
Country of birth

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 Definitional Attributes

Data Dictionary: NCSDD
Knowledgebase ID: 000511 Version number: 1
Metadata type: DATA ELEMENT
Registration Authority: NCSIMG Admin status: SUPERSEDED
Effective date: 01-JUL-98

Definition: The country in which the person was born.

Context: Country of birth is important in the study of access to services by different population sub-groups. Country of birth is the most easily collected and consistently reported of possible data items. The item provides a link between the Census of Population and Housing, other ABS statistical collections and regional data collections. Country of birth may be used in conjunction with other data elements such as period of residence in Australia, etc., to derive more sophisticated measures of access to services by different population sub-groups.

Relational and Representational Attributes

Datatype: Numeric
Representational form: CODE
Representation layout: NNNN
Minimum Size: 4
Maximum Size: 4

Data Domain: NOVAL Australian Standard Classification of Countries for Social Statistics (ASCCSS) 4-digit (individual country) level. ABS catalogue no. 1269.0.

Guide For Use: A country, even if it comprises other discrete political entities such as states, is treated as a single unit for all data domain purposes. Parts of a political entity are not included in different groups. Thus, Hawaii is included in Northern America (as part of the identified country United States of America), despite being geographically close to and having similar social and cultural characteristics as the units classified to Polynesia in the ASCCSS.

Collection Methods: Some community services data collections ask respondents to specify their country of birth (e.g. SAAP). In some collections, a pre-determined set of countries is specified as part of the question, usually accompanied by an other (please specify) category. In either case coding of data should conform with ASCCSS. Sometimes respondents are simply asked to specify whether they were born in either English speaking or non-English speaking countries but this question is of limited use.

Related metadata: has been superseded by Country of birth version 2

Administrative Attributes

Source Document: ABS: A directory of concepts and standards for social, labour and demographic statistics, 1995

Source Organisation: Australian Bureau of Statistics

Comments: ABS is due to issue a second edition of ASCCSS during 1998.

Was ID. 000011 (500 added to avoid NHDD DE with same ID.).

Data Element Links

Information Model Entities linked to this Data Element

Data Agreements which include this Data Element
