

# Birth mother—marital status, at child's birth code N

## Identifying and definitional attributes

<b>Metadata item type:</b>	Data Element
<b>Short name:</b>	Birth mother marital status
<b>METEOR identifier:</b>	653196
<b>Registration status:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <a href="#">Children and Families</a>, Standard 22/11/2016</li></ul>
<b>Definition:</b>	The marital status of the birth (biological) mother of a child at the time of the child's birth, as represented by a code.
<b>Data Element Concept:</b>	<a href="#">Birth mother—marital status</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>Married</td></tr><tr><td>2</td><td>Not married</td></tr></tbody></table>	Value	Meaning	1	Married	2	Not married
Value	Meaning						
1	Married						
2	Not married						
<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		
Value	Meaning						
9	Not stated/inadequately described						

## Collection and usage attributes

**Guide for use:** Refers to the current marital status of a person.

CODE 1 Married

Refers to the status of a person in a legally registered marriage, provided they are not separated from their spouse, even if the spouse is not a usual resident of the same household.

CODE 2 Not married

A person who has never been married, widowed or divorced. It also includes those who are living with a defacto partner.

## Source and reference attributes

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

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

**Reference documents:** Australian Bureau of Statistics 2015. Family, household and income unit variables, 2014. Cat. no. 1286.0. Canberra: ABS.

## Data element attributes

### Source and reference attributes

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

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

### Relational attributes

**Implementation in Data Set Specifications:**

[Adoptions DSS 2013-16 Children and Families](#), Superseded 20/03/2018

*Implementation start date:* 01/07/2013

*Implementation end date:* 30/06/2016

*Conditional obligation:*

Conditional on adoption type being a 'local' adoption.

*DSS specific information:*

The marital status is measured at the time of the child's birth (rather than at the time of placement).

The birth mother is classified as married if she was legally married (regardless of whether she is married to the birth father) at the time of the child's birth. In situations where the birth mother's legal marital partner died before the birth (i.e. during the pregnancy), the birth mother is still classified as 'married'.

The birth mother is classified as not married if she was not legally married at the time of the child's birth (except in circumstances where the birth mother's legal marital partner died before the birth). This includes situations where the birth mother was living in a de facto relationship.

[Adoptions DSS 2016-17 Children and Families](#), Superseded 12/11/2018

**Implementation start date:** 01/07/2016

**Implementation end date:** 30/06/2017

**Conditional obligation:**

Conditional on adoption type being a 'local' adoption.

**DSS specific information:**

The marital status is measured at the time of the child's birth (rather than at the time of placement).

The birth mother is classified as married if she was legally married (regardless of whether she is married to the birth father) at the time of the child's birth. In situations where the birth mother's legal marital partner died before the birth (i.e. during the pregnancy), the birth mother is still classified as 'married'.

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[Adoptions DSS 2017-18](#)

[Children and Families](#), Superseded 02/12/2019

**Implementation start date:** 01/07/2017

**Implementation end date:** 30/06/2018

**Conditional obligation:**

Conditional on adoption type being a 'local' adoption.

**DSS specific information:**

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[Adoptions DSS 2018-19](#)

[Children and Families](#), Superseded 20/01/2021

**Implementation start date:** 01/07/2018

**Implementation end date:** 30/06/2019

**Conditional obligation:**

Conditional on adoption type being a 'local' adoption.

**DSS specific information:**

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[Adoptions DSS 2019-20 Children and Families](#), Superseded 03/11/2021

**Implementation start date:** 01/07/2019

**Implementation end date:** 30/06/2020

**Conditional obligation:**

Conditional on adoption type being a 'local' adoption.

**DSS specific information:**

The marital status is measured at the time of the child's birth (rather than at the time of placement).

The birth mother is classified as married if she was legally married (regardless of whether she is married to the birth father) at the time of the child's birth. In situations where the birth mother's legal marital partner died before the birth (i.e. during the pregnancy), the birth mother is still classified as 'married'.

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[Adoptions DSS 2020-21 Children and Families](#), Standard 03/11/2021

**Implementation start date:** 01/07/2020

**Implementation end date:** 30/06/2021

**Conditional obligation:**

Conditional on adoption type being a [local adoption](#).

**DSS specific information:**

The marital status is measured at the time of the child's birth (rather than at the time of [placement](#)).

The birth mother is classified as married if she was legally married (regardless of whether she is married to the birth father) at the time of the child's birth. In situations where the birth mother's legal marital partner died before the birth (i.e., during the pregnancy), the birth mother is still classified as 'married'.

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