



CaLD definition

Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CaLD) applies to groups and individuals who differ according to religion, language, and ethnicity, and whose ancestry is other than Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander, Anglo-Saxon or Anglo-Celtic. *

The term culturally and linguistically diverse (CaLD) was introduced in the late 1990s to replace 'Non-English-Speaking Background' (NESB) and was intended to be a broader, more flexible, and inclusive term.

The term is also reflected in the Western Australian Multicultural Policy Framework (WAMPF) launched in 2020, which aims to support the Western Australian Government's vision for an inclusive and harmonious society where everyone has a strong sense of belonging and can participate fully in all aspects of life.

The Western Australian Government Data Standards recommends the following minimum data indicators be collected to effectively identify people from CaLD backgrounds. These indicators were chosen by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) as they provide information that is applicable to the measurement of cultural and language diversity, and of related advantage or disadvantage in terms of access to government and other services:

- Country of Birth
- Ancestry
- Languages spoken at home other than English.

Anglo-Saxon: derived from the term used to describe invading German tribes of the fifth century, refers to a person whose native language is English and whose cultural affiliations are those common to Britain.

Anglo-Celtic: a term used broadly to describe the various cultures native to Britain and Ireland. The term also includes Anglo-Saxons and Celtic people and also includes the entire diaspora settled in various countries like the USA, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, and South Africa.

In a broad sense, CaLD relates to people who are not Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islanders and whose ancestry/heritage is from places other than England, Scotland, Ireland, or Wales.

Below are some examples of how the CaLD definition applies in practice:

- X Someone born in New Zealand of Anglo-Saxon ancestry, who speaks English as their first language and resides in Australia is not considered as being CaLD.
- ✓ Someone born in New Zealand of Māori ancestry and who resides in Australia is considered as being CaLD.
- ✓ A person born in the United Kingdom of Indian ancestry who has immigrated to Australia is considered as being CaLD.
- ✓ A person who has Ukrainian ancestry and arrived in Australia in the 1980s is considered as being CaLD.
- X An Aboriginal person born in Broome (Rubibi, Yawuru country) is not considered as being CaLD. The ABS collects separate data about the cultural and language diversity of our First Nations Peoples.

*CaLD definition as noted in the Western Australian Multicultural Policy Framework (WAMPF) www.omi.wa.gov.au