

# Birthweight

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# Birthweight

## Identifying and definitional attributes

**Metadata item type:** Glossary Item

**METEOR identifier:** 696102

**Registration status:** [Health](#), Superseded 03/12/2020  
[Indigenous](#), Superseded 14/07/2021  
[Tasmanian Health](#), Superseded 24/03/2023

**Definition:** The first weight of a [live born](#) or [stillborn](#) baby obtained after birth. The World Health Organization further defines the following categories:

- extremely low birthweight: less than 1,000 grams (up to and including 999 grams),
- very low birthweight: less than 1,500 grams (up to and including 1,499 grams),
- low birthweight: less than 2,500 grams (up to and including 2,499 grams).

**Context:** Perinatal

## Collection and usage attributes

**Comments:** The definitions of low, very low, and extremely low birthweight do not constitute mutually exclusive categories. Below the set limits they are all-inclusive and therefore overlap (i.e. low includes very low and extremely low, while very low includes extremely low).

For live births, birthweight should preferably be measured within the first hour of life before significant postnatal weight loss has occurred. While statistical tabulations include 500 gram groupings for birthweight, weights should not be recorded in those groupings. The actual weight should be recorded to the degree of accuracy to which it is measured.

## Source and reference attributes

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

**Origin:** WHO (World Health Organization) 1992. International Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems, 10th Revision. Geneva: WHO.

## Relational attributes

**Related metadata references:** Supersedes [Birthweight](#)  
[Health](#), Superseded 12/12/2018  
[Indigenous](#), Superseded 02/04/2019  
[Tasmanian Health](#), Superseded 24/06/2020  
Has been superseded by [Birthweight](#)  
[Health](#), Standard 03/12/2020  
[Indigenous](#), Standard 14/07/2021  
[Tasmanian Health](#), Standard 24/12/2021

**Metadata items which use  
this glossary item:**

[Birth status code N](#)

[Health](#), Superseded 03/12/2020

[Indigenous](#), Superseded 14/07/2021

[Tasmanian Health](#), Standard 24/06/2020

[Perinatal NBEDS 2019–20](#)

[Health](#), Superseded 20/11/2019

[Perinatal NBEDS 2020–21](#)

[Health](#), Superseded 03/12/2020

[Perinatal NMDS 2019–20](#)

[Health](#), Superseded 03/12/2020

[Perinatal NMDS 2020–21](#)

[Health](#), Superseded 03/12/2020

[Product of birth—birth order, code N](#)

[Health](#), Superseded 03/12/2020

[Tasmanian Health](#), Superseded 24/03/2023

[Product of birth—birthweight, code N](#)

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

[Indigenous](#), Superseded 14/07/2021

[Product of birth—birthweight, total grams N\[NNN\]](#)

[Health](#), Superseded 03/12/2020

[Tasmanian Health](#), Superseded 07/11/2023

[Product of birth—birthweight, total grams N\[NNN\]](#)

[Health](#), Superseded 20/11/2019