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# Principal source of income

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**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: NCSDD  
Knowledgebase ID: 000531 Version number: 1  
Metadata type: DATA ELEMENT  
Registration Authority: NCSIMG Admin status: SUPERSEDED  
Effective date: 01-JUL-98  
Definition: The source by which a person derives most (equal to or greater than 50%) of his/her income. If the person has multiple sources of income and none equal to or greater than 50%, the one which contributes the largest percentage should be counted.  
Context: The element is an indicator of the needs and circumstances of individuals and sometimes used in assessment of income equity.

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## *Relational and Representational Attributes*

Datatype:  
Representational form:  
Representation layout:  
Minimum Size:  
Maximum Size:  
Data Domain: NOVAL Categories collected in individual community services data collections should be mappable to the following categories:-  
(1) Earned  
(2) Unearned (other private)  
(3) Government pension/benefit/allowance  
(4) Other  
(5) Nil income  
(6) Not stated/not known/inadequately described.  
Guide For Use: A person with more than one source of income should be categorised only to the data domain category which best describes their primary source of income. If there is more than one source and they are exactly equal, list the source of employment to which the person most identifies as a primary

occupation. This question is not asked of persons aged under 15 years because they are generally dependants.

Collection Methods: Individual community services data collections may use more detailed categories for one or more of the above for program/service specific purposes. For example, the Commonwealth State Disability Agreement MDS separately identifies disability support pension recipients and other pension/benefit recipients.

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### *Administrative Attributes*

Source Document: ABS: Directory of concepts and standards for social, labour and demographic statistics, 1995

Source Organisation: Australian Bureau of Statistics

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Comments: Principal income source is collected in NIMS but this definition is inconsistent with NIMS

Was ID. 000031 (500 added to avoid different NHDD DE with same ID.).

### *Data Element Links*

*Information Model Entities linked to this Data Element*

*Data Agreements which include this Data Element*

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