

# Household family

Exported from METEOR (AIHW's Metadata Online Registry)

© Australian Institute of Health and Welfare 2024

This product, excluding the AIHW logo, Commonwealth Coat of Arms and any material owned by a third party or protected by a trademark, has been released under a Creative Commons BY 4.0 (CC BY 4.0) licence. Excluded material owned by third parties may include, for example, design and layout, images obtained under licence from third parties and signatures. We have made all reasonable efforts to identify and label material owned by third parties.

You may distribute, remix and build on this website's material but must attribute the AIHW as the copyright holder, in line with our attribution policy. The full terms and conditions of this licence are available at <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/>.

Enquiries relating to copyright should be addressed to [info@aihw.gov.au](mailto:info@aihw.gov.au).

Enquiries or comments on the METEOR metadata or download should be directed to the METEOR team at [meteor@aihw.gov.au](mailto:meteor@aihw.gov.au).

# Household family

## Identifying and definitional attributes

**Metadata item type:** Object Class

**METEOR identifier:** 268997

**Registration status:** [Community Services \(retired\)](#), Superseded 27/04/2007

**Definition:** Two or more persons, one of whom is at least 15 years of age, who are related by blood, marriage (registered or defacto), [adoption](#), step or fostering, and who are usually resident in the same household.

**Context:** A person's family may form the central core of their support network. The basis of a family is formed by identifying the presence of a couple relationship, lone parent-child relationship or other blood relationship. A family may or may not live together and this co-residence may change over time. Related persons who live in other households may participate in the lives of family members they do not live with in a variety of ways, including financial, material, physical, emotional, legal and spiritual. For instance, frail older people may receive help from their adult children even though they do not live in the same household.

Nonetheless, the household family has been traditionally viewed as a building block of society and is the predominant unit reported statistically and historically.

Data on families, including co-resident families, are essential elements for the study of the well being of family groups and in this way for the study of the well being of individuals. They can be a tool indicating the type of and level of support to which a person has access.

**Specialisation of:** [Person/group of persons](#)

## Collection and usage attributes

**Comments:** This definition is the standard definition for 'Family' of the Australian Bureau of Statistics and is based around ABS collections of information from households.


A household may include more than one family.

## Source and reference attributes

**Origin:** Australian Bureau of Statistics 1995. Standards for Statistics on the Family 1995. Cat. no. 1286.0. Canberra: ABS

## Relational attributes

**Related metadata references:** Has been superseded by [Household Community Services \(retired\)](#), Standard 27/04/2007

Is re-engineered from  [Household family, version 1, DEC, NCSDD, NCSIMG, Superseded 01/03/2005.pdf](#) (14.2 KB)  
*No registration status*

**Data Element Concepts implementing this Object Class:** [Household family—family type Community Services \(retired\)](#), Superseded 27/04/2007