



Australian Statistical Geography Standard (ASGS): Volume 2 - Indigenous Structure

Australia

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PREFACE

This publication is the second volume of a series detailing the new Australian Statistical Geography Standard (ASGS). This publication describes the Indigenous Structure of the ASGS.

The Indigenous Structure of the ASGS provides a geographical standard for the publication of statistics about the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population of Australia. It has been designed for the purpose of disseminating Census data by spatial areas relevant to the distribution of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander populations. The boundaries produced for the Indigenous Structure are constructed from Statistical Areas Level 1 (SA1s).

The ASGS brings all the regions for which the ABS publishes statistics within the one framework and will be used by the ABS for the collection and dissemination of geographically classified statistics from 1 July 2011. It is the framework for understanding and interpreting the geographical context of statistics published by the ABS. The ABS also encourages the use of the ASGS by other organisations to improve the comparability and usefulness of statistics generally.

As a whole, the ASGS represents a more comprehensive, flexible and consistent way of defining Australia's statistical geography than the previous geographic classification, the Australian Standard Geographical Classification (ASGC). For further information to assist you to move from the ASGC to the ASGS please refer to the ABS website at <http://www.abs.gov.au/geography>.

The first volume of the ASGS was released in December 2010 *Australian Statistical Geography Standard (ASGS): Volume 1 - Main Structure and Greater Capital City Statistical Areas, July 2011* (cat. no. 1270.0.55.001). The third volume of the ASGS was released in July 2011 *Australian Statistical Geography Standard (ASGS): Volume 3 – Non ABS Structures, July 2011* (cat. no. 1270.0.55.003). Future volumes will detail the: Urban Centres and Localities/Section of State and Remoteness Areas.

The digital boundaries, codes and labels for the regions described in this volume are available free of charge from the Australian Bureau of Statistics website at <http://www.abs.gov.au/geography>.

Any enquires regarding the ASGS, the Indigenous Structure or suggestions for their improvement can be made by emailing geography@abs.gov.au or Indigenous.Statistics@abs.gov.au.

Brian Pink
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CHAPTER **1** **INTRODUCTION**

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INTRODUCTION

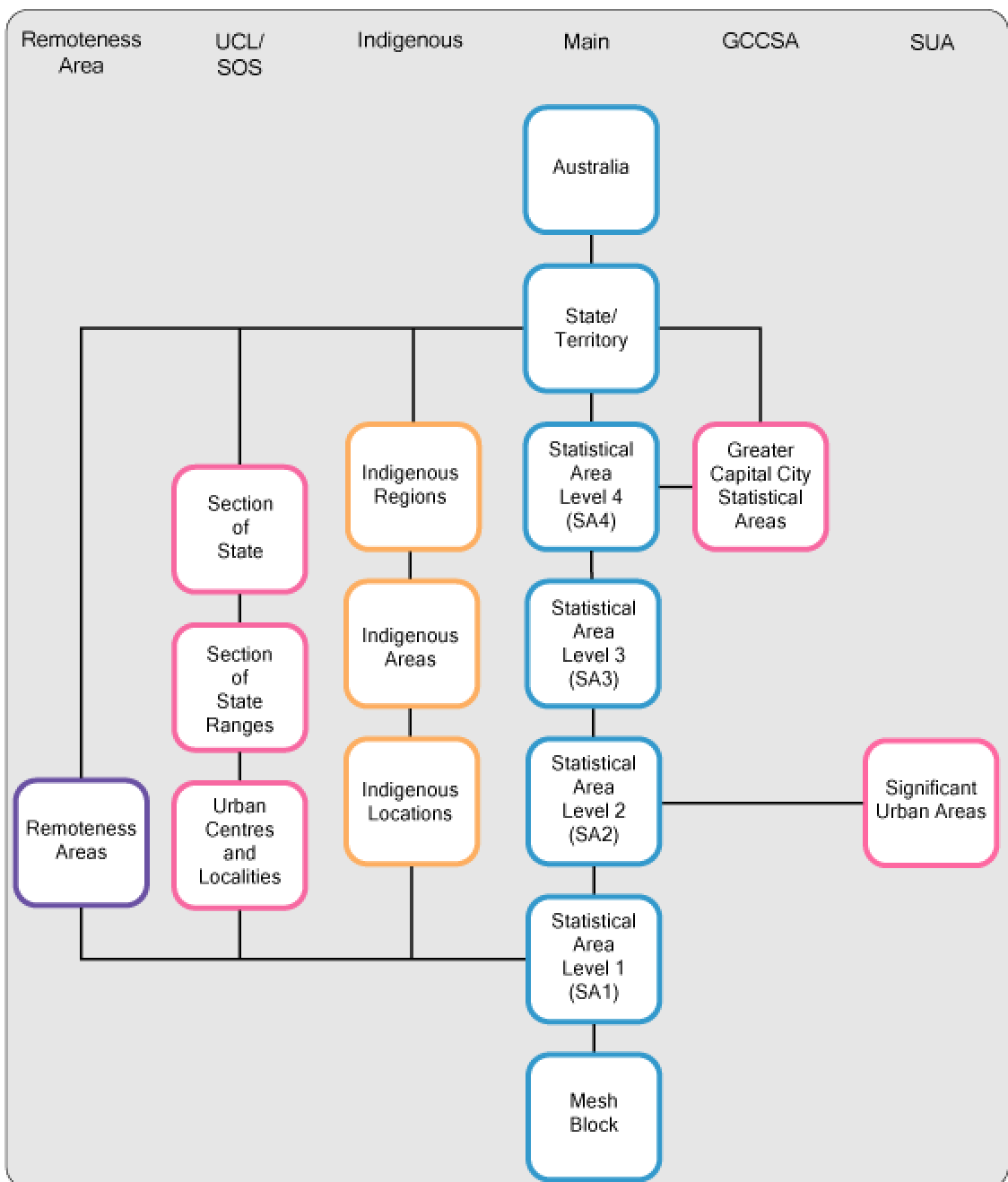
PURPOSE

This publication describes the Indigenous Structure of the Australian Statistical Geography Standard (ASGS). It is Volume 2 of a series detailing the new ASGS. The first ASGS publication, *Australian Statistical Geography Standard (ASGS): Volume 1 - Main Structure and Greater Capital City Statistical Areas, July 2011* (cat. no. 1270.0.55.001), was released in December 2010. The third volume of the ASGS, *Australian Statistical Geography Standard (ASGS): Volume 3 – Non ABS Structures, July 2011* (cat. no. 1270.0.55.003) was published in July 2011.

CLASSIFICATION
STRUCTURE

The following diagram depicts the Indigenous Structure, the component regions and how they relate to the ASGS.

DIAGRAM 1: ASGS ABS STRUCTURES



*SUPPORTING MATERIAL
FOR THIS VOLUME*

The following supporting material is available from the ABS website as free downloads from <<http://www.abs.gov.au/geography>> :

- Digital boundaries for all regions described in this publication as MapInfo Interchange Format files and ESRI shape files.
- Codes, labels and hierarchies for all regions described in this publication are available in '.csv' format.

For more details about the ASGS and future releases please refer to *Australian Statistical Geography Standard (ASGS): Volume 1 - Main Structure and Greater Capital City Statistical Areas, July 2011* (cat. no. 1270.0.55.001).

Information, resources and key statistics on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples are also available under Topics @ a Glance from <<http://www.abs.gov.au>>

SUMMARY TABLE

TABLE 1: SUMMARY OF INDIGENOUS UNITS AT JULY 2011

<i>Spatial Unit</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>NSW</i>	<i>Vic.</i>	<i>Qld</i>	<i>SA</i>	<i>WA</i>	<i>Tas.</i>	<i>NT</i>	<i>ACT</i>	<i>OT(a)</i>	<i>Aust.</i>
IREG(b)	Indigenous Region	9	4	10	5	10	3	9	3	4	57
IARE(b)	Indigenous Area	109	41	87	34	71	13	64	5	5	429
ILOC(b)	Indigenous Location	293	91	191	89	215	36	187	8	6	1 116

(a) Other Territories (OT) includes the territories of Cocos (Keeling) Islands, Christmas Island and Jervis Bay.

(b) Includes records for Migratory - Offshore - Shipping and No usual address for each state and territory.

CHAPTER **2** **INDIGENOUS STRUCTURE**

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INDIGENOUS STRUCTURE

PURPOSE

The Indigenous Structure provides a geographical standard for the publication of statistics about the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population of Australia and replaces the Australian Indigenous Geography Classification (AIGC).

The ABS is committed to improving the quality and comprehensiveness of data available about the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population. Quality data helps to accurately measure and monitor progress against targets to help close the gap in Indigenous disadvantage. The release of an improved Indigenous specific geography will enhance the quality and scope of information about the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population.

STRUCTURE

The new Indigenous Structure is similar to the AIGC in that it comprises 3 levels of geographic units in a single hierarchy. However, due to the introduction of the ASGS there is a significant difference in the building blocks that form the basis of this geography. The Indigenous Structure is built directly from Statistical Areas Level 1 (SA1s). Indigenous Locations (ILOCs) are formed by aggregating one or more SA1s. These in turn aggregate to form Indigenous Areas (IAREs) which aggregate to form Indigenous Regions (IREGs).

At each level of the hierarchical structure, the component spatial units collectively cover the whole of geographic Australia without gaps or overlaps.

METHODOLOGY

The boundaries and census statistics produced for the Indigenous Structure are constructed from SA1s. SA1s were developed with a number of indigenous specific design considerations that enable them to be a highly effective building block for the Indigenous Structure.

There has been a considerable effort to improve the spatial accuracy of the mapping representing discrete indigenous communities, particularly in remote areas. This flows through into the spatial accuracy of the SA1 boundaries representing these communities. This will facilitate improved enumeration and output of census data and enable more effective spatial comparison with sources such as satellite imagery.

SA1s separately identify discrete Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities with approximate populations of over 90. SA1s are designed to combine related populations and this includes Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander populations. Resources such as language groups, information from persons with local knowledge of certain communities, and transport networks have all been used to maximise the extent to which SA1s contain interrelated Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander populations.

In some cases discrete Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities that are too small to be identified separately have been combined with other nearby and associated communities, to create a non-contiguous Indigenous SA1 with a population of over 90. This enables the release of census data on a population completely within discrete Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.

Further information on SA1s can be found in the *Australian Statistical Geography Standard (ASGS): Volume 1 - Main Structure and Greater Capital City Statistical Areas, July 2011* (cat. no. 1270.0.55.001).

METHODOLOGY continued

Indigenous Locations, Areas and Regions have been significantly redesigned since the 2006 Census. The codes used for the 2011 Census may not match those used in the 2006 Census. Correspondences enabling translation of data from AIGC to the Indigenous Structure of the ASGS will be developed and made available.

INDIGENOUS LOCATIONS (ILOC)

Indigenous Locations (ILOCs) are aggregates of one or more SA1s. ILOCs generally represent small Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities with a minimum population of 90 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander usual residents. An ILOC is an area designed to allow the production of census statistics relating to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people with a high level of spatial accuracy while maintaining the confidentiality of individuals. For the 2011 Census, 1116 ILOCs have been defined to cover the whole of geographic Australia.

There are non-spatial ILOCs for Migratory – Offshore – Shipping and No Usual Address in each state and territory (S/T).

ILOC NAMES

ILOC Names are allocated by ABS and are generally based upon a commonly identified name or combination of names for the area/community which the boundary encompasses. In locations encompassing multiple communities a combination of up to three distinct community names have been used to label the location.

ILOC CODING STRUCTURE

Each ILOC has a unique eight-digit hierarchical code. ILOCs are sorted alphabetically by name within each IARE then allocated a two-digit code starting from 01. This is prefixed by the six-digit IARE code to complete the ILOC code.

Special purpose codes are included as balancing items. SA1s allocated to these codes are not part of any official ILOC

- Codes ending in 94 are reserved for cases where people are coded to No Usual Address SA1s.
- Codes ending in 97 are reserved for cases where people are coded to Migratory, Offshore and Shipping SA1s.

Example:

<i>S/T Name</i>	<i>S/T Code</i>	<i>ILOC Code</i>	<i>ILOC Name</i>
Victoria	2	20100101	Keilor
Victoria	2	20100102	Sunshine
Victoria	2	20100201	Cardinia
Victoria	2	20100301	Craigieburn - Sunbury
Victoria	2	20100401	Cranbourne
Victoria	2	20100402	Hallam - Berwick - Pearcedale
Victoria	2	29499494	No usual address (Vic.)
Victoria	2	29799797	Migratory - Offshore - Shipping (Vic.)

INDIGENOUS AREAS
(IARE)

Indigenous Areas (IAREs) are medium sized geographical units designed to facilitate the release of more detailed statistics. IAREs provide a balance between spatial resolution and increased granularity of attribute data. They are created by aggregating one or more ILOCs. For the 2011 Census, 429 IAREs are defined to cover the whole of geographic Australia.

There are non-spatial IAREs for Migratory – Offshore – Shipping and No Usual Address in each S/T.

IARE NAMES

IARE Names are allocated by ABS and are generally based upon a commonly identified name or combination of names for the area/community which the boundary encompasses. In areas encompassing multiple communities a combination of up to three distinct community names have been used to label the area.

IARE CODING STRUCTURE

IAREs have a six-digit hierarchical code. IAREs are sorted alphabetically by name within each IREG then allocated a three-digit code starting from 001. This is prefixed by the three-digit IREG code to complete the IARE code.

Special purpose codes are included as balancing items. SA1s allocated to these codes are not part of any official IARE

- Codes ending in 94 are reserved for cases where people are coded to No Usual Address SA1s.
- Codes ending in 97 are reserved for cases where people are coded to Migratory, Offshore and Shipping SA1s.

Example:

<i>S/T Name</i>	<i>S/T Code</i>	<i>IARE Code</i>	<i>IARE Name</i>
Victoria	2	201001	Brimbank
Victoria	2	201002	Cardinia
Victoria	2	201003	Craigieburn - Sunbury
Victoria	2	201004	Cranbourne - Narre Warren
Victoria	2	201005	Frankston
Victoria	2	201006	Greater Dandenong
Victoria	2	294994	No usual address (Vic.)
Victoria	2	297997	Migratory - Offshore - Shipping (Vic.)

INDIGENOUS REGIONS
(IREG)

Indigenous Regions (IREGs) are large geographical units loosely based on the former Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission boundaries. They are created by aggregating one or more IAREs. The greater population of IREGs enables the highest level of granularity of attribute data through greater cross classification of variables compared with IAREs and ILOCs. For the 2011 Census 57 IREGs are defined to cover the whole of geographic Australia. IREGs do not cross S/T borders.

There are non-spatial IREGs for Migratory – Offshore – Shipping and No Usual Address in each S/T.

IREG NAMES

IREG Names are allocated by ABS and are generally based upon a commonly identified name or combination of names for the area/community which the boundary encompasses.

IREG CODING STRUCTURE

IREGs are sorted alphabetically by name within each S/T then allocated a two-digit code starting from 01. This is prefixed by a single digit S/T code to complete the IREG code.

Special purpose codes are included as balancing items. SAIs allocated to these codes are not part of any official IREG

- Codes ending in 94 are reserved for cases where people are coded to No Usual Address SAIs.
- Codes ending in 97 are reserved for cases where people are coded to Migratory, Offshore and Shipping SAIs.

Example:

<i>S/T Name</i>	<i>S/T Code</i>	<i>IREG Code</i>	<i>IREG Name</i>
Victoria	2	201	Melbourne
Victoria	2	202	Victoria exc. Melbourne
Victoria	2	294	No usual address (Vic.)
Victoria	2	297	Migratory - Offshore - Shipping (Vic.)

Statistics from the 2011 Census are available for all levels of the structure.

**EFFECTIVE DATES OF ASGS INDIGENOUS
STRUCTURE EDITION**

ASGS INDIGENOUS STRUCTURE EDITION
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<i>ASGS Indigenous Structure Edition</i>	<i>Effective Date</i>
2011	1 July 2011

.....

GLOSSARY

ABS	Australian Bureau of Statistics
AIGC	Australian Indigenous Geographical Classification
ASGC	Australian Standard Geographical Classification
ASGS	Australian Statistical Geography Standard
Aust.	Australia
IARE	Indigenous Area
ILOC	Indigenous Location
IREG	Indigenous Region
MB	Mesh Block
NSW	New South Wales
NT	Northern Territory
OT	Other Territories
Qld	Queensland
S/T	state or territory
SA	South Australia
SA1	Statistical Area Level 1
Tas.	Tasmania
Vic.	Victoria
WA	Western Australia

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INTERNET **www.abs.gov.au** the ABS website is the best place for data from our publications and information about the ABS.

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