# Marital status code N

## Exported from METEOR (AIHW's Metadata Online Registry)

# Marital status code N

## Identifying and definitional attributes

| | |
|---|---|
| **Metadata item type:** | Value Domain |
| **METEOR identifier:** | 766505 |
| **Registration status:** | Aged Care, Standard 30/06/2023 |
| | Health, Standard 09/12/2022 |
| **Definition:** | A code set representing the marital status of a person. |

## Representational attributes

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Representation class:** | Code | |
| **Data type:** | Number | |
| **Format:** | N | |
| **Maximum character length:** | 1 | |
| | **Value** | **Meaning** |
| **Permissible values:** | 1 | Never married |
| | 2 | Widowed |
| | 3 | Divorced |
| | 4 | Separated |
| | 5 | Married (registered and de facto) |
| **Supplementary values:** | 6 | Not stated/inadequately described |

## Collection and usage attributes

| **Guide for use:** | The following codes refer to the current marital status of a person. |
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CODE 1    Never married

Use this code when a person has never been married. People who have never been in a registered marriage but are currently in a de facto marriage should use CODE 5 'Married (registered and de facto)'.

CODE 2    Widowed

Use this code when a person's marriage partner is deceased, and they have not re-married. For persons whose previous marriage partner is not living, but who have re-married, use CODE 5 'Married (registered and de facto)'.

CODE 3    Divorced

Use this code when a person is no longer legally married to their most recent marriage partner.

CODE 4    Separated

Use this code when a person considers themselves to be no longer in a relationship with most recent registered marriage partner, but has not legally divorced.

CODE 5    Married (registered and de facto)

Use this code when a person is in a current registered or de facto marriage. Includes people who have been divorced or widowed but have since re-married.

CODE 6    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:** | While some codes (such as CODE 2 'Widowed' or CODE 3 'Divorced') imply a registered marital status, when self-reported they may also refer to de facto marriage relationships. |
| --- | --- |
| **Comments:** | The Australian Bureau of Statistics identifies 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).

Please note, however, that this Value Domain is not compatible with the code sets described in the ABS standard.

## Source and reference attributes

| **Submitting organisation:** | Australian Institute of Health and Welfare |
| --- | --- |
| **Reference documents:** | ABS (Australian Bureau of Statistics) 2019. Family, Household and Income Unit Variables, 2014. Canberra: ABS, viewed 21 September 2022 https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/standards/family-household-and-income-unit-variables/2014 |

## Relational attributes

| **Related metadata references:** | Supersedes Marital status code N |
| --- | --- |
| | Community Services (retired), Standard 01/03/2005 |
| | Disability, Standard 13/08/2015 |
| | Health, Superseded 09/12/2022 |
| | Housing assistance, Standard 10/02/2006 |
| | Independent Hospital Pricing Authority, Qualified 23/11/2015 |

**Data elements implementing this value domain:**

[Person—marital status, code N](#)
[Aged Care](#), Standard 30/06/2023
[Health](#), Standard 09/12/2022