

# National Core Maternity Indicators, 2021

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# National Core Maternity Indicators, 2021

## Identifying and definitional attributes

**Metadata item type:** Indicator Set

**Indicator set type:** Other

**METEOR identifier:** 742377

**Registration status:** [Health](#), Superseded 09/09/2022

**Description:** The Maternity Services Inter-Jurisdictional Committee of the Australian Health Ministers' Advisory Council was tasked with developing a set of national core maternity indicators to monitor the quality of maternity care in Australia. This work was undertaken by the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW), after initial development by Women's Healthcare Australasia (WHA) and the Western Australian Department of Health.

The indicators are clinical indicators that apply to the field of maternity care. A clinical indicator is specifically defined as a measure of the clinical management and outcome of care, and should be based on evidence that confirms the underlying causal relationship between a particular process or intervention and health outcome (WHA 2007).

Clinical indicators have a key role in the assessment, monitoring and evaluation of patient care. They allow for monitoring of change in practice and outcomes relative to individual and peer organisations over time with the objective of improving patient care.

## Relational attributes

**Related metadata references:** Supersedes [National Core Maternity Indicators, 2020](#)  
[Health](#), Superseded 17/12/2021

Has been superseded by [National Core Maternity Indicators, 2022](#)  
[Health](#), Superseded 14/07/2023

**Indicators linked to this Indicator set:**

[National Core Maternity Indicators: PI 01–Tobacco smoking in pregnancy for all females giving birth, 2021](#)

Health, Superseded 09/09/2022

[National Core Maternity Indicators: PI 02–Antenatal care visits in the first trimester for all females giving birth, 2021](#)

Health, Superseded 09/09/2022

[National Core Maternity Indicators: PI 03–Episiotomy for females giving birth for the first time and giving birth vaginally, 2021](#)

Health, Superseded 09/09/2022

[National Core Maternity Indicators: PI 04–Apgar score of less than 7 at 5 minutes for births at or after term, 2021](#)

Health, Superseded 09/09/2022

[National Core Maternity Indicators: PI 05–Induction of labour for selected females giving birth for the first time, 2021](#)

Health, Superseded 09/09/2022

[National Core Maternity Indicators: PI 06–Caesarean section for selected females giving birth for the first time, 2021](#)

Health, Superseded 09/09/2022

[National Core Maternity Indicators: PI 07–Non-instrumental vaginal birth for selected females giving birth for the first time, 2021](#)

Health, Superseded 09/09/2022

[National Core Maternity Indicators: PI 08–Instrumental vaginal birth for selected females giving birth for the first time, 2021](#)

Health, Superseded 09/09/2022

[National Core Maternity Indicators: PI 09–General anaesthetic for females giving birth by caesarean section, 2021](#)

Health, Superseded 09/09/2022

[National Core Maternity Indicators: PI 10–Small babies among births at or after 40 weeks gestation, 2021](#)

Health, Superseded 09/09/2022

[National Core Maternity Indicators: PI 13–Third and fourth degree tears for vaginal births, 2021](#)

Health, Superseded 09/09/2022

[National Core Maternity Indicators: PI 15–Females having their second birth vaginally whose first birth was by caesarean section, 2021](#)

Health, Superseded 09/09/2022

## Collection and usage attributes

**Comments:**

NOTE: Not all of the data used to derive these indicators are collected in a standardised way, or are available for all years across all jurisdictions; therefore, results should be interpreted with caution.

Data for 2021 indicator reporting include annual data for the calendar years 2004 to 2019.

- Perinatal NMDS (metadata for earlier years),
- Perinatal NMDS (2007-2008, 2008-2010, 2010-2011, 2011-12, 2012-13, 2013-14, 2014-18, 2018-2019)
- Perinatal NMDS 2019-2020 (for the first six months of the collection).

Data are not available for all indicators for all years.

For reporting purposes, the terms 'females' and 'women' are used interchangeably.

## Source and reference attributes

**Submitting organisation:** Australian Institute of Health and Welfare.

**Origin:**

AIHW National Perinatal Epidemiology and Statistics Unit and AIHW 2013. National core maternity indicators. Cat no. PER 58. Canberra: AIHW. Viewed 10 November 2021, <https://www.aihw.gov.au/reports/mothers-babies/national-core-maternity-indicators-2013/contents/summary>.

AIHW 2014. National core maternity indicators– stage 2 report: 2007–2011. Cat. no. PER 68. Canberra: AIHW. Viewed 10 November 2021, <https://www.aihw.gov.au/reports/mothers-babies/national-core-maternity-indicators-stage-2-report/contents/table-of-contents>.

AIHW 2016. National core maternity indicators– stage 3 and 4 from 2010– 2013. Cat. no. PER 84. Canberra: AIHW. Viewed 10 November 2021, <https://www.aihw.gov.au/reports/mothers-babies/national-core-maternity-indicators-stage-3-4/contents/table-of-contents>.

AIHW 2020. National core maternity indicators data visualisations. Viewed 10 November 2021, <https://www.aihw.gov.au/reports/mothers-babies/ncmi-data-visualisations/contents/summary>.

**Reference documents:**

WHA (Women's Healthcare Australasia) 2007. Supporting excellence in maternity care: the core maternity indicators project: findings from the core maternity indicators project. Canberra: WHA.