

Person—communication method, code N{.N}

Exported from METEOR (AIHW's Metadata Online Registry)

© Australian Institute of Health and Welfare 2024

This product, excluding the AIHW logo, Commonwealth Coat of Arms and any material owned by a third party or protected by a trademark, has been released under a Creative Commons BY 4.0 (CC BY 4.0) licence. Excluded material owned by third parties may include, for example, design and layout, images obtained under licence from third parties and signatures. We have made all reasonable efforts to identify and label material owned by third parties.

You may distribute, remix and build on this website's material but must attribute the AIHW as the copyright holder, in line with our attribution policy. The full terms and conditions of this licence are available at <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/>.

Enquiries relating to copyright should be addressed to info@aihw.gov.au.

Enquiries or comments on the METEOR metadata or download should be directed to the METEOR team at meteor@aihw.gov.au.

Person—communication method, code N{.N}

Identifying and definitional attributes

Metadata item type:	Data Element
Short name:	Communication method
METEOR identifier:	493499
Registration status:	Community Services (retired) , Standard 10/04/2013 [Non Dictionary] Disability , Standard 13/08/2015
Definition:	The method of communication most effectively used by the person, as represented by a code.
Context:	Method of communication is an important indicator of potential barriers to social inclusion, particularly in conjunction with data on country of birth and interpreter services required.
Data Element Concept:	Person—communication method
Value Domain:	Communication method code N{.N}

Value domain attributes

Representational attributes

Representation class:	Code		
Data type:	Number		
Format:	N{.N}		
Maximum character length:	2		
Permissible values:	Value	Meaning	
	Spoken language		
	1.1	English	
	1.2	Other spoken language	
	Sign language		
	2.1	Keyword signing (e.g. Makaton)	
	2.2	Auslan or similar	
	2.3	Finger spelling	
	Other effective non-spoken		
	3.1	Written language only—English	
	3.2	Written language only—Other	
	3.3	Computer assisted	
	3.4	Symbols and pictures	
	3.5	Braille	
	3.6	Facilitated communication (with facilitator)	
	3.8	Other effective non-communication	
	4	Limited communication	
	5	No effective communication	
	Supplementary values:	7	Child aged under 5 years (not applicable)
		9	Not stated/inadequately described

Collection and usage attributes

Guide for use: If the communication method varies over time and it is difficult to say what the usual method is, please report the most effective method during the reference week.

Codes 1, 2 and 3

The communication must be effective in that the person must be able to communicate more than just basic needs, to unfamiliar people, using this method.

Code 7 Child aged under 5 years (not applicable)

This item is considered 'not applicable' to young children. Hence, children aged 0–4 years should always be represented by code 7.

Source and reference attributes

Submitting organisation: Australian Institute of Health and Welfare

Reference documents: Tasmanian Department of Health and Human Services (n.d.). Development of a common assessment framework. Viewed 28 August 2012, http://www.dhhs.tas.gov.au/disability/projects/development_of_a_common_assessment_framework

Data element attributes

Source and reference attributes

Submitting organisation: Australian Institute of Health and Welfare

Origin: Australian Institute of Health and Welfare 2002. Commonwealth State/Territory Disability Agreement National Minimum Data Set collection: data guide—data items and definitions 2002–03.

Relational attributes

Implementation in Data Set Specifications: [Disability services client details cluster](#)
[Community Services \(retired\)](#), Standard 10/04/2013
[Disability](#), Standard 13/08/2015