

Australian Standard Classification of Languages 2016

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Australian Standard Classification of Languages 2016

Identifying and definitional attributes

Metadata item type:	Classification Scheme
Synonymous names:	ASCL 2016
METEOR identifier:	659337
Registration status:	Commonwealth Department of Social Services (retired) , Standard 20/06/2018 Health , Standard 25/01/2018 Homelessness , Standard 10/08/2018 Tasmanian Health , Standard 27/06/2017
Definition:	The Australian Standard Classification of Languages (ASCL) is produced by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) for the consistent collection, aggregation and dissemination of data relating to language usage in Australia.
Classification structure:	<p>The ASCL has a three-level hierarchical structure that consists of broad groups, narrow groups and languages.</p> <p>Languages are grouped together into progressively broader categories on the basis of their evolution from a common ancestral language, and on the basis of geographic proximity of areas where a particular language originated.</p>

Collection and usage attributes

Guide for use:	The ASCL is designed to classify the following language variables: <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ First Language Spoken▪ Languages Spoken at Home▪ Main Language Spoken and▪ Main Language Other than English Spoken at Home
Collection methods:	Data should be collected, classified and stored at the language (four-digit) level of the classification to allow flexibility of statistical output and more detailed analysis. It also maintains information for future use and enables comparison with previous data using different classifications.

Source and reference attributes

Submitting organisation:	Australian Institute of Health and Welfare
Origin:	Australian Bureau of Statistics 2016. Australian Standard Classification of Languages (ASCL) 2016 . ABS cat. no.1267.0. Canberra: ABS.
Revision status:	The first edition of the ASCL was published in 1997. The ASCL was revised in 2005, 2011 and 2016.

Relational attributes

Related metadata references:	Supersedes Australian Standard Classification of Languages 2011 Children and Families , Standard 22/11/2016 Community Services (retired) , Standard 17/11/2011 Disability , Standard 13/08/2015 Health , Superseded 25/01/2018 Homelessness , Superseded 10/08/2018 Housing assistance , Standard 17/11/2011 Tasmanian Health , Superseded 27/06/2017
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**Value Domains based on
this classification scheme:**

[Language code \(ASCL 2016\) N\[NNN\]](#)

[Aged Care](#), Standard 30/06/2023

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

[Commonwealth Department of Social Services \(retired\)](#), Standard 20/06/2018

[Health](#), Standard 25/01/2018

[Homelessness](#), Standard 10/08/2018

[Tasmanian Health](#), Standard 27/06/2017