
Marital status

Important note: This is an archived metadata standard from the AIHW Knowledgebase. For current metadata standards and related information please access METeOR, the AIHW's Metadata Online Registry at <http://meteor.aihw.gov.au>

Identifying and Definitional Attributes

Data Dictionary: NHDD
Knowledgebase ID: 000089 Version number: 1
Metadata type: DATA ELEMENT
Registration Authority: NHIMG Admin status: SUPERSEDED
Effective date: 30-JUN-94
Definition: Current marital status of the patient.
Context: To facilitate analysis of the association of marital status with service utilisation and for epidemiological purposes.

Marital status is an important factor in determining the amount of support for the elderly within the home environment. Hence marital status would be a factor indirectly affecting admission to nursing homes. Changes in marital status levels could indicate changes in the underlying demand for nursing home beds.

Relational and Representational Attributes

Datatype: Numeric
Representational form: CODE
Representation layout: N
Minimum Size: 1
Maximum Size: 1
Data Domain: 1 Single
 2 Married (includes de facto)
 3 Widowed
 4 Divorced
 5 Separated
 6 Unknown

Related metadata: has been superseded by Marital status version 2

Administrative Attributes

Source Document:

Source Organisation: National Health Data Committee

Comments: This data item formed part of the National Committee on Health and Vital Statistics (1979) recommended level-one minimum data set and was also recommended by the Taskforce on National Hospital Statistics (1988). The Australian Health Ministers' Advisory Council Health Targets and Implementation Committee (1988) recommended that it be included in all national health statistics.

The Commonwealth Department of Community Services and Health statistical overview of nursing homes for the aged (30 June 1988) reports very significant differences between the male and female nursing home population with respect to marital status.

Data Element Links

Information Model Entities linked to this Data Element

NHIM Social characteristic

Data Agreements which include this Data Element
