

Person—sex/gender, code A

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Person—sex/gender, code A

Identifying and definitional attributes

Metadata item type:	Data Element
Short name:	Sex/gender
METEOR identifier:	639275
Registration status:	Commonwealth Department of Social Services (retired) , Standard 20/06/2018
Definition:	The identification of a person as either male, female or not exclusively male or female, as represented by a code.
Data Element Concept:	Person—sex/gender
Value Domain:	Sex/gender code A

Value domain attributes

Representational attributes

Representation class:	Code	
Data type:	String	
Format:	A	
Maximum character length:	1	
Permissible values:	Value	Meaning
	M	Male
	F	Female
	X	Other

Collection and usage attributes

Guide for use:	CODE X Other
	Other refers to any person who does not exclusively identify as either male or female. Terms such as 'indeterminate', 'intersex', 'non-binary', and 'unspecified' are variously used to describe the 'Other' category of sex.

Source and reference attributes

Submitting organisation:	Australian Government Department of Social Services
Origin:	Australian Government 2017. Guides to Social Policy Law. Guide to Social Security Law. Viewed 24 April 2017, http://guides.dss.gov.au/guide-social-security-law/2/2/2

Data element attributes

Collection and usage attributes

Collection methods:	Sex/gender information is collected and recorded to help verify the identity of individuals who claim, or are in receipt, of social security payments. An Australian birth certificate, current Australian passport or current foreign passport, or a statement from a registered medical practitioner or registered psychologist, are acceptable documents to verify a person's gender.
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Comments: The Australian Government Department of Social Services/Centrelink forms collect information from recipients using the terms 'sex' and 'gender'. It is therefore not possible to differentiate between the two terms or use a data element that defines either sex or gender.

Source and reference attributes

Submitting organisation: Australian Government Department of Social Services

Relational attributes

Implementation in Data Set Specifications: [Demographics Cluster](#)
[Commonwealth Department of Social Services \(retired\)](#), Standard 20/06/2018
DSS specific information:

Sex/gender refers to the variable GENDER in the PIA research data set.

The data are collected as 'sex' but interpreted as 'gender'. Values may change over time if an individual's gender identity alters during their lifetime.