

Birth event—birth method, code N

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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Registration status:	Health , Superseded 02/08/2017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
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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Related metadata references: Supersedes [Birth event—delivery method, code N Health](#), Superseded 06/09/2006

Has been superseded by [Birth event—birth method, code N Health](#), Superseded 12/12/2018

See also [Birth event—additional indication for caesarean section, code N\[N\] Health](#), Superseded 02/08/2017

See also [Birth event—additional indications for caesarean section, code NN Health](#), Superseded 13/11/2014

See also [Birth event—main indication for caesarean section, code N\[N\] Health](#), Superseded 02/08/2017

See also [Birth event—main indication for caesarean section, code NN Health](#), Superseded 13/11/2014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 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 \(2013\)](#)

[Health](#), Superseded 02/02/2016

[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 in the first trimester for all women giving birth \(2016\)](#)

[Health](#), Superseded 06/09/2018

[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 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 \(2013\)](#)

[Health](#), Superseded 02/02/2016

[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 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 \(2013\)](#)

[Health](#), Superseded 02/02/2016

[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—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 \(2013\)](#)

[Health](#), Superseded 02/02/2016

[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 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 \(2013\)](#)

[Health](#), Superseded 02/02/2016

[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 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 \(2013\)](#)

[Health](#), Superseded 02/02/2016

[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 \(a\) all vaginal first births and \(b\) all vaginal births \(2016\)](#)

[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 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 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 \(2013\)](#)

[Health](#), Superseded 02/02/2016

[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 in the first trimester for all women giving birth \(2016\)](#)

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

[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 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 \(2013\)](#)

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

[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 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 \(2013\)](#)

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

[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 \(a\) all vaginal first births and \(b\) all vaginal births \(2016\)](#)

[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