

Legal definitions of groups

Aged

The terms 'elderly' and 'aged' mean people aged over 65 years of age.

Source: Caring for the Elderly' - an Overview of Aged Care Support and Services in Australia Parliamentary library

<http://www.aph.gov.au/library/intguide/SP/agedcare.htm>

Source: Centrelink

http://www.centrelink.gov.au/internet/internet.nsf/payments/qual_how_agepens.htm

Homeless

A person is homeless if, and only if, he or she has inadequate access to safe and secure housing.

Source: Supported Accommodation Assistance Program Act 1994

<http://www.homeless.org.au/glossary.htm>

Disabled

The term "disabled person" means any person unable to ensure by himself or herself, wholly or partly, the necessities of a normal individual and/or social life, as a result of deficiency, either congenital or not, in his or her physical or mental capabilities.

Source: Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission Act 1986

http://www.austlii.edu.au/au/legis/cth/consol_act/hraeoca1986512/sch5.html

A person is eligible for the Disability Support Pension if they have a physical, intellectual or psychiatric impairment which prevents them from working, or for people who are permanently blind.

Centrelink

http://www.centrelink.gov.au/internet/internet.nsf/payments/disability_support.htm

Disability means:

- (a) total or partial loss of a person's bodily or mental [functions](#) or of a part of a person's body, or
- (b) the presence in a person's body of organisms causing or capable of causing disease or illness, or
- (c) the malfunction, malformation or disfigurement of a part of a person's body, or
- (d) a disorder or malfunction that results in a person learning differently from a person without the disorder or malfunction, or
- (e) a disorder, illness or disease that affects a person's thought processes, perception of reality, emotions or judgment or that results in disturbed behaviour.

Source: Anti discrimination Act 1977

http://www.austlii.edu.au/au/legis/nsw/consol_act/aa1977204/s4.html#disability

Sole parent

Sole means exclusive. Sole care, it is considered, means full and unshared responsibility for the physical care and upbringing of the child.

Source: Australian Taxation Office
<http://law.ato.gov.au/pdf/it0253.pdf>

Youth

Young people between the ages of 15 and 24 years.

Source: Census Update 32 - March 2004 - Australia's Youth - Australian Bureau of Statistics
<http://www.abs.gov.au/websitedbs/D3110129.NSF/99906a65c37e95054a2564d70016b8ee/1a46e5cfabd5b2acca256e6200785ee6!OpenDocument>

Families in crisis

A person is eligible for a Crisis Payment if they are in severe financial hardship because they have been forced to leave their home and find a new home because of an extreme event like domestic violence or their house burning down.

Source: Centrelink
<http://www.centrelink.gov.au/internet/internet.nsf/payments/crisis.htm>

Chronically ill

Chronic health condition or chronic illness is a condition which has lasted, or is expected to last, six months or more (also referred to as long term health condition or chronic disease).

Source: Australian Social Trends 2006, Australian Bureau of Statistics

Socioeconomically disadvantaged

Social disadvantage is typically associated with low income, high unemployment, low levels of educational attainment and jobs in relatively unskilled occupations.

Source: National Health Survey User's Guide 2001, Australian Bureau of Statistics

Gay and lesbian

Males or female who identify as being attracted to persons of the same sex.

Source: Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission website

Rural families

Rural families live in rural localities which are defined as clusters of between 200 and 999 people and the rural balance which comprises the remainder of the State or Territory not classified as major urban, other urban or rural locality.

Source: Indigenous settlements in Australia, Australian Bureau of Statistics 2001
<http://www.environment.gov.au/soe/2001/publications/technical/indigenous/distribution.html>