

# Person—sex

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|-----------------------------|--|
| <b>Metadata item type:</b>  | Data Element Concept   |
| <b>METEOR identifier:</b>   | 635233   |
| <b>Registration status:</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <a href="#">Children and Families</a>, Recorded 18/05/2020</li><li>• <a href="#">Early Childhood</a>, Standard 24/07/2018</li><li>• <a href="#">Health</a>, Superseded 15/02/2022</li><li>• <a href="#">Homelessness</a>, Standard 10/08/2018</li><li>• <a href="#">Indigenous</a>, Standard 16/10/2017</li><li>• <a href="#">Tasmanian Health</a>, Standard 09/01/2018</li><li>• <a href="#">Youth Justice</a>, Recorded 23/05/2022</li></ul> |

**Definition:** Sex refers to a person's biological characteristics. A person's sex is usually described as being either male or female. A person may have both male and female characteristics, or neither male nor female characteristics, or other sexual characteristics.

## Object Class attributes

### Identifying and definitional attributes

|                      |                        |
|----------------------|------------------------|
| <b>Object class:</b> | <a href="#">Person</a> |
| <b>Definition:</b>   | A human being.         |

### Collection and usage attributes

**Comments:** Prior to 13 March 2018, the definition of the 'Person' Object class was 'A human being, whether man, woman or child'. From 13 March 2018, the definition was edited by removing the words '...whether man, woman or child' so that a person is defined as 'A human being'. This amendment was undertaken to align the definition of a person with the *Australian Government Guidelines on the Recognition of Sex and Gender* and the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) *Standard for Sex and Gender Variables*, which recognise that there are sex and gender types that are not exclusively male or female.

### Source and reference attributes

|                                 |   |
|---------------------------------|---|
| <b>Submitting organisation:</b> | Australian Institute of Health and Welfare  |
| <b>Origin:</b>                  | Macquarie University 2003. <i>The Macquarie Dictionary 3rd ed.</i> Sydney: The Macquarie Library Pty. Ltd   |
| <b>Reference documents:</b>     | Attorney-General's Department 2015. Australian Government Guidelines on the Recognition of Sex and Gender. Viewed 26 July 2016, <a href="https://www.ag.gov.au/Publications/Pages/AustralianGovernmentGuidelinesontheRecognitionofSexandGender.aspx">https://www.ag.gov.au/Publications/Pages/AustralianGovernmentGuidelinesontheRecognitionofSexandGender.aspx</a><br><br>ABS (Australian Bureau of Statistics) 2016. Standard for Sex and Gender Variables, 2016. ABS Cat. no. 1200.0.55.012. Canberra: ABS. Viewed 26 July 2016, <a href="http://abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/Lookup/1200.0.55.012&gt;Main+Features12016?OpenDocument">http://abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/Lookup/1200.0.55.012Main+Features12016?OpenDocument</a> |

## Property attributes

### Identifying and definitional attributes

**Property:** [Sex](#)

**Definition:** Sex refers to an individual's biological characteristics. An individual's sex is usually described as being either male or female. An individual may have both male and female characteristics, or neither male nor female characteristics, or other sexual characteristics.

**Property group:** [Demographic/social/cultural characteristics](#)

## Source and reference attributes

**Origin:** Australian Bureau of Statistics 2016. [Standard for Sex and Gender Variables](#) (Cat. no. 1200.0.55.012). Viewed 26 July 2016.

## Data element concept attributes

### Source and reference attributes

**Submitting organisation:** Australian Youth Justice Administrators (AYJA)

**Origin:** Australian Bureau of Statistics 2016. [Standard for Sex and Gender Variables](#) (Cat. no. 1200.0.55.012). Viewed 26 July 2016.

Attorney-General's Department 2015. [Australian Government Guidelines on the Recognition of Sex and Gender](#). Viewed 26 July 2016.

### Relational attributes

**Related metadata references:** Has been superseded by [Person—sex](#)

- [Health](#), Standard 15/02/2022
- [Youth Justice](#), Standard 15/02/2022

Supersedes [Person—sex](#)

- [Children and Families](#), Standard 22/11/2016
- [Commonwealth Department of Health](#), Standard 14/10/2015
- [Community Services \(retired\)](#), Standard 01/03/2005
- [Disability](#), Standard 07/10/2014
- [Early Childhood](#), Superseded 24/07/2018
- [Health](#), Superseded 11/05/2017
- [Homelessness](#), Superseded 10/08/2018
- [Housing assistance](#), Standard 10/02/2006
- [Independent Hospital Pricing Authority](#), Standard 01/11/2012
- [Indigenous](#), Superseded 16/10/2017
- [National Health Performance Authority \(retired\)](#), Retired 01/07/2016
- [Tasmanian Health](#), Superseded 09/01/2018
- [WA Health](#), Standard 19/03/2015
- [Youth Justice](#), Qualified 29/06/2022

Supersedes [Person—sex \(housing assistance\)](#)

- [Housing assistance](#), Superseded 10/02/2006

**Data Elements  
implementing this Data  
Element Concept:**

[Person—sex, code X](#)

- [ACT Health \(retired\)](#), Candidate 08/08/2018
- [Children and Families](#), Recorded 18/05/2020
- [Early Childhood](#), Standard 24/07/2018
- [Health](#), Superseded 15/02/2022
- [Homelessness](#), Standard 10/08/2018
- [Indigenous](#), Standard 16/10/2017
- [Youth Justice](#), Recorded 23/05/2022

[Person—sex, Tasmanian code A](#)

- [Tasmanian Health](#), Superseded 19/06/2020

[Person—sex, text X\[X\(99\)\]](#)

- [Health](#), Superseded 15/02/2022