Remoteness classification (ASGC-RA) N

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Identifying and definitional attributes

Metadata item type:	Value Domain
METEOR identifier:	466873
Registration status:	Community Services (retired), Standard 10/04/2013 Disability, Standard 13/08/2015 Health, Superseded 21/11/2013 Housing assistance, Standard 01/05/2013
Definition:	Australian Standard Geographical Classification-Remoteness Area (ASGC-RA) is a geographical classification which defines locations in terms of remoteness, i.e. the physical distance of a location from the nearest **Urban Centre**.
Context:	Geographic remoteness is essentially a measure of a physical location's level of access to goods and services. Large population centres tend to have a greater range of goods and services available than small centres. Typically, a population centre is not likely to provide a full range of goods and services until its population reaches around 250,000 people.

The measures of remoteness used by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) are based on population estimates obtained from the Census of Population and Housing, conducted every 5 years. Remoteness measures are calculated using Accessibility/Remoteness Index of Australia (ARIA+) scores, which are based on the distance of geographic locations from the nearest population centre in various size ranges. The lower the ARIA+ score for a location, the better its level of access to goods and services.

Information in relation to how remoteness is defined and calculated is available from the Geography portal on the ABS website.

Information in relation to how ARIA+ scores are calculated for physical locations is available from the National Centre for Social Applications of Geographic Information Systems (GISCA) website.

Representational attributes

Representation class:	Code
Data type:	String
Format:	N
Maximum character length:	1

	Value	Meaning
Permissible values:	1	Major cities of Australia
	2	Inner regional Australia
	3	Outer regional Australia
	4	Remote Australia
	5	Very remote Australia
	6	Migratory
Supplementary values:	9	Not stated/inadequately described

Collection and usage attributes

Guide for use:	CODE 1 Major cities of Australia
	'Major cities of Australia' includes Census Collection Districts (CDs) with an average Accessibility/Remoteness Index of Australia (ARIA+) index value of 0 to 0.2.
	CODE 2 Inner regional Australia
	'Inner regional Australia' includes CDs with an average ARIA+ index value greater than 0.2 and less than or equal to 2.4.
	CODE 3 Outer regional Australia
	'Outer regional Australia' includes CDs with an average ARIA+ index value greater than 2.4 and less than or equal to 5.92.
	CODE 4 Remote Australia
	'Remote Australia' includes CDs with an average ARIA+ index value greater than 5.92 and less than or equal to 10.53.
	CODE 5 Very remote Australia
	'Very remote Australia' includes CDs with an average ARIA+ index value greater than 10.53.
	CODE 6 Migratory
	'Migratory' is composed of off-shore, shipping and migratory CDs.
Collection Methods:	In this value domain, physical distance is defined in terms of ARIA+ codes, rather than a simple linear distance between points.
	The list of permissible values for this value domain, i.e. codes 1 to 6, is intended to be directly mappable to the values used by the ABS to describe remoteness areas, i.e. codes 0 to 5.
Comments:	In its initial form, as developed by GISCA and the then Department of Health and Aged Care in 1999, ARIA scores ranged from 0 to 12 and were based on proximity to 4 points of reference.
	A new version, ARIA+, was introduced in 2003, with ARIA+ scores now based on proximity to 5 points of reference. Also, changes were made to allow for more accurate estimation of the cost of travelling from Tasmania to the mainland, and to increase accuracy for locations at the urban fringe.

Source and reference attributes

Submitting organisation:	Australian Institute of Health and Welfare
Origin:	Information relating to remoteness is available from the Geography portal on the ABS website:
	Australian Bureau of Statistics 2011. ABS Geography. Viewed 14 November 2011,
	http://www.abs.gov.au/websitedbs/D3310114.nsf/home/Geography
	Information relating to the development of the ARIA and ARIA+ scores by the National Centre for Social Applications of Geographic Information Systems (GISCA) is available from the GISCA website:
	National Centre for Social Applications of Geographic Information Systems 2011. ARIA - Accessibility/Remoteness Index of Australia. Viewed 14 November 2011, http://gisca.adelaide.edu.au/projects/aria_project.html

Relational attributes

Related metadata references:	Has been superseded by [Remoteness classification (ASGS-RA) N](#) [Health](#), Superseded 06/09/2018
	See also [Admitted patient care remoteness classification (ASGC-RA) N](#) [Health](#), Standard 07/12/2011
Data elements implementing this value domain:	[Dwelling—geographic remoteness, classification (ASGC-RA) N](#) [Housing assistance](#), Superseded 10/05/2019
	[Dwelling—geographic remoteness, classification (ASGC-RA) N](#) [Housing assistance](#), Superseded 30/08/2017
	[Health-care incident—geographic remoteness, remoteness classification (ASGC-RA) N](#) [Health](#), Superseded 21/11/2013
	[Person—geographic remoteness, classification (ASGC-RA) N](#) [Community Services (retired)](#), Standard 10/04/2013 [Disability](#), Standard 13/08/2015

Classification scheme attributes

Classification scheme:	[Australian Standard Geographical Classification 2010](#)
Synonymous names:	ASGC 2010
METEOR identifier:	417518
Definition:	The Australian Bureau of Statistics classification for the classification of geographical locations.
Registration status:	[Community Services (retired)](#), Superseded 26/10/2011 [Health](#), Superseded 22/11/2011

Collection and usage attributes

Source and reference attributes

Submitting organisation:	Australian Institute of Health and Welfare
Origin:	Australian Bureau of Statistics 2006. [Australian Standard Geographical Classification (ASGC). Cat No. 1216.0.](#) Canberra: ABS. Viewed on 16/09/2010.