

# Adoption—adoption consent, code N

## Identifying and definitional attributes

<b>Metadata item type:</b>	Data Element
<b>Short name:</b>	Adoption consent
<b>METEOR identifier:</b>	468460
<b>Registration status:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <a href="#">Community Services (retired)</a>, Standard 20/05/2013</li></ul>
<b>Definition:</b>	The type of consent given for a child <a href="#">adoption</a> , as represented by a code.
<b>Data Element Concept:</b>	<a href="#">Adoption—adoption consent</a>

## Value domain attributes

### Representational attributes

<b>Representation class:</b>	Code										
<b>Data type:</b>	Number										
<b>Format:</b>	N										
<b>Maximum character length:</b>	1										
<b>Permissible values:</b>	<table><thead><tr><th>Value</th><th>Meaning</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td>1</td><td>Consent from birth mother only (birth father's consent dispensed/not required)</td></tr><tr><td>2</td><td>Consent from birth father only (with dispensation of birth mother's consent)</td></tr><tr><td>3</td><td>Consent from both birth parents</td></tr><tr><td>4</td><td>Consent of both birth parents dispensed/not required</td></tr></tbody></table>	Value	Meaning	1	Consent from birth mother only (birth father's consent dispensed/not required)	2	Consent from birth father only (with dispensation of birth mother's consent)	3	Consent from both birth parents	4	Consent of both birth parents dispensed/not required
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<b>Supplementary values:</b>	<table><thead><tr><th>Value</th><th>Meaning</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td>9</td><td>Not stated/inadequately described</td></tr></tbody></table>	Value	Meaning	9	Not stated/inadequately described						
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## Collection and usage attributes

**Guide for use:** CODE 1 Consent from birth mother only (birth father's consent dispensed/not required)

A child is legally available for adoption if all the necessary consents to the child's adoption have been obtained or dispensed with.

Consent for local adoptions is usually required from both birth parents. Therefore, dispensation of consent is usually only provided by the relevant court in each state/territory when the birth parent(s) are unable to give consent themselves.

Dispensation is a legal process by which a court may declare that the consent of a parent is not required for an adoption order to be granted. Grounds for dispensation applications are set under individual state and territory legislation. In some jurisdictions, where the birth father's identity is unknown, his consent is not required and so it is not necessary to dispense with his consent. In these cases, consent is only required from the birth mother, and there is no dispensation of the birth father's consent.

## Source and reference attributes

**Submitting organisation:** Australian Institute of Health and Welfare

**Steward:** [Australian Institute of Health and Welfare](#)

## Data element attributes

### Relational attributes

**Related metadata references:** Has been superseded by [Adoption—adoption consent, code N](#)

- [Children and Families](#), Superseded 03/11/2021

**Implementation in Data Set Specifications:**

[Adoptions DSS 2011-13](#)  
[Community Services \(retired\)](#), Standard 20/05/2013

*Implementation start date:* 01/07/2011

*Implementation end date:* 30/06/2013

*Conditional obligation:*

Conditional on adoption type being a 'local' adoption.

[Adoptions DSS 2013-14](#)  
[Community Services \(retired\)](#), Recorded 20/03/2014

*Implementation start date:* 01/07/2013

*Implementation end date:* 30/06/2016

*Conditional obligation:*

Conditional on adoption type being a 'local' adoption.

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