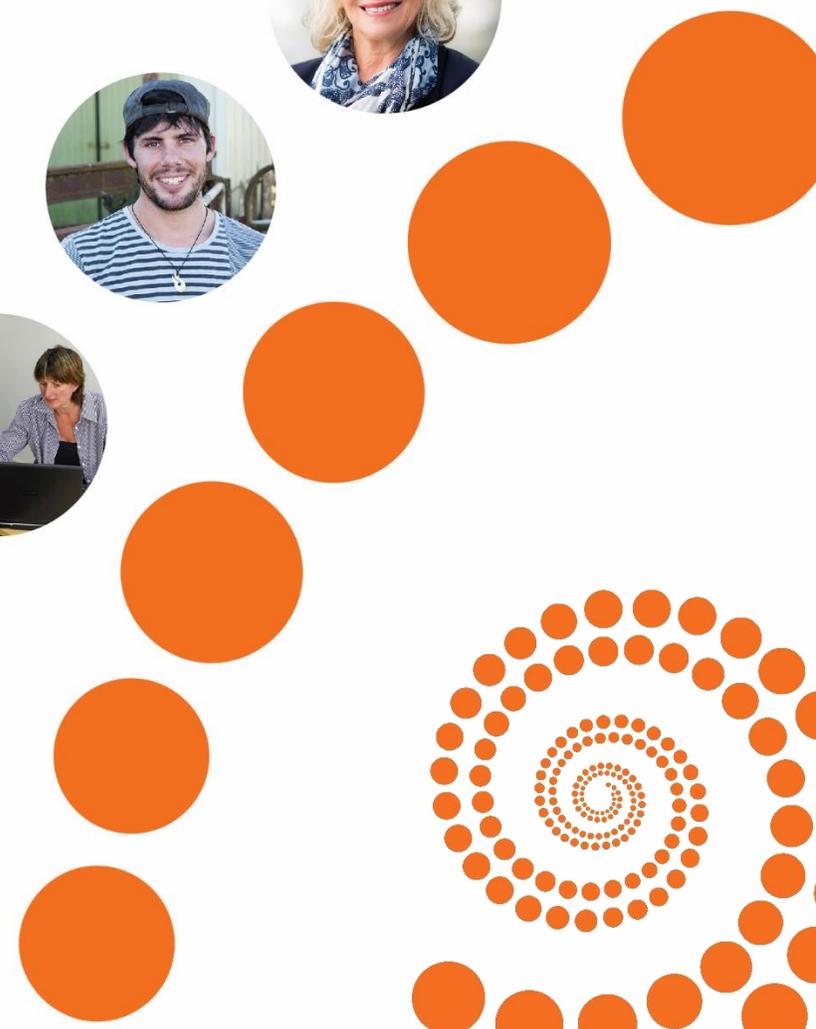


Developing statistical standards for gender identity and sexual identity

The New Zealand experience

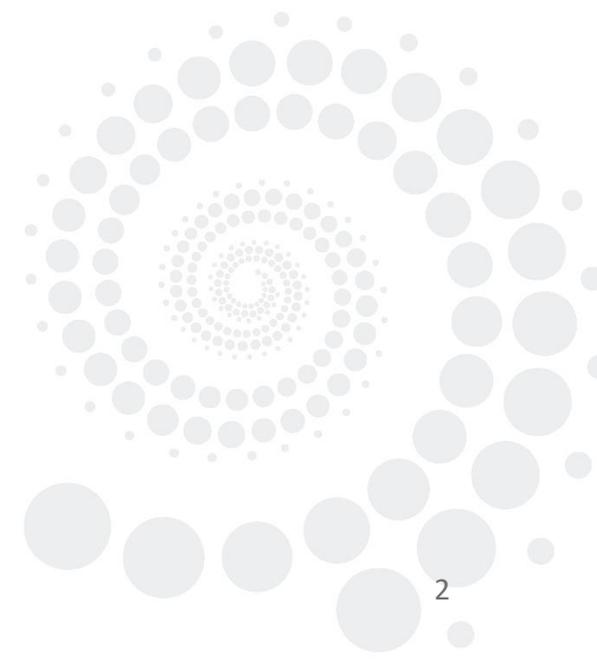
Alana Lattimore



“In 900 years of time and space, I’ve never met anyone who wasn’t important.”

— *the Eleventh Doctor (Dr Who)*

Leave no one behind.



What is a statistical standard?

A statistical standard provides guidelines for collecting information on a particular topic. This includes defining concepts and terms used, a classification, and how information should be collected and produced.

Statistical standards are for use across the data system of New Zealand and are developed through consensus across Government.

Components of the statistical standard for gender identity (2015)

- **Concept definition**

Gender identity is a person's internal sense of being wholly female, wholly male, or having aspects of female and/or male.

Gender identity is understood to refer to each person's deeply felt internal and individual experience of gender, which may or may not correspond with the sex recorded at birth.

- **Operational collection considerations**

- Gender identity is self defined
- The relationship between asking sex and gender identity
- Highlighting that gender identity can change over time and/or with context
- Guidance around the age at which to ask a gender identity question

Components of the statistical standard for gender identity cont.

- A question module
Guidelines given to design own question. Question examples also offered.

Example 1

What gender do you identify as?

Male

Female

Gender diverse, please state:

Components of the statistical standard for gender identity cont.

- **The classification of gender identity**

1. Male

- 11 Male / Tāne

2. Female

- 21 Female / Wahine

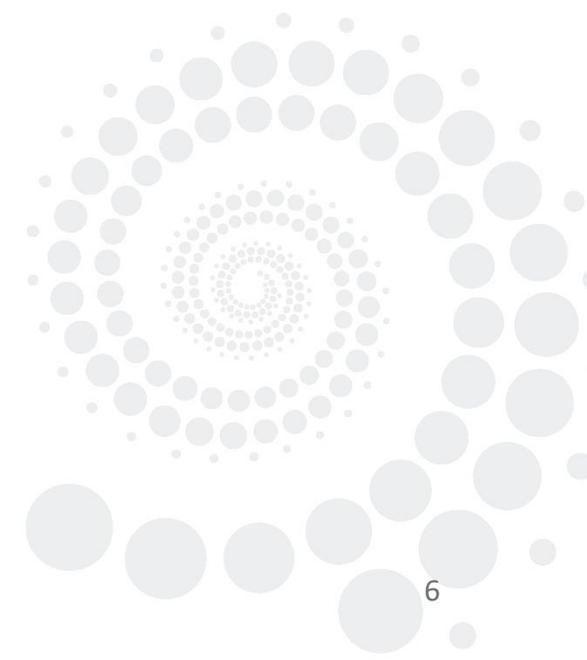
3. Gender diverse

- 30 Gender diverse not further defined / Ira tāngata kōwhiri kore

- 31 Transgender male to female / Whakawahine

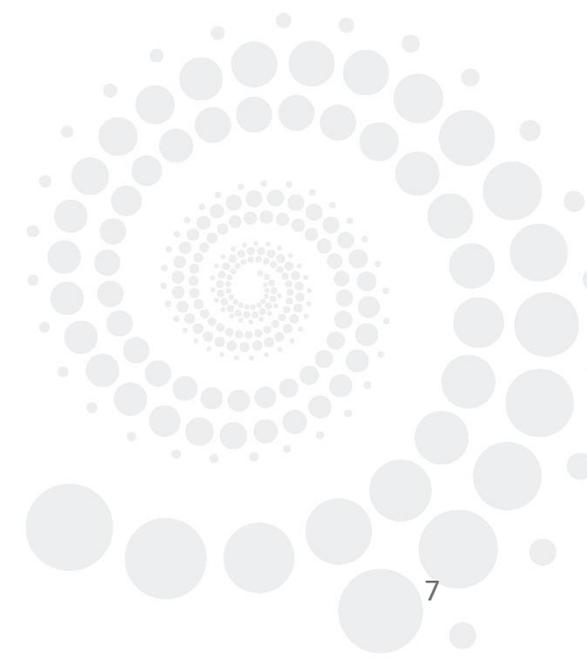
- 32 Transgender female to male / Tangata ira tāne

- 39 Gender diverse not elsewhere classified / Ira tāngata kōwhiri kore



Components of the statistical standard for gender identity cont.

- Processing methods/data coding guidelines
 - Synonym report/codefile
 - Guidance on coding multiple responses, imputation and links other coding tools available
- Output guidelines
 - Guidance on how best to output the data
 - Confidentiality requirements
 - Data output levels
- Definitions and glossary of related terms



Statistical standard for sexual identity and a framework for sexual orientation

- This work is currently underway (release date is early 2019)
- In April/May we conducted a public consultation on the proposed framework for sexual orientation and components of the sexual identity standard.
- A topic of high public interest

Future work at Stats NZ.

- Topics of high interest
 - Sex – a third category (indeterminate / intersex)
 - Gender identity information
 - Sexual identity information
- The statistical standards for sex and gender identity will be revised in the near future
- General Social Survey contains a sexual identity question for the first time

Further information

Stats NZ website: <https://www.stats.govt.nz/>

Our Aria classification tool: <http://aria.stats.govt.nz>

Information on these topics: <https://www.stats.govt.nz/reports/sex-gender-and-sexual-orientation>

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