

1 Data Content Standard

2 Date of birth

3 Purpose of standard

4 Standards provide a reliable and consistent basis for New Zealand data system agencies to share the
5 same expectations about a data concept to:

- 6 • maximise the value of data
- 7 • create a more complete view to inform government policy and investment decisions
- 8 • enable information sharing and reconciling the data faster and more efficiently.

9 The purpose of this document is to:

10 Mandate [ISO 8601 - 1:2019](#), Date and time — Representations for information interchange —
11 Part 1: Basic rules, to be used to format date of birth for sharing purposes.

12 This standard does not mandate the collection or storage of date of birth. These may vary depending
13 on the needs of the agency.

14 Definition

15 Date of birth is the year, month, and day a natural person was born.

16 Compliance

17 The minimum required format for compliance when sharing date of birth information is YYYY-MM-DD
18 (or YYYYMMDD).

19 The standard does not require date of birth to be verified, but if it is this may be useful information to
20 be noted when shared.

21 Further information

22 ISO 8601 Date representation and format examples:

- 23 • '2018-08-01' is a date and time expression that indicates the first day of August of 2018 in the
24 Gregorian calendar.
- 25 • [date] is a date and time representation that can be expanded as [year][month][day], which
26 itself can be expanded into [YYYY][MM][DD]; '20180801' is a date and time expression that
27 conforms to this representation.

28 While this standard does not mandate how date of birth data is collected or stored in databases,
29 guidance on the collection of date of birth can be found in the [Statistical Standard for Age](#).



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34 **Approval date**

35 **Review date**