

# Child protection notification—investigation outcome, code N

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# Child protection notification—investigation outcome, code N

## Identifying and definitional attributes

<b>Metadata item type:</b>	Data Element
<b>Short name:</b>	Investigation outcome (child protection notification)
<b>Synonymous names:</b>	Investigation outcome
<b>METEOR identifier:</b>	316571
<b>Registration status:</b>	<a href="#">Community Services (retired)</a> , Recorded 23/10/2007
<b>Definition:</b>	The outcome of an investigation where a decision has been made as to whether a child has been, is being, or is likely to be abused, neglected or otherwise harmed, as represented by a code.
<b>Data Element Concept:</b>	<a href="#">Child protection notification—investigation outcome</a>
<b>Value Domain:</b>	<a href="#">Investigation outcome code N</a>

## Value domain attributes

### Representational attributes

<b>Representation class:</b>	Code	
<b>Data type:</b>	Number	
<b>Format:</b>	N	
<b>Maximum character length:</b>	1	
<b>Permissible values:</b>	<b>Value</b>	<b>Meaning</b>
	1	Substantiated
	2	Not substantiated
	3	Investigation not finalised
	4	Investigation not able to be commenced or completed

## Collection and usage attributes

<b>Guide for use:</b>	Once an investigation is finalised an outcome is recorded in the system.  CODE 1 Substantiated  A finalised investigation is classified as 'substantiated' where an allegation is supported or established by evidence or proof.  CODE 2 Not substantiated  A finalised investigation is classified in this category where an allegation is not supported or established by evidence or proof.  CODE 3 Investigation not finalised  Where the investigation was ongoing at the end of a period.  CODE 4 Investigation not able to be commenced or completed  Where every effort has been made to investigate the concern, but was not possible.
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# Data element attributes

## Collection and usage attributes

<b>Collection methods:</b>	The outcome should be recorded once the assessment has been completed and a decision has been made as to whether a child has been, is being or is likely to be abused, neglected or otherwise harmed.  This does not include cases where the investigation is still in progress.
<b>Comments:</b>	This is important to measure the proportion of investigations that are substantiated. It is also important to determine the outcomes of children who are in contact with community services departments.

## Source and reference attributes

<b>Submitting organisation:</b>	National Child Protection and Support Services data group (NCPASS).
<b>Origin:</b>	Child protection and support services data dictionary. AIHW Version 1.0 Oct 2005.

## Relational attributes

<b>Implementation in Data Set Specifications:</b>	<a href="#">Child protection and support services (CPSS) - notifications, investigations, and substantiations NMDS (July 2007)</a> <a href="#">Community Services (retired)</a> , Superseded 01/05/2008
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### **DSS specific information:**

In the Child Protection NMDS, the following applies to this item's guide for use in its value domain:

#### CODE 1 Substantiated

A finalised investigation is classified as 'substantiated' where there is reasonable cause to believe that the child has been, is being, or is likely to be abused, neglected or otherwise harmed. Substantiation does not necessarily require sufficient evidence for a successful prosecution and does not imply that treatment or case management was, or is to be, provided.

#### CODE 2 Not substantiated

A finalised investigation is classified in this category where a investigation has concluded that there is no reasonable cause to suspect prior, current or future abuse or neglect or harm to the child.

#### CODE 3 Investigation not finalised

Where the investigation was ongoing at the end of the reporting period.

#### CODE 4 Investigation not able to be commenced or completed

Where every effort has been made to investigate the concern, but was not possible. Includes children who have moved interstate or absconded.