

Person—sex

Metadata item type:	Data Element Concept
METEOR identifier:	269716
Registration status:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Children and Families, Standard 22/11/2016• Commonwealth Department of Health, Standard 14/10/2015• Community Services (retired), Standard 01/03/2005• Disability, Standard 07/10/2014• Early Childhood, Superseded 24/07/2018• Health, Superseded 11/05/2017• Homelessness, Superseded 10/08/2018• Housing assistance, Standard 10/02/2006• Independent Hospital Pricing Authority, Standard 01/11/2012• Indigenous, Superseded 16/10/2017• National Health Performance Authority (retired), Retired 01/07/2016• Tasmanian Health, Superseded 09/01/2018• WA Health, Standard 19/03/2015• Youth Justice, Qualified 29/06/2022

Definition: Sex is the biological distinction between male and female. Where there is an inconsistency between anatomical and chromosomal characteristics, sex is based on anatomical characteristics.

Context: Sex is a core metadata item in a wide range of social, labour and demographic statistics.

Object Class attributes

Identifying and definitional attributes

Object class:	Person
Definition:	A human being.

Collection and usage attributes

Comments: Prior to 13 March 2018, the definition of the 'Person' Object class was 'A human being, whether man, woman or child'. From 13 March 2018, the definition was edited by removing the words '...whether man, woman or child' so that a person is defined as 'A human being'. This amendment was undertaken to align the definition of a person with the *Australian Government Guidelines on the Recognition of Sex and Gender* and the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) *Standard for Sex and Gender Variables*, which recognise that there are sex and gender types that are not exclusively male or female.

Source and reference attributes

Submitting organisation:	Australian Institute of Health and Welfare
Origin:	Macquarie University 2003. <i>The Macquarie Dictionary 3rd ed.</i> Sydney: The Macquarie Library Pty. Ltd

Reference documents: Attorney-General's Department 2015. Australian Government Guidelines on the Recognition of Sex and Gender. Viewed 26 July 2016, <https://www.ag.gov.au/Publications/Pages/AustralianGovernmentGuidelinesontheRecognitionofSexandGender.aspx>

ABS (Australian Bureau of Statistics) 2016. Standard for Sex and Gender Variables, 2016. ABS Cat. no. 1200.0.55.012. Canberra: ABS. Viewed 26 July 2016, <http://abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/Lookup/1200.0.55.012Main+Features12016?OpenDocument>

Property attributes

Identifying and definitional attributes

Property: [Sex](#)

Definition: The biological distinction between male and female.

Property group: [Demographic/social/cultural characteristics](#)

Source and reference attributes

Origin: Australian Bureau of Statistics 1999. [Standards for Social, Labour and Demographic Variables Demographic Variables, Sex](#)

Data element concept attributes

Source and reference attributes

Submitting organisation: Australian Youth Justice Administrators (AYJA)

Relational attributes

Related metadata references: Has been superseded by [Person—sex](#)

- [ACT Health \(retired\)](#), Candidate 19/07/2018
- [Children and Families](#), Recorded 18/05/2020
- [Early Childhood](#), Standard 24/07/2018
- [Health](#), Superseded 15/02/2022
- [Homelessness](#), Standard 10/08/2018
- [Indigenous](#), Standard 16/10/2017
- [Tasmanian Health](#), Standard 09/01/2018
- [Youth Justice](#), Recorded 23/05/2022

Supersedes [Person—sex \(housing assistance\)](#)

- [Housing assistance](#), Superseded 10/02/2006

**Data Elements
implementing this Data
Element Concept:**

[Person—sex, code A](#)

- [WA Health](#), Standard 19/03/2015

[Person—sex, code A](#)

- [Commonwealth Department of Health](#), Standard 14/10/2015

[Person—sex, code N](#)

- [Community Services \(retired\)](#), Superseded 31/08/2005
- [Health](#), Superseded 04/05/2005

[Person—sex, code N](#)

- [Children and Families](#), Standard 22/11/2016
- [Commonwealth Department of Health](#), Recorded 16/07/2015
- [Community Services \(retired\)](#), Standard 25/08/2005
- [Disability](#), Standard 07/10/2014
- [Early Childhood](#), Superseded 24/07/2018
- [Health](#), Superseded 11/05/2017
- [Homelessness](#), Superseded 10/08/2018
- [Housing assistance](#), Standard 10/02/2006
- [Independent Hospital Pricing Authority](#), Standard 01/11/2012
- [Indigenous](#), Superseded 16/10/2017
- [National Health Performance Authority \(retired\)](#), Retired 01/07/2016
- [WA Health](#), Incomplete 22/08/2012
- [WA Health](#), Incomplete 23/08/2012
- [Youth Justice](#), Qualified 29/06/2022

[Person—sex, Tasmanian code A](#)

- [Tasmanian Health](#), Superseded 10/01/2018