## Age

Important note: This is an archived metadata standard from the AIHW Knowledgebase. For current metadata standards and related information please access METeOR, the AIHW's Metadata Online Registry at http://meteor.aihw.gov.au

## Identifying and D efinitional Attributes

## Data Dictionary: NCSDD

Knowledgebase ID: 000503 Version number: 1
M etadata type: DATA ELEMENT
Registration NCSIMG Admin status: SUPERSEDED
Authority: Effective date: 01-MAR-05
Definition: The age of the person in (completed) years
Context: Socio-demographic indicator.
The data element Age is used in analyses of service utilisation by age group and comparisons with demographic statistics.

## Relational and Representational Attributes

Datatype: Numeric
Representational CODE form:
Representation $\mathrm{N}(\mathrm{NN})$ layout:
Minimum Size: 1
Maximum Size: 3
Data D omain: NOVAL Age in single years (if aged under one year, record as zero).
G uide For Use: If year of birth is known (but date of birth is not) use the date, $0101 Y Y Y Y$ of the birth year to estimate age (where YYYY is the year of birth). If age (or date of birth) is unknown or not stated, and cannot be estimated, use Code 9(99).
Collection M ethods: Although collection of Date of birth allows more precise calculation of age, this may not be feasible in some data collections, and alternative questions are:
Agelast birthday?
What was ... age last birthday?
What is ... age in complete years?
Administrative Attri butesSource D ocument: Australian Bureau of Statistics, Statistical Concepts Library,Standards for Social, Labour and Demographic Variables. Age.Reference through:http:/ / www.abs.gov.au/ Ausstats/ abs@.nsf/ StatsLibrary andchoose, Other A BS Statistical Standards, Standards for Social,Labour and Demographic Variables, Demographic Variables,Age.
Source Organisation: Australian Bureau of Statistics
Comments: In community services data collections, age in years is oftenreported rather than derived from the data element Date of birth.Different rules for reporting data may apply when estimating theDate of birth of children aged under 2 years since the rapid growthand development of children within this age group means that achild's development can vary considerably over the course of ayear. Thus, more specific reporting of estimated age isrecommended.
Those who need to conduct data collections for children where ageis collected in months, weeks, or days should do so in a mannerthat allows for aggregation of those results to this standard.
D ata Element LinksInformation M odel Entities linked to this Data Element
NCSIMDemographic characteristic
Data Agreements which include this D ata Element

