

Glossary

Admission day

The first day of a person's stay in a hostel. In the case of a person transferring between hostels, where the time between leaving one hostel and entering another is less than 2 days, the effective admission day is the date of the initial admission. Permanent and respite admissions are treated separately. For example, if a person transfers from a respite stay to a permanent stay, a new permanent admission is created.

Geographic areas

The geographic areas are based on the rural, remote and metropolitan areas classification developed by the Department of Primary Industries and Energy, and the Department of Human Services and Health (now the Department of Health and Family Services) in 1994 (PIE & HSH 1994). This classification categorises all statistical local areas (SLAs) in Australia according to their remoteness, with an index of remoteness being calculated for each SLA in non-metropolitan Australia. Remoteness is measured by population density and distances to large population centres. The structure of the classification appears below.

Metropolitan areas

- Capital city State and Territory capital city statistical divisions
- Other metropolitan centres Urban centres of population 100,000 or more

Non-metropolitan zones

- Rural zone Index of remoteness less than or equal to 10.5
 - Large rural centres Urban centre population between 25,000 and 99,999
 - Small rural centres Urban centre population between 10,000 and 24,999
 - Other rural area Urban centre population under 10,000
- Remote zone Index of remoteness greater than 10.5
 - Remote centre Urban centre population 5,000 or over
 - Other remote area Urban centre population under 5,000

Government hostels

Hostels operated either by or on behalf of a State or Territory Government or local government.

Hostel for the aged

A hostel is a care facility in which residents receive Hostel Care or Personal Care services unless designated as co-habitee. In this publication all references to hostels are to hostels for the aged, that is, those hostels designed to provide services to older people with disabilities. A small number of young people with disabilities live in hostels for the aged. Hostels specifically established for young people with a disability are not included in this publication.

Length of stay

The length of stay of a separated resident is based upon the time between the date of admission and the date of separation. For a current resident, it is the time between the date of admission and 30 June 1996. The admission day and the specified day (30 June 1996) are included but the separation day is excluded from the calculation of length of stay.

Permanent admission

A permanent admission to a hostel is an admission for long-term care purposes. The term 'permanent' does not mean staying in a hostel forever. Many 'permanent admissions' leave the hostels alive after a short period of stay due to changed circumstances.

Permanent care

A hostel resident is under permanent care if the resident entered a hostel as a permanent admission, i.e. for long-term care purposes.

Permanent resident

A hostel resident who was admitted to a hostel for long-term care purposes.

Personal Care Assessment Instrument (PCAI)

The PCAI is forwarded to Commonwealth State offices by hostels for each resident who may be eligible for Personal Care subsidy. On the basis of the information provided, residents are assigned to one of three service need categories for the purpose of funding. The three categories are Personal Care High (PCH), Personal Care Intermediate (PCI) and Personal Care Low (PCL). The PCAI categories are used here to measure the level of dependency based on the assumption that the level of dependency positively relates to the level of care needs.

Private-for-profit hostels

Hostels operated by private-for-profit bodies or individuals.

Resident

A person living in a hostel who is eligible for the payment of Commonwealth benefits or who has an entitlement to third party or workers' compensation insurance.

Respite admission

A short-term admission to a hostel, usually in order to give a carer a 'respite' or relief from the provision of care.

Respite care

A hostel resident is under respite care if the resident entered a hostel as a respite admission, i.e. to give a carer a 'respite' or relief from the provision of care.

Respite resident

A hostel resident who is admitted to a hostel for respite care.

Separation

Occurs when a person is discharged from a hostel and does not re-enter the same or another hostel within 2 days.

Separation day

The last day of a person's stay in a hostel; the day on which the person leaves the hostel. In the case of a person transferring between hostels, if the time between leaving one hostel and entering another is less than 2 days, it is the date of the person's later separation.

Separation mode

The destination of a resident at separation, including death.

Transfer

Occurs when a person leaves a hostel and is admitted into another within 2 days of their departure.

Transfer within the hostel system

Occurs when residents move from one hostel to another or change care type such as from respite care to permanent care in the same hostel.

Usual housing status

Usual housing arrangement before application for hostel admission.

References

Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) 1997a. Australian demographic statistics: 1996 census edition. Cat. no. 3101.0. Canberra: ABS.

Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) 1997b. 1996 census dictionary. Cat. no. 2901.0. Canberra: ABS.

(Commonwealth) Department of Health, Housing and Community Services (HHCS) 1992. Aged persons' hostels 1991-92, a statistical overview. Canberra: HHCS.

(Commonwealth) Department of Primary Industries and Energy, and Department of Human Services and Health (PIE & HSH) 1994. Rural, remote and metropolitan areas classification: 1991 census edition. Canberra: AGPS.

Liu Z 1996. Length of stay in Australian nursing homes. Aged Care Series no.1. Canberra: AIHW.