Age

Identifying and Definitional Attributes

Data Dictionary: NHADD

Knowledgebase ID: 000740   Version number: 1

Metadata type: DATA ELEMENT

Registration Authority: NHDAMG   Admin status: SUPERSEDED

Effective date: 01-MAR-05

Definition: The age of the person in (completed) years.

Context: The data element Age is used in analyses of service utilisation by age group and comparisons with demographic statistics. Age is also used as an assistance eligibility criterion.

Relational and Representational Attributes

Datatype: Numeric

Representational form: QUANTITATIVE VALUE

Representation layout: NNN

Minimum Size: 1

Maximum Size: 3

Data Domain:
998	Relevant data not available from the jurisdiction
999	Unknown
NOVAL	Age in single years (if aged under one year, record as 000)

Guide For Use: If year of birth is known (but Date of birth is not) use the date 01/01 of the birth year to estimate age. If age (or Date of birth) is unknown or not stated, and cannot be estimated, use code 999.

Verification Rules: Distributions should be checked to ensure that missing values are being recorded correctly, and not as zeros.

Collection Methods: Although collection of Date of birth allows more precise calculation of age, this is not feasible in some data collections and alternative questions are:
Age last birthday?
What was [your] [the person?s] age last birthday?
What is [your] [the person?s] age in complete years?

Related metadata: is used as an alternative to Date of birth version 1

Administrative Attributes

Source Document: ABS: Directory of concepts and standards for social, labour and
demographic statistics, 1995.
National Community Services Data Dictionary Version 2 draft,
1999.
ABS 1996. 1996 Census Dictionary. Cat. No. 2901.
AIHW: Data Standardisation Project for the development of a
national unit record public housing data set, 1998.
Home and Community Care Data Dictionary, Version 1, 1998

Source Organisation: Australian Bureau of Statistics
Australian Institute of Health and Welfare
National Community Services Data Committee

Comments: In most community services data collections, age in years is often
reported rather than derived from the data element Date of birth.
However, 'Date of birth' is the preferred method for collection of
Age data.

Data Element Links

Information Model Entities linked to this Data Element

Data Agreements which include this Data Element