International Standards Organisation codes for the representation of names of countries and their subdivisions, Part 1: Country codes (ISO 3166, 2006)

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Identifying and definitional attributes

Metadata item type:	Classification Scheme
METEOR identifier:	454505
Registration status:	Community Services (retired), Standard 06/02/2012 Disability, Standard 13/08/2015
Definition:	The International Standard for country codes, Part one.
Classification structure:	The purpose of ISO 3166 is to establish codes for the representation of names of countries, territories or areas of geographical interest, and their subdivisions.
	Part 1: Country codes
	First published in 1974, it has since then become one of the world's most widely used standard solution for coding country names. It contains a two-letter code which is recommended as the general purpose code, a three-letter code which has better mnemonic properties and a numeric-3 code which can be useful if script independence of the codes is important.

Collection and usage attributes

Guide for use:	There are three related documents which, taken together, make up ISO 3166; Part 1: Country codes, Part 2: Country subdivision code and Part 3: Code for formerly used names of countries.
	ISO 3166-1 is by far the most important of the three standards and the only standard in scope for this classification scheme.

Source and reference attributes

Reference documents:	Maintenance Agency for International Standards Organisation (ISO) 3166 Country Codes 2006. International Standard for Country Codes. Geneva: ISO. Viewed 11 July 2011, http://www.iso.org/iso/ english_country_names_and_code_elements

Relational attributes

Value Domains based on this classification scheme:	Country code (ISO 3166) AA Community Services (retired), Standard 06/02/2012 Disability, Standard 13/08/2015