National Core Maternity Indicators: PI 13–Third and fourth degree tears for vaginal births, 2022

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National Core Maternity Indicators: PI 13–Third and fourth degree tears for vaginal births, 2022

Identifying and definitional attributes

Metadata item type:	Indicator
Indicator type:	Indicator
Common name:	Third and fourth degree tears for vaginal births
Short name:	PI 13–Third and fourth degree tears for vaginal births, 2022
METEOR identifier:	758206
Registration status:	Health, Superseded 14/07/2023
Description:	The proportion of all females who have a third or fourth degree perineal laceration after giving birth vaginally for (a) all first births and (b) all births.
Rationale:	Third and fourth degree perineal lacerations cause significant ongoing maternal morbidity. This is an outcome indicator that measures the occurrence of third and fourth degree perineal lacerations.
Indicator set:	National Core Maternity Indicators, 2022 Health, Superseded 14/07/2023

Collection and usage attributes

Computation description:

(a) The number of females who had a third or fourth degree perineal laceration after giving birth for the first time and birth vaginally, divided by the number of females who gave birth for the first time and birth vaginally, and multiplied by 100.

(b) The number of females who had a third or fourth degree perineal laceration after giving birth vaginally, divided by the number of females who gave birth vaginally, and multiplied by 100.

A birth is defined as the complete expulsion or extraction from a female, of a product of conception of 20 or more completed weeks of gestation or of 400 grams or more birthweight.

Births included are vaginal births, including non-instrumental and instrumental births. A non-instrumental vaginal birth is one in which the baby is born through the vagina without the assistance of instruments. An instrumental birth is a procedure that uses instruments (forceps or vacuum extraction) to assist the baby to come out through the vagina.

Births excluded are caesarean sections.

Third degree laceration is defined as perineal laceration, rupture or tear occurring during delivery, involving: anal sphincter, rectovaginal septum, and sphincter not otherwise specified. Excludes laceration involving the anal or rectal mucosa. Fourth degree laceration is defined as perineal laceration, rupture or tear as in third degree laceration occurring during delivery, also involving: anal mucosa and rectal mucosa.

Computation: 100 × (Numerator ÷ Denominator)

Numerator:

(a) The number of females who had a third or fourth degree perineal laceration after giving birth for the first time and birth vaginally.

(b) The number of females who had a third or fourth degree perineal laceration after giving birth vaginally.

Numerator data elements:

Data Element / Data Set
Labour complication: Third/fourth degree tear
Data Source

AIHW National Perinatal Data Collection (NPDC)

Guide for use

This data item for 2013 only analysis.

Data source type: Administrative by-product data

Data Element / Data Set

Birth event—birth method, code N

Data Source

Perinatal National Minimum Data Set (NMDS)

NMDS / DSS

Perinatal NMDS 2020–21

Guide for use

Data source type: Administrative by-product data

Data Element / Data Set

Female—parity, total pregnancies N[N]

Data Source

Perinatal National Minimum Data Set (NMDS)

NMDS / DSS

Perinatal NMDS 2020–21

Guide for use

Data source type: Administrative by-product data

Data Element / Data Set

Female—postpartum perineal status, code N[N]

Data Source

Perinatal National Minimum Data Set (NMDS)

NMDS / DSS

Perinatal NMDS 2020–21

Guide for use

This data item from 2014 onwards analysis.

Data source type: Administrative by-product data

Denominator: (a) The number of females who gave birth for the first time and birth vaginally.

(b) The number of females who gave birth vaginally.

Denominator data elements:

Data Element / Data Set

Birth event—birth method, code N

Data Source

Perinatal National Minimum Data Set (NMDS)

NMDS / DSS

Perinatal NMDS 2020–21

Guide for use

Data source type: Administrative by-product data

Data Element / Data Set

Female—parity, total pregnancies N[N]

Data Source

Perinatal National Minimum Data Set (NMDS)

NMDS / DSS

Perinatal NMDS 2020–21

Guide for use

Data source type: Administrative by-product data

Disaggregation:

- Year of birth
- State or territory of birth
- Mother's age at birth
- Hospital annual number of births
- Hospital sector
- Remoteness category (from mother's area of usual residence)
- Indigenous status of mother
- With and without episiotomy
- Mother's country of birth
- Primary Health Network (from mother's area of usual residence)
- Statistical local area 3 (from mother's area of usual residence)

Disaggregation data elements:

Data Element / Data Set

Hospital annual number of births

Data Source

AIHW National Perinatal Data Collection (NPDC)

Guide for use

Data source type: Administrative by-product data

Data Element / Data Set

Hospital sector

Data Source

AIHW National Perinatal Data Collection (NPDC)

Guide for use

Data source type: Administrative by-product data

Data Element / Data Set

Person—date of birth, DDMMYYYY

Data Source

Perinatal National Minimum Data Set (NMDS)

NMDS / DSS

Perinatal NMDS 2020–21

Guide for use

Data source type: Administrative by-product data

Data Element / Data Set

Person—Indigenous status, code N

Data Source

Perinatal National Minimum Data Set (NMDS)

NMDS / DSS

Perinatal NMDS 2020–21

Guide for use

Data source type: Administrative by-product data

Data Element / Data Set

Person—country of birth, code (SACC 2016) NNNN

Data Source

Perinatal National Minimum Data Set (NMDS)

NMDS / DSS

Perinatal NMDS 2020–21

Guide for use

Data source type: Administrative by-product data

Data Element / Data Set

Person—area of usual residence, statistical area level 2 (SA2) code (ASGS 2016) N(9)

Data Source

Perinatal National Minimum Data Set (NMDS)

NMDS / DSS

Perinatal NMDS 2020–21

Guide for use

Data source type: Administrative by-product data

Data Element / Data Set

Female—postpartum perineal status, code N[N]

Data Source

Perinatal National Minimum Data Set (NMDS)

NMDS / DSS

Perinatal NMDS 2020–21

Guide for use

Data source type: Administrative by-product data

Data Element / Data Set

Birth event—state/territory of birth, code N

Data Source

Perinatal National Minimum Data Set (NMDS)

NMDS / DSS

Perinatal NMDS 2020–21

Guide for use

Data source type: Administrative by-product data

Comments:

Data elements are from the Perinatal National Minimum Data Set (NMDS) or have been provided as voluntary non-standardised items by states and territories. Records with a permissible value have been included in the denominator.

For the 2013 analysis, third and fourth degree tears was calculated using *Labour complication: third/fourth degree* data item. A revised collection of perineal status data items in the Perinatal NMDS was introduced in 2014, which meant that the perineal status was split between seven perineal status data items. As a result, for 2014 onwards analysis, third and fourth degree tears was calculated using two data items, *Perineal status: third degree laceration* (code 4) and *Perineal status: fourth degree laceration* (code 7).

Modified from Australian Council on Healthcare Standards (ACHS) Indicator 3.1-3.6: Major perineal tears and surgical repair of the perineum. This ACHS indicator is based on the definition by Women's Healthcare Australasia Core Maternity Indicators Project (WHA 2007).

Representational attributes

Representation class: Percentage

Data type: Real

Unit of measure: Person

Format: N[NN.N]

Data source attributes

Data sources:

Data Source

Perinatal National Minimum Data Set (NMDS)

Frequency

Annual

Data custodian

Australian Institute of Health and Welfare

Data Source

AIHW National Perinatal Data Collection (NPDC)

Frequency

Calendar years ending 31 December each year

Data custodian

Australian Institute of Health and Welfare

Accountability attributes

Reporting requirements: No formal reporting requirements

Organisation responsible for providing data: Australian Institute of Health and Welfare

Accountability: Australian Institute of Health and Welfare

Source and reference attributes

Submitting organisation: Australian Institute of Health and Welfare

Reference documents: ACHS (The Australian Council on Healthcare Standards) 2021. The Australasian Clinical Indicator Report: 2013-2020. 22nd edn. Sydney: ACHS. Viewed 08 April 2022, https://www.achs.org.au/our-services/pos/previous-acir-publications.

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.

Relational attributes

Related metadata references: Supersedes National Core Maternity Indicators: PI 13–Third and fourth degree tears for vaginal births, 2021
Health, Superseded 09/09/2022

Has been superseded by National Core Maternity Indicators: PI 13–Third and fourth degree tears for vaginal births, 2023
Health, Superseded 29/05/2024