

# Definition

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](mailto: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](mailto:meteor@aihw.gov.au).

# Definition

The following information is applicable to object classes, data element concepts, data elements, glossary items only

## Definition

A concise statement that expresses the essential nature of the metadata item and its differentiation from other metadata items.

## Obligation

Mandatory completion.

## Development rules

The definition should be expressed precisely and unambiguously so that the exact meaning of the item is apparent from the definition.

Describe the item concisely, without repeating the name of the metadata item at the start of the definition, embedding definitions of related concepts, or embedding supportive information.

The definition should be expressed through terms and a structure which is consistent with related definitions.

The definition should be expressed as a complete, grammatically correct and descriptive phrase, sentence or paragraph, not merely through the use of synonyms or paraphrasing the name of the metadata item.

A definition should not contain definitions of other metadata items or concepts. Rather, it should provide an explanation of WHAT is being described. It should generally not include information about the WHO, WHERE, WHEN, WHY and HOW of data collection.