

ABS General Social Survey (GSS)

Identifying and definitional attributes

Item type: Data Source

Description: The General Social Survey (GSS) collects information about personal and household characteristics for people aged 15 years and over resident in private dwellings across Australia (excluding very remote and people living in discrete Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities).

The GSS collects data on a range of social dimensions from the same individual to enable analysis of the interrelationships in social circumstances and outcomes, including the exploration of multiple advantage and disadvantage experienced by that individual. The GSS was first conducted in 2002 and is conducted every four years. Each cycle of the GSS collects comparable information to allow for analysis of changes over time.

The GSS collects information about: demographic characteristics; housing and mobility; education (includes parental education); employment; transport and mobility; subjective well-being and general life satisfaction measures; health and disability; difficulty accessing service providers; family and community involvement; social networks and participation; experiences of homelessness, voluntary work; crime and feelings of safety; sports attendance and participation; attendance at selected cultural and leisure venues; information technology; financial stress, resilience and exclusion; income; housing; assets and liabilities; discrimination; visa status and sexual orientation.

Collection and usage attributes

Frequency: Every 4 years

Source and reference attributes

Data custodian: Australian Bureau of Statistics

Submitting organisation: Australian Institute of Health and Welfare

Reference documents: Australian Bureau of Statistics 2014. General Social Survey: Summary Results, Australia. Cat. no. 4159.0, <http://www.abs.gov.au/ausstats/abs@.nsf/mf/4159.0>.