Person—preferred language, code (ASCL 2016) N[NNN]

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# Person—preferred language, code (ASCL 2016) N[NNN]

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| Identifying and definitional attributes | |
| Metadata item type: | Data Element |
| Short name: | Preferred language |
| METEOR identifier: | 659407 |
| Registration status: | [Aged Care](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/19), Standard 30/06/2023  [Health](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/12), Standard 25/01/2018  [Tasmanian Health](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/15), Standard 27/06/2017 |
| Definition: | The language (including sign language) most preferred by the person for communication, as represented by a code. |
| Data Element Concept: | [Person—preferred language](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/269744) |
| Value Domain: | [Language code (ASCL 2016) N[NNN]](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/659404) |

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| Value domain attributes | | |
| Representational attributes | | |
| Classification scheme: | [Australian Standard Classification of Languages 2016](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/659337) | |
| Representation class: | Code | |
| Data type: | Number | |
| Format: | N[NNN] | |
| Maximum character length: | 4 | |

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| Collection and usage attributes | |
| Guide for use: | The ASCL has a three-level hierarchical structure. The most detailed level of the classification consists of languages which are represented by four-digit codes. The second level of the classification comprises narrow groups of languages (the Narrow group level), identified by two-digit and three-digit codes. The most general level of the classification consists of broad groups of languages (the Broad group level) and is identified by one-digit codes. The classification includes Australian Indigenous languages and sign languages.  For example, the Lithuanian language has a code of 3102. In this case 3 denotes that it is an Eastern European language, while 31 denotes that it is a Baltic language. The Pintupi Aboriginal language is coded as 8713. In this case 8 denotes that it is an Australian Indigenous language and 87 denotes that the language is a Western Desert language.  Language data may be output at the Broad group level, Narrow group level or the language level of the classification. Also, significant languages within a Narrow group can be presented separately with the remaining languages of the Narrow group aggregated. The same principle can be adopted to highlight significant Narrow groups within a Broad group. |

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| Source and reference attributes | |
| Submitting organisation: | Australian Institute of Health and Welfare |

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| Data element attributes | |
| Collection and usage attributes | |
| Guide for use: | This may be a language other than English even where the person can speak fluent English. |
| Source and reference attributes | |
| Submitting organisation: | Australian Institute of Health and Welfare |
| Reference documents: | Australian Bureau of Statistics 2016a. [Australian Standard Classification of Languages (ASCL) 2016](http://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/allprimarymainfeatures/4293E19B52AC5377CA25703E00045C2E?opendocument). ABS cat. no.1267.0. Canberra: ABS.  Australian Bureau of Statistics 2016b. [Language Standards 2016](http://www.abs.gov.au/ausstats/abs@.nsf/Lookup/by%20Subject/1200.0.55.005~2016~Main%20Features~Summary~1). ABS cat. no.1200.0.55.005. Canberra: ABS. |
| Relational attributes | |
| Related metadata references: | Supersedes [Person—preferred language, code (ASCL 2011) NN{NN}](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/460123)  [Community Services (retired)](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/1), Standard 13/10/2011  [Health](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/12), Superseded 25/01/2018  [Homelessness](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/14), Superseded 10/08/2018  [Housing assistance](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/11), Standard 13/10/2011  [Tasmanian Health](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/15), Superseded 27/06/2017  See also [Person—main language other than English spoken at home, code (ASCL 2016) N[NNN]](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/659402)  [Children and Families](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/17), Standard 20/01/2021  [Health](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/12), Standard 25/01/2018  [Homelessness](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/14), Standard 10/08/2018 |
| Implementation in Data Set Specifications: | [Aged care person cluster](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/777749)  [Aged Care](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/19), Standard 30/06/2023  [Alcohol and other drug treatment services NMDS 2018-19](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/686596)  [Health](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/12), Superseded 12/12/2018  ***Implementation start date:*** 01/07/2018 ***Implementation end date:*** 30/06/2019  [Alcohol and other drug treatment services NMDS 2019–20](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/700931)  [Health](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/12), Superseded 20/02/2020  ***Implementation start date:*** 01/07/2019 ***Implementation end date:*** 30/06/2020  [Alcohol and other drug treatment services NMDS 2020–21](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/717078)  [Health](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/12), Superseded 05/02/2021  ***Implementation start date:*** 01/07/2020 ***Implementation end date:*** 30/06/2021  [Alcohol and other drug treatment services NMDS 2021–22](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/733903)  [Health](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/12), Superseded 17/12/2021  ***Implementation start date:*** 01/07/2021 ***Implementation end date:*** 30/06/2022  [Alcohol and other drug treatment services NMDS 2022–23](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/742035)  [Health](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/12), Superseded 09/12/2022  ***Implementation start date:*** 01/07/2022 ***Implementation end date:*** 30/06/2023  [Alcohol and other drug treatment services NMDS 2023-24](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/756056)  [Health](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/12), Superseded 06/12/2023  ***Implementation start date:*** 01/07/2023 ***Implementation end date:*** 30/06/2024  [Alcohol and other drug treatment services NMDS 2024-25](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/775611)  [Health](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/12), Standard 06/12/2023  ***Implementation start date:*** 01/07/2024 ***Implementation end date:*** 30/06/2025  [Cardiovascular disease (clinical) NBPDS](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/697668)  [Health](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/12), Standard 17/10/2018  [Person related data elements (TDLU) cluster](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/743771)  [Tasmanian Health](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/15), Superseded 10/11/2023  ***Implementation start date:*** 01/07/2020 ***Implementation end date:*** 30/06/2021  [Person related data elements (TDLU) cluster](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/785630)  [Tasmanian Health](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/15), Standard 10/11/2023  ***Implementation start date:*** 01/07/2023 ***Implementation end date:*** 30/06/2025  [Public dental waiting times NMDS 2018-2022](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/686200)  [Health](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/12), Superseded 08/02/2023  ***Implementation start date:*** 01/07/2018 ***Implementation end date:*** 30/06/2022  [Public dental waiting times NMDS 2022–](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/765394)  [Health](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/12), Standard 08/02/2023  ***Implementation start date:*** 01/07/2022  [Tasmanian Demographics Data Set - 2017](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/667436)  [Tasmanian Health](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/15), Superseded 10/01/2018  ***Implementation start date:*** 01/07/2017 ***Implementation end date:*** 30/06/2018  [Tasmanian Demographics Data Set - 2018](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/689859)  [Tasmanian Health](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/15), Superseded 05/04/2019  ***Implementation start date:*** 01/07/2018 ***Implementation end date:*** 30/06/2019  [Tasmanian Demographics Data Set - 2019](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/714887)  [Tasmanian Health](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/15), Superseded 17/06/2020  ***Implementation start date:*** 01/07/2019 ***Implementation end date:*** 30/06/2020  [Tasmanian Demographics Data Set - 2020](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/727080)  [Tasmanian Health](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/15), Superseded 22/11/2023  ***Implementation start date:*** 01/07/2020 ***Implementation end date:*** 30/06/2021  [Tasmanian Demographics Data Set - 2021](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/740976)  [Tasmanian Health](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/15), Superseded 22/11/2023  ***Implementation start date:*** 01/07/2021 ***Implementation end date:*** 30/06/2022  [Tasmanian Demographics Data Set - 2022](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/761040)  [Tasmanian Health](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/15), Superseded 22/11/2023  ***Implementation start date:*** 01/07/2022 ***Implementation end date:*** 30/06/2023  [Tasmanian Demographics Data Set - 2023](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/774315)  [Tasmanian Health](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/15), Standard 22/11/2023  ***Implementation start date:*** 01/07/2023  ***Implementation end date:*** 30/06/2024 |