
Main language spoken at home

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: 000528 Version number: 1
Metadata type: DATA ELEMENT
Registration Authority: NCSIMG Admin status: SUPERSEDED
Effective date: 01-JUL-98

Definition: Main language spoken at home is the language reported by a person as the main language spoken by a person in his/her home (or most recent private residential setting occupied by the person) on a regular basis, to communicate with other residents of the home or setting and regular visitors.

Context: Data on main language spoken at home are regarded as an indicator of active ethnicity and also as useful for the study of inter-generational language retention. The availability of such data may help providers of welfare and community services to effectively target the geographic areas or population groups that need those services. It may be used for the investigation and development of language services such as interpreter/translation services.

Relational and Representational Attributes

Datatype: Numeric
Representational form: CODE
Representation layout: NN
Minimum Size: 2
Maximum Size: 2

Data Domain: NOVAL Refer to the Adaptation of Australian Standard Classification of Languages to accommodate a 2-digit running code (Australian Bureau of Statistics).

Guide For Use: Persons not in private residential settings should respond for at home as the most recent private residential setting in which that person has resided.

Administrative Attributes

Source Document: Australian Bureau of Statistics: Adaptation of Australian Standard Classification of Languages to accommodate a 2-digit running code. Australian Bureau of Statistics. Australian Standard Classification of Languages. Cat. No. 1267.0

Source Organisation: Australian Bureau of Statistics

Comments: This definition currently uses an ABS 2-digit code that is a subset of the 4-digit code, but that allows for coding of sign languages and other non-verbal languages. The 2-digit code is not completely specified here as it is under review by the ABS pending the release of the 1996 census data. The ABS currently uses a 4-digit code for the classification of languages which is commonly known as the language code and is a more specific way of coding languages. The advantage of use of this 4-digit ABS code is the comparability of data with other ABS data and increased ability to aggregate data. Given that most community services agencies collect information on the 2-digit coding system, the 2-digit system is implemented for the NCSDD.

Was ID. 000028 (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
