
Sex

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: NHDD
Knowledgebase ID: 000149 Version number: 2
Metadata type: DATA ELEMENT
Registration Authority: NHIMG Admin status: SUPERSEDED
Effective date: 30-JUN-03
Definition: The sex of the person.
Context: Required for analyses of service utilisation, needs for services and epidemiological studies.

Relational and Representational Attributes

Datatype: Numeric
Representational form: CODE
Representation layout: N
Minimum Size: 1
Maximum Size: 1
Data Domain: 1 Male
 2 Female
 3 Indeterminate
 9 Not stated / inadequately described

Guide For Use: An indeterminate sex category may be necessary for situations such as the classification of perinatal statistics when it is not possible for the sex to be determined.

Verification Rules: For the provision of State and Territory hospital data to Commonwealth agencies this field must be consistent with diagnosis and procedure codes, for records grouped in Major Diagnostic Categories 12, 13 and 14, for valid grouping, otherwise resulting in a fatal error for sex conflicts. For other Major Diagnostic Categories, sex conflicts result in a warning error.

Collection Methods: It is suggested that the following format be used for data collection:

What is your (the person's) sex?

___ Male
___ Female

The term 'sex' refers to the biological differences between males and females, while the term 'gender' refers to the socially expected/perceived dimensions of behaviour associated with males and females - masculinity and femininity. The ABS advises that the correct terminology for this data element is sex. Information collection for transsexuals and people with transgender issues should be treated in the same manner. To avoid problems with edits, transsexuals undergoing a sex change operation should have their sex at time of hospital admission recorded.

Related metadata: supersedes previous data element Sex version 1
is used in the derivation of Diagnosis related group version 1
has been superseded by Sex version 3

Administrative Attributes

Source Document: ABS Directory of concepts and standards for social, labour and demographic statistics, 1993

Source Organisation: National Health Data Committee

Comments: This item has been altered to enable standardisation of the collection of information relating to sex (to include indeterminate), gender, people with transgender issues and transsexuals.

Data Element Links

Information Model Entities linked to this Data Element

NHIM Demographic characteristic

Data Agreements which include this Data Element

NMDS - Admitted patient care	From 01-Jul-94 to 30-Jun-03
NMDS - Admitted patient mental health care	From 01-Jul-97 to 30-Jun-03
NMDS - Community mental health care	From 01-Jul-98 to 30-Jun-03
NMDS - Admitted patient palliative care	From 01-Jul-00 to 30-Jun-03
NMDS - Alcohol and other drug treatment services	From 01-Jul-00 to 30-Jun-03
Draft DSS - CNMDSA for Community Nursing	From 01-Jul-00 to
Draft DSS - Telehealth (NHIMAC sub-committee)	From 14-Jul-00 to

