Address—statistical area, level 3 (SA3) code (ASGS 2011) NNNNN
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Identifying and definitional attributes

Metadata item type: Data Element

Short name: Statistical area level 3 (SA3)

Synonymous names: SA3

METEOR identifier: 457293

Registration status: National Health Performance Authority (retired), Retired 01/07/2016

Definition: A designated region representing a standardised regional breakup of Australia, as

represented by a code. The aim of SA3s is to create a standard framework for the analysis of ABS data at the regional level through clustering groups of SA2s that

have similar regional characteristics.

Data Element Concept: Address—statistical area

Value Domain: Statistical area level 3 (SA3) code (ASGS 2011) NNNNN

Value domain attributes

Representational attributes

Classification scheme: Australian Statistical Geography Standard 2011

Representation class: Code

Data type: String

Format: NNNNN

Maximum character length: 5

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.

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