Metadata Glossary

This page contains definitions and suggestions for how to interpret the metadata fields in CommCare data.

- **App-Specific Fields**
- **Basic Form Metadata**
- **Advanced Form Metadata**
- **Case-Related Metadata**

App-Specific Fields

In general, the bulk of a form export will have these types of column headers, unless modified in the export configuration:

1. Data displayed in the format: `form.field_name` (for instance, form.edd). Data entered by the mobile worker.

2. Data displayed in the format: `form.case.update.field_name` (for instance, form.case.update.edd). Data entered by the mobile worker that then updated a case.

3. Data displayed in the format: `form.case.create.field_name` (for instance, form.case.create.case_name). Data created by the system during the creation of a new case.

Basic Form Metadata

When creating or modifying form export you will find certain fields are automatically included:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Field Name</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Other Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>number</td>
<td>Number of the row of data; mostly useful for matching with other tabs for repeat groups</td>
<td>See Repeat Data in Form Exports</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>formid</td>
<td>Unique id for the form submission</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>completed_time</td>
<td>The time when the form was submitted (based on device time)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>started_time</td>
<td>The time when the form was initially opened (based on device time)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>username</td>
<td>Username of the user who submitted the form</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>received_on</td>
<td>Time that the form was received by the server</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Advanced Form Metadata

**Attention: Advanced Questions**

If you're looking for a metadata field (like external_id) and cannot find it in an export, these fields can often be found by choosing "Show Advanced Questions" in the Form or Case Export configuration page.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Field Name</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Other Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>userID</td>
<td>CommCare-generated alphanumeric ID for a particular user.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>@xmlns</td>
<td>This defines the URI which specifies the structure of metadata, which is <a href="http://openrosa.org/jri/xforms">http://openrosa.org/jri/xforms</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>@name</td>
<td>The text readable name of the form.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------</td>
<td>-----------------------------------</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>App Version</td>
<td>Version of the CommCare application used to submit the form. This number corresponds to the list of versions in the Application Builder</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>deviceID</td>
<td>The ID of the device from which the form was submitted. This number changes if you reinstall CommCare on the same phone. This used to be the phone's IMEI code in older CommCare versions though starting CommCare 2.48, we use a completely random identifier to populate this field. This change was done to meet Google requirements for Android 10+ devices.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>location</td>
<td>ID of the relevant location</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>app_id</td>
<td>Unique ID of the application</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>build_id</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>@version</td>
<td>Version of the specific form. Each time you save a change, the app builder increments this version count but this doesn't update the App Version column (above) until you build and update to that version of the app.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>state</td>
<td>Should be &quot;XFormInstance&quot;</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>last_sync_token</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>partial_submission</td>
<td>This should always be FALSE.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>edited_on</td>
<td>If the form was edited, displays the system date/time of that edit</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>submit_ip</td>
<td>IP from which the form was submitted.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Case-Related Metadata**

There are also a number of fields which are unique to case exports, some of which are listed here:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Example</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>case_id</td>
<td>Case UUID</td>
<td>0X9OCW3JMV98EYOVN32SGN4II</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>user_name</td>
<td>User name of case owner, including domain</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jdoe@example.commcarehq.org">jdoe@example.commcarehq.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>user_id</td>
<td>UUID of user that owns the case</td>
<td>3c5a623af057e23a32ae4000cf291339</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>date_modified</td>
<td>Date and time case was last modified</td>
<td>2011-12-13T15:09:47Z</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>closed</td>
<td>Status of the case (open, closed)</td>
<td>false</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>date_closed</td>
<td>Date and time case was closed</td>
<td>2011-12-20T15:09:47Z</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>properties</td>
<td>List of all editable case properties, including both special predefined properties and user-defined dynamic properties</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Special Properties**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>owner_id</td>
<td>ID of the owner of the case (can be user or group)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>case_name</td>
<td>Name of case</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>external_id</td>
<td>External ID associated with the case</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>case_type</td>
<td>Type of case</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>date_opened</td>
<td>Date and time case was opened</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>