
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: 2
Metadata type: DATA ELEMENT
Registration Authority: NCSIMG Admin status: SUPERSEDED
Effective date: 01-SEP-03
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 a range of possible data items. 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 Standard Australian Classification of Countries 1998 (SACC), which replaces the Australian Standard Classification of Countries for Social Statistics (ASCCSS). ABS catalogue no. 1269.0. This is a 4 digit, three level hierarchical structure (major group, minor group and country). See Information Annex 4.3 for details regarding this classification.

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.

Collection Methods: Note that SACC is mappable to but not identical to ASCCSS. Some community services data collections ask respondents to specify their country of birth (eg. 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 to SACC. 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: supersedes previous data element Country of birth version 1
relates to the data element First language spoken version 2
relates to the data element Main language other than English spoken at home version 2
relates to the data element Proficiency in spoken English version 1
has been superseded by Int. NCSDD & NHDD Country of birth version 4

Administrative Attributes

Source Document: ABS: 1998. Standard Australian Classification of Countries. Catalogue No. 1269.0.

Source Organisation: Australian Bureau of Statistics

Comments: See Information Annex 4.3

Data Element Links

Information Model Entities linked to this Data Element

NCSIM Social-cultural characteristic

Data Agreements which include this Data Element
