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# Referral date

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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: 000515                      Version number: 2  
Metadata type: DATA ELEMENT  
Registration Authority: NCSIMG                      Admin status: SUPERSEDED  
Effective date: 01-MAR-05  
Definition: The date on which an agency receives a client referral from another party.  
Context: Many providers collect the date of referral because it has administrative importance. It can be used in the calculation of response times and for performance indicators that measure the provision of service. Can also be used to measure work-load (ie the number of referrals coming to a particular agency). This may be measured for particular clients or particular types of services.

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## *Relational and Representational Attributes*

Datatype: Numeric  
Representational form: DATE  
Representation layout: DDMMYYYY  
Minimum Size: 8  
Maximum Size: 8  
Data Domain: NOVAL      Valid dates  
Guide For Use: This data element should always be recorded as an 8 digit valid date comprising day, month and year. Year should always be recorded in its full 4 digit format. For days and months with a numeric value of less than 10, zeros should be used to ensure that the date contains the required 8 digits. For example if an agency receives a client referral on July 1 2000 the Referral date should be recorded as 01072000 as specified in the representational layout.  
Collection Methods: Can be collected at initial referral of a client to an agency or at each referral, although this should be done consistently within a collection. Individual collections will also need to determine what constitutes a referral for their purposes (eg Is it only formal

