

Gender Statistics

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Presentation to the Parliament of Victoria
Inquiry into gender responsive budgeting

Australian Bureau of Statistics
Informing Australia's important decisions



2020 Standard for Sex, Gender, Variations of Sex Characteristics and Sexual Orientation Variables

- ▶ 2020 Standard replaces the 2016 version:
 - updated sex and gender variables
 - introduces variables for variations of sex characteristics and sexual orientation
 - introduces Cisgender and Trans and Gender Diverse Classification

2020 Standard - Key drivers

- ▶ Key drivers for 2020 Standard work were
 - Reflect lived experiences in statistics
 - Build evidence base
 - Support consistency and comparison

Sex

- a person's sex is based upon their sex characteristics, such as their chromosomes, hormones and reproductive organs.

2020 Standard – Sex standard question module (Sex recorded at birth)

What was [your/Person's name/their] sex recorded at birth?

Please [tick/mark/select] one box.

Male

Female

Another term (please specify)

Gender

- is a social and cultural concept.
- it is about social and cultural differences in identity, expression and experience as a man, woman or non-binary person.

2020 Standard – Gender standard question module

How [do/does] [you/Person's name/they] describe [your/their] gender?

Gender refers to current gender, which may be different to sex recorded at birth and may be different to what is indicated on legal documents.

Please [tick/mark/select] one box:

- Man or male
- Woman or female
- Non-binary
- [I/they] use a different term (please specify)
- Prefer not to answer

2020 Standard - Application

- ▶ Recommend collecting both Sex at Birth and Gender
 - greater disaggregation
 - derivation of cis and trans
- ▶ If only one – relate to measure or policy
- ▶ Where possible, also sexual orientation and variations of sex characteristics

ABS surveys

Questions included	Survey
Sex at birth Gender Variations of sex characteristics Sexual orientation	Mental Health Study National Health Survey
Sex at birth Gender Sexual orientation	Survey of Disability, Ageing and Carers
Sex Sexual orientation	Family and Community Experiences General Social Survey (2014 and 2020)

Gender Indicators

- ▶ ABS Gender Indicators publication since 2011
- ▶ National level only
- ▶ 6 domains
 - Economic Security
 - Education
 - Health
 - Work and Family Balance
 - Safety and Justice
 - Democracy, Governance and Citizenship

Data limitations

- ▶ Only sex or gender
- ▶ Conflation of sex and gender
- ▶ Limited intersectionality – e.g. gender with sexual orientation, disability status

Questions?

