Statistical area level 3 (SA3) code (ASGS 2011) NNNNN

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# Statistical area level 3 (SA3) code (ASGS 2011) NNNNN

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| Identifying and definitional attributes | |
| Metadata item type: | Value Domain |
| METEOR identifier: | 455824 |
| Registration status: | [National Health Performance Authority (retired)](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/10), Retired 01/07/2016 |
| Definition: | A code set representing a standardised regional breakup of Australia. The aim of Statistical areas level 3 (SA3s) is to create a standard framework for the analysis of ABS data at the regional level through clustering groups of Statistical areas level 2 (SA2s) that have similar regional characteristics. |

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| Representational attributes | | |
| Representation class: | Code | |
| Data type: | String | |
| Format: | NNNNN | |
| Maximum character length: | 5 | |

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| Collection and usage attributes | |
| Guide for use: | SA3 coding structure:  An SA3 is identified by a 5-digit hierarchical code. This comprises a 1-digit state/territory identifier followed by a 2-digit SA4 identifier, unique within each state/territory, and a 2-digit SA3 identifier, unique within each SA4.  For example:   |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | State/territory | SA4 | SA3 | | N | NN | NN | |
| Comments: | SA3s are built from whole SA2s. Whole SA3s aggregate directly to SA4s in the Main Structure. SA3s do not cross state/territory borders. There are 333 SA3 spatial units. In aggregate, they cover the whole of Australia without gaps or overlaps. |

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| Source and reference attributes | |
| Origin: | 1270.0.55.001 - Australian Statistical Geography Standard (ASGS): Volume 1 - Main Structure and Greater Capital City Statistical Areas, July 2011  [http://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/DetailsPage/ 1270.0.55.001July%202011?OpenDocument](http://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/DetailsPage/1270.0.55.001July 2011?OpenDocument) |

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| Relational attributes | |
| Data elements implementing this value domain: | [Address—statistical area, level 3 (SA3) code (ASGS 2011) NNNNN](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/content/457293)  [National Health Performance Authority (retired)](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/10), Retired 01/07/2016 |

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| Classification scheme attributes | |
| Classification scheme: | [Australian Statistical Geography Standard 2011](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/content/437772) |
| Synonymous names: | ASGS 2011 |
| METEOR identifier: | 437772 |
| Definition: | The Australian Bureau of Statistics framework for statistical geography. The main purpose of the Australian Statistical Geography Standard (ASGS) is the dissemination of geographically classified statistics. It provides a common framework of statistical geography which enables the publication of statistics that are comparable and spatially integrated. |
| Registration status: | [Community Services (retired)](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/3), Standard 06/12/2011  [Independent Hospital Pricing Authority](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/6), Standard 01/11/2012  [Disability](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/18), Standard 13/08/2015  [Commonwealth Department of Health](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/12) , Standard 16/10/2015  [Health!](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/14), Superseded 06/12/2016  [Tasmanian Health](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/17), Superseded 27/06/2017  [Early Childhood](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/15), Superseded 24/07/2018  [Children and Families](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/1), Superseded 20/01/2021 |
| Context: | From July 2011, the ABS will progressively replace the current Australian Standard Geographical Classification (ASGC) with the Australian Statistical Geography Standard (ASGS) as its geographical framework. |
| Classification structure: | The ASGS classification structures are split into two broads groups, the ABS Structures and the Non-ABS Structures.  The ABS Structures are hierarchies of regions defined and maintained by the ABS. The regions that comprise the ABS Structures will remain unchanged until the next Census of Population and Housing in 2016.  The ABS Structures are built directly from mesh blocks. Non-ABS Structures are approximated by mesh blocks, the Statistical Areas Level 1 (SA1s), or the Statistical Areas Level 2 (SA2s).  The ABS Structures comprise six interrelated hierarchies of regions. They are:   * Main Structure * Indigenous Structure * Urban Centres and Localities/Section of State Structure * Remoteness Area Structure * Greater Capital City Statistical Area (GCCSA) Structure * Significant Urban Area Structure.   The Non-ABS Structures comprise eight hierarchies of regions which are not defined or maintained by the ABS, but for which the ABS is committed to providing a range of statistics. They generally represent administrative regions and are approximated by mesh blocks, SA1s or SA2s. They are:   * Local Government Areas (LGAs) * Postal Areas * State Suburbs * Commonwealth Electoral Divisions * State Electoral Divisions * Australian Drainage Divisions * Natural Resource Management Regions * Tourism Regions. |
| Collection and usage attributes | |
| Source and reference attributes | |
| Origin: | Australian Bureau of Statistics 2011. 1270.0.55.001 - Australian Statistical Geography Standard (ASGS): Volume 1 - Main Structure and Greater Capital City Statistical Areas, July 2011 [http://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/DetailsPage/ 1270.0.55.001July%202011?OpenDocument](http://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/DetailsPage/1270.0.55.001July 2011?OpenDocument)  Canberra: ABS. Viewed on 15/07/2011. |