

# Person—preferred language, code (ASCL 2005) NN{NN}

## Identifying and definitional attributes

<b>Metadata item type:</b>	Data Element
<b>Short name:</b>	Preferred language
<b>METEOR identifier:</b>	304128
<b>Registration status:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <a href="#">Community Services (retired)</a>, Superseded 13/10/2011</li><li>• <a href="#">Health</a>, Superseded 13/10/2011</li></ul>
<b>Definition:</b>	The language (including sign language) most preferred by the person for communication, as represented by a code.

## Data element concept attributes

### Identifying and definitional attributes

<b>Data element concept:</b>	<a href="#">Person—preferred language</a>
<b>METEOR identifier:</b>	269744
<b>Registration status:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <a href="#">ACT Health (retired)</a>, Candidate 08/08/2018</li><li>• <a href="#">Commonwealth Department of Social Services (retired)</a>, Not progressed 15/04/2019</li><li>• <a href="#">Community Services (retired)</a>, Standard 10/04/2006</li><li>• <a href="#">Health</a>, Standard 01/03/2005</li><li>• <a href="#">Homelessness</a>, Superseded 10/08/2018</li><li>• <a href="#">Housing assistance</a>, Standard 13/10/2011</li><li>• <a href="#">Tasmanian Health</a>, Standard 01/09/2016</li></ul>
<b>Definition:</b>	The language (including sign language) most preferred by the person for communication.
<b>Context:</b>	Health and welfare services:  An important indicator of ethnicity, especially for persons born in non-English-speaking countries. Its collection will assist in the planning and provision of multilingual services and facilitate program and service delivery for migrants and other non-English speakers.
<b>Object class:</b>	<a href="#">Person</a>
<b>Property:</b>	<a href="#">Preferred language</a>

## Value domain attributes

### Identifying and definitional attributes

<b>Value domain:</b>	<a href="#">Language code (ASCL 2005) NN{NN}</a>
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**METEOR identifier:** 304116

**Registration status:**

- [Community Services \(retired\)](#), Superseded 13/10/2011
- [Health](#), Superseded 13/10/2011
- [Housing assistance](#), Standard 10/02/2006

**Definition:** The ASCL (2005) code set representing languages.

## Representational attributes

**Classification scheme:** [Australian Standard Classification of Languages 2005](#)

**Representation class:** Code

**Data type:** Number

**Format:** NN{NN}

**Maximum character length:** 4

## Collection and usage attributes

**Guide for use:** The Australian Standard Classification of Languages (ASCL) has a three-level hierarchical structure. The most detailed level of the classification consists of base units (languages) which are represented by four-digit codes. The second level of the classification comprises narrow groups of languages (the Narrow Group level), identified by the first two digits. The most general level of the classification consists of broad groups of languages (the Broad Group level) and is identified by the first digit. The classification includes Australian Indigenous languages and sign languages.

For example, the Lithuanian language has a code of 3102. In this case 3 denote that it is an Eastern European language, while 31 denote that it is a Baltic language. The Pintupi Aboriginal language is coded as 8713. In this case 8 denote that it is an Australian Indigenous language and 87 denote that the language is Western Desert language.

Language data may be output at the Broad Group level, Narrow Group level or base level of the classification. If necessary significant Languages within a Narrow Group can be presented separately while the remaining Languages in the Narrow Group are aggregated. The same principle can be adopted to highlight significant Narrow Groups within a Broad Group.

## Data element attributes

### Collection and usage attributes

**Guide for use:** This may be a language other than English even where the person can speak fluent English.

### Source and reference attributes

**Submitting organisation:** Australian Institute of Health and Welfare

**Reference documents:** ABS cat. no. 1267.0. Australian Standard Classification of Languages (ASCL), 2005-06. Canberra: Australian Bureau of Statistics

### Relational attributes

**Related metadata references:**

Supersedes [Person—preferred language, code NN](#)

- [Health](#), Superseded 08/02/2006

Has been superseded by [Person—preferred language, code \(ASCL 2011\) NN{NN}](#)

- [Community Services \(retired\)](#), Standard 13/10/2011
- [Health](#), Superseded 25/01/2018
- [Homelessness](#), Superseded 10/08/2018
- [Housing assistance](#), Standard 13/10/2011
- [Tasmanian Health](#), Superseded 27/06/2017

See also [Person—main language other than English spoken at home, code \(ASCL 2005\) NN{NN}](#)

- [Community Services \(retired\)](#), Superseded 13/10/2011
- [Health](#), Superseded 13/10/2011
- [Housing assistance](#), Superseded 30/05/2013

**Implementation in Data Set Specifications:**

[Alcohol and other drug treatment services NMDS Health](#), Superseded 23/10/2006

*Implementation start date:* 01/07/2006

*Implementation end date:* 30/06/2007

[Alcohol and other drug treatment services NMDS 2007-08 Health](#), Superseded 05/02/2008

*Implementation start date:* 01/07/2007

*Implementation end date:* 30/06/2008

[Alcohol and other drug treatment services NMDS 2008-10 Health](#), Superseded 22/12/2009

*Implementation start date:* 01/07/2008

*Implementation end date:* 30/06/2010

[Alcohol and other drug treatment services NMDS 2010-11 Health](#), Superseded 24/12/2010

*Implementation start date:* 01/07/2010

*Implementation end date:* 30/06/2011

[Alcohol and other drug treatment services NMDS 2011-12 Health](#), Superseded 07/12/2011

*Implementation start date:* 01/07/2011

*Implementation end date:* 30/06/2012

[Cardiovascular disease \(clinical\) DSS Health](#), Superseded 04/07/2007

[Cardiovascular disease \(clinical\) DSS Health](#), Superseded 22/12/2009

[Cardiovascular disease \(clinical\) DSS Health](#), Superseded 01/09/2012