# Person—main language other than English spoken at home, code (ASCL 2016) N[NNN]

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# Person—main language other than English spoken at home, code (ASCL 2016) N[NNN]

## Identifying and definitional attributes

| | |
|---|---|
| **Metadata item type:** | Data Element |
| **Short name:** | Main language other than English spoken at home |
| **METEOR identifier:** | 659402 |
| **Registration status:** | Health!, Standard 25/01/2018 |
| | Homelessness, Standard 10/08/2018 |
| | Children and Families, Standard 20/01/2021 |
| **Definition:** | The language reported by a person as the main language other than English spoken by that person in his/her home (or most recent private residential setting occupied by the person) to communicate with other residents of the home or setting and regular visitors, as represented by a code. |
| **Data Element Concept:** | Person—main language other than English spoken at home |
| **Value Domain:** | Language code (ASCL 2016) N[NNN] |

## Value domain attributes

### Representational attributes

| | |
|---|---|
| **Classification scheme:** | Australian Standard Classification of Languages 2016 |
| **Representation class:** | Code |
| **Data type:** | Number |
| **Format:** | N[NNN] |
| **Maximum character length:** | 4 |

### Collection and usage attributes

| | |
|---|---|
| **Guide for use:** | The ASCL has a three-level hierarchical structure. The most detailed level of the classification consists of languages which are represented by four-digit codes. The second level of the classification comprises narrow groups of languages (the Narrow group level), identified by two-digit and three-digit codes. The most general level of the classification consists of broad groups of languages (the Broad group level) and is identified by one-digit codes. The classification includes Australian Indigenous languages and sign languages. |
| | For example, the Lithuanian language has a code of 3102. In this case 3 denotes that it is an Eastern European language, while 31 denotes that it is a Baltic language. The Pintupi Aboriginal language is coded as 8713. In this case 8 denotes that it is an Australian Indigenous language and 87 denotes that the language is a Western Desert language. |
| | Language data may be output at the Broad group level, Narrow group level or the language level of the classification. Also, significant languages within a Narrow group can be presented separately with the remaining languages of the Narrow group aggregated. The same principle can be adopted to highlight significant Narrow groups within a Broad group. |

## Source and reference attributes

| | |
|---|---|
| **Submitting organisation:** | Australian Institute of Health and Welfare |

# Data element attributes

## Collection and usage attributes

**Collection methods:**

Where extensive data on main language other than English spoken at home is needed, one of the two questions below may be used:

*Alternative 1*

Do you/Does the person/Does (name)/ Will (name of child under two years) speak a language other than English at home? (If more than one language, indicate the language that is spoken most often.)

No, (English only) []

Yes, Mandarin []

Yes, Italian []

Yes, Arabic []

Yes, Cantonese []

Yes, Greek []

Yes, Vietnamese []

Yes, Spanish []

Yes, Hindi []

Yes, Tagalog []

Yes, Other (please specify) _____

The above list includes languages based on their statistical frequency in Australia, based on data from the Census of Population and Housing.

*Alternative 2*

Do you/Does the person/Does (name)/ Will (name of child under two years) speak a language other than English at home?

No, English only []

Yes, Other - please specify _____

Where there is no requirement for detailed language data, the following question may be suitable:

Do you/Does the person/Does (name)/ Will (name of child under two years) speak a language other than English at home?

No, English only []

Yes, Other []

**Comments:**  This metadata item is consistent with that used in the Australian Bureau of Statistics's (ABS) Census of Population and Housing and is recommended for use whenever there is a requirement for comparison with Census data.

This data element is important in identifying those people most likely to suffer disadvantage in terms of their ability to access services due to language and/or cultural difficulties. In conjunction with Indigenous status, Proficiency in spoken English and Country of birth this data element forms the minimum core set of cultural and language indicators recommended by the ABS.

Data on main language other than English spoken at home are regarded as an indicator of 'active' ethnicity and also as useful for the study of inter-generational language retention. The availability of such data may help providers of health and community services to effectively target the geographic areas or population groups that need those services. It may be used for the investigation and development of language services such as interpreter/ translation services.

# Source and reference attributes

**Submitting organisation:**  Australian Institute of Health and Welfare

**Reference documents:**  Australian Bureau of Statistics 2016a. Australian Standard Classification of Languages (ASCL) 2016. ABS cat. no.1267.0. Canberra: ABS.

Australian Bureau of Statistics 2016b. Language Standards 2016. ABS cat. no.1200.0.55.005. Canberra: ABS.

# Relational attributes

**Related metadata references:**  Supersedes Person—main language other than English spoken at home, code (ASCL 2011) NN{NN}
Children and Families, Superseded 20/01/2021
Community Services (retired), Standard 13/10/2011
Disability, Standard 13/08/2015
Health!, Superseded 25/01/2018
Homelessness, Superseded 10/08/2018
Housing assistance, Standard 13/10/2011

See also Person—preferred language, code (ASCL 2016) N[NNN]
Health!, Standard 25/01/2018
Tasmanian Health, Standard 27/06/2017

See also Person—proficiency in spoken English, code N
Homelessness, Standard 10/08/2018

**Implementation in Data Set Specifications:**  Child protection (CP) client file cluster
Children and Families, Superseded 03/11/2021

Child protection (CP) client file cluster
Children and Families, Standard 03/11/2021

National Bowel Cancer Screening Program NBEDS 2018–19
Health!, Superseded 12/12/2018
*Implementation start date:* 01/07/2018
*Implementation end date:* 30/06/2019

National Bowel Cancer Screening Program NBEDS 2019–20
Health!, Superseded 16/01/2020
*Implementation start date:* 01/07/2019
*Implementation end date:* 30/06/2020

National Bowel Cancer Screening Program NBEDS 2020–21
Health!, Superseded 05/02/2021
*Implementation start date:* 01/07/2020
*Implementation end date:* 30/06/2021

National Bowel Cancer Screening Program NBEDS 2021–22
Health!, Superseded 17/12/2021
*Implementation start date:* 01/07/2021
*Implementation end date:* 30/06/2022

National Bowel Cancer Screening Program NBEDS 2022–23

[Health!](#), Standard 17/12/2021
***Implementation start date:*** 01/07/2022
***Implementation end date:*** 30/06/2023

[Prison dischargee NBEDS](#)
    [Health!](#), Recorded 31/05/2018
***DSS specific information:***

In the Prison dischargee data collection, the ASCL codes will be mapped to:

Code 1  English

Code 2 Other (specify)

Code 9  Unknown

Where the main language spoken at home is a language other than  English, the data element Person—main language other than English spoken at home, text X[X(99)] should also be completed.

[Prison entrants NBEDS](#)
    [Health!](#), Recorded 31/05/2018
***DSS specific information:***

The ASCL codes will be mapped to:

Code 1   English

Code 2   Other (specify)

Code 9   Unknown

[Specialist Homelessness Services NMDS 2019-](#)
    [Homelessness](#), Standard 10/08/2018
***Conditional obligation:***

In the Specialist Homelessness Services NMDS, this item is only asked of clients.

***DSS specific information:***

In the Specialist Homelessness Services NMDS, this data element is collected at the date of presentation.

Where a client is without a home, record main language spoken other than English.

This collection records the ABS classification supplementary code Not Stated (0002).

[Your Experience of Service National Best Endeavours Data Set](#)
    [Health!](#), Superseded 15/04/2021
***DSS specific information:***

This relates to the main language spoken at home question of the YES survey instrument. The full question is: What is the main language you speak at home?

[Your Experience of Service National Best Endeavours Data Set 2019–](#)
    [Health!](#), Standard 15/04/2021
***DSS specific information:***

This relates to the main language spoken at home question of the YES survey instrument. The full question is: What is the main language you speak at home?

**Implementation in Indicators:**

**Used as Disaggregation**

[National Bowel Cancer Screening Program: PI01-Participation rate](#)
   [Health!](#), Standard 06/09/2018

[National Bowel Cancer Screening Program: PI02-Screening positivity rate](#)
   [Health!](#), Standard 06/09/2018

[National Bowel Cancer Screening Program: PI03-Diagnostic assessment rate](#)
   [Health!](#), Standard 06/09/2018

[National Bowel Cancer Screening Program: PI04-Time between positive screen and diagnostic assessment](#)
   [Health!](#), Standard 06/09/2018

[National Bowel Cancer Screening Program: PI05a-Adenoma detection rate](#)
   [Health!](#), Standard 06/09/2018

[National Bowel Cancer Screening Program: PI05b-Positive predictive value of diagnostic assessment for detecting adenoma](#)
   [Health!](#), Standard 06/09/2018

[National Bowel Cancer Screening Program: PI06a-Colorectal cancer detection rate](#)
   [Health!](#), Standard 06/09/2018

[National Bowel Cancer Screening Program: PI06b-Positive predictive value of diagnostic assessment for detecting colorectal cancer](#)
   [Health!](#), Standard 06/09/2018

[National Bowel Cancer Screening Program: PI07-Interval cancer rate](#)
   [Health!](#), Standard 06/09/2018

[National Bowel Cancer Screening Program: PI08-Cancer clinico-pathological stage distribution](#)
   [Health!](#), Standard 06/09/2018

[National Bowel Cancer Screening Program: PI09-Adverse events (hospital admission rate)](#)
   [Health!](#), Standard 06/09/2018