

# Pharmacy—Australian state/territory identifier, ACT-prioritised code AA[A]

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# Pharmacy—Australian state/territory identifier, ACT-prioritised code AA[A]

## Identifying and definitional attributes

<b>Metadata item type:</b>	Data Element
<b>Short name:</b>	Australian state/territory identifier (pharmacy) (ACT-prioritised)
<b>METEOR identifier:</b>	601054
<b>Registration status:</b>	<a href="#">Commonwealth Department of Health</a> , Retired 19/10/2023
<b>Definition:</b>	An identifier of the Australian state or territory in which the pharmacy is located, as represented by a code.
<b>Data Element Concept:</b>	<a href="#">Pharmacy—Australian state/territory identifier</a>
<b>Value Domain:</b>	<a href="#">ACT-prioritised Australian state/territory code AA[A]</a>

## Value domain attributes

## Representational attributes

<b>Representation class:</b>	Code	
<b>Data type:</b>	String	
<b>Format:</b>	AA[A]	
<b>Maximum character length:</b>	3	
<b>Permissible values:</b>	<b>Value</b>	<b>Meaning</b>
	ACT	Australian Capital Territory
	NSW	New South Wales
	VIC	Victoria
	QLD	Queensland
	SA	South Australia
	WA	Western Australia
	TAS	Tasmania
	NT	Northern Territory
<b>Supplementary values:</b>	UNK	Unknown

## Collection and usage attributes

## Guide for use:

Care should be taken when using this value domain as it presents the Australian states/territories in an order different to those most commonly used by agencies such as the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) and the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW).

The state/territory order presented in this value domain is known to be used in the underlying information systems of the Medicare Benefits Scheme (MBS) and the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS), and possibly reflects the historical data management practices of some Canberra-based Commonwealth government agencies, whereby Canberra (and by extension, the ACT) was considered to represent something like 'Central office' or 'Head office'.

Agencies such as the ABS and AIHW publish data in state/territory order based on population.

The ABS-preferred order (NSW, Vic., Qld, SA, WA, Tas., NT and ACT) reflects historic relative state/territory populations and has been retained by the ABS to preserve continuity of presentation and minimise the risk of error in the handling or interpreting of data.

The AIHW-preferred order reflects more recent trends in the relative populations of the states/territories, i.e. as above, but with WA before SA and ACT before NT.

## Source and reference attributes

**Submitting organisation:** Department of Health

**Reference documents:** Australian Bureau of Statistics. [Australian Statistical Geography Standard \(ASGS\): Volume 1 - Main Structure and Greater Capital City Statistical Areas, July 2011](#). ABS cat. no. 1270.0.55.001. Canberra: ABS.

## Data element attributes

### Source and reference attributes

**Submitting organisation:** Department of Health

### Relational attributes

**Related metadata references:** See also [Establishment—Australian state/territory identifier, code N Health](#), Superseded 18/12/2019

See also [Establishment—Australian state/territory identifier, code N Australian Institute of Health and Welfare](#), Recorded 25/03/2024  
[Health](#), Recorded 23/04/2024

See also [Establishment—Australian state/territory identifier, code N Health](#), Standard 18/12/2019

**Implementation in Data Set Specifications:** [Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme \(PBS\) state/territory data extract 2013-14 Commonwealth Department of Health](#), Retired 19/10/2023

**Implementation start date:** 01/07/2013

**Implementation end date:** 30/06/2014

**DSS specific information:**

Variable name = PHCY\_STATE

In the context of PBS data, this data element describes the location (physical address) of the dispensing pharmacy. It is referred to within the PBS system as 'Pharmacy state'.