



**HOUSEHOLD ENERGY
CONSUMPTION SURVEY (HECS):
USER GUIDE, AUSTRALIA, 2011-12
(cat. no 4671.0)**

PROMPT CARDS

PROMPT CARDS

Section 1 : Main Income and Housing Content

G1 – G41

P0 – P24

Section 2 : Additional Energy Content

GE1 – GE16

PE1 – PE5

Sample Only

1. Real Estate Agent
2. State or Territory Housing Authority

Person **not** in the same household

3. Parent / Other relative not in the same household
4. Other unrelated person not in the same household

Caravan Park

5. Manager of caravan park / Owner of caravan park

Employer

6. Employer - Defence Housing Authority
7. Employer - Government
8. Other Employer

Other

9. Housing co-operative / Community / Church group
10. Other (please specify)

You may choose more than one of the following:

1. Water rates
2. General council rates
3. Combined water and general council rates

Sample Only

You may choose more than one of the following:

1. Combined water and general council rates
2. Water and sewerage rates
3. General council rates
4. Body corporate
5. Land tax

Sample Only

1. Real Estate Agent
2. State or Territory Housing Authority

Person living in the same household

3. Parent / Other relative in the same household
4. Other unrelated person in the same household

Person **not** living in the same household

5. Parent / Other relative not in the same household
6. Other unrelated person not in the same household

Caravan Park

7. Manager of caravan park / Owner of a caravan park

Employer

8. Employer - Defence Housing Authority
9. Employer - Government
10. Other Employer

Other

11. Housing co-operative / Community / Church group
12. Other (please specify)

You may choose more than one of the following:

1. Combined building and contents insurance
2. Building insurance (separate from body corporate)
3. Contents insurance
4. Personal belongings insurance

Sample Only

Examples of Household Contents:

- Bedroom
(e.g. bed, dressing table, quilts, blankets, clothes, jewellery, perfume)
- Dining Room
(e.g. dining table, chairs, display units)
- Lounge Room
(e.g. coffee table, lounge suite, TV, VCR, Set Top Box game console / games, DVD player / recorder, stereo units, videos / DVDs/ CDs)
- Kitchen
(e.g. toaster, food processor, microwave, refrigerator, freezer, dishwasher, crockery, cutlery)
- Study
(e.g. home computer, fax, printer, desk, chair, computer games)
- Laundry
(e.g. washing machine, dryer)
- Outdoor Furniture and Tools
(e.g. table, chairs, portable BBQ, lawn mower, hoses)
- Fittings
(e.g. carpet, curtains, rugs, mirrors, vases, clocks)
- Other
(e.g. vacuum cleaners, sewing machines, aquarium, plants, toys, musical instruments, linen, collectables, luggage)

You may choose more than one of the following:

1. Repainting
2. Reroofing
3. Electrical work
4. Plumbing
5. Other types of repairs or maintenance

Sample Only

Examples of properties other than this dwelling:

- Rental properties
- Second Homes
- Holiday homes
- Vacant land
- Commercial properties
- Farms

Sample Only

Examples of vehicles:

1. Car / Utility / Van / Truck
2. Motorcycle
3. Caravan
4. Trailer
5. Boat
6. Bicycle
7. Aircraft (e.g. airplanes, helicopters, microlights, gliders)
8. Other type of vehicle (e.g. tractors, jet skis)

Examples of **personal / household** loans and mortgages

Loan purpose:

- to buy or build this property (including alterations and additions)
- to buy or build other property (including alterations and additions)
- holiday homes and vacant land
- personal use
- hire purchase
- holidays
- motor vehicles
- another purpose

Main purpose of loan:

1. To buy or build this property
2. To buy or build other property
3. For alterations and additions to this property
4. For alterations and additions to other property
5. To buy motor vehicles
6. For a holiday
7. For another purpose

Sample Only

Examples of government charges:

- Government Tax
- State Tax
- Stamp Duty
- Other government charges on financial institutions

Sample Only

Examples of credit cards and charge accounts:

1. VISA card

- MasterCard
- American Express
- Diner's Club
- Store account cards
(e.g. Myer, BP)

Note: Exclude debit cards including VISA debit and MasterCard debit cards.

You may choose more than one of the following:

1. Superannuation
2. Motor vehicle
3. Computer
4. Child care
5. Telephone
6. Housing (rent / mortgage)
7. Household / personal bills
8. Other (please specify)

You may choose more than one of the following:

Non-cash Benefits

11. Superannuation (any employer contributions over and above the minimum compulsory contributions)
12. Motor Vehicle and / or associated running costs (ie petrol, petrol/fuel card, mileage allowance,)
13. Computer
14. Child care
15. Telephone and / or contribution to private telephone calls
16. Housing rent free or at less than normal market rent
17. Car park
18. Shares
19. Low interest loans
20. Other (please specify)

11. Newstart Allowance
12. Service Pension (DVA)
(exclude superannuation, e.g. DFRDB)
13. Disability Support Pension (Centrelink)
(exclude Disability Pension, Dept. Veterans' Affairs)
14. Wife Pension (Centrelink)
15. Sickness Allowance
16. Widow Allowance (Centrelink)
17. Special Benefit
18. Partner Allowance
19. Carer Payment
(exclude Carer Allowance)

You may choose more than one of the following:

1. War Widow(er)'s Pension (DVA)
(including income support supplement DVA)
2. Disability Pension (DVA)
3. Parenting Payment
4. Carer Allowance (Child Disability Allowance and
Domiciliary Nursing Benefit)
5. Youth Allowance
6. Austudy / ABSTUDY
7. Overseas Government Pensions / Benefits

You may choose more than one of the following:

1. Baby Bonus
2. Child Care Rebate
3. Utilities Allowance
4. Pension Supplement
5. Seniors Supplement
6. Carer Supplement
7. Any other government payment
(e.g. Pensioner Education Supplement, Double Orphan Pension, Rehabilitation Allowance, Foster Carer Allowance, Asbestos Pension, Jail Allowance and Refugee Pension)

You may choose more than one of the following:

11. Newstart Allowance
12. Service Pension (DVA)
(exclude superannuation, e.g. DFRDB)
13. Disability Support Pension (Centrelink)
(exclude Disability Pension, Dept. Veterans' Affairs)
14. Wife Pension (Centrelink)
15. Sickness Allowance
16. Widow Allowance (Centrelink)
17. Special Benefit
18. Partner Allowance
19. Carer Payment
(exclude Carer Allowance)

You may choose more than one of the following:

1. Australian Age Pension
2. War Widow(er)'s Pension (DVA)
(including income support supplement)
3. Disability Pension (DVA)
4. Parenting Payment
5. Carer Allowance (Child Disability Allowance &
Domiciliary Nursing Benefit)
6. Youth Allowance
7. Austudy / ABSTUDY
8. Overseas Government Pensions / Benefits

You may choose more than one of the following:

1. Baby Bonus
2. Child Care Rebate
3. Utilities Allowance
4. Pension Supplement
5. Seniors Supplement
6. Carer Supplement
7. Any other government payment
(e.g. Pensioner Education Supplement, Double Orphan Pension, Rehabilitation Allowance, Foster Carer Allowance, Asbestos Pension, Jail Allowance and Refugee Pension)

You may choose more than one of the following:

1. Bank accounts
(including everyday accounts, savings accounts, cheque accounts, term deposit accounts, etc.)
2. Offset accounts
3. Debentures and / or bonds
4. Shares
5. Public Unit Trusts
(such as cash management trusts, property trusts, equity trusts, managed funds etc.)
6. Loans to persons not in this household
7. Any other financial investments
(excluding superannuation)

You may choose more than one of the following:

1. Child support / maintenance
2. Workers' compensation
3. Accident / sickness insurance
(e.g. Income protection)

Sample Only

You may choose more than one of the following:

1. Superannuation
2. Life insurance
3. Inheritance or bequests
4. Windfall gains / winnings
5. Accident compensation
6. Workers' compensation
7. Legal damages
8. Matrimonial settlement
9. Other (please specify)

You may choose more than one of the following:

1. Married or moved in with a new spouse / partner
2. Separated from a spouse / partner
3. Widowed

Sample Only

Examples of children's assets:

- Bank accounts
- Assets held in trusts
- Shares, bonds, debentures
- Jewellery
- Property held in trust for children

Sample Only

You may choose more than one of the following:

1. A before or after school care program
2. A long day care centre
3. Family day care
4. An occasional care centre
5. Vacation care
6. Any other formal child care service
(excluding Preschool / Kinder)

Sample Only

You may choose more than one of the following:

1. A long day care centre
2. Family day care
3. An occasional care centre
4. Any other formal child care service
(excluding Preschool / Kinder)

Sample Only

You may choose more than one of the following:

1. Child's other parent living elsewhere
2. Family members (in the same household)
3. Grandparents
4. Other Family members
5. Friends
6. Neighbours
7. Babysitters
8. Nanny
9. Other arrangements

- A before or after school care program
- A long day care centre
- Family day care
- An occasional care centre
- Vacation care
- Any other formal child care service (excluding
Preschool / Kinder)

Sample Only

11. Prefer to look after child
12. Child too young / old
13. Transport / distance
14. Cost / too expensive
15. Booked out / no places
16. Time / days available not suitable
17. Child's preference
18. Child has special needs (illness / disability)
19. Not flexible enough / not available at short notice
20. Other child care reason (please specify)

Sample Only



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ADDITIONAL ENERGY CONTENT

PROMPT CARDS

You may choose more than one of the following:

1. Electricity
2. Mains gas
3. Bottled gas / LPG (excluding small bottles used occasionally outside this dwelling e.g. for BBQ's/ patio heaters)
4. Wood
5. Solar
6. Other sources (please specify)

1. Electricity
2. Mains gas
3. Bottled gas / LPG
4. Wood
5. Solar
6. Other (please specify)

Sample Only

1. Continuous electric (storage or instantaneous)
2. Off peak electric
3. Heat pump

Sample Only

1. Once Every 3 months
2. Once a month
3. Fortnightly
4. Weekly
5. Other (please specify)

Sample Only

You may choose more than one of the following:

1. Electricity
2. Mains gas
3. Bottled gas / LPG
4. Firewood
5. Other (please specify)

Sample Only

1. Water heating (hot water system)
2. Cooking
3. Heating your home
4. Cooling / air conditioning your home
5. Lighting
6. Watching TV
7. Using the computer
8. Recharging handheld appliances
9. Running the fridge and freezer
10. Running the pool / spa pump
11. Other (please specify)

1. Less than 1 year old
2. 1 year to less than 5 years old
3. 5 years to less than 10 years old
4. 10 years to less than 20 years old
5. 20 years to less than 30 years old
6. 30 years old or more

Sample Only

You may choose more than one of the following:

9. Heavy curtains or blackout blinds

10. Holland or venetian blinds

11. Honeycomb blinds

12. Outside awnings or shutters

13. Tinted glass or solar guarding

14. Double glazing

15. Louvre windows

You may choose more than one of the following:

1. Replaced electric hot water system with gas hot water system
2. Installed solar hot water system
3. Installed solar electricity
4. Installed insulation
5. Installed ceiling fans
6. Installed double glazed windows
7. Installed louvre windows
8. Installed tinted glass or solar guarding
9. Installed heavy curtains or blinds that improved energy efficiency (e.g. blackout, venetian, honeycomb)
10. Installed outside awnings/shutters that improved energy efficiency
11. Other (please specify)

You may choose more than one of the following:

1. Replaced heater or cooler/air conditioner to a more energy efficient model
2. Replaced major whitegood to a more energy efficient model

Sample Only

1. Modifications were made previously
2. Energy consumption low enough already
3. Inconvenient
4. Upfront costs too high to make changes
5. Did not know what to do/lack of knowledge
6. Saving energy is not a priority
7. Have not thought about reducing energy consumption
8. Recently moved into dwelling
9. Other (please specify)

You may choose more than one of the following:

1. Replace electric hot water system with gas hot water system
2. Install solar hot water system
3. Install solar electricity
4. Install insulation
5. Install ceiling fans
6. Install double glazed windows
7. Install louvre windows
8. Install tinted glass or solar guarding
9. Install heavy curtains or blinds that improve energy efficiency (e.g. blackout, venetian, honeycomb)
10. Install outside awnings or shutters to improve energy efficiency
11. Other (please specify)

You may choose more than one of the following:

1. Replace heater or cooler/air conditioner to a more energy efficient model
2. Replace major whitegood to a more energy efficient model

Sample Only

1. Modifications were made previously
2. Energy consumption low enough already
3. Inconvenient
4. Upfront cost too high to make changes
5. Did not know what to do/lack of knowledge
6. Saving energy is not a priority
7. Have not thought about reducing energy consumption
8. Other (please specify)

You may choose more than one of the following:

1. Using a low-flow shower head
2. Using energy efficient light bulbs for the majority of lights (such as CFLs)
3. Taking short showers
4. Using cold water for all or most clothes washes
5. Drying clothes on a washing line for all or most washes
6. Switching appliances off at the wall
7. Switching off chargers for rechargeable appliances when not in use
8. Using draught-proofing seals on doors and windows

1. Energy consumption low enough already
2. Inconvenient
3. Time consuming/too much effort
4. Did not know what to do/lack of knowledge
5. Saving energy is not a priority
6. Have not thought about reducing energy consumption
7. Doing enough already
8. Other (please specify)

1. Spend more money than we get
2. Just break even most weeks
3. Able to save money most weeks

Sample Only

1. Better than 2 years ago
2. The same as 2 years ago
3. Worse than 2 years ago

Sample Only

You may choose more than one of the following:

1. Could not pay electricity, gas or telephone bills on time
2. Could not pay for car registration or insurance on time
3. Pawned or sold something because you needed cash
4. Went without meals
5. Could not heat or cool your home
6. Received or sought assistance from welfare / community organisations
7. Received or sought financial help from friends or family

1. Once
2. Sometimes
3. Often
4. Always

Sample Only

You may choose more than one of the following:

1. Entered into a loan arrangement or used a credit card to pay electricity or gas bill
2. Received or sought assistance from your electricity or gas company with paying bills
3. Received a disconnection warning from your electricity or gas company
4. Electricity or gas services were disconnected
5. Chosen to restrict heating or cooling your home because you could not afford the extra costs
6. Could not afford to put petrol/LPG/diesel in motor vehicle
7. Could not afford to repair heater or air conditioner
8. Could not afford to repair a major household whitegood (e.g. fridge, washing machine, dryer)

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Sample Only