Minnesota Geospatial Advisory Council

State ID Standard

Version 1.1 – Published 3/8/2019

Version 1.1 approved by the Minnesota Geospatial Advisory Council on 3/6/2019
Originally approved by the Minnesota Governor's Council on Geographic Information on 12/1/1994

Table of Contents

About the GAC

The mission of the Minnesota Geospatial Advisory Council (GAC) is to act as a coordinating body for the Minnesota geospatial community. The GAC is authorized by legislation passed in 2009 and reauthorized in 2014 Minnesota Statutes (16E.30, subd. 8). It represents a cross-section of organizations that include city, county, regional, state, federal and tribal governments as well as education, business and nonprofit sectors.

As part of this mission, the GAC works with the Minnesota geospatial community to define and adopt standards needed by the community. GAC standards are developed and proposed by geospatial community subject matter experts. The GAC's Standards Committee administers a process to ensure community-wide public review and input for any proposed standards.

The GAC does not mandate or enforce standards. It offers the standards as a resource to the community. Organizations may choose to adopt the standards and require their use internally.

Introduction

This standard provides a set of codes that uniquely identify states and the District of Columbia within the United States. These codes originate from the InterNational Committee for Information Technology Standards (INCITS) and are recognized as a formal national standard by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI).

Purpose of this Standard

This standard has been developed to improve the exchange of data about states. It provides a common coding scheme to identify states. It is intended to be used when data are being transferred between organizations. Its use will improve the sharing of data resources by avoiding unnecessary duplication and incompatibilities when collecting, processing and disseminating data.

Applicability

Use of this standard is recommended when organizations exchange data, or when any new databases are being designed that incorporate a set of state codes. Use of this standard is strongly encouraged, but voluntary. This standard applies to data that are being transferred and does not restrict how those data are internally stored. Specific organizations within the state may choose to adopt this standard and require compliance with it. For example, it has been adopted as an official state government data standard.

Sources of this Standard

This standard is derived from a standard maintained by the InterNational Committee for Information Technology Standards (INCITS). It is titled INCITS 38-2009: Information Technology - Codes for the Identification of the States and Equivalent Areas within the United States, Puerto Rico and the Insular Areas. It has been adopted by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI).

INCITS is a recognized forum for information technology developers, producers and users for the creation and maintenance of formal IT standards. INCITS is accredited by and operates under rules approved by ANSI.

Compliance Notes

A dataset that complies with this standard will include either the numeric or alpha code for states in accordance with the data specifications defined below in this standard.

Inclusion

Fields listed as optional are not required. Fields listed as conditional are mandatory if a certain condition exists. In this standard, either the numeric code or the alpha code must be used to comply with the standard. If one code is used in a dataset, then the other code is optional.

Standard Requirements

This standard provides two sets of codes, numeric and alpha, to be used when representing the 50 states and the District of Columbia. The codes in this standard are equivalent to those used in INCITS 38-2009 Codes for the Identification of the States and Equivalent Areas within the United States, Puerto Rico and the Insular Areas. **Please note that the numeric code is specifically defined as a text field and includes leading zeros for numbers below 10.**

Name	Numeric Code	Alpha Code
Alabama	01	AL
Alaska	02	AK
Arizona	04	AZ
Arkansas	05	AR
California	06	CA
Colorado	08	CO
Connecticut	09	CT
Delaware	10	DE
District of Columbia	11	DC
Florida	12	FL
Georgia	13	GA
Hawaii	15	HI
Idaho	16	ID
Illinois	17	IL
Indiana	18	IN
Iowa	19	IA
Kansas	20	KS
Kentucky	21	KY
Louisiana	22	LA
Maine	23	ME
Maryland	24	MD
Massachusetts	25	MA
Michigan	26	MI
Minnesota	27	MN
Mississippi	28	MS
Missouri	29	MO
Montana	30	MT
Nebraska	31	NE
New Jersey	34	NJ
Nevada	32	NV
New Hampshire	33	NH
New Mexico	35	NM
New York	36	NY
North Carolina	37	NC
North Dakota	38	ND
Ohio	39	OH
Oklahoma	40	OK
Oregon	41	OR
Pennsylvania	42	PA
Rhode Island	44	RI
South Carolina	45	SC
South Dakota	46	SD

Tennessee	47	TN
Texas	48	TX
Utah	49	UT
Vermont	50	VT
Virginia	51	VA
Washington	53	WA
West Virginia	54	WV
Wisconsin	55	WI
Wyoming	56	WY

Data Element Details

1.1 State ID Numeric

Database Name	No database name is specified in this standard. STATE_NUM is commonly used.		
Data Type	Text	Inclusion	Conditional
Width	2	Domain	StateNumber
Examples	27, 19, 02		
Description	The state identifier in numeric format with leading zero where applicable. Either the numeric or alpha code format must be used to comply with this standard.		

1.2 State ID Alpha

Database Name	No database name is specified in this standard. STATE_CODE is commonly used.		
Data Type	Text	Inclusion	Conditional
Width	2	Domain	StateCode
Examples	MN, IA, AK		
Description	The state identifier in alpha format. Either the numeric or alpha code format must be used to comply with this standard.		

1.3 State Name

Database Name	No database name is specified in this standard. STATE_NAME is commonly used.		
Data Type	Text	Inclusion	Optional
Width		Domain	
Examples	Minnesota, Iowa, Alaska		
Description	The name of the state		