

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander primary health care worker type code N[N]

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Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander primary health care worker type code N[N]

Identifying and definitional attributes

Metadata item type:	Value Domain
METEOR identifier:	755662
Registration status:	Indigenous , Standard 07/04/2024
Definition:	A code set representing types of workers involved in the provision of primary health care to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

Representational attributes

Representation class:	Code	
Data type:	Number	
Format:	N[N]	
Maximum character length:	2	
	Value	Meaning
Permissible values:	1	Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health workers (AHW) (excluding workers providing transport)
	2	Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Practitioner
	3	Doctor – General Practitioner
	4	Nurses
	5	Midwives
	6	Substance misuse/Drug and alcohol worker
	7	Tobacco worker/Coordinator
	8	Dentists/Dental therapists
	9	Dental support (e.g. Dental assistant/Dental technician)
	10	Sexual health worker
	11	Traditional healer
	12	Other health/Clinical staff
	13	Transport worker who takes clients to health professionals who do not work for the organisation
	14	Transport who takes clients to health professionals who do work for the organisation
	15	Paediatrician
	16	Endocrinologist
	17	Ophthalmologist
	18	Obstetrician/Gynaecologist
	19	Ear nose and throat specialist
	20	Cardiologist
	21	Renal Medicine specialist
	22	Psychiatrist/Psychiatric Registrar
	23	Dermatologist
	24	Surgeon

	25	Specialist (other or not specified)
	26	Psychologist
	27	Counsellor
	28	Social worker
	29	Welfare worker
	30	SEWB staff – Link Up caseworker
	31	SEWB staff (other or not specified)
	32	Audiologist/Audiometrist
	33	Diabetes educator
	34	Dietician
	35	Optometrist
	36	Pharmacist
	37	Physiotherapist
	38	Podiatrist
	39	Speech pathologist
	40	Allied health (other or not specified)
Supplementary values:	99	Not stated/inadequately described

Collection and usage attributes

Guide for use:

CODE 1 [Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health worker](#) (AHW)

An AHW liaises with patients, clients and visitors to hospitals and health clinics and works as a team member to arrange, coordinate and provide health care delivery in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community health clinics (ABS 2019).

CODE 2 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Practitioner

An Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander person who has gained a qualification in Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Primary Health Care Practice and has successfully applied for and been registered with the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Practice Board of Australia through the Australian health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA) (NAATSIHWP 2018).

CODE 3 Doctor – General Practitioner

A General Practitioner diagnoses, treats and prevents human physical and mental disorders and injuries. Registration or licensing is required (ABS 2019).

CODE 4 Nurses

A Nurse provides care to mothers and their babies, the elderly, and physically and mentally ill patients in hospitals, nursing homes, medical centres and the community; provides clinical education to midwives and nurses; conducts research into clinical nursing practice; and manages health service units and sub-units. Registration or licensing is required (ABS 2019).

CODE 5 Midwives

A Midwife provides care and advice to women during pregnancy, labour and childbirth, and postnatal care for women and babies in a range of settings such as the home, community, hospitals, clinics and health units. Registration or licensing is required (ABS 2019).

CODE 6 Substance misuse/Drug and alcohol worker

A Substance misuse/Drug and alcohol worker guides and supports patients in their recovery from alcohol and substance abuse. They provide education and

counselling for patients with drug and alcohol dependency.

CODE 7 Tobacco worker/Coordinator

A Tobacco worker/Coordinator delivers smoking prevention information sessions, implements health promotion activities and delivers smoking cessation and support programs.

CODE 8 Dentists/Dental therapists

A Dentist/Dental therapist diagnoses and treats dental disease, injuries, decay and malformations of the teeth, periodontal tissue (gums), hard and soft tissue found on the mouth and other dento-facial structures using surgery and other techniques. Registration or licensing is required (ABS 2019).

CODE 9 Dental support (e.g. Dental assistant/Dental technician)

Dental support staff prepare patients for dental examination and assist Dental Practitioners, Hygienists and Therapists in providing care and treatment (ABS 2019).

CODE 10 Sexual health worker

A Sexual health worker implements sexual health promotion activities, delivers sexual health clinical services, provides education to community groups, individuals, and other audiences, in relation to sexual health, and STI/HIV management and control. They deliver education and training for health and other professionals that promotes best practice in the area of case finding, contact tracing, screening and diagnosis, treatment and follow-up of STIs and HIV.

CODE 11 Traditional healer

Traditional healers pass knowledge from generation to generation. They interpret symptoms and provide traditional healing treatments including bush rubs and medicines.

CODE 12 Other health/Clinical staff

This code refers to other health/Clinical staff not further defined. This includes all other health/Clinical staff that are not included in codes 1–11 or 13–40.

CODE 13 Transport workers who take clients to see health professionals who do not work for the organisation

Includes AHWs that do not provide health care; AHWs that provide health care are included in CODE 1. Includes the transportation of clients to see health professionals who do *not* work for the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health organisation.

CODE 14 Transport workers who take clients to see health professionals who work for the organisation

Includes AHWs that do not provide health care; AHWs that provide health care are included in CODE 1. Includes the transportation of clients to see health professionals who *do* work for the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health organisation.

CODE 15 Paediatrician

A Paediatrician investigates, diagnoses and treats internal diseases and disorders in children from birth up to, and including, adolescence. Registration or licensing is required (ABS 2019).

CODE 16 Endocrinologist

An Endocrinologist investigates, diagnoses and treats disorders of the human glandular and hormonal systems. Registration or licensing is required (ABS 2019).

CODE 17 Ophthalmologist

An Ophthalmologist provides diagnostic, treatment and preventative medical services related to diseases, injuries and deficiencies of the human eye and

associated structures. Registration or licensing is required (ABS 2019).

CODE 18 Obstetrician/Gynaecologist

An Obstetrician/Gynaecologist provides diagnostic, treatment and preventative medical and surgical services related to the care of women, fetuses and children during pregnancy and childbirth, and to disorders of the female genital, urinary, rectal and reproductive organs. Registration or licensing is required (ABS 2019).

CODE 19 Ear nose and throat specialist

An Ear nose and throat specialist diagnoses, treats and performs surgery to correct disorders and diseases affecting the ear, nose and throat. Registration or licensing is required (ABS 2019).

CODE 20 Cardiologist

A Cardiologist investigates, diagnoses and treats diseases of the human heart. Registration or licensing is required (ABS 2019).

CODE 21 Renal Medicine specialist

A Renal Medicine specialist investigates, diagnoses and treats disorders of the human kidney. Registration or licensing is required (ABS 2019).

CODE 22 Psychiatrist/Psychiatric Registrar

A Psychiatrist/Psychiatric Registrar diagnoses, assesses, treats and prevents human mental, emotional and behavioural disorders. Registration or licensing is required (ABS 2019).

CODE 23 Dermatologist

A Dermatologist provides diagnostic, treatment and preventative medical services related to disorders of the human skin. Registration or licensing is required (ABS 2019).

CODE 24 Surgeon

A Surgeon performs surgery to correct deformities, repair injuries, prevent and treat diseases, and improve human functioning and appearance. Registration or licensing is required (ABS 2019).

CODE 25 Specialist (other or not specified)

This code refers to other health specialist staff not further defined.

CODE 26 Psychologist

A Psychologist investigates, assesses and provides treatment and counselling to foster optimal personal, social, educational and occupational adjustment and development. Registration or licensing is required (ABS 2019).

CODE 27 Counsellor

A Counsellor provides information on vocational, relationship, social and educational difficulties and issues, and works with people to help them to identify and define their emotional issues through therapies such as cognitive behaviour therapy, interpersonal therapy and other talking therapies (ABS 2019).

CODE 28 Social worker

A Social worker assesses the social needs of individuals, families and groups, assists and empowers people to develop and use the skills and resources needed to resolve social and other problems, and furthers human wellbeing and human rights, social justice and social development. Registration or licensing may be required (ABS 2019).

CODE 29 Welfare worker

A Welfare worker assists individuals, families and groups with social, emotional or financial difficulties to improve quality of life, by educating and supporting them and

working towards change in their social environment (ABS 2019).

CODE 30 SEWB staff – Link Up caseworker

A Link Up caseworker supports and unites First Nations families and individuals who have been affected by past government policies including those separated from their families and culture through forced removal, those fostered, adopted or raised in institutions.

CODE 31 SEWB staff (other or not specified)

This code refers to other social and emotional wellbeing staff not further defined.

CODE 32 Audiologist/Audiometrist

An Audiologist/Audiometrist provides diagnostic assessment and rehabilitative services related to human hearing defects (ABS 2019).

CODE 33 Diabetes educator

A Diabetes educator assists health and community groups to improve the health of individuals and the community by raising awareness of healthy lifestyles and diabetes (ABS 2019).

CODE 34 Dietician

A Dietician applies the science of human nutrition to help people understand the relationship between food and health and make appropriate dietary choices to attain and maintain health, and to prevent and treat illness and disease (ABS 2019).

CODE 35 Optometrist

An Optometrist performs eye examinations and vision tests to determine the presence of visual, ocular and other abnormalities, ocular diseases and systemic diseases with ocular manifestations, and prescribes lenses, other optical aids, therapy and medication to correct and manage vision problems and eye diseases. Registration or licensing is required (ABS 2019).

CODE 36 Pharmacist

A Pharmacist prepares and dispenses pharmaceuticals, drugs and medicines. Registration or licensing is required (ABS 2019).

CODE 37 Physiotherapist

A Physiotherapist assesses, treats and prevents disorders in human movement caused by injury or disease. Registration or licensing is required (ABS 2019).

CODE 38 Podiatrist

A Podiatrist prevents, diagnoses and treats disorders of the feet. Registration or licensing is required (ABS 2019).

CODE 39 Speech pathologist

A Speech pathologist provides diagnostic assessment and management of disorders of communication and swallowing through direct intervention, education, consultancy, advocacy, or a combination of these approaches (ABS 2019).

CODE 40 Allied health (other or not specified)

This code refers to other allied health staff not further defined.

CODE 99 Not stated/inadequately described

This code refers to staff not further defined.

Source and reference attributes

Submitting organisation: Australian Institute of Health and Welfare

Reference documents: ABS (Australian Bureau of Statistics) (2019) [ANZSCO Australian and New Zealand Standard Classification of Occupations, 2013, version 1.3](#), ABS website, accessed 23 February 2022.

NAATSIHWP (National Association of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Workers and Practitioners) (2018) [Who we are and what we do](#), NAATSIHWP, accessed 21 July 2023.

Relational attributes

Related metadata references: Supersedes [Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander primary health-care services worker type code N\[N\]](#)
[Indigenous](#), Superseded 07/04/2024

Data elements implementing this value domain: [Service provider organisation—contact worker type, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander primary health care code N\[N\]](#)
[Indigenous](#), Standard 07/04/2024