

# Social marital status code NN

## Identifying and definitional attributes

**Metadata item type:** Value Domain

**METEOR identifier:** 757234

**Registration status:**

- [Health](#), Qualified 03/06/2022

**Definition:** A code set representing the social marital status of a person.

## Representational attributes

**Representation class:** Code

**Data type:** Number

**Format:** NN

**Maximum character length:** 2

**Permissible values:**

Value	Meaning
10	Married (not further defined)
11	Married in a registered marriage
12	Married in a de facto marriage
21	Not married

**Supplementary values:** 99 Not stated/inadequately described

## Collection and usage attributes

**Guide for use:**

CODE 10 Married (not further defined)

A person who lives with another person in a couple relationship. Whether this relationship is a registered marriage or a de facto marriage is not further defined.

CODE 11 Married in a registered marriage

A person who lives with another person in a couple relationship and this relationship is a registered marriage.

CODE 12 Married in a de facto marriage

A person who lives with another person in a couple relationship and this relationship is not a registered marriage.

CODE 21 Not married

A person who does not live with another person in a couple relationship. This includes persons who live alone, or with other family members, and those in shared accommodation. It also includes persons who are in a registered marriage or in a de facto marriage, but whose partners are not usually resident in the household.

CODE 99 Not stated/inadequately described

This code is not for use on primary collection forms. It is primarily for use in administrative collections when transferring data from data sets where the item has not been collected.

**Collection Methods:**

This Value Domain is based on the Australian Bureau of Statistics' definition of 'Social marital status', defined as "a person's relationship status in terms of whether he or she forms a couple relationship with another person who is usually resident in the household" (ABS 2019.)

**Comments:**

The Australian Bureau of Statistics identify two concepts of marital status:

- Registered marital status - defined as whether a person has, or has had, a registered marriage;
- Social marital status - based on a person's living arrangement (including de facto marriages), as reported by the person (ABS 2019).

NB. The Marriage Amendment (Definition and Religious Freedoms) Act 2017 (Cth) removed references to **sex** or **gender** in the Marriage Act 1961 (Cth) and redefined marriage as 'the union of two people to the exclusion of all others'. The sex/gender of either party in a couple is thus irrelevant to their marital status.

## Source and reference attributes

**Submitting organisation:**

Australian Institute of Health and Welfare

**Origin:**

ABS (Australian Bureau of Statistics) 2019. Family, Household and Income Unit Variables, 2014. Canberra: ABS, viewed 8 March 2021 <https://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/allprimarymainfeatures/CF63EA0D2C0016C2CA2572AE00227E7E?opendocument>

## Relational attributes

**Related metadata references:**

Supersedes [Marital status code N](#)

- [ACT Health \(retired\)](#), Candidate 09/08/2018
- [Community Services \(retired\)](#), Standard 01/03/2005
- [Disability](#), Standard 13/08/2015
- [Health](#), Standard 01/03/2005
- [Housing assistance](#), Standard 10/02/2006
- [Independent Hospital Pricing Authority](#), Qualified 23/11/2015

**Data elements  
implementing this value  
domain:**

[Person—marital status, social code NN](#)

- [Health](#), Qualified 03/06/2022