Person—sex

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# Person—sex

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| Identifying and definitional attributes | |
| Metadata item type: | Data Element Concept |
| METEOR identifier: | 269716 |
| Registration status: | [Children and Families](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/17), Standard 22/11/2016  [Commonwealth Department of Health](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/10), Retired 19/10/2023  [Community Services (retired)](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/1), Standard 01/03/2005  [Disability](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/16), Standard 07/10/2014  [Early Childhood](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/13), Superseded 24/07/2018  [Health](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/12), Superseded 11/05/2017  [Homelessness](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/14), Superseded 10/08/2018  [Housing assistance](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/11), Standard 10/02/2006  [Independent Hospital Pricing Authority](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/3), Standard 01/11/2012  [Indigenous](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/6), Superseded 16/10/2017  [National Health Performance Authority (retired)](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/8), Retired 01/07/2016  [Tasmanian Health](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/15), Superseded 09/01/2018  [WA Health](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/2), Standard 19/03/2015  [Youth Justice](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/4), Superseded 23/08/2022 |
| 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

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| Object class: | [Person](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/268955) |
| 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. *The Macquarie Dictionary 3rd ed.* 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/ AustralianGovernmentGuidelines ontheRecognitionofSexandGender.aspx](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/1200.0.55.012 Main+Features12016?OpenDocument](http://abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/Lookup/1200.0.55.012Main+Features12016?OpenDocument) |

## Property attributes

### Identifying and definitional attributes

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| Property: | [Sex](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/269231) |
| Definition: | The biological distinction between male and female. |
| Property group: | [Demographic/social/cultural characteristics](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/274643) |
| Source and reference attributes | |
| Submitting organisation: | Australian Youth Justice Administrators (AYJA) |
| Origin: | Australian Bureau of Statistics 1999. [Standards for Social, Labour and Demographic Variables Demographic Variables, Sex](http://www.abs.gov.au/Ausstats/abs@.nsf/66f306f503e529a5ca25697e0017661f/0b60c2257bd5e476ca25697e0018fe5e!OpenDocument) |

## Data element concept attributes

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| Source and reference attributes | |
| Submitting organisation: | Australian Youth Justice Administrators (AYJA) |

### Relational attributes

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| Related metadata references: | Supersedes [Person—sex (housing assistance)](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/269795)  [Housing assistance](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/11), Superseded 10/02/2006  Has been superseded by [Person—sex](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/635233)  [Early Childhood](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/13), Standard 24/07/2018  [Health](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/12), Superseded 15/02/2022  [Homelessness](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/14), Standard 10/08/2018  [Indigenous](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/6), Superseded 27/08/2023  [Tasmanian Health](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/15), Standard 09/01/2018  [Youth Justice](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/4), Superseded 23/08/2022 |
| Data Elements implementing this Data Element Concept: | [Person—sex, code A](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/573225)  [WA Health](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/2), Standard 19/03/2015  [Person—sex, code A](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/602450)  [Commonwealth Department of Health](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/10), Retired 19/10/2023  [Person—sex, code N](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/270263)  [Community Services (retired)](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/1), Superseded 31/08/2005  [Health](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/12), Superseded 04/05/2005  [Person—sex, code N](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/287316)  [Children and Families](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/17), Standard 22/11/2016  [Community Services (retired)](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/1), Standard 25/08/2005  [Disability](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/16), Standard 07/10/2014  [Early Childhood](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/13), Superseded 24/07/2018  [Health](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/12), Superseded 11/05/2017  [Homelessness](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/14), Superseded 10/08/2018  [Housing assistance](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/11), Standard 10/02/2006  [Independent Hospital Pricing Authority](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/3), Standard 01/11/2012  [Indigenous](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/6), Superseded 16/10/2017  [National Health Performance Authority (retired)](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/8), Retired 01/07/2016  [Youth Justice](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/4), Superseded 23/08/2022  [Person—sex, Tasmanian code A](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/442708)  [Tasmanian Health](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/15), Superseded 10/01/2018 |