

NATIONAL HEALTH INDEX

DATA DICTIONARY

Version 5.3



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Introduction

Basis

This revised dictionary builds on the information that was previously published in the National Health Index (NHI) Data Dictionary and the Guide to Data Requirements.

Objectives

The objectives of the New Zealand Health Information Service (NZHIS) Data Dictionaries are to:

- describe the information available within the National Collections
- promote uniformity, availability and consistency across the National Collections
- support the use of nationally agreed protocols and standards wherever possible
- promote national standard definitions and make them available to users.

It is hoped that the greater level of detail along with clear definitions of the business rules around each element will assist with providing and using the data.

Audiences

The target audiences for NZHIS Data Dictionaries are data providers, software developers, and data users.

New format

All data element definitions in the NZHIS Data Dictionaries are presented in a format based on the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare National Health Data Dictionary. This dictionary is based on the ISO/IEC Standard 11179 *Specification and Standardization of Data Elements*—the international standard for defining data elements issued by the International Organization for Standardization and the International Electrotechnical Commission.

The format is described in detail in Appendix A of this dictionary.

Changes to dictionary format

A more rigorous approach to recording changes in the data elements has been introduced in these dictionaries along with background material on the features of time-series data for each element.

In summary, the changes to the data dictionaries include:

- standardisation of the element names so that, for instance, a healthcare user's NHI number is referred to as NHI number in all collections
- elements are listed alphabetically within each table, and the tables are organised alphabetically
- each table is described
- verification rules, historical information, and data quality information are included
- alternative names for the elements are listed
- information about how the data is collected is given
- related data, and references to source documents and source organisations are included
- an alphabetical index is included
- code tables are included with the element, or a reference given to the NZHIS web site (for large or dynamic code tables).

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National Health Index (NHI)

Scope

Purpose

The National Health Index (NHI) is the cornerstone of health information in New Zealand. It was established to provide a mechanism for uniquely identifying every healthcare user (HCU) by assigning each a unique number (known as the NHI number).

The purposes of the NHI include use:

- by health and disability support services to link health data pertaining to an individual to that individual to avoid mis-assignment of health and disability support information, for example, the wrong laboratory test results
- by health and disability support services to improve patient privacy protection when transferring an individual's health data, for example, the receipt of laboratory test results by general practitioners
- by the Ministry of Health, in an encrypted form, so that data can be used for statistical purposes to report on the state of health of the New Zealand population, and to assist in the development of more effective services
- by health and disability support services to submit to, or access information from, the Medical Warnings System, for adverse drug warnings and other forms of medical alerts (see *Medical Warning System*)
- by health and disability support services to identify previous health events, and the possible location of medical records through the Medical Warnings System.

Content

As a registration system, the NHI includes only information needed to identify healthcare users, such as name, address (including domicile code), date of birth, sex and ethnicity. A limited amount of clinical information is available to authorised users of the NHI via the associated Medical Warning System (MWS).

Start date

The first national register was the National Master Patient Index, implemented in 1977. This was replaced with the NHI in 1993. Newborn babies have been registered on the national system since 1992. (See *Collection methods*.)

Guide for use

Coverage is estimated to be 98 percent of the population.

When duplicate records for a healthcare user are identified, they are linked, one of their NHI numbers will be deemed to be the primary (or master), and the others become secondary NHI numbers. For the analysis of healthcare information relating to a unique individual, the primary NHI number should be used. Local systems may use secondary NHI numbers.

Collection methods – guide for providers

The main health sector data source is public hospitals. All local patient management systems have modules for identifying patients, so most systems are linked to the NHI. Where local patient index systems are in use, it is the responsibility of the local system management to ensure that local and national systems are synchronised.

In the primary healthcare sector, most registrations are via the NHI Helpdesk, a service run by the Ministry of Health. Some GPs have read-only access to the NHI.

New records for babies are submitted by hospitals and midwives. Infants are not to be registered on the NHI before their birth. The only exception to this is where tests on the fetus are carried out and need to be recorded for the future treatment needs of the infant. This practice should only occur in tertiary care facilities. NZHIS should be notified that this practice is occurring.

Fetal deaths (20 weeks' gestation or more, and/or 400 grams' birthweight) are registered on the NHI by NZHIS staff.

Frequency of updates

Ongoing. Real-time transactions.

Security of data

Access to the NHI is restricted to authorised users, and is permitted by the Health Information Privacy Code 1994 released under the Privacy Act 1993.

The NHI number is stored in encrypted form on other NZHIS systems.

Privacy issues

Use of the NHI number is restricted to authorised healthcare providers only as permitted by the Health Information Privacy Code 1994.

National reports and publications

None.

Data provision

None.

Alternative identifier

Table name: Alternative identifier

Name in database: **Version:** 1.0 **Version date:** 06-Oct-2003

Definition: An NHI number that has been linked with another NHI number, which has become the primary NHI number.

Guide for Use:

Primary Key:

Business Key:

Relational Rules:

Entitlement Code

Administrative status

Reference ID: **Version:** 1.0 **Version date:** 10-Dec-2004

Identifying and defining attributes

Name: Code

Name in database: entitlement_code

Other names:

Element type: Data element

Definition:

Context:

Relational and representational attributes

Data type: char **Field size:** 2 **Layout:** AA

Data domain:

Guide for use:

Verification rules:

Collection method:

Related data:

Administrative attributes

Source document:

Source organisation:

Alternative names

Table name: Alternative names

Name in database: hcu_name_tab

Version: 1.0

Version date: 06-Oct-2003

Definition: This table is a cut-down version of the Healthcare User table, and contains alternative names by which a healthcare user is known.

Guide for Use: The Alternative names table contains the following fields:

- NHI number
- Family name
- First given name
- Second given name
- Third given name
- Family name soundex
- Match key
- Sex
- Date of birth
- Date of birth flag
- Master NHI number
- Timestamp

Primary Key:

Business Key:

Relational Rules:

Alternative first given name

Administrative status

Reference ID: A0033

Version: 1.0

Version date: 06-Oct-2003

Identifying and defining attributes

Name: Alternative first given name

Name in database:

Other names:

Element type: Data element

Definition: An alternative first given name that a healthcare user is 'also known as'.

Context:

Relational and representational attributes

Data type: char

Field size: 20

Layout:

Data domain:

Guide for use:

Verification rules:

Collection method:

Related data:

Administrative attributes

Source document:

Source organisation:

Alternative second given name

Administrative status

Reference ID: A0034

Version: 1.0

Version date: 06-Oct-2003

Identifying and defining attributes

Name: Alternative second given name

Name in database:

Other names:

Element type: Data element

Definition: A second alternative given name that a healthcare user is 'also known as'.

Context:

Relational and representational attributes

Data type: char

Field size: 20

Layout:

Data domain:

Guide for use:

Verification rules:

Collection method:

Related data:

Administrative attributes

Source document:

Source organisation:

Healthcare User

Table name: Healthcare User

Name in database: health_care_user_tab

Version: 1.0

Version date: 06-Oct-2003

Definition: A person booked to receive or receiving healthcare resulting from direct contact with a healthcare provider where the healthcare results in the use of resources associated with observation, assessment, diagnosis, consultation, rehabilitation or treatment.

Guide for Use:

Primary Key:

Business Key:

Relational Rules:

Address line 1

Administrative status

Reference ID: A0018

Version: 1.0

Version date: 06-Oct-2003

Identifying and defining attributes

Name: Address line 1

Name in database: address_line_1

Other names:

Element type: Data element

Definition: The first line of the address at which a healthcare user has been, or plans to be, living at for 3 months or more. (Statistics NZ definition of 'usually resident'.)

Context:

Relational and representational attributes

Data type: varchar

Field size: 35

Layout:

Data domain: Free text

Guide for use: For internal use only.

Verification rules: Address line 1 and address line 2 cannot both be blank.

Collection method:

Related data: Address line 2

Administrative attributes

Source document:

Source organisation:

Address line 2

Administrative status

Reference ID: A0019

Version: 1.0

Version date: 06-Oct-2003

Identifying and defining attributes

Name: Address line 2

Name in database: address_line_2

Other names:

Element type: Data element

Definition: The second line of the address at which a healthcare user has been, or plans to be, living at for 3 months or more. (Statistics NZ definition of 'usually resident'.)

Context:

Relational and representational attributes

Data type: varchar **Field size:** 30 **Layout:**

Data domain: Free text

Guide for use: For internal use only.

Verification rules: Address line 1 and address line 2 cannot both be blank.

Collection method:

Related data: Address line 1

Administrative attributes

Source document:

Source organisation:

Address suburb

Administrative status

Reference ID: A0020

Version: 1.0

Version date: 06-Oct-2003

Identifying and defining attributes

Name: Address suburb

Name in database: address_line_3

Other names:

Element type: Data element

Definition: The third line of the address, representing the suburb. Either the third or the fourth field is

Context:

Relational and representational attributes

Data type: varchar **Field size:** 30 **Layout:**

Data domain: Free text

Guide for use:

Verification rules: Address suburb and City/town cannot both be blank.

Collection method:

Related data: City/town

Administrative attributes

Source document:

Source organisation:

Alternative name indicator

Administrative status

Reference ID: A0062

Version: 1.0

Version date: 06-Oct-2003

Identifying and defining attributes

Name: Alternative name indicator

Name in database:

Other names:

Element type: Data element

Definition: An indicator of the existence of alternative names for the healthcare user.

Context:

Relational and representational attributes

Data type: char **Field size:** 1 **Layout:** A

Data domain: Y Alternative names exist
N There are no alternative names

Guide for use:

Verification rules:

Collection method:

Related data:

Administrative attributes

Source document:

Source organisation:

City/town

Administrative status

Reference ID: A0021

Version: 1.0

Version date: 06-Oct-2003

Identifying and defining attributes

Name: City/town

Name in database: address_line_4

Other names:

Element type: Data element

Definition: The fourth line of the address, representing the city, town or region. Either the third or the fourth field is mandatory.

Context:

Relational and representational attributes

Data type: varchar

Field size: 30

Layout:

Data domain: Free text

Guide for use:

Verification rules: Address suburb and City/town cannot both be blank.

Collection method:

Related data: Address suburb

Administrative attributes

Source document:

Source organisation:

Country/region

Administrative status

Reference ID: A0022

Version: 1.0

Version date: 01-Jan-2003

Identifying and defining attributes

Name: Country/region

Name in database: address_line_5

Other names:

Element type: Data element

Definition: The fifth line of the address, representing the external region or country

Context:

Relational and representational attributes

Data type: char

Field size: 30

Layout:

Data domain: Free text

Guide for use:

Verification rules:

Collection method:

Related data:

Administrative attributes

Source document:

Source organisation:

Date of birth**Administrative status****Reference ID:** A0025**Version:** 1.0**Version date:** 14-Oct-2003**Identifying and defining attributes****Name:** Date of birth**Name in database:** date_of_birth**Other names:** DOB, HCU date of birth, Birth date**Element type:** Data element**Definition:** The date on which the person was born.**Context:** Required to derive age for demographic analyses.**Relational and representational attributes****Mandatory****Data type:** datetime**Field size:** 8**Layout:** CCYYMMDD**Data domain:** Valid dates

Partial dates are permissible. At a minimum the century and year must be supplied. If day is provided but month is omitted then the day will not be recorded. Incomplete dates are stored as 'ccyy0101' or 'ccyymm01' and a partial date flag associated with the date is set to the appropriate

Guide for use: In 1993 the option to submit partial dates using the partial date flag was introduced.**Verification rules:** Must be later than 1 January 1890.**Collection method:****Related data:****Administrative attributes****Source document:****Source organisation:**

Date of death

Administrative status

Reference ID:

Version: 1.0

Version date: 01-Jan-2003

Identifying and defining attributes

Name: b

Name in database: date_of_death

Other names: DOD, Death date

Element type: Data element

Definition: The date on which the person died.

Context:

Relational and representational attributes

Data type: datetime

Field size:

Layout: Oracle datetime field

Data domain: Valid dates

Guide for use:

Verification rules:

Collection method: Sourced from the Births, Deaths and Marriages Office.

Related data:

Administrative attributes

Source document:

Source organisation:

Details last updated

Administrative status

Reference ID: A0052

Version: 1.0

Version date: 06-Oct-2003

Identifying and defining attributes

Name: Details last updated

Name in database: date_last_updated

Other names:

Element type: Data element

Definition: The date of last update to a healthcare user's information.

Context:

Relational and representational attributes

Data type: datetime **Field size:** **Layout:**

Data domain:

Guide for use:

Verification rules: NZHIS system-generated.

Collection method:

Related data:

Administrative attributes

Source document:

Source organisation:

Domicile code

Administrative status

Reference ID: A0023

Version: 1.0

Version date: 14-Oct-2003

Identifying and defining attributes

Name: Domicile code

Name in database: domicile_code

Other names:

Element type: Data element

Definition: Statistics NZ Health Domicile Code representing a person's usual residential address. Also used for facility addresses.

Usual residential address is defined as the address at which the person has been, or plans to be, living for 3 months or more. (Statistics NZ definition of 'usually resident'.)

If a person usually lives in a rest home or a hospital, that is considered their usual residential

Context: Required for demographic analyses. Domicile codes are key variables for determining the characteristics of the population that are using the health sector.

Relational and representational attributes

Mandatory

Data type: char **Field size:** 4 **Layout:** XXNN

Data domain: See the Domicile code table on the NZHIS web site at <http://www.nzhis.govt.nz/moh.nsf/pagesns/47>.

For further information or a printed copy of the code table, contact the Publications Officer. Contact

Guide for use: Since 1996, Domicile code has been automatically assigned on the NHI database using the address provided. This can result in rural addresses being assigned to an urban Domicile code where there is insufficient data to generate the correct code. This is because the automated software relies on generating a post code in order to determine where in a related table it should look to find the code.

The code used for health collections from 1 July 2003 is the four-digit 2001 Health Domicile Code specially created by Statistics NZ from their 2001 six-digit Census Area Unit Code. Some older Domicile codes are still held for healthcare users whose addresses are not sufficiently detailed for a mapping to a new version of the Domicile code.

Used, for example, to monitor inter-regional flow of patients who live in a different DHB region from where they are treated, or to record patients who usually live overseas and are visiting New

Verification rules: Must be a valid code in the Domicile code table.

Collection method: New general codes have been added for DHBs from 1 July 2001. General DHB codes should be a last resort, used only if the correct Domicile code cannot be determined.

Care should be taken to record accurate and useful residential addresses, since Domicile codes will be automatically assigned using this information.

Related data: TLA of domicile
DHB of domicile

Administrative attributes

Source document:

Source organisation: Statistics NZ

Ethnic group codes

Administrative status

Reference ID: A0027,A0208,A0209

Version: 1.0

Version date: 14-Oct-2003

Identifying and defining attributes

Name: Ethnic group codes

Name in database: ethnic_code, ethnic_code_2, ethnic_code_3

Other names:

Element type: Data element

Definition: A social group whose members have one or more of the following four characteristics:

- they share a sense of common origins
- they claim a common and distinctive history and destiny
- they possess one or more dimensions of collective cultural individuality
- they feel a sense of unique collective solidarity.

Context: Information on ethnicity is collected for planning and service delivery purposes and for monitoring health status across different ethnic groups. Ethnic group codes are key variables for determining the characteristics of the population that are using the health sector.

Relational and representational attributes

Mandatory

Data type: char **Field size:** 2 **Layout:** NN

Data domain:

10	European not further defined
11	New Zealand European
12	Other European
21	Maori
30	Pacific Peoples not further defined
31	Samoan
32	Cook Island Maori
33	Tongan
34	Niuean
35	Tokelauan
36	Fijian
37	Other Pacific Peoples
40	Asian not further defined
41	Southeast Asian
42	Chinese
43	Indian
44	Other Asian
51	Middle Eastern
52	Latin American/Hispanic
53	African (or cultural group of African origin)
54	Other (retired 01/07/2009)
61	Other ethnicity
94	Don't know
95	Refused to answer
97	Response unidentifiable
99	Not stated

Guide for use: From 1 July 1996 up to 3 Ethnic group codes can be collected for each healthcare user and each event. Where more than 3 Ethnic group codes are reported, the Statistics NZ prioritisation algorithm is used to report only 3 values.

Because ethnicity is self-identified, it can change over time. This is why NZHIS collects ethnicity information for each health event, rather than relying on the data in the National Health Index (which does not include historical data).

Verification rules: Ethnicity 1 is mandatory.

Ethnicity 2 and Ethnicity 3 are optional.

Must be a valid code in the Ethnic code table.

Collection method: Ethnicity should be self-identified wherever possible. If the Ethnic group code changes for this event, please update the NHI.

Code '54' (Other) is retired from 01 July 2009 and should not be used after this date.

Use of the code '61' (Other Ethnicity) is limited to a very small number of ethnic groups. It must not be used as a generic 'other' code. If a person chooses not to answer the ethnicity question, record their ethnicity using an appropriate residual response. See Appendix C: Collection of Ethnicity Data. Must be a valid code in the Ethnic code table. Each ethnic group as maintained by Statistics NZ has a 5-digit code at level 4. MoH collections use ethnicity coded at level 2.

Each ethnic group as maintained by Statistics NZ has a 5-digit code. NZHIS collections use only the first 2 digits.

Related data:

Administrative attributes

Source document: Smith, Anthony. 1981. The Ethnic Revival. Cambridge University Press.

Source organisation: Statistics NZ, modified by the National Data Policy Group

Family name

Administrative status

Reference ID: A0013

Version: 1.0

Version date: 14-Oct-2003

Identifying and defining attributes

Name: Family name

Name in database: family_name

Other names: Last name, Surname

Element type: Data element

Definition: The family name (surname) of a healthcare user.

Context:

Relational and representational attributes

Mandatory

Data type: char

Field size: 25

Layout:

Data domain:

Guide for use: With First name, Sex, and Date of birth, this provides a key for searching for the record.

Verification rules:

Collection method: May only include upper- and lower-case alphabetic characters, spaces, hyphens and apostrophes.

Related data: First given name
Second given name
Third given name

Administrative attributes

Source document:

Source organisation:

First given name

Administrative status

Reference ID: A0014

Version: 1.0

Version date: 14-Oct-2003

Identifying and defining attributes

Name: First given name

Name in database: first_given_name

Other names:

Element type: Data element

Definition: The first given name of a healthcare user.

Context:

Relational and representational attributes

Mandatory

Data type: char

Field size: 20

Layout:

Data domain:

Guide for use: With Family name, Sex, and Date of birth, this provides a key for searching for the record.

Verification rules:

Collection method: May only include upper- and lower-case alphabetic characters, spaces, hyphens and apostrophes.

Related data: Second given name
Third given name
Family name

Administrative attributes

Source document:

Source organisation:

Master NHI number

Administrative status

Reference ID: A0012

Version: 1.0

Version date: 17-Jul-2003

Identifying and defining attributes

Name: Master NHI number

Name in database: master_hcu_id

Other names: Reported as hcu_identifier.

Element type: Data element

Definition: The NHI number is the cornerstone of NZHIS's data collections. It is a unique 7-character identification number assigned to a healthcare user by the National Health Index (NHI) database. NHI numbers uniquely identify healthcare users, and allow linking between different data

Context:

Relational and representational attributes

Mandatory

Data type: char

Field size: 7

Layout: AAANNNN

Data domain:

Guide for use: When duplicate records for a healthcare user are merged, one of their NHI numbers will be deemed to be the master (or primary), and the others become event (or secondary) NHI numbers. For the analysis of healthcare information relating to a unique individual, the master NHI number should be used.

The Privacy Commissioner considers the NHI number to be personally identifying information (like name and address) so, if it is linked to clinical information, it must be held securely.

Verification rules: The first three characters of an NHI number must be alpha (but not 'I' or 'O'). The 4th to 6th characters must be numeric. The 7th character is a check digit modulus 11. There is a verification algorithm which ensures that the NHI number is in the correct format and is valid.

Only one record may be recorded per primary NHI number.

Collection method: Assigned during the linking of duplicate registrations.

Related data:

Administrative attributes

Source document: <http://www.nzhis.govt.nz/nhi/users.html> for more information on the NHI number

Source organisation: NZHIS

Match key

Administrative status

Reference ID: 7065

Version: 1.0

Version date: 29-Apr-2004

Identifying and defining attributes

Name: Match key

Name in database: match_key

Other names:

Element type: Data element

Definition: A generated code that represents certain aspects of the family name and is used during searching.

Context:

Relational and representational attributes

Data type: char

Field size:

Layout:

Data domain:

Guide for use:

Verification rules: Generated by NADIS (Name and Address integrity Software).

Collection method:

Related data:

Administrative attributes

Source document:

Source organisation:

MW indicator

Administrative status

Reference ID: A0029

Version: 1.0

Version date: 06-Oct-2003

Identifying and defining attributes

Name: MW indicator

Name in database:

Other names:

Element type: Data element

Definition: An indicator of the existence of medical warnings.

Context:

Relational and representational attributes

Data type: char **Field size:** 1 **Layout:** A

Data domain: Y Donor information is available
N There is no donor information

Guide for use:

Verification rules:

Collection method:

Related data:

Administrative attributes

Source document:

Source organisation:

NZ resident status

Administrative status

Reference ID: A0024

Version: 1.0

Version date: 14-Oct-2003

Identifying and defining attributes

Name: NZ resident status

Name in database: nz_resident_status

Other names: HCU resident status, Residency, Resident status, HCU NZ resident status

Element type: Data element

Definition: A code identifying resident status at the time of this event.

A permanent resident is defined as a person who:

- resides in New Zealand and

- is not a person to whom Section 7 of the Immigration Act 1987 applies or a person obliged by or pursuant to that Act to leave New Zealand immediately or within a specified time or deemed for the purposes of that Act to be in New Zealand unlawfully.

Context: Used to identify overseas residents treated in New Zealand.

Relational and representational attributes

Mandatory

Data type: char

Field size: 1

Layout: A

Data domain: 'Y' = Permanent resident (New Zealand citizen or classified as 'ordinarily resident in New Zealand')

'N' = Temporary (not a New Zealand citizen, does not have New Zealand 'ordinarily resident' status)

Guide for use:

Verification rules:

Collection method:

Related data:

Administrative attributes

Source document: Immigration Act 1987

Source organisation: National Data Policy Group

Preferred name

Administrative status

Reference ID: A0017

Version: 1.0

Version date: 16-Oct-2003

Identifying and defining attributes

Name: Preferred name

Name in database: preferred_name

Other names:

Element type: Data element

Definition: Flag indicating which given name a healthcare user prefers to be known by.

Context:

Relational and representational attributes

Data type: char

Field size: 1

Layout: N

Data domain: 1,2 or 3.

Guide for use:

Verification rules: If preferred name is blank, defaults to '1'.

Collection method: Must be a 1, 2 or 3, representing first, second or third given name.

Related data:

Administrative attributes

Source document:

Source organisation:

Sex

Administrative status

Reference ID: A0028

Version: 1.0

Version date: 14-Oct-2003

Identifying and defining attributes

Name: Sex

Name in database: gender_code

Other names: Sex type code

Element type: Data element

Definition: The person's biological sex.

Context: Required for demographic analyses.

Relational and representational attributes

Mandatory

Data type: char

Field size: 1

Layout: A

Data domain: M Male
F Female
U Unknown
I Indeterminate

Guide for use: Stored as Gender code.

Verification rules: Must be a valid code in the Gender code table.

Collection method: 'I' codes are for use in cases, usually newborns, where it is not possible to determine the sex of the healthcare user.

The term sex refers to the biological differences between males and females, while the term gender refers to a person's social role (masculine or feminine).

Information collected for transsexuals and transgender people should be treated in the same manner, ie, their biological sex reported.

Related data:

Administrative attributes

Source document:

Source organisation:

Timestamp

Administrative status

Reference ID: 7066

Version: 1.0

Version date: 16-Oct-2003

Identifying and defining attributes

Name: timestamp

Name in database: Timestamp

Other names:

Element type: Data element

Definition:

Context:

Relational and representational attributes

Data type: datetime

Field size:

Layout:

Data domain:

Guide for use:

Verification rules:

Collection method:

Related data:

Administrative attributes

Source document:

Source organisation:

Appendix A: Data Dictionary Template

Introduction This appendix explains how data element attributes are organised in the data dictionary template.

Order of elements Within the dictionary, elements are organised by table, and then alphabetically. An alphabetical index at the back of the data dictionary is provided to assist the user in finding specific elements.

Template:

Administrative status The operational status (eg, CURRENT, SUPERSEDED) of the data element. No SUPERSEDED data elements will be included in the Dictionaries.

Reference ID A code that uniquely identifies the data element. If the data element is used in more than one collection, it should retain its Reference ID wherever it appears.

Version number A version number for each data element. A new version number is allocated to a data element/concept when changes have been made to one or more of the following attributes of the definition:

- name
- definition
- data domain, eg, adding a new value to the field.

Elements with frequently updated code tables, such as the Facility code table, will not be assigned a new version for changes to data domain.

Version date The date the new version number was assigned.

Identifying and defining attributes

Name A single or multi-word designation assigned to a data element. This appears in the heading for each unique data definition in the Dictionaries. Previous names for the data element are included in the Guide for Use section.

Data element type DATA ELEMENT—a unit of data for which the definition, identification, representation and permissible values are specified by means of a set of attributes.

DERIVED DATA ELEMENT—a data element whose values are derived by calculation from the values of other data elements.

COMPOSITE DATA ELEMENT—a data element whose values represent a grouping of the values of other data elements in a specified order.

Definition A statement that expresses the essential nature of a data element and its differentiation from all other data elements.

Context A designation or description of the application environment or discipline in which a name is applied or from which it originates. This attribute may also include the justification for collecting the items and uses of the information.

Relational and representational attributes

Data type	The type of field in which a data element is held. For example, character, integer, or numeric.
Field size	The maximum number of storage units (of the corresponding data type) to represent the data element value. Field size does not generally include characters used to mark logical separations of values, eg, commas, hyphens or slashes.
Layout	The representational layout of characters in data element values expressed by a character string representation. For example: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 'CCYYMMDD' for calendar date - 'N' for a one-digit numeric field - 'A' for a one-character field - 'X' for a field that can hold either a character or a digit, and - '\$\$\$,\$\$\$,\$\$\$' for data elements about expenditure.
Data domain	The permissible values for the data element. The set of values can be listed or specified by referring to a code table or code tables, for example, ICD-10-AM 2nd Edition.
Guide for use	Additional comments or advice on the interpretation or application of the data element (this attribute has no direct counterpart in the ISO/IEC Standard 11179 but has been included to assist in clarification of issues relating to the classification of data elements). Includes historical information, advice regarding data quality, and alternative names for this data element.
Verification rules	The rules and/or instructions applied for validating and/or verifying elements, in addition to the formal edits.
Collection method	Comments and advice concerning the capture of data for the particular data element, including guidelines on the design of questions for use in collecting information, and treatment of 'not stated' or non-response (this attribute is not specified in the ISO/IEC Standard 11179 but has been added to cover important issues about the actual collection of data).
Related data	A reference between the data element and any related data element in the Dictionary, including the type of this relationship. Examples include: 'has been superseded by the data element...', 'is calculated using the data element...', and 'supplements the data element...'.

Administrative attributes

Source document	The document from which definitional or representational attributes originate.
Source organisation	The organisation responsible for the source document and/or the development of the data definition (this attribute is not specified in the ISO/IEC Standard 11179 but has been added for completeness). The source organisation is not necessarily the organisation responsible for the ongoing development/maintenance of the data element definition. An example of a source organisation is the National Data Policy Group (NDPG).

Appendix B: Glossary

Note: See *Appendix B: Glossary* in separate document.

Appendix C: Collection of Ethnicity Data

Introduction	This appendix contains information about collecting and coding ethnic group code data. To help with correct allocations of ethnicities, it includes a detailed list of ethnicities and their corresponding codes.
Points to remember	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ethnicity is self-identified and can change over time. • MOH can record up to three ethnic group codes for a healthcare user. • An algorithm is used to automatically prioritise ethnic group codes if more than one is reported. • If a person chooses not to specify their ethnicity, it should be recorded using a residual code such as '94' (Don't Know), '95' (Refused to Answer) or '99' (Not specified), not as '61' (Other). • The NHI database should be updated if a healthcare user provides a more specific or different specific ethnicity than that already held for that person.
About ethnicity	<p>The term 'ethnic group' is defined as 'a group of people who have culture, language, history or traditions in common.' Ethnicity is not the same as race, ancestry, or country of birth.</p> <p>Because ethnicity is self-identified, it can change over time. This is why MOH collects ethnicity data whenever information is collected for different datasets, rather than relying on the National Health Index (which does not include historical data).</p> <p>Collecting ethnicity data has always been problematic because of the reluctance of some data providers to collect the information, the unwillingness of some healthcare users to label themselves, and the confusion between ethnicity, nationality, citizenship, and race.</p>
Purpose	Information about ethnicity is used extensively in planning and resourcing health services, developing and monitoring health policies, and measuring health outcomes.
Collection of data	<p>It is very important that the ethnicity data from the health sector is collected in the same way as the data in the Census because rates of hospitalisation are calculated by comparing the two datasets (to determine proportions of the population). The 2001 Census question is provided below as a guide.</p> <p>Important: For MOH collections, up to three ethnic group codes can be collected for a healthcare user. Providers should make sure that healthcare users are aware of this. MOH stores all reported ethnic group codes, and also prioritises them based on a Statistics NZ algorithm.</p>

Which ethnic group do you belong to?
 Mark the space or spaces that apply to you.

New Zealand European

Māori

Samoan

Cook Island Māori

Tongan

Niuean

Chinese

Indian

other (such as DUTCH, JAPANESE, TOKELAUAN). Please state:

Coding data

Use the Classification of Ethnicity table below to code the healthcare user's ethnic group.

If they have ticked one or more specific ethnicities, or if they have ticked 'other' and written in an ethnicity, look on the table to find the code.

If they have written an invalid ethnicity, such as 'Kiwi' or 'Mainlander', which does not map to any item on the code table, or if they have ticked 'other' but not stated an ethnicity, you can:

- discuss this with them and encourage them to choose a valid ethnic group
- ignore it if one or more other ethnicities are provided, or
- code as '99' (Not specified).

If they write 'New Zealander', this can be coded as '11' (New Zealand European)

If they have written 'pakeha', this can be coded as '11' (New Zealand European).

'Not Specified' and 'Other'

If a person chooses not to answer the ethnicity question, record their ethnicity response with an appropriate residual code such as '95' (Refused to Answer) or '99' (Not specified).

Important: The code '61' (Other) applied to only 0.037% of the New Zealand population in the 2006 census. It is limited to about 5 ethnic groups (such as Inuit/Eskimos, North, Central or South American Indians, Seychelles Islanders, and Mauritians). It must not be used as a generic 'other' code.

Recording ethnicity as 'Other' or 'Not specified' skews statistics on rates of hospitalisation and this affects health policy. Where possible, encourage healthcare users to choose a valid ethnic group.

Prioritisation of ethnicity

Many National Data Collections include Prioritised ethnicity. This is the most highly prioritised ethnicity where multiple ethnicity responses have been recorded for the healthcare user (either submitted with the health event/service or extracted from the NHI as part of the data load process). Prioritisation is determined according to a Statistics NZ Algorithm and prioritising ethnic codes simplifies analysis.

Each of the ethnic group codes is prioritised using the mappings in the table below.

ethnic_code	ethnic_code_description	priority
10	European not further defined	21
11	New Zealand European	22
12	Other European	20
21	Maori	1
30	Pacific Peoples not further defined	9
31	Samoan	7
32	Cook Island Maori	6
33	Tongan	5
34	Niuean	4
35	Tokelauan	2
36	Fijian	3
37	Other Pacific Peoples	8
40	Asian not further defined	14
41	Southeast Asian	10
42	Chinese	12
43	Indian	11
44	Other Asian	13
51	Middle Eastern	17
52	Latin American / Hispanic	15
53	African (or cultural group of African origin)	16
54	Other	19
61	Other Ethnicity	18
94	Don't Know	94
95	Refused to Answer	95
97	Response Unidentifiable	97
99	Not stated	99

Detailed code table

The codes used to report ethnicity to MOH are taken from the Statistics NZ Statistical Standard for Ethnicity 2005. This classification is a very detailed 5-digit code: only the first two digits (shown in the table below) are reported to MOH.

Use this table to code healthcare user's self-identified ethnicities.

MOH Ethnicity code	Country of Ethnicity Affiliation
37	Admiralty Islander
44	Afghani
53	African American
53	African nec
53	African nfd
12	Afrikaner
32	Aitutaki Islander

MOH Ethnicity code	Country of Ethnicity Affiliation
12	Albanian
51	Algerian
12	American (US)
51	Arab
52	Argentinian
12	Armenian
44	Asian nec

MOH Ethnicity code	Country of Ethnicity Affiliation
40	Asian nfd
51	Assyrian
32	Atiu Islander
37	Austral Islander
12	Australian
37	Australian Aboriginal
12	Austrian
37	Banaban
44	Bangladeshi
37	Belau/Palau Islander
12	Belgian
12	Belorussian
43	Bengali
37	Bismark Archipelagoan
52	Bolivian
12	Bosnian
37	Bougainvillean
52	Brazilian
12	British nec
12	British nfd
12	Bulgarian
12	Burgher
41	Burmese
12	Byelorussian
41	Cambodian
42	Cambodian Chinese
12	Canadian
37	Caroline Islander
12	Celtic nfd
61	Central American Indian
37	Chamorro
12	Channel Islander
52	Chilean
42	Chinese nec
42	Chinese nfd
52	Colombian
32	Cook Island Maori nfd
12	Cornish
12	Corsican
52	Costa Rican
52	Creole (Latin America)
53	Creole (US)
12	Croat/Croatian
12	Cypriot nfd
12	Czech
12	Dalmatian
12	Danish
12	Dutch/Netherlands
37	Easter Islander
52	Ecuadorian
51	Egyptian

MOH Ethnicity code	Country of Ethnicity Affiliation
12	English
53	Eritrean
12	Estonian
53	Ethiopian
44	Eurasian
10	European nfd
12	Falkland Islander/Kelper
36	Fijian (except Fiji Indian/ Indo-Fijian)
43	Fijian Indian/Indo-Fijian
41	Filipino
12	Finnish
12	Flemish
12	French
12	Gaelic
37	Gambier Islander
12	German
53	Ghanian
12	Greek (incl Greek Cypriot)
12	Greenlander
37	Guadalcanalian
37	Guam Islander/Chamorro
52	Guatemalan
43	Gujarati
52	Guyanese
37	Hawaiian
52	Honduran
42	Hong Kong Chinese
12	Hungarian
12	Icelander
37	I-Kiribati/Gilbertese
43	Indian nec
43	Indian nfd
41	Indonesian (incl Javanese/ Sundanese/Sumatran)
61	Inuit/Eskimo
51	Iranian/Persian
51	Iraqi
12	Irish
51	Israeli/Jewish/Hebrew
12	Italian
53	Jamaican
44	Japanese
51	Jordanian
42	Kampuchean Chinese
37	Kanaka/Kanak
53	Kenyan
41	Khmer/Kampuchean/ Cambodian
44	Korean
51	Kurd
41	Lao/Laotian

MOH Ethnicity code	Country of Ethnicity Affiliation
52	Latin American/Hispanic nec
52	Latin American/Hispanic nfd
12	Latvian
51	Lebanese
51	Libyan
12	Lithuanian
12	Macedonian
37	Malaitian
41	Malay/Malayan
42	Malaysian Chinese
12	Maltese
52	Malvinian (Spanish-speaking Falkland Islander)
32	Mangaia Islander
32	Manihiki Islander
37	Manus Islander
12	Manx
37	Marianas Islander
37	Marquesas Islander
37	Marshall Islander
32	Mauke Islander
61	Mauritian
52	Mexican
51	Middle Eastern nec
51	Middle Eastern nfd
32	Mitiaro Islander
51	Moroccan
37	Nauru Islander
44	Nepalese
37	New Britain Islander
12	New Caledonian
37	New Georgian
37	New Irelander
11	New Zealander
11	New Zealand European
21	New Zealand Maori
52	Nicaraguan
53	Nigerian
34	Niuean
61	North American Indian
12	Norwegian
99	Not Specified
37	Ocean Islander/Banaban
51	Omani
12	Orkney Islander
53	Other African nec
44	Other Asian nec
12	Other European
61	Other nec
61	Other nfd
41	Other Southeast Asian nec

MOH Ethnicity code	Country of Ethnicity Affiliation
37	Pacific Peoples nec
30	Pacific Peoples nfd
44	Pakistani
51	Palestinian
32	Palmerston Islander
52	Panamanian
37	Papuan/New Guinean/Irian Jayan
52	Paraguayan
32	Penrhyn Islander
52	Peruvian
37	Phoenix Islander
37	Pitcairn Islander
12	Polish
12	Portuguese
52	Puerto Rican
32	Pukapuka Islander
43	Punjabi
32	Rakahanga Islander
32	Rarotongan
12	Romanian/Rumanian
12	Romany/Gypsy
37	Rotuman/Rotuman Islander
12	Russian
31	Samoan
37	Santa Cruz Islander
12	Sardinian
12	Scottish (Scots)
12	Serb/Serbian
61	Seychelles Islander
12	Shetland Islander
43	Sikh
42	Singaporean Chinese
44	Sinhalese
12	Slavic/Slav
12	Slovak
12	Slovene/Slovenian
37	Society Islander (including Tahitian)
37	Solomon Islander
53	Somali
61	South African coloured
12	South African nec
61	South American Indian
12	South Slav (formerly Yugoslav groups) nfd
12	South Slav (formerly Yugoslav) nec
41	Southeast Asian nfd
12	Spanish
44	Sri Lankan nec
44	Sri Lankan nfd

MOH Ethnicity code	Country of Ethnicity Affiliation
44	Sri Lankan Tamil
12	Swedish
12	Swiss
51	Syrian
42	Taiwanese Chinese
37	Tahitian (including Society Islander)
43	Tamil
41	Thai/Tai/Siamese
44	Tibetan
35	Tokelauan
33	Tongan
37	Torres Strait Islander/Thursday Islander
37	Tuamotu Islander
51	Tunisian
51	Turkish (incl Turkish Cypriot)

MOH Ethnicity code	Country of Ethnicity Affiliation
37	Tuvalu Islander/Ellice Islander
53	Ugandan
12	Ukrainian
52	Uruguayan
37	Vanuatu Islander/New Hebridean
52	Venezuelan
41	Vietnamese
42	Vietnamese Chinese
37	Wake Islander
37	Wallis Islander
12	Welsh
53	West Indian/Caribbean
37	Yap Islander
51	Yemeni
12	Zimbabwean

nfd = Not further defined

nec = Not elsewhere classified