

# Disability data dictionary

Exported from METEOR (AIHW's Metadata Online Registry)

© Australian Institute of Health and Welfare 2024

This product, excluding the AIHW logo, Commonwealth Coat of Arms and any material owned by a third party or protected by a trademark, has been released under a Creative Commons BY 4.0 (CC BY 4.0) licence. Excluded material owned by third parties may include, for example, design and layout, images obtained under licence from third parties and signatures. We have made all reasonable efforts to identify and label material owned by third parties.

You may distribute, remix and build on this website's material but must attribute the AIHW as the copyright holder, in line with our attribution policy. The full terms and conditions of this licence are available at <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/>.

Enquiries relating to copyright should be addressed to [info@aihw.gov.au](mailto:info@aihw.gov.au).

Enquiries or comments on the METEOR metadata or download should be directed to the METEOR team at [meteor@aihw.gov.au](mailto:meteor@aihw.gov.au).

# Disability data dictionary

## Identifying and definitional attributes

<b>Metadata item type:</b>	Data Set Specification
<b>METEOR identifier:</b>	617069
<b>Registration status:</b>	<a href="#">Disability</a> , Standard 13/08/2015
<b>DSS type:</b>	Data Set Specification (DSS)
<b>Scope:</b>	<p>The disability data dictionary provides a reference set of data standards for collection of data from specialist disability service providers and other service providers delivering basic community care.</p> <p>The disability data dictionary builds on the Disability Services National Minimum Data Set (NMDS), and to a lesser extent the Home and Community Care (HACC) Minimum Data Set, and describes in an internationally standardised form:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• metadata for most items in the existing Disability Services NMDS and HACC MDS</li><li>• metadata for some items in the existing Disability Services NMDS that are not currently supported by appropriate metadata</li><li>• metadata for a range of new content relevant to basic community care for people with disability or who have aging-related support needs.</li></ul> <p>The dictionary represents the authoritative source of information on endorsed data standards relating to basic community care, and provides the metadata basis for any redevelopment of the Disability Services NMDS and related collections.</p>

## Source and reference attributes

<b>Submitting organisation:</b>	Australian Institute of Health and Welfare.
<b>Origin:</b>	The disability data dictionary was developed under the auspices of the Disability Policy and Research Working Group, with input from jurisdictional members (including Australian Government). The dictionary draws on the content of the existing Disability Services National Minimum Data Set (NMDS) and Home and Community Care (HACC) Minimum Data Set.

## Relational attributes

<b>Related metadata references:</b>	Supersedes <a href="#">Disability data dictionary</a> <a href="#">Community Services (retired)</a> , Standard 10/04/2013 <a href="#">Disability</a> , Superseded 13/08/2015
-------------------------------------	---

## Metadata items in this Data Set Specification

Seq No.	Metadata item	Obligation	Max occurs
-	<a href="#">Address details data dictionary</a>	Optional	1
-	<a href="#">Address—address currency status, code A</a>	Optional	1
-	<a href="#">Address—address end date, DDMMYYYY</a>	Optional	1
-	<a href="#">Address—address end time, hhmmss</a>	Optional	1
-	<a href="#">Address—address site name, text X[X(49)]</a>	Optional	1
-	<a href="#">Address—address start date, DDMMYYYY</a>	Optional	1
-	<a href="#">Address—address start time, hhmmss</a>	Optional	1
-	<a href="#">Address—address status identifier, code AAA</a>	Optional	1

Seq No.	Metadata item	Obligation	Max occurs
-	<a href="#">Address—Australian postcode, Australian postcode code (Postcode datafile) {NNNN}</a>	Optional	1
-	<a href="#">Address—Australian state/territory identifier, code AA[A]</a>	Optional	1
-	<a href="#">Address—building/complex sub-unit type, code AA[AA]</a>	Optional	1
-	<a href="#">Address—complex road name, text X[X(44)]</a>	Optional	1
-	<a href="#">Address—complex road number 1, road number XXXXXX</a>	Optional	1
-	<a href="#">Address—complex road number 2, road number XXXXXX</a>	Optional	1
-	<a href="#">Address—complex road suffix, street suffix code A[A]</a>	Optional	1
-	<a href="#">Address—complex road type, code AA[AA]</a>	Optional	1
-	<a href="#">Address—country identifier, country code (ISO 3166) AA</a>	Optional	1
-	<a href="#">Address—floor/level type, code A[AAA]</a>	Optional	1
-	<a href="#">Address—geocode containment indicator, yes/no code N</a>	Optional	1
-	<a href="#">Address—geocode feature, text X[X(29)]</a>	Optional	1
-	<a href="#">Address—geocode geographic datum, text X[X(9)]</a>	Optional	1
-	<a href="#">Address—geocode height, total metres N[NNNN].NNN</a>	Optional	1
-	<a href="#">Address—geocode latitude, decimal degrees XN[N][.N(9)]</a>	Optional	1
-	<a href="#">Address—geocode latitude, degrees minutes seconds Xd{d}{mm}{ss}{.ss}</a>	Optional	1
-	<a href="#">Address—geocode longitude, decimal degrees XN[NN][.N(9)]</a>	Optional	1
-	<a href="#">Address—geocode longitude, degrees minutes seconds Xd[dd]{mm}{ss}{.ss}</a>	Optional	1
-	<a href="#">Address—geocode positional uncertainty, total metres N[NNN].NNN</a>	Optional	1
-	<a href="#">Address—geocode vertical datum, text X[X(9)]</a>	Optional	1
-	<a href="#">Address—level number, identifier X[XXXX]</a>	Optional	1
-	<a href="#">Address—location descriptor, text X[X(49)]</a>	Optional	1
-	<a href="#">Address—lot number, identifier X[XXXXX]</a>	Optional	1
-	<a href="#">Address—physical address indicator, yes/no code N</a>	Optional	1
-	<a href="#">Address—postal delivery number, identifier X[X(10)]</a>	Optional	1
-	<a href="#">Address—postal delivery point identifier, identifier {N(8)}</a>	Optional	1
-	<a href="#">Address—postal delivery service type identifier, code AA[A(9)]</a>	Optional	1
-	<a href="#">Address—purpose of address, code AA[A]</a>	Optional	1
-	<a href="#">Address—road name, text X[X(44)]</a>	Optional	1
-	<a href="#">Address—road number 1, road number XXXXXX</a>	Optional	1
-	<a href="#">Address—road number 2, road number XXXXXX</a>	Optional	1
-	<a href="#">Address—road suffix, street suffix code A[A]</a>	Optional	1
-	<a href="#">Address—road type, code AA[AA]</a>	Optional	1
-	<a href="#">Address—secondary complex name, text X[X(49)]</a>	Optional	1
-	<a href="#">Address—sub-dwelling unit number, identifier X[X(6)]</a>	Optional	1
-	<a href="#">Address—suburb/town/locality name, text X[X(45)]</a>	Optional	1
-	<a href="#">Address—unstructured address line, text X[X(49)]</a>	Optional	1
-	<a href="#">Disability and need for assistance cluster</a>	Optional	1
-	<a href="#">Activities and Participation cluster</a>	Optional	1
-	<a href="#">Person—activity and participation life area, code (ICF 2001) AN[NNN]</a>	Mandatory	1
-	<a href="#">Person—extent of participation in a life area, code (ICF 2001) N</a>	Optional	1
-	<a href="#">Person—level of difficulty with activities in life areas, code (ICF 2001) N</a>	Optional	1

Seq No.	Metadata item	Obligation	Max occurs
-	<a href="#">Person—level of satisfaction with participation in a life area, code N</a>	Optional	1
-	<a href="#">Person—need for assistance with activities in a life area, code N</a>	Optional	1
-	<a href="#">Activity and participation need for assistance cluster</a>	Optional	1
-	<a href="#">Person—activity and participation life area, disability code N</a>	Optional	1
	<b>DSS specific information:</b>		
	This disability specific 'Activity and Participation life areas' code list replaces the International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health (ICF) Australian user guide version in the NMDS. As this version is not directly compliant with the ICF, it does not have a superseding relationship to the ICF standard.		
-	<a href="#">Person—need for assistance with activities in a life area, disability code N</a>	Optional	1
	<b>DSS specific information:</b>		
	This disability specific 'Need for assistance with activities in a life area' is not directly compliant with the International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health (ICF) Australian user guide version. It does not have a superseding relationship to the ICF standard.		
-	<a href="#">Body functions cluster</a>	Optional	1
-	<a href="#">Person—body function, code (ICF 2001) AN[NNNN]</a>	Mandatory	1
-	<a href="#">Person—extent of impairment of body function, code (ICF 2001) N</a>	Mandatory	1
-	<a href="#">Body structures cluster</a>	Optional	1
-	<a href="#">Person—body structure, code (ICF 2001) AN[NNNN]</a>	Mandatory	1
-	<a href="#">Person—extent of impairment of body structure, code (ICF 2001) N</a>	Mandatory	1
-	<a href="#">Person—location of impairment of body structure, code (ICF 2001) N</a>	Optional	1
-	<a href="#">Person—nature of impairment of body structure, code (ICF 2001) N</a>	Optional	1
-	<a href="#">Environmental factors cluster</a>	Optional	1
-	<a href="#">Person—environmental factor, code (ICF 2001) AN[NNN]</a>	Mandatory	1
-	<a href="#">Person—extent of environmental factor influence, code (ICF 2001) [X]N</a>	Mandatory	1
-	<a href="#">Person—age at onset of disability, total months N[N]</a>	Optional	1
-	<a href="#">Person—age at onset of disability, total years N[NN]</a>	Optional	1
-	<a href="#">Person—co-existing disability group, code N(N)</a>	Optional	1
-	<a href="#">Person—medical condition, diagnosis code (ICD-10-AM 8th edn) ANN{N[N]}</a>	Optional	1
-	<a href="#">Person—primary disability group, code N[N]</a>	Optional	1
-	<a href="#">Service event—assessment date, DDMMYYYY</a>	Optional	1
-	<a href="#">Disability services carer details cluster</a>	Optional	1
-	<a href="#">Cultural and language diversity cluster</a>	Conditional	1
-	<a href="#">Person—country of birth, code (SACC 2011) NNNN</a>	Optional	3
	<b>DSS specific information:</b>		
	This data element should be reported for the individual and may also extend to the country of birth of their mother and father.		
-	<a href="#">Person—first language spoken, code (ASCL 2011) NN{NN}</a>	Optional	1
-	<a href="#">Person—Indigenous status, code N</a>	Optional	1
-	<a href="#">Person—main language other than English spoken at home, code (ASCL 2011) NN{NN}</a>	Optional	1

Seq No.	Metadata item	Obligation	Max occurs
-	<a href="#">Person—proficiency in spoken English, code N</a>	Optional	1
-	<a href="#">Person—religious affiliation, code (ASCRG 2011) N[NNN]</a>	Optional	1
-	<a href="#">Person—year of first arrival in Australia, date YYYY</a>	Optional	1
-	<a href="#">Informal carer benefits cluster</a>	Optional	1
-	<a href="#">Informal carer—financial assistance type, carer benefit code N</a>	Optional	1
-	<a href="#">Informal carer—receipt of carer allowance or payment indicator, code N</a>	Optional	1
-	<a href="#">Statistical linkage key 581 cluster</a>	Optional	1
	<b>DSS specific information:</b>		
	The statistical linkage key cluster of data elements is to be reported once for the carer and once for the recipient of care.		
1	<a href="#">Person—letters of family name, text XXX</a>	Mandatory	1
2	<a href="#">Person—letters of given name, text XX</a>	Mandatory	1
3	<a href="#">Person—date of birth, DDMMYYYY</a>	Mandatory	1
4	<a href="#">Person—sex, code N</a>	Mandatory	1
5	<a href="#">Record—linkage key, code 581 XXXXXDDMMYYYN</a>	Mandatory	1
6	<a href="#">Date—accuracy indicator, code AAA</a>	Conditional	1
	<b>Conditional obligation:</b>		
	Where a date of birth is estimated the date accuracy indicator should be used		
-	<a href="#">Informal assistance event—activity and participation life area supported, disability code N</a>	Optional	1
-	<a href="#">Informal carer—activity and participation life area supported, disability code N</a>	Optional	1
-	<a href="#">Informal carer—average number of days available to provide care, code N</a>	Optional	1
-	<a href="#">Informal carer—average number of hours available to provide care, hours NN</a>	Optional	1
-	<a href="#">Informal carer—co-residency status, code N</a>	Optional	1
-	<a href="#">Informal carer—main activity and participation life area supported, disability code N</a>	Optional	1
-	<a href="#">Informal carer—main carer indicator, code N</a>	Optional	1
-	<a href="#">Informal carer—number of hours of care provided, total hours NNNNN</a>	Optional	1
	<b>DSS specific information:</b>		
	This item should be collected with reference to a typical week.		
	This item should be collected separately for each care recipient, and the total hours of care provided across all care recipients can then be calculated.		
-	<a href="#">Informal carer—relationship to care recipient, interpersonal code N[N]</a>	Optional	1
-	<a href="#">Parent/guardian—receipt of Carer Allowance (Child) indicator, code N</a>	Optional	1
-	<a href="#">Person (employed)—full-time/part-time status, code N</a>	Optional	1
-	<a href="#">Person—area of usual residence, statistical area level 2 (SA2) code (ASGS 2011) N(9)</a>	Conditional	1
-	<a href="#">Person—gross income (weekly), total Australian currency N[NNNNN].NN</a>	Optional	1
-	<a href="#">Person—labour force status, code N</a>	Optional	1
-	<a href="#">Person—living arrangement, code N</a>	Optional	1

Seq No.	Metadata item	Obligation	Max occurs
-	<a href="#">Person—principal source of cash income, code NNNN</a>	Optional	1
-	<a href="#">Disability services client details cluster</a>	Optional	1
-	<a href="#">Cultural and language diversity cluster</a>	Conditional	1
-	<a href="#">Person—country of birth, code (SACC 2011) NNNN</a>	Optional	3
<b>DSS specific information:</b>			
This data element should be reported for the individual and may also extend to the country of birth of their mother and father.			
-	<a href="#">Person—first language spoken, code (ASCL 2011) NN{NN}</a>	Optional	1
-	<a href="#">Person—Indigenous status, code N</a>	Optional	1
-	<a href="#">Person—main language other than English spoken at home, code (ASCL 2011) NN{NN}</a>	Optional	1
-	<a href="#">Person—proficiency in spoken English, code N</a>	Optional	1
-	<a href="#">Person—religious affiliation, code (ASCRG 2011) N{NNN}</a>	Optional	1
-	<a href="#">Person—year of first arrival in Australia, date YYYY</a>	Optional	1
-	<a href="#">Statistical linkage key 581 cluster</a>	Conditional	1
1	<a href="#">Person—letters of family name, text XXX</a>	Mandatory	1
2	<a href="#">Person—letters of given name, text XX</a>	Mandatory	1
3	<a href="#">Person—date of birth, DDMMYYYY</a>	Mandatory	1
4	<a href="#">Person—sex, code N</a>	Mandatory	1
5	<a href="#">Record—linkage key, code 581 XXXXXDDMMYYYYN</a>	Mandatory	1
6	<a href="#">Date—accuracy indicator, code AAA</a>	Conditional	1
<b>Conditional obligation:</b>			
Where a date of birth is estimated the date accuracy indicator should be used			
-	<a href="#">Person (employed)—full-time/part-time status, code N</a>	Optional	1
-	<a href="#">Person (employed)—hours worked, total hours NNN</a>	Optional	1
-	<a href="#">Person—area of usual residence, statistical area level 2 (SA2) code (ASGS 2011) N(9)</a>	Optional	1
-	<a href="#">Person—communication method, code N{.N}</a>	Optional	1
-	<a href="#">Person—funding source, disability code N{.N}</a>	Optional	1
-	<a href="#">Person—geographic remoteness, classification (ASGC-RA) N</a>	Optional	1
-	<a href="#">Person—gross income (weekly), total Australian currency N{NNNNN}.NN</a>	Optional	1
-	<a href="#">Person—housing tenure type, code N</a>	Optional	1
-	<a href="#">Person—Indigenous status, code N</a>	Optional	1
-	<a href="#">Person—individualised disability funding indicator, code N</a>	Optional	1
-	<a href="#">Person—interpreter service required, yes/no code N</a>	Optional	1
-	<a href="#">Person—labour force status, code N</a>	Optional	1
-	<a href="#">Person—level of highest non-school qualification, code N</a>	Optional	1
-	<a href="#">Person—living arrangement, code N</a>	Optional	1
-	<a href="#">Person—marital status, code N</a>	Optional	1
-	<a href="#">Person—non-school qualification indicator, yes/no/not stated/inadequately described code N</a>	Optional	1
-	<a href="#">Person—person identifier, XXXXXX{X(14)}</a>	Optional	1

Seq No.	Metadata item	Obligation	Max occurs
-	<a href="#">Person—principal source of cash income, code NNNN</a>	Optional	1
-	<a href="#">Person—residential setting, disability code N[N]{.N}</a>	Optional	1
-	<a href="#">Person—school enrolment and attendance status, code N</a>	Optional	1
-	<a href="#">Person—student type, code N</a>	Optional	1
-	<a href="#">Person—student/employment training indicator, code N</a>	Optional	1
-	<a href="#">Person—type of interpreter service required, code N</a>	Optional	1
-	<a href="#">Disability services provider details cluster</a>	Optional	1
-	<a href="#">Agency sector cluster</a>	Optional	1
-	<a href="#">Service provider organisation—income tax exempt indicator, code N</a>	Conditional	1
	<b>Conditional obligation:</b>		
	In the Disability Service National Minimum Data Set (DS NMDS), only service type outlets in the non-government sector are required to provide a response to the data element <a href="#">Service provider organisation—income tax exempt indicator, code N</a> .		
-	<a href="#">Service provider organisation—level of government, code N</a>	Conditional	1
	<b>Conditional obligation:</b>		
	In the Disability Service National Minimum Data Set (DS NMDS), only service type outlets in the government sector are required to provide a response to the data element <a href="#">Service provider organisation—level of government, code N</a> .		
-	<a href="#">Service provider organisation—sector, code N</a>	Mandatory	1
-	<a href="#">Disability services standards cluster</a>	Optional	1
-	<a href="#">Service provider organisation—service standards type, disability code N[N]</a>	Conditional	1
-	<a href="#">Service provider organisation—standards assessment date, DDMMYYYY</a>	Conditional	1
-	<a href="#">Service provider organisation—standards assessment indicator, yes/no code N</a>	Conditional	1
-	<a href="#">Service provider organisation—standards assessment level, code N</a>	Conditional	1
-	<a href="#">Service provider organisation—standards assessment method, code N</a>	Conditional	1
-	<a href="#">Funding jurisdiction cluster</a>	Optional	1
-	<a href="#">Address—Australian state/territory identifier, code AA[A]</a>	Mandatory	1
-	<a href="#">Service type outlet—funding source, level of government code N</a>	Mandatory	1
-	<a href="#">Address—statistical area, level 2 (SA2) code (ASGS 2011) N(9)</a>	Optional	1
-	<a href="#">Service provider organisation—funding allocated, total Australian currency N[N(8)]</a>	Optional	1

Seq No.	Metadata item	Obligation	Max occurs
-	<p><a href="#">Service provider organisation—organisation identifier, X[X(7)]</a></p> <p><b>DSS specific information:</b></p> <p>This data element should be reported by funding departments in relation to all funded agencies.</p> <p>This identifier must be included as part of the Service type outlet identifier.</p> <p>This data element is required to facilitate data editing, and linkage between funding departments and funded agencies. The funded agency ID needs to be identified separately from the service type outlet ID to allow organisations running more than one service type outlet to separately identify information on service users accessing each service type.</p>	Optional	1
-	<a href="#">Service type outlet—average full-time equivalent staff (paid), N[NNN(.N)]</a>	Optional	1
-	<a href="#">Service type outlet—average full-time equivalent staff (volunteer/unpaid), N[NNN(.N)]</a>	Optional	1
-	<a href="#">Service type outlet—full financial year funding indicator, yes/no code N</a>	Optional	1
-	<a href="#">Service type outlet—hours worked (paid staff), total hours NNNNN</a>	Optional	1
-	<a href="#">Service type outlet—hours worked (volunteer/unpaid staff), total hours NNNNN</a>	Optional	1
-	<a href="#">Service type outlet—hours worked (volunteer/unpaid staff), total hours NNNNN</a>	Optional	1
-	<a href="#">Service type outlet—number of clients, total people N[NNNN]</a>	Optional	1
-	<a href="#">Service type outlet—number of service operation days, total N[N]</a>	Optional	1
	<p><b>DSS specific information:</b></p> <p>The specified period for reporting is a 'typical' week throughout the year.</p>		
-	<a href="#">Service type outlet—number of service operation hours, total NN</a>	Optional	1
	<p><b>DSS specific information:</b></p> <p>The specified period is a 'typical' or 'usual' 24-hour period.</p>		
-	<a href="#">Service type outlet—number of service operation weeks, total NN</a>	Optional	1
	<p><b>DSS specific information:</b></p> <p>The specified period is the calendar year ending 31 December in the current reporting period.</p>		



Seq No.	Metadata item	Obligation	Max occurs
-	<a href="#">Service type outlet—outlet identifier, XX[X(26)]</a>	Optional	1
	<b>DSS specific information:</b>		
	This data element is reported by funding departments in relation to all service type outlets.		
	The Service type outlet identifier must include information to identify both the service type outlet and its funded agency—thus it is unique within the jurisdiction, and incorporates the Funded agency identifier.		
	The funding department allocates a unique Service type outlet identifier to each separate service type outlet.		
	Service type outlets deliver a particular NDA service type at or from a discrete location. A unique identification system for service type outlets enables information to be provided about each different service type outlet under the NDA. Identifying each service type outlet also enables information to be presented about the number of service users accessing each service type. This information can then be used for future service planning at the state/territory level.		
-	<a href="#">Service type outlet—service activity type, NDA service type code N.NN</a>	Optional	1
-	<a href="#">Service/care provider—remuneration indicator, code N</a>	Optional	1
-	<a href="#">Disability services/supports received cluster</a>	Optional	1
-	<a href="#">Client—amount of assistance, total hours NNN</a>	Optional	1
	<b>DSS specific information:</b>		
	This item is reported both for the collection reference week and for a typical or average 7-day week.		
-	<a href="#">Service episode—duration of service, total days N[NN]</a>	Optional	1
-	<a href="#">Service episode—episode end date, DDMMYYYY</a>	Optional	1
-	<a href="#">Service episode—episode start date, DDMMYYYY</a>	Optional	1
-	<a href="#">Service episode—service cessation reason, disability code N[N]</a>	Optional	1
-	<a href="#">Service episode—service ongoing indicator, code N</a>	Optional	1
-	<a href="#">Service event—amount of assistance, total hours and minutes NNNN</a>	Optional	1
-	<a href="#">Service event—duration of service, total days N[NN]</a>	Optional	1
-	<a href="#">Service event—funding source, disability source of funds code N{,N}</a>	Optional	1
-	<a href="#">Service event—number of clients receiving services, total number N[NNN]</a>	Optional	1
-	<a href="#">Service event—number of workers providing services, total number N[N]</a>	Optional	1
-	<a href="#">Service event—planned service event indicator, yes/no code N</a>	Optional	1
-	<a href="#">Service event—purchase method, disability code N</a>	Optional	1
-	<a href="#">Service event—purchase of goods and services, total Australian currency N[NNNNN].NN</a>	Optional	1
-	<a href="#">Service event—service activity type, NDA support service type code N.NN</a>	Optional	1
-	<a href="#">Service event—service commencement date, DDMMYYYY</a>	Optional	1
-	<a href="#">Service event—service commencement time, hhmm</a>	Optional	1
-	<a href="#">Service event—service delivery setting code (NCCS v2.0), AN{,N{,NN}}</a>	Optional	1
-	<a href="#">Service event—service end date, DDMMYYYY</a>	Optional	1
-	<a href="#">Service event—service end time, hhmm</a>	Optional	1

Seq No.	Metadata item	Obligation	Max occurs
-	<a href="#">Service event—service event frequency, code N</a>	Optional	1
-	<a href="#">Service event—service event length, total minutes NNNNN</a>	Optional	1
-	<a href="#">Service event—type of assistive product received, (AS/NZS ISO 9999:2011) code NN [NN NN]</a>	Optional	1