

Birth event—birth plurality, code N

Identifying and definitional attributes

Metadata item type:	Data Element
Short name:	Birth plurality
Synonymous names:	Multiple birth
METEOR identifier:	668881
Registration status:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Health, Superseded 12/12/2018• Indigenous, Superseded 02/04/2019
Definition:	The number of babies resulting from a single pregnancy, as represented by a code.
Context:	Multiple pregnancy increases the risk of complications during pregnancy, labour and delivery and is associated with higher risk of perinatal morbidity and mortality.
Data Element Concept:	Birth event—birth plurality

Value domain attributes

Representational attributes

Representation class:	Code																
Data type:	Number																
Format:	N																
Maximum character length:	1																
Permissible values:	<table><thead><tr><th>Value</th><th>Meaning</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td>1</td><td>Singleton</td></tr><tr><td>2</td><td>Twins</td></tr><tr><td>3</td><td>Triplets</td></tr><tr><td>4</td><td>Quadruplets</td></tr><tr><td>5</td><td>Quintuplets</td></tr><tr><td>6</td><td>Sextuplets</td></tr><tr><td>8</td><td>Other</td></tr></tbody></table>	Value	Meaning	1	Singleton	2	Twins	3	Triplets	4	Quadruplets	5	Quintuplets	6	Sextuplets	8	Other
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Supplementary values:	<table><thead><tr><th>Value</th><th>Meaning</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td>9</td><td>Not stated</td></tr></tbody></table>	Value	Meaning	9	Not stated												
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Data element attributes

Collection and usage attributes

Guide for use: Plurality at birth is determined by the total number of [live births](#) and [stillbirths](#) that result from the pregnancy.

Stillbirths, including those where the fetus was likely to have died before 20 weeks gestation (including fetus papyraceous and fetus compressus), should be included in the count of plurality if recognisable as a fetus and expelled or extracted with other products of conception at 20 or more weeks gestation.

Source and reference attributes

Submitting organisation: National Perinatal Data Development Committee

Relational attributes

Related metadata references: Supersedes [Birth event—birth plurality, code N](#)

- [Health](#), Superseded 02/08/2017
- [Indigenous](#), Superseded 22/10/2018

Has been superseded by [Pregnancy—birth plurality, code N](#)

- [Health](#), Superseded 03/12/2020
- [Indigenous](#), Superseded 14/07/2021

Implementation in Data Set Specifications:

[Indigenous primary health care NBEDS 2018–19](#)

[Health](#), Superseded 12/12/2018

[Indigenous](#), Superseded 02/04/2019

Implementation start date: 01/07/2018

Implementation end date: 30/06/2019

DSS specific information:

This item is only collected for infants born during the preceding 12 months.

[Perinatal NMDS 2018-19](#)

[Health](#), Superseded 12/12/2018

[ACT Health \(retired\)](#), Candidate 14/08/2018

Implementation start date: 01/07/2018

Implementation end date: 30/06/2019

DSS specific information:

This item is collected for the mother only.

Implementation in Indicators:

Used as Numerator

[Australian Health Performance Framework: PI 3.1.6–Proportion of babies born with low birthweight, 2020 Health](#), Standard 02/12/2020

[Indigenous primary health care: PI02a-Number of Indigenous babies born within the previous 12 months whose birthweight results were low, normal or high, 2018-2019 Health](#), Superseded 16/01/2020
[Indigenous](#), Superseded 14/07/2021

[Indigenous primary health care: PI02b-Proportion of Indigenous babies born within the previous 12 months whose birthweight results were low, normal or high, 2018-2019 Health](#), Superseded 16/01/2020
[Indigenous](#), Superseded 14/07/2021

[National Healthcare Agreement: PI 01–Proportion of babies born of low birth weight, 2021 Health](#), Standard 16/09/2020

[National Healthcare Agreement: PI 01–Proportion of babies born of low birth weight, 2022 Health](#), Standard 24/09/2021

Used as Denominator

[Australian Health Performance Framework: PI 3.1.6–Proportion of babies born with low birthweight, 2020 Health](#), Standard 02/12/2020

[Indigenous primary health care: PI02b-Proportion of Indigenous babies born within the previous 12 months whose birthweight results were low, normal or high, 2018-2019 Health](#), Superseded 16/01/2020
[Indigenous](#), Superseded 14/07/2021

[National Healthcare Agreement: PI 01–Proportion of babies born of low birth weight, 2021 Health](#), Standard 16/09/2020

[National Healthcare Agreement: PI 01–Proportion of babies born of low birth weight, 2022 Health](#), Standard 24/09/2021

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