

# Informal carer— relationship to care recipient, code N[N]

## Identifying and definitional attributes

<b>Metadata item type:</b>	Data Element
<b>Short name:</b>	Relationship of carer to care recipient
<b>Synonymous names:</b>	Carer relationship to care recipient
<b>METEOR identifier:</b>	376502
<b>Registration status:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <a href="#">Community Services (retired)</a>, Superseded 10/04/2013 [Non Dictionary]</li></ul>
<b>Definition:</b>	The relationship of the <a href="#">informal carer</a> to the person for whom they care as represented by a code.
<b>Context:</b>	Ageing, carers and disability.
<b>Data Element Concept:</b>	<a href="#">Informal carer—relationship to care recipient</a>

## Value domain attributes

## Representational attributes

<b>Representation class:</b>	Code
<b>Data type:</b>	Number
<b>Format:</b>	N[N]
<b>Maximum character length:</b>	2

**Permissible values:**

<b>Value</b>	<b>Meaning</b>
Spouse/partner	
1	Wife/female partner
2	Husband/male partner
Parent	
3	Mother
4	Father
Child	
5	Daughter
6	Son
Child-in-law	
7	Daughter-in-law
8	Son-in-law
Other relative	
9	Other female relative
10	Other male relative
Friend/neighbour	
11	Female friend
12	Male friend

**Supplementary values:**

<b>Value</b>	<b>Meaning</b>
99	Not stated/inadequately described

## Source and reference attributes

**Origin:** Commonwealth State/Territory Disability Agreement National Minimum Data Set (CSTDA NMDS) collection. Data Guide: data items and definitions 2006-07.

## Data element attributes

## Collection and usage attributes

**Guide for use:** This data element should always be used to record the relationship of the carer to the person for whom they care, regardless of whether the client of the agency is the carer or the person for whom they care.

When answering this question the person is asked to complete the sentence, 'The carer is the person's ...'

The expressed views of the client and/ or their carer or significant other should be used as the basis for determining which carer should be considered to be the primary or principal carer in this regard.

CODES 1 and 2 Male/Female partner

Include defacto and same sex partnerships.

CODES 3 and 4 Mother/Father

Includes foster parents

CODE 99 Not stated inadequately described

This code should only be recorded where the carer has not been identified. This code is not for use in primary data collections.

**Comments:** Information about this relationship assists in the establishment of a profile of informal caring relationships and the assistance provided to maintain and support those relationships. As such it increases knowledge about the dynamics of caring and provides an insight into the gender and inter-generational patterns of informal care giving in the community.

## Source and reference attributes

**Submitting organisation:** CSTDA NMDS Network.

**Origin:** Commonwealth State/Territory Disability Agreement National Minimum Data Set (CSTDA NMDS) collection. Data Guide: data items and definitions 2006-07.

**Reference documents:** National Community Services Data Dictionary V4.

## Relational attributes

**Related metadata references:** Supersedes [Informal carer—relationship to care recipient, CSTDA code N\[N\]](#)

- [Community Services \(retired\)](#), Superseded 11/11/2009

Has been superseded by [Informal carer—relationship to care recipient, interpersonal code N\[N\]](#)

- [Community Services \(retired\)](#), Standard 10/04/2013
- [Disability](#), Superseded 15/12/2017

**Implementation in Data Set Specifications:** [Disability Services NMDS 2009-10](#)  
[Community Services \(retired\)](#), Superseded 15/12/2011

**Implementation start date:** 01/07/2009

**DSS specific information:**

This data element should only be reported in relation to service users that have a carer.

A service user may have more than one family member or friend providing them with care and assistance. In such circumstances, this data element relates to the carer who is identified as providing the most significant amount and type of care and assistance. It is recognised that two or more people may equally share the caring role (e.g. mother and father) however, for the purposes of the DS NMDS collection, characteristics are only requested for one of these carers. The expressed views of the service user and/or their carer or significant other should be used as the basis for determining which carer should be considered to be the main carer in this regard.

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

**Implementation start date:** 01/07/2010

**DSS specific information:**

This data element should only be reported in relation to service users that have a carer.

A service user may have more than one family member or friend providing them with care and assistance. In such circumstances, this data element relates to the carer who is identified as providing the most significant amount and type of care and assistance. It is recognised that two or more people may equally share the caring role (e.g. mother and father) however, for the purposes of the DS NMDS collection, characteristics are only requested for one of these carers. The expressed views of the service user and/or their carer or significant other should be used as the basis for determining which carer should be considered to be the main carer in this regard.

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

**Implementation start date:** 01/07/2011

**DSS specific information:**

This data element should only be reported in relation to service users that have a carer.

A service user may have more than one family member or friend providing them with care and assistance. In such circumstances, this data element relates to the carer who is identified as providing the most significant amount and type of care and assistance. It is recognised that two or more people may equally share the caring role (e.g. mother and father) however, for the purposes of the DS NMDS collection, characteristics are only requested for one of these carers. The expressed views of the service user and/or their carer or significant other should be used as the basis for determining which carer should be considered to be the main carer in this regard.

[Disability Services NMDS 2012-14](#)

[Community Services \(retired\)](#), Standard 13/03/2013

**Implementation start date:** 01/07/2012

**Implementation end date:** 30/06/2014

**Conditional obligation:**

This data element should only be reported in relation to [service users](#) that have a carer ([Person—Informal carer existence indicator](#), code N = 1).

**DSS specific information:**

In the DS NMDS this refers to the person's main informal carer—the person who provides the most significant care and assistance related to the service user's capacity to remain living in their current environment. It is recognised that two or more people may equally share the caring role (e.g. mother and father) however, for the purposes of this collection, characteristics are only requested for one of these carers.

If a person has more than one carer (e.g. a spouse and a son), the coding response to carer relationship should relate to the carer who provides the most significant care and assistance related to the person's capacity to remain living in their current environment (i.e. the main carer). The expressed views of the service user and/or their carer or significant other should be considered to be the primary or principal carer in this regard.

Code 9 (other female relative), allows for the wide range of family members who may be involved in a caring role with the service user. This code therefore includes the female family members not listed in the codes elsewhere (e.g. aunts, nieces, female cousins, grandmothers, step mother, step daughters and so on).

Similarly, code 10 (other male relative) covers the range of male family members who may act as carers. This code includes the male family members not listed in the codes elsewhere (e.g. uncles, nephews, male cousins, grandfathers, male grandchildren, step father, step sons and so on).

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