

National Core Maternity Indicators: PI 04—Apgar score of less than 7 at 5 minutes for births at or after term, 2023

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National Core Maternity Indicators: PI 04–Apgar score of less than 7 at 5 minutes for births at or after term, 2023

Identifying and definitional attributes

Metadata item type:	Indicator
Indicator type:	Indicator
Common name:	Apgar score of less than 7 at 5 minutes for births at or after term
Short name:	PI 04–Apgar score of less than 7 at 5 minutes for births at or after term, 2023
METEOR identifier:	772609
Registration status:	Health , Superseded 29/05/2024
Description:	The proportion of live born babies at or after term (from 37 completed weeks gestational age) with an Apgar score of less than 7 at 5 minutes after birth.
Rationale:	This indicator of the condition of the baby after birth provides an outcome measure of intrapartum care and newborn resuscitation.
Indicator set:	National Core Maternity Indicators, 2023 Health , Superseded 29/05/2024

Collection and usage attributes

Computation description:	The number of live born babies at or after term (from 37 completed weeks gestational age) with an Apgar score of less than 7 at 5 minutes, divided by the number of live born babies born at or after term (from 37 completed weeks gestational age), 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. If the baby is alive the birth is a live birth. If the baby is not alive the birth is a stillbirth. Gestational age is a clinical measure of the duration of the pregnancy. For the National Perinatal Data Collection gestational age is reported as completed weeks. Term is defined as gestational age between 37 and 41 weeks. Births included are live born babies born at or after term. Births excluded are stillbirths and babies born before term (before 37 weeks).
Computation:	$100 \times (\text{Numerator} \div \text{Denominator})$
Numerator:	The number of live born babies at or after term (from 37 completed weeks gestational age) with an Apgar score of less than 7 at 5 minutes.

Numerator data elements:

Data Element / Data Set

[Product of conception—gestational age, total completed weeks N\[N\]](#)

Data Source

[Perinatal National Minimum Data Set \(NMDS\)](#)

NMDS / DSS

[Perinatal NMDS 2021–22](#)

Guide for use

Data source type: Administrative by-product data

Data Element / Data Set

[Product of birth—Apgar score at 5 minutes, code NN](#)

Data Source

[Perinatal National Minimum Data Set \(NMDS\)](#)

NMDS / DSS

[Perinatal NMDS 2021–22](#)

Guide for use

Data source type: Administrative by-product data

Denominator:

The number of live born babies born at or after term (from 37 completed weeks gestational age).

Denominator data elements:

Data Element / Data Set

[Product of conception—gestational age, total completed weeks N\[N\]](#)

Data Source

[Perinatal National Minimum Data Set \(NMDS\)](#)

NMDS / DSS

[Perinatal NMDS 2021–22](#)

Guide for use

Data source type: Administrative by-product data

Data Element / Data Set

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

Data Source

[Perinatal National Minimum Data Set \(NMDS\)](#)

NMDS / DSS

[Perinatal NMDS 2021–22](#)

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
- Indigenous status of mother
- Labour/non-labour
- Hospital sector
- 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 2021–22](#)

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 2021–22](#)

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 2021–22](#)

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 2021–22](#)

Guide for use

Data source type: Administrative by-product data

Data Element / Data Set

[Birth event—labour onset type, code N](#)

Data Source

[Perinatal National Minimum Data Set \(NMDS\)](#)

NMDS / DSS

[Perinatal NMDS 2021–22](#)

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 the states and territories. Records with a permissible value have been included in the denominator.

The Apgar score is a system of assessing the baby's breathing, pulse, colour, movement and reflexes at 5 minutes after birth. It is a score out of 10, with higher scores indicating better condition of the baby. A score of less than 7 at 5 minutes after birth is considered to be an indicator of complications and of compromise for the baby.

Modified from Australian Council on Healthcare Standards (ACHS) Indicator 9.1: Low 5 minute score, full term babies. This ACHS indicator is based on the definition by the 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 8 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 04–Apgar score of less than 7 at 5 minutes for births at or after term, 2022](#)
[Health](#), Superseded 14/07/2023

Has been superseded by [National Core Maternity Indicators: PI 04–Apgar score of less than 7 at 5 minutes for births at or after term, 2024](#)
[Health](#), Standard 29/05/2024