JOURNEYS HOME
WAVE 3 TECHNICAL REPORT
April 2013

Fieldwork, Response and Weighting

**Report prepared for the Australian Government Department of
Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs**

Contents

1   Introduction

The fieldwork for wave 3 was conducted over a ten week-period from 1 September 2012. All wave 1 respondents (n=1,682) will be followed through all subsequent waves unless consent is subsequently withdrawn.

In wave 3 we continue to collect information on individuals' personal characteristics (and especially those that can change over time), housing and living arrangements, employment, financial situation, support services and networks, health and well-being, contact with the justice system and exposure to violence. From wave 3 onwards, housing calendar tracks an individual's each episode of housing moves (up to 20 moves) between previous and current interviews. For the wave 2 respondents, wave 3 calendar covers housing moves between wave 2 and wave 3 interviews and for the wave 2 non-respondents, the calendar covers moves between wave 1 and wave 3. In addition, respondents' history of tobacco and drug use and age first diagnosed with mental illness were also added in wave 3.

Wave 3 fieldwork concluded on 11 November 2012 with an achievement rate of 87.6 per cent (1,478 interviews out of 1,682 target sample), which is much higher than has been reported by most other longitudinal surveys that target disadvantaged groups.

This technical report documents wave 3 fieldwork administration, fieldwork outcomes, and weighting. The arrangement of the rest of the report is as follows:

- Section 2, Survey Administration: describes important fieldwork protocols, interview length and major difficulties confronted during wave 3 fieldwork, as well as reporting on interviewer feedback.
- Section 3, Response Rate and Sample Characteristics: summarises wave 3 survey outcomes including response rates and sample characteristics.
- Section 4, Weighting: presents the method used to generate response weights and population weights.

2   Survey Administration

The fieldwork for wave 3 was conducted over a 10-week period from 1 September to 11 November 2012.

2.1 Sample

Although the Journeys Home survey aims to follow all of the 1,682 wave 1 respondents through the entire survey, due to practical reasons, 1,661 out of the 1,682 were re-approached to participate in wave 3. Of the 21 not approached, three were deceased and one was permanently incapable. The remaining 17 had indicated that they no longer wanted to participate any further in the survey.

2.2 Survey Mode

The main method of data collection is face-to-face interviews using a questionnaire delivered by Computer Assisted Personal Interviewing (CAPI) tablet consoles. The location of the interview was of the sample member's choosing (but subject to concerns about interviewer safety). Telephone is used if requested by the sample member as their preferred mode or the person has moved to a location outside the reach of the interviewer network. Face-to-face interviews continued to be the predominant method of wave 3 interviews (83%). Compared with the wave 2 survey, there is only a six percentage point growth in the proportion of total interviews conducted by telephone, this is lower than expected. The proportion of respondents being interviewed by telephone within the interview areas decreased from 45 per cent in wave 2 to 42 per cent in wave 3.

2.3 Interviewers and Interviewer Support

A total of 31 face-to-face interviewers took part in wave 3 survey. The majority (30 out of the 31) were wave 2 returning interviews and the remaining one had previously participated in the Journeys Home pilot study. Of the six discontinued wave 2 interviewers, four did not participate because of other commitments; one discontinued because of relocation and one had been called in to help with the workload in one area during wave 2 and was no longer required.

The interviewers who had participated in wave 2 received three hours training to update them about the changes to the questionnaire, procedures and to re-iterate important issues. In the previous fieldwork, periods training sessions were face-to-face. This time the sessions were conducted via teleconference. With the exception of the new interviewer who received a full day face-to-face training session.

As in previous fieldwork periods, interviewers and sample members are supported by a telephone support group (Team 1800), who staff project-specific free-call 1800 telephone

numbers. During fieldwork these numbers were staffed 14 hours a day (8 am to 10 pm), seven days a week. The role of Team 1800 includes: handling respondent calls and emails; assisting interviewers by, for example, advising of changes in respondent details, providing CAPI technical support, advising on field protocols, advising on duty of care issues, and providing emotional support; and tracking respondents pre-field and when cases are returned to the office during fieldwork. Team 1800 members also conducted the majority of telephone interviews. A total of 17 Team 1800 staff members were trained for wave 3 and half of them had worked on the project in wave 2. All Team 1800 staff members received one full day of training.

2.4 Pre-field Approach

The 'keep in touch' activities were conducted in late June to early July 2012. To encourage wave 3 participation, contact was attempted with sample members via multiple channels, including SMS, email and mailing out a letter. All of these communications emphasised the scope of the survey, thanked previous respondents for their participation and informed them when they would be approached for wave 3, the estimated survey length, the incentive, and how to update their contact details. The 'keeping in touch' materials varied slightly according to the sample member's wave 2 response status.

Approximately two weeks prior to the beginning of fieldwork all sample members were sent a Primary Approach Letter (PAL) and brochure outlining the survey. These were mailed out in envelopes with an official Government crest and the Journeys Home logo to the sample member's last known residential and/or postal addresses. The PAL for wave 3 was designed to both inform the sample members that they would be approached again and encourage them to participate. It was personalised with the individual's respondent ID, name and contact number (if provided) and provided them the opportunity to contact Roy Morgan Research via the 1800 number or email should they have any questions or wish to provide more up-to-date contact details.

The brochure accompanying the PAL outlined the survey in more detail. Additional information included how they were selected to be invited to participate and details on confidentiality and voluntary participation. The brochure adhered to The Melbourne University's Ethics Committee's Plain English Statement requirements.

2.5   *Sample Updates from DEEWR*

DEEWR provided five sample updates for wave 3 which were extracted from the Centrelink data base on the following dates:

- 3 August 2012 (pre-fieldwork)
- 7 September 2012
- 30 March 2012
- 28 September 2012
- 19 October 2012
- 2 November 2012.

These updates were used in locating respondents, particularly if they have proven difficult to find. The information provided includes:

- The most recent contact information available and a flag indicating when each piece of contact information was changed, known as a date of effect; and
- Flags for respondents who are Deceased, Overseas, or In Prison (in some cases the prison address was also provided).

2.6   *Tracking and Making Contact*

Successfully locating sample members remains a crucial, costly and the most time consuming part of the Journeys Home survey. Interviewers were provided with important information collected from wave 1 and wave 2, including gender age, indigenous status, all contact details, anchor points and preferred methods of contact, recommended strategy by previous interviewer. The importance of using all contact details and information was emphasized. Interviewers were also provided with a list of service providers in their interviewing area and a generic letter addressed to service providers. Interviewers were encouraged to use service providers as a resource to assist in locating people they were having difficulties finding.

Interviewers were requested to give priority in tracking and locating wave 2 non-respondents and those sample members known to be hard to find. Though past contact information and DEEWR updates were the primary source of locating wave 2 non-respondents and respondents, interviewers were encouraged to use their investigative skills whilst following tracking protocols outlined below:

- Attempt to contact respondents who did not participate in wave 2 first – particularly those who were not successfully contacted or moved to an unknown address in wave 2.

- Attempt to contact respondents known to be hard to find early in the fieldwork. For those who participated in wave 2, attempt to leave roughly a 6 month gap between the wave 2 and wave 3 interviews.

- Review the previous reapproach suggestions and comments in planning call attempts. Approach sensitively those who refused in wave 2.

- For face-to-face approaches, generally try 3 call attempts to known addresses, mixing up the time and type when approaching their residence.

- If they do not appear to be home at the time of approach, leave a calling card with details in a place they are likely to find it. Include a brochure and/or PAL in a Journeys Home envelope addressed to the person, if this was thought to helpful.

- Follow up with current residents, neighbours, etc. if they arrive at a residence and find that the respondent no longer lives there.

- If the 3 face-to-face attempts are not successful, use other available contact details provided by the respondent. This may include a telephone or SMS or contacting an alternative contact (either provided within the respondent information or obtained during fieldwork).

- If making telephone or SMS attempts, at least 6 telephone attempts for each number should be made, in order to try and make contact. Spread these attempts across fieldwork. Unless specifically requested by the respondent, SMS should not be the first type of contact attempt made.

- Collect current contact information from people who are most likely to know where the respondent has moved to if they change address. Record any added 'alternative contacts' on the CAPI tablet. Always name or describe who was spoken to for future reference for the interviewer and the tracking team/office.

- If the respondent can still not be found after face-to-face, telephone, or SMS attempts, approach service providers in their area to assist in finding them.

- If email is a preferred method of contact listed by the respondent, request that Team 1800 send an email using the template/s available. Social networks, such as Facebook, are alternative methods of contact available only to Team 1800. Interviewers were

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instructed not to personally send an email or message via a social network, but to request this of Team 1800.

- The most recent DEEWR updates provided during fieldwork should be utilised if a respondent is difficult to find.
- If the respondent still cannot be contacted, return it to office (RTO) for Team 1800 to attempt to track the respondent.

Most of the above strategies proved to be useful in tracking respondents. The exception was service providers, who in some instances were helpful but were for the most part restricted by confidentiality. While the DEEWR updates appeared to be one of the most effective methods of tracking respondents the feedback from some interviewers and Team 1800 was that they were less productive in wave 3 than they had been in wave 2. A possible reason is that over time some Journeys Home sample members are moving away from receiving Centrelink benefits as their situations change.

2.7 Managing sample movement

Monitoring and managing the movement of the sample members was handled on a daily basis throughout fieldwork. Interviewers were each provided with a list of 'in-scope suburbs' for their interviewing area/s and were instructed to 'return to office' any sample that moved outside of their area. The new address or location that the sample member moved to was then reviewed by the Journeys Home project team and either:

1. If within scope for another cluster area (or just near the boundary) the sample member was reassigned to the face-to-face interviewer in that area;
2. If outside of all cluster areas, the sample member was reassigned for approach via telephone by Team 1800; or
3. In some instances, where the sample member moved just outside of the boundary of the cluster area, the sample member remained assigned to the interviewer. The interviewer was instructed to still approach the respondent and gain an interview if possible.

2.8 Incentives

All sample members are offered a $40 incentive each time they agree to be interviewed. In the case of face-to-face interviews, the incentive is provided as cash and paid immediately

after the sample member agreed to participation. Cash incentives were provided in 'thank-you' envelopes. In the case of telephone interviews, the incentive is sent by mail, in cheque form or gift card to the respondent after completion of the interview. All respondents are given the option to decline payment.

2.9   Interview Length and duration between interviews

Despite additional questions being added to the survey, the average interview length did not increase significantly. The average interview length was 35 minutes, one minute above the wave 2 average, which is still well below the expected length of 40 minutes.
Again, there was marked variation in the interview length ranging from 14 to 105 minutes. Table 2 displays the distribution of interview times. The majority of interviews (86.7%) were within 20 to 49 minutes. Interviewers commented that the longer interviews were usually those where respondents had experienced more changes in their lives since their last interview (e.g. moving, health).

Table 2: Distribution of interview lengths

Length of interview	Proportion (%)	Total (n)
less than 20 minutes	4.2	62
20 to 29 minutes	33.9	499
30 to 39 minutes	37.6	553
40 to 49 minutes	15.2	224
50 to 59 minutes	5.6	82
60 to 69 minutes	2.4	35
70 to 79 minutes	0.9	13
80+ minutes	0.4	6
Total	100.0	1474 (N)

Notes: Respondents that did not complete interview are excluded

Interviewers were encouraged to approach sample members approximately six months after the last interview. As shown in Figure 1, continuing respondents were interviewed within five to seven months (22 to 30 weeks) of the last interview. Obviously the six month rule could not apply to returning respondents. The distribution of this group is quite dispersed; however, most interviews occurred with 11 to 13 months (48 to 56 weeks) of the last interview. If these respondents had been interviewed in wave 2, the gap with what would have been their wave 2 interview date and wave 3 would have been around six months. This

is important as some of the questions in the survey ask about events in the last six months. Therefore, the reference period of returning respondents is similar to that of the continuing respondents.

Figure 1: Distribution of duration between interviews
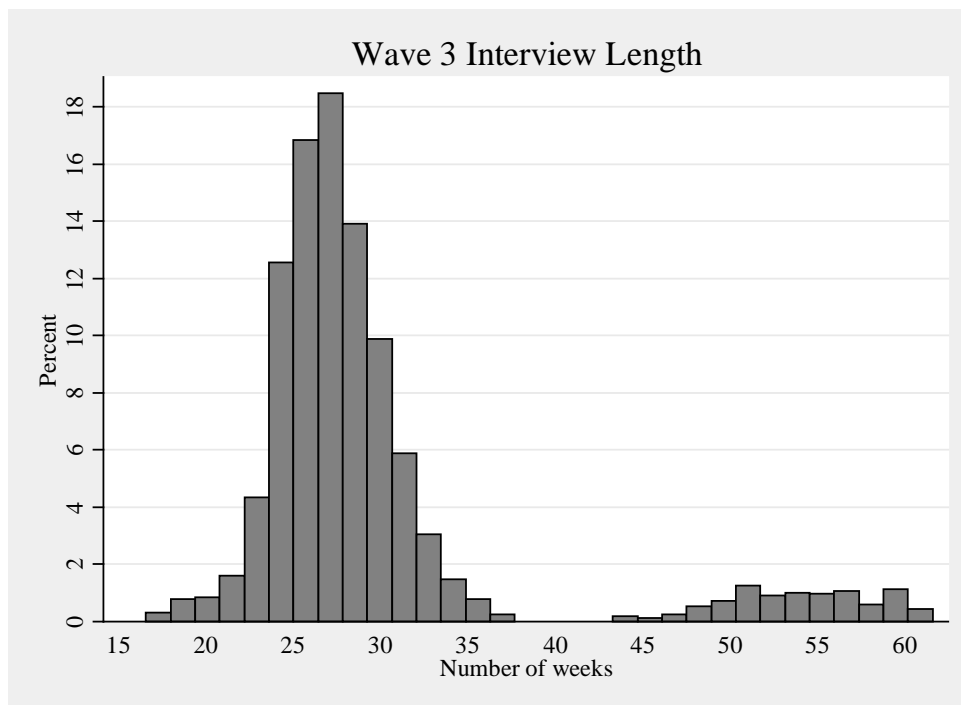
3   Response and Sample Characteristics

3.1   Response Rates

As mentioned in previous section, 1,661 were to be re-approached for the wave 3 interview. A summary of the wave 3 fieldwork response outcomes is provided in Table 2. The final number of in-scope sample is 1,638. Of the 44 considered out of scope, 27 were in prison and 8 were overseas during the survey period, and 9 were deceased.[1] In total 1,478 sample members responded to the wave 3 survey, with 1,474 completed interviews and 4 interviews terminated prior to completion. Thus the response rate for wave 2 is 90.2 per cent (1,478 out

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[1] Due to practical reasons, interviewers do not approach sample members in prison. However, there is one exception where the sample member contacted the survey team to express a willingness to participate in the survey. Therefore, one interview was completed while the sample member was in prison. It was counted as a completed interview.

of the 1,638 in-scope sample). The achievement rate is 87.9 per cent (1,478 out of 1,682). The response and achievement rate were approximately 2 per cent lower than in wave 2. Nevertheless, this is still an excellent result considering the level of disadvantage among this survey population.

Table 2: Wave 3 fieldwork call outcomes

Sample outcome	Number	% of Total sample	% of In-scope sample
Starting sample (w1 respondents)	1682		
Less out-of-scope	44	2.6	
Total in-scope sample	1638	97.4	
Completed interviews	1474	87.6	89.9
Terminations	4	0.2	0.2
Incapable	2	0.1	0.1
In institution	2	0.1	0.1
Refusal	45	2.7	2.8
Other non-response			
Contact made	41	2.4	2.5
Non-contact & all calls made	25	1.5	1.5
Moved to unknown address	45	2.7	2.8

The most common categories of in-scope non-response were refusals (n=45), sample members moved to unknown address (n=45) and contact being made with the sample member but did not result in an interview or clear refusal (n=41). Another 25 sample members were unable to be contacted despite being located. Two sample members were found to be suffering significant illness or disability, and two were in an institution and were unable to undertake an interview. Compared with wave 2 outcomes, refusals and contact made with sample members but did not result in an interview are the two categories with largest increase in numbers.

Table 3 shows the response outcomes at wave 3 given the response status at wave 2. We find that 92 per cent of those who responded in wave 2 responded in wave 3. A substantial proportion (58 %) of wave 2 non-respondents who could not be contacted or had moved to unknown address responded in wave 3, suggesting that DEEWR address updates still played an important role in finding these respondents. Amongst those who refused to participate in wave 2, only 15.2 per cent responded during fieldwork whilst 63.6 per cent remained as refusals. It must be noted 45. 5 per cent (n=15) of the wave 2 refusals were strong refusals

and were not re-approached. Excluding the strong refusals, the proportion of refusals converted to participation goes up to 27.8 per cent (5 out of 18). For those where contact was able to be made but did not result in an interview in wave 2, 69.2 per cent responded during wave 3 fieldwork.

Table 3: Response transitions for wave 3

Wave 2 Response Status	Wave 3 Response Status (%)						
	Responded	*Incapable*	*Refusal*	*Contact made - but no response*	*Non-response*	*Out of scope*	*Total (n)*
Responded	92.0	0.3	1.3	2.1	2.8	1.6	1529
Incapable	33.3	0.0	33.3	0.0	0.0	33.3	3
Refusal	15.2	0.0	63.6	12.1	6.1	3.0	33
Contact made-non-response	69.2	0.0	3.9	15.4	7.7	3.9	26
Non-response	58.0	0.0	2.9	1.5	31.9	5.8	69
Out of scope	36.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	9.1	54.6	22
Total	87.9	0.2	2.7	2.4	4.2	2.6	1682 (N)

Considering the response outcomes across waves, 1,406 sample members responded all 3 waves (including incomplete interviews), which represents 83.6 per cent of the 1,682 wave 1 respondents. As shown in table 4, 71 (4.3%) sample members skipped wave 2 and responded in wave 3, whilst 124 wave 2 respondents (7.4% of 1,682) did not continue to participate in wave 3. As it stands only 81 (4.8%) sample members responded to the wave 1 survey only.

Table 4: Response outcomes as at end of Wave 3

Response pattern	*Observations*	*Percent*
Responded wave 1, 2 & 3	1,406	83.6
Responded wave 1 & 2	123	7.3
Responded wave 1 & 3	72	4.3
Responded in wave 1 only	81	4.8
Total	1,682	100.0

3.2   Sample Characteristics and response bias

In this section, we compare the characteristics (measured at wave 1) of the wave 3 and the wave 1 respondents. Similar to wave 2, there is no remarkable difference in characteristics between the two samples, but achievement rates do differ by characteristics, suggesting that attrition is not totally random.

As shown in Table 5, the achievement rate for males, indigenous Australians and those without children were lower than their counterparts. Immigrants from non-English speaking countries have a lower response rate than others which is not surprising given the possible language difficulties. Differences in achievement rates by income support payment type is not statistically significant (in a joint F test) despite the large difference between parenting payment and others. Although the achievement rate varies by age group, but the differences are not statistically significant. Similarly, persons who provided consent to data linkage in wave 1 are more likely to respond to wave 3 surveys, but the difference is again not large enough to achieve statistical significance.

We also investigated the characteristics of the 1,406 sample members who responded to all three waves (balanced panel). The differences in characteristics between the balanced panel and wave 1 respondents are slightly larger than the comparison between wave 3 and wave 1 responding sample. The finding is not surprising since the patterns of achievement rate by characteristics are fairly similar to those of wave 2 outcomes. However, the differences in characteristics between the two samples remains quite moderate. More detailed analysis on non-response using multivariate analysis is presented at Section 4.

Table 5: Sample Characteristics

Characteristic	Wave 1 respondents (n=1682)	Wave 3 respondents (n=1478)	Wave 3 Achievement rate (%)	Telephone Interviews (%)
Gender				
Male	54.6	53.7	86.4	14.8
Female	45.4	46.3	89.6	14.3
Age group				
15-17	9.5	10.0	92.5	18.1
18-20	16.6	16.6	87.8	16.8
21-24	12.6	12.4	86.3	18.4
25-34	21.7	21.0	84.9	14.8
35-44	20.0	20.0	87.8	12.2
45-54	14.0	14.3	89.8	11.1
55+	5.6	5.8	90.5	9.5
Indigenous status				
Non-Indigenous	80.3	81.1	88.8	15.6

Indigenous	19.7	18.9	84.0	10.5
Marital status				
Single	82.7	82.7	87.9	14.7
Partnered	17.2	17.2	87.6	14.1
Unknown	0.1	0.1		
Dependent children				
No	80.0	79.2	86.9	15.2
Yes	19.8	20.6	91.6	12.3
Unknown	0.2	0.2		
Country of birth				
Australia	87.5	87.6	88.0	14.8
Main English Speaking Country	5.8	6.0	90.8	15.3
Non-main English Speaking Country	6.7	6.4	83.9	10.7
Education level				
Less than Year 10	20.3	20.2	87.7	13.5
Year 12	48.6	49.0	88.5	14.3
Post School Qualification	21.3	21.2	87.2	15.6
University	8.6	8.5	87.5	17.4
Unknown	1.2	1.1	80.0	5.0
Consented to data linkage				
No	6.5	6.2	83.6	10.0
Yes	93.5	93.8	88.2	14.9
Benefit type				
Not on IS	9.0	9.1	88.7	15.9
Newstart Allowance	33.9	33.5	86.8	14.7
Youth Allowance	19.8	19.8	87.7	18.3
Disability Support Pension	23.1	22.7	86.6	10.8
Parenting Payment	10.9	11.5	92.9	14.8
Other	3.0	3.0	90.0	12.0
Unknown	0.4	0.4		

Notes:
1) Characteristics are based on wave 1 information.
2) The 4 terminated cases in wave 3 fieldwork are included as respondents.
3) Dependent children are those under 18 years living with the respondent all or most of the time.
4) Achievement rate and telephone interview rate are not reported for cells with less than 15 observations.

In addition to achievement rates, we also report the rate of telephone interview by sample characteristics. As mentioned, the proportion of respondents who were interviewed by telephone has increased from 10 per cent of wave 2 to 17 per cent of wave 3 interviews. This is potentially of importance given the argument that the survey mode may affect data quality (Jackle, Roberts & Lynn 2006). If the rate of telephone interview differs significantly by characteristics, the analysis of relationship between variables is more likely to be biased by the different interview mode.

In this study, telephone interviews are more likely to be applied to people with greater mobility given the majority of telephone interview cases involve persons who move out of a

Journeys Home survey region. Indigenous respondents have lower telephone interview rates despite their high mobility. One of the reasons may be their lower telephone accessibility which can also explain the lower interview achievement rate for the indigenous sample.

It is not surprising that the telephone interviewed sample tend to be younger and without dependent children. As a result, those who were on Youth Allowances were also more likely to be interviewed through telephone. Non income support recipients also had higher rates of telephone interviews. Immigrants from non-English speaking countries were also less likely to be interviewed through telephone, possibly due to the difficulty in communicating through the telephone using a second language.

Such differences do not necessarily mean that data quality is severely undermined. It just means that care has to be taken when analysing the data; for example, by adding a telephone interview dummy variable as one of the control variables.

3.3 Response rate by geographical area

Comparing the achievement rate of metropolitan areas to rural regions we find metropolitan areas had a mean of 89.9 per cent whilst rural regions had 87.1 per cent. The range of achievement rates in metropolitan areas was 78.4 per cent to 100 per cent. The rural regions had a rates ranging from 77.8 per cent to 95.8 per cent. Only two interview regions had an achievement rate below the target of 80 per cent. For one of the two interview areas, the low achievement rate was influenced by the large proportion of persons being out of scope and for the other area, a large proportion of sample members had moved to an unknown location.

Table 6: Response by geographical region

Geographical area	Wave 2 achievement rate	Wave 3 achievement rate	Difference in achievement rate
Sydney	87.4	88.1	0.8
Rest of NSW*includes ACT	91.0	90.6	-0.4
Melbourne	91.9	88.0	-4.2
Rest of VIC	95.4	89.2	-6.5
Brisbane	94.7	93.3	-1.5
Rest of QLD	93.1	92.1	-1.1
SA	93.8	91.1	-2.9
WA	90.4	90.2	-0.2
TAS	98.6	94.4	-4.3
NT	90.7	80.8	-10.9
Outside interview areas	79.7	79.7	0.0

Overseas		0.0	
Unknown		20.0	

Notes:
1) Geographical region is based on the sample member's last known location.
2) Rest of New South Wales includes the Australian Capital Territory.

Table 6 compares the achievement rates by geographical area between wave 2 and wave 3. All areas had a fall in their achievement rate except for Sydney which experienced a 0.8 per cent increase. The Northern Territory experienced the largest decrease of 10.9 per cent. This large decrease is explained by many sample members in that area being unable to be contacted, moving to an unknown address and contact not resulting in an interview.

Table 7 shows whether an interview was conducted within or outside the designated interview regions by sample members' response pattern. Overall, 88.0 per cent of wave 3 interviews were conducted within the interview regions. Respondents that skipped wave 2 and responded in wave 3 were more likely to have been interviewed outside the interview areas (23.9%) than those who responded in all waves (11.4%). This is not surprising given that outside interview areas have much lower response rates in both wave 2 and wave 3 shown in table 6.

Table 6: Response pattern by location

Response pattern	Outside interview areas	Inside interview areas	Total (n)
Responded wave 1, 2 & 3	11.4	88.6	1,406
Returning respondent in wave 3	23.6	76.4	72
Total	12.0	88.0	1478

3.4   Data linkage

One of the unique characteristics of the Journeys Home survey is the link to sample members' Centrelink records. To do this we asked for permission to link to their data. As at wave 2, 43 sample members had not yet provided consent. Only 27 were interviewed during fieldwork and nine provided consent. This leaves a total of 33 persons who have not yet given consent. Thus the overall proportion of sample members who have given consent has increased from 97.4 per cent in wave 2 to 98 per cent in wave 3.

3.5 Item non-response

Respondents have the option of opting out of the questions relating to violence and sexual violence as has been the case since wave 1. As in wave 2, they were only asked about their experiences in the last six months. Respondent's willingness to answer the violence questions continued on its upward trend with 98 per cent of respondents answering the section compared to 96 per cent in wave 2. Also, the proportion of those who answered the sexual violence question increased from 94.8 per cent in wave 2 to 96.5 per cent in wave 3.

New questions on history of mental illness and history of smoking and drug use were added to the wave 3 survey. The questions related to history of smoking and drug use had a low rate of item non-response. The questions related to history of mental illness had a higher than expected item non-response rate. In particular three out of five questions related to age of first diagnosis had an item non-response rate ranging from 7 per cent to 11 per cent.

In wave 2, a housing calendar was added to the battery of survey questions. At the time of the wave 2 technical report, we were unable to analyse the data because of the time needed to clean the data. We can state in this report that completion rates were very good with 94.8 per cent (n=662) of those who moved once or more having fully completed the calendar. Other sections of the survey had a low incidence of item non-response.

3.6 Interviewer observations

Interviewers recorded their assessment of the interview after it had ended. Interviewers provided responses to questions on problems that may have influenced the respondent's answers which included respondent's understanding of questions, presence of other people, health problems and communication problems (hearing, reading and speaking).

The respondent's understanding of questions in wave 3 was high with only 1.2 per cent (n=17) being recorded as having a poor or very poor understanding. These levels were similar to that of wave 2. The levels of co-operation and trust were quite high as well. The levels of trust were similar to wave 2, with the proportion of those being not suspicious of the survey just above 97 per cent. The proportion of respondents reporting as being willing to co-operate (those rated levels of co-operation between excellent and fair) increased from 97.4 per cent in wave 2 to 99.1 per cent in wave 3.

The number of respondents having at least one problem when interviewed decreased from 12 per cent in wave 2 to 11 per cent in wave 3. Mental illness was the most recorded problem amongst respondents (4%). Other problems which included poor eyesight, language

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problems, reading difficulties, incoherence, confusion on the part of the respondent and hearing problems each only represented one per cent of the sample. The proportion of respondent's recorded as being under the influence of alcohol or drugs was quite low at 2.7 per cent. It is possible that those interviewed while under the influence of some sort of substance were still able to respond reasonably and their impairment would have negligible impact on responses. For those respondents who were severely influenced by drugs and /or alcohol and not able to give sensible answers, the interview would have been rescheduled for another time.

In some interviews, other adults were present during the interview. The presence of other adults may affect the responses of the respondent especially if the topic is sensitive. The interviewers recorded if the presence of these adults may have influenced the respondent's answers. There were 245 interviews that had another adult present, only for 15.9 per cent was their presence considered to have influenced the respondent.

4   Weighting

Weights are generated to take into account the unequal probability of inclusion into the final responding sample. Three types of weight are provided in the data set.

- Design weight adjusts for the probability of selection into the wave 1 sample. The design weight remains unchanged for wave 3.
- Response weight adjusts for the differential probability of response.
- Population weight adjusts for design and response factors.

Details of how the response weight and population weight were created are given below.

4.1   Response weight

Response weights correct for the differential probability of response among that sample that was activated, excluding individuals who were recorded as deceased prior the last information update provided by DEEWR during wave 1 fieldwork (28 October 2011). Two types of response weights are produced. The wave 3 response weight is defined as the wave 1 response weight multiplied by the inverse probability of wave 3 response given response in wave 1:

$$W_{resp}^{wave3} = \frac{W_{resp}^{wave1}}{P(Resp^{wave3} = 1 \mid Resp^{wave1} = 1)}$$

The wave 3 balanced-panel response weight is defined as the wave 1 response weight multiplied by the inverse probability of response to both waves 2 and 3 given response in wave 1:

$$W_{resp}^{BPwave3} = \frac{W_{resp}^{wave1}}{P((Resp^{wave2} = 1 \;\&\; Resp^{wave3} = 1) \mid Resp^{wave1} = 1))}$$

The probabilities of wave 3 response and of both waves 2 and 3 response are created by estimating logistic regression models with variables from the administrative dataset (RED) extracted in February 2013 and from wave 1 survey data. The probability of response in both models is capped at 0.2. That is the probability of response is set to 0.2 when the predicted probability of the observation is lower than 0.2.

The response weights are then rescaled so that the sums of the weights are equal to the size of the responding samples (i.e., 1,406 for waves 2 and 3 response and 1,478 for wave 3 response).

For the purposes of weighting, a case is considered a 'response' if a person is interviewed or has been identified as overseas or deceased (through either DEEWR information updates or other reliable sources), and a 'non-response' is all other outcomes.[2]

A complication in estimating the wave 2 and wave 3 response probabilities is that not all wave 1 respondents provided consent to the Centrelink data linkage. For those who did not provide consent, we can only use either wave 1 survey data or RED data but not both. To fully utilize the available information, four separate models were estimated to obtain the predicted probabilities of response. We first estimate two logistic models using variables derived from RED for the entire sample (n=1,682) to obtain the predicted probabilities of the wave 3 response and of both waves 2 and 3 responses for those individuals who did not

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[2] In wave 1, deceased sample members were excluded from the analysis instead of counted as response. This is because the initial sample was drawn from income support recipients. The wave 1 survey period is not far from sampling reference period so it is unlikely that sample members moved off income support prior the time of death. Therefore, we assume all deaths were known and thus excluded from the analysis. However, in waves 2 and 3, the same assumption is unlikely to hold (there may be some sample members who passed away after moved off income support and therefore their death may not be captured in the Centrelink data base). To allow for this uncertainty, death is counted as response in the logistic regression model.

provide data linkage consent.[3] Next, variables from wave 1 survey response data are added to the models after restricting the sample to those individuals who provided consent (n=1,648) to obtain the predicted probabilities based on full information.

In general, the explanatory variables in the balance panel model includes individuals' information at wave 1 and between wave 1 and 3 and the variables for wave 3 response model includes information at wave 1, start of wave 3 fieldwork and the period between wave 2 and wave 3 interview period. Detailed description of variable definition and summary statistics are presented in Appendix table A1. The following summarises the explanatory variables from RED and survey administration data used in the final model. [4]

- demographic variables;

- income support status at the start of wave 2 and at the start of wave 3 survey period and the proportion of time on income support in between wave 1 and wave 3;

- personal characteristics while on income support, which include:

  - living arrangement (type of accommodation, and numbers of moves in between waves 2 and 3 interview periods);

  - proxies of the likelihood of contacting Centrelink between the wave 1 and wave 3 interview periods;

  - whether the partner (if any) was on income support;

  - whether the individual was recorded as homeless in RED.

- whether the individual was ever recorded as an ex-offender (since 1998) and whether the record was recent (i.e. after the wave 2 interview period);

- whether the individual is assigned an interviewer that is different from the previous wave and whether the interviewer is a new interviewer to the survey;

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[3] We compared regression results from the survey data only model and the RED only model. The RED only model has better explanatory power and therefore was applied for the non-consent cases.

4 Many other variables were also tested that can potentially explain the response, such as education, mental health, etc. Due to the small number of non-response observations, inclusion of too many variables may run into degree of freedom problem and yield to results where many variables have large coefficients and large standard errors. As a result the final model only includes basic demographic variables and variables that are statistically significant at 10 per cent (with only a couple of exceptions) to avoid introducing a large amount of noise in the probability estimates.

- geographical area at start of waves 2 and 3 survey periods (three categories are included─ within survey clusters in major capitals, within clusters in regional areas, or outside survey clusters).

Explanatory variables from survey response data include:

- equivalised family income;

- self-reported numbers of moves 6 months before the wave 1 interview and homeless status at the wave 1 interview;

- whether mobile phone numbers are provided by respondents at the wave 1 interview;

- wave 1 interview length.

Table 8 presents results of two logistic regressions for the probability of response to both waves 2 and 3 (i.e. balanced-panel model). As noted above, one uses administrative data (RED) only while the other uses both RED and survey data. Similarly, Table 9 presents results of two logistic regressions for the probability of response to wave 3 only. The results in Tables 9 and 10 show a large degree of consistency. Although not all control variables are significant in both tables, those that are significant in both tables are of the same sign and this sign coincides with the results for the probability of response to wave 2 presented in the wave 2 Technical Report. The results are summarised as follows:

- Demographics do not play a large role. Only indigenous Australians/Torres Strait Islanders are less likely to respond.

- Being on income support increases the probability of responding in both waves 2 and 3, and the effect is reinforced if the benefit payment is activity tested. For wave 3, those on non-activity-tested benefit are the less likely to respond (Table 10).

- Those who were not on income support 100 per cent of the time between waves 1 and 3 are less likely to respond in both waves 2 and 3.

- Singles and those with a partner not on income support are less likely to respond in both waves 2 and 3.

- Those who were recorded as ex-offender, and more particularly those who were recently recorded as ex-offender, are less likely to respond.

- Not being in the rent tables increases the response probability (as does not paying rent in the wave 3 model). Those who are not in the rent tables are those who did not apply for rent assistance. Of those who do not pay rent, they may be home owners or have other living arrangements that do not require rent assistance. Hence, they are more likely to have stable housing and are more likely to respond.

- The number of moves between waves 2 and 3 reduces the probability of responding to wave 3 (but it is significant only if moved two or more times). However, numbers of moves does not matter for the probability of responding to both wave 2 and 3. In addition, those who moved outside interview regions are also less likely to respond.

- Those who were assigned to a different interviewer are less likely to respond, whereas those who were assigned to one of the new interviewer are more likely to respond.

- Job seekers who had been recorded as homeless beyond control of themselves between waves 1 and 3 interview periods reduces response probabilities, while a change in the homelessness status increases the probability of responding (possibly due to their higher currency of contact details in Centrelink data base and higher level of trust to the government departments)

- In line with previous results, income does not appear to impact on results.

- Those who were homeless in wave 1 (according to survey data) are less likely to respond, whereas those who provided mobile phone contact are more likely to respond.

- Consistent with previous results, those who had a relatively short interview (less than 30 minutes) in wave 1 are less likely to participate in waves 2 and 3.

Table 8: Logistic regression results for probability of response in both waves 2 and 3

Variable	Administrative data model		Survey and administrative data model	
	Coeff.	Std. Err.	Coeff.	Std. Err.
Female	0.046	0.180	-0.010	0.191
Indigenous	-0.390*	0.186	-0.333#	0.196
Country of Birth (Australia)				

Variable	Administrative data model		Survey and administrative data model	
	Coeff.	Std. Err.	Coeff.	Std. Err.
Main English speaking countries	0.520	0.399	0.369	0.401
Other non-main English speaking countries	-0.475#	0.286	-0.381	0.308
Age (15-17)				
18-20	-0.524	0.470	-0.565	0.493
21-24	-0.844#	0.470	-0.915#	0.494
24-35	-0.654	0.464	-0.591	0.489
34-44	-0.507	0.474	-0.537	0.499
45-54	-0.552	0.488	-0.456	0.517
55+	-0.365	0.573	-0.138	0.597
Had child(ren) in at least one wave	0.167	0.262	0.063	0.268
Marital status between waves (Partnered in at least 1 wave)				
Single both waves	-0.506	0.325	-0.601#	0.340
Missing	-0.154	0.483	-0.122	0.517
Partner not on Income Support in at least 1 wave	-1.064*	0.537	-1.040#	0.577
Benefit payment (Received in both wave 2 and 3)				
In one wave only	-0.662	0.458	-0.685	0.489
Neither wave 2 or 3	-0.819	0.562	-0.993#	0.598
Proportion of time on Income Support between wave 1 and 3 (Entire period)				
None	0.814	0.599	1.177#	0.689
Some of the time	-0.362	0.285	-0.392	0.295
On activity tested payment	0.382*	0.185	0.365#	0.192
Recent ex-offender (incarcerated)	-0.838*	0.396	-0.909*	0.412
Ever an ex-offender (incarcerated)	-0.703**	0.197	-0.635**	0.209
Rent payment between wave 2 and 3 (Private or government)				
Other type	-0.271	0.187	-0.144	0.198
Not in rent table	1.232**	0.436	1.092*	0.443
Changed rent type	-0.097	0.231	-0.091	0.238
Contacted Centrelink anytime between middle of wave 1 and middle of wave 3	0.322	0.201	0.329	0.208
Recent vulnerability: Homeless beyond control of customer	-0.399#	0.204	-0.373#	0.206

Variable	Administrative data model		Survey and administrative data model	
	Coeff.	Std. Err.	Coeff.	Std. Err.
Flagged as Homeless at wave 1 midpoint date	-0.082	0.162		
Homeless flag changed between middle of wave 1 and middle of wave 3	0.379#	0.213	0.389#	0.217
Geographical location at start of wave 2 and 3 (Regional area both waves)				
Major capital city both waves	0.006	0.184	-0.013	0.192
Outside interview region at start of either wave	-1.253**	0.226	-1.216**	0.235
Changed to location within interview regions	0.121	0.460	0.118	0.485
Change in interviewer (No change)				
Change in wave 2 but not in wave 3	-1.177**	0.218	-1.193**	0.228
Change in wave3 but not in wave 2	-1.134**	0.202	-1.141**	0.209
Change interviewer in both waves	-2.355**	0.246	-2.353**	0.258
New interviewer	1.671**	0.319	1.753**	0.329
Equivalised family income (less than $750)				
$750+			-0.157	0.340
Missing			1.048#	0.541
Homeless at wave 1 interview			-0.551**	0.182
Provided mobile phone contact at wave 1 interview			0.523*	0.208
Interview length (40 to 79 minutes)				
Less than 30 minutes			-1.067#	0.598
30 to 40 minutes			0.226	0.294
80+ minutes			0.461#	0.267
Constant	3.940**	0.621	3.610**	0.653
Pseudo R-squared	0.192		0.209	
Sample size	1682		1649	
Log-likelihood	-583.831		-547.001	

# p<0.10, * p<0.05, ** p<0.01

Table 9: Logistic regression results for probability of response in wave 3

Variable	Administrative data model		Survey and administrative data model	
	Coeff.	*Std. Err.*	*Coeff.*	*Std. Err.*
Female	-0.085	0.197	-0.139	0.209
Indigenous	-0.350#	0.204	-0.306	0.215
Country of Birth (Australia)				
Main English speaking countries	0.33	0.453	0.175	0.457
Other non-main English speaking countries	-0.534#	0.318	-0.457	0.343
Age (15-17)				
18-20	-0.328	0.518	-0.342	0.526
21-24	-0.624	0.520	-0.681	0.529
24-35	-0.635	0.512	-0.564	0.521
34-44	-0.432	0.520	-0.488	0.527
45-54	-0.441	0.542	-0.368	0.555
55+	-0.134	0.661	-0.015	0.669
Have child(ren) at start of wave 3 fieldwork	0.239	0.302	0.179	0.308
Benefit payment (Activity tested)				
None	-0.974**	0.229	-0.919**	0.242
Non-activity tested payment	-0.388#	0.207	-0.342	0.215
Ever an ex-offender (in prison)	-0.791**	0.200	-0.762**	0.211
Rent payment at start of wave 3 fieldwork (Private)				
Government	1.815#	1.034	1.677	1.037
Lodgings	-0.215	0.214	-0.166	0.224
No rent	-0.125	0.212	-0.029	0.222
Other	0.893#	0.543	1.160#	0.617
Not in rent table	1.632**	0.481	1.531**	0.484
Number of moves between middle of wave 2 and middle of 3 fieldwork (None)				
1	-0.29	0.203	-0.331	0.209
2 or more times	-0.626**	0.239	-0.627*	0.248
Geographical location at start of wave 3 fieldwork (Regional area)				
Major capital city	0.033	0.184	0.015	0.192
Outside interview region	-0.993**	0.265	-1.033**	0.274

Variable	Administrative data model		Survey and administrative data model	
	Coeff.	Std. Err.	Coeff.	Std. Err.
Ever vulnerability: Homeless beyond control of customer	-0.557**	0.172	-0.499**	0.182
Contacted Centrelink anytime between middle of wave 1 fieldwork and wave 3 fieldwork	0.119	0.200	0.142	0.209
Changed to different continuing interviewer	-1.031**	0.185	-1.045**	0.193
Homeless at wave 1 interview			-0.317	0.200
Provided mobile phone contact at wave 1 interview			0.430#	0.222
Interview length (40 to 79 minutes)				
Less than 30 minutes			-1.124#	0.588
30 to 40 minutes			0.171	0.323
80+ minutes			0.407	0.304
Constant	4.020**	0.552	3.720**	0.589
Pseudo R-squared	0.133		0.138	
Sample size	1682		1649	
Log-likelihood	-508.652		-477.494	

# p<0.10, * p<0.05, ** p<0.01

4.2 Population Weight

The wave 3 population weight is the wave 1 population weight adjusted for the probability of response in wave 3, while the wave 3 balanced-panel weight is the wave 1 population weight adjusted for the probability of response in both waves 2 and 3. That is, the wave 1 population weight is multiplied by the inverse probability of responding in wave 3 (or in both waves 2 and 3 for the balanced-panel weight), with group specific rescaling factors so that the sum of the weights across all cases that had an acceptable outcomes in each of the homeless, at risk and vulnerable group equals the size of population in that group. The acceptable outcomes include all respondents, persons overseas during the survey period or person deceased after 28 October 2011. The population here refers to the initial Journeys Home population in clusters that were not undersize (i.e., Journeys Home survey population) excluding those who

were deceased prior 28 October 2011[5]. The size of population is 22,568 for the 'homeless' group; 13,101 for the 'at-risk' group; and 74,682 for the 'vulnerable' group.

The sum of the weights for the wave 3 responding sample is 109,782 ('homeless' 22,479; 'at risk' 13,101; 'vulnerable' 74,202). The sum of the weights for the responding balanced-panel sample is 108,716 ('homeless' 22,421; 'at risk' 12,947; 'vulnerable' 73,348).

We also include another population weight in the data set — the population weight rescaled so the sum of the weights equals the size of the responding sample (i.e., 1,478 for wave 3 and 1,406 for the balanced panel).

4.3   On the use of weights

Wave 3 weights should be used when the analysis focuses on wave 3 only (or wave 1 and wave 3, as all wave 3 respondents who also responded to wave 1). More generally, wave-specific weights are designed to be used when the analysis focuses on one particular wave or wave 1 and that specific wave (as we only follow wave 1 respondents), whereas for balanced-sample analyses, it is recommended to use the balanced-panel weights.

As mentioned, response weights adjust for the differential probability of response but not taking into account the design factors, while population weights account for both differential response and sampling probabilities. Population weights should be used to derive population-representative statistics. However, it is important to keep in mind that the population here refers to the Journeys Home survey population only, not the Australian population or income support population. Journeys Home population is a very specific group of income support recipients that were flagged by Centrelink as 'homeless' or 'at risk of homelessness' in May 2011 and a vulnerable group defined by the Melbourne Institute. The vulnerable group were those who were not flagged by Centrelink and the predicted probability of being flagged was at the top two per cent among all income support recipients. See Wooden et. al (2012) or the wave 1 technical report for further details on the definition of Journeys Home population.

Also note that the population weights for the sample in the vulnerable group are much higher than those in the other two groups because of the low sampling rate (much lower than the other two groups). If a researcher would like the statistics to be influenced more evenly from

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[5] To be eligible for inclusion in the final sample of Journey Home survey, a cluster in a major city had to have at least 45 flagged persons (that is, persons flagged as either homeless or at risk) and a cluster in a regional or rural centre at least 65 flagged persons. More details on the sample design are described in the Journey Home wave 1 technical report.

the three groups, one may like to consider using the response weight or re-scale the population weight by group-specific scaling factors using the sum of population by 'homeless', 'at risk' and 'vulnerable' groups listed in section 4.2 to lower the effects of the unequal sampling rate.

5 References

Jackle A., Roberts C., and Lynn P., 2006, Telephone versus Face-to-Face Interviewing: Mode Effects on Data Quality and Likely Causes Report on Phase II of the ESS-Gallup Mixed Mode Methodology Project, ISER Working Paper 2006-41, University of Essex, Colchester.

Scutella R., Johnson G., Moschion J., Tseng Y. and Wooden M., 2012, Wave 1 findings, Journeys Home Research Report No.1.

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6 Appendix

Table A1 Variable Description and Summary Statistics

		All Sample (n=1682)		Sample that gave data linkage consent (n=1649)	
Variable	**Categories**	**Frequency (n)**	**Proportion (%)**	**Frequency (n)**	**Proportion (%)**
Gender	Male	919	54.6	899	54.5
	Female	763	45.4	750	45.5
Indigenous status	No	1350	80.3	1323	80.2
	Yes	332	19.7	326	19.8
Country of birth	Australia	1472	87.5	1444	87.6
	Main English Speaking Country (these include UK, Ireland, Canada, New Zealand, USA and South Africa)	98	5.8	97	5.9
	Non-main English Speaking Country	112	6.7	108	6.5
Age category reported at wave 1 interview	15-17	69	4.1	69	4.2
	18-20	299	17.8	297	18.0
	21-24	253	15.0	251	15.2
	25-34	361	21.5	351	21.3
	35-44	343	20.4	334	20.3
	45-54	255	15.2	248	15.0
	55+	102	6.1	99	6.0
Had children in at least one wave	Never	1364	81.1	1332	80.8
	Had child(ren) in at least either wave 2 or 3	318	18.9	317	19.2
Changes in marital status between waves. That is changes in status between waves 2 and 3	Partnered in at least one wave	189	11.2	184	11.2
	Single both waves	1214	72.2	1193	72.3
	Missing	279	16.6	272	16.5

Variable	Categories	All Sample (n=1682)		Sample that gave data linkage consent (n=1649)	
		Frequency (n)	Proportion (%)	Frequency (n)	Proportion (%)
Partner not on Income Support in at least one wave (either wave 2 or 3 fieldwork)	No	1646	97.9	1614	97.9
	Yes	36	2.1	35	2.1
Receiving benefits at the start of both waves 2 and 3	In both waves	1356	80.6	1332	80.8
	In only one wave	200	11.9	195	11.8
	Neither wave 2 or 3	126	7.5	122	7.4
Proportion of time on Income Support between middle of wave 1 fieldwork and middle of wave 3 fieldwork	None	48	2.9	46	2.8
	Some of the time (0%<x<100%)	449	26.7	440	26.7
	Entire Period	1185	70.5	1163	70.5
On activity tested benefit types at start of wave 2 or start of wave 3	No	833	49.5	811	49.2
Activity tested payments include Newstart Allowance, Youth Allowance Other, Parenting Payment Single and Parenting Payment Partnered	Yes	849	50.5	838	50.8
Recent ex-offender	No	1637	97.3	1604	97.3
That is released from prison between middle of wave 1 fieldwork to the middle of wave 3 fieldwork	Yes	45	2.7	45	2.7

Variable	Categories	All Sample (n=1682)		Sample that gave data linkage consent (n=1649)	
		Frequency (n)	Proportion (%)	Frequency (n)	Proportion (%)
Ever ex-offender. That is ever been prison prior to wave 1 up to the middle of wave 3 fieldwork	No	1330	79.1	1310	79.4
	Yes	352	20.9	339	20.6
Rent payment type at start of wave 2 fieldwork and start of wave 3 fieldwork	Private or government	535	31.8	520	31.5
	Other type (includes: Mooring fees, site fees, Other housing organisation, net rent being assessed, lodgings and other	698	41.5	687	41.7
	Not in rent table	150	8.9	146	8.9
	Changed rent type	299	17.8	296	18.0
Had contact with Centrelink between the middle of wave 1 and the middle of wave 3 fieldwork	None	1036	61.6	1012	61.4
	Contact	646	38.4	637	38.6
Recent vulnerability Homeless beyond control of customer. This measured between middle of wave 1 and middle of wave 3 fieldwork	No	1406	83.6	1374	83.3
	Yes	276	16.4	275	16.7
Ever had vulnerability of Homeless beyond control of customer. This measured on or before the middle of wave 3 fieldwork	No	1098	65.3	1074	65.1
	Yes	584	34.7	575	34.9

Variable	Categories	All Sample (n=1682)		Sample that gave data linkage consent (n=1649)	
		Frequency (n)	Proportion (%)	Frequency (n)	Proportion (%)
Flagged by Centrelink as Homeless flag at middle of wave 1	No	736	43.8	718	43.5
	Yes	946	56.2	931	56.5
Centrelink changed homelessness flag between the middle of wave 1 fieldwork and middle of wave 3 fieldwork	No	1333	79.3	1307	79.3
	Yes	349	20.7	342	20.7
Change in geographical location between wave 2 and 3, measured at the start of fieldwork for wave 2 and start of wave 3 fieldwork	Regional area both waves	703	41.8	695	42.1
	Major capital city both waves	735	43.7	714	43.3
	Outside interview region at the start of either	211	12.5	208	12.6
	Changed location between waves but never outside interview regions	33	2	32	1.9
Change in interviewer between wave 2 and 3. This is a change to different continuing interviewer that is one who has done wave 1 interviews.	No Change	845	50.2	830	50.3
	Change in wave 2 but not in wave 3	292	17.4	285	17.3
	Change in wave 3 but not in wave 2	343	20.4	338	20.5
	Change in both waves	202	12	196	11.9
New interviewer. If respondent has been interviewed by an interviewer who did not do interviews during wave 1 fieldwork	No	1470	87.4	1438	87.2
	Yes	212	12.6	211	12.8

Variable	Categories	All Sample (n=1682)		Sample that gave data linkage consent (n=1649)	
		Frequency (n)	Proportion (%)	Frequency (n)	Proportion (%)
Equivalised family income as at wave 1 interview; this is total sample member and partner's income divided by the square root of the family size. Family members include sample member plus sample member's partner and dependent children (under 18 living with the sample member).	Less than $750	1488	88.5	1467	89.0
	$750+	106	6.3	104	6.3
	Missing	88	5.2	78	4.7
Homeless status. Homeless status derived from wave 1 survey data, using the Melbourne Institute definition[1]. Any classified as primary, secondary or tertiary homeless under the Melbourne Institute homeless definition is in the homeless category.	Not Homeless	1286	76.5	1258	76.3
	Homeless	396	23.5	391	23.7
Length of wave 1 interview. The cut points were derived by taking the points that were 1 and 2 standard deviations from the mean.	less than 30 minutes	18	1.1	18	1.1
	30 to 40	159	9.5	154	9.3
	40 to 80	1304	77.5	1278	77.5
	80+	201	12	199	12.1

		All Sample (n=1682)		Sample that gave data linkage consent (n=1649)	
Variable	**Categories**	**Frequency (n)**	**Proportion (%)**	**Frequency (n)**	**Proportion (%)**
Location of respondent using last known location at the start of wave 3 fieldwork	Major capital city area	728	43.3	719	43.6
	Regional area	776	46.1	755	45.8
	Outside interview region	178	10.6	175	10.6
Number of moves from the middle of wave 2 fieldwork to the middle of wave 3 fieldwork	No moves	1100	65.4	1078	65.4
	1 move	382	22.7	374	22.7
	2 or more moves	200	11.9	197	11.9
Had contact with Centrelink between the middle of wave 2 and the middle of wave 3 fieldwork	No	1285	76.4	1260	76.4
	Yes	397	23.6	389	23.6
Assigned to a different interview for wave 2 fieldwork. A change in the interviewer excludes those re-assigned to team 1800.	Kept the same interviewer at the start of wave 2	1137	67.6	1115	67.6
	Re-assigned to different continuing interviewer	545	32.4	534	32.4
Rent payment type at the start of wave 3 fieldwork	Private	619	36.8	604	36.6
	No rent	375	22.3	370	22.4
	Lodgings	357	21.2	351	21.3
	Government	46	2.7	44	2.7
	Other (includes: Mooring fees, site fees, Other housing organisation, net rent being assessed and other)	85	5.1	84	5.1
	Not in rent table	200	11.9	196	11.9
Activity tested	Not on IS	249	14.8	241	14.6

Variable	Categories	All Sample (n=1682)		Sample that gave data linkage consent (n=1649)	
		Frequency (n)	Proportion (%)	Frequency (n)	Proportion (%)
benefit payment at start of wave 3 fieldwork	Non activity-tested benefit	744	44.2	726	44
	Activity tested benefit	689	41	682	41.4
Provided mobile number in wave 1	No	283	16.8	273	16.6
	Yes	1399	83.2	1376	83.4

1) Scutella R., Johnson G., Moschion J., Tseng Y. and Wooden M., 2012, Wave 1 findings, Journeys Home Research Report No.1