing:

- Administrative data at federal and state/territory level, program data
- Survey data – some is federal statutory collection, e.g. ABS census
- Community level data, e.g. AIHW, service provider data
- Current gaps in each of these sources

Limitations to the ABS data and census data:

- Timeframes for data are often different and difficult to compare

- Timeframes for responding to data requests are a challenge

Inadequate data for reporting on Closing the Gap Outcome Area 9:

- Target 9a - The data is sufficient for assessing the progress against the target. However, there are two issues:
 - The assessment of progress for Target 9a (appropriately sized housing) is limited by the availability of more frequent data - Census is only conducted once every five years and data on progress against the target is not available between each Census.
 - The definition of the overcrowding measure used for reporting on progress for Target 9a is based on the CNOS. The relevance and appropriateness of CNOS in depicting dwelling utilisation for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people has not been assessed.
- Target 9b - There is no data source currently available which includes all required data elements for reporting progress on Target 9b.
 - The wording of the target provided in the National Agreement aligns with the CHINS, which the former Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission had previously commissioned the ABS to produce in 1992, 1999, 2001 and 2006. The survey has not been conducted since 2006.
- Supporting indicators under Outcome Area 9
 - While it is anticipated that there is data available against the remaining 9 (out of 11) indicators, the Productivity Commission has not yet assessed with the Parties to the Agreement whether the available data meets their needs.
- Data quality issues are summarised in the Target data specifications, at: <https://www.pc.gov.au/closing-the-gap-data//dashboard/se/outcome-area9>

Gaps in available RoGS data:

- Indigenous community housing sector
 - Indigenous community housing data is available only for 'Match of dwelling to household size', 'Net recurrent cost per dwelling' and contextual information
 - Indigenous community housing data coverage varies considerably as data is not complete for all dwellings or ICHOs
- SOMIH tenants were not included for NT in 2023, and Indigenous community housing tenants were included only for Queensland
- 'Dwelling condition' data is dated and is currently reported for Indigenous households for 2018-19. Data is sourced from the ABS NATSIHS and NATSISS

Home ownership data:

- Data on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people's views and preferences on home ownership are currently only collected through small-scale research

Data on community infrastructure and services:

- Recent data on access to water, sewerage and electricity services are not available

- CHINS (that contains this information) was last conducted in 2006 and there is currently no date for the next CHINS.

4. What data is needed to address this gap?

More complete picture of overcrowding:

- New measure of overcrowding needed
 - Investigate the suitability of the CNOS in the Australian context
 - CNOS measure needs to be amended and to have Australian-specific and culturally appropriate model
 - Concepts more suitable for measuring overcrowding for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people need to be investigated
 - One such concept is reporting on the number of people who felt stressed due to overcrowding, rather than just those living in overcrowded houses - would likely better account for cultural and individual preferences
 - Would be large and complicated project – don't think there is current appetite by government to look into this – would need input from roundtable members and HPP
- Address current issues in overcrowding data
 - Underreporting of persons in a household due to a fear of eviction which may lead to a lower estimate of the prevalence of overcrowding
 - Responses for the number of persons in a household being capped at 10 or more people (in the NATSIHS), which limits understanding of the severity of overcrowding
 - Data not being collected on the number of people who reported overcrowding as a stressor in the last 12 months (2018-19 NATSIHS). These data would provide a clearer estimate of what proportion of overcrowding is harmful for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

Support better data collection:

- Trust and engagement of communities is important – data collection needs to support this to ensure best quality data
- Need investment in training and jobs, understanding needs of different communities
- Return of information - sharing back of data with communities to show why came to community to take data

Data focus:

- Commonwealth and states/territories have different housing focus/lens – different types of data will be needed
- Indigenous community-controlled peak bodies can be source of data but their reach is not consistent across Australia

Data on socio-economic characteristics:

- Help inform what is appropriate housing/housing need, e.g. age, disability
- Especially important in remote communities to understand community needs/how to support people to continue living at home as they age

Remote community data:

- Multiple reasons for current lack of data – need to think how can get data and work with communities to provide government with the information they need (e.g. on enabling infrastructure to support house building, housing quality)

Measuring unmet housing need:

- Modelling needs to consider social, political, policy and geographical context; identification issue; and most importantly understanding cultural assumptions that are imposed on data collection – recognise not ever going to be perfect

Data sharing and linkage:

- Currently massive infrastructure being developed for common data and NDDA – will be game changer when completed and can potentially reduce need to collect data elsewhere
- Process is helping negotiate boundaries between state/territory and federal government data sharing and privacy implications - could potentially provide a template for moving forward with the Indigenous data space
- Need to recognise that for Indigenous population there are gaps in the data sets that are feeding into the linked data – need to analyse limitations and fill data gaps

Need for partnership:

- Building an Indigenous data set needs to be done in partnership – this will help address trust issues
- Under Closing the Gap a data policy partnership is being established by the Commonwealth – will provide governance structure
- The Australian Public Service (APS) Indigenous data governance framework has recently been published, with the vision that all APS agencies will implement the framework.
- This will front-end Indigenous perspectives into their work and ensure that they have data that can be returned to Indigenous people that meets their needs – noting that these needs may not necessarily be the same as government priorities, e.g. around conceptions of housing and homelessness and suitability
- Similar principles are trying to be adopted at state and territory levels

Need to access information quickly:

- Within government information needs to be accessed quickly – even if available data is not perfect, still better than nothing if it can provide an indication of need

State/territory government data:

- Social housing - data on waiting lists, number of bedrooms needed would be helpful
- Housing infrastructure information required under Target 9b. Currently, there are no Commonwealth or state and territory measures that can provide this data.
- Components of previous government surveys may provide a helpful model for development of Target 9b data (e.g. CHINS survey). It may be valuable to build upon their strengths, though without replicating them.
- Useful to have data disaggregated as far as possible to inform decision-making, e.g. on size of new properties that are needed
- Central approach to data within state/territory housing departments
- Greater transparency and accountability
 - Report on the funding of key programs targeted at improving housing and homelessness outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people
 - Distinguish between where funding is sourced from State and Territory own funding and national funding schemes

Community housing data:

- Strong gap as data currently lacking due to complexity of system – multiple funders, regulatory systems only in some states/territories, lack of agreed definition on boundary between social and affordable housing – no-one with single responsibility for collecting the data

Private rental and home ownership:

- Data is lacking – only a little data collected in census every 5 years/IBA programs

Householder experiences of housing:

- Gap in current data – type of information needed depends on which policy lever you are looking at
- NATSISS did provide some information on this but mainly around working facilities/structure of house

Approved sources of truth:

- Evaluation of programs data in relation to Aboriginal people including all demographic information

Data on community housing and infrastructure:

- If the CHINS is not re-commissioned, an alternative data source (potentially taking advantage of administrative data) is required. See Study Report - Closing the Gap review - Productivity Commission (Volume 2, page 208)

- New data, whether from the CHINS or a comparable national survey, are critical to enable ongoing reporting on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people's access to water, sewerage and electricity services

Data to support Closing the Gap targets:

- The capacity for data to measure progress against targets needs to be disaggregated. This is necessary for the implementation of the Agreement
 - Parties to the National Agreement recognised that 'disaggregated data and information is most useful to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander organisations and communities to obtain a comprehensive picture of what is happening in their communities and make decisions about their futures' (Article 70)
 - Further, governments committed to collecting, handling and reporting 'data at sufficient levels of disaggregation... to empower local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities to access, use and interpret data for local decision-making' (Article 71c).
 - This is necessary to reflect the diverse circumstances of Indigenous peoples in Australia, to guide government policies and to inform Indigenous organisations.
- To improve the data gaps, consider using linked data collections such as the integration of existing data sources with linked Person Level Integrated Data Asset (PLIDA) to monitor Targets 9a and 9b to increase the timeliness of reporting and the capacity for the data to be disaggregated to policy-relevant population sub-groups.

Data to support RoGS reporting:

- More comprehensive coverage of Indigenous community housing data would be of value, allowing reporting of the following indicators:
 - Priority access to those in greatest need
 - Access of selected equity groups
 - Affordability
 - Time waited
- Complete coverage of SOMIH and Indigenous community housing tenants would enable comprehensive reporting of these indicators for SOMIH and introduction of reporting for Indigenous community housing

Home ownership data:

- Data on views and preferences on home ownership would assist with public policy decisions regarding home ownership for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people

Identify housing need for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders people:

- State and Territory Governments should
 - Identify the unmet housing needs of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people
 - Undertake stocktakes of the supply and quality of social housing for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people

A.1.2. Indigenous housing stakeholder consultations – summary of feedback

1. What do you currently use Indigenous housing data for?

Primary housing and homelessness data sources used include housing register data, AIHW housing and homelessness collections, ABS Census, Productivity Commission RoGS housing and homelessness data

Gap analysis:

- Understand the needs and gaps for Indigenous housing providers
- Assess the current housing landscape, including stock, condition and community needs

Planning:

- Inform resource allocation and service delivery to ensure that areas of greatest need are appropriately supported
- Identify trends and emerging issues to plan for sustainable housing solutions and futureproof the sector

Advocacy and policy development:

- Monitoring data and outcomes to drive policy development and system reform proposals
- Develop evidence-based advocacy and policy positions, including for the provision of funding/grant applications and policy submissions

Funding:

- Measure housing need and advocate for what funding is appropriate
 - Including evidencing a baseline percentage of funds that should be allocated for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander housing and homelessness services
- Identifying a meaningful proportion of funds to be allocated for Aboriginal and Torres Strait organisations and communities
- Inform decision-making around the direct allocation of funding

Maintaining comprehensive records:

- Collect and update information on organisations providing Indigenous housing services

Performance monitoring:

- Track the outcomes and effectiveness of housing initiatives and programs

Operational logging:

- Record interactions, such as calls and communications, which identify recurring issues and inform support strategies

Community engagement:

- Support meaningful consultation with communities by providing a clear understanding of current conditions and gaps
- Provide data to communities to enable them to determine their own priorities and needs

Tracking issues and trends:

- Establish a repository of issues raised during events, forums and discussions, categorised under core domains

Inform work of the HPP:

- Data is a key driver for decision-making
 - Identify what gaps exist and how to collate all the existing data
 - Use data to make good decisions and policy positions as a unified group

Building jurisdictional profiles:

- Currently a work in progress
 - State, territory and Commonwealth governments have been asked to provide all their data
 - Also incorporating relevant additional data

Building a national housing data platform:

- Is in process of being built and populated and will be community owned
 - Where possible using data that already exists through public platforms/reported on through regulatory processes – don't want to put burden on organisations
- Looking at house design, supply, numbers, land availability

2. What are the elements of the data that make it most valuable and useful?

Quantitative metrics:

- Quantitative data provided, for example, on housing stock numbers and occupancy rates
- Highlight demand/unmet demand for housing and homelessness services

Type of housing data:

- Condition data - information about the state of housing, including maintenance and repair needs
- Location information - geographic distribution of housing and access to nearby services
- Housing need - data that supports a true and accurate picture of where need is as helps determine government funding requests

- Housing suitability - data on the appropriateness of housing types for cultural and community needs

Timeliness and granularity:

- Up-to-date and detailed data that can be broken down to regional and community levels
 - An example of this is AIHW and VHR data that can be broken down to Department of Families, Fairness and Housing (DFFH) division areas

Data that is not static:

- Can demonstrate the pathways for community through the housing and specialist homelessness service system, e.g. via the AIHW housing collections data
- This assists with identifying outcomes for community as well as barriers to secure housing pathways

Longitudinal data:

- Data that can be tracked historically and is therefore capable of developing projections for outcomes and demand

Comparable data:

- Data that is capable of comparing Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal service users – their housing needs, experiences and outcomes

Cultural relevance:

- Data reflecting cultural practices, mobility patterns, and family structures

Interconnected insights:

- Linkages of housing data to other key life outcomes areas, including health, education, and employment

3. What can't you do because you don't have the right data?

Understand resource allocation:

- Cannot currently demonstrate how housing and support resources are allocated to Aboriginal people across the housing and homelessness systems including mainstream systems
- Cannot fully understand and analyse social housing allocations

Regional level analyses:

- As majority of accessible data is only available at a state level, unable to undertake comprehensive analysis at a regional level, e.g. of Department Division Areas and LGAs

Effective advocacy:

- Data limitations weaken the ability to build compelling arguments for funding or systemic change, for example

- Limited comprehensive and accessible data
- Issues with data being outdated or not existing at all
- Data is too ad hoc and not of sufficient quality
- Governments can discredit positions that communities are putting forward through lived experience even though accurate
- As data is not centralised, takes a lot of time and resources to comb through everything to support arguments

Tailored solutions:

- Without comprehensive data, housing designs may not fully meet the cultural, demographic, or regional needs of Indigenous communities

Understand current housing stock:

- Comprehensive data on the quality, age and size of housing stock is lacking and varies across jurisdictions

Housing needs of Indigenous people:

- There is insufficient data on:
 - Housing and homelessness needs and outcomes for different priority groups including those experiencing family violence, young people leaving care, those engaged with the justice system, Elders and community with disabilities
 - Housing needs of community members who are not engaged with the housing or homelessness system
 - Housing status of those who currently have tenancies
- Data limitations make it challenging to monitor tenant outcomes, e.g. sustainability of tenancies, reasons for evictions

Cultural perspectives lacking in data:

- Current housing data collection and reporting uses a mainstream framework – an example is data on overcrowding

Frequency of data:

- Housing data not collected/reported upon frequently enough to properly understand trends and outcomes
- Much housing data is not current enough

Long-term impact analysis:

- The absence of longitudinal data restricts the evaluation of housing programs' sustained impact

Holistic analysis and planning:

- Lack of integrated datasets connecting housing to other social determinants hinders comprehensive planning
- Cannot analyse housing pathways for community members through intersecting service systems including the family violence, justice, out of home care, mental health etc.

Data consolidation and connection:

- Dispersed or inaccessible data prevents an accurate and unified understanding of the housing landscape
- Limited access to similar or interconnected datasets from all ACCOs providing housing services restricts comprehensive analysis

Data inaccuracies and inconsistencies:

- A lot of the data that currently exists is inaccurate
 - Example is ABS data collected in remote communities which can severely underestimate actual population for various reasons, e.g. no trust of government, transient nature of some communities, language barriers etc.
- Inconsistent data definitions across housing agencies create barriers to standardisation and alignment
- Currently jurisdictional data is not consistent and some are reporting on different aspects, e.g. differences in how housing register data is collected (even at the level of how jurisdictions put names onto and off registers)

Facilitation of statewide (and broader) collaboration:

- The lack of a unified data framework, including beyond social housing, prevents effective collaboration and shared problem-solving at the state and national level
- Currently departments and directorates that have responsibility for supporting Indigenous people operate in a centralised and siloed way which has implications for data collection and sharing

Informed decision-making and policy design:

- Challenging to make evidence informed decisions and design appropriate policy with current data limitations

Identify progress against policy targets:

- Lack of appropriate data to comprehensively understand progress towards meeting desired policy outcomes, e.g. CTG housing targets
- Accurate baseline data is lacking that could be used to start measuring success from

Full picture of each jurisdiction:

- Tensions between Commonwealth and state relationships on how transparent they are with their data
- Jurisdictional governments not being forthcoming with true and accurate data and giving a true figure of what they're actually spending on housing and homelessness

Data sharing and data sovereignty:

- Still a struggle for most Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander organisations across Australia to get access to and control of housing data even with CTG agreement
- Can be adversely affected by change of governments and transiency of public service

Responsibility for housing/housing data:

- Many different agencies (especially in Commonwealth) have interest in housing with own way in which they prioritise and collect data
- No one central point in Commonwealth for housing data

Land availability:

- Lack of data and resources to do feasibility studies on land availability

Understand funding decisions:

- Transparency is lacking as to how decisions are made in government funding rounds
 - e.g. first round of the Housing Australia Future Fund (HAFF) – reporting on funding outcomes restricted as “commercial in confidence”

4. What data is needed to address this gap?

Comprehensive housing data:

- Comprehensive and complete data to assess and address specific needs
 - Data on stock quantity, condition, location, type
 - Data on need and demand at a local, regional, state and national level
- Information on tenant outcomes, e.g. sustaining of tenancies, reasons for evictions
- Data on housing registers and allocations in all states and territories
- Data needs to cover all housing sectors and not just social housing
- Building comprehensive data sets that span various corporate acts, registrations, and memberships, such as National Regulatory System for Community Housing (NRSCH), NSW Aboriginal Land Council (NSWALC) and Aboriginal corporations
- Creating state-wide datasets specific to Aboriginal housing and aligns diverse reporting systems

Foundational datasets:

- Core datasets that provide baseline information, serving as a foundation before developing program-specific datasets
- Need to have the right data available to create a baseline to start measuring success from, e.g. data that can inform progress towards CTG housing targets

Cultural and community context:

- Insights into family structures, mobility, and cultural preferences to design suitable housing solutions
- Community-level data that can inform community profiles and measure outcomes going forward
- Community-led data capturing and ownership can improve accuracy of data
 - Communities to decide what data is relevant for them and set their own priorities
 - Also empowers communities to then approach government and evidence their requests and needs for community

Cross-sectoral data:

- Housing data linked with health, education, employment, and other sectors to address systemic issues
- Data that can show how important housing is for health, justice, early learning, and childhood outcomes

Standardised definitions:

- Clear and consistent definitions for housing data sets to address discrepancies and ensure interoperability
- Jurisdictions collecting and reporting the same information to improve data consistency

Cross-organisational collaboration:

- Data frameworks that align diverse ACCOs and housing service providers, enabling a unified approach to addressing housing needs
- Ensuring the data facilitates cross-organisational insights despite differences in standard reporting lines

Community owned data:

- Self-determination over how to capture data, use data and how to ground truth in what's collected
- The full suite of data that is available to government for the purposes of planning, monitoring and funding should be made available to the community
 - Need for more transparency by state/territory and Commonwealth governments

- Aboriginal housing peaks and organisations being treated as equal partners with regard to data transparency and data sharing
- Establish mechanisms to enable shared authority for data between government and Indigenous organisations and communities
- Data collection and ownership given back to community
 - Can then use data from local, regional, state or national level to draw information about supply, demand, need, land availability etc.
 - Determine what data needs to be collected to address current deficiencies

Data platforms:

- Continue building national data platform of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander housing data
 - Have access to full and accurate jurisdictional profiles
 - Organisations may need assistance in collecting data as may not have data for many reasons
 - Need funding to support continuation of data platform activities – currently reliant on goodwill of partners but not sustainable
- A centralised and unified platform for collecting and analysing housing data across regions and organisations
- Clearing house or depository where Indigenous housing research data can be easily accessed and is maintained, e.g. similar to the Australian Indigenous HealthInfoNet

Better quality data:

- Need stronger, peer-reviewed evidence that cannot be disputed by government and can drive change
- If have better evidence, the sector would be in a stronger position to negotiate funding, e.g. for a new NPARIH

Frequency of data:

- Important that data on tenancies/tenant outcomes is reported on quarterly so can understand what is occurring
- Provision of dashboards with accessible and up-to-date housing data – would aid understanding and interrogation of housing issues

Indigenous status captured in data:

- Ability to differentiate between Indigenous and non-Indigenous tenants in data so that comparisons can be made regarding outcomes, e.g. rates and reasons for evictions

Fuller understanding of current data:

- Useful to identify what housing data is actually being collected by states and territories

- This process could inform future data collections as other jurisdictions may wish to use these learnings and replicate some of these data sets to provide a strong and consistent evidence base

Tenant experiences:

- Direct data is needed from Indigenous tenants to understand their personal experiences of housing and to identify patterns and issues
- Better tenant data can inform service delivery and identify service outcomes

Allocation of funding:

- More transparency needed in funding reporting – see where the money is going to/if it is going where it needs to
 - Show how states and territories are spending monies distributed under national funding agreements
 - How much of money is going to administrative costs within government or to mainstream service providers
 - How much of the funds are in the hands of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander organisations
- Modelling to show baseline funded need for community organisations to be sustainable and able to grow
- Accessible data on funding round outcomes – can inform development of different types of funding structures to increase Aboriginal organisations access to capital and funding

Better data on overcrowding:

- If able to capture crowding data correctly, this could help inform house design that can properly accommodate preferred kinship structures

National data agreement or legislation:

- National agreement/legislation (with attached funding) is needed to force data sharing and data sovereignty
 - Then data sharing not affected by change of governments/key public service staff
 - Would enable community organisations to remind governments of their obligations

Land availability:

- Data on land availability that is under the control of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander organisations
 - Understand what land is accessible/where can grow opportunities
 - Resources needed to do feasibility studies

A.1.3. Final roundtable – summary of discussions and additional feedback

1. Purpose of Indigenous housing data

Monitoring Closing the Gap (CTG) priority reforms and targets:

- Targets under Outcome Area 9
- Clauses 55A and 55B of the National Agreement on CTG

Enacting self-determination:

- Data not being provided or organised in a way that allows communities and their organisations to really make their case for funding
 - Need appropriate data to put up policy positions/advocacy
- Need to look at how ACCHOs can actually use the data
 - Needs to be presented in a way to support access by Indigenous people and communities, e.g. on dashboards/maps to drill down to a local level and meaningful data.
 - Needs to account for limited data literacy for ACCHOs and make sure that data is presented in a way that community members can understand.

ICCH sector planning:

- Aboriginal-led review on the national agreement on CTG and PC report show that all the priority reforms are interconnected and working concurrently is essential
 - To enact CTG Priority Reform 3 and support Priority Reform 4, need to understand what funding is available and the parameters/risk rating thresholds/assessment processes around this
 - Critical for policy decision-making and is the other side of the data that is very important for community-controlled sector.

Understanding government decision-making processes:

- Need more transparency to understand what data there is around government decision-making processes. What information is used to inform decisions, who makes decisions, etc.
- Also openness around what data would be deemed sufficient by government as an evidence base to put forward for funding, e.g. considered non-contestable, useful and acceptable for purpose of policy development.

2. Data gaps and recommendations

CTG data:

- Outcome Area 9 – data is especially lacking for Target 9b
 - Such a diverse set of touch points that there is not going to be one uniform set of data unless do very targeted design/likely expensive data collection exercise

- Going to have to pull from various source but challenge is where does this information already exist – at time people are collecting data at a state/local government level and don't actually realise what they have
- If don't have the right kind of data at the right level of comparability, then what is the relevance of the measure - why have we set a measure that we're not collecting data for
- Need to understand what the indicators should be and interrogate targets to see if they are right or should we be using different targets.
- Clause 55(b) – allocations to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander housing organisations inadequate and not being done in systematic way
 - Lack of data is preventing agencies from fulfilling commitments under Clause 55(b) – need more data to do meaningful calculations for funding allocations
 - Economic modelling needed to look at the assessment criteria and applications – currently centred on market value/use locality and cost versus impact which results in skewed outcomes
 - More data is needed around the involvement of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander sector in housing and how that can be strengthened.

Workforce data:

- ABS collects workforce data but it is challenging to identify the sector people are working in due to occupational classifications
 - For example, cannot disaggregate between general community services workers and those providing housing services
- Council of Homeless Persons used a different approach to examine the homelessness workforce
 - Used the ABNs of specialised homelessness services and matched these with ATO data to understand the workforce, e.g. examine retention
 - Shows the opportunities that may be possible through data linkage
- Currently still limits into our depth of understanding about the Indigenous housing and homelessness workforce
 - For example, how broad the workforce is, roles (e.g. frontline housing officers/tenancy managers, maintenance staff, property management staff, finance officers), qualifications and skills, what workers think about their work, job satisfaction and stress/emotional demands
 - Lack of data is largely due to not being a priority in the administrative data sets – have infrastructure there/know all the entities but no mandate to collect data from the workers

- If going to have long-term investment into housing and homelessness, need to understand the workforce (including differences between workforces in remote and urban locations)
- There is lots of workforce data collection in health sector – need something similar in housing sector
- Before putting burden on workers to collect information need to understand the benefit of this and for government to be committed to addressing workforce issues
- To gain a full picture of the workforce, need to consider why is the workforce like this and whether organisations are enabled to be funded
- Report needs more clarity about who is included in the Indigenous housing workforce, e.g. are administrative and maintenance workers included.

Construction industry:

- Minister O'Neill at the Homelessness conference said that we need to use money that has been committed to build houses but the construction industry is facing many issues and data is lacking
 - Need data on the industry (included where it is located), the workforce (e.g. who it consists of), industry investment/funding, new housing supply.

Repairs and maintenance:

- Need data to enable effective funding allocations
- Also to understand what makes repair and maintenances programs effective and how can they achieve really good economies of scale in remote areas

Climate:

- More data is needed as to the impact of climate on housing conditions.

Housing suitability:

- To assess housing suitability, need a more appropriate measure than the CNOS
 - Could interrogate some of current measures and rethink them from a culturally appropriate lens
- CTG - if going to collect data on housing suitability and culture need to work out what is meant by that
 - If the definition of housing suitability for CTG is refined, it might be possible to output that from existing data sources (as there is probably a lot of information that would underpin that)
- Extreme overcrowding leads into definitions of homelessness and a need to improve homelessness statistics.

Affordable housing:

- Affordable housing is an important part of the government's response to the current housing crisis but data is not available
 - Need data on the affordable housing sector and Indigenous involvement within this
 - Issue as each jurisdiction has a different definition of how they define affordable housing – need agreement as to one definition as this drives investment mandates

Lived experience of housing:

- Need to better understand impacts for other social determinants (e.g. child protection, justice, health, education, employment)
 - Data linkages are a very important tool for this
 - Need to consider the balance between data access and keeping people safe – appropriate restrictions to data access need to be put in place

Private rental market:

- Data is lacking as there is no mandate from government to examine it
 - Other administrative housing data (e.g. on social housing, homelessness) exists because of government accountability about services being delivered

Community housing data:

- Issue that accurate data is lacking on the number of Indigenous people living in community housing
 - Long-standing problem due to absence of policy drivers/mandates for data collection.

Funding agreements:

- Need to have targets for Indigenous housing spending and data to determine if meeting these.

Home ownership data:

- Important as many people have aspirations to own their home
- Concerns with accuracy and validity of the Census data
 - Self-reporting of household status in relation to home ownership – is it the Aboriginal person who owns the property or are they just a household member?
- Data required to understand need/support better targeting of home ownership supports to those who need assistance with deposits.

Homelessness data:

- Issues with how homeless Aboriginal people are counted in the Census and accuracy

- Can this be tested against the administrative data from the census year?
- Need for new data collection relating to homelessness.

Currency of housing data:

- Census is now outdated
 - Could potentially use housing data from Indigenous surveys (NATIHs and NATSISS) to fill gap somewhat between Census collections.

3. Indigenous housing data considerations

Co-design:

- Need to ensure that data collections are co-designed to allow for a community-controlled sector perspective
 - Would need immense amounts of investment
 - Also need to think about the unintended and downstream consequences – need to focus on purpose
 - Data linkage will never replace quality and targeted co-designed data collections.

Place-based data partnerships:

- Place-based data partnerships are essential for local data that people can use
 - Can think differently about how to use existing data and ensure it is available to people at relevant place and time – acknowledgement that not everyone needs to see it
- Place-based data partnerships are still in their infancy
 - Most of the community data projects at this point are looking more at how they can better utilise current publicly available data
 - Not quite at the stage yet of trying to do data collection

Community-level data:

- Could go out to each community, ascertain what their priorities are and enable data collection that meets their needs
 - However, the data would probably not be comparable across the country – this is an issue when looking at CTG which requires consistent reporting
- National and local data collections/reporting both have strengths and weaknesses and there is a tension between the two
 - Need community-level data to drive policy changes but this does not necessarily fit requirements to make decisions/allocate resources.

Remote location data:

- Mainstream data collections don't pick up remote communities as part of their stratification.
- Need to consider how much emphasis place on filling data gaps in remote Australia relative to non-remote
 - Collecting data from remote communities is harder, more expensive, and can put a burden on the community.
 - Also there is a lot of distrust of government – need to build trust that will get accurate information and to show that the evidence is of benefit to communities.

Indigenous data sovereignty:

- If we have so little confidence in either the relevance or consistency of current housing data, may need to think differently about the data ecosystem
- Data is expensive so there is no point collecting it unless it's relevant and honours principles of Indigenous data sovereignty
 - What does the data mean for people in specific locations who want information about their housing services/workforces - need to have data that works for people
- A national conversation for Indigenous data is needed that brings together experienced people such as Marcia Langton, Ray Lovett, Maggie Walker and Dr Michelle Evans.

Address power imbalances:

- There is currently an inherent power imbalance between the government and the ICCH sector in relation to housing data
- Need different types of data that would actually go to helping to put more truth telling and acknowledge this power imbalance
 - For example, information on what kind of funding is available, the uptake, processes that sit behind it (assessment criteria, weighting)
 - Would have a massive impact on sector and community outcomes.

Data linkage:

- Data linkages are very important
 - Intersection with other data is big conversation in the community-controlled sector and for the HPP
 - Can be used to look at housing across the life course, e.g. using NDIS data
 - Value of data sets from a different lenses, e.g. health dataset may trigger other agency responses such as child protection
- However there are also data linkage issues that need to be considered

- Historically evidence across all social determinants has been weaponised and exacerbates the challenges faced by First Nations people
- Also issues around the consent of Indigenous householders and how their data is used
- Issues with the quality of data in each data set – the data included is often either at the transactional or relationship end.

Data access:

- Challenges can be experienced in accessing Indigenous housing data
 - Different sources have different access requirements
 - Need to help facilitate access to local level data/data that is readily available at a suitable disaggregation
 - Need a data portal and transparency to ensure data is accessible and people know who to contact
- APS Indigenous Data Framework implementation
 - Access to data is a Year 3 outcome in the Framework – agencies are cataloguing their own data assets and working out governance processes for them
 - However, data belonging to state and territory governments is outside the realms of federal government and data responsibilities.

Innovative data analyses:

- Housing Supply and Affordability Council latest report
 - Has modelling that has future data projections – extends existing data beyond just putting the numbers out.

Data methodology:

- Need quantitative data to underpin decision-making
- Qualitative data also useful to support this and understand what works/impacts.

Government funding of data collections:

- Governments unwilling to invest in things when don't understand/are not confident they can deliver the solution
- Data collection needs to be an action in a national Indigenous housing and homelessness plan.

Appendix 2 – Data Sources

The following section of the report provides detailed information on each of the national and state/territory data sources reviewed. For each data source a description is presented along with an assessment of respective strengths and weaknesses.

A.2.1. National data sources

A.2.1.1. Australian Housing Conditions Dataset

The AHCD is a survey of Australian households that seeks to understand the housing conditions present across Australia. Funded by an Australian Research Council (ARC) Linkage Infrastructure, Equipment and Facilities (LIEF) grant, the AHCD is undertaken by a research partnership led by the Australian Centre for Housing Research at the University of Adelaide. The AHCD has been conducted on three occasions (in 2024, 2022 and 2016), with a further data collection occurring in 2020 that focused on the rental sector (the Australian Rental Housing Conditions Dataset). Whilst a key focus of the AHCD is on housing conditions, the dataset also collects a broad range of information on householders and their housing circumstances. This includes data on householder characteristics, tenure and landlord type, dwelling structure and age, dwelling facilities, housing affordability and satisfaction, and housing moves and aspirations.

The AHCD includes over 20,000 participants living across a range of housing sectors (i.e. homeownership, private rental and social housing). In order to provide effective insights into Indigenous housing, efforts have been made to increase the number of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander participants included in each data collection; by 2024, Indigenous people comprised 1,304 (or 6.5 per cent) of the total AHCD sample.

The AHCD is supported by a Technical Advisory Board of national and international housing experts who provide guidance on technical and data issues. The AHCD dataset undergoes a range of checking and validation processes to ensure the veracity of the data. This includes piloting to test the survey logic and de-identification of data to ensure participant privacy and confidentiality.

The AHCD data is lodged with the ADA and is freely accessible to policymakers and researchers upon request. The 2022 AHCD is the most recent version of the dataset that is accessible with the 2024 AHCD forthcoming; the datasets for the 2020 and 2016 data collections are also available via the ADA. Two versions of the dataset can be accessed: a general version and a restricted version which includes restricted variables on income and postcode. Both versions of the AHCD are available in CSV, SAS, SPSS and STATA formats. The ADA website also provides supporting material including data dictionaries, technical reports and questionnaires. Information on the AHCD and related data collections can be found on the Australian Centre for Housing Research website.

Strengths:

- The AHCD provides comprehensive information on housing conditions across Australia. It also includes detailed data on household characteristics, tenure, housing affordability, and housing satisfaction and moves
- Indigenous people are purposively over-represented in the AHCD, and the number of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander participants has been increasing with each data collection
- As Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander status is provided within the available dataset, all housing variables can be disaggregated for Indigenous and non-Indigenous households
- The AHCD data collections have been undertaken on four occasions enabling trends in housing conditions to be observed over time
- A Technical Advisory Board guides the conduct of the AHCD and a range of measures are undertaken to ensure the veracity of the data
- The survey datasets are freely available to approved researchers in several formats
- A range of survey documentation are also provided to support understanding of the data.

Weaknesses:

- The Indigenous sample in the AHCD is predominantly located in urban and regional areas; hence, the housing circumstances and conditions of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people living in remote locations are less well captured
- While the AHCD provides quality data about the condition of Indigenous housing in Australia, the involvement of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in its development and administration is not explicitly stated
- The AHCD does not provide data on several key indicators including overcrowding and homelessness
- The data custodians are non-Indigenous led organisations (the ADA and the Australian Centre for Housing Research); adherence to Indigenous data sovereignty principles is not specified.

A.2.1.2. Census of Population and Housing

The Census of Population and Housing is Australia's largest collection of statistical data and aims to include every person present in the nation on Census Night. Conducted every five years by the ABS, the Census was last conducted on 10 August 2021. The Census collects a broad range of information about the Australian population including age, gender, country of birth, work and education. The Census also includes some questions relating to housing circumstances including dwelling location, information on household members (e.g. age, sex and relationship), dwelling type and structure, tenure and landlord type, housing suitability (number of bedrooms), housing affordability (mortgage repayments and rent) and household income.

In 2021, the Census included 812,728 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people (from 352,041 households). Special collection strategies are used by the ABS to support the inclusion of specific

population groups and reduce the incidence of under-enumeration;⁸⁰ Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people are one of these targeted groups. The special collection strategies adopted include specific engagement and communication strategies, and support from field staff to assist with survey completion. Additionally, in some Indigenous communities in-person interviews are conducted using a tailored questionnaire with local people employed, where possible, to undertake this field work.

The ABS implements rigorous quality assurance protocols to ensure data accuracy and reliability. One such measure is the Post Enumeration Survey (PES) which assesses Census coverage in order to enhance the precision of population estimates. Despite strategies to encourage participation, the most recent PES estimated that the net undercount of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in the Census was 17.4 per cent (compared to 5.1 per cent for the non-Indigenous population).

Census data (both from the most recent and past censuses) can be accessed via a range of tools. The ABS website provides immediate and free access to key Census data in the form of QuickStats, Community Profiles, Census data by topics, interactive maps, DataPacks and GeoPackages. Access to more detailed data for statistical analysis is available to registered users through TableBuilder, MicrodataDownload and DataLab; however, annual charges apply for the latter two tools. Applications to purchase bespoke data can also be made to the ABS.

Strengths:

- Data coverage is comprehensive and aims to include every person present in Australia on Census night, including Indigenous households
- The Census captures a large range of information about household members including key socio-demographic characteristics
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander status is collected in the Census and all data items (including household and housing measures) can be disaggregated for Indigenous households
- The Census data can also be disaggregated across a wide range of Australian Statistical Geography Standard (ASGS) structures allowing for location-specific housing patterns and needs to be observed
- A range of special measures have been put in place to increase the enumeration of Indigenous populations including targeted engagement and data collection strategies
- The Census is an ongoing data collection enabling trends over time to be observed
- Quality assurance practices are undertaken by the ABS to review data quality and ensure the accuracy of outputs
- Census materials - including a data dictionary and survey questionnaires - are openly available to support data analysis

⁸⁰ Under-enumeration occurs when individuals or items that should be counted in a data collection process are missed or not recorded leading to an underestimation of the true total.

- The Census data can be accessed using a range of tools (depending on the complexity of analysis required), enabling data items to be manipulated and statistically analysed.

Weaknesses:

- As the Census data collection is not housing focused, information on housing quality and experiences is limited
- Despite considerable efforts to increase participation, Indigenous people continue to be under-represented in the Census and, therefore, estimations of housing need may be inaccurate
- The Census is only undertaken every five years and shorter-term changes in Indigenous housing may not be captured
- As the last data collection for the Census occurred in 2021, the available data is somewhat dated
- While some data is available on the ABS website, registration (and at times, a fee) is required to access more complex or bespoke data
- The Census data is managed by a non-Indigenous led organisation (the ABS) and adherence to Indigenous data sovereignty principles are not specified.

A.2.1.3. Census – Estimating Homelessness

Drawing on data from the 2021 Census, the Estimating Homelessness data source provides estimates of people (both Indigenous and non-Indigenous) experiencing homelessness or who are marginally housed. The dataset also utilises previous Census data collections (from 2006, 2011 and 2016) to examine trends over time for some homelessness measures. In order to improve the accuracy of data collected on homelessness, the ABS implemented a targeted Homelessness Enumeration Strategy from 2016 to support the inclusion in the Census of people who were sleeping rough, couch surfing or residing in supported accommodation for the homeless.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples are one of the groups for whom more detailed data on their homelessness status is available. Specific homelessness data is available and presented by Indigenous status that outlines the incidence and rates of homelessness experienced by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. This data is also disaggregated by type of homelessness or marginal housing, socio-demographic characteristics, and location (i.e. state/territory and capital cities). However, due to the under-enumeration of Indigenous people captured in the Census, the estimates of Indigenous homelessness provided in the data are likely to under-estimate true levels.

Key statistics on homelessness are presented on the ABS website, including information on Aboriginal and Torres Strait homelessness. A specific dataset containing data tables pertaining to the homelessness experiences of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people can also be

downloaded freely and directly from the ABS website in XLSX format. More detailed analysis can be undertaken using TableBuilder and via customised tables requested from the ABS.

Strengths:

- The Census – Estimating Homelessness data source focuses on homelessness across Australia with specific data available for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people
- The Census provides the national homelessness prevalence measure
- Information on the rates and types of homelessness experienced, and the socio-demographic characteristics of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who are homeless or marginally housed is provided
- The homelessness data is available at a state/territory level and for Greater Capital City Statistical Areas
- Since the 2016 Census, a targeted Homelessness Enumeration Strategy has been implemented by the ABS to support improved data collection with people experiencing homelessness
- The ABS website provides clear information on the methodology used to compile the homelessness data and a Homelessness Statistics Reference Group assisted in ensuring the veracity of the homelessness estimates
- The homelessness data can be freely accessed via downloadable data files from the ABS website.

Weaknesses:

- The scope of the data is fairly limited as the ABS Census is not specifically tailored to capture experiences of homelessness; for example, there is no information around reasons for homelessness
- Given the undercounting in the Census of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and those experiencing homelessness, the data may provide an under-estimation of the true prevalence of Indigenous homelessness
- As the most recent Census occurred in 2021, the information provided on Indigenous homelessness is not current
- The data provides a snapshot of homelessness on Census night and may not capture shorter-term mobility patterns and occurrences of homelessness
- While some data is available on the ABS website, registration (and at times, a fee) is required to access more complex data
- The homelessness data is managed by a non-Indigenous led organisation (the ABS) and adherence to Indigenous data sovereignty principles is not specified.

A.2.1.4. Closing the Gap Outcome Area 9 Data

Closing the Gap (CTG) Outcome Area 9 includes two targets: (i) Target 9a focuses on increasing the proportion of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people living in appropriately sized

housing, and (ii) Target 9b seeks to ensure that all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander households receive an appropriate standard of essential services. To inform whether progress is being made in this outcome area, data is drawn from the ABS Census of Population and Housing (primarily from the 2021 and 2016 Census with additional data from earlier Censuses utilised to examine trends over time for some measures). The Productivity Commission holds responsibility for the collation and analysis of the CTG data; both for this and other outcome areas.

The CTG data for Target 9a uses Census data on housing suitability to elicit the proportion of people living in appropriately sized housing; this data is presented at a state/territory and national level by Indigenous status (with further differentiation by sex, age group, remoteness, socio-economic disadvantage, tenure type, and need for assistance with core activities). Data is also available on the incidence of overcrowding, by Indigenous status and the number of extra bedrooms required by a household. Crowding data is openly available in tabular and figure format on the Productivity Commission's CTG online dashboard. More comprehensive data can be freely downloaded from the CTG dashboard webpage in XLSX and CSV formats.

The CTG dashboard does not provide information on progress towards Target 9b as there are no current data sources that include all necessary elements.⁸¹

Strengths:

- The scope of the CTG Outcome 9 data is broad, encompassing all Indigenous households living in Australia
- The data includes a range of information on appropriately sized housing including by tenure and landlord type, the incidence and severity of overcrowding, housing conditions and facilities, and household characteristics
- The data is disaggregated to a state and territory level, with some information also available by remoteness area enabling locational differences to be observed
- Comprehensive information is provided on the target data specifications including on disaggregation, computation and data quality
- Data is available via an online dashboard, and further data can be downloaded for analysis.

Weaknesses:

- Given the under-enumeration of Indigenous people in the Census, the data may provide an underestimation of the real incidence of household overcrowding
- As the most recent Census occurred in 2021, the CTG information for Target 9a is not current
- The CTG data uses the Canadian National Occupancy Standard (CNOS) to assess the appropriateness of housing size. However, the suitability of the CNOS in assessing experiences of crowding for Indigenous households has been criticised⁸²

⁸¹ See CTG Information Repository Dashboard: <https://www.pc.gov.au/closing-the-gap-data/dashboard/se/outcome-area9>

⁸² Dockery, A.M., Moskos, M., Isherwood, L. and Harris, M. (2022) How many in a crowd? Assessing overcrowding measures in Australian housing, AHURI Final Report No. 382, Australian Housing and Urban Research Institute Limited, Melbourne.

- At present, there is no data source available which includes the required information to assess progress towards Target 9b
- The data is managed by a non-Indigenous led organisation (the Productivity Commission) and adherence to Indigenous data sovereignty principles is not specified.

A.2.1.5. Community Housing and Infrastructure Needs Survey (CHINS)

The CHINS has been undertaken on three occasions – in 1999, 2001 and 2006 – with no further data collections currently planned. Administered by the ABS, the CHINS had two key elements. Firstly, the Survey collected data from ICHOs about their housing stock (e.g. dwelling numbers, type, size, occupancy, condition acquisitions and disposals), service delivery, income and expenditure. Secondly, the CHINS collected information on discrete Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities across Australia including data on housing (both temporary and permanent housing), infrastructure, services and community facilities. The CHINS was intended to be a complete enumeration of all discrete communities and ICHOs across Australia. As such, the CHINS aimed to inform Indigenous policy and program development, and to support targeted funding within Indigenous communities.

Data collection for the latest CHINS was undertaken in conjunction with preparations for the 2006 Census of Population and Housing, and data collection occurred from March to November 2006. Under the guidance of an Advisory Group, separate questionnaires were developed for use with ICHOs and Indigenous communities. For the latter, a shorter questionnaire containing a subset of questions was used for communities with a reported population of less than 50 people. Several data quality measures were undertaken for the 2006 CHINS including thorough questionnaire design, adequate training and supervision of interviewers, and comparison made with previous data collections to ensure consistency.

The ABS website provides reports corresponding to each occurrence of the CHINS which include tables presenting key statistics. Four downloadable data cubes (in XLSX format) are also accessible from the ABS website. These data cubes include the data from the tables presented in Chapters 2 to 4 of the 2006 CHINS report and also provide further information on ICHOs, discrete Indigenous communities and dwelling characteristics.

Strengths:

- The coverage of the CHINS data includes all ICHOs and discrete Indigenous communities across Australia. As such the CHINS provides strong coverage of remote locations and communities which is often lacking in other data collections
- The CHINS is Indigenous housing focused and was specifically designed to collate information on ICHO operations and discrete communities
- Comprehensive data is available on housing stock and infrastructure, dwelling occupancy and organisational financial arrangements; some information is also provided on ICHO governance arrangements, tenancy management services, and workforce

- Measures were taken to minimise non-sampling errors and checks made to ensure the consistency of the data collected at different waves
- Explanatory notes and survey questionnaires are provided to support understanding of the CHINS data
- Data tables are presented in the CHINS reporting and data cubes can also be freely downloaded directly from the ABS website.

Weaknesses:

- Data collection for the CHINS last occurred in 2006, and therefore, the information collected may not provide an accurate reflection of the current status of Indigenous housing
- The CHINS does not include information on the Indigenous households supported by ICHOs or on the housing need present in Indigenous communities
- As a key focus of the CHINS is on remote communities, there is less detailed information available on Indigenous housing in urban and regional locations
- While survey development was guided by an Advisory Group, the level of Indigenous representation is not specified
- The CHINS data is managed by a non-Indigenous led organisation (the ABS) and adherence to Indigenous data sovereignty principles is unspecified.

A.2.1.6. Community Housing (CH) Data Collection

The CH data collection, collated by the AIHW, documents the performance, management, and client details of community housing services across Australia. The data collection covers housing providers, and individuals and households receiving housing support from these providers. The data excludes other forms of social housing such as public or Indigenous community housing.

The CH data collection provides information on: (i) dwellings by location, occupancy, tenantable status, and number of bedrooms, (ii), households by location, socio-demographic characteristics, tenure length and Indigenous status, (iii) newly allocated households by location, greatest need and special needs status, (iv) household members by location, age and sex, and (v) dwelling suitability by location and Indigenous status.

The data in the AIHW CH collection is updated and submitted annually by state and territory housing authorities and CHPs across Australia. The data spans from 1996-1997 to the most recent financial year (2023-2024). Quality assurance involves data validation by the AIHW and state and territory governments. However, the AIHW acknowledges some inconsistencies in the data provided by different jurisdictions. In addition, the information contained in the data collection may be incomplete due to non-reporting or under-reporting by some CHPs.

The CH data is used for reporting purposes in the AIHW's *Housing Assistance in Australia* report and the Productivity Commission's *RoGS* (both are published on an annual basis). Summary data on community housing is available on the AIHW website, and supplementary data tables from the *Housing Assistance in Australia* reporting can also be downloaded in XLSX format. Access to

further unpublished data can be requested via the AIHW's online data request system but is subject to data provider approval.

Strengths:

- The scope of the CH data collection is Australia-wide and includes tenancy units under the management of community housing organisations (excluding ICHOs)
- The collection provides comprehensive information on the community housing sector including dwelling stock, occupancy and allocations
- The data also provides some information on households living in community housing including the Indigenous status of the household
- The CH data can be disaggregated by state/territory, SA4 regions, and by remoteness allowing for locational analysis
- The data collection is current and historical data is also available to examine trends in community housing provision over time
- A data set specification report is available that provides a description of data items contained within the collection
- Summary data is presented on the AIHW website and supplementary data tables can be accessed via downloadable files.

Weaknesses:

- The CH data includes limited information about the CHPs themselves; for example, data is not provided on topics such as their governance arrangements, financial considerations or workforce
- There is limited information pertaining to Indigenous people living in community housing; many of the publicly available data items do not differentiate between community housing provided to Indigenous and non-Indigenous people
- The data is incomplete due to a lack of reporting by some CHPs and, therefore, does not provide a complete picture of community housing provision to Indigenous people across Australia
- Access to more detailed, unpublished data can be requested but is subject to data provider approval and costs
- Custodians for the CH data are non-Indigenous led organisations (i.e. state/territory housing departments), and adherence to Indigenous data sovereignty principles is not specified.

A.2.1.7. Household, Income and Labour Dynamics in Australia (HILDA) Survey

The HILDA Survey is a longitudinal study that tracks Australian households over time. The DSS holds overall responsibility for the HILDA, and the survey is designed and managed by the Melbourne Institute of Applied Economic and Social Research at the University of Melbourne. First conducted in 2001 and then annually since, there have been 24 waves of data collection to date.

The HILDA survey aims to be nationally representative of the Australian population, and includes both Indigenous and non-Indigenous participants. However, the HILDA survey has a relatively small sample of Indigenous people and the sampling frame does not include people living in remote areas (thus disproportionately affecting the representation of Indigenous people).

Initially drawing from 12,252 households across 488 neighbourhood regions, over time the survey has continued to include new household members, such as children born into the sampled households. The HILDA survey currently has more than 17,000 annual participants. The HILDA survey gathers data through interviews with all people aged 15 years and older in each selected household. Each wave of the HILDA Survey involves a comprehensive set of questionnaires, including personal interviews and self-completion forms.

The HILDA survey provides data on multiple aspects of life such as householder information and family relationships, income, employment, education, health and wellbeing. The survey also collects some information on housing including household structure, homeownership status, housing tenure, and the quality of housing.

With regards to data quality, several reported processes are in place to ensure the accuracy and consistency of the HILDA data. These include extensive training for interviewers, rigorous testing of survey instruments, and the imputation of missing data. The survey also employs weighting techniques to account for non-response and sample composition biases. Regular adjustments to the survey design are made to support its relevance and accuracy over time. While the survey collects data on Indigenous households, the involvement of Indigenous people in its design and administration is not explicitly stated in the available documentation.

Data from the 23rd release of the HILDA (incorporating data from Waves 1-23) is available through the DSS Longitudinal Studies Dataverse in several formats, i.e. SAS, SPSS and STATS. Two versions of the HILDA data - a General Release and a Restricted Release – are available at no cost to approved researchers. While a formal request has to be made to access either version of the data, a demonstrated justification must be shown to access the Restricted Release dataset as this contains more detailed information. Annual statistical reports, discussion papers, technical papers, and a listing of HILDA publications by external researchers are openly available on the Melbourne Institute website.

Strengths:

- The HILDA is conducted annually and both current and historical data is available
- The survey aims to provide a nationally representative sample of households and, therefore, includes some Indigenous households
- HILDA provides a comprehensive range of householder information and also includes some information on housing experiences including tenure, dwelling quality, housing affordability, housing satisfaction and moves
- The HILDA is a longitudinal study and tracks the same households over time. Housing trends for Indigenous people can be explored over time

- A range of measures are undertaken to ensure the quality of the HILDA data
- The full survey dataset is freely available to approved researchers in several formats
- A range of explanatory documentation is openly provided and user training is available to support data analysis.

Weaknesses:

- The number of Indigenous people captured by the HILDA is relatively small and may not be representative of the broader Indigenous population
- The housing data contained within the HILDA is limited and does not include information on topics such as housing quality, overcrowding, homelessness and housing aspirations
- As the scope of the survey is on urban and regional areas, the housing experiences and needs of Indigenous people living in remote locations are not elicited
- The HILDA is governed by an External Reference Group and Technical Reference Group (TRG); however, the involvement of Indigenous people in the design and administration of the survey is not explicitly stated
- The data custodians are non-Indigenous led organisations (the DSS and Melbourne Institute) and adherence to Indigenous data sovereignty principles not specified.

A.2.1.8. Housing Statistics for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People

The ABS Housing Statistics for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People is a collation of household and housing data drawn from various ABS collections, i.e. the Census of Population and Housing (2001 to 2021), the Census of Population and Housing: Estimating Homelessness (2016), the NATSIHS2012-13 and 2018-19) and the NATSISS (2008 and 2014-15). The housing statistics cover eight key topics including dwelling characteristics, standard of housing, tenure type, landlord type, housing suitability and overcrowding, homelessness, household income and housing costs.

The ABS website presents an overview of key statistics from the data collection including in tabular and graph format. Information is also available on the website regarding the information sources and the type/level of data each source contributes to the housing statistics. Data files in XLSX format can also be freely downloaded from the ABS website, each covering a different topic of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander housing. These files present the data used to generate the key statistics and also provide supplementary data tables.

Strengths:

- The Housing Statistics for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People data source draws from multiple existing ABS datasets allowing for nationwide coverage and more detailed housing data
- The linking of multiple existing data collections is an efficient and cost-effective way to provide a national Indigenous housing data resource

- With a specific focus on Indigenous housing, the data source provides comprehensive information on a range of key indicators including housing tenure, overcrowding, housing quality, housing affordability and homelessness
- The data can be disaggregated to a state/territory level, with some data also available by remoteness areas, Indigenous areas, LGA and socio-economic status; thus enabling location-specific analysis to occur
- Clear information is provided about the data sources used to compile the housing statistics including the type of information utilised from each
- Key statistics are presented on the ABS website and data tables can be downloaded for free with immediate access.

Weaknesses:

- While the data covers a range of indicators, information on other key elements of housing are not covered, such as household characteristics, housing stress, housing satisfaction, and housing experiences and aspirations
- As the Housing Statistics draw from various sources, the currency of the data varies. Also, as the most recent data included in the collection is from the 2021 Census, the housing data provided is somewhat dated
- The Census of Population and Housing forms a key part of the Housing Statistics data and, as previously noted, Indigenous people are under-enumerated in the Census. This may lead to incomplete, and potentially inaccurate, information on housing conditions and need
- The Housing Statistics data is managed by a non-Indigenous led organisation (the ABS) and adherence to Indigenous data sovereignty principles is not specified.

A.2.1.9. Indigenous Community Housing (ICH) Data Collection

The ICH data collection, collated by the AIHW, compiles detailed information on Indigenous community housing services across Australia. The data collection is used to inform government policy development, resource allocation and program evaluation. This collection encompasses a range of data points, including: (i) information on the number, location, and condition of housing units managed by ICHOs; (ii) data on whether dwellings are occupied, vacant, or tenantable; (iii) details about the number of households supported; and (iv) information on ICHOs including their location and housing stock.

The data in the AIHW ICH collection is updated and submitted annually by state and territory housing authorities and ICHOs across Australia. The data spans from 2003 to 2024. Quality assurance involves data validation by the AIHW and state and territory governments. However, the AIHW acknowledges some inconsistencies in the data provided by different jurisdictions. In addition, the information contained in the data collection may be incomplete due to non-reporting or under-reporting by some ICHOs.

The ICH data is used for reporting purposes in the AIHW's *Housing Assistance in Australia* report and the Productivity Commission's *RoGS* (both are published on an annual basis). Summary data on Indigenous community housing is available on the AIHW website, and supplementary data tables from the *Housing Assistance in Australia* reporting can also be downloaded in XLSX format. Access to further unpublished data can be requested via the AIHW's online data request system but is subject to data provider approval.

Strengths:

- The scope of the ICH data collection includes all dwellings targeted to Indigenous people and managed by ICHOs across Australia
- Comprehensive coverage is sought to ensure the data reflects the state of Indigenous community housing nationwide as accurately as possible
- The collection provides a range of information on the ICHO sector including dwelling stock and size, occupancy rates, and the number of households and household members
- The data can be disaggregated by state/territory and remoteness area allowing for some location-specific analysis
- The collection is updated annually, with current and historic data available
- A range of quality assurance measures are used to support the accuracy of the ICH data
- A data set specification report provides a description of data items to aid understanding and analysis
- Summary data is presented on the AIHW website and supplementary data tables can be accessed via downloadable files.

Weaknesses:

- While the data collection provides information about the Indigenous community housing sector, only very limited information is given on ICHOs themselves. Nor is information provided on the characteristics of the Indigenous people supported by the Indigenous community housing sector
- The AIHW acknowledges that the ICH data collection is affected by missing data and inconsistencies in the data collected by state and territory jurisdictions
- Access to unpublished data can be requested but is subject to data provider approval and costs
- Custodians for the data are non-Indigenous led organisations (i.e. state/territory housing departments), and adherence to Indigenous data sovereignty principles is not specified.

A.2.1.10. Journeys Home Survey

Launched in 2011, Journeys Home: A Longitudinal Study of Factors Affecting Housing Stability tracked nearly 1,700 Australians who were homeless or at risk of homelessness over a two-and-a-half-year period. The Journeys Home Survey concluded in 2014. In the last wave of data

collection, 1,406 participants completed the survey; of these 19.6% (approximately 276 people) were Indigenous.

Journeys Home was funded by the DSS and managed by the Melbourne Institute of Applied Economic and Social Research at the University of Melbourne. Data was collected via face-to-face and telephone interviews across six waves, at six-monthly intervals. The survey aimed to identify factors leading to homelessness and support the development of better services to people experiencing housing challenges. Journeys Home provided data on a range of topics including socio-demographic characteristics, employment, support services and networks, health and wellbeing, contact with the justice system, exposure to violence, income and financial stress. The survey also collected a range of information on housing such as living arrangements, accommodation standards, overcrowding, housing history and accommodation changes.

A TRG, made up of leading researchers from disciplines including housing, social inclusion, mental health, statistics and service provision guided the construction of the survey, sampling and datasets. The involvement of Indigenous stakeholders in the design or administration of the Journeys Home Survey is not explicitly stated in the accessible research documentation.

Several quality assurance measures were adopted across the course of the study including interviewer training and retention. Response and population weights were also created to improve the representativeness of the participant sample. The Journeys Home dataset files are accessible in four versions: General, Overseas, Limited and Limited+RED. These files are available for purchase under individual licensing arrangements via the DSS. Reports, publications and documentations on Journeys Home – including Research Reports, Technical Reports, a User Manual and survey questionnaires – can be obtained from the Melbourne Institute's website.

Strengths:

- With a specific focus on people experiencing homelessness or at risk of homelessness, the Journeys Home survey provides comprehensive information on experiences of homelessness
- The survey provides longitudinal data on housing and homelessness experiences across multiple waves of data collection, supporting analysis of transitions over time
- Expert advice on the construction of survey instruments, sampling strategies and datasets was provided by a TRG
- Various quality control measures and weights were applied to improve the veracity of the data
- Study documentation including a user manual and survey questionnaires are freely available to support understanding of the data source
- The Journeys Home datasets are available in full in several versions.

Weaknesses:

- Only a small number of the participant sample are Indigenous, limiting the relevance of the data to understanding Indigenous housing and homelessness

- As Journeys Home concluded in 2014, the available data is not current or reflective of the current state of housing in Australia
- The involvement of Indigenous people in the development and conduct of the survey is unclear
- The datasets are only available to purchase under individual licensing arrangements from the DSS
- The data custodian (the DSS) is a non-Indigenous led organisation and adherence to Indigenous data sovereignty principles are not specified.

A.2.1.11. Longitudinal Study of Australian Children

Growing Up in Australia: The Longitudinal Study of Australian Children (LSAC) collects extensive data on Australian children's development from birth to adulthood. The LSAC is funded by the DSS and co-ordinated by the Australian Institute of Family Studies (AIFS). Researchers from a wide range of disciplines advise on the conduct of the study and provide technical expertise.

The LSAC covers a large range of topics including family dynamics, parenting, childcare, education and health. The study also collects information on housing such as tenure and landlord type, dwelling characteristics, housing costs and affordability, homelessness and neighbourhood perceptions.

The study was first conducted in 2004 and thereafter bi-annually, with the most recent data collection (for Wave 10) occurring in 2023. Two cohorts of children were initially sampled: (1) approximately 5,000 children aged 0–1 year, and (2) approximately 5,000 children aged 4–5 years. The sample was randomly selected for invitation into the study from the Medicare administrative database. While the sample includes Indigenous children, this cohort accounts for only a small proportion of participants (around 4 per cent in Wave 1).

Data is collected from parents, carers, teachers, and participating children once they reach an appropriate age. Data collection methods include face-to-face and telephone interviews, paper questionnaires, and online methods. There is no specific information outlined in the available research materials about whether, or how Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples were involved in the design or administration of the LSAC. The collected data undergoes rigorous validation processes to ensure its accuracy and consistency. This includes checking for inconsistencies and outlying results, as well as verifying data against external sources when possible. While the LSAC sample is intended to be representative of the Australia population, weights are used to reduce the impact of biases in sampling and survey non-response.

Data up to, and including, Wave 9 is available at no cost to approved researchers via the DSS Longitudinal Studies Dataverse website. Two versions of the LSAC data - a General Release and a Restricted Release – are available in SAS, SPSS and STATA format. In addition there are three linked datasets that can also be accessed: the Medicare linked Dataset, the Centrelink linked Dataset, and the LSAC Child Health Checkpoint. Guidelines are provided with further information on LSAC data access and use.

A range of documentation about the LSAC is available on the Dataverse website including a data dictionary, data user guide and survey questionnaires for each wave of data collection. The AIFS's Growing Up in Australia website also provide various LSAC research outputs including research snapshots, annual reports, statistical reports, and research reports.

Strengths:

- The LSAC is conducted bi-annually and provides longitudinal data on a range of topics pertaining to the development of Australian children
- The LSAC captures a broad range of household data and also includes some information on housing experiences; the data supports understanding of how housing can impact upon child socio-economic outcomes
- A consortium of leading researchers provides advice and technical expertise to inform the conduct of the LSAC
- The LSAC data undergoes rigorous validation processes to ensure accuracy and consistency
- A data dictionary, user guide and survey questionnaires are available to support understanding of the LSAC data
- The full datasets can be accessed at no cost in several versions and formats.

Weaknesses:

- Indigenous children account for only a small proportion of the total participant sample, limiting the statistical reliability of the data for Indigenous children
- As the focus of the LSAC is on child development, the housing data collected is limited; in particular, the LSAC does not collect data on housing conditions, satisfaction and aspirations
- The most recent data available is from Wave 9 (2020-2021); hence, the data is somewhat dated and also data collection for this wave was considerably impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic
- The involvement of Indigenous people and organisations in the development and conduct of the LSAC is not specified
- Access to the data is restricted and only available to approved researchers
- The LSAC data custodian is the DSS (a non-Indigenous led organisation) and adherence to Indigenous data sovereignty principles is not specified.

A.2.1.12. Longitudinal Study of Indigenous Children

The Footprints in Time: Longitudinal Study of Indigenous Children (LSIC) focuses on the development of Indigenous children in Australia. Funded by the DSS, the key aims of the LSIC are to (1) improve understanding of the lives of Indigenous children, families and communities, and (2) inform the development of government policies and programs.

The study collects a range of information about the participating children and their families, including socio-economic status, health, education, wellbeing and community engagement. Information relating to housing is also collected by the LSIC, i.e. on tenure and landlord type,

dwelling characteristics and conditions, overcrowding, housing stress, homelessness, housing moves, and neighbourhood perceptions.

The LSIC first began in 2008 with 1,671 children and their families from selected locations across Australia. Details about two cohorts of children were initially collected: (1) children aged 6 months to 2 years, and (2) children aged 3 years and 6 months to 5 years. The LSIC uses a variety of data collection methods, including face-to-face interviews, telephone surveys, self-completed questionnaires, and physical measures. While data was initially collected from primary carers, the participating children (now known as 'study youth') also began to take part in data collection activities as they aged. Additional information is also collected from school teachers/childcare workers and data is linked with the National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) and My School data. Data collection occurs every two years to enable progress and change to be tracked over time, with regular participant engagement occurring between waves.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people were actively involved in the design and administration of the LSIC. Extensive consultations were conducted with Indigenous communities and service providers during the study's development. These consultations influenced the study design, focusing on cultural sensitivity and collaboration. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Research Administration Officers are employed to conduct interviews, ensuring that data collection is culturally appropriate. The study obtained ethics clearance at both jurisdictional and national levels, including the Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies (AIATSIS) Ethics Committee. Further, the study is guided by a steering committee with a majority of Indigenous representation.

The most recent data collection occurred in 2024 (Wave 17). Data from Waves 1 to 14 (Release 14) is available to approved researchers from government, academic institutions and non-profit organisations through the DSS Longitudinal Studies Dataverse. Applicants for the data must complete an access request form that includes information as to their proposed use of the LSIC data and provide their Cultural Standpoint. Once approved, the data is accessible in several formats, i.e. SAS, SPSS and STATA. Documentation on the LSIC is also openly available on the Dataverse website including questionnaires, a data dictionary and data user guide. A range of publications - reports, data highlights, research summaries and occasional papers – are available on the LSIC webpage on the DSS website.

Strengths:

- The LSIC is Indigenous focused and includes Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children selected from different locations across Australia
- By collecting a broad range of household data including some information on housing experiences, the LSIC supports understanding of the long-term impacts of housing on Indigenous children

- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people were actively involved in the design and administration of the LSIC study including extensive stakeholder consultation and governance by a Steering Committee with majority Indigenous representation
- To support the cultural appropriateness of data collection, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Research Administration Officers are employed to conduct interviews
- A range of documentation is openly available to support analysis of the LSIC data
- The full datasets can be accessed at no cost in a range of formats
- Data applicants must acknowledge their Cultural Standpoint and outline how they plan to use the LSIC data; this assists in ensuring that analysis and reporting of the LSIC data is undertaken in a culturally sensitive way.

Weaknesses:

- While including a diverse range of Indigenous people and areas, the LSIC is not designed to be nationally representative of all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people across Australia
- Given the focus of the LSIC on child development, data on several key housing indicators (e.g. housing satisfaction and aspirations) is not collected
- The most recent data available is from Wave 14; as data collection for this wave occurred in 2021, the information relating to housing is somewhat dated
- The participant sample for the LSIC is relatively small compared to other national survey collections, and has decreased further over time (e.g. 936 participants at Wave 14).

A.2.1.13. National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Survey (NATSIHS)

The NATSIHS is conducted by the ABS. The most recent NATSIHS was undertaken in 2022-23, with three previous data collections occurring in 2004-05, 2012-13 and 2018-19. The NATSIHS collects data on a wide variety of health and wellbeing topics, and also socio-demographic information on household members. Limited information relating to housing is also collected as part of the NATSIHS including (i) tenure and landlord type, (ii) dwelling structure, size and facilities, (iii) structural problems and repairs, and (iv) housing costs and affordability. Consultation with key stakeholders (from government, research and community organisations) and workshops with Indigenous community members occurred to inform the development of the NATSIHS and identify priority data requirements.

The 2022-23 NATSIHS occurred between August 2022 to March 2024, with data collected from 4,878 households living in private dwellings across Australia. In order to extrapolate estimates for the broader Indigenous population, the final sample was weighted at a person and household level to population benchmarks. Data collection for the NATSIHS occurs via face-to-face interviews and a series of physical health measures. Where possible, in Aboriginal communities and some regional areas, interviewers were accompanied by local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander advisors.

Data from the NATSIHS is available in several formats. Key statistics are presented on the ABS website and data cubes covering a broad range of topics are available for download in XLSX format. More detailed and customisable data on selected topics are available for approved users on ABS DataLab (for all iterations) and TableBuilder (for the 2018-19 and 2012-13 NATSIHS).

Strengths:

- The NATSIHS is an Indigenous-specific data collection that covers a large sample of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people living in private dwellings across Australia
- The NATSIHS collects a large range of household information including some data on housing circumstances; the data supports understanding of the relationship between housing and health
- The NATSIHS has been undertaken on four occasions enabling observation of Indigenous housing over time
- The NATSIHS was designed specifically for Indigenous people, with Indigenous stakeholders and community members informing survey development
- Local Indigenous advisors accompanied interviewers in communities and some regional areas to explain the purpose of survey, introduce interviewers, and assist in identifying/locating residents
- A range of measures were undertaken to support the reliability and generalisability of the data including the use of weights calibrated to population benchmarks
- Documentation (including a methodology, explanatory notes and data item list) are available to support the use of the NATSIHS data
- The NATSIHS data is freely available in several formats.

Weaknesses:

- As the NATSIHS has a focus on Indigenous health, the data collected on housing is fairly limited and excludes information on homelessness, housing satisfaction and experiences of housing
- The focus of the survey is on Indigenous people who were the usual residents of private dwellings. Hence, visitors and those living in non-private dwellings were excluded from participating in the survey.
- The NATSIHS is conducted approximately every six years, limiting the potential to observe shorter-term changes in housing indicators
- More detailed data can only be accessed by approved users, and the data available in TableBuilder does not include the most recent wave
- A non-Indigenous led organisation (the ABS) is responsible for the NATSIHS data and the following of Indigenous data sovereignty principles is not specified.

A.2.1.14. National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Survey (NATSISS)

Undertaken by the ABS, the NATSISS has been conducted on three occasions: in 2002, 2008 and 2014-15. The NATSISS was preceded by the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Survey (NATSIS) in 1994. The NATSISS collected information on a broad range of demographic, socio-economic, health, cultural and environmental factors. The dataset also contains extensive information on the characteristics of Indigenous householders and a range of data on housing. The latter includes (i) tenure and landlord type, (ii) dwelling characteristics, (iii) housing conditions, facilities and repairs, (iv) housing costs and financial stress, (v) experiences of housing and homelessness, and (vi) neighbourhood perceptions.

The NATSISS was developed in consultation with stakeholders including representatives from government agencies, welfare organisations, research agencies and peak Indigenous groups. Data collection for the most recent NATSISS was undertaken from September 2014 to June 2015 via face-to-face surveys with 6,611 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander households across Australia. The scope of the survey included all Indigenous people who were the usual residents of private dwellings. Hence, visitors and those living in non-private dwellings were excluded from participating in the survey.

The ABS implemented a range of measures to support the quality of the NATSISS data. For example, weights were used against population benchmarks to infer results for the full in-scope Indigenous population. Efforts were also made by the ABS to minimise non-sampling errors, e.g. design and testing of questionnaires, training of interviewers, editing and quality control procedures for data processing.

A series of data cubes can be freely downloaded in XLSX format directly from the ABS website. Customisable data for the 2014-15 NATSISS can be accessed by approved users via ABS TableBuilder and DataLab. Summary results presenting key findings for the full sample, and also separately for state and territory jurisdictions, are also available on the NATSISS 2014-15 webpage and in downloadable pdf format.

Strengths:

- The NATSISS is an Indigenous-specific data source, covering a large sample of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people living in private dwellings across Australia
- The NATSISS collects comprehensive information about Indigenous householders and a range of information on housing experiences; the data collected supports analysis of the relationships between housing and various socio-economic indicators
- The NATSISS was developed in consultation with stakeholders including representatives from Indigenous organisations and peak bodies
- For the interviews undertaken in Indigenous communities, interviewers were accompanied where possible by local facilitators who explained the purpose of survey, introduced interviewers, and assisted in identifying/locating residents

- Person and household weights were calculated to population benchmarks to allow extrapolation to the total in-scope population
- Explanatory notes, questionnaires and a data item list are available to support the use of the NATSISS data
- The NATSISS data is openly available via the ABS website in several formats.

Weaknesses:

- Given the broad scope of the NATSISS, several key housing indicators – including housing satisfaction and aspirations – are not covered within the data
- The focus of the survey is on Indigenous people who were the usual residents of private dwellings. Hence, visitors and those living in non-private dwellings were excluded from participating in the survey.
- The NATSISS data collection concluded in 2014-15 and, therefore, the data available does not reflect the current status of Indigenous housing conditions and need
- The NATSISS was only conducted on a six yearly basis, preventing observations of shorter-term changes in housing indicators
- Customised data can only be accessed by approved users in TableBuilder
- A non-Indigenous led organisation (the DSS) is custodian of the NATSISS data and adherence to Indigenous data sovereignty principles is not specified.

A.2.1.15. National Social Housing Survey (NSHS)

The NSHS, managed by the AIHW, gathers data on social housing tenant experiences and satisfaction. The survey targets tenants residing in various social housing programs across Australia, aiming to capture a representative sample reflective of the broader tenant population. The NSHS is typically conducted every two years, with data collections occurring from 2001 to, most recently, 2023. While the coverage of the NSHS has varied somewhat over time, the 2023 NSHS targeted tenants from four social housing programs: Public housing; Community housing; SOMIH; and Indigenous community housing.

Aiming to inform social housing policy development, program improvements, and service delivery, the NSHS captures information on various aspects of housing, including tenant satisfaction with housing and maintenance services, dwelling conditions, neighbours, perceived benefits of residing in social housing, and tenant needs. Data is collected through questionnaires distributed to tenants within these programs. The sampling methodology for the NSHS is agreed by state/territory government funders. In 2023, a total of 9,011 social housing tenants participated in the NSHS, and of these, 16.8 per cent (approximately 1,514) were Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander. While data was largely collected via mail-out paper questionnaires and online completions, face-to-face interviews were conducted with Indigenous community housing tenants, SOMIH tenants (in New South Wales and Queensland) and a small number of community housing tenants in the ACT.

To maintain data integrity, the AIHW implements rigorous quality assurance measures throughout the survey process. This includes the use of consistent survey instruments across all housing programs, thorough data validation procedures, and adherence to methodological best practices. Detailed background information on the 2023 NSHS including a data quality statement, technical notes and a copy of the survey questionnaire can be found on the AIHW website.

Key findings from the 2023 NSHS are available on the AIHW website and in downloadable fact sheets and web report (in pdf format). Three files containing data tables from the NSHS 2023 – supplementary data tables, regression results and confidence limits – can be freely downloaded in XLSX format. Several of the tables provided in these files compare key variables for Indigenous and non-Indigenous households. Public access to the full NSHS dataset is not available.

Strengths:

- Collecting data from social housing tenants across Australia, the NSHS employs a stratified random sampling method to ensure representativeness across various demographics and housing types
- The NSHS data collection incorporates many waves having been undertaken bi-annually since 2001 supporting analysis of both short-term and long-term housing trends; the most recent data is available for 2023 and provides a relatively current view of the social housing sector
- The data source is housing focused and, as such, collects a broad range of information on households living in social housing and their housing experiences
- Data on several key indicators (including tenant satisfaction and benefits of living in social housing) is available specifically for Indigenous households; this data is disaggregated by social housing program (i.e. public, community and SOMIH)
- Consistent data collection across the different social housing programs, enables comparison of tenant experience across tenure type
- The survey includes a large sample of social housing program tenants and the proportion of Indigenous households within the sample is relatively large
- To support the inclusion of Indigenous households, face-to-face interviews were undertaken with Indigenous community housing tenants and some SOMIH tenants
- A data quality statement is provided aiding transparency of issues relating to the accuracy and coherence of the NSHS data
- Key statistics from the NSHS are available and data tables can be freely downloaded from the AIHW website.

Weaknesses:

- While the NSHS collects a wide range of housing data, information on housing affordability, accommodation moves and housing aspirations is not available
- As the survey focuses only on social housing tenants, it excludes housing information about those in the private market (either privately renting or buying their own home)

- The data pertaining to Indigenous households is not available by location or key household characteristics
- Data collection with Indigenous community housing tenants only occurred in Queensland and the Indigenous community housing data presented is very limited compared to the other housing programs
- As the full dataset is not publicly available, analysis of many of the data items collected by the NSHS cannot be undertaken
- The involvement of Indigenous stakeholders and organisations in the development, conduct and governance of the NSHS is not specified
- The AIHW – a non-Indigenous led agency – is custodian of the NSHS data and Indigenous data sovereignty principles pertaining to the data are not outlined.

A.2.1.16. Public Housing and SOMIH Data Collections

The Public Housing (PH) and State Owned and Managed Indigenous Housing (SOMIH) data collections provide information on government-managed dwellings and tenants across Australia. The PH and SOMIH data collections are compiled through administrative data provided by housing authorities in each state and territory of Australia. Collated by the AIHW, data was first collected for the 1995-1996 financial year and continues to be collected annually.

The PH and SOMIH data collections provide information on: (i) dwellings – location, occupancy, tenantable status, and number of bedrooms, (ii) households – location, socio-demographic characteristics, tenure length and Indigenous status, (iii) newly allocated households – location, greatest need and special needs status, waiting times and number of bedrooms, (iv) transfers, exits, and waiting lists, (v) household members – location, socio-demographic characteristics and Indigenous status, and (vi) dwelling suitability – location, overcrowding/under-utilisation, household characteristics and Indigenous status.

The information is standardised and undergoes validation to ensure accuracy and consistency across jurisdictions. The data quality control processes outlined by AIHW involve thorough validation checks, adherence to metadata standards, and mechanisms to address missing or inconsistent information. Quality assurance measures are integrated into every stage, from data collection to reporting, to maintain high standards. State and territory-specific challenges and remedies are identified and applied.

Information from the PH and SOMIH data collections are reported on annually in the *Housing Assistance in Australia* report and the *RoGS*. Summary data is available on the AIHW website, and supplementary data tables from the *Housing Assistance in Australia* reporting can be downloaded in XLSX format. Access to further unpublished data can be requested via the AIHW but is subject to the approval of the data provider.

Strengths:

- The coverage of the data collection includes public housing and SOMIH dwellings across Australia
- The collection provides comprehensive information on the public housing and SOMIH sectors including dwelling stock, occupancy, waiting lists and allocations
- The data also provides information on households living in public housing and SOMIH including the Indigenous status of the household
- SOMIH is specifically targeted to Indigenous households and the data provides valuable information on a range of key socio-demographic characteristics
- The data can be disaggregated by state/territory, SA4 region, LGA and by remoteness area enabling analysis across a range of location types
- The data collection covers a lengthy period, i.e. from 1995 to 2024, supporting the observation of trends in government-managed housing
- A data set specification report is available that provides a description of data items to support analysis
- Summary data is presented on the AIHW website and supplementary data tables can be accessed via downloadable files.

Weaknesses:

- There is limited information pertaining to Indigenous people living in public housing; many of the publicly available data items do not differentiate between public housing provided to Indigenous and non-Indigenous people
- The data collection does not provide information on several key indicators, e.g. housing applications, financial and governance arrangements, services delivery and workforce
- The data collection focus is on PH or SOMIH so excludes information about other tenure types
- Access to unpublished data can be requested but is subject to data provider approval and costs
- Custodians for the data are non-Indigenous led organisations (i.e. state/territory housing departments), and adherence to Indigenous data sovereignty principles is not specified.

A.2.1.17. Regional Insights for Indigenous Communities (RIFIC)

The RIFIC website compiles data on the health and wellbeing of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities. An initiative of the First Nations Health and Welfare Group at the AIHW, the RIFIC website is mainly funded by the Department of Health and Aged Care First Nations Health Division.

The platform is designed to present statistics at the most granular geographic levels, facilitating detailed insights into local community conditions to support community planning, government collaboration and service delivery. The data presented on RIFIC is sourced from a range of

national surveys and administrative collections, including those conducted by the ABS and the AIHW (e.g. the Census, NATSIHS and NATSISS). As the datasets available on RIFIC are derived from various sources, each has its own collection schedule. The website is regularly updated to incorporate the most recent data releases, ensuring users have access to current information. The data focuses on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander populations across different regions in Australia. Sample sizes vary depending on the specific survey or data source.

The site includes data on life stages, Closing the Gap targets, and health services. RIFIC encompasses a broad spectrum of topics including health, education, employment and housing. In the housing domain, the data addresses housing circumstances such as housing suitability, household composition, tenure type, housing costs and homelessness. Data is also provided for Target 9a of Closing the Gap showing the proportion of Indigenous people living in appropriately sized housing. RIFIC presents aggregated housing statistics mainly drawn from the Census 2021 data across various geographic levels, including smaller areas such as SA2 and ILOC which cannot be further disaggregated due to small population counts.

RIFIC was initially launched in December 2021, and has since been updated to reflect user feedback and the inclusion of new data topics. The development of the RIFIC was informed by stakeholders from Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisations, Empowered Communities and Primary Health Networks. Accessible via various dashboards, the RIFIC housing data is available for specific Indigenous communities (and other locations). An overview of the data availability for each of the key RIFIC topics by level of geography and data source is provided on the website.

Strengths:

- With a focus on health and wellbeing, the RIFIC data aims to include all Indigenous people and communities across Australia
- Presenting a broad range of information on socio-demographic characteristics, the RIFIC also includes some housing-specific data on tenure, overcrowding, housing affordability and homelessness
- The data provides very granular data and can be disaggregated across a wide range of locations and ASGS structures. Data is available for individual Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities, supporting the identification of housing issues in remote areas and the development of place-based strategies
- Created in response to a need for Indigenous communities and people to access data collected by governments, the RIFIC website (and subsequent updates) was developed in consultation with key Indigenous stakeholders
- The RIFIC draws upon a wide range of data collections thus providing a more comprehensive overview of Indigenous housing. The website is also regularly updated to ensure that the most recently available information is incorporated in the dashboards
- Information is provided on data measures, sources and availability to aid understanding of the data provided

- Data is openly accessible via various pre-populated dashboards on the RIFIC website.

Weaknesses:

- The RIFIC data on housing is somewhat limited and does not cover topics such as housing quality, satisfaction with housing, and experiences of housing
- The RIFIC housing data is primarily derived from the Census and - given the under-enumeration of Indigenous people in the Census - this data may not provide an accurate picture of housing circumstances and need; also, as the last Census was undertaken in 2021 the available data is not current and may not capture recent changes in housing indicators
- Data cannot be downloaded for further statistical analysis.

A.2.1.18. Report on Government Services (RoGS) – Housing and Homelessness

The RoGS is an annual publication by the Australian Productivity Commission that evaluates the performance of government services, including those related to housing and homelessness. The housing and homelessness sections of RoGS (Part G) provides comprehensive data on various aspects of these services across Australia. RoGS aims to promote transparency and accountability in government service delivery by providing performance indicators and comparative data across jurisdictions. This information assists policymakers, researchers and the public in understanding the effectiveness and efficiency of housing and homelessness services in Australia.

The data in Part G of the RoGS pertains to individuals and households engaging with housing and homelessness services across Australia. The housing data (Part 18) provides information on the public housing, SOMIH, community housing and Indigenous community housing sectors. The data includes details on government expenditure, housing stock, dwelling condition, households, housing allocations, overcrowding, housing costs, and tenant satisfaction. The SHS data (Part 19) details government expenditure, clients, support needs, service assistance types and service outcomes.

The administrative data in the RoGS is sourced from various agencies, government departments, and organisations responsible for the provision of housing and homelessness services; a key source of this data is the AIHW housing and SHS data collections (that are discussed separately in this report). Rigorous quality assurance protocols are undertaken to ensure the accuracy and reliability of any additional data provided directly to the Productivity Commission for the RoGS. The Steering Committee for the Review of Government Service Provision (SCRGSP) guides the production of the RoGS. The Productivity Commission website does not provide any information regarding Indigenous representation on the SCRGS.

The RoGS is published annually, with each edition presenting data from the preceding financial year. For example, the most recent 2025 edition includes service data up to the 2023-2024 financial year. The RoGS reporting (from 1995 to 2025) is available on the Productivity Commission's website. For the 2025 report, separate housing and homelessness data tables are available to download in XLSX format. Further information is also provided about the RoGS

including the objectives of housing and homelessness services, indicator frameworks and results, an overview of the data pertaining to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, and explanatory material.

Strengths:

- Part G of the RoGS provides comprehensive data on housing and homelessness services across all state and territory jurisdictions in Australia
- The data covers all social housing sectors (i.e. public housing, SOMIH, community housing, Indigenous community housing) and the specialist homelessness service sector
- The data is disaggregated at a state and territory level allowing for cross-jurisdictional comparison of available Indigenous housing data
- The RoGS data has been collated annually since 1995, enabling trends over time to be observed
- The RoGS data is current with data from the 2023-2024 financial year informing the 2025 RoGS reporting, hence, providing an up-to-date picture of social housing and homelessness services in Australia
- Rigorous quality assurance protocols are undertaken by the Productivity Commission and service providers to ensure the veracity of the data
- Explanatory material is provided for each data table and on the Productivity Commission website; this includes an overview of the specific data pertaining to Indigenous people
- The RoGS data tables are freely available in downloadable excel files from the Productivity Commission's website.

Weaknesses:

- As the focus of the RoGS housing data is on social housing, the data does not provide insights for Indigenous people living in the private housing sector, i.e. the private rental market or home ownership
- The RoGS data does not include information on several key housing topics relating to housing organisations (e.g. their governance and workforce) and their clients (e.g. key characteristics and housing experiences)
- The scope of the Indigenous community housing data is more limited than for the other housing sectors, and some of the housing data does not differentiate between Indigenous and non-Indigenous households
- The SCRGSP governs the conduct of the RoGS, but the level of Indigenous representation on this committee is not specified
- There are inconsistencies in the data provided across state and territory jurisdictions and in the level of data quality assurance undertaken by data providers
- The Productivity Commission – a non-Indigenous led organisation – is the custodian of the RoGS data and adherence to Indigenous data sovereignty principles is not specified.

A.2.1.19. Specialist Homelessness Services (SHS) data collection

The SHS data collection provides comprehensive data on individuals (both Indigenous and non-Indigenous) who have sought and received assistance from SHS across Australia. With coverage from July 2011 onwards, information is collected by the AIHW on a monthly basis from SHS agencies and reported upon quarterly and annually. The SHS data also informs much of the homelessness component of the annual RoGS.

The SHS data collection includes comprehensive information on (i) Clients – characteristics, reasons for assistance, patterns of service use, housing situations and outcomes, location; (ii) Unassisted requests for services – number and type of services requested, (iii) Services – services provided and unmet needs, (iv) Specific client groups – including Indigenous clients, clients experiencing family violence, clients with a mental health issue or disability, and young people presenting alone.

The AIHW implements several quality assurance measures to enhance the reliability of the SHSC data including (i) data confidentialisation: techniques such as not publishing age for some clients and applying perturbation to data are used to protect client identities; (ii) data validation: processes are in place to check the accuracy and consistency of the data collected from service providers; and (iii) comparability checks: ensuring data is comparable across different reporting periods and aligns with other published SHSC data.

The SHS data is openly available in various formats via the AIHW website. High level preliminary summary statistics are released quarterly. The more comprehensive annual web report presenting key SHS statistics and downloadable data tables in XLSX format; the most recent reporting is for 2023-2024. Further data tables are available showing national performance indicators for SHS under the National Housing and Homelessness Agreement, and historical tables for the SHSC from 2011 to 2024. A range of data cubes are also accessible that provide information on a subset of the SHSC dataset from 2011 to 2024. The SHSC data cubes are accessible through the AIHW Data Exploration Tool, which allows users to select, filter, and arrange aggregated data. A comprehensive user guide is available, providing details about the data items and instructions on how to effectively use the data cubes. Finally a range of web articles are available that present information on particular homelessness topics.

Strengths:

- The scope of the SHS data collection is extensive and includes all persons receiving support from SHS across Australia
- The collection provides comprehensive information on the clients supported by SHS and the type of service provided; the data also highlights client outcomes and unassisted requests for homelessness services
- The data contains specific tables and information pertaining to Indigenous people who have sought support from SHS

- The data can be disaggregated by state/territory jurisdiction, remoteness area, and (for some of the data) by statistical area and suburb permitting locational analysis
- The data collection covers a fairly long period, i.e. from 2011 to 2024, allowing for both the current picture and trends in homelessness over time to be observed
- As the SHS data is updated annually, short-term changes in homelessness service need and supports can be seen
- A data set specification report and user guide are available that provide a description of the data items included in the SHS collection
- The datasets included in the SHS data collection are easily identifiable on the AIHW website
- Key statistics are presented on the AIHW website and data tables and data cubes can be accessed via downloadable files.

Weaknesses:

- As the data collection only captures SHS, people experiencing homelessness who do not seek formal support are excluded; hence the SHS data does not provide a full picture of Indigenous homelessness across Australia
- Many of the data tables are not disaggregated for Indigenous and non-Indigenous SHS clients
- The data collection only includes limited information about the organisations providing SHS; for example, data is not provided on topics such as their governance, workforce or financial arrangements
- Access to unpublished data can be requested but is subject to data provider approval
- Custodians for the data are non-Indigenous led organisations (i.e. the AIHW and state/territory housing departments), and adherence to Indigenous data sovereignty principles is not specified.

A.2.2. State and territory data sources

A.2.2.1. New South Wales Aboriginal Housing Office (NSW AHO) Dwellings Data

The dataset provides comprehensive information on AHO owned dwellings. It includes data categorised by dwelling type, bedroom category, LGA, management category, DCJ district, AHO region, Greater Sydney or regional NSW classification, and remoteness area. This dataset is intended to be a resource for providers involved in service planning, funding applications, and business plan development. It also aims to support ACHPs and other housing-related service providers in understanding regional housing dynamics.

PDF reports containing limited information from the dataset (i.e. AHO dwellings by management organisation and LGA) are available directly from the webpage for the financial years ending in June 2020 to June 2024. Further data reports and PDFs from the reporting can be requested from the AHO. The AHO is an Indigenous-led organisation that recognises and supports the principles of Indigenous data sovereignty. The organisation has a dedicated team responsible for research and evaluation, including the collection of community-owned housing data.

Strengths:

- The AHO data source is housing focused and pertains to Indigenous households only
- The full dataset provides information on all AHO-owned dwellings in New South Wales including counts of dwellings (total and by managing organisation), new dwellings and unallocated housing
- The dwelling data is disaggregated by location (including by LGA and remoteness area) to enable more granular analysis
- The housing data is available for the last financial year (to June 2024) and, therefore, reflects the current status of AHO-owned dwellings
- The data is collated and held by the AHO, an Aboriginal-led organisation.

Weaknesses:

- The scope of the data is limited to housing stock with no information available on a range of key topics including tenant characteristics, housing need, financial arrangements and service delivery
- It is limited to AHO housing stock and therefore excludes Indigenous people living in other tenure arrangements
- Limited data is provided directly on the AHO website (but further data can be requested)
- The dwelling data is only provided in PDF format, making it difficult to manipulate for further analysis.

A.2.2.2. New South Wales Social Housing (NSW SH) Delivery Report

The Tableau Public dashboard presents quarterly statistical reports on social housing delivery by the NSW DCJ. Covering the period from July 2015 to June 2024, the reports provide detailed insights into the delivery of various social housing programs in NSW, including Aboriginal, public and community housing.

Users can explore interactive visualisations categorised by four topics: (i) fair access to social housing for those who need it, (ii) stability and security of tenure, (iii) meeting social housing needs, and (iv) supporting pathways to independence. Specific data relating to Indigenous households is presented; for the most recent report (April to June 2024), this includes information new allocations, households assisted with temporary accommodation, length of tenure and tenancy agreement, and bedroom categories. The data is publicly available and can be manipulated on screen using pre-defined parameters. A text version of the data can be accessed via the webpage and also in PDF format.

Strengths:

- The scope of the data is wide, covering all social housing dwellings and households across New South Wales; this includes housing provided by the AHO

- A broad range of social housing data is available including specific data pertaining to Aboriginal housing and households, e.g. applications and allocations, tenure arrangements, transfers and dwelling size
- Data is collected quarterly, and given the most recent data is available for the April to June 2024 quarter, presents a current overview of social housing delivery across NSW
- Historic data from 2015 is available to examine trends in social housing.

Weaknesses:

- The data pertaining to public housing and community housing, social housing exits, and private rental assistance is not disaggregated by Indigenous and non-Indigenous households nor by location, thus reducing its utility
- Data is restricted to Indigenous people living in social housing, and the data does not include data on key indicators such as housing stock, occupancy and service delivery
- Data manipulation is limited as only pre-populated options can be used to interrogate the available dashboard data
- The data custodian is the NSW Government (a non-Indigenous led organisation) and adherence to data sovereignty principles are unspecified.

A.2.2.3. Northern Territory Remote Housing Investment Package (NT RHIP) Data

The Our Community. Our Future. Our Homes program website presents progress updates on outcomes arising from the RHIP. Data is available on various initiatives being delivered under the Our Community. Our Future. Our Homes program including HomeBuild, Room to Breathe, Government Employee Housing, Local Decision Making, and Land Servicing. The data includes information on funding allocations, project planning and completions, community engagement visits, and Aboriginal employment and business development.

The information is presented via interactive dashboards showing cumulative data from 2017 to the present. However, as the data is updated monthly, earlier program progress cannot be observed. Users can explore the data to track developments and understand the impact of the initiatives being delivered as part of the NT RHIP. The data is publicly available and can be manipulated on screen using pre-defined parameters. However, there is no flexibility to download the data into other formats.

Strengths:

- The data measures outcomes for the Our Community. Our Future. Our Homes program and can be used to assess the effectiveness of the program
- The data is available for the overall program and, also at a more granular level, for individual communities across the Northern Territory; thus place-based progress can be observed in the data
- The information provided is updated monthly and, therefore, is reflective of current program progress

- A list of data definitions is provided to enable understanding of the information provided on program outcomes.

Weaknesses:

- Given the scope of the reporting is on key program KPIs, the information provided is limited to specific topics and does not provide broader details on Indigenous housing (e.g. provision and housing need) across the Northern Territory
- As the website only shows current program outcomes, historical program data is overwritten and unavailable
- Data analysis is limited as only pre-defined parameters can be used to examine the dashboard data and raw data cannot be downloaded
- The NT Government (non-Indigenous led) is the data custodian and adherence to Indigenous data sovereignty principles are not specified.

A.2.2.4. Queensland Community Housing (QLD CH) Data

The QLD CH data resource presents information that is collated by the Queensland Government for inclusion in the annual RoGS. There are three main datasets: (1) community housing organisation data, (2) community housing dwellings data, and (3) community housing summary data. Within the first resource, information is available on community housing organisations by name, location and organisational type. The community dwelling data, meanwhile, provides data on dwelling type, location, size and program type. These datasets do not contain any specific information relating to Indigenous households. The third data resource – the community housing summary – provides a wide range of information on households, dwellings and providers within the community housing sector. The data includes several variables that are specific to Indigenous households, including the number of Indigenous households living in community housing, being allocated a property, experiencing rental stress or overcrowding, and are categorised as being in the “greatest need”.

The QLD CH data resources can be found on the Queensland Government’s Open Data Portal website. The most recent data on community housing for the 2022-2023 financial year was presented in the 2024 RoGS report. Data can also be accessed for prior reporting, dating back to the 2016-2017 financial year (as collated for the 2018 RoGS report). The data is available on the webpage in Data Explorer and Table formats, and can also be downloaded in various formats (CSV, TSV, JSON and XML).

Strengths:

- The scope of the data is broad and aims to cover all community housing organisations, dwellings and households across Queensland
- A range of information about the community housing sector in Queensland is available including details on housing providers, dwelling stock, household characteristics, tenancy support, and financial considerations

- Some data specifically pertains to Indigenous households including information on the overall number of households, crowding, housing allocations, and rental payments
- Data is available for the 2022-2023 financial year and, hence, provides a fairly recent overview of the community housing sector
- Historical data is available from the 2016-2017 financial year onwards enabling a longitudinal view of community housing in Queensland
- Explanatory data notes are provided to aid understanding of the information included in the data source
- Publicly available data is presented on the Open Data Portal website and is also available to download in several formats.

Weaknesses:

- The utility of the data in relation to Indigenous housing is limited, as much of the data does not differentiate between community housing provided to Indigenous and non-Indigenous people
- A non-Indigenous led organisation (the Queensland Government) is responsible for data collation and access; observance of Indigenous data sovereignty principles is unspecified.

A.2.2.5. Queensland Indigenous Community Housing (QLD ICH) Data

Data on Indigenous community housing in Queensland is collated for inclusion in the annual RoGS reporting. The resource contains two data sets. The first provides details about dwellings in terms of their occupancy, size and location; the type of organisation responsible for tenancy management; and the number of people and households in residence. The second source provides data about ICHOs including information about tenancy management status, funding status, and the number of dwellings managed.

The most recent data available covers the 2021-22 financial year and is reported in the 2024 RoGS. Historical data on Indigenous community housing can also be accessed and dates back to the 2015-2016 financial year. The data is available via the Queensland Government's Open Data Portal in Data Explorer and Table formats, and can be downloaded in several formats (CSV, TSV, JSON and XML).

Strengths:

- The data source is Indigenous-specific, providing valuable insights into the Indigenous community housing sector in Queensland
- The data provides a broad range of details on Indigenous community housing dwellings (including stock size, location, size, condition and occupancy) and some information on the organisations providing this housing
- The dwellings data is available at postcode level and by remoteness, allowing for more granular analysis

- Historical data is available from the 2015-2016 financial years onwards, supporting longer-term observations of the Indigenous community housing sector in Queensland
- Explanatory data notes are provided describing each data item which supports data analysis
- Publicly available data is presented on the Open Data Portal website and is also available to download in several formats.

Weaknesses:

- Data on Indigenous people living in Indigenous community housing is limited to the number of people or households residing in a dwelling; further household characteristics are not provided
- A number of key indicators are not included in the data, e.g. on housing need, organisational income and expenditure, governance arrangements, service delivery and the ICH workforce
- The data is not as current as the other Queensland housing datasets, with the latest information available for the 2021-22 financial year; hence, more recent changes in the Indigenous community housing sector may not be captured
- The data is focused on the ICH sector and therefore excludes Indigenous people living in other tenure types
- The Queensland Government (a non-Indigenous led organisation) is the data custodian and information pertaining to Indigenous data sovereignty principles is not provided.

A.2.2.6. Queensland Public Housing and State-owned and Managed Indigenous Housing (QLD PH and SOMIH) Data

Detailed data on public housing and SOMIH programs in Queensland is provided on the Queensland Government's Open Data Portal website. While information on these two types of housing is largely presented together in the various datasets, separate financial data is available for each. Collated on an annual basis for the RoGS, the data pertaining to public housing and SOMIH includes information on five key elements:

1. Social housing register data: This data encompasses all households on the register who were eligible for public housing and SOMIH during the financial year, including those still awaiting housing and those allocated housing. It includes information on application dates, program type, housing preferences, and housing need indicators. While Queensland operates a unified housing register - allowing applicants to be listed under multiple programs - applications for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander housing are reported in the data under SOMIH.
2. Dwelling data: This dataset includes details about the properties managed under the public housing and SOMIH programs, such as location, structure, size, program type, occupancy status, and vacancy records.
3. Dwelling history data: Covering all public housing and SOMIH dwellings, the information on property vacancies includes the duration and reasons for each vacancy during the financial year.

4. Household data: This data tracks households in public housing and SOMIH that received assistance during the financial year, including those still receiving support and those who have exited the programs. Information is given on program type, the date of assistance, new allocations, transfers and whether the household is Indigenous.

5. Financial data: Separate datasets are available detailing state expenditure on the provision of public housing and SOMIH. Information is provided on expenditure, rent collection, the value of the capital stock used, and other financial information pertaining to depreciation and interest.

For each of the datasets, the most recent data available is for the 2022-2023 financial year. For the first four datasets, historical data can also be accessed dating back to 2016-2017 and, for the financial data, the 2012-2013 financial year. The PH and SOMIH data is available in both Data Explorer and Table formats, and can be downloaded in various formats (CSV, TSV, JSON and XML).

Strengths:

- The scope of the data source is broad and covers all public housing and SOMIH dwellings and households across Queensland
- A range of information is available for each dwelling (including dwelling type, size, location, market rent, occupancy and vacancies) with differentiation made between public housing and SOMIH properties; this data is also available at a postcode level supporting locational analysis
- Data is also available for each household living in public housing and SOMIH (e.g. on key household characteristics, rental payments and rebates, and dates of assistance); as the Indigenous status of each household is provided, all the data can be utilised
- The data is relatively up-to-date and, therefore, provides a fairly current picture of the public housing and SOMIH sectors in Queensland
- Historical data is also available permitting examination of longer-term trends in social housing provision
- To aid data analysis, explanatory notes and descriptions of the data items are provided
- Publicly available data is presented on the Open Data Portal website and is also available in several downloadable formats.

Weaknesses:

- The utility of some of the data is limited in relation to Indigenous housing. For instance, the two dwelling datasets do not identify whether the property is allocated to an Indigenous or non-Indigenous household; nor does the financial data for public housing specify expenditure on housing tenanted by Indigenous or non-Indigenous persons
- The data does not cover a range of key housing indicators including on service delivery and workforce
- The household data is only available at a state level and cannot be further disaggregated by location

- The Queensland Government is responsible for data collation and access and observance of Indigenous data sovereignty principles is unspecified.

A.2.2.7. South Australia Public Housing (SA PH) Data

Four key datasets on public housing in South Australia are provided on the Data SA website (the South Australian Government Data Directory). Providing information on dwellings and the households living in public housing and broken down by LGA, the following data is included:

1. Dwellings: The dwellings data outlines a range of characteristics of public housing dwellings including information on (i) the number of dwellings, tenantable and untenable dwellings, occupied dwellings, and bedrooms in the dwelling, (ii) average market rent of dwelling, and (iii) dwelling type. There is no specific data pertaining to whether the dwellings are tenanted to Indigenous people.
2. Households: This dataset includes a wide range of information including (i) counts of total households, household members, and households with a person with disability, (ii) average market rent, average rent charged, and number of households paying less than market rent, (iii) household composition, (iv) match of dwelling to household size, (v) tenure length, and (vi) main source of income. The data also includes a count of Indigenous people living in public housing in each LGA.
3. Household members: The data includes information on the number, sex and age of household members. There is no specific data pertaining to Indigenous household members in the dataset.
4. New households housed: Providing information on new public housing allocations across the financial year, the data includes (i) counts of new households, household members, households with a person with disability, households in greatest need, and households paying less than market rent, (ii) household composition, and (iii) main source of income. The dataset includes information on the number of Indigenous people allocated public housing during the financial year.

The most recent data provided is for the 2019-2020 and 2020-2021 financial years. A range of other more historic data pertaining to public housing stock, allocations and tenants is also available on the Data SA website. The datasets are curated and maintained by the South Australian Housing Trust and adhere to public reporting standards. The data is designed for program assessment and policy development purposes, and aims to enable analysis of public housing usage and demographic trends. The data is accessible using the Data Explorer function on the webpage and can also be downloaded in XLSX format.

Strengths:

- The scope of the data covers all dwellings, households and household members in the public housing sector across South Australia

- Comprehensive information is provided on public housing stock and the households supported within the public housing system, with this data presented by LGA to support geographic analysis
- The household datasets includes the number of Indigenous households living in, or newly allocated to, public housing in each LGA
- Although a data dictionary or explanatory notes are not provided, the data items are clear and easy to understand for analysis purposes
- The data is available on the Data SA website and is also available to download.

Weaknesses:

- Although broad in scope, the data has very limited utility in providing information about Indigenous housing
 - While the household datasets identify the number of Indigenous households in public housing, all the remaining household variables cannot be differentiated by Indigenous status
 - The dwellings dataset does not provide information on whether properties are tenanted by Indigenous or non-Indigenous people
 - Likewise the household members dataset does not identify whether household members are Indigenous
- The data also does not include information on some key housing indicators including housing need, client satisfaction and outcomes, service delivery, financial and governance arrangements, and the public housing workforce
- The information is somewhat dated (with the most recent data available for the 2021-2022 financial year) and, therefore, does not provide a current overview of public housing provision in South Australia
- The South Australian Housing Trust (a non-Indigenous organisation) has responsibility for the data and adherence to Indigenous data sovereignty principles is not specified.

A.2.2.8. South Australia State-owned and Managed Indigenous Housing (SA SOMIH) Data

The Data SA website contains four datasets providing data on the SOMIH program in South Australia. Providing similar information to the public housing datasets described above, all the data is categorised by LGA and includes:

1. Dwellings: A range of information on SOMIH dwellings is provided including (i) the number of dwellings, tenantable and untenable dwellings, occupied dwellings, and bedrooms in the dwelling, (ii) average market rent of dwelling, and (iii) dwelling type.
2. Households: Reporting on a wide range of information on Indigenous households living in SOMIH, the data includes (i) counts of total households, household members, and households with a person with disability, (ii) average market rent, average rent charged, and number of

households paying less than market rent, (iii) household composition, (iv) match of dwelling to household size, (v) tenure length, and (vi) main source of income.

3. Household members: The dataset provides information on the number, sex and age of household members living in SOMIH.

4. New households housed: The data examines new SOMIH allocations across the financial year and includes (i) counts of new households, household members, households with a person with disability, households in greatest need, and households paying less than market rent, (ii) household composition, and (iii) main source of income. The dataset includes information on the number of Aboriginal households allocated public housing during the financial year.

The most recent SOMIH data provided is for the 2019-2020 and 2020-2021 financial years. As with the public housing data above, the SOMIH datasets are collated by the South Australian Housing Trust. The data is accessible using the Data Explorer function on the Data SA webpage and can also be downloaded in XLSX format.

Strengths:

- The focus of the data is on social housing specifically allocated to Indigenous people and includes a range of key indicators on the SOMIH sector in South Australia
- Detailed information is provided on the Indigenous households and members living in SOMIH housing; this includes data on socio-demographic characteristics, composition, crowding, tenure, income and rental payments
- A wide range of information is also presented on the characteristics of SOMIH dwellings across the state (e.g. number, size, occupancy, condition, and type)
- Granular analysis at a locational level is possible, given that all the data is presented by LGA
- Whilst explanatory notes or a data dictionary are not given, the variables included in each dataset are clear and easy to understand for data analysis
- The data is available and can be interrogated via Data Explorer on the Data SA website; the datasets are also freely available to download.

Weaknesses:

- The data excludes several key housing indicators including housing need, client satisfaction and outcomes, service delivery, financial and governance arrangements, and the SOMIH workforce
- As the most recent data only available for the 2021-2022 financial year, the data does not provide a current picture of SOMIH in South Australia
- As the data is focused on SOMIH it provides no information about Indigenous people living in other tenure types
- The South Australian Housing Trust (a non-Indigenous organisation) is the data custodian and adherence to Indigenous data sovereignty principles is unspecified.

A.2.2.9. Tasmania Social Housing (TAS SH) Data

The data resource includes two datasets providing counts of social housing dwellings across Tasmania. The datasets provide information on the number of dwellings by postcode and suburb respectively as of June 30, 2018. Combined information on the number of Indigenous and public housing properties is provided.

The data is openly available on the Australian Government's data.gov.au website. The website is an open source of data that is published by national, state/territory and local government agencies. The TAS SH data can be downloaded in several formats (CSV, TSV, JSON, XML).

Strengths:

- The data source provides a count of all social housing dwellings in Tasmania (including Indigenous and public housing properties)
- The data is available at postcode and suburb location levels to support geographical analysis
- Explanatory notes about the dataset are provided to aid understanding of data items
- The data is publicly available and can also be downloaded in several formats.

Weaknesses:

- The scope of the data is very narrow and does not include information on key topics including dwelling characteristics and occupancy, social housing need, clients, and service delivery
- The utility of the data is limited with regard to Indigenous housing; total social housing stock numbers are provided and, as such, the specific number of Indigenous housing properties or those public housing dwellings occupied by Indigenous households cannot be elicited
- As the most recent data is only available for 2018, the information provided on Tasmanian social housing is not current
- The datasets are published by a non-Indigenous agency (the Tasmanian Department of Health and Human Services) and the use of Indigenous data sovereignty principles is unspecified.

A.2.2.10. Aboriginal Housing Victoria (AHV) Data

A registered housing association since 2016 under the Housing Act 1983 (Vic), AHV manages housing programs for Indigenous people across the state. The Victorian Government website provides data on AHV operations, with this data tracking compliance ratings and current housing stock (by LGA and dwelling type) for Greater Melbourne and the whole state of Victoria. Data is also available on the webpage for several key performance measures (re-letting times, rent arrears, repair times, complaint resolution and tenant satisfaction). This latter data compares outcomes for AHV and all housing associations.

The data on key performance measures is available in figure and graph format on the Victorian Government website for the 2023-2024 financial year. Archived data for earlier financial years (from 2019-2020) can also be accessed. The AHV data can also be downloaded in CSV format.

Strengths:

- The data source is Indigenous-specific and covers all AHV dwellings across Victoria
- A variety of key housing indicators are available in the data including information on housing stock, reletting timeframes, tenancy issues and tenant satisfaction
- The housing portfolio data is available at a LGA level, supporting geographical data analysis
- Data is available for the most recent financial year and, therefore, provides a current view of AHV operations; historical data is also available from 2019 to support analysis of change over time
- The data is collated and held by the AHV, an Aboriginal community-led organisation
- Clear explanatory notes about the data are provided
- The data is publicly available and can also be downloaded for further analysis.

Weaknesses:

- With the exception of the housing portfolio data, the data is presented at a state-wide level and does not support more granular analysis
- As the data is focused on key performance measures, information is not included on broader topics, e.g. tenant information and housing need
- The data is confined to housing provided by AHV and, therefore, excludes Indigenous housing outside of this provision
- Adherence to Indigenous data sovereignty principles is not specified on the Victoria Government website.

A.2.2.11. Victorian Housing Register (VHR) Data

The Homes Victoria website provides data on applications to the VHR, which consolidates all applications for social housing in Victoria. It includes a broad range data on the number of VHR applications disaggregated by application type, priority access category, number of bedrooms required, and preferred social housing provider. While information is provided on the number of households where one or more individuals identify as Indigenous, the more detailed data is not categorised by Indigenous status. The VHR data is provided for all new applications and transfer applications, and is also broken down for some of these categories, by priority access and general applications.

The data is quarterly from September 2023 to September 2024 and presented in tabular form. The webpage notes that the VHR applications data displayed has been remediated, which may result in minor differences compared to the figures published in the DFFH Annual Report. In addition, the webpage states that previously the VHR data was presented on the Housing Victoria website in a different format. This latter data included the total number of VHR new and transfer applications, categorised by DFFH Division and Area office.

Strengths:

- Coverage of the data includes all households on the VHR (i.e. new applications and transfer applications) from across Victoria
- The data tracks demand for social housing and includes specific information on the number of new applications to the VHR made by Aboriginal households
- The data source is updated frequently (i.e. on a quarterly basis) and provides up-to-date information on applications to the VHR
- Tabular data is available to view on the Homes Victoria website, with clear explanation of each data item provided.

Weaknesses:

- Much of the information provided is not disaggregated for Indigenous and non-Indigenous households, e.g. priority access categories, applications for reasons of family violence, household types, number of bedrooms required, and preferred social housing provider; this lack of disaggregation limits the utility of the VHR data
- The focus of the data is specifically on VHR applications and, therefore, coverage of broader social housing indicators are not included
- As the data only shows those households actually applying for social housing, the data does not capture the full housing needs of Indigenous Victorians
- The VHR data cannot be downloaded limiting the capacity to manipulate and analyse the data
- A non-Indigenous led agency (Homes Victoria) is the data custodian and data sovereignty principles are not specified.

A.2.2.12. Victoria Social Housing (VIC SH) Allocation Data

Data on social housing allocations in Victoria is available on the Homes Victoria website. The information presented includes new and transfer allocations across community housing, public housing and for social housing combined. The community housing data is derived from allocations made by registered housing agencies across Victoria (including AHV).

The allocations data is categorised by application type (priority and register of interest), priority access category, household type, and location. Specific data is also available on the number of allocations made to Indigenous households.

The most recent social housing allocations data is for the 2023-2024 financial year. Historical data is also available from the 2019-2020 financial year onwards. The allocations data is openly available in tabular form on the webpage. It is noted on the website that quality checks are undertaken regularly that may lead to small changes to data that has been published previously.

Strengths:

- The data includes all households newly allocated to social housing across Victoria

- A range of allocations data is available including specific information on the number of new allocations made to households where one or more members identify as Indigenous
- All of the data is disaggregated for public and community housing, allowing allocations to each housing program to be observed
- The data is current and provides an overview of all allocations to social housing in Victoria during the 2023-2024 financial year
- Tabular data is openly accessible via the Homes Victoria website, with clear explanations provided for each data item.

Weaknesses:

- The utility of the data is limited as the majority of the data is not disaggregated for Indigenous and non-Indigenous households, i.e. allocations by application type, VHR categories, household type and locations
- As the scope of the data is on social housing allocations, information relating to broader indicators are not included
- The social housing allocations data cannot be downloaded for more detailed analysis
- A non-Indigenous led agency (Homes Victoria) is the data custodian and adherence to data sovereignty principles is not stated.

Appendix 3 – Data Review

A3.1. Description of data items

Table 2: Indigenous households – data topics, items and full description

Data topic	Data item	Description
Household	Household information	Total number of people living in the household; all household members can be listed, i.e. there is no cap on numbers
		Structure of household, e.g. couple with no children, couple with children, one parent family with children, single person living alone, shared living arrangements, other
		Breakdown of household members, e.g. number of children, adult relatives, non-related members per household
		Demographic characteristics of all household members including age, gender, disability, self-assessed health, Indigenous status, relationship
		Whether household members are permanent or temporary occupants
	Household location	ASGS ABS structures: Australia, State/Territory, Capital Cities, Statistical Areas, Mesh Blocks; Remoteness, e.g. Major Cities, Inner Regional Australia, Outer Regional Australia, Remote Australia, Very Remote Australia; Indigenous areas, e.g. Indigenous regions, areas and locations; Urban Areas
		ASGS non-ABS structures, e.g. LGAs, State Electoral Divisions, Commonwealth Electoral Divisions, Postal Areas, Suburbs and Localities
Tenure	Tenure type	Socio-economic status of location, e.g. SEIFA - IRSAD, IRSD, IEO, IER
		Tenure type, i.e. owned with mortgage, owned outright, rental
		If renting who are renting from, i.e. private landlord/real estate agent, state/territory housing authority, community housing provider, ICHO, employer, other
	Tenure agreements	If renting, main reasons for renting, e.g. preference, flexibility, affordability, personal circumstances
		Type of tenure agreement, e.g. is it a formal or informal arrangement
Overcrowding	Overcrowding	Length of tenure agreement - is the agreement temporary (e.g. less than 12 months, 12 months, more than 12 months) or permanent
		Indication of whether the household is experiencing overcrowding
		Severity of overcrowding, e.g. specified level of overcrowding or additional number of bedrooms needed by the household to prevent overcrowding
		Clear information on the measure used to ascertain whether a home is considered to be overcrowded, e.g. CNOS
Quality of housing	Dwelling characteristics	Perceptions of overcrowding, e.g. is crowding considered to be a stressor or not for household members, impacts for household members (type of impacts and if these are positive or negative)
		Structure of the property - is it a detached house, unit, apartment, semi-detached/row house/townhouse, caravan/tent/cabin, improvised home/camp, other

		Age of dwelling - estimation of when dwelling was built
		Size of dwelling, e.g. number of bedrooms, bathrooms and living areas
	Housing conditions	Assessment of overall condition of dwelling – rating of condition
		Assessment of whether the dwelling has structural problems and type of issue e.g. dampness, mould, cracks, sinking/moving foundations, walls/windows/floors not levelled, wood rot/termite damage, electrical problems, roof defect, plumbing issues, other
		Identification as to whether these issues are major or minor problems
	Household facilities	Type of facilities present in home, e.g. for personal hygiene, washing clothes or bedding, for storing and preparing food, working sewerage system
	Repairs	Is the home in need of repairs
		What is needed - number of repairs needed; type of repair(s) required, e.g. plumbing, fencing, electrical, gas, flowing, kitchen/appliances
		Who is responsible for repairs and maintenance: householder, landlord/property manager, other
		Whether it is easy to get repairs done - rating
		Length of time waiting for repairs to be done: specification of time
		Reason for repairs not being done, e.g. take long time to do, landlord/property manager not interested in doing, difficulty getting tradespeople, too expensive, too hard to get materials, other
	Essential services	Availability of essential services: type of services available to dwelling (e.g. water, electricity, gas and sewerage services)
		Reliability of supply and frequency of interruptions
Housing affordability	Housing affordability	Household income - total gross income of household members
		Main source of income, e.g. wages/salary, own business, government pension/allowance, superannuation, other
		Housing costs, e.g. total household rent/mortgage payments; other housing-related costs (e.g. household insurance, rates, repairs and maintenance)
		Affordability of housing costs: perception of affordability
		Housing assistance: are household members in receipt of housing assistance (i.e. CRA or PRA); level of payment; is amount sufficient to avoid housing stress
	Housing stress	Is housing stress being experienced – yes/no; money left over for other items after paying for housing, e.g. for essential expenditure, non-essential expenditure, savings
		Severity of housing stress – level, e.g. able to make ends meet (rating); issues due to shortage of money, e.g. with paying household bills, paying mortgage/rent, pawned/sold something, went without meals, unable to heat/cool home, asked for financial help from family/friends, asked for help from welfare/community organisations
		Identification of measure used to ascertain housing stress, e.g. housing costs exceed 30% of gross household income
Homelessness	Homelessness	Incidence of homelessness: is an individual experiencing homelessness or at high risk of homelessness

		Type of homelessness being experienced: e.g. living in severely crowded dwelling; living in supported accommodation for the homeless; staying temporarily with other household; living in an improvised dwelling, tent or sleeping out; living in a boarding house; living in other form of temporary lodging
		Reasons for homelessness: e.g. housing affordability, financial difficulties, family breakdown, mental illness, addiction, social isolation
Satisfaction with housing	Housing satisfaction	Overall satisfaction with dwelling – level of satisfaction
		Adequacy of housing for current needs, e.g. living space, number of bedrooms, comfort (light, temperature, dampness), distance from public transport, access to services normally used – level of adequacy
	Housing issues	Identification of type of issues experienced, e.g. restrictions on how can use property, leaks/flooding/plumbing problems, electrical problems, keeping house cool in summer, keeping house warm in winter, delays in landlord/property manager actioning issues, unjustified rent increased, noise issues, other, no issues
	Satisfaction with neighbourhood	Perceived safety of neighbourhood – level of safety; reasons why feel it is unsafe (and how commonly these occur), e.g. traffic, noise, rubbish/litter, teenagers hanging around on streets, people hostile and aggressive, vandalism/damage to property, burglary/theft
		Amenities available in neighbourhood, e.g. shops, cafes, leisure facilities, parks/playgrounds
		Services available in neighbourhood, e.g. health, education, social services
Experiences of housing	Impact of housing on circumstances	Impact of housing circumstances over past 12 months, e.g. on physical health, mental health, financial circumstances, social life, education/employment (positive, negative, no effect)
	Housing stability	Security of tenure - what is the length of current tenure; what are the conditions of the tenure
		Length of current tenure in property (to provide proxy indication of housing stability), e.g. less than year, 1-2 years, 2-5 years, 5 or more years
	Housing moves	Number of moves in past 5 years – specify number
		Reason for moves, e.g. work, study, larger/better place, smaller/less expensive place, place of own, moved in with partner, better neighbourhood, closer to friends/family, relationship breakdown, property no longer available, evicted, other
		Intention to move house
		Reasons for wanting to move, e.g. cost, location, issues with landlord/property manager, issues with neighbours, tenancy restrictions, property size, planning to buy home, other
	Housing pathways	Types of pathways: identification of pathways within a housing tenure or between housing tenures, e.g. transitions from social housing into private housing markets
	Housing aspirations	Future housing plans, e.g. housing preferences (rental or own property)
		Home ownership: information on views, preferences and aspirations
		Barriers and facilitators of home ownership – perceptions of factors that support and prevent home ownership

Table 3: Housing providers – data topics, items and full description

Data topic	Data item	Description
Description of housing provider	Sector	Sector type, e.g. private, public, community, Indigenous community, SOMIH
	Organisation location	State/territory, postcode, town
		Remoteness, e.g. urban, regional, remote
Housing stock	Stock	Size of stock – owned and/or managed (numbers)
	Stock locations	Where dwellings are situated, e.g. state/territory, postcode, town, community
		Remoteness, e.g. urban, regional, remote
	Dwelling type	Type of dwellings, e.g. separate houses, semi-detached/townhouses, flats/units/apartments, other (number of dwellings in each category)
	Dwelling size	Number of bedrooms, living spaces, bathrooms (number of dwellings in each category)
	Stock condition	Repairs – number of dwellings needing no repairs, minor repairs, major repairs; types of repairs required; timeframes for repairs
		Suitability of dwellings to environment
	Related housing infrastructure	Availability of essential services, e.g. power, water, sewerage services – how many homes have access to each essential service
		Supply issues, e.g. number of interruptions over last 12 months, reasons for interruptions
		Upgrades needed to essential services – specification of type of upgrade
	Changes in housing stock (e.g. over last 12 months)	Number of properties built
		Number of properties purchased
		Number of properties written off or demolished
		Number of properties sold
Dwelling occupancy	Occupancy status of dwellings	Number of dwellings that are currently unoccupied (with specification for dwelling type and size)
		Reasons for being unoccupied, e.g. between tenants, uninhabitable, being repaired, lack of facilities/services, other
	Re-letting timeframes	Average number of days taken to allocate dwelling to new tenants
	Exits	Number of tenant exits over previous year
		Reasons for exits, e.g. eviction, transfer, personal choice
Housing need	Applications	Number of new applications for housing, e.g. number over last year
		Characteristics of new applications, e.g. family structure, age, sex, size of home required
		Number of new applications from selected priority groups (e.g. those experiencing homelessness, crisis situations, with special housing needs, family violence, young people leaving care, those engaged with the justice system, Elders, people with disability, people with mental health issues)
	Waiting lists	Overall size of waiting list

		Average length of time waiting for property
		Characteristics of those on waiting list, e.g. family structure, age, sex, size of home required
		Number on waiting list from selected priority groups (e.g. those experiencing homelessness, crisis situations, with special housing needs, family violence, young people leaving care, those engaged with the justice system, Elders, people with disability, people with mental health issues)
	Housing allocations over previous 12 months	Number of allocations – overall and number from selected priority groups
		Characteristics of new tenants, e.g. family structure, age, sex
		Length of time on register before allocation
		Type of allocation – property type and size
Householder/client information	Clients	Number of Indigenous clients/households serviced, e.g. total of all tenancies, new tenancies with Indigenous members, number accessing housing and homelessness programs and services
		Location of clients/households, e.g. state/territory, remoteness
		Characteristics of clients/households, e.g. age, family structure, gender, length of tenure
		Client satisfaction with dwelling and housing services received - ratings
		Client outcomes, e.g. housing stability, wellbeing, physical health, social and economic participation
	Tenancy agreements	Type of agreements – formal, informal
		Length of agreements – temporary, permanent
	Tenancy issues	Rent arrears – number of clients in arrears; amount in arrears; outcomes
		Complaint resolution – number of clients making/facing complaints; outcomes
		Eviction notices – number of clients provided with notice; reasons for eviction
	Housing pathways	Pathways through tenure types - for all clients and specifically for those involved with intersecting service systems (e.g. family violence, justice, out-of-home care, mental health etc)
Financial considerations	Financial arrangements	Organisational income: total income, sources of income (e.g. rent, government grants, royalties, business enterprises, property sales, other) and amount received from each source
		Organisational expenditure: total, sources of expenditure (e.g. salaries, staff training, repairs and maintenance, land rates, insurance, administrative costs, management fees, other) and amount spent on each source
		Rent collection: amounts received from tenants/subsidy schemes
		Value of capital stock
	Funding programs	Type: Private/public, national/state and territory
		Program monitoring and evaluation: is this occurring, who responsible, program outcomes

Governance	Governance arrangements	Organisation type – Indigenous/non-Indigenous led
		Steering Committee or Board (level of Indigenous representation)
	Shared/local decision-making approaches	Detail as to how CTG Priority Reform 4 is being actioned by government and housing organisations
		Outcomes of these approaches
	Capacity building	Capacity building needs
		Capacity building initiatives that are currently occurring
Service delivery	Tenancy management	Type of tenancy management services provided, e.g. allocations, tenancy agreements, bond/rent collection, inspections
		Service outcomes
	Tenancy support	Type of tenancy support services provided, e.g. tenant support and education, tenancy issue resolution, capacity building, service co-ordination
		Service outcomes
	Property management	Type of property management services provided, e.g. repairs and maintenance, property construction, property acquisition
		Service outcomes
	Culturally appropriate services	Identifications as to whether services are culturally safe and tailored to meet the needs of Indigenous households
Workforce	Size of PAYG workforce	Total number of employees
		Total number of FTE employees
	Composition of workforce	Job roles, e.g. management, administration, frontline staff, maintenance staff (and number in each classification)
		Worker demographics, e.g. Indigenous/non-Indigenous, male/female, age (and number of staff in each category)
	Employment arrangements	Agreement type, e.g. permanent full-time/part-time, fixed-term full-time/part-time, casual (and number of staff in each type)
		Contract type, e.g. award, enterprise agreement, common law contract, individual flexibility agreement (and number of staff in each type)
	Skill shortages	Skill shortages for each role classification
		Reasons for skill shortages, e.g. specialist knowledge, location of organisation, financial constraints, lack of available training, recruitment too slow, lack of suitable applicants, other
		How skill shortages are being addressed, e.g. training (external/on-the-job), existing workforce working longer hours, sub-contracted/outourced services, employed staff on short-term contract basis, wages/conditions increased, reduced services, other
	Vacancies	Total vacancies (FTE) and number of positions vacant (full-time/part-time) for each job type
		Whether there are difficulties filling vacancies and reasons why, e.g. lack of suitable applicants, location of organisation

Table 4: Housing workers – data topics, items and full description

Data topic	Data item	Description
Demographic information	Socio-demographic information	Indigenous/non-Indigenous, sex, age, gender, country of birth, citizen/permanent resident, health status
	Location	State/territory, postcode, suburb
		Remoteness - urban, regional, remote areas
Qualifications and training	Qualifications	Highest level of schooling
		Post-school qualifications - completion, type and level of qualification (including housing specific qualifications)
		If currently studying for any qualifications: type, level and relevance to housing role
	Training	Recent training undertaken - type (e.g. continuing professional development/education, other training); topic
		Aims of training, e.g. purpose of training and whether aims were met
		Future training, e.g. need for training and type of training required
About the job	Organisation type	Government agency, state/territory housing department, community housing provider, Indigenous community-controlled housing provider, private housing provider
	Role	Job type e.g. management, administration, frontline housing staff, repair/maintenance staff
		If role involves managing or supervising staff
Employment conditions	Hours of work	Average hours worked each week in job (with specification between paid and unpaid hours)
		Preferred hours would like to work in job, e.g. more, fewer, total number of hours
	Employment arrangements	Form of employment – casual, permanent (full-time/part-time), fixed term contract (length of contract)
	Wages	Total amount of pay before tax and other deductions (period covered - week, fortnight, month)
Job satisfaction	Job satisfaction	Satisfaction with different aspects of job, e.g. pay, job security, the work itself, hours worked, opportunities to develop abilities, support from team/organisation, support from supervisor, workplace flexibility, workload, time pressures
		Relations in workplace - with management, with colleagues
		Satisfaction with work-life balance - rating
	Perceptions of job	Best aspects of job – open-ended response
		Worst aspects of job – open-ended response
Career pathways	Time in Indigenous housing	Length of time working for current organisation
		Length of time working in Indigenous housing
		Reasons why chose to work in Indigenous housing, e.g. direct interest in the work itself, availability of employment, working conditions, vocational placement, other
	Career pathways	Last paid job before first worked in Indigenous housing: type of job and industry
		If previously worked in Indigenous housing before began current job
		Reasons for choosing current organisation, e.g. changing personal circumstances, working conditions, location, availability of employment, organisational reputation/values
Future work intentions	Work intentions	Whether currently actively seeking work outside organisation

		Perceptions of where will work in the future, e.g. with same organisation, other ICHO, other housing organisation, working but not in housing, not working for pay
		Reasons why may finish working for current organisation, e.g. advance career, take on new role, personal circumstances, better working conditions, location, change of industry, retirement

A3.2. Data review – Indigenous households/people

Figure 1: Visual representation of Indigenous households/people data - national and state/territory data sources⁸³

National data sources	Household information	Household location	Tenure type	Tenure agreements	Overcrowding	Dwelling characteristics	Housing conditions	Household facilities	Repairs	Essential services	Housing affordability	Housing stress	Homelessness	Housing satisfaction	Housing issues	Satisfaction with neighbourhood	Impact of housing on circumstances	Housing stability	Housing moves	Housing pathways	Housing aspirations	Additional data items
AHCD																						
CENSUS																						
CENSUS ESTIMATING HOMELESSNESS																						
CTG OUTCOME AREA 9																						
CHINS																						
CH DATA COLLECTION																						
HILDA SURVEY																						
HOUSING STATISTICS																						
ICH DATA COLLECTION																						
JOURNEYS HOME SURVEY																						
LSAC																						
LSIC																						
NATSIHS																						
NATSISS																						
NSHS																						
PH AND SOMIH DATA COLLECTION																						
RIFIC																						
RoGS - HOUSING & HOMELESSNESS																						
SHS DATA COLLECTION																						

⁸³ As shown in the second table in this Figure, the state and territory data sources did not include any data collected from Indigenous households or people.

State/Territory data sources		Household information	Household location	Tenure type	Tenure agreements	Overcrowding	Dwelling characteristics	Housing conditions	Household facilities	Repairs	Essential services	Housing affordability	Housing stress	Homelessness	Housing satisfaction	Housing issues	Satisfaction with neighbourhood	Impact of housing on circumstances	Housing stability	Housing moves	Housing pathways	Housing aspirations	Additional data items
NSW AHO DWELLINGS																							
NSW SH DASHBOARD																							
NT RHIP																							
QLD CH																							
QLD ICH																							
QLD PH & SOMIH																							
SA PH																							
SA SOMIH																							
TAS SH																							
VIC AHV																							
VIC HOUSING REGISTER																							
VIC SH ALLOCATION																							

Key

-  Data on this item can be derived from other variables
-  Data on this item is directly available

Note: The comprehensiveness of the data varies

List of Indigenous households/people data items and descriptions - national and state/territory data sources

1. Household information

- Total number of people living in the household
- Structure of household
- Breakdown of household members
- Demographic characteristics of household members
- Permanent or temporary occupants

2. Household location

- ASGS ABS structures
- ASGS non-ABS structures
- Socio-economic status of location

3. Tenure type

- Tenure type
- If renting, who renting from
- If renting, main reasons for renting

4. Tenure agreements

- Type of tenure agreement
- Length of tenure agreement

5. Overcrowding

- Household experiencing overcrowding
- Severity of overcrowding
- Overcrowding measure
- Perceptions of overcrowding

6. Dwelling Characteristics

- Structure of the property
- Age of dwelling
- Size of dwelling

7. Housing conditions

- Overall condition of dwelling
- Structural problems and type of issue
- Issues are major or minor problems

8. Household facilities

- Type of facilities present in home

9. Repairs

- Home in need of repairs
- Repairs needed
- Who responsible for repairs and maintenance
- Easy to get repairs done
- Length of time waiting for repairs
- Reason for repairs not being done

10. Essential services

- Availability of essential services
- Reliability of supply/interruptions

11. Housing affordability

- Household income
- Main source of income
- Housing costs
- Affordability of housing costs
- Housing assistance

12. Housing stress

- Housing stress being experienced
- Severity of housing stress
- Measure used to ascertain housing stress

13. Homelessness

- Incidence of homelessness
- Type of homelessness experienced
- Reasons for homelessness

14. Housing satisfaction

- Satisfaction with dwelling
- Adequacy of housing for current needs

15. Housing issues

- Type of housing issues experienced

16. Satisfaction with neighbourhood

- Perceived safety neighbourhood
- Amenities in neighbourhood
- Services in neighbourhood

17. Impact of housing on circumstances

- Impact of housing circumstances

18. Housing stability

- Security of tenure
- Length of current tenure

19. Housing moves

- Number of moves
- Reason for moves
- Intention to move house
- Reasons for wanting to move

20. Housing pathways

- Types of pathways

21. Housing aspirations

- Future housing plans
- Home ownership perceptions
- Barriers and facilitators of home ownership

22. Additional data items

- (Various)

Table 5: Review of national data sources – Indigenous households/people

Data item	Description	AHCD	CENSUS	CENSUS - ESTIMATING HOMELESSNESS	CTG OUTCOME AREA 9	CHINS	CH DATA COLLECTION
Household information	Total number of people living in the household	Can be derived from count of adults and children	How many people spent Census night in dwelling (but if more than 6 people need to complete online or request extra paper form)	No	No	No	No
	Structure of household	Structure of household: couple with no children, couple with children, one parent family with children, single person living alone, shared living arrangement, other	Can be derived	No	No	No	No
	Breakdown of household members	How many people live in home: people aged 18 years or over, children (under 18 years)	Can be derived	No	No	No	No
	Demographic characteristics of household members	Self-assessed physical health, diagnosed health conditions, self-assessed mental health, long-term health condition/impairment/disability that restricts you or other household member; gender; age group; country of birth/ years lived in Australia; identify as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander	Sex, date of birth and age, relationship, marital status, Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander origin, citizenship/ country of birth/year of arrival/ancestry, language at home/English competency, religion, help with activities/reasons, health conditions, studying/ educational attainment, employment/job search, ADF service, volunteering/ domestic work/caring	Homelessness by Indigenous status; also broken down by age groups, sex, health conditions, educational attendance, core activity need for assistance; Marital status, educational attainment, ADF service, labour force status, occupation, hours worked	All tables by Indigenous status; Appropriately sized housing by: Sex; age groups; need for assistance with core activities	No	No
	Permanent or temporary occupants	No	Can be derived	Partially - homeless operational groups include people staying temporarily with other	No	No	No

				households, people living in severely crowded dwellings, people living in other crowded dwellings			
Household location	ASGS ABS structures	State/territory in which live	Address of dwelling (including state/territory); Other ABS structures can be derived	Australia, State/Territory, Greater Capital City Statistical Areas	All tables: Australia, State/Territory; some by remoteness area	No	No
	ASGS non-ABS structures	Postcode of current address ^a	Address of dwelling (including suburb/locality and postcode); Other non-ABS structures can be derived	No	No	No	No
	Socio-economic status of location	No	Can be derived	No	Appropriately sized housing by IRSD quintile	No	No
Tenure type	Tenure type	Is dwelling: owned with mortgage, owned outright, rented, other; do you own property elsewhere: yes (with mortgage, own outright), no	Is dwelling: owned outright, owned with mortgage, purchased under shared equity scheme, rented, occupied rent free, occupied under life tenure scheme, other	No	Appropriately sized housing by tenure type (owned outright, owned with mortgage/being purchased, rented, other)	No	No
	If renting, who renting from	Renting current place from: real estate agent, state/territory housing authority, someone not in same household, employer, community housing provider, other; renting dwelling from: public, private	Who dwelling being rented from: real estate agent, government housing authority/housing department (public housing), community housing provider, parent/other relative not in dwelling, other person not in dwelling, manager of residential park, employer – government/ private	No	Households residing in social housing dwelling (renting through state/territory housing provider, community housing provider, social housing provider)	No	No

	If renting, main reasons for renting	Reasons for renting: prefer renting, can't find anything suitable to buy, to retain the flexibility to move quickly, do not have enough for a deposit or down payment, can't afford to buy anything appropriate, can afford a better quality dwelling while renting, can afford to live in a better area while renting, renting is generally cheaper than buying property, change in personal relationships, vocation-related reasons (such as for job or study), use the rental income from other property to pay off mortgage, for tax benefits (such as to claim the rental expenses as tax deductions), to build equity to buy another property, other	No	No	No	No	No
Tenure agreements	Type of tenure agreement	Can be inferred from question on length of current lease arrangement	No	No	No	No	No
	Length of tenure agreement	Current lease arrangement - less than 6 months, 6 to 12 months, more than 12 months, no formal lease	No	No	No	No	No
Overcrowding	Household experiencing overcrowding	No	Can be derived	Partially - Homeless operational groups include people living in	Overcrowded housing	No	No

				severely crowded/other crowded dwellings			
	Severity of overcrowding	No	Can be derived	Partially - Homeless operational groups include people living in severely crowded dwellings/ other crowded dwellings	Overcrowded housing - by number of extra bedrooms needed (four or more, three, two, one, total)	No	No
	Overcrowding measure	No	CNOS	CNOS	CNOS	No	No
	Perceptions of overcrowding	No	No	No	No	No	No
Dwelling characteristics	Structure of the property	Is current place: separate house, semi-detached row/ terrace house/townhouse, flat or apartment with 4 or less floors including a ground floor and 3 floors above, flat or apartment with more than 4 floors including a ground floor and 4 or more floors above, other	No - sourced from ABS Address Register	No	No	No	No
	Age of dwelling	When dwelling built: before 1950s, 1950 - 1969, 1970 - 1989, 1990 - 1999, 2000 - 2009, 2010 and after	No	No	No	No	No
	Size of dwelling	Number of bedrooms	Number of bedrooms	No	No	No	No
Housing conditions	Overall condition of dwelling	How rate overall condition of home (e.g. walls, roof, doors and windows): excellent, good, average, poor, very poor	No	No	Housing of acceptable standard	No	No
	Structural problems and type of issue	Problems with current home/that need urgent repair: dampness, mould,	No	No	Dwellings with no major structural problems	No	No

		cracks in walls/floors, sinking/moving foundations, walls/windows/floors that are not levelled, wood rot/termite damage, electrical problems, roof defect, plumbing issues, other					
	Issues are major or minor problems	No	No	No	No major structural problems	No	No
Household facilities	Type of facilities present in home	Home has functioning smoke detector; security measures in home: deadlocks on all external doors, locking mechanisms on all windows, security alarm, security screens on all windows and doors, other security measures, none; home has: rainwater tanks, battery power storage, charging station for electric vehicles, awnings/outdoor shutters to reduce direct sunlight, insulation, solar panels, solar hot water system, double glazed windows, other, none	No	No	Dwellings with access to working facilities (for washing people, washing clothes or bedding, storing/preparing food, sewerage facilities)	No	No
Repairs	Home in need of repairs	Can be derived	No	No	No	No	No
	Repairs needed	Can be derived	No	No	No	No	No
	Who responsible for repairs and maintenance	No	No	No	No	No	No

	Easy to get repairs done	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Length of time waiting for repairs	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Reason for repairs not being done	No	No	No	No	No	No
Essential services	Availability of essential services	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Reliability of supply/ interruptions	No	No	No	No	No	No
Housing affordability	Household income	Annual household income before tax (\$ categories) ^a	Total personal income (\$ categories per week/per year)	Total personal income (\$ categories per week)	No	No	No
	Main source of income	Main source of income - wages/salary, own business/share in partnership, government pension/ allowance, superannuation/ annuity/private pension, other	No - all sources are included together in total personal income	No	No	No	No
	Housing costs	Household rent or mortgage repayment (\$ per week/fortnight/month/ year)	How much does household pay for dwelling (\$ per week/fortnight/month) - includes rent/mortgage/site fees but excludes other housing-related costs	No	No	No	No
	Affordability of housing costs	Affordability of rent/ mortgage for household: very affordable, affordable, neither affordable nor	No	No	No	No	No

		unaffordable, unaffordable, very unaffordable					
	Housing assistance	No	No	No	No	No	No
Housing stress	Housing stress being experienced	After paying rent, have enough money left for: essential expenditure (e.g. bills, clothing, essential transport, food and drink), nonessential expenditure (e.g. social activities, holidays, TV, nonessential food and drink, alcohol), savings or investment	Can be derived	No	No	No	No
	Severity of housing stress	No	Can be derived	No	No	No	No
	Measure used to ascertain housing stress	No	Mortgage/rent payment more than 30% of household income	No	No	No	No
Homelessness	Incidence of homelessness	No	No	Number and rate of homelessness provided	No	No	No
	Type of homelessness experienced	No	No	Homeless Operational Groups (People living in: improvised dwellings, tents, or sleeping out; supported accommodation for the homeless; temporarily with other households; boarding houses; other temporary lodgings; 'severely' crowded dwellings) and Other Marginal Housing (People living in: other crowded dwellings; other improvised dwellings;	No	No	No

				marginally housed in caravan parks)			
	Reasons for homelessness	No	No	No	No	No	No
Housing satisfaction	Satisfaction with dwelling	Overall satisfaction with dwelling: very satisfied, satisfied, neither satisfied or dissatisfied, dissatisfied, very dissatisfied	No	No	No	No	No
	Adequacy of housing for current needs	Can keep comfortably warm during winter/cool during summer; adequacy of home for working or studying at home (e.g. space, furniture, utilities, internet, privacy)	No	No	No	No	No
Housing issues	Type of housing issues experienced	Experienced issues in current home: restrictions (e.g. hanging pictures, not allowing pets), restrictions e.g. modifying common property, renovations), leaks, flooding or plumbing problems, electrical problems (such as fuse blown, faulty wiring), difficulties keeping the house cool or warm, delays from landlord/property manager taking actions on issues raised, delays from the owners corporation/strata management taking actions on issues raised, unjustified rent increases, noise coming from adjoining flats/apartments/	Can potentially be inferred	Can potentially be inferred	No	No	No

		neighbours, noise from outside (such as traffic or construction), issues with pests (such as termites, rodents, cockroaches, ants), no/limited visitor car parking space, other, none					
Satisfaction with neighbourhood	Perceived safety neighbourhood	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Amenities in neighbourhood	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Services in neighbourhood	No	No	No	No	No	No
Impact of housing on circumstances	Impact of housing circumstances	Effect of current housing circumstances on physical health, mental health, financial circumstances, social life, education/employment (positive effect, negative effect, no effect); Household member sustained physical injury from any bad aspect of housing: yes/no; what was injury	No	No	No	No	No
Housing stability	Security of tenure	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Length of current tenure	How many years lived at current address: less than a year, 1-2 years, 2-5 years, 5 or more years	No	No	No	No	No
Housing moves	Number of moves	How many times moved in past 5 years: once, twice, 3 times, 4 times, 5 or more times	Partially - from: Where usually live one year ago (address), Where usually live five years ago (address)	No	No	No	No

	Reason for moves	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Intention to move house	Think will move house in next 5 years; when likely to happen: within next 12 months, 1-2 years, 2-5 years	No	No	No	No	No
	Reasons for wanting to move	Reasons for wanting to move in next 5 years: current dwelling too expensive, want to move to a better location, worried that the rent will increase, have issues with property manager/landlord, have issues with neighbours, no pets allowed at current dwelling, want somewhere smaller, want somewhere more suited to physical needs, want somewhere bigger, have plans to buy a home, change of scenery/ lifestyle, informed to vacate the property, other	No	No	No	No	No
Housing pathways	Types of pathways	No	No	No	No	No	No
Housing aspirations	Future housing plans	In 12 months' time, ideally like to be living in: own home with mortgage, own home owned outright, same rental property, different rental property, other	No	No	No	No	No
	Home ownership perceptions	Do you think you will ever buy a property in Australia; when likely to happen:	No	No	No	No	No

		within next 12 months, 1-2 years, 2-5 years, 5-10 years, over 10 years					
	Barriers and facilitators of home ownership	No	No	No	No	No	No
Additional data items		Homeowners: Mortgage - how much left to pay off; Property value: how much worth in today's market; how many other properties own - 1, 2, 3, 4 or more; Reasons for owning another property - investment/ source of income, live in during retirement, use as holiday home, for future generations, was an inheritance, other; COVID-19 experience - employment, housing, wellbeing, government assistance	No	No	No	No	No

Notes: ^a Restricted variable

Table 5: Review of national data sources – Indigenous households/people (contd.)

Data item	Description	HILDA SURVEY	HOUSING STATISTICS	ICH DATA COLLECTION	JOURNEYS HOME SURVEY
Household information	Total number of people living in household	Number of household members (all)	Total number of households	No	Partially - Live/stay with others or alone
	Structure of household	Reason for joining/leaving household; single/multi person household	Total households - one family households (various), multiple family households (various), couple family with no children/ children, one parent family, other	No	Can be derived from who live with
	Breakdown of household members	Can be inferred	No	No	Who currently live/stay with
	Demographic characteristics of household members	Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander origin, sex, gender, age, date of birth, health condition/disability, NDIS participation, relationship of household members, language, country of birth/when arrive/visa, child care/parenting, COVID-19 effects, education/training, employment, job seeking, children/grandchildren, marital status, family background/ parents, caring/ household tasks, life satisfaction, retirement, general health and wellbeing, lifestyle, major life events, attitudes and values	No	No	Personal details – Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander status, age, sex, marital status, children, country of birth, language, education; employment: employment history, current work, job seeking, voluntary work; support services and networks: family relationships, friends, use of welfare services; health and wellbeing: sexual orientation, physical and mental health, drug and alcohol use, life satisfaction; family history: childhood, parents/caregivers; Involvement with justice system; exposure to violence; Income and financial stress: difficulties, source and amount, debts/loans
	Permanent or temporary occupants	Household members temporarily absent; how many people usually live here	No	No	No
Household location	ASGS ABS structures	Household address	Total households - national, state/territory, remoteness (Note: most of data broken down by national and	No	Where living/staying - postal address, state/territory

			state/territory, some by remoteness); Also limited data by IREG, IARE and ILOC.		
	ASGS non-ABS structures	No	Total households - limited data by LGA	No	No
	Socio-economic status of location	No	Total households - IRSAD quintiles by tenure type, number of extra bedrooms needed, overcrowded/not overcrowded	No	No
Tenure type	Tenure type	Own, rent or live rent free, rent-buy arrangement; mortgage paid off/still to pay	Total households - living in non-private dwelling, tenure type (owned outright/ mortgage, rented, other) by state/ territory, remoteness, LGA, IREG, IARE, ILOC and family composition	No	Partial - can be inferred from questions on housing costs; how housing is provided (who staying with, home owned, provided by)
	If renting, who renting from	Who rent from - private landlord or real estate agent, caravan park owner or manager, government housing authority, community or co-operative housing group, employer, someone else; who pay board to (member of household?); how housing provided if not own or rent	Total households - landlord type ABS categories by state/territory, remoteness, LGA, IREG, IARE, ILOC	No	Who rent from/pay board or fees to (includes private landlord/real estate agent, government housing authority, community/ cooperative housing group, caravan park owner/manager, hotel/motel, welfare service provider, employer, pay board, other)
	If renting, main reasons for renting	No	No	No	No
Tenure agreements	Type of tenure agreement	No	No	No	No
	Length of tenure agreement	No	No	No	No
Overcrowding	Household experiencing overcrowding	No	Total households - appropriately sized/overcrowded (by state/territory, remoteness, LGA, IREG, IARE, ILOC)	No	Have bedroom to self; how many other people share bedroom with; place have adequate sleeping space
	Severity of overcrowding	No	Total households - number of extra bedrooms needed or spare (by state/territory, remoteness, LGA, IREG, IARE, ILOC); total persons - living in	No	No

			severely crowded/other crowded dwellings		
	Overcrowding measure	No	CNOS	No	No
	Perceptions of overcrowding	No	No	No	No
Dwelling characteristics	Structure of the property	Type of dwelling - includes private and non-private dwellings; separate house, semi-detached/row/terrace/townhouse, flat/unit/apartment, caravan/tent/cabin/houseboat (with number of storeys if relevant)	Total households - non-private dwelling type; dwelling structure - shorter list/expanded; dwelling structure (shortened list) by LGA, IREG, IARE and ILOCs	No	Type of place live/stayed last night (includes permanent and non-permanent dwellings)
	Age of dwelling	No	No	No	No
	Size of dwelling	Number of bedrooms	Total households by number of bedrooms, also bedrooms by dwelling structure	No	No
Housing conditions	Overall condition of dwelling	External condition - rating (Interviewer observation)	Dwelling of acceptable/not acceptable standard	No	Place in good condition
	Structural problems and type of issue	No	Dwelling - types of structural problems (rising damp, major cracks in walls/floors, sinking/moving foundations, sagging floors, walls or windows that are not straight, wood rot or termite damage, major electrical problems, major plumbing problems, major roof defects, other major structural problems, subtotal major structural problems, no structural problems)	No	No
	Issues are major or minor problems	No	Dwelling - type of structural problems includes identification of major problems; number of major structural problems	No	No
Household facilities	Type of facilities	Safety features of dwelling (Interviewer observation)	Total households - dwelling has working facilities/not have working (preparing food, washing clothes/bedding, washing	No	Place has adequate toilet and cooking facilities

	present in home		people, sewerage facilities), facilities not available/do not work		
Repairs	Home in need of repairs	No	No	No	No
	Repairs needed	No	No	No	No
	Who responsible for repairs and maintenance	No	No	No	No
	Easy to get repairs done	No	No	No	No
	Length of time waiting for repairs	No	No	No	No
	Reason for repairs not being done	No	No	No	No
Essential services	Availability of essential services	No	No	No	Place has electricity
	Reliability of supply/ interruptions	No	No	No	No
Housing affordability	Household income	Gross household income (\$ categories); household member income (before and after tax), salary sacrificing, non-cash benefits; amount of government pension/ allowances, business, interest, royalties, investments, renting properties, superannuation	Median equivalised total household weekly income by state/territory and remoteness, tenure type, number of extra bedrooms needed, overcrowded/ not overcrowded (\$)	No	Personal income: gross pay, Centrelink payment amount, total income; partner total income
	Main source of income	Government pensions/ allowances (list), wages, business, interest,	No	No	Partial - Type of Centrelink payment

		royalties, investments, renting properties, superannuation			
	Housing costs	Amount of rent/board (frequency); mortgage - how much left on loan, type of loan, usual repayment amount (frequency), when expect paid off, other housing loans/ repayments	Median monthly mortgage repayments and weekly rent payments by state/ territory, remoteness, LGA, IREG, IARE, ILOC; median weekly rent payments by landlord type (\$)	No	Amount of rent, board or fees (weekly/monthly); Monthly mortgage payments
	Affordability of housing costs	Household insurance - reasons do not have (include affordability), impact to insurance cover of shortage of money	No	No	No
	Housing assistance	No	No	No	No
Housing stress	Housing stress being experienced	On schedule or not with mortgage repayments	No	No	Currently falling behind with rent, board or fees/reasons why behind with rent; behind with mortgage repayments/reasons why behind
	Severity of housing stress	How well off financially (very poor to prosperous); challenges because of shortage of money (list as per description); ability to raise \$4000 for emergency in one week - ease and how obtain	No	No	How far behind with rent (time); how far behind with mortgage repayments (time); issues due to shortage of money over past 6 months - go without food, pawn/sell something, asked welfare agency for food/ clothes/accommodation/money, asked for financial help from friends/family, could not go out with friends, couldn't pay utility bills on time
	Measure used to ascertain housing stress	No	No	No	No
Homelessness	Incidence of homelessness	No	Total persons - ever experienced homelessness or not (by age groups)	No	How long without place to live; age first without place to live/how long lasted; other times not had place to live; currently without own place to live; most recent time without place - when begin and how long;

					current housing situation: Includes at risk of being homeless/homeless
	Type of homelessness experienced	No	Total persons by homeless operational group and other marginal housing - Homeless operational groups: improvised dwellings/tents/sleeping out, supported accommodation for the homeless, staying temporarily with other households, boarding houses, other temporary lodgings, 'severely' crowded dwellings; other marginal housing: other crowded dwellings, other improvised dwellings, caravan parks	No	Where live/stayed last night - includes boarding house, crisis accommodation, sleeping rough, car, squat/abandoned building; current and past experiences of staying in temporary accommodation because did not have place to live - stay with relatives/friends, caravan, boarding house/hostel, crisis accommodation, squatting, slept rough, other
	Reasons for homelessness	No	No	No	Reasons for being without place to live for first time (includes financial difficulties, relationship issues, violence, employment issues, mental health/medical issues, drug use, gambling, transition from state care, eviction, natural disaster/fire, end of lease, other; reasons for most recent homelessness (as above)
Housing satisfaction	Satisfaction with dwelling	Satisfaction with home in which live	No	No	Satisfaction with housing situation
	Adequacy of housing for current needs	No	No	No	Distance of home to public transport
Housing issues	Type of housing issues experienced	No	No	No	No
Satisfaction with neighbourhood	Perceived safety of neighbourhood	Risk of natural disaster/theft; satisfaction with how safe feel, feeling part of local community/ neighbourhood in which live	No	No	Satisfaction with neighbourhood in which live, how safe feel; feel safe in place live
	Amenities in neighbourhood	No	No	No	No

	Services in neighbourhood	No	No	No	No
Impact of housing on circumstances	Impact of housing circumstances	Can potentially be inferred	No	No	Can potentially be inferred
Housing stability	Security of tenure	No	No	No	Can stay in place for next 3 months without being asked to leave; last time had place to live where in same place for 3 months or more/type of place/who living with; current housing situation - secure, at risk of homelessness, homeless
	Length of current tenure	No	No	No	Length of time at current place
Housing moves	Number of moves	Changed address since last survey (dates of move); number of homes in last 10 years	No	No	How many places lived in over previous 6 months/time spent in each of the different places; Moves since last interview
	Reason for moves	Main reason for leaving address - work, study, business, larger/better place, smaller/less expensive place, get a place of own, get married/ moved in with partner, live in a better neighbourhood, be closer to friends/ family, look for work, marital/relationship breakdown, property no longer available, evicted, follow a spouse or parent/whole family moved, closer to amenities/ services/public transport, seeking change of lifestyle, health reasons, temporary relocation, other	No	No	Reason for leaving place lived for 3 months or more (see homelessness reasons); why leave place (see above)
	Intention to move house	No	No	No	Looking for another place to live; how long looking; anything preventing you from finding another place/main barriers
	Reasons for wanting to move	No	No	No	No

Housing pathways	Types of pathways	No	No	No	On waiting list for public/community housing
Housing aspirations	Future housing plans	No	No	No	No
	Home ownership perceptions	No	No	No	No
	Barriers and facilitators of home ownership	No	No	No	No
Additional data items		Type of road dwelling on - not on main/major road, main road - single/ two or more lanes (Interviewer observation); Value of home; Home insurance coverage - building/ contents; Household spending - weekly/monthly/ annual expenses - type and \$	No	No	Use/frequency of use of housing and tenancy services; Value of home

Table 5: Review of national data sources – Indigenous households/people (contd.)

Data item	Description	LSAC	LSIC	NATSIHS	NATSISS
Household information	Total number of people living in household	All in household	All in household	Number in household	Number of usual residents
	Structure of household	Can be derived	Can be derived	Can be derived	Can be derived
	Breakdown of household members	Number of children (under 5, 5-12, 13-17), adults (18-64), older adults (65 and over)	Number of adults/young adults, children	Can be derived	Can be derived
	Demographic characteristics of household members	Household members: sex, age/date of birth, medical conditions/ disabilities, COVID-19 effects, household composition changes, services (includes housing services) - use/unable to access, extreme weather/natural disasters Parent: Household relationships, family relationships, family history, emotional support/ wellbeing, health (general, physical activity), paid work/job seeking/voluntary work, caring role, children, child care, gambling, life events, smoking/ alcohol/drug use, feelings about future, education (attainment, current) Young person (YP): Family relationships, children, support from family, personal relationships, emotional support, trust, health (general, seek/not seek care, physical development, dental), service use (physical/	Household members: Sex, date of birth/age, Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander, household relationship, good things happened this year, COVID-19 effects, major life events Parent: Partner, health (self-assessed, physical activity, smoking, alcohol), cultural identity/racism, wellbeing, family relationships, parenting, children, caring, work, internet use Study youth (SY): Education (school, post-school), health (general, physical activity, diet, sleep, weight/height - measured), caring, work (paid, work experience, volunteering), future plans, mobile phone and internet use, driving, language, family relationships, wellbeing, children; (with permission of parent): identity/ racism, growing up, personal relationships, sexual health, smoking/alcohol/drugs, bad behaviour, contact with	Household members: Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander origin, age, relationship, language, breastfeeding, child health service use Survey participant: education (attainment, current), employment (paid, unpaid, CDP, job seeking), caring, health (self-rated, smoking, height/weight, physical activity, immunisation, diet, alcohol, substance use, asthma, cancer, cardiovascular, arthritis, osteoporosis, diabetes, kidney disease, sight and hearing, physical measures), social and emotional wellbeing, disability/ long-term conditions, mental health conditions, medications, health service use, experiences of discrimination, private health insurance, cultural identification, experiences of violence, use of internet, access to services, food security	Household members: Relationship, sex, age/date of birth, Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander origin, language, cultural participation, social activities, cultural identification, maternal health, children (nutrition, sleep, health, sport participation, schooling, child care, life events), enforced removal of relatives from family, stressors over last year (health problems, family changes, work problems, other problems), car ownership, smoking Survey participant: Employment, job seeking, unemployment, education (current, attainment, cultural), vocational training, overall life satisfaction, health (self-assessed, long-term condition, disability, service use), nutrition, social and emotional wellbeing, support (to others, for self), barriers to service providers (payment, health, other) and

		mental health), diet, smoking/ alcohol/ drug use, sleep, social media/internet use, wellbeing, self-harm/suicide, caring role, bullying and bad behaviour, current studies, paid work/job seeking, life events, feelings about future, contact with justice system, activities, gender identity/ sexuality, driving	justice system, suicide/self-harm, seeking help, strengths and difficulties		reasons, social capital (contact, confide in, sense of efficacy, trust, safety), experiences of discrimination, contact with legal services/police, crimes against you, transport, use of internet, smoking alcohol/substance use
	Permanent or temporary occupants	Parents and/or SY temporarily living away	Household members includes all who usually live in household for at least 6 months but may be away only temporarily (less than 6 weeks)	No	Number of usual residents
Household location	ASGS ABS structures	Can be derived	Can be derived	Can be derived	Can be derived
	ASGS non-ABS structures	Postal address	Postal address	Postal address	Postal address
	Socio-economic status of location	No	Can be derived - SEIFA, IRSAD, IRSD, IER, IEO, IRSEO	Can be derived - SEIFA, IRSAD, IRSD, IER, IEO	No
Tenure type	Tenure type	Parent: home owned/partly owned, rented, occupied rent free, purchasing under rent-buy or shared equity scheme, occupied under life tenure scheme	Parent: Is place: rented from private landlord/real estate agent, rented from ICHO, rented from Government housing authority, rented from employer, rented from community/co-operative housing group, being paid off by you/other household member, owned outright by you/other household member, occupied rent free, none of these	Tenure: Dwelling owned/being paid off, rented, being purchased under a shared equity scheme, occupied under life tenure scheme, pay board, occupied rent free	Tenure: Dwelling owned/being paid off, rented, being purchased under a shared equity scheme, occupied under life tenure scheme, pay board, occupied rent free
	If renting, who renting from	Parent/YP: who pay rent or board to: real estate agent, state/territory housing authority, person	Parent: See above Study youth: Who pay rent or board to? Private landlord/real	Who pay rent/board to for house: real estate agent, state/territory housing authority, person not in	Who pay rent/board to for house: real estate aged, state/territory housing authority, person not in

		not in household (parent/other relative/other), person in same household (parent, other relative/other), owner/manager of caravan park, employer, housing co-operative/community/church group, other	estate agent, employer, educational institution, owner/manager of caravan park, parent or other relative/someone not in same household, parent or other relative/someone in same household, state/territory housing authority, housing co-operative/community/church group, other	house/in same house, employer, owner/manager of caravan park, housing co-operative or church group, ICHO/CH, other	house, employer, owner/manager of caravan park, housing co-operative or church group, ICHO/CH/council, other
	If renting, main reasons for renting	No	No	No	N
Tenure agreements	Type of tenure agreement	No	No	No	No
	Length of tenure agreement	No	No	No	No
Overcrowding	Household experiencing overcrowding	Can be derived	Parent/SY: In last year have you felt too crowded where you live	Can be derived	Can be derived
	Severity of overcrowding	Can be derived	No	Can be derived	Can be derived
	Overcrowding measure	No	No	CNOS	No
	Perceptions of overcrowding	No	Parent/SY: In last year have you felt too crowded where you live	No	No
Dwelling characteristics	Structure of the property	Parent: type of home: separate house, semi-detached/row or terrace/townhouse, flat/apartment, caravan/cabin, house/flat attached to shop/ office, farm, none of above	Type of home: separate house, semi-detached/row or terrace/townhouse (stories), flat/apartment (stories/attached to house), other type of home (caravan/tent/cabin, improvised home/camp, house/flat attached to shop /office, school boarding house, no permanent home, hostel, other)	Dwelling structure: separate house, semi-detached/row or terrace/ townhouse (stories), flat/apartment (stories), other dwelling (caravan/ tent/cabin, improvised home/tent, house/flat attached to shop/office)	Dwelling structure: separate house, semi-detached/row or terrace/townhouse (stories), flat/apartment (stories), other dwelling (caravan/tent/cabin, improvised home/camp, house/flat attached to shop/ office)

	Age of dwelling	No	No	No	No
	Size of dwelling	Number of bedrooms	Number of bedrooms	Number of bedrooms	Number of bedrooms
Housing conditions	Overall condition of dwelling	No	No	No	No
	Structural problems and type of issue	No	Home have any major things that need fixing: structural/electrical problems, major plumbing problems, roof/doors/windows, outdoor problems, essential service problems, other (list under each category)	House have any problems that need to be fixed: rising damp, major cracks in walls/floors, sinking/moving foundations, sagging floors, walls/windows that aren't straight, wood rot/termite damage, major electrical problems, major plumbing problems, major roof defect, other major structural/big problems	House have any problems that need to be fixed: rising damp, major cracks in walls/ floors, sinking/moving foundations, sagging floors, walls/windows that aren't straight, wood rot/termite damage, major electrical problems, major plumbing problems, major roof defect, other major structural/big problems
	Issues are major or minor problems	No	See above for list - just major issues	See above for list of major problems (states that non-major repairs not included in above list)	See above for list of major problems (states that non-major repairs not included in above list)
Household facilities	Type of facilities present in home	No	No	Household facilities: stove/oven/ other cooking facilities, fridge, toilet, bath/ shower, washing machine, kitchen sink, laundry tub, none; facilities working or not	Household facilities: stove/oven/ other cooking facilities, fridge, toilet, bath/ shower, washing machine, kitchen sink, laundry tub, none; facilities working or not
Repairs	Home in need of repairs	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
	Repairs needed	No	Yes - see above	Yes - see above	Yes - see above
	Who responsible for repairs and maintenance	No	No	No	No
	Easy to get repairs done	No	Easy to get things fixed: yes, not always, no, other	No	No

	Length of time waiting for repairs	No	No	No	No
	Reason for repairs not being done	No	Main reason difficult to get things fixed: landlord/council/housing commission take long time to do repairs/isn't interested in doing repairs, difficulty getting tradespeople, too expensive, too hard to get materials, other	No	No
Essential services	Availability of essential services	No	No	No	No
	Reliability of supply/ interruptions	No	Essential services problems: water connection, gas supply, electrical, sewage connection - yes/no	No	No
Housing affordability	Household income	Parent/YP: personal income before tax/deductions (\$ and period covered) Parent: amount of child maintenance/ child support; wages and salary (\$ and period covered) All household members: personal income from all sources (\$ and period)	Parent/partner total income after deductions (\$ categories); amount of child maintenance/child support	Total personal income (\$ and period covered); household income (total weekly)	Personal income from wages/ salaries, government pensions/ allowances/ benefits (listed), income from child support/ superannuation, annuity, private pension/ workers compensation, rental investment properties, businesses, dividends, interest, other sources (\$ and period covered) Household income - gross amount each pay day (\$ and period covered)
	Main source of income	Parent/YP: source of income - wages/salary, profit or loss from business/partnership, government pension/benefit/allowance, other regular source Parent: Receive any pensions, allowances of other forms of assistance (list of payments); main	Parent/partner sources of income: wages or salary, business income, CEA/CDEP payments, government pension/benefit/allowance, child support/maintenance, native title payment/royalties, superannuation, other, no income Study youth sources of money:	Currently receive income from: CDP, wages or salary, business/ partnership, government pension/ benefit/ allowance, other regular source; currently receive a government pension/benefit/ allowance (from list)	In last 2 years has any form of government pension, allowance or benefit been main source of income/for how long; source of income (wages or salary, government pension/allowance/ benefit, business/partnership, other regular source); name of

		source of income - wages or salary, profit or loss from business/partnership/rental property, dividends or interest, any government pension or allowance, child support/maintenance, superannuation/annuity, workers' compensation, other YP: financial support from family (list)	wages or salary, cash in hand, pocket money, Abstudy, CEA/CDEP payments, child support/maintenance, native title payment/royalties from land, other, no income		government pension/allowance/benefit (listed)
	Housing costs	Parent: Usual mortgage/rent repayments (\$ and period covered) YP: How use money - list includes household expenses, accommodation costs; do you pay rent or board; in last 12 months have family provided housing related family support (purchasing real estate including mortgage repayments/paying for accommodation including rent/board payments, university accommodation) - how much (full amount to less than half), allowed you to live rent free/for low rent	SY: how use money - list includes household expenses, accommodation costs; do you pay rent or board	Usual weekly rent/mortgage repayments	Amount of household rent/board payment for dwelling (period covered); amount of usual mortgage repayment (period covered)
	Affordability of housing costs	No	No	No	No
	Housing assistance	No	No	No	No
Housing stress	Housing stress being experienced	Parent/YP: life events in last 12 months (includes major financial crisis)	Family had serious worries about money	Had days without money for basic living expenses/buying food (last 12 months, last 2 weeks); number of types of cash flow problems in last 12 months	How many times in last year had problems paying bills/ran out of money for food, clothing or bills/had to go without food, clothing or put off paying bills

	Severity of housing stress Parent: Given current needs and financial responsibilities, how family getting on: prosperous, very comfortable, reasonably comfortable, just getting along, poor, very poor; compared to 12 months ago is your financial situation: much worse, little worse, about same, little better, much better; capacity to raise \$2,000 in one week for an emergency YP: In last 12 months how difficult was it to meet necessary cost of living expenses like housing, electricity, water, healthcare, food, clothing, transport: Very difficult to very easy/I don't pay the living expenses; In last 12 months following happen because shortage of money: sold something because needed money, went without meals, had to ask family/friends for money, had to borrow money to live on, didn't get medicines/go to doctor when needed, couldn't buy text books/study materials, couldn't buy other things needed, couldn't pay utility/ telephone/ mortgage or rent on time, couldn't afford to heat home Household members: In last 12 month following happened because sort of money: could not pay utility/mortgage or rent payments on time, went without meals, unable to heat/cool home,	Parent: In last 12 months had following because short of money: could not pay utility bills/mortgage or rent payments on time, went without meals, unable to heat/cool home, pawned/sold something because needed cash, sought assistance from welfare/community organisations, study youth couldn't do activities like excursions, camps, sports Study youth: In last 12 months had following because short of money: had to ask family/friends for money, could not pay utility bills/mortgage or rent payment on time, went without meals, unable to heat/cool home, pawned/sold something because needed cash, sought assistance from welfare/ community organisation	Capacity to get \$2,000 within a week for something important; types of cash flow problems: pay bills, mortgage/ rent, car registration/insurance on time, not pay for fuel or public transport, not make minimum payment on credit card, unable to heat/cool home; not enough money to buy food/skip meals/go hungry	In last 12 months, issues because not enough money: asked for help from friends/family, help from welfare/community organisations, couldn't pay utility bills/mortgage or rent/car registration or insurance on time, couldn't pay minimum payment on credit card, couldn't heat/cool home, pawned/sold something to get money, missed meals, used short term loads, ran tab at local store, gave someone access to keycard, none; capacity to get \$2,000 within a week for something important
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		pawned/sold something, sought assistance from welfare/ community organisation, pay for child activities			
	Measure used to ascertain housing stress	No	No	No	No
Homelessness	Incidence of homelessness	Parent/YP: In last 2 years not had permanent place to live; currently without permanent place to live	Parent: In last 5 years, how many times not have own place to live: many, few, once, no; when last time homeless: less than 12 months ago, 1-2 years, more than 2 years, currently living in temporary accommodation SY: In last 2 years, ever without permanent place to live (options or no); have permanent place to live right now	No	How many times without permanent place to live; when last time without permanent place to live (less than 12 months ago, 1-2 years, 2-5 years, 5-10 years, 10 years or more); how long without place to live most recent time (less than 1 week, 1-2 weeks, 2 weeks-1 month, 1-2 months, 2-3 months, 3-6 months, 6-12 months, 1 year or more
	Type of homelessness experienced	Parent/YP: Where stay because not had permanent place to live: stayed with relatives/friend's house, caravan, boarding house/ hostel, refuge/shelter, slept rough, other	Parent: Where stay while homeless: with friends/relatives on short-term/medium or long-term basis, safe houses/night shelters for few nights, medium/ long-term support accommodation, renting caravan/ boarding house, sleeping rough or in cars/tents/abandoned buildings, camps, other SY: Stay with relatives, friend's house, caravan, boarding house/hostel, sleep rough, other	No	Ever experienced these things because did not have permanent place to live: stayed with family/friends, caravan, boarding house/hostel, night shelter, homeless shelter, refuge, squatted, slept rough, other, no
	Reasons for homelessness	Parent/YP: Reasons for not having permanent place to live: travelling/on holiday work-related, house-sitting, saving money, just moved back into town/city,	Parent: Main reasons were homeless: eviction (financial, non-financial), relationship breakdown, domestic/family violence, overcrowding/asked to leave/	No	Reasons for being without permanent place to live: travel, work-related, house-sitting, saving money, just moved back, building/ renovating home, tight housing/

		building/renovating home, tight housing/rental market, violence/abuse/neglect, alcohol/drug use, relationship problems, financial problems, mental illness, lost job, gambling, eviction, natural disaster, other	timeout from family, recent arrival in area, natural disaster, cultural reasons, other		rental market, violence/abuse/neglect, alcohol/ drug use, family/ friend/relationship problems, financial problems, mental illness, lost job, gambling, eviction, natural disaster, damage to house, health issues, other; main reason for most recent time
Housing satisfaction	Satisfaction with dwelling	No	No	No	No
	Adequacy of housing for current needs	Parent: Perceptions of neighbourhood - access to close, affordable, regular public transport	No	No	No
Housing issues	Type of housing issues experienced	No	Parent/SY: Experienced housing problems in last year	No	No
Satisfaction with neighbourhood	Perceived safety of neighbourhood	Parent: Perceptions of neighbourhood - safe, state of footpaths/roads/street lighting/ heavy traffic on street or road, safe for children to play outside in day, close-knit, people generally don't get along/share same values, people can be trusted/ willing to help neighbours YP: How safe feel in neighbourhood	Parent: Feel belong to community where you are living now (yes/ sometimes/no - open text); good things about area where live (open text); feelings of safety during day/at night; if unsafe, why (open text) SY: view on where live: nothing to do, lots of fun things to do, feel safe day/night	No	How feel about community where live - better, same, worse over past year; reasons why better (less drinking/drug problems, less crime, more jobs, more housing, more kids going to school, more say on community issues, other; community leadership - strong, time to listen/give advice; neighbourhood problems: theft, youth issues, prowlers/loiterers, vandalism, dangerous driving, alcohol, drugs, family violence, assault, sexual assault, problems with neighbours, neighbourhood conflict, personal safety, gambling; main problem/ satisfaction with local council/government response to problem; how safe/ unsafe feel: at home by self after

					dark, walking alone in local area after dark
	Amenities in neighbourhood	Parent: Perceptions of neighbourhood - good parks/ playgrounds/play spaces, access to basic shopping facilities	SY: view on where live - nothing to do, lots of fun things to do	No	Access to facilities: sporting/ recreation areas, supermarket, petrol station, pharmacy, taxi service, community phone
	Services in neighbourhood	Parent: Perceptions of neighbourhood - access to basic services such as banks, medical clinics etc	No	Have problems accessing services: banks, Centrelink, health, mental health, alcohol and drug, disability, utilities, housing, others; types of barrier (trust, cost, waiting times, language, location, transport, customer service, discrimination, service not culturally appropriate)	Access to services: medical services, community hall, schools, police station, school bus station, job service provider; barriers to service providers (payment, health, other - includes housing services) and reasons; public transport
Impact of housing on circumstances	Impact of housing circumstances	Can potentially be inferred	Can potentially be inferred	Can potentially be inferred	Can potentially be inferred
Housing stability	Security of tenure	No	No	No	No
	Length of current tenure	No	How long lived in property	No	How long lived in current house
Housing moves	Number of moves	Parent/YP: life events in last 12 months (includes moving house) Parent: in last year, how many times moved home	Parent/SY: Moved house in last year	No	No
	Reason for moves	No	Main reason for last move - housing, employment, health/ education, family, lifestyle, other reason (list provided for each)	No	Main reason for last move - housing, employment, health/education, family, lifestyle/ other reason (list provided under each reason)
	Intention to move house	Parent/YP: Intention to move in next two years (where)	Intention to move in next 12 months (when, where)	No	No
	Reasons for wanting to move	No	No	No	No

Housing pathways	Types of pathways	No	No	No	No
Housing aspirations	Future housing plans	No	No	No	No
	Home ownership perceptions	No	No	No	No
	Barriers and facilitators of home ownership	No	No	No	No
Additional data items		Parent: financial impact of COVID-19	Parental homelessness: SY with parent when homeless; SY finances: learning about financial management, family assisted with money for items	Public housing services: satisfaction with services provided; repair/maintenance carried out in last 12 months: painting, roof repair/maintenance, tile repair/replacement, electrical work, plumbing, other, none	Housing immediately prior to current home: how long live in house, location; most recent time without permanent place to live: seek assistance from services (type listed), why not seek assistance (reasons listed), did service help you; housing services: satisfaction with services provided by housing provider over last year; repairs/maintenance over last 12 months: painting, fixing roof, fixing/replacing tiles, electrical work, fixing plumbing, other, none bill payments taken directly from income/ bank account

Table 5: Review of national data sources – Indigenous households/people (contd.)

Data item	Description	NSHS	PH AND SOMIH DATA COLLECTION	RIFIC	RoGS - HOUSING AND HOMELESSNESS	SHS DATA COLLECTION
Household information	Total number of people living in household	How many people usually live in household (numbered from 1 to 7 or more) ^{a,b}	No	Household size provided (categories)	No	No
	Structure of household	Household structure: single person (living alone/living with one or more children), couple (living without children/with one or more children), extended family (living without children/with one of more children), groups of unrelated adults, other ^{a,b}	No	Family composition (various family types) and household composition (household type - one family, lone person, two family, three or more family, group)	No	No
	Breakdown of household members	Number of couples living together in home (numbered from none to 4 or more) ^{a,b}	No	No	No	No
	Demographic characteristics of household members	All household members: Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander origin; gender, age, current education enrolment, difficulties with activities due to long-term physical/ mental/ emotional health condition, service use (health, aged care, welfare, mental health, drug and alcohol, domestic and family violence services etc) ^{a,b} Survey participant only: if main tenant, highest level of education, country of birth, main language, employment status/looking for work ^{a,b} ; experienced personal difficulties (finances, work, mental health, personal relationships, other, none) ^a	No	Regional overview: age (groups/median), sex, languages spoken at home, educational attainment, employment and labour force participation rates, occupation type, life expectancy/mortality, health risk factors, long-term health conditions (physical and mental), health services use, chronic kidney disease, eye health Closing the Gap: life expectancy, birth weight, early childhood education, childhood development, educational attainment, employment, economic participation, involvement with criminal justice system, child protection, family violence, social and emotional wellbeing, legal rights/ interests, languages, home	People experiencing homelessness by equity group – Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander status/Indigenous status not stated, people with disability/disability not stated, male, female, total (rate, number, proportion); older people experiencing homelessness (by sex)	No

				internet access; Life stages data (for mothers and babies, children, adolescents and youth, adults, older people): demographics, culture, health and wellbeing, social and economic, health risk factors and services		
	Permanent or temporary occupants	Number of people who "usually" live in dwelling; need to accommodate others because had nowhere else to stay/live ^{a,b}	No	No	No	No
Household location	ASGS ABS structures	Remoteness area	No	Can search by Australia, state and territory, statistical areas (level 2-4), LGA, IREG, IARE, ILOC)	Homelessness by state/territory	No
	ASGS non-ABS structures	No	No	Can search by suburb, location and community	No	No
	Socio-economic status of location	No	No	No	No	No
Tenure type	Tenure type	All - social housing ^a	No	Regional overview: tenure type - owned outright, owned with mortgage, rented (private and other), rented (social housing), other; Life stages: type of tenure - owned outright/with mortgage, renters, rent free, life tenure/other (youth, adults)	No	No
	If renting, who renting from	Type of social housing already identified: PH, SOMIH, CH, ICH	No	Regional overview: private and other, social housing	No	No
	If renting, main reasons for renting	No	No	No	No	No
Tenure agreements	Type of tenure agreement	No	No	No	No	No

	Length of tenure agreement	No	No	No	No	No
Overcrowding	Household experiencing overcrowding	Number of bedrooms in home meets needs/not ^{a,b}	No	Regional overview: overcrowded/not overcrowded; CTG: Living in appropriately sized housing (by location, sex, remoteness); Life stages: Overcrowded/ appropriately sized housing (youth, adults, older people)	No	No
	Severity of overcrowding	Can be derived ^b	No	Regional overview: Number of extra bedrooms needed/spare - one or more needed, one or more spare, none needed or spare, unknown; Life stages: Household suitability - no extra bedrooms needed/spare, one extra bedroom needed, two or more extra bedrooms needed (children)	No	No
	Overcrowding measure	CNOS	No	No	No	No
	Perceptions of overcrowding	No	No	No	No	No
Dwelling characteristics	Structure of the property	Type of home/dwelling - separate house, semi-detached/row or terrace house/ townhouse/villa etc, flat/unit/apartment, room or bed in boarding/rooming house unit, other ^{a,b}	No	No	No	No
	Age of dwelling	No	No	No	No	No
	Size of dwelling	Number of bedrooms ^{a,b}	No	No	No	No
Housing conditions	Overall condition of dwelling	No	No	No	No	No

	Structural problems and type of issue	Does home have problem with: major electrical problems, major plumbing problems, major cracks in walls/floors, walls/ windows not square, wood rot/termite damage, sinking/moving foundations, sagging floors, major roof problems, rising damp, other structural problems ^{a,b}	No	No	No	No
	Issues are major or minor problems	See above for list of major problems ^{a,b}	No	No	No	No
Household facilities	Type of facilities present in home	Facilities working/not working/not have: toilet, bath or shower, stove/oven/other cooking facilities, kitchen sink, laundry tub, washing machine, fridge ^{a,b}	No	No	No	No
Repairs	Home in need of repairs	Yes ^{a,b}	No	No	No	No
	Repairs needed	No	No	No	No	No
	Who responsible for repairs and maintenance	N/A - housing provider responsible for repairs	No	No	No	No
	Easy to get repairs done	No	No	No	No	No
	Length of time waiting for repairs	No	No	No	No	No
	Reason for repairs not being done	No	No	No	No	No

Essential services	Availability of essential services	No	No	No	No	No
	Reliability of supply/ interruptions	No	No	No	No	No
Housing affordability	Household income	No	No	Regional overview: household weekly income (\$ categories), personal weekly income (\$ categories); Life stages: household weekly income (\$ categories - adults, older people)	No	No
	Main source of income	No	No	No	No	No
	Housing costs	No	No	Regional overview: weekly rent (for private and other landlord type, social housing) - \$ categories	No	No
	Affordability of housing costs	No	No	No	No	No
	Housing assistance	No	No	No	No	No
Housing stress	Housing stress being experienced	No	No	No	No	No
	Severity of housing stress	In last 12 months: household income went down, struggled to make ends meet with rent/bills ^{a,c}	No	Life stage: households experiencing financial stressors - could not raise \$2,000 in week, had days without money for basic living expenses in last 2 weeks, ran out of food in previous 12 months and could not afford to buy more (youth, older people)	No	No

	Measure used to ascertain housing stress	No	No	No	No	No
Homelessness	Incidence of homelessness	How many times had nowhere permanent to live in past 5 years (none, 1-2, 3-5, more than 5 times); in total how much time have nowhere permanent to live in last 5 years (less than month, 1-3 months, 4-6 months, 7-12 months, 1-2 years, 3-5 years; need to accommodate others because had nowhere else to stay/live ^{a,b}	No	Life stages: homelessness (youth, adults, older people by sex)	Rate per 10,000 people in population experiencing homelessness	No
	Type of homelessness experienced	In last 5 years because had nowhere permanent to live: stayed in motel/caravan part, stayed in short-term or emergency accommodation (e.g. couch surfing, living with family/friends temporarily, refuge/crisis shelter, hospital), slept in non-conventional accommodation or slept rough (e.g. park, street, car/truck/other vehicle, live in buildings not meant for habitation), lived in private boarding house ^{a,b}	No	No	Homeless operational groups (rate, number, proportion)	No
	Reasons for homelessness	No	No	No	No	No
Housing satisfaction	Satisfaction with dwelling	Level of satisfaction with: overall services/day-to-day maintenance services/emergency maintenance services provided by your housing organisation in last 12 months ^c	No	No	No	No
	Adequacy of housing for current needs	Needs met/not met for: number of bedrooms, privacy of home, safety and security in home, safety and security in neighbourhood, comfort	No	No	No	No

		of home in hot/cold weather, energy efficiency of home, access to shops and banking facilities/ medical services/family and friends; Needs met/not met/not need for: size of living spaces, storage - indoor/outdoor, fixtures/structural modifications for special needs, easy access/entry from street, car parking, access to outdoor space, fencing/ enclosure of outdoor space, water efficiency of bathroom/toilet, access to public transport/ hospitals/child care/ schools/ further education/ employment or place of work/ community services/parks, recreation or sporting facilities/ places of cultural or religious significance ^c				
Housing issues	Type of housing issues experienced	No	No	No	No	No
Satisfaction with neighbourhood	Perceived safety of neighbourhood	Needs met/not met: safety and security in neighbourhood ^c ; how comfortable would you feel asking neighbour to assist with problem; would you turn to neighbour for: help with household/garden task that can't do, help around home/go shopping if sick and had to stay in bed for few days, be there for you if felt bit down/depressed and wanted to talk about it, advice about family problems, enjoy pleasant social occasion with, other, none ^{a,c}	No	No	No	No

	Amenities in neighbourhood	Needs met/not met: access to shops and banking facilities/parks, recreation or sporting facilities/ places of cultural or religious significance ^c	No	No	No	No
	Services in neighbourhood	Needs met/not met: access to medical services, public transport/ hospitals/childcare/schools/further education/community services ^c	No	No	No	No
Impact of housing on circumstances	Impact of housing circumstances	Benefits of living in social housing (yes, no, N/A): feel more settled in general, enjoy better health, more able to cope with life events, feel part of local community, can continue living in this area, can manage rent/money better, feel more able to improve job situation, better access to services/public transport, other ^c	No	No	No	No
Housing stability	Security of tenure	No	No	No	No	No
	Length of current tenure	How long lived in social housing/ current home (categories) ^{a,b}	No	No	No	No
Housing moves	Number of moves	No	No	No	No	No
	Reason for moves	No	No	No	No	No
	Intention to move house	No	No	No	No	No
	Reasons for wanting to move	No	No	No	No	No
Housing pathways	Types of pathways	No	No	No	No	No

Housing aspirations	Future housing plans	No	No	No	No	No
	Home ownership perceptions	No	No	No	No	No
	Barriers and facilitators of home ownership	No	No	No	No	No
Additional data items		Housing immediately prior to current home - type of home/ shelter: house/townhouse/ flat, caravan/cabin/boat/mobile home, no shelter/improvised dwelling/ motor vehicle/ tent, temporary accommodation, institution, other; Living situation: paying to stay in social housing/private rental/other housing, living rent free with relative/other, homeowner/ paying off mortgage, other ^{a,b}	No	No	No	No

Notes: ^a PH and CH data not reported by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander status. ^b Data is not publicly available. ^c Data not provided for Indigenous community housing.

Table 6: Review of state and territory data sources – Indigenous households/people

Data item	Description	NSW AHO DWELLINGS DATA	NSW SH DASHBOARD	NT RHIP DATA	QLD CH DATA	QLD ICH DATA	QLD PH & SOMIH DATA
Household information	Total number of people living in household	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Structure of household	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Breakdown of household members	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Demographic characteristics of household members	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Permanent or temporary occupants	No	No	No	No	No	No
Household location	ASGS ABS structures	No	No	No	No	No	No
	ASGS non-ABS structures	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Socio-economic status of location	No	No	No	No	No	No
Tenure type	Tenure type	No	No	No	No	No	No
	If renting, who renting from	No	No	No	No	No	No
	If renting, main reasons for renting	No	No	No	No	No	No
Tenure agreements	Type of tenure agreement	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Length of tenure agreement	No	No	No	No	No	No
Overcrowding	Household experiencing overcrowding	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Severity of overcrowding	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Overcrowding measure	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Perceptions of overcrowding	No	No	No	No	No	No
Dwelling characteristics	Structure of the property	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Age of dwelling	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Size of dwelling	No	No	No	No	No	No

Housing conditions	Overall condition of dwelling	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Structural problems and type of issue	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Issues are major or minor problems	No	No	No	No	No	No
Household facilities	Type of facilities present in home	No	No	No	No	No	No
Repairs	Home in need of repairs	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Repairs needed	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Who responsible for repairs and maintenance	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Easy to get repairs done	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Length of time waiting for repairs	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Reason for repairs not being done	No	No	No	No	No	No
Essential services	Availability of essential services	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Reliability of supply/ interruptions	No	No	No	No	No	No
Housing affordability	Household income	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Main source of income	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Housing costs	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Affordability of housing costs	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Housing assistance	No	No	No	No	No	No
Housing stress	Housing stress being experienced	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Severity of housing stress	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Measure used to ascertain housing stress	No	No	No	No	No	No
Homelessness	Incidence of homelessness	No	No	No	No	No	No

	Type of homelessness experienced	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Reasons for homelessness	No	No	No	No	No	No
Housing satisfaction	Satisfaction with dwelling	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Adequacy of housing for current needs	No	No	No	No	No	No
Housing issues	Type of housing issues experienced	No	No	No	No	No	No
Satisfaction with neighbourhood	Perceived safety of neighbourhood	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Amenities in neighbourhood	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Services in neighbourhood	No	No	No	No	No	No
Impact of housing on circumstances	Impact of housing circumstances	No	No	No	No	No	No
Housing stability	Security of tenure	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Length of current tenure	No	No	No	No	No	No
Housing moves	Number of moves	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Reason for moves	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Intention to move house	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Reasons for wanting to move	No	No	No	No	No	No
Housing pathways	Types of pathways	No	No	No	No	No	No
Housing aspirations	Future housing plans	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Home ownership perceptions	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Barriers and facilitators of home ownership	No	No	No	No	No	No
Additional data items		No	No	No	No	No	No

Table 6: Review of state and territory data sources – Indigenous households/people (contd.)

Data item	Description	SA PH DATA	SA SOMIH DATA	TAS SH DATA	VIC AHV DATA	VIC HOUSING REGISTER DATA	VIC SH ALLOCATION DATA
Household information	Total number of people living in household	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Structure of household	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Breakdown of household members	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Demographic characteristics of household members	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Permanent or temporary occupants	No	No	No	No	No	No
Household location	ASGS ABS structures	No	No	No	No	No	No
	ASGS non-ABS structures	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Socio-economic status of location	No	No	No	No	No	No
Tenure type	Tenure type	No	No	No	No	No	No
	If renting, who renting from	No	No	No	No	No	No
	If renting, main reasons for renting	No	No	No	No	No	No
Tenure agreements	Type of tenure agreement	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Length of tenure agreement	No	No	No	No	No	No
Overcrowding	Household experiencing overcrowding	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Severity of overcrowding	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Overcrowding measure	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Perceptions of overcrowding	No	No	No	No	No	No
Dwelling characteristics	Structure of the property	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Age of dwelling	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Size of dwelling	No	No	No	No	No	No
Housing conditions	Overall condition of dwelling	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Structural problems and type of issue	No	No	No	No	No	No

	Issues are major or minor problems	No	No	No	No	No	No
Household facilities	Type of facilities present in home	No	No	No	No	No	No
Repairs	Home in need of repairs	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Repairs needed	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Who responsible for repairs and maintenance	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Easy to get repairs done	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Length of time waiting for repairs	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Reason for repairs not being done	No	No	No	No	No	No
Essential services	Availability of essential services	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Reliability of supply/ interruptions	No	No	No	No	No	No
Housing affordability	Household income	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Main source of income	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Housing costs	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Affordability of housing costs	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Housing assistance	No	No	No	No	No	No
Housing stress	Housing stress being experienced	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Severity of housing stress	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Measure used to ascertain housing stress	No	No	No	No	No	No
Homelessness	Incidence of homelessness	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Type of homelessness experienced	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Reasons for homelessness	No	No	No	No	No	No
Housing satisfaction	Satisfaction with dwelling	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Adequacy of housing for current needs	No	No	No	No	No	No
Housing issues	Type of housing issues experienced	No	No	No	No	No	No
Satisfaction with neighbourhood	Perceived safety of neighbourhood	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Amenities in neighbourhood	No	No	No	No	No	No

	Services in neighbourhood	No	No	No	No	No	No
Impact of housing on circumstances	Impact of housing circumstances	No	No	No	No	No	No
Housing stability	Security of tenure	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Length of current tenure	No	No	No	No	No	No
Housing moves	Number of moves	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Reason for moves	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Intention to move house	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Reasons for wanting to move	No	No	No	No	No	No
Housing pathways	Types of pathways	No	No	No	No	No	No
Housing aspirations	Future housing plans						
	Home ownership perceptions	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Barriers and facilitators of home ownership	No	No	No	No	No	No
Additional data items		No	No	No	No	No	No

A3.3. Data review – housing providers

Figure 2: Visual representation of housing provider data - national and state/territory data sources

National data sources	Sector	Organisation location	Stock	Stock locations	Dwelling type	Dwelling size	Stock condition	Related housing infrastructure	Changes in housing stock	Occupancy status of dwellings	Re-letting timeframes	Exits	Applications	Waiting lists	Housing allocations over previous 12 months	Clients	Tenancy agreements	Tenancy issues	Housing pathways	Financial arrangements	Funding programs	Governance arrangements	Shared/local decision-making	Capacity building	Tenancy management	Tenancy support	Property management	Culturally appropriate services	Size of PAYG workforce	Composition of workforce	Employment arrangements	Skill shortages	Vacancies	Additional data items
AHCD																																		
CENSUS																																		
CENSUS ESTIMATING HOMELESSNESS																																		
CTG OUTCOME AREA 9																																		
CHINS																																		
CH DATA COLLECTION																																		
HILDA SURVEY																																		
HOUSING STATISTICS																																		
ICH DATA COLLECTION																																		
JOURNEYS HOME SURVEY																																		
LSAC																																		
LSIC																																		
NATSIHS																																		
NATSISS																																		
NSHS																																		
PH AND SOMIH DATA COLLECTION																																		
RIFIC																																		
RoGS																																		
HOUSING & HOMELESSNESS																																		
SHS DATA COLLECTION																																		

State/Territory data sources	Sector	Organisation location	Stock	Stock locations	Dwelling type	Dwelling size	Stock condition	Related housing infrastructure	Changes in housing stock	Occupancy status of dwellings	Re-letting timeframes	Exits	Applications	Waiting lists	Housing allocations over previous 12 months	Clients	Tenancy agreements	Tenancy issues	Housing pathways	Financial arrangements	Funding programs	Governance arrangements	Shared/local decision-making	Capacity building	Tenancy management	Tenancy support	Property management	Culturally appropriate services	Size of PAYG workforce	Composition of workforce	Employment arrangements	Skill shortages	Vacancies	Additional data items
	NSW AHO DWELLINGS																																	
	NSW SH DASHBOARD																																	
	NT RHIP																																	
	QLD CH																																	
	QLD ICH																																	
	QLD PH & SOMIH																																	
SA PH																																		
SA SOMIH																																		
TAS SH																																		
VIC AHV																																		
VIC HOUSING REGISTER																																		
VIC SH ALLOCATION																																		

Key

-  Data on this item can be derived from other variables
-  Data on this item is directly available

Note: The comprehensiveness of the data varies

List of housing provider data items and descriptions - national and state/territory data sources

1. Sector - Sector type	12. Exits - Tenant exits over previous year - Reasons for exits	18. Tenancy issues - Rent arrears - Complaint resolution - Eviction notices	26. Tenancy support - Type of tenancy support services provided - Service outcomes
2. Organisation location - Where organisation located - Remoteness	13. Applications - Number of new applications - Characteristics of new applications - New applications from selected priority groups	19. Housing pathways - Pathways through tenure types	27. Property management - Type of property management services provided - Service outcomes
3. Stock - Size of stock	14. Waiting lists - Overall size of waiting list - Average length of time waiting for property - Characteristics of those on waiting list - Number on waiting list from selected priority groups	20. Financial arrangements - Organisational income – total and sources - Organisational expenditure – total and sources - Rent collection - Value of capital stock	28. Culturally appropriate services - Services culturally safe and tailored to meet the needs of Indigenous households
4. Stock locations - Where dwellings are situated - Remoteness	15. Housing allocations over previous 12 months - Number of allocations - Characteristics of new tenants - Length of time on register before allocation - Type of allocation – property type and size	21. Funding programs - Funding type - Program monitoring and evaluation	29. Size of PAYG workforce - Total number of employees - Total number of FTE employees
5. Dwelling type - Type of dwelling	16. Clients - Number of Indigenous clients/households serviced - Location of clients/households - Characteristics of clients/households - Experiencing overcrowding - Experiencing rental stress - Client satisfaction with dwelling and housing services - Client outcomes	22. Governance arrangements - Organisation type Indigenous/non-Indigenous led - Steering Committee or Board (level of Indigenous representation)	30. Composition of workforce - Job roles - Worker demographics
6. Dwelling size - Number of bedrooms	17. Tenancy agreements - Type of agreements - Length of agreements	23. Shared/local decision-making approaches - Actioning of CTG Priority Reform 4 - Outcomes of approaches	31. Employment arrangements - Agreement type - Contract type
7. Stock condition - Repairs needed - Suitability of dwellings to environment		24. Capacity building - Capacity building needs - Capacity building initiatives	32. Skill shortages - Skill shortages for each role classification - Reasons for skill shortages - How skill shortages are being addressed n
8. Related housing infrastructure - Availability of essential services - Supply issues - Upgrades needed to essential services		25. Tenancy management - Type of tenancy management services provided - Service outcomes	33. Vacancies - Total vacancies (FTE) and number of positions vacant - Whether there are difficulties filling vacancies and reasons why
9. Changes in housing stock - Properties built - Properties purchased - Properties written off/ demolished - Properties sold			34. Additional data items - (Various)
10. Occupancy status of dwellings - Dwellings currently unoccupied - Reasons for being unoccupied			
11. Re-letting timeframes - Days taken to allocate dwelling to new tenants			

Table 7: Review of national data sources – housing providers

Data item	Description	AHCD	CENSUS	CENSUS - ESTIMATING HOMELESSNESS	CTG OUTCOME AREA 9	CHINS	CH DATA COLLECTION	HILDA SURVEY
Sector	Sector type	No	No	No	No	Indigenous community	Community housing	No
Organisation location	Where organisation located	No	No	No	No	Postal address	Number of providers – by state/territory	No
	Remoteness	No	No	No	No	Can be inferred	Can be derived	No
Stock	Size of stock	No	No	No	No	Number of permanent dwellings; number of temporary dwellings, number of state/ government houses provided for community members and service staff, number of private dwellings, number of permanent dwellings	Number of CH dwellings ^a	No
Stock locations	Where dwellings are situated	No	No	No	No	Location of housing stock	State/territory, SA4 region name ^a Address of dwelling ^b	No
	Remoteness	No	No	No	No	Location type (discrete community, outstation/ homeland, town/locality, other)	Remoteness (major city, inner regional, outer regional, remote, very remote) ^a	No
Dwelling type	Type of dwelling	No	No	No	No	Dwelling type; accommodation facilities and type	Count by dwelling type (separate house, semi-detached/ townhouse), flat/unit/ apartment, other) ^a	No
Dwelling size	Number of bedrooms	No	No	No	No	Number of bedrooms in stock	Count of dwellings by number of bedrooms, suitability of dwelling size (overcrowded, underutilised,	No

							suitable/adequate, unknown/not stated) ^a	
Stock condition	Repairs needed	No	No	No	No	Number of dwellings had repairs/maintenance work, housing condition assessment undertaken or planned; number of dwellings needing minor/no repairs, major repairs, replacement; houses with/without cooking/washing/toilet facilities; houses with/without access to shared facilities	Tenantable status (number of dwellings tenantable, untenable, undergoing major development) ^a	No
	Suitability of dwellings to environment	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
Related housing infrastructure	Availability of essential services	No	No	No	No	Water: sources for community, homes with water piped/not piped to them, organisation responsible for major repairs/maintenance to water supply, charges; Electricity: sources for community, homes connected/not connected, reasons not connected, how metered, organisation responsible for major repairs/maintenance to electricity supply, charges; Gas: supply and type; Sewerage system: homes with/ without sewerage system, types, how often pumped out/de-sludged, waste water disposal, organisations responsible for major repairs/maintenance to sewerage system	No	No

	Supply issues	No	No	No	No	Water: restrictions and reasons, interruptions (reasons, frequency length, number of dwellings affected); Electricity: interruptions (frequency, length, time of year, reasons, number of dwellings affected); Sewerage system: leakages/ overflows (frequency, length, reason, number of dwellings affected); Drainage: issues (frequency, length, reason, number of dwellings affected)	No	No
	Upgrades needed to essential services	No	No	No	No	Water quality, testing and treatment	No	No
Changes in housing stock (e.g. over last 12 months)	Properties built	No	No	No	No	How many dwellings built in last 12 months	No	No
	Properties purchased	No	No	No	No	How many dwellings purchased	No	No
	Properties written off/ demolished	No	No	No	No	How many dwellings written off/demolished	No	No
	Properties sold	No	No	No	No	How many dwelling sold, number sold to former tenants	No	No
Occupancy status of dwellings	Dwellings currently unoccupied	No	No	No	No	Number of dwellings unoccupied for 2 weeks or more	Occupancy status ^b Occupancy rate (by state/territory, remoteness area) ^a	No
	Reasons for being unoccupied	No	No	No	No	Reason for being unoccupied (between tenants, cultural reasons, uninhabitable, wet season, being repaired, water equipment failure, tenant away, lack of facilities/services, lack of transport/road access, awaiting	No	No

						approval/certification for occupancy, other)		
Re-letting timeframes	Days taken to allocate dwelling to new tenants	No	No	No	No	Average number of days to allocate to new tenants	No	No
Exits	Tenant exits over previous year	No	No	No	No	No	Number of households that exited in previous year ^a	No
	Reasons for exits	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
Applications	Number of new applications	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Characteristics of new applications	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
	New applications from selected priority groups	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
Waiting lists	Overall size of waiting list	No	No	No	No	No	Yes ^b	No
	Average length of time waiting for property	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Characteristics of those on waiting list	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Number on waiting list from selected priority groups	No	No	No	No	No	Yes ^b	No
Housing allocations over previous 12 months	Number of allocations	No	No	No	No	No	New allocations: number of households (by state/territory, remoteness area), number by greatest need and special needs status ^a ; reason for greatest need	No

							^a ; reason for special needs	
	Characteristics of new tenants	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Length of time on register before allocation	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Type of allocation – property type and size	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
Clients	Number of Indigenous clients/households serviced	No	No	No	No	Usual population in housing location; usual population in community; number living in temporary dwellings	Total number of households, ongoing, newly allocated; total number of household members ^a	No
	Location of clients/ households	No	No	No	No	Can be inferred	Dwelling address ^b State/territory; remoteness area ^a	No
	Characteristics of clients/ households	No	No	No	No	No	Household: Indigenous status; sex and age group of main tenant, household composition, disability status, source of income, low-income status ^a ; tenure length Household members: age and sex ^a	No
	Experiencing overcrowding	No	No	No	No	No	Households experiencing overcrowding; suitability of dwelling size (overcrowded, underutilised, suitable/adequate, unknown/not stated) ^a	No
	Experiencing rental stress	No	No	No	No	No	Yes ^b	No

	Client satisfaction with dwelling and housing services	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Client outcomes	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
Tenancy agreements	Type of agreements	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Length of agreements	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
Tenancy issues	Rent arrears	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Complaint resolution	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Eviction notices	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
Housing pathways	Pathways through tenure types	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
Financial arrangements	Organisational income - total and sources	No	No	No	No	Total income, sources of income, income breakdown by source	Rent collected for previous FY ^b	No
	Organisational expenditure – total and sources	No	No	No	No	Total expenditure, type of expenditure, expenditure breakdown by type	Direct costs for previous FY ^b	No
	Rent collection	No	No	No	No	Method of rent calculation, additional charges included in rent, total rent charged	Rent charged and rent collected for previous FY ^b	No
	Value of capital stock	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
Funding programs	Funding type	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Program monitoring and evaluation	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
Governance arrangements	Organisation type – Indigenous/non-Indigenous led	No	No	No	No	Indigenous (survey only with ICHOs)	No	No
	Steering Committee or	No	No	No	No	ICHO have Board, Board members same as elected	No	No

	Board (level of Indigenous representation)					Community Council members, how often Board meetings		
Shared/local decision-making approaches	Actioning of CTG Priority Reform 4	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Outcomes of approaches	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
Capacity building	Capacity building needs	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Capacity building initiatives	No	No	No	No		No	No
Tenancy management	Type of tenancy management services provided	No	No	No	No	ICHO manage housing stock, other ICHO manage housing stock, ICHO have written housing management plan	No	No
	Service outcomes	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
Tenancy support	Type of tenancy support services provided	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Service outcomes	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
Property management	Type of property management services provided	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Service outcomes	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
Culturally appropriate services	Services culturally safe and tailored to meet the needs of Indigenous households	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
Size of PAYG workforce	Total number of employees	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Total number of FTE employees	No	No	No	No	No	No	No

Composition of workforce	Job roles	No	No	No	No	Primary property manager (employment), CDEP workers providing maintenance services (Includes housing maintenance)	No	No
	Worker demographics	No	No	No	No	Primary property manager (Indigenous status, relevant training, where trained)	No	No
Employment arrangements	Agreement type	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Contract type	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
Skill shortages	Skill shortages for each role classification	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Reasons for skill shortages	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
	How skill shortages are being addressed	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
Vacancies	Total vacancies (FTE) and number of positions vacant	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Whether there are difficulties filling vacancies and reasons why	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
Additional data items		No	No	No	No	ABN; reason why no longer owns stock in location; number of people requiring permanent housing; name of Indigenous organisations managing housing	Number of housing organisations (by number of dwellings managed) ^a	No

Notes: ^a CH data not reported by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander status. ^b Data not publicly available.

Table 7: Review of national data sources – housing providers (contd.)

Data item	Description	HOUSING STATISTICS	ICH DATA COLLECTION	JOURNEYS HOME SURVEY	LSAC	LSIC	NATSIHS
Sector	Sector type	No	Indigenous community housing	No	No	No	No
Organisation location	Where organisation located	No	Number of funded providers – by state/territory	No	No	No	No
	Remoteness		Can be derived				
Stock	Size of stock	No	Number of ICH dwellings (total and funded)	No	No	No	No
Stock locations	Where dwellings are situated	No	State/territory Address of dwelling ^a	No	No	No	No
	Remoteness	No	Remoteness (major city, inner regional, outer regional, remote, very remote)	No	No	No	No
Dwelling type	Type of dwelling	No	No	No	No	No	No
Dwelling size	Number of bedrooms	No	Count of dwellings by number of bedrooms, suitability of dwelling size (overcrowded, underutilised, suitable/adequate, unknown/not stated)	No	No	No	No
Stock condition	Repairs needed	No	Tenantable status	No	No	No	No
	Suitability of dwellings to environment	No	No	No	No	No	No
Related housing infrastructure	Availability of essential services	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Supply issues	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Upgrades needed to essential services	No	No	No	No	No	No
Changes in housing stock (e.g. over last 12 months)	Properties built	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Properties purchased	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Properties written off/ demolished	No	No	No	No	No	No

	Properties sold	No	No	No	No	No	No
Occupancy status of dwellings	Dwellings currently unoccupied	No	Occupancy status ^a Occupancy rate (by state/territory, remoteness area)	No	No	No	No
	Reasons for being unoccupied	No	No	No	No	No	No
Re-letting timeframes	Days taken to allocate dwelling to new tenants	No	No	No	No	No	No
Exits	Tenant exits over previous year	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Reasons for exits	No	No	No	No	No	No
Applications	Number of new applications	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Characteristics of new applications	No	No	No	No	No	No
	New applications from selected priority groups	No	No	No	No	No	No
Waiting lists	Overall size of waiting list	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Average length of time waiting for property	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Characteristics of those on waiting list	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Number on waiting list from selected priority groups	No	No	No	No	No	No
Housing allocations over previous 12 months	Number of allocations	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Characteristics of new tenants	No	No	No	No	No	No

	Length of time on register before allocation	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Type of allocation – property type and size	No	No	No	No	No	No
Clients	Number of Indigenous clients/households serviced	No	Total number of households, total number of household members	No	No	No	No
	Location of clients/ households	No	Dwelling address ^a State/territory	No	No	No	No
	Characteristics of clients/ households	No	Household: assumed all Indigenous Household members: age, sex, single/couple status ^a	No	No	No	No
	Experiencing overcrowding	No	Suitability of dwelling size (overcrowded, underutilised, suitable/adequate, unknown/not stated)	No	No	No	No
	Experiencing rental stress	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Client satisfaction with dwelling and housing services	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Client outcomes	No	No	No	No	No	No
Tenancy agreements	Type of agreements	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Length of agreements	No	No	No	No	No	No
Tenancy issues	Rent arrears	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Complaint resolution	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Eviction notices	No	No	No	No	No	No
Housing pathways	Pathways through tenure types	No	No	No	No	No	No

Financial arrangements	Organisational income - total and sources	No	Rent collected for FY ^a	No	No	No	No
	Organisational expenditure – total and sources	No	Total and recurrent expenditure ^a Housing maintenance expenditure ^a Capital expenditure ^a	No	No	No	No
	Rent collection	No	Rent collected and rent charged ^a	No	No	No	No
	Value of capital stock	No	No	No	No	No	No
Funding programs	Funding type	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Program monitoring and evaluation	No	No	No	No	No	No
Governance arrangements	Organisation type – Indigenous/non-Indigenous led	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Steering Committee or Board (level of Indigenous representation)	No	No	No	No	No	No
Shared/local decision-making approaches	Actioning of CTG Priority Reform 4	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Outcomes of approaches	No	No	No	No	No	No
Capacity building	Capacity building needs	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Capacity building initiatives	No	No	No	No	No	No
Tenancy management	Type of tenancy management services provided	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Service outcomes	No	No	No	No	No	No
Tenancy support	Type of tenancy support services provided	No	No	No	No	No	No

	Service outcomes	No	No	No	No	No	No
Property management	Type of property management services provided	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Service outcomes	No	No	No	No	No	No
Culturally appropriate services	Services culturally safe and tailored to meet the needs of Indigenous households	No	No	No	No	No	No
Size of PAYG workforce	Total number of employees	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Total number of FTE employees	No	No	No	No	No	No
Composition of workforce	Job roles	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Worker demographics	No	No	No	No	No	No
Employment arrangements	Agreement type	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Contract type	No	No	No	No	No	No
Skill shortages	Skill shortages for each role classification	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Reasons for skill shortages	No	No	No	No	No	No
	How skill shortages are being addressed	No	No	No	No	No	No
Vacancies	Total vacancies (FTE) and number of positions vacant	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Whether there are difficulties filling vacancies and reasons why	No	No	No	No	No	No

Additional data items		No	Number of housing organisations (by number of dwellings managed)	No	No	No	No
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Notes: ^a Data not publicly available.

Table 7: Review of national data sources – housing providers (contd.)

Data item	Description	NATSISS	NSHS	PH AND SOMIH DATA COLLECTION	RIFIC	RoGS - HOUSING AND HOMELESSNESS	SHS DATA COLLECTION
Sector	Sector type	No	No	Public housing and SOMIH	No	Public, SOMIH, community, Indigenous community, SHS	Homelessness services
Organisation location	Where organisation located	No	No	State/territory	No	CH: Number of providers – by state/territory ^b	Number of agencies - by state/territory, number of clients ^c
	Remoteness	No	No	No	No	No	Yes
Stock	Size of stock	No	No	Number of PH and SOMIH dwellings ^a	No	PH, SOMIH, CH, ICH: Number of dwellings ^{ab} ICH: Number of dwellings (all/funded only)	No
Stock locations	Where dwellings are situated	No	No	State/territory, SA4 region name; LGA (PH/SOMIH combined) ^a	No	PH, SOMIH, CH, ICH: State/territory ^{ab}	No
	Remoteness	No	No	Remoteness (major city, inner regional, outer regional, remote, very remote) ^a	No	PH, SOMIH, CH: Remoteness areas ^{ab}	No
Dwelling type	Type of dwelling	No	No	Count by dwelling type (separate house, semi-detached/townhouse), flat/unit/apartment, other) ^a	No	No	No
Dwelling size	Number of bedrooms	No	No	Count of dwellings by number of bedrooms ^a	No	ICH: total bedrooms	No
Stock condition	Repairs needed	No	No	Tenantable status (number of dwellings tenantable, untenable, undergoing major development) ^a	No	PH, SOMIH, CH: number of dwellings - tenantable, untenable, undergoing major redevelopment ^{ab} PH, SOMIH, CH, ICH: proportion of households with at least four working facilities and not more than two major structural problems	No

	Suitability of dwellings to environment	No	No	No	No	No	No
Related housing infrastructure	Availability of essential services	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Supply issues	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Upgrades needed to essential services	No	No	No	No	No	No
Changes in housing stock (e.g. over last 12 months)	Properties built	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Properties purchased	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Properties written off/ demolished	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Properties sold	No	No	No	No	No	No
Occupancy status of dwellings	Dwellings currently unoccupied	No	No	Occupancy status ^d Occupancy rate (by state/ territory, remoteness area) ^a	No	ICH: number of occupied dwellings PH, SOMIH, CH, ICH: proportion of dwellings occupied ^{ab}	No
	Reasons for being unoccupied	No	No	No	No	No	No
Re-letting timeframes	Days taken to allocate dwelling to new tenants	No	No	No	No	PH, SOMIH: average turnaround times for vacant stock ^a	No
Exits	Tenant exits over previous year	No	No	Number of households that exited in previous year ^a	No	No	No

	Reasons for exits	No	No	No	No	No	No
Applications	Number of new applications	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Characteristics of new applications	No	No	No	No	No	No
	New applications from selected priority groups	No	No	No	No	No	No
Waiting lists	Overall size of waiting list	No	No	Total number of households on waiting list ^a	No	PH, SOMIH, CH: applicants on waitlist - total, new greatest need, transfers ^{ab}	No
	Average length of time waiting for property	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Characteristics of those on waiting list	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Number on waiting list from selected priority groups	No	No	Greatest need households on waiting list ^a	No	PH, SOMIH: households on waitlist by greatest need ^a	No
Housing allocations over previous 12 months	Number of allocations	No	No	New allocations: Number of households (by state/territory, remoteness area), number by greatest need status/reason for greatest need, number and proportion by special needs status ^a ; Reason for special needs	No	PH, SOMIH, CH: new households assisted; transfers ^{ab} PH, SOMIH: new allocations by greatest need status ^a PH, SOMIH, CH: greatest need allocations as proportion of all new allocations ^{ab} PH, SOMIH, CH: proportion of new	No

				Transfers: number of households		tenancies allocated to households in selected equity groups ^{ab}	
	Characteristics of new tenants	No	No	New allocations: Indigenous status; sex and age of main tenant, household composition, disability status, low-income status ^a Transfers: Indigenous status; sex and age of main tenant, household composition, disability status, low-income status ^a	No	No	No
	Length of time on register before allocation	No	No	New allocations - time waited by: greatest need and special need status, all households, household composition, number of bedrooms ^a	No	PH, SOMIH: new allocations by time waited ^a PH, SOMIH: time waited by newly allocated households (all and by greatest need) ^a	No
	Type of allocation – property type and size	No	No	Number of new allocations by dwelling type, number of bedrooms ^a	No		No
Clients	Number of Indigenous clients/ households serviced	No	No	Total number of households/ household members; number of ongoing, newly allocated households ^a Number of Indigenous households	No	PH, SOMIH, CH, ICH: Number of households ICH: Number of occupants SHS: Number of clients; Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people as proportion of all SHS clients; total clients at risk of homelessness	Number of clients accessing homelessness services; service user groups, homeless/at risk ^c ; total number/daily average of unassisted requests ^c ; client groups by Indigenous status
	Location of clients/ households	No	No	State/territory; Remoteness area, ^a suburb ^d	No	State/territory	National, state/territory (all client data), remoteness area (for reason seeking assistance, age, sex, support period, need for services, housing situation, service use patterns ^c ; client groups - including Indigenous clients),

							SA4 locality/suburb (for age group, sex, homeless/at risk) ^c
	Characteristics of clients/ households	No	No	Household: Indigenous status; sex and age group of main tenant, household composition, disability status, source of income, low-income status ^a ; tenure length, low-income Household members: Indigenous status; age, sex, income ^a	No	PH, SOMIH, CH: Households paying less than market rent; low-income households ^{ab} SHS: adult clients in need of family and domestic violence assistance, victim support, perpetrator support ^c ; economic participation/ labour force status before support; education status/enrolment before support; income source before support; in independent housing/ need assistance to obtain or maintain independent housing before support	Clients by sex and age groups, new/returning, main language spoken other than English, family unit type/living arrangement, reason for seeking assistance, housing situation/ homelessness status at first presentation, client groups by vulnerability characteristics - DV, mental health, drug/alcohol issue; country of birth, year of arrival, main income source, NDIS status, unassisted requests ^c
	Experiencing overcrowding	No	No	Overcrowding - all households and Indigenous households by remoteness area; underutilisation - households by remoteness area ^a ; suitability of dwelling size by age of main tenant, household composition, disability status, source of income, low-income status ^a	No	ICH: number households/dwellings requiring additional bedrooms. PH, SOMIH, CH, ICH: households living in overcrowded conditions PH, SOMIH: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander households living in overcrowded conditions by remoteness PH, SOMIH, CH: households with underutilisation of dwelling size ^{ab}	No
	Experiencing rental stress	No	No	Yes ^d	No	PH, SOMIH, CH: proportion of household gross income spent on rent for low-income households ^{ab}	No: Housing stress is a reason for seeking assistance
	Client satisfaction with dwelling and housing services	No	No	No	No	PH, SOMIH, CH: household satisfaction rating ^{ab} ; proportion of tenants rating amenity and location aspects as meeting needs ^{ab}	No
	Client outcomes	No	No	No	No	PH, SOMIH, CH: self-reported benefits of living in social housing -	At end of support: housing situation (no shelter/

						wellbeing, social connection, economic participation, wellbeing and economic participation, social and economic participation, wellbeing and social connection ^{ab} SHS: clients with met demand; support needs of clients; case management goals achieved after support ^c ; economic participation/ labour force status after support; education status/enrolment after support; income source after support; clients at risk of homelessness who avoided homelessness; in independent housing/need assistance to obtain or maintain independent housing after support; clients returning to homelessness after achieving housing/experience persistent homelessness/with at least one monthly housing status of 'homeless' in any month	inadequate dwelling, short-term accommodation, house or flat - couch surfer/no tenure, public/community housing, private/ other housing, institutional setting) - by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander status; educational enrolment/labour force status ^c ; main source of income ^c ; case management plan status (if goals met); Clients experiencing persistent homelessness/ return to homelessness after achieving housing/at risk people who avoided homelessness/support periods that avoided homelessness - by NHHA priority cohorts (includes Indigenous Australians)
Tenancy agreements	Type of agreements	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Length of agreements	No	No	No	No	No	No
Tenancy issues	Rent arrears	No	No	No	No	PH, SOMIH, CH: proportion of household gross income spent on rent for low-income households ^{ab}	No
	Complaint resolution	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Eviction notices	No	No	No	No	No	No
Housing pathways	Pathways through tenure types	No	No	No	No	No	No

Financial arrangements	Organisational income - total and sources	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Organisational expenditure – total and sources	No	No	No	No	State and territory government expenditure on social housing - net recurrent expenditure, capital expenditure ^{ab} ICH: real recurrent/capital/net recurrent expenditure PH, SOMIH: net recurrent expenditure per dwelling, capital costs, payroll tax ^a CH: recurrent expenditure per dwelling ^b SHS: state and territory government expenditure: total recurrent real, real per person, service delivery, administrative expenditure ^c ; cost per support day, completed support period, estimated cost per client ^c	No
	Rent collection	No	No	No	No	PH, SOMIH, CH: total rent charged in real terms, total market rent of all dwellings for which rent charged in real terms ^{ab} ICH: total rent collected/charged	No
	Value of capital stock	No	No	No	No	CH: value of property transferred from state/territory housing authorities ^b	No
Funding programs	Funding type	No	No	No	No	State and territory government expenditure provided for each housing sector ^{ab}	No
	Program monitoring and evaluation	No	No	No	No	No	No

Governance arrangements	Organisation type – Indigenous/non-Indigenous led	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Steering Committee or Board (level of Indigenous representation)	No	No	No	No	No	No
Shared/local decision-making approaches	Actioning of CTG Priority Reform 4	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Outcomes of approaches	No	No	No	No	No	No
Capacity building	Capacity building needs	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Capacity building initiatives	No	No	No	No	No	No
Tenancy management	Type of tenancy management services provided	No	No	No	No	SHS: accommodation related assistance; average daily unassisted requests for accommodation service ^c	Accommodation provision (short-term/emergency, medium-term/ transitional, long-term housing) - client need identified
	Service outcomes	No	No	No	No	SHS: clients with met demand for accommodation services; clients with unmet accommodation needs ^c	Number of services provided/ provided as proportion of need identified
Tenancy support	Type of tenancy support services provided	No	No	No	No	SHS: assistance to sustain housing tenure ^c	Assistance to sustain housing tenure (sustain tenancy/ prevent tenancy failure or eviction, assistance to prevent foreclosures/mortgage

							arrears); referral to other service types
	Service outcomes	No	No	No	No	No	Number of services provided/ provided as proportion of need identified
Property management	Type of property management services provided	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Service outcomes	No	No	No	No	No	No
Culturally appropriate services	Services culturally safe and tailored to meet the needs of Indigenous households	No	No	No	No	No	No
Size of PAYG workforce	Total number of employees	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Total number of FTE employees	No	No	No	No	No	No
Composition of workforce	Job roles	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Worker demographics	No	No	No	No	No	No
Employment arrangements	Agreement type	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Contract type	No	No	No	No	No	No
Skill shortages	Skill shortages for each role classification	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Reasons for skill shortages	No	No	No	No	No	No

	How skill shortages are being addressed	No	No	No	No	No	No
Vacancies	Total vacancies (FTE) and number of positions vacant	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Whether there are difficulties filling vacancies and reasons why	No	No	No	No	No	No
Additional data items		No	No	No	No	SHS: composition of supports, support days, support periods ^c ; clients with met demand for services other than accommodation ^c ; clients with unmet needs for services other than accommodation ^c ; average daily unassisted requests for services other than accommodation ^c ; closed support periods with case management plan or no plan; support type provided/referred and not provided/referred - includes housing/non-housing services	Clients by - source of referral, need for services (type - includes housing and non-housing services)/service provision status; SHS services - number of support periods given; total nights of accommodation provided, total/average amount of financial assistance, support periods ongoing/opened, total days of support, reason support period closed, service use patterns ^c Unassisted requests - type of service requested, reason service not given ^c

Notes: ^a PH data not reported by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander status. ^b CH data not reported by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander status. ^c SHS data not reported by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander status. ^d Data not publicly available.

Table 8: Review of state and territory data sources – housing providers

Data item	Description	NSW AHO DWELLINGS DATA	NSW SH DELIVERY REPORT	NT RHIP DATA	QLD CH DATA
Sector	Sector type	AHO dwellings by managing organisations: Aboriginal Community housing, community housing, social housing	Social housing (public housing, Aboriginal housing, community housing)	RHIP, NT Government	Community housing
Organisation location	Where organisation located	State	State	State	State; CH provider address
	Remoteness	No	No	No	No
Stock	Size of stock	Counts of AHO-owned dwellings by managing organisation (grouped by ACHPs, CHPs, DCJ and total); also grouped by 'new supply, awaiting management allocation' and 'unallocated (AHO)'	No	Counts of homes approved, to be tendered, under procurement, under construction, completed, under extension, with disability modifications.	Total dwellings ^b
Stock locations	Where dwellings are situated	Provided by LGA in previous reports - AHO website states that data is also available by 'DCJ district', 'AHO region', and 'Greater Sydney/regional NSW'	No	Can filter by community	Post codes ^b
	Remoteness	Not provided in previous reports - AHO website states that data is available on 'remoteness area'	No	No	Remoteness area ^b
Dwelling type	Type of dwelling	Not provided in previous reports - AHO website suggests that data is available on 'dwelling type'	No	No	Dwelling type (separate house, semi-detached/row/terrace house, flat/unit/apartment, boarding/rooming house) ^b
Dwelling size	Number of bedrooms	Not provided in previous reports - AHO website suggests that data is available on 'bedroom category'	No	No	Number of bedrooms ^b

Stock condition	Repairs needed	No	No	No	Number of untenable dwellings ^b
	Suitability of dwellings to environment	No	No	No	No
Related housing infrastructure	Availability of essential services	No	No	Information on land servicing (lots approved, underway and completed)	No
	Supply issues	No	No	No	No
	Upgrades needed to essential services	No	No	No	No
Changes in housing stock (e.g. over last 12 months)	Properties built	New dwellings awaiting management allocation by LGA (unspecified as to whether built or purchased)	No	Counts of homes to be tendered, under procurement, under construction, completed, under extension, with disability modifications (cannot observe change over previous 12 months as data is updated monthly and historical data is not presented)	No
	Properties purchased	See above	No	No	No
	Properties written off/ demolished	No	No	No	No
	Properties sold	No	No	No	No
Occupancy status of dwellings	Dwellings currently unoccupied	Number of unallocated dwellings (AHO) by LGA	No	No	Can be inferred (total number of units minus occupied units) ^b Occupancy rate of housing stock ^b
	Reasons for being unoccupied	No	No	No	Number of tenable/ untenable rental units ^b
Re-letting timeframes	Days taken to allocate dwelling to new tenants	No	No	No	No
Exits	Tenant exits over previous year	No	No	No	No
	Reasons for exits	No	No	No	No

Applications	Number of new applications	No	No	No	No
	Characteristics of new applications	No	No	No	No
	New applications from selected priority groups	No	No	No	No
Waiting lists	Overall size of waiting list	No	No	No	Number of applicants and households awaiting transfer ^b
	Average length of time waiting for property	No	No	No	No
	Characteristics of those on waiting list	No	No	No	No
	Number on waiting list from selected priority groups	No	No	No	No
Housing allocations over previous 12 months	Number of allocations	No	SH, PH, AH, CH: new allocations (priority, general applicants) ^{ab} PH, AH: new allocations to households in greatest need; housing transfers and reasons ^a Temporary accommodation – households assisted	No	New households assisted, new greatest need allocations; Number of new households who were homeless at time of allocation, with special needs, by remoteness area ^b
	Characteristics of new tenants	No	PH, AH: Aboriginality of household; family type, head of household age group ^a	No	Indigenous status; low-income ^b
	Length of time on register before allocation	No	No	No	No
	Type of allocation – property type and size	No	PH, AH: Households by bedroom category allocation (i.e. number of bedrooms in property) ^a	No	No

Clients	Number of Indigenous clients/ households serviced	No	PH, AH: provided under new allocations and tenure data items Private rental assistance: number of households assisted (by program type) ^c	No	Total households and new households assisted
	Location of clients/ households	No	No	No	By remoteness area ^b
	Characteristics of clients/households	No	PH, AH: Length of tenure ^a Temporary accommodation: Aboriginality of household, household head – gender/ culturally and linguistically diverse	No	Non-English speaking background, age of principal tenant, disability, greatest need, special needs ^b ; low-income households
	Experiencing overcrowding	No	No	Overcrowding - compares baseline with current (number and proportion of homes, average occupants per bedroom)	Under-utilisation of bedrooms, overcrowding and level (latter available by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander status); Indigenous households experiencing overcrowding/number of additional bedrooms needed; under-utilisation of bedrooms ^b
	Experiencing rental stress	No	No	No	Total household income, low-income households, rent as proportion of income (latter available for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander status); Proportion of low-income Indigenous households paying more than 30% of their gross income in rent
	Client satisfaction with dwelling and housing services	No	No	No	No
	Client outcomes	No	No	No	No
	Type of agreements	No	No	No	No

Tenancy agreements	Length of agreements	No	PH, AH: Length of agreements (up to 2 years, 5 years, 10 years, continuous) ^a	No	No
Tenancy issues	Rent arrears	No	No	No	No
	Complaint resolution	No	No	No	No
	Eviction notices	No	No	No	No
Housing pathways	Pathways through tenure types	No	Number of households exiting from social housing to private rental market/home ownership ^c	No	No
Financial arrangements	Organisational income - total and sources	No	No	Program budget from NT and Australian Governments (total, capital, repairs and maintenance)	Total rents charged and collected ^b
	Organisational expenditure – total and sources	No	No	Expenditure by NT and Australian Governments (total, capital, repairs and maintenance)	Cost of providing assistance (for providers and administrator), average cost of providing assistance per tenancy ^b
	Rent collection	No	No	No	Total rents charged and collected ^b
	Value of capital stock	No	No	No	No
Funding programs	Funding type	No	No	Territory and national	No
	Program monitoring and evaluation	No	No	NT Government (outcomes shown on webpage)	No
Governance arrangements	Organisation type – Indigenous/non-Indigenous led	No	No	No	No
	Steering Committee or Board (level of Indigenous representation)	No	No	No	No

Shared/local decision-making approaches	Actioning of CTG Priority Reform 4	No	No	Tracks how many community engagement visits are conducted	No
	Outcomes of approaches	No	No	No	No
Capacity building	Capacity building needs	No	No	No	No
	Capacity building initiatives	No	No	No	No
Tenancy management	Type of tenancy management services provided	Counts of AHO-owned dwellings by managing organisation (grouped by ACHPs, CHPs, DCJ and total)	No	No	No
	Service outcomes	No	No	No	No
Tenancy support	Type of tenancy support services provided	No	No	No	Number of providers offering each type of support (daily living, community living, to children/families, training and employment, financial and material, info/advice/referral, support services ^b
	Service outcomes	No	No	No	No
Property management	Type of property management services provided	No	No	No	No
	Service outcomes	No	No	No	No
Culturally appropriate services	Services culturally safe and tailored to meet the needs of Indigenous households	No	No	No	No
Size of PAYG workforce	Total number of employees	No	No	Proportion of Aboriginal employment by headcount (can filter by community)	No
	Total number of FTE employees	No	No	Proportion of Aboriginal employment by FTE (can filter by community)	No

Composition of workforce	Job roles	No	No	No	No
	Worker demographics	No	No	No	No
Employment arrangements	Agreement type	No	No	No	No
	Contract type	No	No	No	No
Skill shortages	Skill shortages for each role classification	No	No	No	No
	Reasons for skill shortages	No	No	No	No
	How skill shortages are being addressed	No	No	No	No
Vacancies	Total vacancies (FTE) and number of positions vacant	No	No	No	No
	Whether there are difficulties filling vacancies and reasons why	No	No	No	No
Additional data items		No	No	No	Community housing organisations - number, type (CH provider, housing association, housing co-operative, other ^b Type of community housing program – long-term, short to medium-term, boarding/rooming house, joint venture, NRAS, other ^b

Notes: ^a PH data not reported by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander status. ^b CH data not reported by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander status. ^c Data not reported by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander status.

Table 8: Review of state and territory data sources – housing providers (contd.)

Data item	Description	QLD ICH DATA	QLD PH & SOMIH DATA	SA PH DATA
Sector	Sector type	Indigenous community housing	Public housing, SOMIH	Public housing
Organisation location	Where organisation located	State	State	State
	Remoteness	No	No	No
Stock	Size of stock	Number of dwellings overall; total number of permanent/ improvised dwellings managed	Number of dwellings ^a	Number of dwellings ^a
Stock locations	Where dwellings are situated	Postcode	Postcode ^a	LGA ^a
	Remoteness	Remoteness area	No	No
Dwelling type	Type of dwelling	Permanent or improvised	Dwelling type (separate house, semi-detached, flat/unit/ apartment, caravan, improvised home, boarding house etc) ^a	Number of tenatable dwellings, or untenatable dwellings, dwelling types: separate houses, semi-detached, flat/unit/apartment ^a
Dwelling size	Number of bedrooms	Number of bedrooms	Number of bedrooms ^a	Number of bedrooms ^a
Stock condition	Repairs needed	Number of untenatable dwellings	Number of untenatable dwellings or undergoing major redevelopment ^a	Number of untenatable dwellings or undergoing major redevelopment ^a
	Suitability of dwellings to environment	No	No	No
Related housing infrastructure	Availability of essential services	No	No	No
	Supply issues	No	No	No
	Upgrades needed to essential services	No	No	No
Changes in housing stock (e.g. over last 12 months)	Properties built	No	No	No
	Properties purchased	No	No	No
	Properties written off/ demolished	No	No	No
	Properties sold	No	No	No
	Dwellings currently unoccupied	Occupancy status - number of dwellings occupied, untenatable, unoccupied	Dwellings occupied/unoccupied ^a	Can be inferred ^a

Occupancy status of dwellings	Reasons for being unoccupied	Number of dwellings untenable	Tenantable/untenable ^a ; reason for vacancy dwellings that are newly constructed or purchased, undergoing major redevelopment work, are offline or not available to rent through normal processes due to dwelling condition (e.g. uninhabitable condition and still waiting for repair) or dwelling management (e.g. hold for sale, transfer or other management purpose), considered hard-to-let/there is no suitable applicant, other) ^a	Untenable or undergoing major redevelopment ^a
Re-letting timeframes	Days taken to allocate dwelling to new tenants	No	Records vacancy start and end dates and number of days vacant ^a	No
Exits	Tenant exits over previous year	No	Can be inferred	No
	Reasons for exits	No	No	No
Applications	Number of new applications	No	Can be inferred ^a	No
	Characteristics of new applications	No	Can be inferred ^a	No
	New applications from selected priority groups	No	Can be inferred ^a	No
Waiting lists	Overall size of waiting list	No	Can be inferred ^a	No
	Average length of time waiting for property	No	Can be inferred ^a	No
	Characteristics of those on waiting list	No	Applicant type - new applicant/ transfer ^a	No
	Number on waiting list from selected priority groups	No	Greatest need indicator and reason (homeless, life or safety at risk in accommodation, health condition aggravated by housing, housing inappropriate to needs, very high housing costs) ^a	No
Housing allocations	Number of allocations	No	Household indicators for new allocations/ transfers	New households housed, number of new household members, households in

over previous 12 months				greatest need, households with person with disability ^a ; Aboriginal households
	Characteristics of new tenants	No	No	Household composition, household includes child, older adult or younger person, paying less than market rent ^a
	Length of time on register before allocation	No	Wait time can be calculated as dates of application and approval provided ^a	Number of greatest need households who waited less than 6 months ^a
	Type of allocation – property type and size	No	No	Numbers per LGA ^a
Clients	Number of Indigenous clients/households serviced	Number of people and households residing in dwellings	Number of households (overall, new allocations, transfers)	Number of households, household members ^a ; Aboriginal households
	Location of clients/ households	No	No	LGA
	Characteristics of clients/ households	No	Indigenous household, disability, greatest need indicator/reason, number of occupants in household, income (gross, assessable)	Sex and age (household member), disability, tenure length, main source of income ^a
	Experiencing overcrowding	No	No	Match of dwelling to household size - overcrowded, under-utilised ^a
	Experiencing rental stress	No	No - but information on rent charged, if receive rebate, rebate amount and income (gross, assessable)	Number of households paying less than market rent, average rent charged ^a
	Client satisfaction with dwelling and housing services	No	No	Match of dwelling to household size - overcrowded, under-utilised ^a
	Client outcomes	No	No	No
Tenancy agreements	Type of agreements	No	No	No
	Length of agreements	No	No	No
Tenancy issues	Rent arrears	No	No	No
	Complaint resolution	No	No	No
	Eviction notices	No	No	No
Housing pathways	Pathways through tenure types	No	No	No

Financial arrangements	Organisational income - total and sources	No	Rent collection rate ^a	No
	Organisational expenditure – total and sources	No	Net recurrent expenditure and average cost of providing assistance per dwelling; annual depreciation and interest payments ^a	No
	Rent collection	Funding status of organisation - funded/unfunded	Total rent charged to tenants ^a Market rent each dwelling	Average market rent of dwellings, number of households paying less than market rent, average rent charged ^a
	Value of capital stock	No	Value of capital stock used in provision of housing (land, buildings, plant and equipment) ^a	No
Funding programs	Funding type	No	No	No
	Program monitoring and evaluation	No	No	No
Governance arrangements	Organisation type – Indigenous/non -Indigenous led	No	No	No
	Steering Committee or Board (level of Indigenous representation)	No	No	No
Shared/local decision-making approaches	Actioning of CTG Priority Reform 4	No	No	No
	Outcomes of approaches	No	No	No
Capacity building	Capacity building needs	No	No	No
	Capacity building initiatives	No	No	No
Tenancy management	Type of tenancy management services provided	Tenancy management status - whether tenancies managed by ICHO or state/territory housing authority	For each household, date assistance commenced and completed	No
	Service outcomes	No	No	No
Tenancy support	Type of tenancy support services provided	No	No	No
	Service outcomes	No	No	No

Property management	Type of property management services provided	No	No	No
	Service outcomes	No	No	No
Culturally appropriate services	Services culturally safe and tailored to meet the needs of Indigenous households	No	No	No
Size of PAYG workforce	Total number of employees	No	No	No
	Total number of FTE employees	No	No	No
Composition of workforce	Job roles	No	No	No
	Worker demographics	No	No	No
Employment arrangements	Agreement type	No	No	No
	Contract type	No	No	No
Skill shortages	Skill shortages for each role classification	No	No	No
	Reasons for skill shortages	No	No	No
	How skill shortages are being addressed	No	No	No
Vacancies	Total vacancies (FTE) and number of positions vacant	No	No	No
	Whether there are difficulties filling vacancies and reasons why	No	No	No
Additional data items		No	No	No

Notes: ^a PH data not reported by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander status.

Table 8: Review of state and territory data sources – housing providers (contd.)

Data item	Description	SA SOMIH DATA	TAS SH DATA	VIC AHV DATA	VIC HOUSING REGISTER DATA	VIC SH ALLOCATION DATA
Sector	Sector type	SOMIH	Public housing	Indigenous community housing	Social housing (public and community)	Social housing (public and community)
Organisation location	Where organisation located	State	State	State	State	State
	Remoteness	No	No	No	No	No
Stock	Size of stock	Number of dwellings	Number of dwellings (Aboriginal and public housing combined) ^a	Count of dwellings	No	No
Stock locations	Where dwellings are situated	LGA	Counts of dwellings by postcode and suburb ^a	Suburb	No	No
	Remoteness	No	No	No	No	No
Dwelling type	Type of dwelling	Number of tenatable/ untenatable dwellings; dwelling types: separate houses, semi-detached, flat/unit/ apartment	No	Long-term and short/medium term accommodation	No	No
Dwelling size	Number of bedrooms	Number of bedrooms	No	No	No	No
Stock condition	Repairs needed	Number of untenatable dwellings or undergoing major redevelopment	No	No – but percentage of urgent repairs completed within 24 hours and non-urgent repairs completed within 14 days	No	No
	Suitability of dwellings to environment	No	No	No	No	No
	Availability of essential services	No	No	No	No	No

Related housing infrastructure	Supply issues	No	No	No	No	No
	Upgrades needed to essential services	No	No	No	No	No
Changes in housing stock (e.g. over last 12 months)	Properties built	No	No	No	No	No
	Properties purchased	No	No	No	No	No
	Properties written off/ demolished	No	No	No	No	No
	Properties sold	No	No	No	No	No
Occupancy status of dwellings	Dwellings currently unoccupied	Can be inferred	No	No	No	No
	Reasons for being unoccupied	Untenantable or undergoing major redevelopment	No	No	No	No
Re-letting timeframes	Days taken to allocate dwelling to new tenants	No	No	Average number of days taken to re-let homes that were ready for tenant to move in	No	No
Exits	Tenant exits over previous year	No	No	No	No	No
	Reasons for exits	No	No	No	No	No
Applications	Number of new applications	No	No	No	Number of new applications; new priority and general applications Number of transfer applications; transfer priority and general applications ^a	No
	Characteristics of new applications	No	No	No	Aboriginal households; Household type, number of bedrooms required (by new/transfer, priority and general) ^a ; preferred social housing	No

					provider (new/ transfer only) ^a	
	New applications from selected priority groups	No	No	No	For new and transfer applications separately: Priority access categories, family violence ^a	No
Waiting lists	Overall size of waiting list	No	No	No	No	No
	Average length of time waiting for property	No	No	No	No	No
	Characteristics of those on waiting list	No	No	No	No	No
	Number on waiting list from selected priority groups	No	No	No	No	No
Housing allocations over previous 12 months	Number of allocations	New households housed, number of new household members, households in greatest need, households with person with disability, Aboriginal households	No	No	No	CH, PH, SH: Total number of allocations to new applicants; number of transferring households ^a ; number of allocations by application type, i.e. priority/ register of interest ^a ; VHR category for new allocations ^a
	Characteristics of new tenants	Household composition, household includes child, older adult or younger person, paying less than market rent	No	No	No	CH, PH, SH (new allocations): Aboriginal status of household; household type ^a
	Length of time on register before allocation	Number of greatest need households who waited less than 6 months	No	No	No	No

	Type of allocation – property type and size	Numbers per LGA	No	No	No	CH, PH, SH: Location for new allocations (inner metro, middle metro, outer metro, regional and rural VIC ^a
Clients	Number of Indigenous clients/households serviced	Number of households, household members, Aboriginal households	No	No	No	No
	Location of clients/households	LGA	No	No	No	No
	Characteristics of clients/households	Sex and age (household member), disability, tenure length, main source of income	No	No	No	No
	Experiencing overcrowding	Match of dwelling to household size - overcrowded, under-utilised	No	No	No	No
	Experiencing rental stress	Number of households paying less than market rent, average rent charged	No	No	No	No
	Client satisfaction with dwelling and housing services	Match of dwelling to household size - overcrowded, under-utilised	No	Tenant satisfaction with housing services, consideration of views, maintenance	No	No
	Client outcomes	Number of households paying less than market rent, average rent charged	No	No	No	No
Tenancy agreements	Type of agreements	No	No	No	No	No
	Length of agreements	No	No	No	No	No

Tenancy issues	Rent arrears	No	No	Rent overdue as percentage of total rent charged	No	No
	Complaint resolution	No	No	Percentage of complaints resolved within 30 days	No	No
	Eviction notices	No	No	No	No	No
Housing pathways	Pathways through tenure types	No	No	No	No	No
Financial arrangements	Organisational income - total and sources	No	No	No	No	No
	Organisational expenditure – total and sources	No	No	No	No	No
	Rent collection	Average market rent of dwelling	No	No	No	No
	Value of capital stock	No	No	No	No	No
Funding programs	Funding type	No	No	No	No	No
	Program monitoring and evaluation	No	No	No	No	No
Governance arrangements	Organisation type – Indigenous/non-Indigenous led	No	No	No	No	No
	Steering Committee or Board (level of Indigenous representation)	No	No	No	No	No
Shared/local decision-	Actioning of CTG Priority Reform 4	No	No	No	No	No

making approaches	Outcomes of approaches	No	No	No	No	No
Capacity building	Capacity building needs	No	No	No	No	No
	Capacity building initiatives	No	No	No	No	No
Tenancy management	Type of tenancy management services provided	No	No	No	No	No
	Service outcomes	No	No	No	No	No
Tenancy support	Type of tenancy support services provided	No	No	No	No	No
	Service outcomes	No	No	No	No	No
Property management	Type of property management services provided	No	No	No	No	No
	Service outcomes	No	No	No	No	No
Culturally appropriate services	Services culturally safe and tailored to meet the needs of Indigenous households	No	No	No	No	No
Size of PAYG workforce	Total number of employees	No	No	No	No	No
	Total number of FTE employees	No	No	No	No	No
Composition of workforce	Job roles	No	No	No	No	No
	Worker demographics	No	No	No	No	No
Employment arrangements	Agreement type	No	No	No	No	No
	Contract type	No	No	No	No	No

Skill shortages	Skill shortages for each role classification	No	No	No	No	No
	Reasons for skill shortages	No	No	No	No	No
	How skill shortages are being addressed	No	No	No	No	No
Vacancies	Total vacancies (FTE) and number of positions vacant	No	No	No	No	No
	Whether there are difficulties filling vacancies and reasons why	No	No	No	No	No
Additional data items		Dwellings in each LGA: Rate per 10,000 of all residential dwellings	No	No	No	No

Notes: ^a Data not reported by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander status.

A3.4. Data review – housing workers

Table 9: Review of national data sources – housing workers

Data item	Description	AHCD	CENSUS	CENSUS - ESTIMATING HOMELESSNESS	CTG OUTCOME AREA 9	CHINS	CH DATA COLLECTION	HILDA SURVEY
Socio-demographic information	Socio-demographic characteristics	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
Location	State/territory, postcode, suburb	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Remoteness	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
Qualifications	Highest level of schooling	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Post-school qualifications	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Currently studying for qualifications	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
Training	Recent training undertaken	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Perceptions of training	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Future training needs	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
Organisation type	Employer type	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
Role	Job type	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Role involves managing or supervising staff	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
Hours of work	Average weekly hours worked in job	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Preferred hours in job,	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
Employment arrangements	Form of employment	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
Wages	Total amount of pay before tax and other deductions	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
Job satisfaction	Satisfaction with different aspects of job	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Relations in workplace	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Satisfaction with work-life balance	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
Perceptions of job	Best aspects of job	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Worst aspects of job	No	No	No	No	No	No	No

Time in Indigenous housing	Length of time working for current organisation	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Length of time working in Indigenous housing	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Reasons why chose to work in Indigenous housing	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
Career pathways	Last paid job before first worked in Indigenous housing	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Worked in Indigenous housing before current job	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Reasons for choosing current organisation	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
Work intentions	Actively seeking work outside organisation	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Perceptions of where will work in the future	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Reasons why may finish working for current organisation	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
Additional data items		No	No	No	No	No	No	No

Table 9: Review of national data sources – housing workers (contd.)

Data item	Description	HOUSING STATISTICS	ICH DATA COLLECTION	JOURNEYS HOME SURVEY	LSAC	LSIC	NATSIHS
Socio-demographic information	Socio-demographic characteristics	No	No	No	No	No	No
Location	State/territory, postcode, suburb	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Remoteness	No	No	No	No	No	No
Qualifications	Highest level of schooling	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Post-school qualifications	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Currently studying for qualifications	No	No	No	No	No	No
Training	Recent training undertaken	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Perceptions of training	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Future training needs	No	No	No	No	No	No
Organisation type	Employer type	No	No	No	No	No	No
Role	Job type	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Role involves managing or supervising staff	No	No	No	No	No	No
Hours of work	Average weekly hours worked in job	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Preferred hours in job,	No	No	No	No	No	No
Employment arrangements	Form of employment	No	No	No	No	No	No
Wages	Total amount of pay before tax and other deductions	No	No	No	No	No	No
Job satisfaction	Satisfaction with different aspects of job	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Relations in workplace	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Satisfaction with work-life balance	No	No	No	No	No	No
Perceptions of job	Best aspects of job	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Worst aspects of job	No	No	No	No	No	No
Time in Indigenous housing	Length of time working for current organisation	No	No	No	No	No	No

	Length of time working in Indigenous housing	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Reasons why chose to work in Indigenous housing	No	No	No	No	No	No
Career pathways	Last paid job before first worked in Indigenous housing	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Worked in Indigenous housing before current job	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Reasons for choosing current organisation	No	No	No	No	No	No
Work intentions	Actively seeking work outside organisation	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Perceptions of where will work in the future	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Reasons why may finish working for current organisation	No	No	No	No	No	No
Additional data items		No	No	No	No	No	No

Table 9: Review of national data sources – housing workers (contd.)

Data item	Description	NATSISS	NSHS	PH AND SOMIH DATA COLLECTION	RIFIC	RoGS - HOUSING AND HOMELESSNESS	SHS DATA COLLECTION
Socio-demographic information	Socio-demographic characteristics	No	No	No	No	No	No
Location	State/territory, postcode, suburb	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Remoteness	No	No	No	No	No	No
Qualifications	Highest level of schooling	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Post-school qualifications	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Currently studying for qualifications	No	No	No	No	No	No
Training	Recent training undertaken	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Perceptions of training	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Future training needs	No	No	No	No	No	No
Organisation type	Employer type	No	No	No	No	No	No
Role	Job type	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Role involves managing or supervising staff	No	No	No	No	No	No
Hours of work	Average weekly hours worked in job	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Preferred hours in job,	No	No	No	No	No	No
Employment arrangements	Form of employment	No	No	No	No	No	No
Wages	Total amount of pay before tax and other deductions	No	No	No	No	No	No
Job satisfaction	Satisfaction with different aspects of job	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Relations in workplace	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Satisfaction with work-life balance	No	No	No	No	No	No
Perceptions of job	Best aspects of job	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Worst aspects of job	No	No	No	No	No	No

Time in Indigenous housing	Length of time working for current organisation	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Length of time working in Indigenous housing	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Reasons why chose to work in Indigenous housing	No	No	No	No	No	No
Career pathways	Last paid job before first worked in Indigenous housing	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Worked in Indigenous housing before current job	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Reasons for choosing current organisation	No	No	No	No	No	No
Work intentions	Actively seeking work outside organisation	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Perceptions of where will work in the future	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Reasons why may finish working for current organisation	No	No	No	No	No	No
Additional data items		No	No	No	No	No	No

Table 10: Review of state and territory data sources – housing workers

Data item	Description	NSW AHO DWELLINGS DATA	NSW SH DASHBOARD	NT RHIP DATA	QLD CH DATA	QLD ICH DATA	QLD PH & SOMIH DATA
Socio-demographic information	Socio-demographic characteristics	No	No	No	No	No	No
Location	State/territory, postcode, suburb	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Remoteness	No	No	No	No	No	No
Qualifications	Highest level of schooling	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Post-school qualifications	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Currently studying for qualifications	No	No	No	No	No	No
Training	Recent training undertaken	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Perceptions of training	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Future training needs	No	No	No	No	No	No
Organisation type	Employer type	No	No	No	No	No	No
Role	Job type	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Role involves managing or supervising staff	No	No	No	No	No	No
Hours of work	Average weekly hours worked in job	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Preferred hours in job,	No	No	No	No	No	No
Employment arrangements	Form of employment	No	No	No	No	No	No
Wages	Total amount of pay before tax and other deductions	No	No	No	No	No	No
Job satisfaction	Satisfaction with different aspects of job	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Relations in workplace	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Satisfaction with work-life balance	No	No	No	No	No	No
Perceptions of job	Best aspects of job	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Worst aspects of job	No	No	No	No	No	No
Time in Indigenous housing	Length of time working for current organisation	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Length of time working in Indigenous housing	No	No	No	No	No	No

	Reasons why chose to work in Indigenous housing	No	No	No	No	No	No
Career pathways	Last paid job before first worked in Indigenous housing	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Worked in Indigenous housing before current job	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Reasons for choosing current organisation	No	No	No	No	No	No
Work intentions	Actively seeking work outside organisation	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Perceptions of where will work in the future	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Reasons why may finish working for current organisation	No	No	No	No	No	No
Additional data items		No	No	No	No	No	No

Table 10: Review of state and territory data sources – housing workers (contd.)

Data item	Description	SA PH DATA	SA SOMIH DATA	TAS SH DATA	VIC AHV DATA	VIC HOUSING REGISTER DATA	VIC SH ALLOCATION DATA
Socio-demographic information	Socio-demographic characteristics	No	No	No	No	No	No
Location	State/territory, postcode, suburb	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Remoteness	No	No	No	No	No	No
Qualifications	Highest level of schooling	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Post-school qualifications	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Currently studying for qualifications	No	No	No	No	No	No
Training	Recent training undertaken	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Perceptions of training	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Future training needs	No	No	No	No	No	No
Organisation type	Employer type	No	No	No	No	No	No
Role	Job type	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Role involves managing or supervising staff	No	No	No	No	No	No
Hours of work	Average weekly hours worked in job	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Preferred hours in job,	No	No	No	No	No	No
Employment arrangements	Form of employment	No	No	No	No	No	No
Wages	Total amount of pay before tax and other deductions	No	No	No	No	No	No
Job satisfaction	Satisfaction with different aspects of job	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Relations in workplace	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Satisfaction with work-life balance	No	No	No	No	No	No
Perceptions of job	Best aspects of job	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Worst aspects of job	No	No	No	No	No	No
Time in Indigenous housing	Length of time working for current organisation	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Length of time working in Indigenous housing	No	No	No	No	No	No

	Reasons why chose to work in Indigenous housing	No	No	No	No	No	No
Career pathways	Last paid job before first worked in Indigenous housing	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Worked in Indigenous housing before current job	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Reasons for choosing current organisation	No	No	No	No	No	No
Work intentions	Actively seeking work outside organisation	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Perceptions of where will work in the future	No	No	No	No	No	No
	Reasons why may finish working for current organisation	No	No	No	No	No	No
Additional data items		No	No	No	No	No	No