

# Address—statistical area, level 3 (SA3) code (ASGS edition 3) NNNNN

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# Address—statistical area, level 3 (SA3) code (ASGS edition 3) NNNNN

## Identifying and definitional attributes

<b>Metadata item type:</b>	Data Element
<b>Short name:</b>	Statistical area level 3 (SA3)
<b>Synonymous names:</b>	SA3
<b>METEOR identifier:</b>	776952
<b>Registration status:</b>	<a href="#">Aged Care</a> , Standard 30/06/2023
<b>Definition:</b>	A designated region representing a standardised regional breakup of Australia, as represented by a code.
<b>Data Element Concept:</b>	<a href="#">Address—statistical area</a>
<b>Value Domain:</b>	<a href="#">Statistical Area Level 3 (SA3) code (ASGS Edition 3) NNNNN</a>

## Value domain attributes

## Representational attributes

<b>Classification scheme:</b>	<a href="#">Australian Statistical Geography Standard Edition 3</a>
<b>Representation class:</b>	Code
<b>Data type:</b>	String
<b>Format:</b>	NNNNN
<b>Maximum character length:</b>	5

## Collection and usage attributes

**Guide for use:** SA3 coding structure:

An SA3 is identifiable by a 5-digit fully hierarchical code. The SA3 identifier is a 2-digit code, assigned within a Statistical area level 4 (SA4). An SA3 code is only unique within a state/territory if it is preceded by the state/territory identifier.

For example:

State/territory	SA4	SA3
N	NN	NN

**Comments:** Statistical Areas Level 3 (SA3) are geographical areas built from whole Statistical Areas Level 2 (SA2). They have been designed for the output of regional data, including the 2021 Census of Population and Housing data. SA3s create a standard framework for the analysis of ABS data at the regional level through clustering groups of SA2s that have similar regional characteristics. Whole SA3s aggregate to form Statistical Areas Level 4 (SA4).

SA3s generally have a population of between 30,000 and 130,000 people. However, some SA3s have populations above 130,000 or below 30,000. There are 359 spatial SA3 regions covering the whole of Australia without gaps or overlaps. These include 19 non-spatial SA3 special-purpose codes comprising Migratory–Offshore–Shipping, No Usual Address codes for each State and Territory, and a new Outside Australia code.

The Other Territories of Jervis Bay, Cocos (Keeling) Islands, Christmas Island, and Norfolk Island are each represented by an SA3 in the Australian Statistical Geography Standard (ASGS) Edition 3.

## Source and reference attributes

**Submitting organisation:** Australian Institute of Health and Welfare

**Origin:** ABS (Australian Bureau of Statistics) 2021. Statistical Area Level 3: Australian Statistical Geography Standard (ASGS) Edition 3. Canberra: ABS. Viewed 10 August 2021. [www.abs.gov.au/statistics/standards/australian-statistical-geography-standard-asgs-edition-3/jul2021-jun2026/main-structure-and-greater-capital-city-statistical-areas/statistical-area-level-3](http://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/standards/australian-statistical-geography-standard-asgs-edition-3/jul2021-jun2026/main-structure-and-greater-capital-city-statistical-areas/statistical-area-level-3)

## Data element attributes

### Source and reference attributes

**Submitting organisation:** Australian Institute of Health and Welfare

### Relational attributes

**Related metadata references:** Supersedes [Address—statistical area, level 3 \(SA3\) code \(ASGS 2016\) NNNNN](#) Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care, Standard 15/10/2019

**Implementation in Data Set Specifications:** [Aged care address cluster](#)  
[Aged Care](#), Standard 30/06/2023

**Conditional obligation:**

Conditional on the data being known.