

Census Definitions

Dwelling

A dwelling is a unit of accommodation in which all rooms - including the kitchen, bathroom and toilet - are behind a door that only that household can use.

A dwelling may comprise one or more household spaces (the accommodation used or available for use by an individual household).

A dwelling may be classified as shared or unshared. A dwelling is shared if:

- the household spaces it contains have the accommodation type 'part of a converted or shared house'
- not all of the rooms (including kitchen, bathroom and toilet, if any) are behind a door that only that household can use, and
- there is at least one other such household space at the same address with which it can be combined to form the shared dwelling.

Dwellings that do not meet these conditions are unshared dwellings.

Household

A household is defined as one person living alone, or a group of people (not necessarily related) living at the same address who share cooking facilities and share a living room or sitting room or dining area

A household must contain at least one person whose place of usual residence is at the address. A group of short-term residents living together is not classified as a household, and neither is a group of people at an address where only visitors are staying.

Household Space

A household space is the accommodation used or available for use by an individual household.

Household spaces are identified separately in census results as those with at least one usual resident, and those that do not have any usual residents.

A household space with no usual residents may still be used by short-term residents, visitors who were present on census night, or a combination of short-term residents and visitors.

Vacant household spaces and household spaces that are used as second addresses are also classified in census results as household spaces with no usual residents.

Occupancy Rating

Occupancy rating provides a measure of whether a household's accommodation is overcrowded or under occupied. There are two measures of occupancy rating, one based on the number of rooms in a household's accommodation, and one based on the number of bedrooms. The ages of the household members and their relationships to each other are used to derive the number of rooms/bedrooms they require. An occupancy rating of -1 implies that a household has one fewer room/bedroom than required, whereas +1 implies that they have one more room/bedroom than required.