

Person—co-existing disability group, code N(N)

Exported from METEOR (AIHW's Metadata Online Registry)

© Australian Institute of Health and Welfare 2024

This product, excluding the AIHW logo, Commonwealth Coat of Arms and any material owned by a third party or protected by a trademark, has been released under a Creative Commons BY 4.0 (CC BY 4.0) licence. Excluded material owned by third parties may include, for example, design and layout, images obtained under licence from third parties and signatures. We have made all reasonable efforts to identify and label material owned by third parties.

You may distribute, remix and build on this website's material but must attribute the AIHW as the copyright holder, in line with our attribution policy. The full terms and conditions of this licence are available at <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/>.

Enquiries relating to copyright should be addressed to info@aihw.gov.au.

Enquiries or comments on the METEOR metadata or download should be directed to the METEOR team at meteor@aihw.gov.au.

Person—co-existing disability group, code N(N)

Identifying and definitional attributes

Metadata item type:	Data Element
Short name:	Co-existing disability group
METEOR identifier:	491624
Registration status:	Community Services (retired) , Standard 10/04/2013 [Non Dictionary] Disability , Superseded 15/12/2017
Definition:	The impairments for a person in body structure or function, limitations in activities or restrictions in participation that exist at the same time as the primary disability, as represented by a code.
Data Element Concept:	Person—co-existing disability group
Value Domain:	Disability group code N[N]

Value domain attributes

Representational attributes

Representation class:	Code	
Data type:	Number	
Format:	N[N]	
Maximum character length:	2	
Permissible values:	Value	Meaning
	Intellectual/learning	
	1	Intellectual (including Down syndrome)
	2	Specific learning/Attention Deficit Disorder (ADD) (other than intellectual)
	3	Autism (including Asperger's syndrome and Pervasive Developmental Delay)
	12	Developmental delay
	Physical/diverse	
	4	Physical
	5	Acquired brain injury
	6	Neurological (including epilepsy and Alzheimer's disease)
	Sensory/speech	
	7	Deafblind (dual sensory)
	8	Vision (sensory)
	9	Hearing (sensory)
	10	Speech
	Psychiatric	
	11	Psychiatric
Supplementary values:	99	Not stated/Inadequately described

Collection and usage attributes

Guide for use:

CODE 1 Intellectual (including Down syndrome)

Applies to conditions appearing in the developmental period (age 0–18 years) associated with impairments of mental functions, difficulties in learning and performing certain daily life skills and limitations of adaptive skills in the context of community environments compared to others of the same age.

Includes: Down syndrome, tuberous sclerosis, cri-du-chat syndrome.

CODE 2 Specific learning/Attention Deficit Disorder (ADD) (other than intellectual)

Learning disability is a general term referring to a group of disabilities, presumed due to central nervous system dysfunction rather than an intellectual disability, covering significant difficulties in the acquisition and use of organisational skills, listening, speaking, reading, writing, reasoning or mathematical skills.

CODE 3 Autism (including Asperger's syndrome and Pervasive Developmental Delay)

Autism is used to describe pervasive developmental disorders involving disturbances in cognition, interpersonal communication, social interactions and behaviour (in particular obsessive, ritualistic, stereotyped and rigid behaviours).

Includes: Asperger's syndrome and Pervasive Developmental Delay.

CODE 4 Physical

Physical disability is used to describe conditions that are attributable to a physical cause or impact on the ability to perform physical activities, such as mobility. Physical disability often includes impairments of the neuromusculoskeletal systems including, for example, the effects of paraplegia, quadriplegia, muscular dystrophy, motor neurone disease, neuromuscular disorders, cerebral palsy, absence or deformities of limbs, spina bifida, arthritis, back disorders, ataxia, bone formation or degeneration, scoliosis.

Includes: impairments of the neuromusculoskeletal systems including, for example, the effects of paraplegia, quadriplegia, muscular dystrophy, motor neurone disease, neuromuscular disorders, cerebral palsy, absence or deformities of limbs, spina bifida, arthritis, back disorders, ataxia, bone formation or degeneration, scoliosis.

CODE 5 Acquired brain injury

Acquired brain injury is used to describe multiple disabilities arising from damage to the brain acquired after birth. Results in deterioration in cognitive, physical, emotional or independent functioning. May be as a result of accidents, stroke, brain tumours, infection, poisoning, lack of oxygen or degenerative neurological disease.

CODE 6 Neurological (including epilepsy and Alzheimer's disease)

Neurological disability applies to impairments of the nervous system occurring after birth, includes epilepsy and organic dementias (e.g. Alzheimer's disease) as well as such conditions as multiple sclerosis and Parkinson's disease.

CODE 7 Deafblind (dual sensory)

Deafblind refers to dual sensory impairments associated with severe restrictions in communication, and participation in community life.

Deafblindness is not just vision impairment with a hearing loss, or a hearing loss with a vision impairment. Deafblindness is a unique disability of its own requiring distinct communication and teaching practices.

CODE 8 Vision (sensory)

Vision disability encompasses blindness and vision impairment (not corrected by glasses or contact lenses), which can cause severe restriction in communication

and mobility, and in the ability to participate in community life.

CODE 9 Hearing (sensory)

Hearing disability encompasses deafness, hearing impairment, hearing loss.

CODE 10 Speech

Speech disability encompasses speech loss, impairment and/or difficulty in being understood.

CODE 11 Psychiatric

Psychiatric disability includes recognisable symptoms and behaviour patterns, frequently associated with distress, which may impair personal functioning in normal social activity. Includes the typical effects of conditions such as schizophrenia, affective disorders, anxiety disorders, addictive behaviours, personality disorders, stress, psychosis, depression and adjustment disorders.

For psychiatric disability one would normally expect there to be a diagnosis. General issues with behaviour (where there is no specific diagnosis) should be reflected in the support needs data (e.g. support needs in relation to 'interpersonal interactions and relationships') rather than here in 'disability group'.

Includes: schizophrenia, affective disorders, anxiety disorders, addictive behaviours, personality disorders, stress, psychosis, depression and adjustment disorders.

CODE 12 Developmental delay

Applies to children aged 0–5 where conditions have appeared in the early developmental period, but no specific diagnosis has been made and the specific disability group is not yet known.

Data element attributes

Collection and usage attributes

Guide for use:

Multiple options may be chosen for co-existing disability group(s) making sure they are different to the option chosen for the primary group. For example, a person with a primary disability group of acquired brain injury (code 5), who also requires support in aspects of their life due to a speech disability and a psychiatric disability, should be recorded as code 10 (speech) and code 11 (psychiatric). Code 5 should not be recorded in this example, since acquired brain injury would already have been reported under the data element Primary disability group.

This data element should ideally reflect the views of both the service user and the funded agency. If there is a difference, the funded agency's assessment should be recorded.

Relational attributes

Related metadata references:

Has been superseded by [Person—co-existing disability group, code N\(N\) Disability](#). Standard 15/12/2017

Implementation in Data Set Specifications: [Disability and need for assistance cluster](#)
[Community Services \(retired\)](#), Standard 10/04/2013
[Disability](#), Standard 13/08/2015

[Disability Services NMDS 2014-15](#)

[Disability](#), Superseded 29/02/2016

Implementation start date: 01/07/2014

Implementation end date: 30/06/2015

Conditional obligation: In the Disability Services National Minimum Data Set, this data item is only answered if the service user has another disability in addition to their [primary disability](#).

[Disability Services NMDS 2015–16](#)

[Disability](#), Superseded 28/09/2016

Implementation start date: 01/07/2015

Implementation end date: 30/06/2016

Conditional obligation:

In the Disability Services Minimum Data Set (DS NMDS), this data element is only answered if the [service user](#) has another disability in addition to their 'primary disability' (as captured in '[Person—primary disability group, code N\[N\]](#)').

[Disability Services NMDS 2016–17](#)

[Disability](#), Superseded 15/12/2017

Implementation start date: 01/07/2016

Implementation end date: 30/06/2017

Conditional obligation:

In the Disability Services National Minimum Data Set (DS NMDS), this data element is only answered if the [service user](#) has another disability in addition to their 'primary disability' (as captured in '[Person—primary disability group, code N\[N\]](#)').