

Safety in care (SC) file cluster

Identifying and definitional attributes

Metadata item type: Data Set Specification

METEOR identifier: 748884

Registration status:

- [Children and Families](#), Standard 03/11/2021

DSS type: Data Element Cluster

Scope: The Safety in care (SC) file cluster is used to collect information about [substantiations](#) of [abuse in care](#), during the reference period. This includes substantiations of incidents of abuse in care where the incident occurred before the reference period in which it was substantiated. This is a standalone file and contains replication of some demographic items from elsewhere in the Child Protection National Minimum Data Set. Only substantiations for children and young people who were aged less than 18 years at the time of the abuse are included (note, the client's age at the time of the substantiation is not used to determine if they are in scope). This includes unborn children in jurisdictions where they are covered under the child protection legislation.

The file contains information on children who were the subject of a substantiated incident of abuse, where the substantiated abuse happened while the child was in out-of-home care, on a third party parental order, or in a non-out-of-home care placement, but on an order that transfers full or partial parental responsibility to an agent of the State. To be included, the [person held responsible](#) for the abuse must have been either:

- a) the [approved carer](#)
- b) another person [living in the household](#) or care facility, including other children
- c) an [employee of the responsible care service/agency or government department](#), or
- d) a person not living in the household, where a person in (a) or (c) above failed to protect the child, or the action or inaction of a person in (a) or (c) contributed to the abuse.

Note that a client may appear more than once in this file. Each distinct substantiation recorded by the department will be a new line in the file, delineated by the substantiation date.

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.

Source and reference attributes

Submitting organisation: Australian Institute of Health and Welfare

Steward: [Australian Institute of Health and Welfare](#)

Origin: AIHW (Australian Institute of Health and Welfare) 2021. Child protection national minimum data set, data collection manual 2020-21. Canberra: AIHW.

Relational attributes

Related metadata references: Supersedes [Safety in care \(SC\) file cluster](#)

- [Children and Families](#), Superseded 03/11/2021

Implementation in Data Set Specifications: [Child protection NMDS 2020–21 Children and Families](#), Standard 03/11/2021

Implementation start date: 01/07/2019

Implementation end date: 30/06/2021

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	Person—letters of family name, text XXX	Mandatory	1
3	Person—letters of given name, text XX	Mandatory	1
4	Person—date of birth, DDMMYYYY	Mandatory	1
5	Date—estimate indicator, code N	Mandatory	2
6	Person—sex, code N	Mandatory	1
7	Person—Indigenous status, code N	Mandatory	1
8	Service event—living arrangement type, care arrangement code N[N]	Mandatory	1
9	Child protection substantiation—date of substantiation, DDMMYYYY	Mandatory	1
10	Child—primary type of abuse or neglect, code N[N]	Mandatory	1
11	Child—other type of abuse or neglect, code N[N]	Conditional	3
12	Child protection substantiation—sexual exploitation indicator, yes/no/not applicable/not stated/inadequately described code N	Mandatory	1