

Person—communication method, code N

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Person—communication method, code N

Identifying and definitional attributes

Metadata item type:	Data Element
Short name:	Communication method
METEOR identifier:	322186
Registration status:	Community Services (retired) , Superseded 27/04/2007
Definition:	The method of communication, including sign language, most effectively used by the person, as represented by a code.
Context:	Method of communication is an important indicator of potential barriers to social inclusion, particularly in conjunction with data on country of birth and interpreter services required.
Data Element Concept:	Person—communication method
Value Domain:	Communication method code N

Value domain attributes

Representational attributes

Representation class:	Code
Data type:	Number
Format:	N
Maximum character length:	1

	Value	Meaning
Permissible values:	1	Spoken language (effective)
	2	Sign language (effective)
	3	Other effective non-spoken communication (e.g. Canon Communicator, Compic)
	4	Little or no effective communication
	5	Child aged under 5 years (not applicable)
Supplementary values:	9	Not stated/inadequately described

Collection and usage attributes

Guide for use: Code 1 and 2

The communication must be effective in that the person must be able to communicate more than just basic needs, to unfamiliar people, using this method.

Code 5 Child aged under 5 years (not applicable)

This item is considered 'not applicable' to young children. Hence, children aged 0–4 years should always be represented by code '5'.

If the communication method varies over time and it is difficult to say what the usual method is, please report the most effective method during the reference week.

Source and reference attributes

Origin: Commonwealth State/Territory Disability Agreement National Minimum Data Set (CSTDA NMDS) collection. Data Guide: data items and definitions 2005-06.

Data element attributes

Source and reference attributes

Submitting organisation: Australian Institute of Health and Welfare

Origin: Australian Institute of Health and Welfare 2002. Commonwealth State/Territory Disability Agreement National Minimum Data Set collection: data guide—data items and definitions 2002–03.

Relational attributes

Related metadata references: Supersedes [Person—communication method, code N Community Services \(retired\)](#), Superseded 29/04/2006

Has been superseded by [Person—communication method, code N Community Services \(retired\)](#), Standard 27/04/2007

[Disability](#), Standard 07/10/2014