Person—underlying cause of death, code (ICD-10 2nd edn) ANN-ANN

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# Person—underlying cause of death, code (ICD-10 2nd edn) ANN-ANN

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| Identifying and definitional attributes | |
| Metadata item type: | Data Element |
| Short name: | Underlying cause of death |
| Synonymous names: | UCOD code |
| METEOR identifier: | 307931 |
| Registration status: | [Health](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/12), Superseded 16/01/2020 |
| Definition: | The disease or injury which initiated the train of morbid events leading directly to a person's death or the circumstances of the accident or violence which produced the fatal injury, as represented by a code. (WHO 2004) |
| Data Element Concept: | [Person—underlying cause of death](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/307862) |
| Value Domain: | [Underlying cause of death code (ICD-10 2nd edn) ANN-ANN](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/303528) |

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| Value domain attributes | | |
| Representational attributes | | |
| Classification scheme: | [International Statistical Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems, Tenth Revision, (2nd edition)](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/352607) | |
| Representation class: | Code | |
| Data type: | String | |
| Format: | ANN-ANN | |
| Maximum character length: | 7 | |

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| Source and reference attributes | |
| Submitting organisation: | Australian Institute of Health and Welfare |

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| Data element attributes | |
| Collection and usage attributes | |
| Guide for use: | Underlying cause of death is central to mortality coding and comparable international mortality reporting. |
| Comments: | The Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) codes and classifies the underlying cause of death (UCOD) according to the rules and guidelines for mortality coding adopted by the World Health Assembly and set out in the World Health Organisation's International Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems (ICD).  The ABS uses the Mortality Medical Data System (MMDS) to process and code cause-of-death information reported on death certificates. |
| Source and reference attributes | |
| Submitting organisation: | Australian Bureau of Statistics |
| Origin: | Australian Bureau of Statistics 2004. [Information Paper: Cause of death certification. Catalogue no. 1205.0.55.001](http://www.ausstats.abs.gov.au/Ausstats/subscriber.nsf/Lookup/FF2D66033DF42F32CA257030007790BD/$File/1205055001_2004.pdf). Canberra: Australian Bureau of Statistics. Viewed 31 August 2005.  National Center for Health Statistics 2005. About the Mortality Medical Data System. [U.S. Department of Health and Human Services,](http://www.hhs.gov/)[Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](http://www.cdc.gov/). Viewed 31 August 2005.  [World Health Organisation 2004. The International statistical classification of diseases and related health problems, tenth revision, (2nd edn). Geneva: World Health Organisation.](http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/about/major/dvs/about.htm) |
| Reference documents: | Australian Bureau of Statistics 2004. [Information Paper: Cause of death certification. Catalogue no. 1205.0.55.001](http://www.ausstats.abs.gov.au/Ausstats/subscriber.nsf/Lookup/FF2D66033DF42F32CA257030007790BD/$File/1205055001_2004.pdf). Canberra: Australian Bureau of Statistics. Viewed 31 August 2005.  World Health Organisation 2004. The International statistical classification of diseases and related health problems, tenth revision, (2nd edn). Geneva: World Health Organisation. |
| Relational attributes | |
| Related metadata references: | Has been superseded by [Person—underlying cause of death, code (ICD-10 2016 version) ANN{.N}](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/719784)  [Health](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/12), Standard 16/01/2020  Has been superseded by [Person—underlying cause of death, code (ICD-10 Third Edition) ANN-ANN](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/778802)  [Health](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/12), Qualified 03/08/2023 |
| Implementation in Data Set Specifications: | [Acute coronary syndrome (clinical) DSS](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/372930)  [Health](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/12), Superseded 01/09/2012  ***Conditional obligation:*** If a date of death is recorded, the cause of death must also be recorded. These data are recorded regardless of the cause of death.  [Acute coronary syndrome (clinical) DSS](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/482119)  [Health](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/12), Superseded 02/05/2013  ***Conditional obligation:*** If a date of death is recorded, the cause of death must also be recorded. These data are recorded regardless of the cause of death.  [Acute coronary syndrome (clinical) NBPDS 2013-](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/523140)  [Health](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/12), Standard 02/05/2013  ***Implementation start date:*** 01/07/2013 ***Conditional obligation:***  If a date of death is recorded, the cause of death must also be recorded. These data are recorded regardless of the cause of death.  [Cancer (clinical) DSS](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/394731)  [Health](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/12), Superseded 08/05/2014  ***Conditional obligation:***  Recorded when the patient has died.  [Cancer (clinical) DSS](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/560813)  [Health](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/12), Superseded 14/05/2015  ***Conditional obligation:***  Recorded when the patient has died.  [Cancer (clinical) NBPDS](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/597861)  [Health](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/12), Standard 14/05/2015  ***Conditional obligation:***  Recorded when the patient has died.  [National Bowel Cancer Screening Program NBEDS 2014-18](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/529201)  [Health](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/12), Superseded 06/09/2018  ***Implementation start date:*** 01/07/2014 ***Implementation end date:*** 30/06/2018 ***Conditional obligation:***  Only to be answered if the person has died.  [National Bowel Cancer Screening Program NBEDS 2018–19](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/694107)  [Health](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/12), Superseded 12/12/2018  ***Implementation start date:*** 01/07/2018 ***Implementation end date:*** 30/06/2019 ***Conditional obligation:***  Only to be answered if the person has died.  [National Bowel Cancer Screening Program NBEDS 2019–20](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/707481)  [Health](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/12), Superseded 16/01/2020  ***Implementation start date:*** 01/07/2019 ***Implementation end date:*** 30/06/2020 ***Conditional obligation:***  Only to be answered if the person has died. |
| Implementation in Indicators: | **Used as Numerator** [National Bowel Cancer Screening Program: PI 11-Colorectal cancer mortality rate](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/694189)  [Health](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/12), Standard 06/09/2018  [National Bowel Cancer Screening Program: PI 11-Colorectal cancer mortality rate](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/533413)  [Health](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/12), Superseded 06/09/2018  [National Healthcare Agreement: P03-Incidence of end-stage kidney disease, 2010](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/393143)  [Health](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/12), Superseded 08/06/2011  [National Healthcare Agreement: P20-Potentially avoidable deaths, 2010](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/394495)  [Health](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/12), Superseded 08/06/2011  [National Healthcare Agreement: P59-Age-standardised mortality by major cause of death, 2010](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/395099)  [Health](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/12), Superseded 08/06/2011  [National Healthcare Agreement: PI 03-Incidence of end-stage kidney disease, 2011](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/421695)  [Health](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/12), Superseded 30/10/2011  [National Healthcare Agreement: PI 03-Incidence of end-stage kidney disease, 2012](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/435837)  [Health](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/12), Retired 25/06/2013  [National Healthcare Agreement: PI 08-Major causes of death, 2013](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/497524)  [Health](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/12), Superseded 30/04/2014  [National Healthcare Agreement: PI 08-Major causes of death, 2014](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/517671)  [Health](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/12), Superseded 14/01/2015  [National Healthcare Agreement: PI 08-Major causes of death, 2015](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/559052)  [Health](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/12), Superseded 08/07/2016  [National Healthcare Agreement: PI 08–Major causes of death, 2016](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/598815)  [Health](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/12), Superseded 31/01/2017  [National Healthcare Agreement: PI 08–Major causes of death, 2017](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/630006)  [Health](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/12), Superseded 30/01/2018  [National Healthcare Agreement: PI 08–Major causes of death, 2018](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/658519)  [Health](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/12), Superseded 19/06/2019  [National Healthcare Agreement: PI 08–Major causes of death, 2019](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/698924)  [Health](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/12), Superseded 13/03/2020  [National Healthcare Agreement: PI 09-Incidence of heart attacks (acute coronary events), 2015](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/559050)  [Health](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/12), Superseded 08/07/2016  [National Healthcare Agreement: PI 09–Incidence of heart attacks (acute coronary events), 2016](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/598799)  [Health](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/12), Superseded 31/01/2017  [National Healthcare Agreement: PI 09–Incidence of heart attacks (acute coronary events), 2017](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/630008)  [Health](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/12), Superseded 30/01/2018  [National Healthcare Agreement: PI 09–Incidence of heart attacks (acute coronary events), 2018](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/658517)  [Health](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/12), Superseded 19/06/2019  [National Healthcare Agreement: PI 09–Incidence of heart attacks (acute coronary events), 2019](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/698922)  [Health](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/12), Superseded 13/03/2020  [National Healthcare Agreement: PI 09-Incidence of heart attacks, 2013](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/497512)  [Health](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/12), Superseded 30/04/2014  [National Healthcare Agreement: PI 09-Incidence of heart attacks, 2014](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/517669)  [Health](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/12), Superseded 14/01/2015  [National Healthcare Agreement: PI 16-Potentially avoidable deaths, 2013](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/497242)  [Health](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/12), Superseded 30/04/2014  [National Healthcare Agreement: PI 16-Potentially avoidable deaths, 2014](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/517652)  [Health](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/12), Superseded 14/01/2015  [National Healthcare Agreement: PI 20-Potentially avoidable deaths, 2011](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/421653)  [Health](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/12), Superseded 31/10/2011  [National Healthcare Agreement: PI 20-Potentially avoidable deaths, 2011](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/421653)  [Health](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/12), Superseded 31/10/2011  [National Healthcare Agreement: PI 20-Potentially avoidable deaths, 2012](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/443685)  [Health](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/12), Superseded 25/06/2013  [National Healthcare Agreement: PI 59-Age-standardised mortality by major cause of death, 2011](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/421594)  [Health](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/12), Superseded 31/10/2011  [National Healthcare Agreement: PI 59-Age-standardised mortality by major cause of death, 2012](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/443713)  [Health](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/12), Superseded 25/06/2013  **Used as Disaggregation** [National Healthcare Agreement: PI 08-Major causes of death, 2013](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/497524)  [Health](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/12), Superseded 30/04/2014  [National Healthcare Agreement: PI 08-Major causes of death, 2014](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/517671)  [Health](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/12), Superseded 14/01/2015  [National Healthcare Agreement: PI 59-Age-standardised mortality by major cause of death, 2011](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/421594)  [Health](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/12), Superseded 31/10/2011  [National Healthcare Agreement: PI 59-Age-standardised mortality by major cause of death, 2012](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/443713)  [Health](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/12), Superseded 25/06/2013  [National Indigenous Reform Agreement: P02-Mortality rate (and excess deaths) by leading causes, 2010](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/396109)  [Community Services (retired)](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/1), Superseded 04/04/2011  [National Indigenous Reform Agreement: P10-Mortality rates (and excess deaths) for children under 5 by leading causes, 2010](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/396468)  [Community Services (retired)](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/1), Superseded 04/04/2011  [National Indigenous Reform Agreement: P10-Mortality rates (and excess deaths) for children under 5 by leading causes, 2010](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/396468)  [Community Services (retired)](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/1), Superseded 04/04/2011  [National Indigenous Reform Agreement: PI 02-Mortality rate (and excess deaths) by leading causes, 2011](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/425739)  [Indigenous](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/6), Superseded 01/07/2012  [National Indigenous Reform Agreement: PI 02-Mortality rate (and excess deaths) by leading causes, 2012](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/438560)  [Indigenous](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/6), Superseded 13/06/2013  [National Indigenous Reform Agreement: PI 02-Mortality rate by leading causes, 2013](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/481149)  [Indigenous](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/6), Superseded 13/12/2013  [National Indigenous Reform Agreement: PI 02-Mortality rate by leading causes, 2014](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/525824)  [Indigenous](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/6), Superseded 24/11/2014  [National Indigenous Reform Agreement: PI 06-Under five mortality rate by leading cause, 2013](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/481154)  [Indigenous](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/6), Superseded 13/12/2013  [National Indigenous Reform Agreement: PI 06-Under five mortality rate by leading cause, 2013](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/481154)  [Indigenous](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/6), Superseded 13/12/2013  [National Indigenous Reform Agreement: PI 06-Under five mortality rate by leading cause, 2014](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/525845)  [Indigenous](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/6), Superseded 24/11/2014  [National Indigenous Reform Agreement: PI 06-Under five mortality rate by leading cause, 2014](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/525845)  [Indigenous](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/6), Superseded 24/11/2014  [National Indigenous Reform Agreement: PI 10-Mortality rates (and excess deaths) by leading causes for children under 5, 2011](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/425760)  [Indigenous](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/6), Superseded 01/07/2012  [National Indigenous Reform Agreement: PI 10-Mortality rates (and excess deaths) by leading causes for children under 5, 2011](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/425760)  [Indigenous](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/6), Superseded 01/07/2012  [National Indigenous Reform Agreement: PI 10-Mortality rates (and excess deaths) by leading causes for children under 5, 2012](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/438617)  [Indigenous](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/6), Superseded 13/06/2013  [National Indigenous Reform Agreement: PI 10-Mortality rates (and excess deaths) by leading causes for children under 5, 2012](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/438617)  [Indigenous](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/6), Superseded 13/06/2013 |