

Person—government funding identifier, Centrelink customer reference number N(9)A

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Person—government funding identifier, Centrelink customer reference number N(9)A

Identifying and definitional attributes

Metadata item type:	Data Element
Short name:	Centrelink customer reference number
Synonymous names:	CRN; Centrelink reference number
METEOR identifier:	690579
Registration status:	Homelessness , Standard 10/08/2018
Definition:	A personal identifier allocated by a government department for the purpose of identifying those eligible for specific services, as represented by a identifier.
Data Element Concept:	Person—government funding identifier
Value Domain:	Centrelink customer reference number identifier N(9)A

Value domain attributes

Representational attributes

Representation class:	Identifier
Data type:	String
Format:	N(9)A
Maximum character length:	10

Data element attributes

Collection and usage attributes

Guide for use: The Centrelink Reference Number (CRN) is a unique identifier assigned to people and certain organisations that have one or more recognised relationships with Centrelink. In most cases, these entities receive services provided by Centrelink. It is used by Centrelink as the primary key for a customer's record.

The CRN consists of nine digits and one alphabetic character, generated and validation by an internal Centrelink Algorithm.

Source and reference attributes

Origin: AS5017 Health Care Client Identification

Relational attributes

Related metadata references: Supersedes [Person—government funding identifier, Centrelink customer reference number N\(9\)A](#)
[Community Services \(retired\)](#), Standard 12/08/2008
[Homelessness](#), Superseded 10/08/2018
[Housing assistance](#), Standard 23/08/2010

Implementation in Data Set Specifications: [Specialist Homelessness Services NMDS 2019-Homelessness](#), Standard 10/08/2018

Conditional obligation:

In the Specialist Homelessness Services NMDS, this data element is conditional on the consent of the client.

DSS specific information:

The states and territories have agreed to include Centrelink customer reference numbers in the NMDS, however this information is not currently recorded as issues of confidentiality are yet to be resolved.