

---

# Indigenous community acceptance

---

**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:	NHADD	Version number:	2
Knowledgebase ID:	000681		
Metadata type:	DATA ELEMENT		
Registration Authority:	NHDAMG	Admin status:	SUPERSEDED
		Effective date:	01-MAR-05
Definition:	The acceptance of a person by an Indigenous community, as being an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander. This definition of Indigenous status is based upon a decision made by the High Court of Australia in <i>Commonwealth v. Tasmania</i> (1983) 46 ALR 625. It relates to the third component of the High Court's definition of Indigenous status, community acceptance. The two other components of the High Court's definition relate to descent, and self-classification, (refer to the related data element Indigenous status).		
Context:	Australia's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples occupy a unique place in Australian society and culture. In the current climate of reconciliation, accurate and consistent statistics about Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples are needed in order to plan, promote and deliver essential services, to monitor changes in wellbeing and to account for government expenditure in this area. Indigenous status is needed to identify those eligible for assistance via Indigenous housing programs.		

---

## *Relational and Representational Attributes*

Datatype:	Numeric
Representational form:	CODE
Representation layout:	NN
Minimum Size:	1
Maximum Size:	2
Data Domain:	1 Accepted as Indigenous (not further defined) 1.1 Accepted as Aboriginal but not Torres Strait Islander

1.2	Accepted as Torres Strait Islander but not Aboriginal
1.3	Accepted as both Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander
2	Not accepted as Indigenous
9	Not stated / inadequately described

Guide For Use: South Sea Islanders are to be recorded in category 2 as per the explanation in the comments.

Collection Methods: This item is generally only collected where there is a requirement to legally identify persons as being Indigenous or not (such as where it is an eligibility requirement for services). The process and documentation required for proof of community acceptance will depend on the requirements of the requesting agency.

Related metadata: relates to the data element Indigenous status version 1  
relates to the data element concept Indigenous household version 1

---

### *Administrative Attributes*

Source Document: National Housing Assistance Data Dictionary Version 1

Source Organisation: Australian Institute of Health and Welfare  
National Indigenous Housing Data Management Group

---

Comments: This definition of Indigenous Status is based upon a decision made by the High Court of Australia in Commonwealth v. Tasmania (1983) 46 ALR 625.

There are three components to this definition:

1. Descent
2. Self-classification
3. Community acceptance

There has been some controversy over the issue of whether South Sea Islanders need to be included in the definition of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander. The ABS clearly states that South Sea Islanders are not Indigenous and should therefore be coded accordingly. Subsequently, South Sea Islanders are to be coded under category 2. Not accepted as Indigenous.

### *Data Element Links*

*Information Model Entities linked to this Data Element*

*Data Agreements which include this Data Element*

---