

Concepts and Definitions

Household: A 'household' is usually a group of persons who normally live together and take their meals from a common kitchen unless the exigencies of work prevent any of them from doing so. Persons in a household may be related or unrelated or a mix of both. However, if a group of unrelated persons live in a census house but do not take their meals from the common kitchen, then they are not constituent of a common household. Each such person should be treated as a separate household. The important link in finding out whether it is a household or not, is a common kitchen. There may be one member households, two member households or multi-member households.

In a few situations, it may become difficult to apply the definition of household strictly as given above. For example, a person living alone in a census house whether cooking or not cooking meals is treated as a household. Similarly, if husband and wife or a group of related persons are living together in a census house but not cooking their meals, is also constitute a **normal** household.

Scheduled Castes & Scheduled Tribes Households

For the household based tables, a normal household has been presumed to be a Scheduled Caste Household when head of the household belongs to a Scheduled Caste or a Scheduled Tribe household when head of the household belongs to a Scheduled Tribe.

Institutional Households- A group of unrelated persons who live in an institution and take their meals from a common kitchen is called an Institutional Household. Examples of Institutional Households are boarding houses, messes, hostels, hotels, rescue homes, jails, ashrams, orphanages, etc.

If in a building which is occupied by an Institutional Household, the families of the warden and the peon are also living in separate census houses and cooking for themselves separately, then each of the family is treated as separate household and the houses occupied by them is treated as separate census houses. In this situation there will be one building, three census houses and three households i.e. one Institutional Household and two Normal Households.

If a group of unrelated persons, sharing a common kitchen, is found living in a census house which is not an institution, such a household does not form an Institutional Household but is treated like other Normal household.

Houseless Households- Households who do not live in buildings or census houses but live in the open on roadside, pavements, in Hume pipes, under flyovers and

staircases, or in the open in places of worship, mandaps, railway platforms, etc. are treated as Houseless households.