

Birth event—birth method, code N

Exported from METEOR (AIHW's Metadata Online Registry)

© Australian Institute of Health and Welfare 2024

This product, excluding the AIHW logo, Commonwealth Coat of Arms and any material owned by a third party or protected by a trademark, has been released under a Creative Commons BY 4.0 (CC BY 4.0) licence. Excluded material owned by third parties may include, for example, design and layout, images obtained under licence from third parties and signatures. We have made all reasonable efforts to identify and label material owned by third parties.

You may distribute, remix and build on this website's material but must attribute the AIHW as the copyright holder, in line with our attribution policy. The full terms and conditions of this licence are available at <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/>.

Enquiries relating to copyright should be addressed to info@aihw.gov.au.

Enquiries or comments on the METEOR metadata or download should be directed to the METEOR team at meteor@aihw.gov.au.

Birth event—birth method, code N

Identifying and definitional attributes

Metadata item type:	Data Element
Short name:	Method of birth
METEOR identifier:	295349
Registration status:	Health , Superseded 02/08/2017
Definition:	The method of complete expulsion or extraction from its mother of a product of conception in a birth event, as represented by a code.
Data Element Concept:	Birth event—birth method
Value Domain:	Method of birth code N

Value domain attributes

Representational attributes

Representation class:	Code
Data type:	Number
Format:	N
Maximum character length:	1

	Value	Meaning
Permissible values:	1	Vaginal—non-instrumental
	2	Vaginal—forceps
	4	Caesarean section
	5	Vaginal— vacuum extraction
Supplementary values:	9	Not stated/inadequately described

Source and reference attributes

Submitting organisation:	National Perinatal Data Development Committee
---------------------------------	---

Data element attributes

Collection and usage attributes

Guide for use:	In a vaginal breech with forceps to the after coming head, code as vaginal - forceps.
	In a vaginal breech that has been manually rotated, code as vaginal - non-instrumental.
	Where forceps/vacuum extraction are used to assist the extraction of the baby at caesarean section, code as caesarean section.
	Where a hysterotomy is performed to extract the baby, code as caesarean section.
Collection methods:	In the case of multiple births, method of birth should be recorded for each baby born.
Comments:	Note: Code 3, which had a meaning in previous versions of the data standard is no longer used. As is good practice, the code will not be reused.

Source and reference attributes

Submitting organisation: National Perinatal Data Development Committee

Relational attributes

Related metadata references: Supersedes [Birth event—delivery method, code N Health](#), Superseded 06/09/2006

Has been superseded by [Birth event—birth method, code N Health](#), Superseded 12/12/2018

See also [Birth event—additional indication for caesarean section, code N\[N\] Health](#), Superseded 02/08/2017

See also [Birth event—additional indications for caesarean section, code NN Health](#), Superseded 13/11/2014

See also [Birth event—main indication for caesarean section, code N\[N\] Health](#), Superseded 02/08/2017

See also [Birth event—main indication for caesarean section, code NN Health](#), Superseded 13/11/2014

Implementation in Data Set Specifications: [Perinatal NMDS 2007-2008](#)
[Health](#), Superseded 05/02/2008
Implementation start date: 01/07/2007
Implementation end date: 30/06/2008

[Perinatal NMDS 2008-2010](#)
[Health](#), Superseded 02/12/2009
Implementation start date: 01/07/2008
Implementation end date: 30/06/2010

[Perinatal NMDS 2010-2011](#)
[Health](#), Superseded 21/12/2010
Implementation start date: 01/07/2010
Implementation end date: 30/06/2011
DSS specific information: In the case of multiple births, this item should be recorded for each baby born.

[Perinatal NMDS 2011-12](#)
[Health](#), Superseded 07/03/2012
Implementation start date: 01/07/2011
Implementation end date: 30/06/2012
DSS specific information: In the case of multiple births, this item should be recorded for each baby born.

[Perinatal NMDS 2012-13](#)
[Health](#), Superseded 07/02/2013
Implementation start date: 01/07/2012
Implementation end date: 30/06/2013
DSS specific information: In the case of multiple births, this item should be recorded for each baby born.

[Perinatal NMDS 2013-14](#)
[Health](#), Superseded 07/03/2014
Implementation start date: 01/07/2013
Implementation end date: 30/06/2014
DSS specific information:

In the case of multiple births, this item should be recorded for each baby born.

[Perinatal NMDS 2014-18](#)
[Health](#), Superseded 02/08/2017
Implementation start date: 01/07/2014
Implementation end date: 30/06/2018
DSS specific information:

In the case of multiple births, this item should be recorded for each baby born.

**Implementation in
Indicators:**

Used as Numerator

[Australian Atlas of Healthcare Variation: Caesarean section for selected women giving birth for the first time, 2012-2014](#)

[Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care](#), Standard
07/06/2017

[Australian Atlas of Healthcare Variation: Third- and fourth-degree perineal tears for all vaginal births, 2012-2014](#)

[Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care](#), Standard
07/06/2017

[Caesarean section at less than 37, 38 and 39 completed weeks gestation without medical or obstetric indication, 2017](#)

[Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care](#), Standard
27/04/2021

[Caesarean section or induction of labour at less than 37, 38 and 39 completed weeks gestation without medical or obstetric indication, 2017](#)

[Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care](#), Standard
27/04/2021

[Early planned caesarean section without medical or obstetric indication, 2015](#)

[Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care](#), Standard
13/12/2018

[National Core Maternity Indicators: PI 01-Tobacco smoking in pregnancy for all women giving birth \(2013\)](#)

[Health](#), Superseded 02/02/2016

[National Core Maternity Indicators: PI 01-Tobacco smoking in pregnancy for all females giving birth, 2018](#)

[Health](#), Superseded 19/06/2019

[National Core Maternity Indicators: PI 01-Tobacco smoking in pregnancy for all females giving birth, 2019](#)

[Health](#), Superseded 16/09/2020

[National Core Maternity Indicators: PI 01-Tobacco smoking in pregnancy for all women giving birth \(2016\)](#)

[Health](#), Superseded 06/09/2018

[National Core Maternity Indicators: PI 02-Antenatal care in the first trimester for all women giving birth \(2013\)](#)

[Health](#), Superseded 02/02/2016

[National Core Maternity Indicators: PI 02-Antenatal care visits in the first trimester for all females giving birth, 2018](#)

[Health](#), Superseded 19/06/2019

[National Core Maternity Indicators: PI 02-Antenatal care visits in the first trimester for all females giving birth, 2019](#)

[Health](#), Superseded 16/09/2020

[National Core Maternity Indicators: PI 02-Antenatal care visits in the first trimester for all females giving birth, 2020](#)

[Health](#), Superseded 17/12/2021

[National Core Maternity Indicators: PI 02-Antenatal care in the first trimester for all women giving birth \(2016\)](#)

[Health](#), Superseded 06/09/2018

[National Core Maternity Indicators: PI 03-Episiotomy for women giving birth for the first time and giving birth vaginally \(2013\)](#)

[Health](#), Superseded 02/02/2016

[National Core Maternity Indicators: PI 03-Episiotomy for females giving birth for the first time and giving birth vaginally, 2018](#)

[Health](#), Superseded 19/06/2019

[National Core Maternity Indicators: PI 03-Episiotomy for females giving birth for the first time and giving birth vaginally, 2019](#)

[Health](#), Superseded 16/09/2020

[National Core Maternity Indicators: PI 03-Episiotomy for females giving birth for the first time and giving birth vaginally, 2020](#)

[Health](#), Superseded 17/12/2021

[National Core Maternity Indicators: PI 03—Episiotomy for women giving birth for the first time and giving birth vaginally \(2016\)](#)

[Health](#), Superseded 06/09/2018

[National Core Maternity Indicators: PI 06-Caesarean section for selected women giving birth for the first time \(2013\)](#)

[Health](#), Superseded 02/02/2016

[National Core Maternity Indicators: PI 06—Caesarean section for selected females giving birth for the first time, 2018](#)

[Health](#), Superseded 19/06/2019

[National Core Maternity Indicators: PI 06—Caesarean section for selected females giving birth for the first time, 2019](#)

[Health](#), Superseded 16/09/2020

[National Core Maternity Indicators: PI 06—Caesarean section for selected females giving birth for the first time, 2020](#)

[Health](#), Superseded 17/12/2021

[National Core Maternity Indicators: PI 06—Caesarean section for selected women giving birth for the first time \(2016\)](#)

[Health](#), Superseded 06/09/2018

[National Core Maternity Indicators: PI 07-Normal \(non-instrumental\) vaginal birth for selected women giving birth for the first time \(2013\)](#)

[Health](#), Superseded 02/02/2016

[National Core Maternity Indicators: PI 07—Non-instrumental vaginal birth for selected females giving birth for the first time, 2018](#)

[Health](#), Superseded 19/06/2019

[National Core Maternity Indicators: PI 07—Non-instrumental vaginal birth for selected females giving birth for the first time, 2019](#)

[Health](#), Superseded 16/09/2020

[National Core Maternity Indicators: PI 07—Non-instrumental vaginal birth for selected females giving birth for the first time, 2020](#)

[Health](#), Superseded 17/12/2021

[National Core Maternity Indicators: PI 07—Normal \(non-instrumental\) vaginal birth for selected women giving birth for the first time \(2016\)](#)

[Health](#), Superseded 06/09/2018

[National Core Maternity Indicators: PI 08-Instrumental vaginal birth for selected women giving birth for the first time \(2013\)](#)

[Health](#), Superseded 02/02/2016

[National Core Maternity Indicators: PI 08—Instrumental vaginal birth for selected females giving birth for the first time, 2018](#)

[Health](#), Superseded 19/06/2019

[National Core Maternity Indicators: PI 08—Instrumental vaginal birth for selected females giving birth for the first time, 2019](#)

[Health](#), Superseded 16/09/2020

[National Core Maternity Indicators: PI 08—Instrumental vaginal birth for selected females giving birth for the first time, 2020](#)

[Health](#), Superseded 17/12/2021

[National Core Maternity Indicators: PI 08—Instrumental vaginal birth for selected women giving birth for the first time \(2016\)](#)

[Health](#), Superseded 06/09/2018

[National Core Maternity Indicators: PI 09-General anaesthetic for women giving birth by caesarean section \(2013\)](#)

[Health](#), Superseded 02/02/2016

[National Core Maternity Indicators: PI 09—General anaesthetic for females giving birth by caesarean section, 2018](#)

[Health](#), Superseded 19/06/2019

[National Core Maternity Indicators: PI 09—General anaesthetic for females giving birth by caesarean section, 2019](#)

[Health](#), Superseded 16/09/2020

[National Core Maternity Indicators: PI 09—General anaesthetic for females giving](#)

[birth by caesarean section, 2020](#)

[Health](#), Superseded 17/12/2021

[National Core Maternity Indicators: PI 09—General anaesthetic for women giving birth by caesarean section \(2016\)](#)

[Health](#), Superseded 06/09/2018

[National Core Maternity Indicators: PI 13—Third and fourth degree tears for vaginal births, 2018](#)

[Health](#), Superseded 19/06/2019

[National Core Maternity Indicators: PI 13—Third and fourth degree tears for vaginal births, 2019](#)

[Health](#), Superseded 16/09/2020

[National Core Maternity Indicators: PI 13—Third and fourth degree tears for vaginal births, 2020](#)

[Health](#), Superseded 17/12/2021

[National Core Maternity Indicators: PI 13—Third and fourth degree tears for \(a\) all vaginal first births and \(b\) all vaginal births \(2016\)](#)

[Health](#), Superseded 06/09/2018

[National Core Maternity Indicators: PI 15—Females having their second birth vaginally whose first birth was by caesarean section, 2018](#)

[Health](#), Superseded 19/06/2019

[National Core Maternity Indicators: PI 15—Females having their second birth vaginally whose first birth was by caesarean section, 2019](#)

[Health](#), Superseded 16/09/2020

[National Core Maternity Indicators: PI 15—Females having their second birth vaginally whose first birth was by caesarean section, 2020](#)

[Health](#), Superseded 17/12/2021

[National Core Maternity Indicators: PI 15—Women having their second birth vaginally whose first birth was by caesarean section \(2016\)](#)

[Health](#), Superseded 06/09/2018

Used as Denominator

[Australian Atlas of Healthcare Variation: Third- and fourth-degree perineal tears for all vaginal births, 2012-2014](#)

[Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care](#), Standard 07/06/2017

[Caesarean section at less than 37, 38 and 39 completed weeks gestation without medical or obstetric indication, 2017](#)

[Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care](#), Standard 27/04/2021

[Caesarean section or induction of labour at less than 37, 38 and 39 completed weeks gestation without medical or obstetric indication, 2017](#)

[Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care](#), Standard 27/04/2021

[Early planned caesarean section without medical or obstetric indication, 2015](#)

[Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care](#), Standard 13/12/2018

[National Core Maternity Indicators: PI 01-Tobacco smoking in pregnancy for all women giving birth \(2013\)](#)

[Health](#), Superseded 02/02/2016

[National Core Maternity Indicators: PI 01—Tobacco smoking in pregnancy for all females giving birth, 2018](#)

[Health](#), Superseded 19/06/2019

[National Core Maternity Indicators: PI 01—Tobacco smoking in pregnancy for all females giving birth, 2019](#)

[Health](#), Superseded 16/09/2020

[National Core Maternity Indicators: PI 01—Tobacco smoking in pregnancy for all women giving birth \(2016\)](#)

[Health](#), Superseded 06/09/2018

[National Core Maternity Indicators: PI 02-Antenatal care in the first trimester for all women giving birth \(2013\)](#)

[Health](#), Superseded 02/02/2016

[National Core Maternity Indicators: PI 02—Antenatal care visits in the first trimester for all females giving birth, 2018](#)

[Health](#), Superseded 19/06/2019

[National Core Maternity Indicators: PI 02—Antenatal care visits in the first trimester for all females giving birth, 2019](#)

[Health](#), Superseded 16/09/2020

[National Core Maternity Indicators: PI 02—Antenatal care visits in the first trimester for all females giving birth, 2020](#)

[Health](#), Superseded 17/12/2021

[National Core Maternity Indicators: PI 02—Antenatal care in the first trimester for all women giving birth \(2016\)](#)

[Health](#), Superseded 06/09/2018

[National Core Maternity Indicators: PI 03—Episiotomy for women giving birth for the first time and giving birth vaginally \(2013\)](#)

[Health](#), Superseded 02/02/2016

[National Core Maternity Indicators: PI 03—Episiotomy for females giving birth for the first time and giving birth vaginally, 2018](#)

[Health](#), Superseded 19/06/2019

[National Core Maternity Indicators: PI 03—Episiotomy for females giving birth for the first time and giving birth vaginally, 2019](#)

[Health](#), Superseded 16/09/2020

[National Core Maternity Indicators: PI 03—Episiotomy for females giving birth for the first time and giving birth vaginally, 2020](#)

[Health](#), Superseded 17/12/2021

[National Core Maternity Indicators: PI 03—Episiotomy for women giving birth for the first time and giving birth vaginally \(2016\)](#)

[Health](#), Superseded 06/09/2018

[National Core Maternity Indicators: PI 09—General anaesthetic for women giving birth by caesarean section \(2013\)](#)

[Health](#), Superseded 02/02/2016

[National Core Maternity Indicators: PI 09—General anaesthetic for females giving birth by caesarean section, 2018](#)

[Health](#), Superseded 19/06/2019

[National Core Maternity Indicators: PI 09—General anaesthetic for females giving birth by caesarean section, 2019](#)

[Health](#), Superseded 16/09/2020

[National Core Maternity Indicators: PI 09—General anaesthetic for females giving birth by caesarean section, 2020](#)

[Health](#), Superseded 17/12/2021

[National Core Maternity Indicators: PI 09—General anaesthetic for women giving birth by caesarean section \(2016\)](#)

[Health](#), Superseded 06/09/2018

[National Core Maternity Indicators: PI 13—Third and fourth degree tears for vaginal births, 2018](#)

[Health](#), Superseded 19/06/2019

[National Core Maternity Indicators: PI 13—Third and fourth degree tears for vaginal births, 2019](#)

[Health](#), Superseded 16/09/2020

[National Core Maternity Indicators: PI 13—Third and fourth degree tears for vaginal births, 2020](#)

[Health](#), Superseded 17/12/2021

[National Core Maternity Indicators: PI 13—Third and fourth degree tears for \(a\) all vaginal first births and \(b\) all vaginal births \(2016\)](#)

[Health](#), Superseded 06/09/2018