Australian Statistical Geography Standard 2016

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Identifying and definitional attributes

Metadata item type:	Classification Scheme
Synonymous names:	ASGS 2016
METEOR identifier:	659352
Registration status:	Children and Families, Standard 20/01/2021 Commonwealth Department of Social Services (retired), Standard 20/06/2018 Early Childhood, Superseded 15/08/2023 Health, Superseded 20/10/2021 Housing assistance, Standard 10/05/2019 Tasmanian Health, Standard 27/06/2017
Definition:	The Australian Statistical Geography Standard (ASGS) is the geographical framework defined by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) for disseminating geographically classified statistics.
Context:	The ASGS provides a common framework of statistical geography that enables the publication of statistics that are comparable and geospatially integrated. It provides users with a coherent set of standard regions so that they can access, visualise, analyse and understand statistics.
Classification structure:	The ASGS is a hierarchical framework of regions. Its classification structures are split into two broad groups, the ABS Structures and the Non-ABS Structures.

The ABS Structures are hierarchies of regions defined and maintained by the ABS. The regions that comprise the ABS Structures will remain unchanged until the next anticipated edition of the ASGS in 2021, which is timed for use in the next anticipated Census of Population and Housing in 2021.

The ABS Structures are built directly from mesh blocks. Non-ABS Structures are approximated by either Mesh Blocks, the Statistical Areas Level 1 (SA1), or the Statistical Areas Level 2 (SA2).

The ABS Structures comprise six interrelated hierarchies of regions. They are:

- Main Structure
- Indigenous Structure
- Urban Centres and Localities/Section of State Structure
- Remoteness Structure
- Greater Capital City Statistical Area (GCCSA) Structure
- Significant Urban Area Structure.

The Non ABS Structures comprise eight hierarchies of regions which are not defined or maintained by the ABS, but for which the ABS is committed to providing a range of statistics. They generally represent administrative regions and are approximated by Mesh Blocks, SA1s or SA2s. They are:

- Local Government Areas (LGAs)
- Postal Areas
- State Suburbs
- Commonwealth Electoral Divisions
- State Electoral Divisions
- Australian Drainage Divisions
- Natural Resource Management Regions
- Tourism Regions.

Source and reference attributes

Submitting organisation:	Australian Institute of Health and Welfare

Origin:	Australian Bureau of Statistics 2016. [Australian Statistical Geography Standard (ASGS): Volume 1 - Main Structure and Greater Capital City Statistical Areas July 2016](#). ABS cat. no. 1270.0.55.001. Canberra: ABS.
Revision status:	The 2016 ASGS is the second edition of the ASGS, which updates the first edition (introduced in 2011) for growth and change in Australia's population, economy and infrastructure. It also incorporates the Territory of Norfolk Island for the first time.

Relational attributes

Related metadata references:	Supersedes [Australian Statistical Geography Standard 2011](#)
	[Children and Families](#), Superseded 20/01/2021
	[Commonwealth Department of Health](#), Retired 19/10/2023
	[Community Services (retired)](#), Standard 06/12/2011
	[Disability](#), Standard 13/08/2015
	[Early Childhood](#), Superseded 24/07/2018
	[Health](#), Superseded 06/12/2016
	[Independent Hospital Pricing Authority](#), Standard 01/11/2012
	[Tasmanian Health](#), Superseded 27/06/2017
	Has been superseded by [Australian Statistical Geography Standard Edition 3](#)
	[Aged Care](#), Standard 30/06/2023
	[Australian Institute of Health and Welfare](#), Recorded 30/08/2023
	[Children and Families](#), Standard 11/05/2023
	[Early Childhood](#), Standard 15/08/2023
	[Health](#), Standard 20/10/2021
Value Domains based on this classification scheme:	[Statistical area level 2 (SA2) code (ASGS 2016) N(9)](#)
	[Children and Families](#), Superseded 11/05/2023
	[Early Childhood](#), Superseded 15/08/2023
	[Health](#), Superseded 20/10/2021
	[Tasmanian Health](#), Standard 27/06/2017
	[Statistical area level 1 (SA1) code (ASGS 2016) N(11)](#)
	[Early Childhood](#), Superseded 15/08/2023
	[Health](#), Superseded 20/10/2021
	[Remoteness classification (ASGS-RA) N](#)
	[Health](#), Standard 06/09/2018
	[Housing assistance](#), Standard 10/05/2019
	[Indigenous](#), Standard 07/04/2024
	[Admitted patient care remoteness classification (ASGS-RA) N](#)
	[Health](#), Superseded 06/12/2023
	[Statistical area level 3 (SA3) code (ASGS 2016) N(5)](#)
	[Tasmanian Health](#), Standard 30/04/2021
	[Local Government Area (LGA) code (ASGS 2016) N(5)](#)
	[Tasmanian Health](#), Standard 04/05/2021