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**Australian Institute of  
Health and Welfare**

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HOUSING ASSISTANCE DATA DEVELOPMENT SERIES

# **Crisis Accommodation Program 2007–08**

## **Commonwealth State Housing Agreement national data report**

**March 2009**

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**Please note that there is the potential for minor revisions of data in this report. Please check the online version at <[www.aihw.gov.au](http://www.aihw.gov.au)> for any amendments.**

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# Symbols

n.a.	not available
\$	Australian dollars
%	per cent
'000	thousands

# Summary

This report presents data from the 2007–08 Commonwealth State Housing Agreement (CSHA) Crisis Accommodation Program data collection.

Dwellings funded under the CSHA Crisis Accommodation Program are used by governments, churches and other welfare organisations to assist people in situations of actual or impending crisis or homelessness. Support services to these households are provided directly by health and community service organisations, and by the national Supported Accommodation Assistance Program.

## How assistance was provided

At 30 June 2008, there were 7,567 Crisis Accommodation Program dwellings for emergency accommodation funded under the CSHA. This was an increase of 3% over the last year. The amount of money spent on new dwellings increased from \$41.1 million in the previous year to approximately \$43.9 million in 2007–08, an increase of 6.8%. Approximately \$13.3 million was spent on maintenance of Crisis Accommodation Program properties in the same period.

There were 59,871 households assisted by the Crisis Accommodation Program in New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland and Western Australia during 2007–08. Although all jurisdictions provide assistance under the Crisis Accommodation Program, data for the remaining jurisdictions were not available.

Information on Indigenous status was only available for Queensland and Western Australia. Among the 10,674 newly assisted households in these two states during 2007–08, nearly one-quarter (2,595) were identified as Indigenous households.

# 1 Introduction

This publication is one of a set of six that report on housing assistance provided in 2007–08 under the 2003 CSHA. This report focuses on the Crisis Accommodation Program, presenting a compilation of available data from all jurisdictions.

The remaining five reports in the series are:

- *Community housing 2007–08*
- *Public rental housing 2007–08*
- *State owned and managed Indigenous housing 2007–08*
- *Home purchase assistance 2007–08*
- *Private rent assistance 2007–08*

These publications are the ninth set published in the Housing Assistance Data Development Series. The series was initially developed under the 1999 National Housing Data Agreement and the 1999 Agreement on National Indigenous Housing Information to report on the data collections and the associated standards, definitions and classifications under these agreements. Both agreements were renewed for a further 5 years under the 2003 CSHA. Reports are available from <[www.aihw.gov.au](http://www.aihw.gov.au)> for most previous collections.

Related publications in the series include the *National housing assistance data dictionary, version 3* (AIHW 2006) and *Measuring housing assistance: national data standards developed under the 1999 Commonwealth State Housing Agreement* (AIHW 2004).

This report provides data on the people receiving assistance and the dwellings managed by state and territory housing authorities under the Crisis Accommodation Program. It contains all data collected for national reporting under the 2003 CSHA.

## 2 CSHA 2007–08 Crisis Accommodation Program data

### 2.1 Tenancy and property management national data

**Table 1: Crisis accommodation tenancy and property management, 2007–08**

Data item	NSW	Vic	Qld	WA	SA	Tas	ACT	NT	Total <sup>(a)</sup>	
<b>For year ending 30 June 2008</b>										
C1	Total number of new households assisted	n.a.	13,647	8,904	1,770	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	24,321
C2	Total number of new Indigenous households assisted	n.a.	n.a.	2,093	502	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	2,595
C3	Total number of all households assisted	30,700	17,821	8,904	2,446	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	59,871
C4	Total number of all Indigenous households assisted	n.a.	n.a.	2,093	536	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	2,629
<b>At 30 June 2007</b>										
C5	Total number of crisis accommodation dwellings	1,484	3,780	1,181	514	253	126	60	118	7,516
<b>At 30 June 2008</b>										
C6	Total number of crisis accommodation dwellings	1,502	3,720	1,268	520	249	127	60	121	7,567
<b>For year ending 30 June 2008</b>										
C7	Total number of additional dwellings	28	78	161	12	1	5	1	4	290
C8	Total number of new constructions	0	2	35	0	0	1	1	0	39
C9	Total number of dwellings deleted from stock	10	138	74	6	5	4	1	1	239
C10	Total capital expenditure (\$'000)	7,952	3,568	23,801	4,885	2,137	945	290	327	43,905
C12	Total amount spent on housing maintenance (\$'000)	2,853	7,448	1,691	461	442	287	115	n.a.	13,297

(a) Does not represent national totals due to data not being available for all jurisdictions. Also note that total figures should be interpreted with caution due to data inconsistency between jurisdictions.

*Notes*

NSW	C3	This item represents the number of assistances, not the number of households. This item is calculated using 2007–08 stock figures and data from the <i>Homeless people in Supported Accommodation Assistance Program (SAAP) National Data Collection Annual report 2006–07</i> (AIHW 2008b). (The report for 2007–08 was not available at the time of reporting).
	C8	All new Crisis Accommodation Program (CAP) dwellings were acquired either by purchasing an existing property, by transfers from other programs or by leasing accommodation from the private rental market.
Vic	C2, C4	Information systems do not currently capture this household attribute.
	C3	An additional 5,100 households are estimated to have been assisted during 2007–08 through community owned and managed crisis accommodation.
	C6, C7	As many crisis and transitional properties are leased, low opportunity in the private rental market has reduced acquisitions to below what is required to replace lease handbacks.
	C9	Deletions include transfer of dwellings to other programs, sales, demolitions, lease handbacks and stock loss through the conversion of dwellings.

Qld	C1, C3	The number of households assisted is calculated from the most recent published data on the number of SAAP/CAP accommodation support periods in Queensland, adjusted for the proportion of dwellings that are CAP funded. As short-term crisis accommodation is being provided (i.e. not ongoing housing assistance), the number of new households assisted is approximately equal to the total number of households assisted.
	C2, C4	The number of Indigenous households assisted is estimated from the total number of households assisted and the percentage of accommodated SAAP clients who are Indigenous. The latter percentage is published annually in Table 15A.181 of the <i>Report on Government Services 2008</i> (SCRGSP 2008).
	C7	Additions comprised 43 transfers in from other programs, 23 purchases, 35 construction completions and 60 administrative adjustments resulting from reconciliation of stock counts with other sources. The high number of administrative adjustments was mostly due to corrections to dwelling counts in boarding houses and hostels.
	C9	Deletions comprised 21 transfers to other programs, 9 sales, 18 demolitions, 26 adjustments due to administrative data corrections.
	C12	Relates to Department of Housing expenditure on department owned properties only.
WA	C1–C4	These data items are significantly different from those reported in 2006–07 due to survey response rates. In 2007–08, 21 out of 77 crisis accommodation providers responded to the survey.
SA	C5	Updated from the value of 255 reported last year.
Tas	C1–C4	Not reported to Housing Tasmania. Refer to the SAAP National Data Collection for information.
ACT	C1–C4	Organisations which receive CAP properties and SAAP funding are not required to report household data to Housing ACT. Information on supported accommodation is collected for (completed) support periods and reported in the SAAP National Data Collection. These support periods may relate to numerous episodes of support to the same household or individual.
	C6–C10	One property destroyed by fire was rebuilt during the year.

## 3 General notes

### 3.1 Scope

The data reported in this collection relate only to crisis accommodation covered by the 2003 CSHA.

It includes forms of accommodation where:

- funding (capital and/or recurrent) is provided fully or partly through the CSHA
- the tenancy management functions are undertaken by a community organisation or local government
- properties are leased for the provision of crisis accommodation (headleasing) provided the tenancy management function is undertaken by a community organisation.

It excludes properties where the tenancy management function is managed under:

- public rental housing programs
- state owned and managed Indigenous rental housing programs
- Indigenous community-managed rental housing programs (for example, the Community Housing and Infrastructure Program)
- community housing and related programs.

These properties (with the exception of the Indigenous community-managed rental housing programs) are reported under the relevant CSHA data collection report.

Also excluded are non-CSHA programs such as those provided by:

- the Australian Government Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs
- the Australian Government Department of Veterans' Affairs
- other state/territory-based funding programs
- properties owned and managed by community housing groups not funded under the CSHA.

### 3.2 Coverage

South Australia, Tasmania, the Australian Capital Territory and the Northern Territory were unable to provide any of the requested data relating to crisis accommodation tenancy management in 2007–08.

Only Queensland and Western Australia could provide Indigenous status data. See footnotes at Table 1 for details.

### **3.3 Data definitions**

The *National housing assistance data dictionary, version 3* (AIHW 2006) was the authoritative source of data definitions and standards for this collection.

Further details of the specific items in this national collection are available from the *CSHA Crisis Accommodation Program data manual 2007–08* (AIHW 2008a). Copies of the data manual are available from the Housing Assistance Unit.

### **3.4 Terminology**

#### **Capital expenditure**

Expenditure on the acquisition or enhancement of crisis accommodation dwellings. Excludes expenditure associated with program administration, net operational costs, salaries, repairs and maintenance.

Capital expenditure includes acquisitions (purchase of properties); construction costs; redevelopment and improvement (of properties); land acquisitions and development; and joint ventures.

#### **Dwelling**

A structure or discrete space within a structure intended for people to live in or where a person or group of people live. Thus, a structure that people actually live in is a dwelling regardless of its intended purpose, but a vacant structure is only a dwelling if it is intended for human residence. A dwelling may include one or more rooms used as an office or workshop provided the dwelling is in residential use.

#### **Household**

A group of two or more related or unrelated people who usually reside in the same dwelling, and who make common provision for food and other essentials for living; or a person who usually resides in a dwelling and makes provision for his or her own food and essentials for living, without combining with any other person.

#### **Indigenous household**

A household that contains one or more Indigenous people.

### **3.5 Data qualifications**

In addition to those qualifications detailed in the footnotes, national totals are calculated using only those states and territories where information is available.

1. Victoria data is collected for two programs: Crisis Supported Accommodation and the Transitional Housing Management Program. Crisis Supported Accommodation provides an immediate response to people who are homeless and in crisis and provides accommodation from one night to six weeks. The Transitional Housing Program complements the provision of crisis supported accommodation and provides accommodation for up to 12 months (18 months for young people).
2. For South Australia, the 249 Crisis Accommodation Program properties reported as at 30 June 2008 are only a portion of the number of properties that Crisis Accommodation Program funding has contributed to in South Australia (SA). The Crisis Accommodation Program in SA also funds many projects that add to the total number of crisis accommodation beds and transitional housing numbers, but are not reported as part of the Crisis Accommodation Program because they are owned by the non-government sector not the government. These properties are available to support the homeless in the community and are secured for this purpose by legal agreements between the government Minister and the non-government agency receiving the funds.

In addition to the 249 Crisis Accommodation Program funded, government owned properties there are 61 properties owned by Housing SA which have received small amounts of Crisis Accommodation Program funds for minor renovations. There are also about 860 properties leased to the non-government sector through the Supported Tenancy Scheme, managed by Housing SA, to provide accommodation responses to people who are homeless and in crisis. These transitional accommodation options are directly linked to support services managed by support agencies funded under the Supported Accommodation Assistance Program (SAAP).

## **3.6 List of data items**

- C1 Total number of new households assisted for year ending 30 June 2008
- C2 Total number of new Indigenous households assisted for year ending 30 June 2008
- C3 Total number of all households assisted for year ending 30 June 2008
- C4 Total number of all Indigenous households assisted for year ending 30 June 2008
- C5 Total number of crisis accommodation dwellings at 30 June 2007
- C6 Total number of crisis accommodation dwellings at 30 June 2008
- C7 Total number of additional crisis accommodation dwellings for year ending 30 June 2008
- C8 Total number of new constructions for year ending 30 June 2008
- C9 Total number of crisis accommodation dwellings deleted from stock for year ending 30 June 2008
- C10 Total capital expenditure for year ending 30 June 2008
- C12 Total amount spent on housing maintenance for year ending 30 June 2008

## **3.7 Changes to the 2007–08 data collection**

There were no changes from the previous year to the specification of data items collected for 2007–08.

# References

AIHW (Australian Institute of Health and Welfare) 2004. Measuring housing assistance: national data standards developed under the 1999 Commonwealth State Housing Agreement. Cat. no. HOU 111. Canberra: AIHW.

AIHW 2006. National housing assistance data dictionary, version 3. Housing assistance data development series. Cat. no. HOU 147. Canberra: AIHW.

AIHW 2008a. Commonwealth State Housing Agreement (CSHA) Crisis Accommodation Program data manual 2007–08. Canberra: AIHW.

AIHW 2008b. SAAP National Data Collection annual report 2006–07. SAAP NDCA report series 12. Cat. no. HOU 185. Canberra: AIHW.

SCRGSP (Steering Committee for the Review of Government Service Provision) 2008. Report on Government Services 2008. Canberra: Productivity Commission.

# List of tables

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