

---

# Marital status

---

**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: 000529                      Version number: 1  
Metadata type: DATA ELEMENT  
Registration Authority: NCSIMG                      Admin status: SUPERSEDED  
Effective date: 01-SEP-03  
Definition: The current marital status of the person.  
Context: Marital status is a core data element in a wide range of social, labour and demographic statistics. Its main purpose is analysis of the association of marital status with the need for, and use of, services. Marital status also acts as an indicator for the level of support adult recipients of the welfare system have at home. The item is also used in comparisons of administrative data and population censuses and surveys.

---

## *Relational and Representational Attributes*

Datatype: Numeric  
Representational form: CODE  
Representation layout: N  
Minimum Size: 1  
Maximum Size: 1  
Data Domain: 1                      Never married  
                  2                      Widowed  
                  3                      Divorced  
                  4                      Separated  
                  5                      Married (registered and defacto)  
                  9                      Not stated/ inadequately described

Guide For Use: Refers to the current marital status of a person. Therefore if a person has been divorced but has since re-married, then they should be recorded as 5. Married.  
The category Married (registered and de facto) should be generally accepted as applicable to all de facto couples, including of the same sex.

