

# Birth event—birth method, code N

## Identifying and definitional attributes

<b>Metadata item type:</b>	Data Element
<b>Short name:</b>	Method of birth
<b>METEOR identifier:</b>	732352
<b>Registration status:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <a href="#">Health</a>, Superseded 17/12/2021</li></ul>
<b>Definition:</b>	The method of complete expulsion or extraction of a product of conception from the female in a birth event, as represented by a code.
<b>Context:</b>	Perinatal
<b>Data Element Concept:</b>	<a href="#">Birth event—birth method</a>

## Value domain attributes

### Representational attributes

<b>Representation class:</b>	Code										
<b>Data type:</b>	Number										
<b>Format:</b>	N										
<b>Maximum character length:</b>	1										
<b>Permissible values:</b>	<table><thead><tr><th>Value</th><th>Meaning</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td>1</td><td>Vaginal—non-instrumental</td></tr><tr><td>2</td><td>Vaginal—forceps</td></tr><tr><td>4</td><td>Caesarean section</td></tr><tr><td>5</td><td>Vaginal—vacuum extraction</td></tr></tbody></table>	Value	Meaning	1	Vaginal—non-instrumental	2	Vaginal—forceps	4	Caesarean section	5	Vaginal—vacuum extraction
Value	Meaning										
1	Vaginal—non-instrumental										
2	Vaginal—forceps										
4	Caesarean section										
5	Vaginal—vacuum extraction										
<b>Supplementary values:</b>	<table><thead><tr><th>Value</th><th>Meaning</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td>9</td><td>Not stated/inadequately described</td></tr></tbody></table>	Value	Meaning	9	Not stated/inadequately described						
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### Source and reference attributes

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

## Data element attributes

### Collection and usage attributes

**Guide for use:**

CODE 1 Vaginal—non-instrumental

Includes a vaginal breech that has been manually rotated.

CODE 2 Vaginal—forceps

Includes a vaginal breech with forceps to the after-coming head.

CODE 4 Caesarean section

Includes the use of forceps/vacuum extraction to assist the extraction of the product of conception in a caesarean section or where a hysterotomy is performed to extract the product of conception.

This data element should be recorded in conjunction with the [Birth event—anaesthesia administered indicator, yes/no/not stated/inadequately described code N](#) data element when method of birth is Code 2 (Vaginal—forceps), Code 4 (Caesarean section) or Code 5 (Vaginal—vacuum extraction).

This data element should be recorded in conjunction with the [Birth event—type of anaesthesia administered, code N\[N\]](#) data element when method of birth is Code 2 (Vaginal—forceps), Code 4 (Caesarean section) or Code 5 (Vaginal— vacuum extraction) and [Birth event—anaesthesia administered indicator, yes/no/not stated/inadequately described code N](#) is Code 1 (Yes).

This data element should be recorded in conjunction with the [Birth event—main indication for caesarean section, code N\[N\]](#) data element when method of birth is Code 4 (Caesarean section).

This data element should be recorded in conjunction with the [Birth event—additional indication for caesarean section, code N\[N\]](#) data element when method of birth is Code 4 (Caesarean section), [Birth event—main indication for caesarean section, code N\[N\]](#) is completed and there is more than one reason for which a caesarean was performed.

**Comments:**

Code 3 (Vaginal breech) has been omitted as it is no longer in use. For information about its meaning in previous data elements, see superseded versions. For information on how to record 'Vaginal breech' in the current data element, refer to the Guide for use.

## Source and reference attributes

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

## Relational attributes

**Related metadata references:**

Supersedes [Birth event—birth method, code N](#)

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

Has been superseded by [Birth event—birth method, code N](#)

- [Health](#), Standard 17/12/2021

See also [Birth event—additional indication for caesarean section, code N\[N\]](#)

- [Health](#), Standard 03/12/2020

See also [Birth event—anaesthesia administered indicator, yes/no/not stated/inadequately described code N](#)

- [Health](#), Standard 03/12/2020

See also [Birth event—main indication for caesarean section, code N\[N\]](#)

- [Health](#), Standard 03/12/2020

See also [Birth event—type of analgesia administered, code N\[N\]](#)

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

See also [Female—caesarean section at most recent previous birth indicator, yes/no/not applicable/not stated/inadequately described code N](#)

- [Health](#), Standard 03/12/2020

**Implementation in Data Set Specifications:**

[Perinatal NMDS 2021–22](#)

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

*Implementation start date:* 01/07/2021

*Implementation end date:* 30/06/2022

***DSS specific information:***

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