

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

## Identifying and definitional attributes

<b>Metadata item type:</b>	Data Element
<b>Short name:</b>	Centrelink customer reference number
<b>Synonymous names:</b>	CRN; Centrelink reference number
<b>METEOR identifier:</b>	690579
<b>Registration status:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <a href="#">Homelessness</a>, Standard 10/08/2018</li></ul>
<b>Definition:</b>	A personal identifier allocated by a government department for the purpose of identifying those eligible for specific services, as represented by a identifier.
<b>Data Element Concept:</b>	<a href="#">Person—government funding identifier</a>

## Value domain attributes

### Representational attributes

<b>Representation class:</b>	Identifier
<b>Data type:</b>	String
<b>Format:</b>	N(9)A
<b>Maximum character length:</b>	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- [Homelessness](#), Superseded 10/08/2018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.