

Person—sex

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Person—sex

Identifying and definitional attributes

Metadata item type: Data Element Concept

METEOR identifier: 635233

Registration status: [Indigenous](#), Standard 16/10/2017
[Tasmanian Health](#), Standard 09/01/2018
[Early Childhood](#), Standard 24/07/2018
[Homelessness](#), Standard 10/08/2018
[Health!](#), Superseded 15/02/2022

Definition: Sex refers to a person's biological characteristics. A person's sex is usually described as being either male or female. A person may have both male and female characteristics, or neither male nor female characteristics, or other sexual characteristics.

Object Class attributes

Identifying and definitional attributes

Object class: [Person](#)

Definition: A human being.

Collection and usage attributes

Comments: Prior to 13 March 2018, the definition of the 'Person' Object class was 'A human being, whether man, woman or child'. From 13 March 2018, the definition was edited by removing the words '...whether man, woman or child' so that a person is defined as 'A human being'. This amendment was undertaken to align the definition of a person with the *Australian Government Guidelines on the Recognition of Sex and Gender* and the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) *Standard for Sex and Gender Variables*, which recognise that there are sex and gender types that are not exclusively male or female.

Source and reference attributes

Submitting organisation: Australian Institute of Health and Welfare

Origin: Macquarie University 2003. *The Macquarie Dictionary 3rd ed.* Sydney: The Macquarie Library Pty. Ltd

Reference documents: Attorney-General's Department 2015. Australian Government Guidelines on the Recognition of Sex and Gender. Viewed 26 July 2016, <https://www.ag.gov.au/Publications/Pages/AustralianGovernmentGuidelinesontheRecognitionofSexandGender.aspx>

ABS (Australian Bureau of Statistics) 2016. Standard for Sex and Gender Variables, 2016. ABS Cat. no. 1200.0.55.012. Canberra: ABS. Viewed 26 July 2016, [http://abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/Lookup/1200.0.55.012Main+Features12016?OpenDocument](http://abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/Lookup/1200.0.55.012>Main+Features12016?OpenDocument)

Property attributes

Identifying and definitional attributes

Property: [Sex](#)

Definition: Sex refers to an individual's biological characteristics. An individual's sex is usually described as being either male or female. An individual may have both male and female characteristics, or neither male nor female characteristics, or other sexual characteristics.

Property group: [Demographic/social/cultural characteristics](#)

Source and reference attributes

Submitting organisation: Australian Institute of Health and Welfare

Origin: Australian Bureau of Statistics 2016. [Standard for Sex and Gender Variables](#) (Cat. no. 1200.0.55.012). Viewed 26 July 2016.

Data element concept attributes

Source and reference attributes

Submitting organisation: Australian Institute of Health and Welfare

Origin: Australian Bureau of Statistics 2016. [Standard for Sex and Gender Variables](#) (Cat. no. 1200.0.55.012). Viewed 26 July 2016.

Attorney-General's Department 2015. [Australian Government Guidelines on the Recognition of Sex and Gender](#). Viewed 26 July 2016.

Relational attributes

Related metadata references:

Supersedes [Person—sex](#)
[Children and Families](#), Standard 22/11/2016
[Commonwealth Department of Health](#), Standard 14/10/2015
[Community Services \(retired\)](#), Standard 01/03/2005
[Disability](#), Standard 07/10/2014
[Early Childhood](#), Superseded 24/07/2018
[Health!](#), Superseded 11/05/2017
[Homelessness](#), Superseded 10/08/2018
[Housing assistance](#), Standard 10/02/2006
[Independent Hospital Pricing Authority](#), Standard 01/11/2012
[Indigenous](#), Superseded 16/10/2017
[National Health Performance Authority \(retired\)](#), Retired 01/07/2016
[Tasmanian Health](#), Superseded 09/01/2018
[WA Health](#), Standard 19/03/2015

Supersedes [Person—sex \(housing assistance\)](#)
[Housing assistance](#), Superseded 10/02/2006

Has been superseded by [Person—sex](#)
[Health!](#), Standard 15/02/2022
[Youth Justice](#), Standard 15/02/2022

Data Elements implementing this Data Element Concept:

[Person—sex, code X](#)
[Early Childhood](#), Standard 24/07/2018
[Health!](#), Superseded 15/02/2022
[Homelessness](#), Standard 10/08/2018
[Indigenous](#), Standard 16/10/2017

[Person—sex, Tasmanian code A](#)
[Tasmanian Health](#), Superseded 19/06/2020

[Person—sex, text X\[X\(99\)\]](#)
[Health!](#), Superseded 15/02/2022