

Language code (ASCL 2011) NN{NN}

Identifying and definitional attributes

Metadata item type:	Value Domain
METEOR identifier:	460118
Registration status:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Children and Families, Superseded 20/01/2021• Community Services (retired), Standard 13/10/2011• Disability, Standard 13/08/2015• Health, Superseded 25/01/2018• Homelessness, Superseded 10/08/2018• Housing assistance, Standard 13/10/2011• Tasmanian Health, Superseded 27/06/2017

Definition: The Australian Standard Classification of Languages (ASCL 2011) code set representing languages.

Representational attributes

Classification scheme:	Australian Standard Classification of Languages 2011
Representation class:	Code
Data type:	Number
Format:	NN{NN}
Maximum character length:	4

Collection and usage attributes

Guide for use: The Australian Standard Classification of Languages (ASCL) has a three-level hierarchical structure. The most detailed level of the classification consists of base units (languages) which are represented by four-digit codes. The second level of the classification comprises narrow groups of languages (the Narrow group level), identified by the first two digits. The most general level of the classification consists of broad groups of languages (the Broad group level) and is identified by the first digit. The classification includes Australian Indigenous languages and sign languages.

For example, the Lithuanian language has a code of 3102. In this case 3 denotes that it is an Eastern European language, while 31 denotes that it is a Baltic language. The Pintupi Aboriginal language is coded as 8713. In this case 8 denotes that it is an Australian Indigenous language and 87 denotes that the language is a Western Desert language.

Language data may be output at the Broad group level, Narrow group level or base level of the classification. If necessary, significant languages within a Narrow group can be presented separately while the remaining languages in the Narrow group are aggregated. The same principle can be adopted to highlight significant Narrow groups within a Broad group.

Source and reference attributes

Revision status: If you require further information about this classification please email: standards@abs.gov.au.

Relational attributes

Related metadata references:

Supersedes [Language code \(ASCL 2005\) NN{NN}](#)

- [Community Services \(retired\)](#), Superseded 13/10/2011
- [Health](#), Superseded 13/10/2011
- [Housing assistance](#), Standard 10/02/2006

Has been superseded by [Language code \(ASCL 2016\) N{NNN}](#)

- [ACT Health \(retired\)](#), Candidate 08/08/2018
- [Children and Families](#), Standard 20/01/2021
- [Commonwealth Department of Social Services \(retired\)](#), Standard 20/06/2018
- [Health](#), Standard 25/01/2018
- [Homelessness](#), Standard 10/08/2018
- [Tasmanian Health](#), Standard 27/06/2017

Data elements implementing this value domain:

[Individual service provider—provider's clinically proficient language, code \(ASCL 2011\) NN{NN}](#)

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

[Person—first language spoken, code \(ASCL 2011\) NN{NN}](#)

- [Community Services \(retired\)](#), Standard 13/10/2011
- [Disability](#), Standard 13/08/2015
- [Health](#), Standard 13/10/2011
- [Homelessness](#), Superseded 10/08/2018
- [Housing assistance](#), Standard 13/10/2011

[Person—main language other than English spoken at home, code \(ASCL 2011\) NN{NN}](#)

- [Children and Families](#), Superseded 20/01/2021
- [Community Services \(retired\)](#), Standard 13/10/2011
- [Disability](#), Standard 13/08/2015
- [Health](#), Superseded 25/01/2018
- [Homelessness](#), Superseded 10/08/2018
- [Housing assistance](#), Standard 13/10/2011

[Person—preferred language, code \(ASCL 2011\) NN{NN}](#)

- [Community Services \(retired\)](#), Standard 13/10/2011
- [Health](#), Superseded 25/01/2018
- [Homelessness](#), Superseded 10/08/2018
- [Housing assistance](#), Standard 13/10/2011
- [Tasmanian Health](#), Superseded 27/06/2017