Record—linkage key, sequential match code N[N(4)]

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# Record—linkage key, sequential match code N[N(4)]

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| Identifying and definitional attributes | |
| Metadata item type: | Data Element |
| Short name: | Record linkage sequential match code |
| Synonymous names: | SLK sequential match code |
| METEOR identifier: | 793024 |
| Registration status: | [Early Childhood](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/13), Recorded 16/05/2024 |
| Definition: | A key that identifies non-coincidental replications of a statistical linkage key (SLK) and links all those SLKs using a sequential numbering system, as represented by a code. |
| Data Element Concept: | [Record—linkage key](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/349891) |
| Value Domain: | [Sequential match code N[N(4)]](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/781040) |

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| Value domain attributes | | |
| Representational attributes | | |
| Representation class: | Text | |
| Data type: | Number | |
| Format: | N[N(4)] | |
| Maximum character length: | 5 | |

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| Collection and usage attributes | |
| Guide for use: | The ABS-devised Statistical linkage key (SLK) Match code identifies non-coincidental replications of the SLK and links those SLKs using a sequential numbering system.  Replicants of the SLK 581 may be identified from an individual person's record by system identifier, biographic and/or demographic information held by the data provider. The first person identified with a non-unique SLK 581 is to be assigned an SLK match code of 1. All episode records for this person will use the same SLK match code.  The next person identified with a non-unique SLK 581 is to be assigned an SLK match code incremented by 1 from the previous occurrence. All episode records for this person will use the same SLK match code. |

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| Source and reference attributes | |
| Submitting organisation: | Department of Education |

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| Data element attributes | |
| Collection and usage attributes | |
| Guide for use: | For the first child identified with multiple episodes of ECE (i.e. episodes of enrolment experienced at multiple service providers), each episode is assigned the same SLK Match Code for that child, i.e. 1. For the next child identified with multiple episodes of ECE, each episode is sequentially assigned with the next SLK Match Code, i.e. 2, and so on. |
| Source and reference attributes | |
| Submitting organisation: | Department of Education |
| Relational attributes | |
| Implementation in Data Set Specifications: | [National Preschool Attendance Collection DSS 2024](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/content/792074)  [Early Childhood](https://meteor.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/13), Recorded 16/05/2024  ***Conditional obligation:***  In the National Preschool Attendance Collection, this item is conditional on the child having a matching Statistical Linkage Key anywhere in the dataset.  ***DSS specific information:***  In the National Preschool Attendance Collection, this item should be reported for the child only. |