

Service/care provider—Australian state/territory identifier, ACT-prioritised Australian state/territory code N

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Identifying and definitional attributes

Metadata item type:	Data Element
Short name:	Servicing provider state identifier
METEOR identifier:	603532
Registration status:	Commonwealth Department of Health , Retired 19/10/2023
Definition:	A unique numeric identifier for the Australian state or territory in which a Medicare service provider is located, as represented by a code.
Data Element Concept:	Service/care provider—Australian state/territory identifier
Value Domain:	ACT-prioritised Australian state/territory code N

Value domain attributes

Representational attributes

Representation class:	Code
Data type:	String
Format:	N
Maximum character length:	1

	Value	Meaning
Permissible values:	1	Australian Capital Territory
	2	New South Wales
	3	Victoria
	4	Queensland
	5	South Australia
	6	Western Australia
	7	Tasmania
	8	Northern Territory
Supplementary values:	9	Unknown

Collection and usage attributes

Guide for use:

Care should be taken when using this value domain as it presents the Australian states/territories in an order different to those most commonly used by agencies such as the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) and the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW).

The state/territory order presented in this value domain is known to be used in the underlying information systems of the Medicare Benefits Scheme (MBS) and the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS), and possibly reflects the historical data management practices of some Canberra-based Commonwealth government agencies, whereby Canberra (and by extension, the ACT) was considered to represent something like 'Central office' or 'Head office'.

Agencies such as the ABS and AIHW publish data in state/territory order based on population.

The ABS-preferred order (NSW, Vic., Qld, SA, WA, Tas., NT and ACT) reflects historic relative state/territory populations and has been retained by the ABS to preserve continuity of presentation and minimise the risk of error in the handling or interpreting of data.

The AIHW-preferred order reflects more recent trends in the relative populations of the states/territories, i.e. as above, but with WA before SA and ACT before NT.

Source and reference attributes

Submitting organisation: Department of Health

Reference documents: Australian Bureau of Statistics. [Australian Statistical Geography Standard \(ASGS\): Volume 1 - Main Structure and Greater Capital City Statistical Areas. July 2011.](#)
ABS cat. no. 1270.0.55.001. Canberra: ABS.

Data element attributes

Collection and usage attributes

Guide for use: This metadata item describes the state/territory location of the health professional, i.e. the practice address or postal address of the health professional and not the place of usual residence of the patient/MBS consumer.

Source and reference attributes

Submitting organisation: Department of Health

Relational attributes

Implementation in Data Set Specifications: [Medicare Benefits Schedule \(MBS\) state/territory data extract 2013-14](#)
[Commonwealth Department of Health](#), Retired 19/10/2023

Implementation start date: 01/07/2013

Implementation end date: 30/06/2014

DSS specific information:

Variable name = SPRST

In the context of MBS data, this data element describes the location (physical address) of the servicing provider.

[Medicare Benefits Schedule \(MBS\) state/territory data extract 2013-14](#)
[Commonwealth Department of Health](#), Retired 19/10/2023

Implementation start date: 01/07/2013

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Implementation in Indicators:

Used as Disaggregation

[Australian Health Performance Framework: PI 2.5.1–Bulk-billing for non-referred \(GP\) attendances, 2020](#)

[Health](#), Standard 13/10/2021