

# Preferred Language

The coding system is based on the Australian Bureau of Statistics' two digit classification of country of birth.

- 00 Australian Aboriginal language
- 01 English
- 02 Fijian
- 03 Hawaiian
- 04 Maori languages
- 05 Pidgin English
- 06 New Guinea native language
- 07 Samoan
- 08 Tongan
- 09 Other Oceanic language
- 10
- 11 Scots Gaelic
- 12 Welsh
- 13
- 14 Irish
- 15 Albanian
- 16 Macedonian
- 17 Icelandic
- 18 Bulgarian
- 19 Czech
- 20 Danish
- 21 Estonian
- 22 Finnish
- 23 French
- 24 German
- 25 Greek
- 26 Hungarian
- 27 Italian
- 28 Latvian
- 29 Lithuanian
- 30 Maltese
- 31 Dutch/Flemish
- 32 Norwegian
- 33 Polish
- 34 Portuguese
- 35 Romanian
- 36 Spanish
- 37
- 38 Slovenian
- 39 Ukrainian
- 40 Russian
- 41 Serbo-Croatian
- 42 Arabic
- 43 Armenian
- 44 Burmese

- 45 Khmer/Cambodian
- 46 Mandarin
- 47 Cantonese
- 48 Hokkien
- 49 Teochew
- 50 Georgian
- 51 Hindi
- 52 Indonesian (Bahasa)
- 53 Iranian/Persian/Farsi
- 54 Assyrian
  
- 55 Hebrew
- 56 Japanese
- 57 Bengali
- 58 Korean
- 59 Lao
- 60 Lebanese
- 61 Malay
- 62 Pakistani/Urdu
- 63 Filipino/Tagalog
- 64 Tamil
- 65 Singhalese/Sri Lankan
- 66 Telegu
- 67 Tetum
- 68 Thai
- 69 Punjabi
- 70 Turkish
- 71 Vietnamese
- 72 Other Asian language not elsewhere classified
- 73 Dari
- 74
- 75 Croatian
- 76 Serbian
- 77 Slovak
- 78 Yiddish
- 79 Other European language not elsewhere classified
- 80 Central American Indian language
- 81 South American Indian language
- 82 North American Indian language
- 83
- 84
- 85 Bantu language
- 86 Ethiopian
- 87 Sudanese
- 88 Swahili
- 89
- 90 Afrikaans
- 91 Other African language - unspecified
- 92 Chinese (dialect specified but not elsewhere classified)
- 93 Chinese (dialect unspecified)
- 94
- 95

- 96 Sign language
- 97 Other language not elsewhere classified
- 98 Inadequately described
- 99 Not known

**Notes:**

All sign languages are to be coded 96.

97 *Other language not elsewhere classified* is to be used only when there is no indication of even the continent in which it is spoken; only to be used in exceptional circumstances.

98 *Inadequately described* means the respondent has not been able to communicate the name of the language which he/she prefers.

99 *Not known* means information could not be obtained about the preferred language.