

Australian Charities and Not-For-Profits Commission

User guide – Registered Charities Dataset



Purpose

These explanatory notes explain the 'Registered Charities' dataset, and the 'data outputs' that you can expect for each field.

This document was updated in May 2020.

Background

1. The Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission (**ACNC**) was established on 3 December 2012.
2. The Registered Charities dataset is a subset of the information available on the ACNC Charity Register, and is based on a variety of sources. It includes data provided by charities:
 - when they first registered with the Australian Taxation Office (**ATO**) (who subsequently provided this information to the ACNC),
 - when registering with the ACNC,
 - who update details via the ACNC Charity Portal
 - via the [Annual Information Statement](#).
3. To view more information on individual charities (including governing documents or any financial reports), search the [ACNC Charity Register](#) using the charity's legal name or ABN.
4. This dataset is updated weekly, and only includes data from charities registered with the ACNC.
5. Registered charities can apply to the ACNC to have some or all of the information they provide withheld from the ACNC Register (www.acnc.gov.au/withhold). If data has been withheld, the charity details will be excluded from the dataset.

Data outputs

Charity details

ABN (column A)

6. This is a charity's Australian Business Number (**ABN**). To register with the ACNC, charities must have an ABN. Organisations apply for an ABN through the Australian Business Register, and must meet certain conditions to do so (<http://abr.gov.au>).
7. Each charity will have an ABN and all data in this field is numeric.

Charity name (column B)

8. This is a charity's formal name as it appears on legal or official documents. This field is pre-populated based on the legal name the charity provides on registration.
9. Each charity in the data set has a legal name. The data in this field is free text, and can contain numbers, letters and punctuation symbols.

Other organisation names (column C)

10. In some cases, a charity might have one or more trading names, or other names. These might be similar or completely different to their legal name, and are often the name(s) by which the charity is best known in the general community.
11. The data in this field is free text, and can contain numbers, letters and punctuation symbols. If the field is blank, it means that the charity did not provide any other name.

Charity address (columns D-K)

12. This is the charity's business address (the street address that the charity operates from).
13. The fields relating to this question are:
 - Address line 1
 - Address line 2
 - Address line 3
 - Town/City
 - State
 - Postcode
 - Country
14. These fields contain the business address details provided by each charity. Where a field is blank, it means that no information was provided by the charity for that particular field. The 'Address line 3' field is blank for many charities.

Charity website – (column L)

15. This field contains the charity's website address (where supplied).

Registration date (column M)

16. This field contains the effective date that the charity was registered with the ACNC.
17. For charities that were registered for tax concessions prior to the establishment of the ACNC, this date will automatically be 3 December 2012 (the date the ACNC commenced).

Date organisation established (column N)

18. This field contains the date that the charity was established. Some organisations run as not-for-profits for years before deciding to register as charities.

Charity size (column O)

19. Charities have different reporting obligations to the ACNC depending on their annual revenue:

Size	Revenue for the last reporting period
Small	Revenue less than \$250,000
Medium	Revenue of \$250,000 to \$999,999
Large	Revenue of \$1 million or more

20. This field is based on the latest Annual Information Statement submitted by the charity.
21. A blank field indicates that the charity has not yet submitted an Annual Information Statement.

Number of responsible persons (column P)

22. This field shows the number of board members or committee members that the charity has. A zero in this field indicates that a charity has not supplied this information.

Financial Year End (column Q)

23. This field shows the financial year end of the charity.
24. Charities may apply to the ACNC to have a financial year end other than 30 June. For instance, many schools work to a financial year end of 31 December.

Charity operating locations

Operating locations (columns R-Z)

25. Charities are asked to provide their operating locations. The fields relating to this question are:

- Operates in ACT
- Operates in NSW
- Operates in NT
- Operates in QLD
- Operates in SA
- Operates in TAS
- Operates in VIC
- Operates in WA
- Operates overseas.

26. If a charity indicated that they operated in a state or territory, a 'Y' will be recorded in the column for the relevant state or territory. If they did not operate in the state or territory, the field will be blank.

27. If the charity operates overseas, column Z ('Operating Countries') will contain data. The information in this field is based on the ISO 3166-1 alpha 3 codes, which can be found at http://www.iso.org/iso/country_codes.htm.

28. Where a charity operates in more than one overseas location, there will be multiple country codes separated by a comma (e.g. BRA, KHM, TCD stands for Brazil, Cambodia and Chad).

Charity subtypes

Subtypes (columns AA-AN)

- 29.** Charities be registered with one or more [charity 'subtypes'](#). These subtypes are categories that reflect the charity's charitable purpose, for example 'advancing education' or 'advancing health'. A charity's purpose is the reason it has been set up, or what its activities work towards achieving.
- 30.** Our Act sets out 14 charity subtypes. These include the 12 charitable purposes as set out in the Charities Act 2013 (Cth), as well as the categories Public Benevolent Institution (**PBI**) and Health Promotion Charity (**HPC**).
- 31.** The fields include:
- PBI
 - HPC
 - Preventing or relieving suffering of animals
 - Advancing Culture
 - Advancing Education
 - Advancing Health
 - Promote or oppose a change to law government poll or prac[tice]
 - Advancing natural environment
 - Promoting or protecting human rights
 - Purposes beneficial to the general public and other analogous
 - Promoting reconciliation mutual respect and tolerance
 - Advancing Religion
 - Advancing social or public welfare
 - Advancing security or safety of Australia or Australian public
- 32.** If a charity is registered with a subtype, a 'Y' will be recorded in the column for the relevant subtype. Otherwise, the field will be blank.

Charity beneficiaries

Beneficiaries (columns AO-BN)

33. Charities are able to nominate one or more beneficiaries from the following list:

- Aboriginal or TSI
- Adults
- Aged Persons
- Children
- Communities Overseas
- Early Childhood
- Ethnic Groups
- Families
- Females
- Financially Disadvantaged
- Gay Lesbian Bisexual
- General Community in Australia
- Males
- Migrants Refugees or Asylum Seekers
- Other Beneficiaries
- Other Charities
- People at risk of homelessness
- People with Chronic Illness
- People with Disabilities
- Pre Post Release Offenders
- Rural Regional Remote Communities
- Unemployed Person
- Veterans or their families
- Victims of crime
- Victims of Disasters
- Youth

34. If a charity has reported that they assist a beneficiary group, a 'Y' will be recorded in the column for the relevant beneficiary. Otherwise, the field will be blank.