

# Gender

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# Gender

## Identifying and definitional attributes

**Metadata item type:** Glossary Item

**METEOR identifier:** 750032

**Registration status:** [Aged Care](#), Standard 30/06/2023  
[Australian Institute of Health and Welfare](#), Qualified 17/01/2024  
[Australian Teacher Workforce Data Oversight Board](#), Standard 30/08/2022  
[Health](#), Standard 15/02/2022  
[Indigenous](#), Standard 27/08/2023  
[Tasmanian Health](#), Standard 22/03/2023  
[Youth Justice](#), Standard 15/02/2022

**Definition:** Gender is about social and cultural differences in identity, expression and experience as a man, boy, woman, girl, or non-binary person. Non-binary is an umbrella term describing gender identities that are not exclusively male or female.

Gender is often used interchangeably with [sex](#), however they are distinct concepts and it is important to differentiate between them.

## Collection and usage attributes

**Comments:** "Gender is a social and cultural concept. It is about social and cultural differences in identity, expression and experience as a man, woman or non-binary person. Non-binary is an umbrella term describing gender identities that are not exclusively male or female.

"Gender includes the following concepts:

- Gender identity is about who a person feels themselves to be
- Gender expression is the way a person expresses their gender. A person's gender expression may also vary depending on the context, for instance expressing different genders at work and home
- Gender experience describes a person's alignment with the sex recorded for them at birth i.e. a cis experience or a trans experience" (ABS 2021.)

"Gender is part of a person's personal and social identity. It refers to the way a person feels, presents and is recognised within the community. A person's gender may be reflected in outward social markers, including their name, outward appearance, mannerisms and dress" (AGD 2015.)

When comparing the concepts of sex and gender:

- Sex is understood in relation to sex characteristics. Sex recorded at birth refers to what was determined by sex characteristics observed at birth or in infancy
- Gender is about social and cultural differences in identity, expression and experience.

While they are related concepts, caution should be exercised when comparing counts for sex with those for gender.

### Fluidity

A person's gender may differ from their sex and may also differ from what is indicated on their legal documents. A person's gender may stay the same or can change over the course of their lifetime. Where gender is recorded, response options chosen will reflect a person's gender at that point in time. Some people may not identify with a specific gender or with the concept of gender at all.

## Source and reference attributes

<b>Submitting organisation:</b>	Australian Institute of Health and Welfare
<b>Origin:</b>	<p>ABS (Australian Bureau of Statistics) 2021. Standard for sex, gender, variations of sex characteristics and sexual orientation variables. Canberra: ABS, viewed 6 October 2021 <a href="https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/standards/standard-sex-gender-variations-sex-characteristics-and-sexual-orientation-variables/latest-release">https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/standards/standard-sex-gender-variations-sex-characteristics-and-sexual-orientation-variables/latest-release</a></p> <p>AGD (Attorney-General's Department) 2015. Australian Government Guidelines on the Recognition of Sex and Gender, viewed 6 October 2021 <a href="https://www.ag.gov.au/rights-and-protections/publications/australian-government-guidelines-recognition-sex-and-gender">https://www.ag.gov.au/rights-and-protections/publications/australian-government-guidelines-recognition-sex-and-gender</a></p>

## Relational attributes

<b>Related metadata references:</b>	<p>See also <a href="#">Sex Aged Care</a>, Standard 30/06/2023</p> <p><a href="#">Australian Institute of Health and Welfare</a>, Qualified 17/01/2024</p> <p><a href="#">Australian Teacher Workforce Data Oversight Board</a>, Standard 30/08/2022</p> <p><a href="#">Health</a>, Standard 15/02/2022</p> <p><a href="#">Indigenous</a>, Standard 18/12/2023</p> <p><a href="#">Tasmanian Health</a>, Standard 22/03/2023</p> <p><a href="#">Youth Justice</a>, Standard 15/02/2022</p> <p>See also <a href="#">Sexual orientation Health</a>, Qualified 03/06/2022</p> <p>See also <a href="#">Variations of sex characteristics Health</a>, Qualified 03/06/2022</p>
<b>Metadata items which use this glossary item:</b>	<p><a href="#">Admitted patient care NBEDS 2022–23 Health</a>, Superseded 20/12/2022</p> <p><a href="#">Admitted patient care NBEDS 2023–24 Health</a>, Superseded 06/12/2023</p> <p><a href="#">Admitted patient care NBEDS 2024–25 Health</a>, Standard 06/12/2023</p> <p><a href="#">Admitted patient care NMDS 2023–24 Health</a>, Superseded 06/12/2023</p> <p><a href="#">Admitted patient care NMDS 2024–25 Health</a>, Standard 06/12/2023</p> <p><a href="#">Admitted subacute and non-acute hospital care NBEDS 2022–23 Health</a>, Superseded 20/12/2022</p> <p><a href="#">Admitted subacute and non-acute hospital care NBEDS 2023–24 Health</a>, Superseded 06/12/2023</p> <p><a href="#">Admitted subacute and non-acute hospital care NBEDS 2024–25 Health</a>, Standard 06/12/2023</p> <p><a href="#">Alcohol and other drug treatment services NBEDS 2023–24 Health</a>, Superseded 06/12/2023</p> <p><a href="#">Alcohol and other drug treatment services NBEDS 2024–25 Health</a>, Standard 06/12/2023</p> <p><a href="#">Alcohol and other drug treatment services NMDS 2023–24 Health</a>, Superseded 06/12/2023</p> <p><a href="#">Alcohol and other drug treatment services NMDS 2024–25 Health</a>, Standard 06/12/2023</p> <p><a href="#">Australian Teacher Workforce Data (ATWD) Collection DSS 2018– Australian Teacher Workforce Data Oversight Board</a>, Standard 30/08/2022</p> <p><a href="#">Community mental health care NMDS 2023–24 Health</a>, Superseded 06/12/2023</p> <p><a href="#">Community mental health care NMDS 2024–25 Health</a>, Standard 06/12/2023</p>

[Dementia NBPDS](#)

[Health](#), Standard 05/10/2022

[Emergency service care NBEDS 2022–23](#)

[Health](#), Superseded 07/02/2023

[Emergency service care NBEDS 2023–24](#)

[Health](#), Superseded 06/12/2023

[Emergency service care NBEDS 2024–25](#)

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[Gender](#)

[Aged Care](#), Standard 30/06/2023

[Australian Institute of Health and Welfare](#), Qualified 17/01/2024

[Australian Teacher Workforce Data Oversight Board](#), Standard 30/08/2022

[Health](#), Standard 15/02/2022

[Gender code X](#)

[Aged Care](#), Standard 30/06/2023

[Australian Institute of Health and Welfare](#), Qualified 17/01/2024

[Health](#), Standard 15/02/2022

[National Outcomes and Casemix Collection NBEDS 2023-24](#)

[Health](#), Superseded 06/12/2023

[National Outcomes and Casemix Collection NBEDS 2024-25](#)

[Health](#), Standard 06/12/2023

[National Outcomes and Casemix Collection NMDS 2023-24](#)

[Health](#), Superseded 06/12/2023

[National Outcomes and Casemix Collection NMDS 2024-25](#)

[Health](#), Standard 06/12/2023

[Non-admitted patient emergency department care NMDS 2022–23](#)

[Health](#), Superseded 07/02/2023

[Non-admitted patient emergency department care NMDS 2023–24](#)

[Health](#), Superseded 06/12/2023

[Non-admitted patient emergency department care NMDS 2024–25](#)

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[Non-admitted patient NBEDS 2022–23](#)

[Health](#), Superseded 20/12/2022

[Non-admitted patient NBEDS 2023–24](#)

[Health](#), Superseded 06/12/2023

[Non-admitted patient NBEDS 2024–25](#)

[Health](#), Standard 06/12/2023

[Perinatal NBEDS 2023–24](#)

[Health](#), Superseded 06/12/2023

[Perinatal NBEDS 2024–25](#)

[Health](#), Standard 06/12/2023

[Person—gender](#)

[Aged Care](#), Standard 30/06/2023

[Australian Institute of Health and Welfare](#), Qualified 17/01/2024

[Australian Teacher Workforce Data Oversight Board](#), Standard 30/08/2022

[Health](#), Standard 15/02/2022

[Person—gender, code X](#)

[Aged Care](#), Standard 30/06/2023

[Australian Institute of Health and Welfare](#), Qualified 17/01/2024

[Health](#), Standard 15/02/2022

[Person—gender, Tertiary Collection of Student Information code X](#)

[Australian Teacher Workforce Data Oversight Board](#), Standard 30/08/2022

[Person—gender, text X\[X\(99\)\]](#)

[Health](#), Standard 15/02/2022

[Person—sex, code X](#)

[Aged Care](#), Standard 30/06/2023

[Australian Institute of Health and Welfare](#), Recorded 09/08/2023

[Health](#), Standard 15/02/2022

[Indigenous](#), Standard 27/08/2023

[Youth Justice](#), Standard 15/02/2022

[Person—sex, text X\[X\(99\)\]](#)

[Health](#), Standard 15/02/2022

[Public dental waiting times NMDS 2022–](#)

[Health](#), Standard 08/02/2023

[Residential mental health care NMDS 2023–24](#)

[Health](#), Superseded 06/12/2023

[Residential mental health care NMDS 2024–25](#)

[Health](#), Standard 06/12/2023

[Sex](#)

[Aged Care](#), Standard 30/06/2023

[Australian Institute of Health and Welfare](#), Qualified 17/01/2024

[Australian Teacher Workforce Data Oversight Board](#), Standard 30/08/2022

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[Indigenous](#), Standard 18/12/2023

[Tasmanian Health](#), Standard 22/03/2023

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