

Person—Indigenous status, code AAA

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Person—Indigenous status, code AAA

Identifying and definitional attributes

Metadata item type:	Data Element
Short name:	Patient Indigenous status code
Synonymous names:	PER_INDIGENOUS_STATUS_CODE; INDIGENOUS_STATUS
METEOR identifier:	562180
Registration status:	WA Health , Standard 19/03/2015
Definition:	The code that represents whether a person identifies as being of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander origin. This is in accordance with the first two of three components of the Commonwealth definition.

Data element concept attributes

Identifying and definitional attributes

Data element concept:	Person—Indigenous status
METEOR identifier:	269618
Registration status:	Community Services (retired) , Standard 01/03/2005 Independent Hospital Pricing Authority , Standard 01/11/2012 WA Health , Standard 06/03/2014 Health , Superseded 19/11/2015 Disability , Superseded 29/02/2016 Tasmanian Health , Superseded 01/09/2016 Children and Families , Standard 22/11/2016 Housing assistance , Superseded 30/08/2017 Indigenous , Superseded 16/10/2017 Early Childhood , Superseded 24/07/2018 Homelessness , Superseded 10/08/2018 Youth Justice , Qualified 22/12/2022
Definition:	Indigenous Status is a measure of whether a person identifies as being of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander origin. This is in accord with the first two of three components of the Commonwealth definition.
Context:	Australia's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples occupy a unique place in Australian society and culture. In the current climate of reconciliation, accurate and consistent statistics about Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples are needed in order to plan, promote and deliver essential services, to monitor changes in wellbeing and to account for government expenditure in this area. The purpose of this metadata item is to provide information about people who identify as being of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander origin. Agencies or establishments wishing to determine the eligibility of individuals for particular benefits, services or rights will need to make their own judgments about the suitability of the standard measure for these purposes, having regard to the specific eligibility criteria for the program concerned.
Object class:	Person
Property:	Indigenous status

Source and reference attributes

Submitting organisation: Australian Institute of Health and Welfare

Value domain attributes

Identifying and definitional attributes

Value domain: [Indigenous status code AAA](#)
METEOR identifier: 562177
Registration status: [WA Health](#), Standard 19/03/2015
Definition: A set of alphabetic characters that represents whether a person identifies as being of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander origin.

Representational attributes

Representation class: Code
Data type: String
Format: AAA
Maximum character length: 3

	Value	Meaning
Permissible values:	ABG	Aboriginal but not Torres Strait Islander
	ABT	Both Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander
	TSI	Torres Strait Islander but not Aboriginal
Supplementary values:	OTH	Neither Aboriginal nor Torres Strait Islander
	NSP	Not specified
	UNK	Unknown

Data element attributes

Collection and usage attributes

Collection methods:

The classification for Indigenous status has a hierarchical structure comprising two levels. There are four categories at the detailed level of the classification which are grouped into two categories at the broad level. The classification is as follows:

Indigenous:

- Aboriginal but not Torres Strait Islander
- Torres Strait Islander but not Aboriginal
- Both Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander.

Non-Indigenous:

- Neither Aboriginal nor Torres Strait Islander.

This data item is a mandatory item for national reporting, using the data element:

[Person-Indigenous status, code N](#)

Local codes are mapped to national codes for reporting purposes:

Local codes (NAPAAWL codes)	National codes
ABG Aboriginal but not Torres Strait Islander	1 Aboriginal but not Torres Strait Islander origin
TSI Torres Strait Islander but not Aboriginal	2 Torres Strait Islander but not Aboriginal origin
ABT Both Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander	3 Both Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander origin
OTH Neither Aboriginal nor Torres Strait Islander	4 Neither Aboriginal nor Torres Strait Islander origin
NSP Not specified	9 Not stated/inadequately described
UNK Unknown	

The synonymous name PER_INDIGENOUS_STATUS_CODE is used for local reporting purposes.

The nationally reported data element has the synonymous name INDIGENOUS_STATUS.

Comments:

The following definition, commonly known as 'The Commonwealth Definition', was given in a High Court judgement in the case of Commonwealth v Tasmania (1983) 46 ALR 625.

'An Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander is a person of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander descent who identifies as an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander and is accepted as such by the community in which he or she lives'.

There are three components to the Commonwealth definition:

- descent
- self-identification
- community acceptance.

In practice, it is not feasible to collect information on the community acceptance part of this definition in general purpose statistical and administrative collections and therefore standard questions on Indigenous status relate to descent and self-identification only.

Source and reference attributes

Origin: National Health Data Committee
National Community Services Data Committee

Reference documents: Australian Bureau of Statistics 1999. [Standards for Social, Labour and Demographic Variables. Cultural Diversity Variables](#), Canberra. Viewed 3 August 2005.

Relational attributes

Related metadata references: Has been superseded by [Person—Indigenous status, code AAA](#)
[WA Health](#), Standard 01/06/2017

Implementation in Data Set Specifications: [WA Health Non-Admitted Patient Activity and Wait List Data Collection \(NAPAAWL DC\) 2013-14](#)
[WA Health](#), Standard 19/03/2015

DSS specific information:

This data item is a mandatory item for national reporting in the:

[Non-admitted patient DSS 2013-14](#)

[Activity based funding: Non-admitted patient care DSS 2013-2014](#)

It is reported nationally using the data element:

[Person-Indigenous status, code N](#)

[WA Health Non-Admitted Patient Activity and Wait List Data Collection \(NAPAAWL DC\) 2014-15](#)

[WA Health](#), Standard 24/04/2015

DSS specific information:

This data item is a mandatory item for national reporting in the:

[Non-admitted patient DSS 2014-15](#)

It is reported nationally using the data element:

[Person-Indigenous status, code N](#)