

# Family formation and functioning

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## Identifying and definitional attributes

<b>Item type:</b>	Framework Dimension
<b>METEOR identifier:</b>	392696
<b>Description:</b>	<p>Families are the core unit of society in which people are supported and cared for and social values are developed. The role of each member within a family can be affected by changes in family situations and changes in the formation of the family itself. How well families function is a key factor in their ability to nurture personal wellbeing and serve as the basis for a cohesive society.</p> <p>The structure of Australian families has undergone considerable transformation over recent years, reflecting wider social, demographic and economic changes. Further sub-dimensions include: social marriage status, family composition and age-specific and divorce rates. Together, they illustrate some of the main ways in which the concept of family continues to develop and change.</p>