The Australian Statistical Geography Standard (ASGS) 2016 Structure and Summary

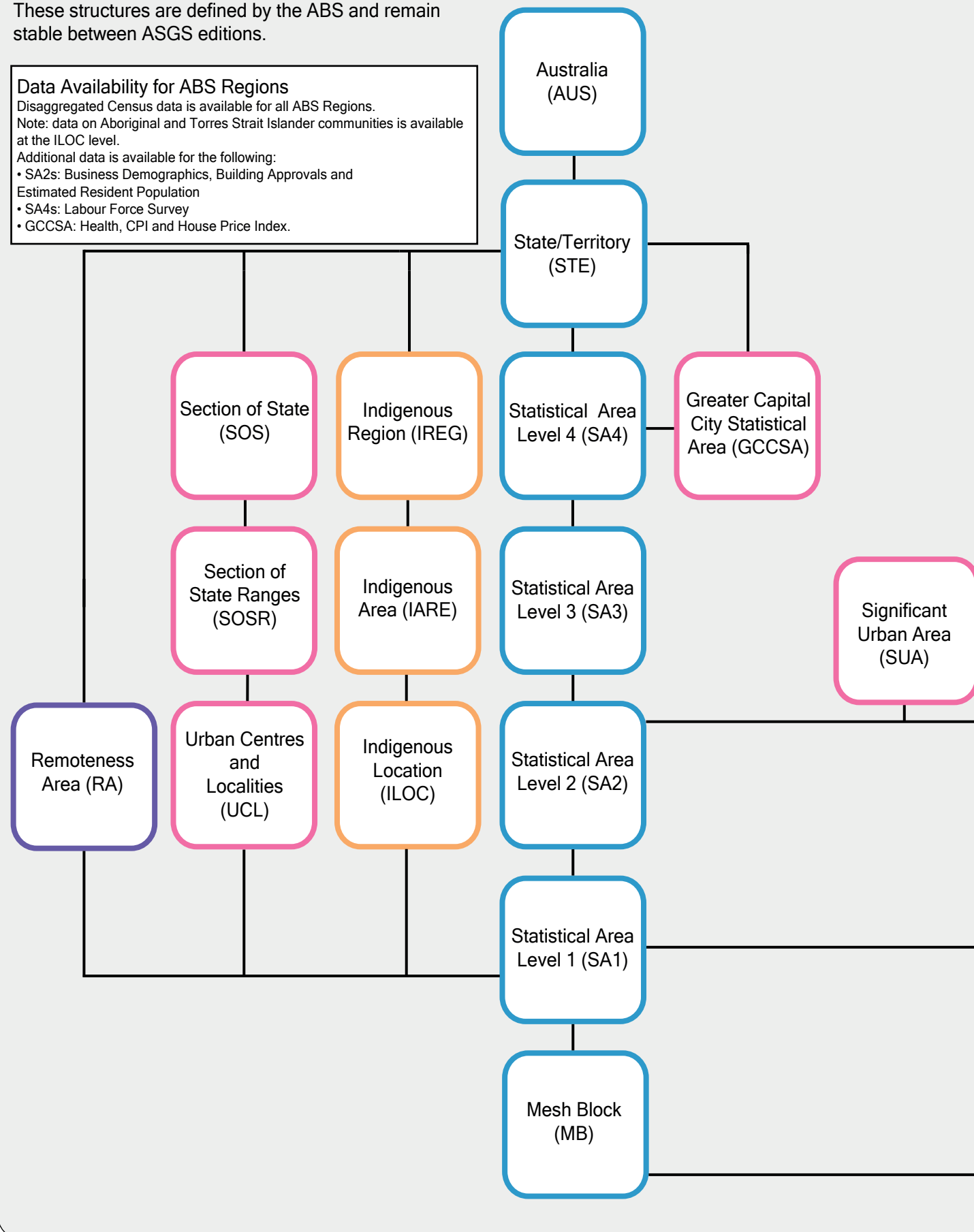Australian Bureau of Statistics

ABS Structures

These structures are defined by the ABS and remain stable between ASGS editions.

Data Availability for ABS Regions
Disaggregated Census data is available for all ABS Regions.
Note: data on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities is available at the ILOC level.
Additional data is available for the following:
• SA2s: Business Demographics, Building Approvals and Estimated Resident Population
• SA4s: Labour Force Survey
• GCCSA: Health, CPI and House Price Index.

Non ABS Structures

These structures are not defined by the ABS and are approximated using regions from the ABS Main Structure. These may be updated annually.

Data Availability for Non ABS Regions
Disaggregated Census data is available for all Non ABS Regions. Additional data is available for the following:
• Tourism Regions: Tourism data
• Postal Areas: Vehicle registration
• NRMRs: Agricultural and Environment data
• LGAs: Finance, Agriculture, Building Approvals and Estimated Residential Population.

ABS Structures boxes
- Australia (AUS)
- State/Territory (STE)
- Section of State (SOS)
- Indigenous Region (IREG)
- Statistical Area Level 4 (SA4)
- Greater Capital City Statistical Area (GCCSA)
- Section of State Ranges (SOSR)
- Indigenous Area (IARE)
- Statistical Area Level 3 (SA3)
- Significant Urban Area (SUA)
- Remoteness Area (RA)
- Urban Centres and Localities (UCL)
- Indigenous Location (ILOC)
- Statistical Area Level 2 (SA2)
- Statistical Area Level 1 (SA1)
- Mesh Block (MB)

Non ABS Structures boxes
- Tourism Region (TR)
- Commonwealth Electoral Division (CED)
- State Electoral Division (SED)
- Local Government Area (LGA)
- Postal Area (POA)
- State Suburb (SSC)
- Australian Drainage Division (ADD)
- Natural Resource Management Region (NRMR)

ASGS 2016 Code Reference and Counts

Structure	Name	Acronym	Database Field Name	Composition of Code	Example Code	Count of Geographic Units	Count of Special Purpose Units*	Count of Total Units
Main Structure and Greater Capital City Statistical Areas	Mesh Block	MB	MB_CODE_2016	STE (1) + MB (10)	20111690000	358,009	113	358,122
	Statistical Area Level 1	SA1	SA1_MAINCODE_2016 / SA1_7DIGITCODE_2016	STE (1) + SA4 (2) + SA3 (2) + SA2 (4) + SA1 (2) / STE (1) + SA2 (4) + SA1 (2)	21202129427 / 2129427	57,490	33	57,523
	Statistical Area Level 2	SA2	SA2_MAINCODE_2016 / SA2_5DIGITCODE_2016	STE (1) + SA4 (2) + SA3 (2) + SA2 (4) / STE (1) + SA2 (4)	212021294 / 21294	2,292	18	2,310
	Statistical Area Level 3	SA3	SA3_CODE_2016	STE (1) + SA4 (2) + SA3 (2)	21202	340	18	358
	Statistical Area Level 4	SA4	SA4_CODE_2016	STE (1) + SA4 (2)	212	89	18	107
	Greater Capital City Statistical Area	GCCSA	GCCSA_CODE_2016	STE (1) + TXT (4)	2GMEL	16	18	34
	State/Territory	STE	STATE_CODE_2016	STE (1)	2	9	N/A	9
	Australia	AUS	AUS_CODE_2016	"036"	036	1	N/A	1
Indigenous Structure	Indigenous Location	ILOC	ILOC_CODE_2016	STE (1) + IREG (2) + IARE (3) + ILOC (2)	20100402	1,097	18	1,115
	Indigenous Area	IARE	IARE_CODE_2016	STE (1) + IREG (2) + IARE (3)	201004	412	18	430
	Indigenous Region	IREG	IREG_CODE_2016	STE (1) + IREG (2)	201	40	18	58
Non ABS Structures	Local Government Area	LGA	LGA_CODE_2016	STE (1) + LGA (4)	21610	545	18	563
	Postal Area	POA	POA_CODE_2016	POA (4)	3806	2,668	2	2,670
	State Suburb	SSC	SSC_CODE_2016	STE (1) + SSC (4)	20223	15,286	18	15,304
	Australian Drainage Division	ADD	ADD_CODE_2016	"D" + ADD (2)	D09	14	2	16
	Natural Resource Management Region	NRMR	NRMR_CODE_2016	STE (1) + NRMR (2)	208	60	18	78
	Commonwealth Electoral Division	CED	CED_CODE_2016	STE (1) + CED (2)	225	150	18	168
	State Electoral Division	SED	SED_CODE_2016	STE (1) + SED (4)	26005	430	18	448
	Tourism Region	TR	TR_CODE_2016	STE (1) + "R" + TR (2) + "0"	2R010	77	N/A	77
Significant Urban Areas, Urban Centres and Localities, Section of State	Significant Urban Area	SUA	SUA_CODE_2016	SUA (4)	2010	110	N/A	110
	Urban Centres and Localities	UCL	UCL_CODE_2016	STE (1) + SOS (1) + SOSR (1) + UCL (3)	201001	1,835	18	1,853
	Section of State Ranges	SOSR	SOSR_CODE_2016	STE (1) + SOS (1) + SOSR (1)	201	71	18	89
	Section of State	SOS	SOS_CODE_2016	STE (1) + SOS (1)	20	34	18	52
Remoteness Structure	Remoteness Area	RA	RA_CODE_2016	STE (1) + RA (1)	20	35	18	53

*Special purpose units allow address data to be coded to a non-spatial value.