



# IDI Data Dictionary: Life event data

July 2015 edition



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#### **Citation**

Statistics New Zealand (2015). *IDI Data Dictionary: Life event data (July 2015 edition)*. Available from [www.stats.govt.nz](http://www.stats.govt.nz).

ISSN 2463-2848 (online)

Published in July 2015 by  
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# 1 Purpose of this data dictionary

*IDI Data Dictionary: Life event data (July 2015 edition)* documents the content of the births, deaths, marriages, and civil unions datasets the Department of Internal Affairs (DIA) provides to Statistics New Zealand to use in the Integrated Data Infrastructure (IDI).

This dictionary gives information on the variables contained in the datasets from January 1840 (or in the instance of civil unions, from April 2005) to the present year– including technical information and descriptions.

Use this data dictionary if you are interested in understanding and accessing births, deaths, marriages, and civil unions datasets in the IDI for your research.

## 2 Background

DIA provides life event data to Statistics NZ for integration into the IDI. The data provided pertains to births, deaths, marriages, and civil unions that have been registered in New Zealand.

The DIA registration system is event-based rather than person-centric. The database does not link a person across different events (eg between marriage and death), in part due to legislative limitations. The exception is NZ-registered births and NZ-registered deaths which are linked when a match is found. Name changes registered in New Zealand are also added to birth records if the person is NZ-born (name changes are used by Statistics NZ to assist in linking individual's data within the IDI but are not provided to researchers for reasons of privacy).

### Unique identifiers

As DIA data is event-based not person-centric, Statistics NZ matches individuals across events and assigns each individual a unique identifier in the IDI. Unique identifiers are allocated to the key individuals on each record – the child and parents on the birth records, the deceased, their parents and partners on the death record, and the partners and their parents on the marriage and civil union records.

### Record types and missing variables

In 1998 the DIA moved to digital storage of paper records. This was referred to as the Record Back Capture Project and ran between 1999 and 2001. Due to the large number of records that needed to be transferred, only a limited number of variables were included in each digital record. For events occurring after this digital capture, the full range of variables is recorded in the digital record.

Some pre-1998 paper records have been accessed since the Record Back Capture Project. In these instances, the digital record may have been updated to include additional information from the paper record. The data records are defined as either Type I, Type U or Type S, depending on the completeness of the digital record.

*Specifically:*

Type I data relates to pre-1998 records that have not been amended since 1998.

Type U data relates to pre-1998 records where a certificate has been ordered since the creation of the record during the Record Back Capture Project between 1999 and 2001 (Type I data).

Type S data relates to post-1998 records and any pre-1998 records that have been modified since the Type I data was created (eg due to a name change or to correct an error).

Percentage of records of each type by data set			
Dataset	Type I	Type U	Type S
Births	67%	15%	18%
Deaths	77%	3%	20%
Marriages	73%	5%	22%
Civil unions	-	-	100%



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## 3 About the life event data

### Coverage

**Reference period start:**

Births: January 1840

Deaths: January 1840

Marriages: January 1840

Civil Unions: April 2005

**Reference period end:** ongoing

**Geographic coverage:** New Zealand

**Target population:**

Births: All persons born in New Zealand and children who were born overseas but adopted in New Zealand.

Deaths: All persons who have died in New Zealand and some New Zealand born individuals that died overseas.

Marriages: All persons who have been married in New Zealand, including marriages that occurred overseas and were attended by a NZ Representative (see [Section 43](#) of the Marriage Act 1955).

Civil Unions: All persons who have entered into a civil union in New Zealand, including civil unions that occurred overseas and were attended by a NZ Representative.

**Observed population:** all individuals who have had one of the events above registered with the NZ government

**Analysis unit:** individual event

### Methodology

**Type of data:** administrative data capture

**Data collector:** DIA

**Frequency of data collection:** DIA provides data quarterly to Statistics NZ.

### Quality information

**Editing:** Data cleansing has been done on the data, where applicable, according to internal business rules. Statistics NZ deletes any null records provided and any invalid dates.

**Missing data:** Some records, for example S records, contain more complete data across available variables than others, owing to the Record Back Capture Project. Additionally, older records did not capture all variables (or to the same detail) that are captured on the modern registration forms, for example ethnicity and citizenship by birth status.

**Other quality issues:** Due to the manual entry of records and sometimes illegible handwriting, some data may have been inaccurately transcribed. Some validation checks occur at DIA, including ensuring that a mother is at least 12 years of age and that marriage partners are at least 16 years of age.

## Privacy, security, or confidentiality issues

The information in the life event datasets forms part of a public register that, with some restrictions, can be made available to any member of the public by way of a certificate or printout, provided they meet certain criteria. Restrictions on information searches are detailed in the [Births, Deaths, Marriages, and Relationships Registration Act 1995](#) and include, for example, information on adoptions and sexual reassignment. Individuals can also request a non-disclosure direction where they believe that disclosure of their information would be prejudicial to their personal safety or their family's safety. Restricted records and those with a non-disclosure direction are not provided to Statistics NZ.

The life event tables that are accessible to researchers do not contain any name or address information to identify an individual. All researchers who have access to the life event data have had their research proposals assessed using Statistics NZ's microdata access protocols and only approved researchers who have been granted access by Statistics NZ and DIA may view the life event data.

[Read Statistics NZ's microdata access protocols.](#)

All outputs produced from life event data must be aggregated and counts suppressed if the underlying unrounded count is fewer than six.

## List of datasets

[Births](#)

[Deaths](#)

[Marriages](#)

[Civil unions](#)

## Dataset history

### Changes in coverage over time

The Registration Ordinance Act 1847 made provision for a record of births and deaths to be kept by the state. Notification of births and deaths was made compulsory in 1848. From 1859 compulsory registration of births, deaths and marriages was introduced. The Registration of Births and Deaths Act 1875 required [additional information](#) to be provided at the time of registration.

The Births and Deaths Registration Amendment Act 1912 established regulations for the registration of Māori births and deaths and also made provision for the registration of stillbirths. Māori births and deaths were recorded on a separate register from non-Māori. Compulsory registration of Māori births and deaths, and non-Māori stillbirths was established in 1913. Māori stillbirths were not collected until 1942.

In 1962 Māori birth and death registers were abolished. Māori were now registered in the General registers.

New birth and death registration forms were introduced in September 1995 to include ethnicity and Māori descent questions.

### Changes to concepts over time

The Births, Deaths, Marriages, and Relationships Registration Act 1995, which took effect from 1 September 1995, redefined what constituted a stillbirth. Stillbirths recorded after 1

September 1995 include some stillbirths which would have fallen outside the definition of the previous act (see [stillbirth](#) in Glossary).

Prior to September 1995, the birth and death registration forms collected information on the degree of Māori or Pacific Island blood and the tribe or island of the newborn's mother and father. If the parents were not of Māori or Pacific Island descent, no ethnic details were required. The Births, Deaths, Marriages, and Relationships Registration Act 1995 introduced new birth and death registration forms. From September 1995 questions on ethnicity and Māori descent were included in the birth and death registrations. The ethnicity question was the same as that asked in the 1996 Census of Population and Dwellings and permitted multiple self-identified ethnic groups to be selected. From 1 January 2006 the ethnic question on the birth and death registration forms was changed to be consistent with that in the 2001 Census of Population and Dwellings.

Grant of Citizenship was passed in 1949. Before 1949 people born or naturalised in New Zealand were British subjects. Most people living in New Zealand became citizens on the date the British Nationality and New Zealand Citizenship Act 1948 came into force. Citizenship today is governed by the Citizenship Act 1977 and the Citizenship (Western Samoa) Act 1982. From 1 January 2006, children born in New Zealand are only New Zealand citizens if either of their parents are New Zealand citizens or entitled to permanent residency.

### **Consistency of data collection and data entry processes over time**

Initially the Department of Justice oversaw the collection of information on births, deaths and marriages in New Zealand. From October 1995, government restructuring resulted in the public registries group being split and the Department of Internal Affairs (DIA) was given responsibility for births, deaths and marriages.

From 1 January 1998 DIA computerised the vitals collection system via the Record Back Capture Project.





## 4 Data dictionary for births data

**Last updated on:** 17 July 2015

### Dataset description

#### Contents of dataset

The dataset contains all births registered in New Zealand from January 1840. It also contains data on the parents of the child, any siblings, the relationship details of the parents, and the child's ethnicity and citizenship.

#### Background on births data

Under the provisions of the Births, Deaths, Marriages, and Relationships Registration Act 1995, every birth occurring in New Zealand must be registered.

The birth registration form has changed over the years. See [Birth Data Collected](#) on Births, Deaths & Marriages Online for a complete list of variables requested through these periods. Of particular note are the following additions and changes:

- 1 September 1995: ethnicity and Māori descent questions were added and were consistent with the 1996 Census of Population and Dwellings.
- January 2006: the ethnic question was changed to be consistent with that in the 2001 Census of Population and Dwellings.
- 26 April 2005: parents' marital status was updated to include civil union and de facto relationship options and questions to discern parents' citizenship.

From 21 March 2015 the birth registration form can now be completed on-line. Approximately 80 percent of births are now registered via this channel.

#### Ethnicity

Prior to September 1995, the birth registration form collected information on the degree of Māori or Pacific Island blood and the tribe or island of the newborn's mother and father. If the parents were not of Māori or Pacific Island descent no ethnic details were required. The introduction of a new birth registration form in September 1995 included an ethnic question consistent with the concept of ethnic self-identification. In addition, a question on Māori descent is included. The registration form includes ethnicity and Māori descent questions for the mother, father and child.

Initially, the ethnic question on the birth registration form was the same as that asked in the 1996 Census of Population and Dwellings. It asked the respondent to tick as many circles as needed to show which ethnic group the mother, father and child belonged to. During 2005, the ethnic question was changed on the birth registration form to be consistent with that in the 2001 Census of Population and Dwellings. It asked the respondent to tick the box or boxes which applied. Multiple ethnicities can be recorded, to a maximum of ten. The form also includes a free text field that has meant that Statistics NZ has been able to code the registered ethnicities to our highest level of detail – Ethnicity level 4. Each individual on the birth record (child and parents) also has an ethnicity indicator recorded in the IDI to show which of the six broad ethnic groups (European, Māori, Pacific, Asian, MELAA (Middle Eastern, Latin American and African) and Other) they have identified with.

## Information on Māori

Māori births were recorded on a separate register from 1913 through to 1961. Often registrations were not recorded by the family but by a minister of the church who would visit the local pa and take down details of recent births. Information on Māori tribal affiliation was only collected on this register, over this period of time.

## Stillbirths

Compulsory registration of stillbirths was established under legislation in 1913. The Births, Deaths, Marriages, and Relationships Registration Act 1995, which took effect from 1 September 1995, redefined what constituted a stillbirth. Stillbirths recorded after 1 September 1995 include some stillbirths which would have fallen outside the definition of the previous act (see stillbirth in Glossary).

## Parents' information

The birth date for parents has only been captured from 1972. Prior to this date the registration form only requested the parents' ages.

Mother's occupation has only been officially captured from 1998, although some registries collected this information in the 1980s.

Questions on the parents' marital status were updated in 2006 to include civil union and de facto relationship options.

Changes to the Births, Deaths, Marriages, and Relationships Registration Act 1995 came into effect on 25 January 2009 requiring both parents to sign the birth registration form except in prescribed circumstances.

Since 2005 the sex of the parents has been recorded by DIA in the birth record. Before 2005 the first parent entry in the birth record was always the mother so Statistics NZ has derived a value for sex for each parent before 2005.

## Citizenship

From 1 January 2006 children born in New Zealand will only be New Zealand citizens if either of their parents are New Zealand citizens or entitled to permanent residency. To assist in determining citizenship status, questions about the parents' citizenship and residency were included on the registration form.

## Adoptions

The Births and Deaths Registration Act 1951 contained provisions for the registration of adopted children. The Adoption Act 1955 contains the regulation for the registration of adopted children. When children are adopted their original birth certificate is stored in a secure archive and a new birth certificate is created with the child's adopted name and details for the adoptive parents. Pre-adoptive records cannot be provided to Statistics NZ by DIA.

## Matching records to death records

Where possible DIA matches a deceased person who was born in New Zealand to their birth record and records the corresponding registration number in both the birth and death record.

## Data limitations

Up to two reminder notices are sent to parents to ensure a birth registration form is completed. The timing of these reminder notices has varied over time. This change in timing can affect the lag time between the date of a birth and the date of its registration. Registrations are generally completed within three months of the child's birth. Approximately 14,000 births in total are unregistered.

## Summary table for births dataset

Variable name	Primary key	Present in record type	Data type & format	DIA variable name	Variable definition	IDI variable name	Classification name (in SNZ classification codes)
<b>Child</b>							
IDI unique identifier	Yes	I, U, S	Integer Max length = 10	-	IDI unique identifier allocated by SNZ	snz_uid	
DIA identifier		I, U, S	Integer Max length = 10	-	DIA dataset identifier allocated by SNZ	snz_dia_uid	
Sex		I, U, S	Character length = 1	csex	Sex of child expressed as SNZ standard classification (1 = male, 2 = female)	dia_bir_sex_snz_code	sex_code
Still birth		I, U, S	Character length = 1	cstill	Defines if child was still born or not	dia_bir_still_birth_code	still_birth_code
Multiple birth		U, S	Character length = 2	cmult	Child's position, if a multiple birth	dia_bir_multiple_birth_code	multiple_birth_code
Birth date - month		I, U, S	Integer length = 2	cdate	Month child was born (day is removed for confidentiality)	dia_bir_birth_month_nbr	
Birth date - year		I, U, S	Integer length = 4	cdate	Year child was born	dia_bir_birth_year_nbr	
Ethnicity – up to 10 groups can be identified		S	Character Max. length = 30	cethnic	First recorded ethnic group	dia_bir_ethnicity1_code	
		S	Character Max. length = 30		Second recorded ethnic group	dia_bir_ethnicity2_code	
		S	Character Max. length = 30		Third recorded ethnic group	dia_bir_ethnicity3_code	
		S	Character Max. length = 30		Fourth recorded ethnic group	dia_bir_ethnicity4_code	
		S	Character Max. length = 30		Fifth recorded ethnic group	dia_bir_ethnicity5_code	
		S	Character Max. length = 30		Sixth recorded ethnic group	dia_bir_ethnicity6_code	

Variable name	Primary key	Present in record type	Data type & format	DIA variable name	Variable definition	IDI variable name	Classification name (in SNZ classification codes)
		S	Character Max. length = 30		Seventh recorded ethnic group	dia_bir_ethnicity7_code	
		S	Character Max. length = 30		Eighth recorded ethnic group	dia_bir_ethnicity8_code	
		S	Character Max. length = 30		Ninth recorded ethnic group	dia_bir_ethnicity9_code	
		S	Character Max. length = 30		Tenth recorded ethnic group	dia_bir_ethnicity10_code	
Māori descent indicator		S	Character Max. length = 1		Indicates if child is identified as of Māori descent (1=yes, 0=no)	dia_bir_maori_ind	
New Zealand citizen status		S	Character length = 1	ChildCitizenshipStatus	Indicates if child is a New Zealand citizen at birth (1=yes, 0=no)	dia_bir_citz_status_ind	
Month NZ citizenship status confirmed		S	Integer length = 2	CBBDateDetermined	Month that NZ citizenship status was confirmed by DIA (day is removed for confidentiality)	dia_bir_citz_decision_month_nbr	
Year NZ citizenship status confirmed		S	Integer length = 4		Year that NZ citizenship status was confirmed by DIA	dia_bir_citz_decision_year_nbr	
Weight at birth		S	Decimal Max. length = 7.2	birthwei	Birth weight in grams	dia_bir_birth_weight_nbr	
Gestation of pregnancy		S	Decimal Max. length = 5.1	gestatio	Gestation in weeks	dia_bir_birth_gestation_nbr	
<b>Parent 1</b>							
IDI unique identifier	Yes	I, U, S	Integer Max length = 10	-	IDI unique identifier allocated by SNZ	parent1_snz_uid	
DIA identifier		I, U, S	Integer Max length = 10	-	DIA dataset identifier allocated by SNZ	parent1_snz_dia_uid	
Sex		I, U, S	Integer length = 1	-	Derived by SNZ (1 = male, 2 = female)	dia_bir_parent1_sex_snz_code	
Occupation		U, S	Character Max. length = 60		Occupation – free text field	dia_bir_parent1_occupation_text	
Birth date - month		U, S	Integer length = 2	mdate	Month born (day is removed for confidentiality)	dia_bir_parent1_birth_month_nbr	

Variable name	Primary key	Present in record type	Data type & format	DIA variable name	Variable definition	IDI variable name	Classification name (in SNZ classification codes)
Birth date - year		U,S	Integer length = 4		Year born	dia_bir_parent1_birth_year_nbr	
Ethnicity – up to 10 groups can be identified		S	Character Max. length = 30	methnic	First recorded ethnic group	dia_bir_parent1_ethnicity1_code	
		S	Character Max. length = 30		Second recorded ethnic group	dia_bir_parent1_ethnicity2_code	
		S	Character Max. length = 30		Third recorded ethnic group	dia_bir_parent1_ethnicity3_code	
		S	Character Max. length = 30		Fourth recorded ethnic group	dia_bir_parent1_ethnicity4_code	
		S	Character Max. length = 30		Fifth recorded ethnic group	dia_bir_parent1_ethnicity5_code	
		S	Character Max. length = 30		Sixth recorded ethnic group	dia_bir_parent1_ethnicity6_code	
		S	Character Max. length = 30		Seventh recorded ethnic group	dia_bir_parent1_ethnicity7_code	
		S	Character Max. length = 30		Eighth recorded ethnic group	dia_bir_parent1_ethnicity8_code	
		S	Character Max. length = 30		Ninth recorded ethnic group	dia_bir_parent1_ethnicity9_code	
		S	Character Max. length = 30		Tenth recorded ethnic group	dia_bir_parent1_ethnicity10_code	
Māori descent indicator		S	Character length = 1	mmaori	Indicates if parent 1 is identified as of Māori descent (1=yes, 0=no)	dia_bir_parent1_maori_ind	
Tribe		U, S	Character Max. length = 80	mtribe	Tribal affiliation – free text field	dia_bir_parent1_tribe_text	

Variable name	Primary key	Present in record type	Data type & format	DIA variable name	Variable definition	IDI variable name	Classification name (in SNZ classification codes)
Description of ethnicity		U, S	Character Max. length = 80	mdescrip	The degree of Māori or Pacific Island blood	dia_bir_parent1_description_text	
Parents' relationship to the child		S	Character Max. length = 6	Parent1RelationshipToChild	Mother or Father	dia_bir_parent1_child_rel_text	
<b>Parent 2</b>							
IDI unique identifier	Yes	I, U, S	Integer Max length = 10	-	IDI unique identifier allocated by SNZ	parent2_snz_uid	
DIA identifier		I, U, S	Integer Max length = 10	-	DIA dataset identifier allocated by SNZ	parent2_snz_dia_uid	
Sex		I, U, S	Integer length = 1	-	Derived by SNZ (1 = male, 2 = female)	dia_bir_parent2_sex_snz_code	
Occupation		U, S	Character Max. length = 60	foccupat	Occupation – free text field	dia_bir_parent2_occupation_text	
Birth date - month		U, S	Integer length = 2	fdate	Month born (day is removed for confidentiality)	dia_bir_parent2_birth_month_nbr	
Birth date - year		U, S	Integer length = 4		Year born	dia_bir_parent2_birth_year_nbr	
Ethnicity – up to 10 groups can be identified		S	Character Max. length = 30	fethnic	First recorded ethnic group	dia_bir_parent2_ethnicity1_code	
		S	Character Max. length = 30		Second recorded ethnic group	dia_bir_parent2_ethnicity2_code	
		S	Character Max. length = 30		Third recorded ethnic group	dia_bir_parent2_ethnicity3_code	
		S	Character Max. length = 30		Fourth recorded ethnic group	dia_bir_parent2_ethnicity4_code	
		S	Character Max. length = 30		Fifth recorded ethnic group	dia_bir_parent2_ethnicity5_code	
		S	Character Max. length = 30		Sixth recorded ethnic group	dia_bir_parent2_ethnicity6_code	

Variable name	Primary key	Present in record type	Data type & format	DIA variable name	Variable definition	IDI variable name	Classification name (in SNZ classification codes)
		S	Character Max. length = 30		Seventh recorded ethnic group	dia_bir_parent2_ethnicity7_code	
		S	Character Max. length = 30		Eighth recorded ethnic group	dia_bir_parent2_ethnicity8_code	
		S	Character Max. length = 30		Ninth recorded ethnic group	dia_bir_parent2_ethnicity9_code	
		S	Character Max. length = 30		Tenth recorded ethnic group	dia_bir_parent2_ethnicity10_code	
Māori descent indicator		S	Character length = 1	fmaori	Indicates if parent 2 is identified as of Māori descent (1=yes, 0=no)	dia_bir_parent2_maori_ind	
Other parent indicator		S	Character Max. length = 1	otherparent	Indicates if parent 2 is the 'other parent' in the relationship (Y or N)	dia_bir_other_parent_ind	
Tribe		U, S	Character Max. length = 80	ftribe	Tribal affiliation – free text field	dia_bir_parent2_tribe_text	
Description of ethnicity		U, S	Character Max. length = 80	fdescrip	The degree of Māori or Pacific Island blood	dia_bir_parent2_description_text	
Parent's relationship to the child		S	Character Max. length = 12	Parent2RelationshipToChild	Mother, Father or Other Parent	dia_bir_parent2_child_rel_text	
<b>Siblings of child</b>	Up to 16 siblings can be recorded on a birth record						
Sex		S	Character length = 1	psex	Sex expressed as SNZ standard classification (1 = male, 2 = female)	dia_bir_sibling1_sex_snz_code ... dia_bir_sibling16_sex_snz_code	
Still birth		S	Character length = 1	pdied	Defines if child was still born or not	dia_bir_sibling1_died_code ... dia_bir_sibling16_died_code	still_birch_code
Month of birth		S	Integer length = 2	pdate	Month born (day is removed for confidentiality)	dia_bir_sibling1_birth_month_nbr ... dia_bir_sibling16_birth_month_nbr	
Year of birth		S	Integer length = 4		Year born	dia_bir_sibling1_birth_year_nbr ... dia_bir_sibling16_birth_year_nbr	
<b>Parents' relationship</b>							

Variable name	Primary key	Present in record type	Data type & format	DIA variable name	Variable definition	IDI variable name	Classification name (in SNZ classification codes)
Type of relationship		S	Character Max. length = 2	parentsrelationship	Parents' relationship type	dia_bir_parents_rel_code	relationship_status_code
Date of relationship		S	Date ddmmyycc length = 8	wdate	Date parents' relationship began	dia_bir_relationship_date	
<b>Record</b>							
*Birth record unique identifier		I, U, S	Integer Max. length = 10	natno	SNZ encryption of DIA birth registration number	snz_dia_birth_reg_uid	
Month of registration		I, U, S	Integer length = 2	rdate	Month that the birth was registered with DIA	dia_bir_birth_reg_month_nbr	
Year of registration		I, U, S	Integer length = 4		Year that the birth was registered with DIA	dia_bir_birth_reg_year_nbr	
Death record unique identifier		I, U, S	Integer Max. length = 10	deathreg	SNZ encryption of DIA death registration number	snz_dia_death_reg_uid	
<b>Ethnicity – Statistics NZ classifications</b>							
<b>Child</b>							
SNZ Ethnicity Classification – up to 10 groups		S	Character Max. length = 6	-	The child's ethnicity groups on the birth record are expressed at SNZ ethnicity classification level 4	dia_bir_ethnic1_snz_code ... dia_bir_ethnic10_snz_code	snz_ethnicity_code
SNZ Ethnicity Group 1 Indicator		S	Character Max. Length = 1	-	=1 if child is of European ethnicity =0 otherwise	dia_bir_ethnic_grp1_snz_ind	
SNZ NZ Ethnicity Group 2 Indicator		S	Character Max. Length = 1	-	=1 if child is of Māori ethnicity =0 otherwise	dia_bir_ethnic_grp2_snz_ind	
SNZ NZ Ethnicity Group 3 Indicator		S	Character Max. Length = 1	-	=1 if child is of Pacific ethnicity =0 otherwise	dia_bir_ethnic_grp3_snz_ind	
SNZ NZ Ethnicity Group 4 Indicator		S	Character Max. Length = 1	-	=1 if child is of Asian ethnicity =0 otherwise	dia_bir_ethnic_grp4_snz_ind	
SNZ Ethnicity Group 5 Indicator		S	Character Max. Length = 1	-	=1 if child is of Middle Easter/ Latin American or African ethnicity =0 otherwise	dia_bir_ethnic_grp5_snz_ind	
SNZ Ethnicity Group 6 Indicator		S	Character Max. Length = 1	-	=1 if child is of other ethnicity =0 otherwise	dia_bir_ethnic_grp6_snz_ind	
<b>Parent 1</b>							
SNZ Ethnicity Classification – up to 10 groups		S	Character Max. length = 6	-	Parent 1's ethnicity groups on the birth record are expressed at SNZ ethnicity classification level 4	dia_bir_parent1_ethnic1_snz_code ... dia_bir_parent1_ethnic10_snz_code	snz_ethnicity_code



Variable name	Primary key	Present in record type	Data type & format	DIA variable name	Variable definition	IDI variable name	Classification name (in SNZ classification codes)
SNZ Ethnicity Group 1 Indicator		S	Character Max. Length = 1	-	=1 if parent 1 is of European ethnicity =0 otherwise	dia_bir_parent1_ethnic_grp1_snz_ind	
SNZ NZ Ethnicity Group 2 Indicator		S	Character Max. Length = 1	-	=1 if parent 1 is of Māori ethnicity =0 otherwise	dia_bir_parent1_ethnic_grp2_snz_ind	
SNZ NZ Ethnicity Group 3 Indicator		S	Character Max. Length = 1	-	=1 if parent 1 is of Pacific ethnicity =0 otherwise	dia_bir_parent1_ethnic_grp3_snz_ind	
SNZ NZ Ethnicity Group 4 Indicator		S	Character Max. Length = 1	-	=1 if parent 1 is of Asian ethnicity =0 otherwise	dia_bir_parent1_ethnic_grp4_snz_ind	
SNZ Ethnicity Group 5 Indicator		S	Character Max. Length = 1	-	=1 if parent 1 is of Middle Easter/ Latin American or African ethnicity =0 otherwise	dia_bir_parent1_ethnic_grp5_snz_ind	
SNZ Ethnicity Group 6 Indicator		S	Character Max. Length = 1	-	=1 if parent 1 is of other ethnicity =0 otherwise	dia_bir_parent1_ethnic_grp6_snz_ind	
<b>Parent 2</b>							
SNZ Ethnicity Classification – up to 10 groups		S	Character Max. length = 6	-	Parent 2's ethnicity groups on the birth record are expressed at SNZ ethnicity classification level 4	dia_bir_parent2_ethnic1_snz_code ... dia_bir_parent2_ethnic10_snz_code	snz_ethnicity_code
SNZ Ethnicity Group 1 Indicator		S	Character Max. Length = 1	-	=1 if parent 2 is of European ethnicity =0 otherwise	dia_bir_parent2_ethnic_grp1_snz_ind	
SNZ NZ Ethnicity Group 2 Indicator		S	Character Max. Length = 1	-	=1 if parent 2 is of Māori ethnicity =0 otherwise	dia_bir_parent2_ethnic_grp2_snz_ind	
SNZ NZ Ethnicity Group 3 Indicator		S	Character Max. Length = 1	-	=1 if parent 2 is of Pacific ethnicity =0 otherwise	dia_bir_parent2_ethnic_grp3_snz_ind	
SNZ NZ Ethnicity Group 4 Indicator		S	Character Max. Length = 1	-	=1 if parent 2 is of Asian ethnicity =0 otherwise	dia_bir_parent2_ethnic_grp4_snz_ind	
SNZ Ethnicity Group 5 Indicator		S	Character Max. Length = 1	-	=1 if parent 2 is of Middle Easter/ Latin American or African ethnicity =0 otherwise	dia_bir_parent2_ethnic_grp5_snz_ind	
SNZ Ethnicity Group 6 Indicator		S	Character Max. Length = 1	-	=1 if parent 2 is of other ethnicity =0 otherwise	dia_bir_parent1_ethnic_grp6_snz_ind	
*Mandatory							



## 5 Data dictionary for deaths data

**Last updated on:** 17 July 2015

### Dataset description

#### Contents of dataset

The dataset contains all deaths registered in New Zealand from January 1840. It contains information on the deceased, cause(s) of death, disposal details, details of the parents of the deceased, relationships of the deceased, and Māori affiliations. Some deaths of New Zealand-born individuals that occurred overseas are also registered in New Zealand and included in this dataset. This includes about 30 000 war deaths. Other deaths include New Zealand-registered aircraft and ships where there is no provision to register the deaths elsewhere.

#### Background

The death registration form has changed over the years. See [Death Data Collected](#) on Births, Deaths & Marriages Online for a complete list of variables requested through these periods. Of particular note are the following alterations:

- 1993: removal of the questions that were gender specific and replacement with gender neutral questions. Removal of "spinster"
- 1993: Department of Justice requested that the category for recording whether a deceased person was buried or cremated be removed from death registration form
- 1994: addition of a question on marital status at the time of death
- April 2005: the marital status question was changed to "relationship status at time of death". This meant that de facto relationships and civil unions were now recorded.

#### Registration

Coroners and 'persons in charge of burial' are able to notify DIA of a death. Deaths are required to be registered by the person in charge of the body. Normally this is a funeral director, but a small number of deaths are registered by a family member or a coroner. Death registration forms are now completed by funeral directors based on information provided by the deceased's next of kin. An on-line form is available and the majority of deaths (91 percent) are now recorded using this system. The death is required to be registered with DIA no more than three days following the disposal of the body, and within 14 days following date of death. As some bodies are flown out of New Zealand before disposal, it is possible to have a future date of disposal entered at the time of registration.

#### Ethnicity

Because next of kin were required to give ethnicity details of the deceased, this question often proved difficult to answer and in many instances went unanswered. Prior to June 1998, up to three ethnic groups were captured; after that date up to ten responses have been captured.

#### Cause of death

The cause of death variable is not available in IDI\_Clean. This variable is supplied by DIA but does not currently meet our criteria for inclusion into the research environment. As an alternative, please use the cause of death variable that is available from the Mortality tables in the Health data.

## Summary table for deaths dataset

Variable name	Primary key	Present in Record type	Data type & format	DIA variable name	Variable definition	IDI variable name	Classification name (in SNZ classif. codes)
<b>Deceased</b>							
IDI unique identifier	Yes	I, U, S	Integer Max length = 10	-	IDI unique identifier allocated by SNZ	snz_uid	
DIA identifier		I, U, S	Integer Max length = 10	-	DIA dataset identifier allocated by SNZ	snz_dia_uid	
Month of death		I, U, S	Integer length = 2	ddate	Month of death (day is removed for confidentiality)	dia_dth_death_month_nbr	
Year of death		I, U, S	Integer cyy length = 4		Year of death	dia_dth_death_year_nbr	
Month last seen		U, S	Integer length = 2	lstseen	Month that deceased was last seen (day is removed for confidentiality)	dia_dth_last_seen_month_nbr	
Year last seen		U, S	Integer cyy length = 4		Year that deceased was last seen	dia_dth_last_seen_year_nbr	
Sex		I, U, S	Character length = 1	dsex	Derived by SNZ (1 = male, 2 = female)	dia_dth_sex_snz_code	sex_code
Month of birth		I, U, S	Integer length = 2	bdate	Month that deceased was born (day is removed for confidentiality)	dia_dth_birth_month_nbr	
Year of birth		I, U, S	Integer cyy length = 4		Year that deceased was born	dia_dth_birth_year_nbr	
Number of years lived in New Zealand		U, S	Character Max. length = 10	ifoutsid	Number of years deceased lived in New Zealand (if born overseas)	dia_dth_years_lived_in_NZ_nbr	
Occupation		U, S	Character Max. length = 60	doccup	Deceased's occupation – free text field	dia_dth_occupation_text	
Ethnicity – up to 10 groups can be identified		S	Character Max. length = 30	dethnic	First recorded ethnic group	dia_dth_ethnicity1_code	
		S	Character Max. length = 30		Second recorded ethnic group	dia_dth_ethnicity2_code	
		S	Character Max. length = 30		Third recorded ethnic group	dia_dth_ethnicity3_code	
		S	Character Max. length = 30		Fourth recorded ethnic group	dia_dth_ethnicity4_code	
		S	Character Max. length = 30		Fifth recorded ethnic group	dia_dth_ethnicity5_code	

Variable name	Primary key	Present in Record type	Data type & format	DIA variable name	Variable definition	IDI variable name	Classification name (in SNZ classif. codes)
		S	Character Max. length = 30		Sixth recorded ethnic group	dia_dth_ethnicity6_code	
		S	Character Max. length = 30		Seventh recorded ethnic group	dia_dth_ethnicity7_code	
		S	Character Max. length = 30		Eighth recorded ethnic group	dia_dth_ethnicity8_code	
		S	Character Max. length = 30		Ninth recorded ethnic group	dia_dth_ethnicity9_code	
		S	Character Max. length = 30		Tenth recorded ethnic group	dia_dth_ethnicity10_code	
Māori descent indicator		S	Character Max. length = 1	dmaori	Indicates if parent 2 is identified as of Māori descent (1=yes, 0=no)	dia_dth_maori_ind	
Month of disposal		U, S	Integer length = 2	bcdte	Month that deceased's body was disposed (day is removed for confidentiality)	dia_dth_disposal_month_nbr	
Year of disposal		U, S	Integer cyy length = 4		Year that deceased's body was disposed	dia_dth_disposal_year_nbr	
Relationship status		U, S	Character Max. length = 3	maritals	Type of relationship the deceased was in at the time of death	dia_dth_relationship_status_code	relationship_status_code
Tribe		U, S	Character Max. length = 80	dtribe	Tribal affiliation – free text field	dia_dth_tribe_text	
Parents of Deceased							
Parent 1							
IDI unique identifier	Yes	I, U, S	Integer Max length = 10	-	IDI unique identifier allocated by SNZ	parent1_snz_uid	
DIA identifier		I, U, S	Integer Max length = 10	-	DIA dataset identifier allocated by SNZ	parent1_snz_dia_uid	
Occupation		U, S	Character Max. length = 60	moccup	Occupation – free text field	dia_dth_parent1_occupation_text	
Relationship to deceased		S	Character Max. length = 6	Parent1RelationshipToChild	Mother or Father	dia_dth_parent1_rel_decsd_text	
Sex		I, U, S	Character length = 1	-	Derived by SNZ (1 = male, 2 = female)	dia_dth_parent1_sex_snz_code	sex_code
Tribe		U, S	Character Max. length = 80	mtribe	Tribal affiliation – free text field	dia_dth_parent1_tribe_text	
Description of ethnicity		U, S	Character Max. length = 80	mdescrip	The degree of Māori or Pacific Island blood	dia_dth_parent1_description_text	
<b>Parent 2</b>							
IDI unique identifier	Yes	I, U, S	Integer Max length = 10	-	IDI unique identifier allocated by SNZ	parent2_snz_uid	

Variable name	Primary key	Present in Record type	Data type & format	DIA variable name	Variable definition	IDI variable name	Classification name (in SNZ classif. codes)	
DIA identifier		I, U, S	Integer Max length = 10	-	DIA dataset identifier allocated by SNZ	parent2_snz_dia_uid		
Occupation		U, S	Character Max. length = 60	foccup	Occupation – free text field	dia_dth_parent2_occupation_text		
Relationship to deceased		S	Character Max. length = 6	Parent2RelationshipToChild	Mother or Father	dia_dth_parent2_rel_decsd_text		
Sex		I, U, S	Character length = 1	-	Derived by SNZ (1 = male, 2 = female)	dia_dth_parent2_sex_snz_code	sex_code	
Tribe		U, S	Character Max. length = 80	ftribe	Tribal affiliation – free text field	dia_dth_parent2_tribe_text		
Description of ethnicity		U, S	Character Max. length = 80	fdescrip	The degree of Māori or Pacific Island blood	dia_dth_parent2_description_text		
<b>Partners of deceased</b>	Six previous relationships can be recorded on the record							
IDI unique identifier	Yes	I, U, S	Integer Max length = 10	-	IDI unique identifier allocated by SNZ	partnr1_snz_uid ... partnr6_snz_uid		
DIA identifier		I, U, S	Integer Max length = 10	-	DIA dataset identifier allocated by SNZ	partnr1_snz_dia_uid ... partnr6_snz_dia_uid		
Sex		I, U, S	Character length = 1	relationshipsex	Derived by SNZ (1 = male, 2 = female)	dia_dth_partnr1_sex_snz_code ... dia_dth_partnr6_sex_snz_code	sex_code	
Relationship type		U, S	Character Max. length = 3	relationship	Type of relationship	dia_dth_relationship1_type_code ... dia_dth_relationship6_type_code	relationship_status_code	
Place of marriage or civil union		U, S	Character Max. length = 75	marplace	Place of marriage or civil union (city/town)	dia_dth_relationship1_place_text ... dia_dth_relationship6_place_text		
Record								
*Death record unique identifier						I, U, S	Integer Max. length = 10	natn

Variable name	Primary key	Present in Record type	Data type & format	DIA variable name	Variable definition	IDI variable name	Classification name (in SNZ classif. codes)	
Month of registration		I, U, S	Integer length = 2	rdate	Month that death is registered (day is removed for confidentiality)	dia_dth_death_reg_month_nbr		
Year of registration		I, U, S	Integer yycc length = 4		Year that death was registered with DIA	dia_dth_death_reg_year_nbr		
Birth record unique identifier		I, U, S	Integer Max. length = 10	birthreg	SNZ encryption of DIA birth registration number	snz_dia_birth_reg_uid		
<b>Ethnicity of deceased – Statistics NZ Classifications</b>								
SNZ Ethnicity Classification – up to 10 groups		S	Character Max. length = 6	-	The deceased's ethnicity groups on the death record are expressed at SNZ ethnicity classification level 4	dia_dth_ethnic1_snz_code ... dia_dth_ethnic10_snz_code	snz_ethnicity_code	
SNZ Ethnicity Group 1 Indicator		S	Character Max. Length = 1	-	=1 if deceased is of European ethnicity =0 otherwise	dia_dth_ethnic_grp1_snz_ind		
SNZ NZ Ethnicity Group 2 Indicator		S	Character Max. Length = 1	-	=1 if deceased is of Māori ethnicity =0 otherwise	dia_dth_ethnic_grp2_snz_ind		
SNZ NZ Ethnicity Group 3 Indicator		S	Character Max. Length = 1	-	=1 if deceased is of Pacific ethnicity =0 otherwise	dia_dth_ethnic_grp3_snz_ind		
SNZ NZ Ethnicity Group 4 Indicator		S	Character Max. Length = 1	-	=1 if deceased is of Asian ethnicity =0 otherwise	dia_dth_ethnic_grp4_snz_ind		
SNZ Ethnicity Group 5 Indicator		S	Character Max. Length = 1	-	=1 if deceased is of Middle Easter/ Latin American or African ethnicity =0 otherwise	dia_dth_ethnic_grp5_snz_ind		
SNZ Ethnicity Group 6 Indicator					S	Character Max. Length = 1	-	=1 if of oth =0 o
*Mandatory								

Variable name	Primary key	Present in Record type	Data type & format	DIA variable name	Variable definition	IDI variable name	Classification name (in SNZ classif. codes)

## 6 Data dictionary for marriages data

**Last updated on:** 17 July 2015

### Dataset description

#### Contents of dataset

The dataset contains all marriages registered in New Zealand from January 1840. It contains details for each partner, the parents of each partner, details of a dissolution or change from civil union to marriage, where applicable.

#### Background

Compulsory registration of marriages was introduced in 1859. The Marriage Act Amendment in 1933 made the minimum legal age of marriage 16 years. People aged 16 and 17 years must have their guardian's consent to enter a marriage. The marriage registration form has changed over the years. See [Marriage Data Collected](#) on Births, Deaths & Marriages Online for a complete list of variables requested through these periods.

The Marriage (Definition of Marriage) Amendment Act 2013 defined a marriage to involve the act, ceremony, or process by which the legal relationship of two people, regardless of their sex, sexual orientation, or gender identity, is constituted. The first same-sex marriages were celebrated on 19 August 2013. Prior to this Act being passed, a marriage involved the act, ceremony, or process by which the legal relationship of husband and wife was constituted.

In New Zealand, marriage may be solemnised either by a marriage celebrant or before a registrar of marriages. A licence must be obtained from a registrar before a marriage can be solemnised, and notice must be given by one of the parties to a registrar. Licences can be obtained up to three months before the scheduled marriage date.

The Māori Land Act 1909 made provision for the registration of Māori marriages in a separate register. In 1931 the Re-enactment of Māori Land Act 1909 provided for the administration of Māori marriages either under the Marriage Act or under the Māori Land Act. The Māori marriage register was abolished in 1952.

The Civil Union Act 2004 came into force on 26 April 2005. The Act enables married couples to transfer their marriage to a civil union without first dissolving the marriage. The Marriage (Definition of Marriage) Amendment Act 2013 enables all couples (opposite-sex and same-sex) to transfer their civil union to marriage without first dissolving the civil union.

#### Marriage dissolution

Prior to 1857, only an Act of Parliament could permit a full divorce allowing remarriage and this could only take place in England. The Divorce and Matrimonial Causes Act 1867 passed the judgement on divorce proceedings over to the courts. The Family Proceedings Act became effective on 1 October 1981, and removed divorce from the High Court to the newly created Family Court. From that date, for legal purposes, the term divorce became 'dissolution of marriage'. Liberalisation of the grounds for divorce has occurred over the decades and the Family Proceedings Act 1980 marked the final step in the transition from a law which upheld the Christian Doctrine of marriage as a religious sacrament to one which sees it as a social contract subject to the wills of its signatories.



Currently an application for marriage dissolution can be made by either partner on grounds that the marriage has broken down irreconcilably, provided a two-year separation requirement is satisfied. One or both partners must be domiciled in New Zealand. Dissolution Orders are granted by the Family Court. Family Courts are located throughout New Zealand.

## Summary table for marriages dataset

Variable name	Primary key	Present in Record type	Data type & format	DIA variable name	Variable definition	IDI variable name	Classification Name (in SNZ classif codes)
<b>Partner 1</b>							
IDI unique identifier	Yes	I, U, S	Integer Max length = 10	-	IDI unique identifier allocated by SNZ	partnr1_snz_uid	
DIA identifier		I, U, S	Integer Max length = 10	-	DIA dataset identifier allocated by SNZ	partnr1_snz_dia_uid	
Month of birth		U, S	Integer length = 2	brdate	Month of birth (day is removed for confidentiality)	dia_mar_partnr1_birth_month_nbr	
Year of birth		U, S	Integer yyc length = 4		Year of birth	dia_mar_partnr1_birth_year_nbr	
Sex		U, S	Character Max. length = 1	Party1Sex	Derived by SNZ when not provided by DIA (1 = male, 2 = female)	dia_mar_partnr1_sex_snz_code	sex_code
Occupation		U, S	Character Max. length = 60	broccup	Occupation – free text field	dia_mar_partnr1_occupation_text	
Relationship status		U, S	Character Max. length = 3	brmstat	Relationship status coming into marriage	dia_mar_partnr1_rel_status_code	relationship_status_code
Dissolution of previous relationship		U, S	Character Max. length = 75	brdisolv	How previous relationship was dissolved – free text field	dia_mar_partnr1_prev_disolv_text	
Date of dissolution		U, S	Date Max. length = 8	brddate	Date on which previous relationship was dissolved	dia_mar_partnr1_prev_disolv_date	
<b>Partner 1 Parent 1</b>							
IDI unique identifier	Yes	I, U, S	Integer Max length = 10	-	IDI unique identifier allocated by SNZ	p1parent1_snz_uid	
DIA identifier		I, U, S	Integer Max length = 10	-	DIA dataset identifier allocated by SNZ	p1parent1_snz_dia_uid	
Sex		I, U, S	Character Max. length = 1	Party2Sex	Derived by SNZ when not provided by DIA (1 = male, 2 = female)	dia_mar_p1parent1_sex_snz_code	sex_code
Occupation		U, S	Character Max. length = 60	brmoccup	Occupation – free text field	dia_mar_p1parent1_occupation_text	
Relationship to first partner		U, S	Character Max. length = 6	Party1Parent1	Mother or Father	dia_mar_p1parent1_rel_text	
<b>Partner 1 Parent 2</b>							
IDI unique identifier	Yes	I, U, S	Integer Max length = 10	-	IDI unique identifier allocated by SNZ	p1parent2_snz_uid	

DIA identifier		I, U, S	Integer Max length = 10	-	DIA dataset identifier allocated by SNZ	p1parent2_snz_dia_uid	
Sex		I, U, S	Character Max. length = 1	-	Derived by SNZ (1 = male, 2 = female)	dia_mar_p1parent2_sex_snz_code	sex_code
Occupation		U, S	Character Max. length = 60	brfoccup	Occupation – free text field	dia_mar_p1parent2_occupation_text	
Relationship to first partner		U, S	Character Max. length = 12	Party1Parent2	Mother, Father or Other Parent	dia_mar_p1parent2_rel_text	
<b>Partner 2</b>							
IDI unique identifier	Yes	I, U, S	Integer Max length = 10	-	IDI unique identifier allocated by SNZ	partnr2_snz_uid	
DIA identifier		I, U, S	Integer Max length = 10	-	DIA dataset identifier allocated by SNZ	partnr2_snz_dia_uid	
Month of birth		U, S	Integer length = 2	bgdate	Month of birth (day is removed for confidentiality)	dia_mar_partnr2_birth_month_nbr	
Year of birth		U, S	Integer yycc length = 4		Year of birth	dia_mar_partnr2_birth_year_nbr	
Sex		I, U, S	Character Max. length = 1	-	Derived by SNZ (1 = male, 2 = female)	dia_mar_partnr2_sex_snz_code	sex_code
Occupation		U, S	Character Max. length = 60	bgoccup	Occupation – free text field	dia_mar_partnr2_occupation_text	
Relationship status		U, S	Character Max. length = 3	bgmstat	Second partner relationship status	dia_mar_partnr2_rel_status_code	relationship_status_code
Previous relationship dissolution		U, S	Character Max. length = 75	bgdisolv	How previous relationship was dissolved	dia_mar_partnr2_prev_disolv_text	
Date of dissolution		U, S	Date Max. length = 8	bgddate	Date that previous relationship was dissolved	dia_mar_partnr2_prev_disolv_date	
<b>Partner 2 Parent 1</b>							
IDI unique identifier	Yes	I, U, S	Integer Max length = 10	-	IDI unique identifier allocated by SNZ	p2parent1_snz_uid	
DIA identifier		I, U, S	Integer Max length = 10	-	DIA dataset identifier allocated by SNZ	p2parent1_snz_dia_uid	
Sex		I, U, S	Character Max. length = 1	-	Derived by SNZ (1 = male, 2 = female)	dia_mar_p2parent1_sex_snz_code	sex_code
Occupation		U, S	Character Max. length = 60	bgmoccup	Occupation – free text field	dia_mar_p2parent1_occupation_text	
Relationship to second partner		U, S	Character Max. length = 6	Party2Parent1	Mother or Father	dia_mar_p2parent1_rel_text	
<b>Partner 2 Parent 2</b>							
IDI unique identifier	Yes	I, U, S	Integer Max length = 10	-	IDI unique identifier allocated by SNZ	p2parent2_snz_uid	
DIA identifier		I, U, S	Integer Max length = 10	-	DIA dataset identifier allocated by SNZ	p2parent2_snz_dia_uid	

Sex		I, U, S	Character Max. length = 1	-	Derived by SNZ (1 = male, 2 = female)	dia_mar_p2parent2_sex_snz_code	sex_code
Occupation		U, S	Character Max. length = 60	bgfoccup	Occupation – free text field	dia_mar_p2parent2_occupation_text	
Relationship to second partner		U, S	Character Max. length = 12	Party2Parent2	Mother, Father or Other Parent	dia_mar_p2parent2_rel_text	
<b>Event</b>							
Marriage date		I, U, S	Date Max. length = 8	wdate	Date of marriage	dia_mar_marriage_date	
Type of dissolution		U, S	Character Max. length = 195	endorsem	Type of dissolution	dia_mar_dissolution_type_code	
Date of dissolution		U, S	Date Max. length = 8	dateofor	Date of dissolution order	dia_mar_disolv_order_date	
*Marriage record unique identifier		I, U, S	Integer Max. length = 10	natno	SNZ encryption of DIA marriage registration number	snz_dia_marriage_reg_uid	
Registration date		S	Date Max. length = 8	rdate	Date the marriage was registered with DIA	dia_mar_marriage_reg_date	
<b>Transfer from civil union</b>							
Date of civil union		S	Date Max. length = 8	frcudate	Date of civil union	dia_mar_civil_union_date	
Country		S	Character Max. length = 75	frcucountry	Country where civil union was held	dia_mar_civil_union_country_text	
Civil union record unique identifier		S	Integer Max. length = 10	frculdno	SNZ encryption of the DIA record uid applied on change to marriage from civil union	dia_mar_civil_union_reg_nbr	
*Mandatory							



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## 7 Data dictionary for civil unions data

**Last updated on:** 17 July 2015

### Dataset description

**Contents of dataset:**

The dataset contains all civil unions registered in New Zealand.

**Background**

The civil union registration form remains unchanged since its adoption in April 2005. The Civil Union Act 2004 came into force on 26 April 2005 and the first ceremonies were celebrated on 29 April 2005. This Act introduced a new form of legal relationship. Two people aged 18 years and over, whether of opposite or the same sex, can enter into a civil union provided they are not currently married to, or in a civil union with, someone else. As with marriages, people aged 16 and 17 years must have their guardian's consent to enter a civil union.

Married couples are able to transfer their marriage to a civil union, without first dissolving the marriage. All couples are able to transfer their civil union to a marriage, without first dissolving the civil union.

An application for civil union dissolution can be made by either partner on grounds that the civil union has broken down irreconcilably, provided a two-year separation requirement is satisfied. One or both partners must be domiciled in New Zealand. Dissolution Orders are granted by the Family Court.

## Summary table for civil unions dataset

Variable name	Primary key	Present in Record type	Data type & format	DIA variable name	Variable definition	IDI variable name	Classification Name (in SNZ Classification Codes)
<b>Partner 1</b>							
IDI unique identifier	Yes	S	Integer Max length = 10	-	IDI unique identifier allocated by SNZ	partnr1_snz_uid	
DIA identifier		S	Integer Max length = 10	-	DIA dataset identifier allocated by SNZ	partnr1_snz_dia_uid	
Month of birth		S	Integer length = 2	brdate	Month of birth (day is removed for confidentiality)	dia_civ_partnr1_birth_month_nbr	
Year of birth		S	Integer yyc length = 4		Year of birth	dia_civ_partnr1_birth_year_nbr	
Sex		S	Character Max. length = 1	partasex	Derived by SNZ (1 = male, 2 = female)	dia_civ_partnr1_sex_snz_code	sex_code
Occupation		S	Character Max. length = 60	broccup	Occupation – free text field	dia_civ_partnr1_occupation_text	
Relationship status		S	Character Max. length = 3	brmstat	Relationship status	dia_civ_partnr1_rel_status_code	relationship_status_code
Dissolution of previous relationship		S	Character Max. length = 75	brdisolv	How previous relationship was dissolved – free text field	dia_civ_partnr1_prev_disolv_text	
Date of dissolution		S	Date Max. length = 8	brddate	Date on which previous relationship was dissolved	dia_civ_partnr1_prev_disolv_date	
<b>Partner 1 Parent 1</b>							
IDI unique identifier	Yes	S	Integer Max length = 10	-	IDI unique identifier allocated by SNZ	p1parent1_snz_uid	
DIA identifier		S	Integer Max length = 10	-	DIA dataset identifier allocated by SNZ	p1parent1_snz_dia_uid	
Sex		S	Character Max. length = 1	-	Derived by SNZ (1 = male, 2 = female)	dia_civ_p1parent1_sex_snz_code	sex_code
Relationship to first partner		S	Character Max. length = 6	PartnerAParent1	Mother or Father	dia_civ_p1parent1_rel_text	
<b>Partner 1 Parent 2</b>							
IDI unique identifier	Yes	S	Integer Max length = 10	-	IDI unique identifier allocated by SNZ	p1parent2_snz_uid	
DIA identifier		S	Integer Max length = 10	-	DIA dataset identifier allocated by SNZ	p1parent2_snz_dia_uid	
Sex		S	Character Max. length = 1	-	Derived by SNZ (1 = male, 2 = female)	dia_civ_p1parent2_sex_snz_code	sex_code

Variable name	Primary key	Present in Record type	Data type & format	DIA variable name	Variable definition	IDI variable name	Classification Name (in SNZ Classification Codes)
Relationship to first partner		S	Character Max. length = 12	PartnerAParent2	Mother, Father or Other Parent	dia_civ_p1parent2_rel_text	
<b>Partner 2</b>							
IDI unique identifier	Yes	S	Integer Max length = 10	-	IDI unique identifier allocated by SNZ	partnr2_snz_uid	
DIA identifier		S	Integer Max length = 10	-	DIA dataset identifier allocated by SNZ	partnr2_snz_dia_uid	
Month of birth		S	Integer length = 2	bgdate	Month of birth (day is removed for confidentiality)	dia_civ_partnr2_birth_month_nbr	
Year of birth		S	Integer yycc length = 4		Year of birth	dia_civ_partnr2_birth_year_nbr	
Sex		S	Character Max. length = 1	partbsex	Derived by SNZ (1 = male, 2 = female)	dia_civ_partnr2_sex_snz_code	sex_code
Occupation		S	Character Max. length = 60	bgoccup	Occupation – free text field	dia_civ_partnr2_occupation_text	
Relationship status		S	Character Max. length = 3	bgmstat	Second partner relationship status	dia_civ_partnr2_rel_status_code	relationship_status_code
Previous relationship dissolution		S	Character Max. length = 75	bgdissolv	How previous relationship was dissolved	dia_civ_partnr2_prev_disolv_text	
Date of dissolution		S	Date Max. length = 8	bgddate	Date that previous relationship was dissolved	dia_civ_partnr2_prev_disolv_date	
<b>Partner 2 Parent 1</b>							
IDI unique identifier	Yes	S	Integer Max length = 10	-	IDI unique identifier allocated by SNZ	p2parent1_snz_uid	
DIA identifier		S	Integer Max length = 10	-	DIA dataset identifier allocated by SNZ	p2parent1_snz_dia_uid	
Sex		S	Character Max. length = 1	-	Derived by SNZ (1 = male, 2 = female)	dia_civ_p2parent1_sex_snz_code	sex_code
Relationship to second partner		S	Character Max. length = 6	PartnerBParent1	Mother or Father	dia_civ_p2parent1_rel_text	
<b>Partner 2 Parent 2</b>							
IDI unique identifier	Yes	S	Integer Max length = 10	-	IDI unique identifier allocated by SNZ	p2parent2_snz_uid	
DIA identifier		S	Integer Max length = 10	-	DIA dataset identifier allocated by SNZ	p2parent2_snz_dia_uid	
Sex		S	Character Max. length = 1	-	Derived by SNZ (1 = male, 2 = female)	dia_civ_p2parent2_sex_snz_code	sex_code
Relationship to second partner		S	Character Max. length = 12	PartnerBParent2	Mother, Father or Other Parent	dia_civ_p2parent2_rel_text	

Variable name	Primary key	Present in Record type	Data type & format	DIA variable name	Variable definition	IDI variable name	Classification Name (in SNZ Classification Codes)
<b>Event</b>							
Civil union date		S	Date Max. length = 8	wdate	Date of civil union	dia_civ_civil_union_date	
Type of dissolution		S	Character Max. length = 195	endorsem	Type of dissolution	dia_civ_dissolution_type_text	
Date of dissolution		S	Date Max. length = 8	odate	Date of dissolution order	dia_civ_disolv_order_date	
*Civil union record unique identifier		S	Integer Max. length = 10	natno	SNZ encryption of DIA civil union registration number	snz_dia_civil_union_reg_uid	
Registration date		S	Date Max. length = 8	rdate	Date the civil union was registered with DIA	dia_civ_civil_union_reg_date	
Transfer from marriage							
Marriage date		S	Date Max. length = 8	fmgedate	Date of marriage	dia_civ_marriage_date	
Country		S	Character Max. length = 75	fmgecountry	Country where marriage was held	dia_civ_marriage_country_text	
Marriage record unique identifier		S	Integer Max. length = 10	fmgeldno	SNZ encryption of DIA record uid applied on change to civil union from marriage	snz_dia_marriage_reg_uid	
*Mandatory							





# 8 Glossary

Term	Definition
DIA	Department of Internal Affairs
Stillbirth	1951 Act: <b>stillborn child</b> means a child which has issued from its mother after the expiration of the twenty-eighth week of pregnancy and which was not alive at the time of issue. 1995 Act: <b>still-birth</b> means the issue from its mother of a dead foetus that— (a) weighed 400 g or more when it issued from its mother; or (b) issued from its mother after the 20th week of pregnancy.