

Care and protection order (CPO) file cluster

Identifying and definitional attributes

Metadata item type: Data Set Specification

METEOR identifier: 688438

Registration status:

- [Children and Families](#), Superseded 20/01/2021

DSS type: Data Element Cluster

Scope: The Care and protection order file cluster contains information about care and protection orders issued to the clients in the Child protection (CP) client data set specification. This includes care and protection orders that were issued and/or applicable, including those that ended, during the reference period. Children should be counted in the state or territory where the order is operative, regardless of where the child is residing.

Children aged less than 18 years on the following care and protection orders/arrangements (or children discharged from those care and protection orders/arrangements on their 18th birthday) are included in the scope of the collection:

- Finalised guardianship or custody orders
- Finalised third party parental responsibility
- Finalised supervisory orders
- Interim and temporary orders
- Administrative arrangements
- Assessment orders.

Also included are appropriate authorities for the placement of children in out-of-home care that are outside the scope of care and protection orders (as defined above). These may include administrative authority for placement of young offenders, arrangements that cover the placement of unaccompanied humanitarian minors (orders made under the Immigration (Guardianship of Children) Act 1946), interstate orders or administrative and voluntary arrangements with the Department responsible for child protection which do not have the effect of transferring custody or guardianship. To help track the paths of children adopted from care, information on finalised known carer adoption orders and finalised local adoption orders are also included in the file.

Collection and usage attributes

Guide for use: For this file a person is a child or young person aged less than 18 years. This includes unborn children in jurisdictions where they are covered under the child protection legislation.

Collection methods: Each new order a child is placed on will be a new line in the file, delineated by a start and end date.

Implementation start date: 01/07/2015

Implementation end date: 30/06/2017

Comments: Data are extracted as at 31 August. The 2016–17 reporting period is the main collection period. Data for 2015–16 are also collected to allow specific calculations to be undertaken.

Source and reference attributes

Submitting organisation: Australian Institute of Health and Welfare
Steward: [Australian Institute of Health and Welfare](#)
Origin: Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW) 2017. Child protection national minimum data set, data collection manual 2016–17. Canberra: AIHW.

Relational attributes

Related metadata references: Supersedes [Care and protection order \(CPO\) file cluster](#)

- [Children and Families](#), Superseded 20/04/2018

Has been superseded by [Care and protection order \(CPO\) file cluster](#)

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

Implementation in Data Set Specifications: [Child protection NMDS 2016-17](#)
[Children and Families](#), Superseded 21/01/2021

Implementation start date: 01/07/2015

Implementation end date: 30/06/2017

Metadata items in this Data Set Specification

Seq No.	Metadata item	Obligation	Max occurs
1	Person—person identifier, child protection NX[X(11)]	Mandatory	1
2	Order—order start date, DDMMYYYY	Mandatory	1
3	Order—order type, care and protection code N[N]	Mandatory	1
4	Child—first care and protection order indicator, yes/no/not applicable/not stated/inadequately described code N	Mandatory	1
5	Order—National Out-of-Home Care standards (NOOHCS) order indicator, yes/no/not applicable/not stated/inadequately described code N	Mandatory	1
6	Order—order end date, DDMMYYYY	Mandatory	1
7	Service episode—episode start date, DDMMYYYY	Mandatory	1

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