Australian postcode code (Postcode datafile) NNN[N]

Exported from METEOR (AIHW's Metadata Online Registry)

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Identifying and definitional attributes

Metadata item type:	Value Domain
METEOR identifier:	270891
Registration status:	Health!, Superseded 04/05/2005
	Community Services (retired), Superseded 25/08/2005
Definition:	The Postcode datafile code set representing Australian postcodes as defined by Australia Post.

Representational attributes

Classification scheme:	Postcode datafile
Representation class:	Code
Data type:	Number
Format:	NNN[N]
Maximum character length:	4

Collection and usage attributes

Guide for use:	The postcode book is updated more than once annually as postcodes are a dynamic entity and are constantly changing.
Collection Methods:	Leave Postcode - Australian blank for:

- Any overseas address
- Unknown address
- No fixed address.

Comments:	Postcode may be used in the analysis of data on a geographical basis, which involves a conversion from postcodes to the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) postal areas. This conversion results in some inaccuracy of information. However, in some data sets postcode is the only geographic identifier, therefore the use of other more accurate indicators (e.g. Statistical Local Area (SLA)) is not always possible.
	When dealing with aggregate data, postal areas, converted from postcodes, can be mapped to Australian Standard Geographical Classification codes using an ABS concordance, for example to determine SLAs. It should be noted that such concordances should not be used to determine the SLA of any individual's postcode. Where individual street addresses are available, these can be mapped to ASGC codes (e.g. SLAs) using the ABS National Localities Index (NLI).

Relational attributes

Related metadata references:	Has been superseded by Australian postcode code (Postcode datafile) {NNNN}
	Community Services (retired), Superseded 06/02/2012
	Early Childhood, Superseded 09/03/2012
	Health!, Superseded 07/12/2011
	Homelessness, Standard 23/08/2010
	Housing assistance, Standard 10/02/2006
	Indigenous, Superseded 13/03/2015

Data elements implementing this value domain:

Person (address)—Australian postcode (Postcode datafile), code NNN[N]
Community Services (retired), Superseded 25/08/2005
Health!, Superseded 04/05/2005