

# Person—gender, Tertiary Collection of Student Information code X

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# Person—gender, Tertiary Collection of Student Information code X

## Identifying and definitional attributes

<b>Metadata item type:</b>	Data Element
<b>Short name:</b>	Tertiary Collection of Student Information (TCSI) Gender
<b>METEOR identifier:</b>	761470
<b>Registration status:</b>	<a href="#">Australian Teacher Workforce Data Oversight Board</a> , Standard 30/08/2022
<b>Definition:</b>	How a person describes their <b>gender</b> , as represented by a code.
<b>Context:</b>	Tertiary Collection of Student Information (TCSI)
<b>Data Element Concept:</b>	<a href="#">Person—gender</a>
<b>Value Domain:</b>	<a href="#">Tertiary Collection of Student Information gender code X</a>

## Value domain attributes

### Representational attributes

<b>Representation class:</b>	Code
<b>Data type:</b>	String
<b>Format:</b>	X
<b>Maximum character length:</b>	1

	Value	Meaning
<b>Permissible values:</b>	F	Female
	M	Male
	X	Indeterminate/Intersex/Unspecified

## Collection and usage attributes

<b>Guide for use:</b>	This Value Domain is based on the Tertiary Collection of Student Information (TCSI) collection of gender.
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### Recoded TCSI gender codes

When incorporated into the Australian Teacher Workforce Data (ATWD) collection, values may be recoded as below:

CODE 1 Men

CODE 2 Women

CODE 3 Other

**Collection methods:**

From the Australian Government Guidelines on the Recognition of Sex and Gender, "a person of indeterminate sex or gender is either someone whose biological sex cannot be unambiguously determined or someone who identifies as neither male nor female. Many terms are used to recognise people who do not fall within the traditional binary notions of sex and gender (male and female), including:

- non-binary
- gender diverse
- gender queer
- pan-gendered
- androgynous
- inter-gender.

Some cultures may have their own terms for gender identities outside male and female, for example, 'sistergirl' and 'brotherboy' are used by some Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people."

For more information, please see the [Australian Government Guidelines on the Recognition of Sex and Gender](#).

**Comments:**

The Tertiary Collection of Student Information (TCSI) aligns gender coding with the [Australian Government Guidelines on the Recognition of Sex and Gender](#). As per the Australian Government Guidelines on the Recognition of Sex and Gender, "where sex and/or gender information is collected and recorded in a personal record, individuals should be given the option to select M (male), F (female) or X (Indeterminate/Intersex/Unspecified)."

## Source and reference attributes

**Submitting organisation:** Australian Institute of Health and Welfare

**Origin:** Australian Government 2021. Tertiary Collection of Student Information: Gender, Canberra. Viewed 25 July 2022.  
[www.tcsisupport.gov.au/glossary/glossaryterm/Gender](http://www.tcsisupport.gov.au/glossary/glossaryterm/Gender)

## Data element attributes

## Collection and usage attributes

**Guide for use:**

**Gender** is a social and cultural concept. It is about social and cultural differences in identity, expression and experience as a man, boy, woman, girl, or non-binary person. Non-binary is an umbrella term describing gender identities that are not exclusively male or female.

Gender includes the following concepts:

- Gender identity is about who a person feels themselves to be
- Gender expression is the way a person expresses their gender. A person's gender expression may also vary depending on the context, for instance expressing different genders at work and home
- Gender experience describes a person's alignment with the sex recorded for them at birth i.e. a cis experience or a trans experience.

The terms **sex** and gender are interrelated, and are often used interchangeably, however they are distinct concepts:

- Sex is understood in relation to sex characteristics. Sex recorded at birth refers to what was determined by sex characteristics observed at birth or in infancy
- Gender is about social and cultural differences in identity, expression and experience.

While they are related concepts, caution should be exercised when comparing counts for sex with those for gender.

"The preferred Australian Government approach is to collect and use gender information. Information regarding sex would ordinarily not be required and should only be collected where there is a legitimate need for that information and it is consistent with Australian Privacy Principle 3." (AGD 2015)

**Collection methods:**

The *Australian Government Guidelines on the Recognition of Sex and Gender* recommend "departments and agencies should refrain from making assumptions about a person's sex and/or gender identity based on indicators such as their name, voice or appearance" (AGD 2015.)

**Comments:**

A person's gender may stay the same or can change over the course of their lifetime. The gender response option chosen will reflect a person's gender at that point in time. Some people may not identify with a specific gender or with the concept of gender at all.

## Source and reference attributes

**Submitting organisation:**

Australian Institute of Health and Welfare

**Origin:**

Australian Government 2021. Tertiary Collection of Student Information: Gender code, Canberra. Viewed 25 July 2022. [www.tcsisupport.gov.au/element/315](http://www.tcsisupport.gov.au/element/315)

**Reference documents:**

AGD (Attorney-General's Department) 2015. Australian Government Guidelines on the Recognition of Sex and Gender, viewed 5 July 2022 [www.ag.gov.au/rights-and-protections/publications/australian-government-guidelines-recognition-sex-and-gender](http://www.ag.gov.au/rights-and-protections/publications/australian-government-guidelines-recognition-sex-and-gender)

## Relational attributes

**Implementation in Data Set Specifications:**

[Initial Teacher Education \(ITE\) data cluster](#)  
[Australian Teacher Workforce Data Oversight Board](#), Standard 30/08/2022