

Person—marital status, Tasmanian code X{XX}

Identifying and definitional attributes

Metadata item type:	Data Element
Short name:	Marital status
METEOR identifier:	442345
Registration status:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Tasmanian Health, Standard 01/09/2016
Definition:	A person's current relationship status in terms of a couple relationship or, for those not in a couple relationship, the existence of a current or previous registered marriage, as represented by a code.
Data Element Concept:	Person—marital status

Value domain attributes

Representational attributes

Representation class:	Code														
Data type:	String														
Format:	X{XX}														
Maximum character length:	3														
Permissible values:	<table><thead><tr><th>Value</th><th>Meaning</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td>D</td><td>Divorced</td></tr><tr><td>F</td><td>Defacto</td></tr><tr><td>M</td><td>Married</td></tr><tr><td>S</td><td>Single</td></tr><tr><td>W</td><td>Widowed</td></tr><tr><td>X</td><td>Separated</td></tr></tbody></table>	Value	Meaning	D	Divorced	F	Defacto	M	Married	S	Single	W	Widowed	X	Separated
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Supplementary values:	<table><thead><tr><th>Value</th><th>Meaning</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td>U</td><td>Unknown</td></tr><tr><td>NSP</td><td>Not specified</td></tr></tbody></table>	Value	Meaning	U	Unknown	NSP	Not specified
Value	Meaning						
U	Unknown						
NSP	Not specified						

Collection and usage attributes

Guide for use:

Refers to the current marital status of a person.

CODE D Divorced

This code refers to registered marriages but when self reported may also refer to de facto marriages.

CODE F & M De facto & Married (registered and de facto)

Includes people who have been divorced or widowed but have since re-married, and should be generally accepted as applicable to all de facto couples, including of the same sex.

CODE S Single

This code refers to people who have never been married or been in a de facto marriages.

CODE W Widow

This code usually refers to registered marriages but when self reported may also refer to de facto marriages.

CODE X Separated

This code refers to registered marriages but when self reported may also refer to de facto marriages.

CODE U & NSP Unknown & Not specified

These codes are not for use on primary collection forms. They are primarily for use in administrative collections when transferring data from data sets where the item has not been collected.

Data element attributes

Collection and usage attributes

Collection methods:

This metadata item collects information on social marital status. The recommended question module is:

Do you/Does the person usually live with a partner in a registered or de facto marriage?

Yes, in a registered marriage

Yes, in a de facto marriage

No, never married

No, separated

No, divorced

No, widowed

It should be noted that information on marital status is collected differently by the ABS, using a set of questions. However, the question outlined above is suitable and mostly sufficient for use within the health and community services fields. See Source document for information on how to access the ABS standards.

While agencies are encouraged to use the recommended question described above, it is acknowledged that this is not always possible in practice. For example, where the data collection is a by-product of the provision of a health or community service, the information may be ascertained using different means. However, the recommended question should be used wherever practically possible.

Comments:

The ABS standards identify two concepts of marital status:

- Registered marital status - defined as whether a person has, or has had, a registered marriage;
- Social marital status - based on a person's living arrangement (including de facto marriages), as reported by the person.

It is recommended that the social marital status concept be collected when information on social support/home arrangements is sought, whereas the registered marital status concept need only be collected where it is specifically required for the purposes of the collection.

While marital status is an important factor in assessing the type and extent of support needs, such as for the elderly living in the home environment, marital status does not adequately address the need for information about social support and living arrangement and other data elements need to be formulated to capture this information.

Relational attributes

Implementation in Data Set Specifications:

[Person related data elements \(TDLU\) cluster](#)
[Tasmanian Health](#), Standard 18/05/2021

Implementation start date: 01/07/2020

Implementation end date: 30/06/2021

[Tasmanian Demographics Data Set - 2016](#)
[Tasmanian Health](#), Superseded 05/07/2017

Implementation start date: 01/07/2016

Implementation end date: 30/06/2017

[Tasmanian Demographics Data Set - 2017](#)
[Tasmanian Health](#), Superseded 10/01/2018

Implementation start date: 01/07/2017

Implementation end date: 30/06/2018

[Tasmanian Demographics Data Set - 2018](#)
[Tasmanian Health](#), Superseded 05/04/2019

Implementation start date: 01/07/2018

Implementation end date: 30/06/2019

[Tasmanian Demographics Data Set - 2019](#)
[Tasmanian Health](#), Superseded 17/06/2020

Implementation start date: 01/07/2019

Implementation end date: 30/06/2020

[Tasmanian Demographics Data Set - 2020](#)
[Tasmanian Health](#), Standard 15/06/2020

Implementation start date: 01/07/2020

Implementation end date: 30/06/2021

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