

Person—letters of given name, text XX

Identifying and definitional attributes

Metadata item type:	Data Element
Short name:	Letters of given name
METEOR identifier:	349483
Registration status:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Children and Families, Standard 22/11/2016• Community Services (retired), Standard 27/03/2007• Disability, Standard 07/10/2014• Early Childhood, Standard 21/05/2010• Health, Standard 07/12/2011• Homelessness, Standard 23/08/2010• Housing assistance, Standard 23/08/2010• Youth Justice, Standard 15/02/2022
Definition:	The combination of the 2nd and 3rd letters of a person's given name.
Data Element Concept:	Person—letters of given name

Value domain attributes

Representational attributes

Representation class:	Text
Data type:	String
Format:	XX
Maximum character length:	2

Data element attributes

Collection and usage attributes

Guide for use:

In the two spaces the agency should record the 2nd and 3rd letters of the client's given name.

For example: If the client's given name is Elizabeth the reported value should be LI. If the client's given name is Robert the reported value should be OB.

If the client's given name includes non-alphabetic characters—for example hyphens (as in Jo-Anne) or apostrophes (as in D'Arcy), these non-alphabetic characters should be ignored when counting the position of each character.

Regardless of the length of a person's given name, the reported value should always be two characters long. If the given name of the person is not long enough to supply the requested letters (i.e. a name of less than three letters) then agencies should substitute the number '2' to reflect the missing letters. The placement of a number '2' should always correspond to the same space that the missing letter would have within the 2-digit field. A number (rather than a letter) is used for such substitutions in order to clearly indicate that an appropriate corresponding letter from the person's name is not available.

For example: If the person's legal name was Jo then the value reported would be O2 because the 2 is substituting for the missing 3rd letter of the given name.

If the person's given name is missing altogether the agency should record 99 for the two spaces associated with the given name. In some cultures it is traditional to state the family name first. To overcome discrepancies in recording/reporting that may arise as a result of this practice, agencies should always ask the person to specify their given name and their family name separately. These should then be recorded as first given name and family name as appropriate, regardless of the order in which they may be traditionally given.

Comments:

The selected *Letters of given name* can be used in combination with *Letters of family name*, *Date of birth* and *Sex* to develop a statistical linkage key to facilitate the linkage of records for statistical purposes only. This key will also enable linkage to other related databases that either have the same linkage key or the fundamental information to form the same key. The linkage is to assist research and analysis of the data, not for tracking of individuals through the system for case management.

The provision of letters of a person's name can be a sensitive issue because of privacy and confidentiality concerns. The use of this information will be in accordance with privacy principles.

Relational attributes**Related metadata references:**

Is formed using [Person \(name\)—given name, text X\[X\(39\)\]](#)

- [Community Services \(retired\)](#), Superseded 06/02/2012
- [Health](#), Superseded 05/10/2016
- [Housing assistance](#), Standard 20/06/2005
- [Tasmanian Health](#), Standard 01/09/2016

Is used in the formation of [Record—linkage key, code 581 XXXXXDDMMYYYYN](#)

- [Community Services \(retired\)](#), Standard 21/05/2010
- [Disability](#), Standard 07/10/2014
- [Early Childhood](#), Standard 21/05/2010
- [Health](#), Superseded 25/01/2018
- [Homelessness](#), Superseded 10/08/2018
- [Housing assistance](#), Standard 23/08/2010

Is used in the formation of [Record—linkage key, code 581 XXXXXDDMMYYYYX](#)

- [ACT Health \(retired\)](#), Candidate 09/08/2018
- [Health](#), Standard 25/01/2018
- [Homelessness](#), Standard 10/08/2018

Implementation in Data Set Specifications:

[Carer demographics file clusterChildren and Families](#), Standard 22/11/2016
[Community Services \(retired\)](#), Candidate 10/10/2014

Implementation start date: 01/07/2011

Implementation end date: 30/06/2013

DSS specific information:

'Letters of carer's name' is collected as one item in cell number 2 in the Carer demographics file of the CP NMDS.

The 2nd, 3rd and 5th letters of the carer's family name are combined with the 2nd and 3rd letters of the carer's given name to obtain the 5 digit letters of the carer's name.

[Child protection \(CP\) client file clusterChildren and Families](#), Superseded
22/11/2016

[Community Services \(retired\)](#), Candidate 09/10/2014

Implementation start date: 01/07/2011

Implementation end date: 30/06/2013

DSS specific information:

'Letters of name' is collected as one item in cell number 2 in the Client file of the CP NMDS.

The 2nd and 3rd letters of the client's given name are combined with the 2nd, 3rd and 5th letters of the client's family name to obtain the 5 digit letters of the client's name.

For children who were unborn at the time of the notification and who were subsequently born by 31 August, letters of name should reflect the name given to the child following birth.

[Child protection \(CP\) client file clusterChildren and Families](#), Superseded
22/11/2016

Implementation start date: 01/07/2013

Implementation end date: 30/06/2015

DSS specific information:

'Letters of name' is collected as one item in cell number 2 in the Client file of the CP NMDS.

The 2nd and 3rd letters of the client's given name are combined with the 2nd, 3rd and 5th letters of the client's family name to obtain the 5 digit letters of the client's name.

For children who were unborn at the time of the notification and who were subsequently born by 31 August, letters of name should reflect the name given to the child following birth.

[Child protection \(CP\) client file clusterChildren and Families](#), Superseded
22/11/2016

Implementation start date: 01/07/2012

Implementation end date: 30/06/2014

DSS specific information:

'Letters of name' is collected as one item in cell number 2 in the Client file of the CP NMDS.

The 2nd and 3rd letters of the client's given name are combined with the 2nd, 3rd and 5th letters of the client's family name to obtain the 5 digit letters of the client's name.

For children who were unborn at the time of the notification and who were subsequently born by 31 August, letters of name should reflect the name given to the child following birth.

[Child protection \(CP\) client file clusterChildren and Families](#), Superseded
20/04/2018

Implementation start date: 01/07/2014

Implementation end date: 30/06/2016

DSS specific information:

'Letters of name' is collected as one item in cell number 2 in the Client file of the CP NMDS.

The 2nd and 3rd letters of the client's given name are combined with the 2nd, 3rd and 5th letters of the client's family name to obtain the 5 digit letters of the client's name.

For children who were unborn at the time of the notification and who were subsequently born by 31 August, letters of name should reflect the name given to the child following birth.

[Child protection \(CP\) client file clusterChildren and Families](#), Superseded
20/01/2021

Implementation start date: 01/07/2015

Implementation end date: 30/06/2017

DSS specific information:

'Letters of name' is collected as one item in cell number 2 in the Client file of the CP NMDS.

The 2nd and 3rd letters of the client's given name are combined with the 2nd, 3rd and 5th letters of the client's family name to obtain the 5 digit letters of the client's name.

For children who were unborn at the time of the notification and who were subsequently born by 31 August, letters of name should reflect the name given to the child following birth.

[Child protection \(CP\) client file clusterChildren and Families](#), Standard
03/11/2021

DSS specific information:

'Letters of name' is collected as one item in cell number 2 in the Client file of the CP NMDS.

The 2nd and 3rd letters of the client's given name are combined with the 2nd, 3rd and 5th letters of the client's family name to obtain the 5 digit letters of the client's name.

For children who were unborn at the time of the notification and who were subsequently born by 31 August, letters of name should reflect the name given to the child following birth.

[Child protection \(CP\) client file clusterChildren and Families](#), Superseded 03/11/2021

DSS specific information:

'Letters of name' is collected as one item in cell number 2 in the Client file of the CP NMDS.

The 2nd and 3rd letters of the client's given name are combined with the 2nd, 3rd and 5th letters of the client's family name to obtain the 5 digit letters of the client's name.

For children who were unborn at the time of the notification and who were subsequently born by 31 August, letters of name should reflect the name given to the child following birth.

[Child protection and support services \(CPSS\) client clusterCommunity Services \(retired\)](#), Standard 30/04/2008

Implementation start date: 22/06/2007

[Children's Services NMDSCommunity Services \(retired\)](#), Superseded 21/05/2010

DSS specific information:

In the Children's Services NMDS, this is a specific combination of letters selected from the child's first given name to provide a child identifier within and across child care or preschool services and to assist with record linkage.

[Commonwealth State/Territory Disability Agreement NMDS - 1 July 2006Community Services \(retired\)](#), Superseded 14/12/2008

[Commonwealth State/Territory Disability Agreement NMDS \(July 2008\)Community Services \(retired\)](#), Superseded 11/11/2009

[Disability Services NMDS 2009-10Community Services \(retired\)](#), Superseded 15/12/2011

Implementation start date: 01/07/2009

[Disability Services NMDS 2010-11Community Services \(retired\)](#), Superseded 15/12/2011

Implementation start date: 01/07/2010

[Disability Services NMDS 2011-12Community Services \(retired\)](#), Superseded 13/03/2013

Implementation start date: 01/07/2011

[Early Childhood Education and Care: Unit Record Level NMDS 2011Early Childhood](#), Superseded 09/03/2012

Implementation start date: 01/07/2011

DSS specific information:

Should be reported for the child only, i.e. information not required for teachers.

[Early Childhood Education and Care: Unit Record Level NMDS 2011Early Childhood](#), Superseded 09/03/2012

Implementation start date: 01/07/2011

DSS specific information:

Should be reported for the child only, i.e. information not required for teachers.

[Early Childhood Education and Care: Unit Record Level NMDS 2012Early Childhood](#), Superseded 08/04/2013

Implementation start date: 01/07/2012

DSS specific information:

Should be reported for the child only, i.e. information not required for teachers.

[Early Childhood Education and Care: Unit Record Level NMDS 2013Early Childhood](#), Superseded 28/05/2014

Implementation start date: 01/07/2013

DSS specific information:

Should be reported for the child only, i.e. information not required for teachers.

[Early Childhood Education and Care: Unit Record Level NMDS 2014Early Childhood](#), Superseded 01/06/2015

Implementation start date: 01/07/2014

DSS specific information:

Should be reported for the child only.

[Early Childhood Education and Care: Unit Record Level NMDS 2015Early Childhood](#), Superseded 24/07/2018

Implementation start date: 01/07/2015

DSS specific information:

Should be reported for the child only.

[Early Childhood Education and Care: Unit Record Level NMDS 2016Early Childhood](#), Superseded 24/07/2018

Implementation start date: 01/07/2016

Implementation end date: 30/06/2017

DSS specific information:

Should be reported for the child only.

[Early Childhood Education and Care: Unit Record Level NMDS 2017Early Childhood](#), Superseded 24/07/2018

Implementation start date: 01/07/2017

Implementation end date: 30/06/2018

DSS specific information:

Should be reported for the child only.

[Early Childhood Education and Care: Unit Record Level NMDS 2018Early Childhood](#), Superseded 02/12/2020

Implementation start date: 01/07/2018

DSS specific information:

Should be reported for the child only.

[Early Childhood Education and Care: Unit Record Level NMDS 2019Early Childhood](#), Superseded 02/12/2020

Implementation start date: 01/07/2019

DSS specific information:

Should be reported for the child only.

[Early Childhood Education and Care: Unit Record Level NMDs 2020 Early Childhood](#), Superseded 25/10/2021

Implementation start date: 01/07/2020

DSS specific information:

Should be reported for the child only.

[Early Childhood Education and Care: Unit Record Level NMDs 2021 Early Childhood](#), Standard 25/10/2021

Implementation start date: 01/07/2021

DSS specific information:

Should be reported for the child only.

[Juvenile Justice Client file cluster Community Services \(retired\)](#), Standard 14/09/2009
[Youth Justice](#), Recorded 23/05/2022

Implementation start date: 24/09/2009

[Juvenile Justice Client file cluster Community Services \(retired\)](#), Not progressed 23/01/2018
[Youth Justice](#), Recorded 23/05/2022

DSS specific information:

'Letters of name' is collected as one item in cell number 2 and is a specific combination of the 2nd, 3rd and 5th letters of the person's family name and the 2nd and 3rd letters of the person's given name.

[Juvenile Justice NMDs 2007 Community Services \(retired\)](#), Superseded 19/05/2010

Implementation start date: 01/07/2005

[Public Housing and State Owned and Managed Indigenous housing \(PH & SOMIH\) DSS 2018-Housing assistance](#), Standard 10/05/2019

Implementation start date: 01/07/2018

[SAAP Client Collection National Minimum Data Set Community Services \(retired\)](#), Retired 01/07/2011

DSS specific information:

This data element should be collected for the client and for each accompanying child.

[Safety in care \(SC\) file cluster Children and Families](#), Standard 03/11/2021

DSS specific information:

'Letters of name' is collected as one item in cell number 2 in the Safety in care file of the CP NMDS.

The 2nd and 3rd letters of the client's given name are combined with the 2nd, 3rd and 5th letters of the client's family name to obtain the 5 digit letters of the client's name.

For children who were unborn at the time of the notification and who were subsequently born by 31 August, letters of name should reflect the name given to the child following birth.

[Safety in care \(SC\) file cluster Children and Families](#), Superseded 03/11/2021

DSS specific information:

'Letters of name' is collected as one item in cell number 2 in the Safety in care file of the CP NMDS.

The 2nd and 3rd letters of the client's given name are combined with the 2nd, 3rd and 5th letters of the client's family name to obtain the 5 digit letters of the client's name.

For children who were unborn at the time of the notification and who were subsequently born by 31 August, letters of name should reflect the name given to the child following birth.

[Statistical linkage key 581 cluster Community Services \(retired\)](#), Standard 21/05/2010

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

[Early Childhood](#), Standard 21/05/2010

[Health](#), Superseded 25/01/2018

[Homelessness](#), Superseded 10/08/2018

[Housing assistance](#), Standard 23/08/2010

[Statistical linkage key 581 cluster ACT Health \(retired\)](#), Candidate 09/08/2018

[Health](#), Superseded 17/12/2021

[Homelessness](#), Standard 10/08/2018

Implementation start date: 01/07/2018

[Statistical linkage key 581 clusterHealth](#), Standard 17/12/2021

Implementation start date: 01/07/2018

[Youth Justice Client file clusterYouth Justice](#), Standard 15/02/2022

DSS specific information:

'Letters of name' is collected as one item in cell number 2 and is a specific combination of the 2nd, 3rd and 5th letters of the person's family name and the 2nd and 3rd letters of the person's given name.

[Youth Justice Client file clusterYouth Justice](#), Recorded 23/05/2022

DSS specific information:

'Letters of name' is collected as one item in cell number 2 and is a specific combination of the 2nd, 3rd and 5th letters of the person's family name and the 2nd and 3rd letters of the person's given name.