Birth event—birth method, code N

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# Birth event—birth method, code N

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| Identifying and definitional attributes | |
| Metadata item type: | Data Element |
| Short name: | Method of birth |
| METEOR identifier: | 295349 |
| Registration status: | [Health!](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/14), Superseded 02/08/2017 |
| Definition: | The method of complete expulsion or extraction from its mother of a product of conception in a birth event, as represented by a code. |
| Data Element Concept: | [Birth event—birth method](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/content/337672) |
| Value Domain: | [Method of birth code N](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/content/295362) |

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| Value domain attributes | | |
| Representational attributes | | |
| Representation class: | Code | |
| Data type: | Number | |
| Format: | N | |
| Maximum character length: | 1 | |
|  | **Value** | **Meaning** |
| Permissible values: | 1 | Vaginal—non-instrumental |
|  | 2 | Vaginal—forceps |
|  | 4 | Caesarean section |
|  | 5 | Vaginal— vacuum extraction |
| Supplementary values: | 9 | Not stated/inadequately described |

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| --- | --- |
| Source and reference attributes | |
| Submitting organisation: | National Perinatal Data Development Committee |

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| Data element attributes | |
| Collection and usage attributes | |
| Guide for use: | In a vaginal breech with forceps to the after coming head, code as vaginal - forceps.  In a vaginal breech that has been manually rotated, code as vaginal - non-instrumental.  Where forceps/vacuum extraction are used to assist the extraction of the baby at caesarean section, code as caesarean section.  Where a hysterotomy is performed to extract the baby, code as caesarean section. |
| Collection methods: | In the case of multiple births, method of birth should be recorded for each baby born. |
| Comments: | Note: Code 3, which had a meaning in previous versions of the data standard is no longer used.  As is good practice, the code will not be reused. |
| Source and reference attributes | |
| Submitting organisation: | National Perinatal Data Development Committee |
| Relational attributes | |
| Related metadata references: | Supersedes [Birth event—delivery method, code N](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/content/270035)  [Health!](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/14), Superseded 06/09/2006  Has been superseded by [Birth event—birth method, code N](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/content/672856)  [Health!](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/14), Superseded 12/12/2018  See also [Birth event—additional indication for caesarean section, code N[N]](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/content/587048)  [Health!](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/14), Superseded 02/08/2017  See also [Birth event—additional indications for caesarean section, code NN](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/content/522168)  [Health!](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/14), Superseded 13/11/2014  See also [Birth event—main indication for caesarean section, code N[N]](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/content/587046)  [Health!](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/14), Superseded 02/08/2017  See also [Birth event—main indication for caesarean section, code NN](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/content/516640)  [Health!](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/14), Superseded 13/11/2014 |
| Implementation in Data Set Specifications: | [Perinatal NMDS 2007-2008](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/content/340684)  [Health!](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/14), Superseded 05/02/2008  ***Implementation start date:*** 01/07/2007 ***Implementation end date:*** 30/06/2008  [Perinatal NMDS 2008-2010](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/content/362313)  [Health!](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/14), Superseded 02/12/2009  ***Implementation start date:*** 01/07/2008 ***Implementation end date:*** 30/06/2010  [Perinatal NMDS 2010-2011](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/content/363256)  [Health!](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/14), Superseded 21/12/2010  ***Implementation start date:*** 01/07/2010 ***Implementation end date:*** 30/06/2011 ***DSS specific information:*** In the case of multiple births, this item should be recorded for each baby born.  [Perinatal NMDS 2011-12](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/content/426735)  [Health!](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/14), Superseded 07/03/2012  ***Implementation start date:*** 01/07/2011 ***Implementation end date:*** 30/06/2012 ***DSS specific information:*** In the case of multiple births, this item should be recorded for each baby born.  [Perinatal NMDS 2012-13](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/content/461787)  [Health!](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/14), Superseded 07/02/2013  ***Implementation start date:*** 01/07/2012 ***Implementation end date:*** 30/06/2013 ***DSS specific information:*** In the case of multiple births, this item should be recorded for each baby born.  [Perinatal NMDS 2013-14](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/content/489433)  [Health!](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/14), Superseded 07/03/2014  ***Implementation start date:*** 01/07/2013 ***Implementation end date:*** 30/06/2014 ***DSS specific information:***  In the case of multiple births, this item should be recorded for each baby born.  [Perinatal NMDS 2014-18](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/content/517456)  [Health!](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/14), Superseded 02/08/2017  ***Implementation start date:*** 01/07/2014 ***Implementation end date:*** 30/06/2018 ***DSS specific information:***  In the case of multiple births, this item should be recorded for each baby born. |
| Implementation in Indicators: | **Used as Numerator** [Australian Atlas of Healthcare Variation: Caesarean section for selected women giving birth for the first time, 2012-2014](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/content/639073)  [Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/2), Standard 07/06/2017  [Australian Atlas of Healthcare Variation: Third- and fourth-degree perineal tears for all vaginal births, 2012-2014](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/content/639086)  [Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/2), Standard 07/06/2017  [Caesarean section at less than 37, 38 and 39 completed weeks gestation without medical or obstetric indication, 2017](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/content/723681)  [Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/2), Standard 27/04/2021  [Caesarean section or induction of labour at less than 37, 38 and 39 completed weeks gestation without medical or obstetric indication, 2017](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/content/724678)  [Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/2), Standard 27/04/2021  [Early planned caesarean section without medical or obstetric indication, 2015](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/content/709063)  [Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/2), Standard 13/12/2018  [National Core Maternity Indicators: PI 01-Tobacco smoking in pregnancy for all women giving birth (2013)](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/content/557104)  [Health!](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/14), Superseded 02/02/2016  [National Core Maternity Indicators: PI 01–Tobacco smoking in pregnancy for all females giving birth, 2018](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/content/690056)  [Health!](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/14), Superseded 19/06/2019  [National Core Maternity Indicators: PI 01–Tobacco smoking in pregnancy for all females giving birth, 2019](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/content/717528)  [Health!](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/14), Superseded 16/09/2020  [National Core Maternity Indicators: PI 01—Tobacco smoking in pregnancy for all women giving birth (2016)](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/content/613173)  [Health!](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/14), Superseded 06/09/2018  [National Core Maternity Indicators: PI 02-Antenatal care in the first trimester for all women giving birth (2013)](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/content/557080)  [Health!](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/14), Superseded 02/02/2016  [National Core Maternity Indicators: PI 02–Antenatal care visits in the first trimester for all females giving birth, 2018](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/content/690069)  [Health!](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/14), Superseded 19/06/2019  [National Core Maternity Indicators: PI 02–Antenatal care visits in the first trimester for all females giving birth, 2019](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/content/717530)  [Health!](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/14), Superseded 16/09/2020  [National Core Maternity Indicators: PI 02–Antenatal care visits in the first trimester for all females giving birth, 2020](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/content/728714)  [Health!](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/14), Superseded 17/12/2021  [National Core Maternity Indicators: PI 02—Antenatal care in the first trimester for all women giving birth (2016)](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/content/613175)  [Health!](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/14), Superseded 06/09/2018  [National Core Maternity Indicators: PI 03-Episiotomy for women giving birth for the first time and giving birth vaginally (2013)](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/content/557083)  [Health!](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/14), Superseded 02/02/2016  [National Core Maternity Indicators: PI 03–Episiotomy for females giving birth for the first time and giving birth vaginally, 2018](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/content/690076)  [Health!](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/14), Superseded 19/06/2019  [National Core Maternity Indicators: PI 03–Episiotomy for females giving birth for the first time and giving birth vaginally, 2019](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/content/717532)  [Health!](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/14), Superseded 16/09/2020  [National Core Maternity Indicators: PI 03–Episiotomy for females giving birth for the first time and giving birth vaginally, 2020](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/content/728716)  [Health!](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/14), Superseded 17/12/2021  [National Core Maternity Indicators: PI 03—Episiotomy for women giving birth for the first time and giving birth vaginally (2016)](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/content/613177)  [Health!](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/14), Superseded 06/09/2018  [National Core Maternity Indicators: PI 06-Caesarean section for selected women giving birth for the first time (2013)](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/content/557089)  [Health!](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/14), Superseded 02/02/2016  [National Core Maternity Indicators: PI 06–Caesarean section for selected females giving birth for the first time, 2018](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/content/690119)  [Health!](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/14), Superseded 19/06/2019  [National Core Maternity Indicators: PI 06–Caesarean section for selected females giving birth for the first time, 2019](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/content/717538)  [Health!](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/14), Superseded 16/09/2020  [National Core Maternity Indicators: PI 06–Caesarean section for selected females giving birth for the first time, 2020](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/content/728723)  [Health!](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/14), Superseded 17/12/2021  [National Core Maternity Indicators: PI 06—Caesarean section for selected women giving birth for the first time (2016)](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/content/613184)  [Health!](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/14), Superseded 06/09/2018  [National Core Maternity Indicators: PI 07-Normal (non-instrumental) vaginal birth for selected women giving birth for the first time (2013)](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/content/557091)  [Health!](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/14), Superseded 02/02/2016  [National Core Maternity Indicators: PI 07–Non-instrumental vaginal birth for selected females giving birth for the first time, 2018](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/content/690125)  [Health!](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/14), Superseded 19/06/2019  [National Core Maternity Indicators: PI 07–Non-instrumental vaginal birth for selected females giving birth for the first time, 2019](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/content/717540)  [Health!](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/14), Superseded 16/09/2020  [National Core Maternity Indicators: PI 07–Non-instrumental vaginal birth for selected females giving birth for the first time, 2020](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/content/728725)  [Health!](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/14), Superseded 17/12/2021  [National Core Maternity Indicators: PI 07—Normal (non-instrumental) vaginal birth for selected women giving birth for the first time (2016)](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/content/613186)  [Health!](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/14), Superseded 06/09/2018  [National Core Maternity Indicators: PI 08-Instrumental vaginal birth for selected women giving birth for the first time (2013)](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/content/557093)  [Health!](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/14), Superseded 02/02/2016  [National Core Maternity Indicators: PI 08–Instrumental vaginal birth for selected females giving birth for the first time, 2018](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/content/690166)  [Health!](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/14), Superseded 19/06/2019  [National Core Maternity Indicators: PI 08–Instrumental vaginal birth for selected females giving birth for the first time, 2019](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/content/717542)  [Health!](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/14), Superseded 16/09/2020  [National Core Maternity Indicators: PI 08–Instrumental vaginal birth for selected females giving birth for the first time, 2020](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/content/728728)  [Health!](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/14), Superseded 17/12/2021  [National Core Maternity Indicators: PI 08—Instrumental vaginal birth for selected women giving birth for the first time (2016)](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/content/613188)  [Health!](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/14), Superseded 06/09/2018  [National Core Maternity Indicators: PI 09-General anaesthetic for women giving birth by caesarean section (2013)](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/content/557095)  [Health!](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/14), Superseded 02/02/2016  [National Core Maternity Indicators: PI 09–General anaesthetic for females giving birth by caesarean section, 2018](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/content/690168)  [Health!](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/14), Superseded 19/06/2019  [National Core Maternity Indicators: PI 09–General anaesthetic for females giving birth by caesarean section, 2019](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/content/717544)  [Health!](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/14), Superseded 16/09/2020  [National Core Maternity Indicators: PI 09–General anaesthetic for females giving birth by caesarean section, 2020](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/content/728730)  [Health!](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/14), Superseded 17/12/2021  [National Core Maternity Indicators: PI 09—General anaesthetic for women giving birth by caesarean section (2016)](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/content/613190)  [Health!](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/14), Superseded 06/09/2018  [National Core Maternity Indicators: PI 13–Third and fourth degree tears for vaginal births, 2018](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/content/690172)  [Health!](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/14), Superseded 19/06/2019  [National Core Maternity Indicators: PI 13–Third and fourth degree tears for vaginal births, 2019](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/content/717548)  [Health!](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/14), Superseded 16/09/2020  [National Core Maternity Indicators: PI 13–Third and fourth degree tears for vaginal births, 2020](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/content/728734)  [Health!](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/14), Superseded 17/12/2021  [National Core Maternity Indicators: PI 13—Third and fourth degree tears for (a) all vaginal first births and (b) all vaginal births (2016)](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/content/613194)  [Health!](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/14), Superseded 06/09/2018  [National Core Maternity Indicators: PI 15–Females having their second birth vaginally whose first birth was by caesarean section, 2018](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/content/690174)  [Health!](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/14), Superseded 19/06/2019  [National Core Maternity Indicators: PI 15–Females having their second birth vaginally whose first birth was by caesarean section, 2019](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/content/717550)  [Health!](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/14), Superseded 16/09/2020  [National Core Maternity Indicators: PI 15–Females having their second birth vaginally whose first birth was by caesarean section, 2020](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/content/728736)  [Health!](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/14), Superseded 17/12/2021  [National Core Maternity Indicators: PI 15—Women having their second birth vaginally whose first birth was by caesarean section (2016)](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/content/613197)  [Health!](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/14), Superseded 06/09/2018  **Used as Denominator** [Australian Atlas of Healthcare Variation: Third- and fourth-degree perineal tears for all vaginal births, 2012-2014](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/content/639086)  [Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/2), Standard 07/06/2017  [Caesarean section at less than 37, 38 and 39 completed weeks gestation without medical or obstetric indication, 2017](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/content/723681)  [Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/2), Standard 27/04/2021  [Caesarean section or induction of labour at less than 37, 38 and 39 completed weeks gestation without medical or obstetric indication, 2017](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/content/724678)  [Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/2), Standard 27/04/2021  [Early planned caesarean section without medical or obstetric indication, 2015](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/content/709063)  [Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/2), Standard 13/12/2018  [National Core Maternity Indicators: PI 01-Tobacco smoking in pregnancy for all women giving birth (2013)](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/content/557104)  [Health!](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/14), Superseded 02/02/2016  [National Core Maternity Indicators: PI 01–Tobacco smoking in pregnancy for all females giving birth, 2018](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/content/690056)  [Health!](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/14), Superseded 19/06/2019  [National Core Maternity Indicators: PI 01–Tobacco smoking in pregnancy for all females giving birth, 2019](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/content/717528)  [Health!](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/14), Superseded 16/09/2020  [National Core Maternity Indicators: PI 01—Tobacco smoking in pregnancy for all women giving birth (2016)](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/content/613173)  [Health!](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/14), Superseded 06/09/2018  [National Core Maternity Indicators: PI 02-Antenatal care in the first trimester for all women giving birth (2013)](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/content/557080)  [Health!](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/14), Superseded 02/02/2016  [National Core Maternity Indicators: PI 02–Antenatal care visits in the first trimester for all females giving birth, 2018](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/content/690069)  [Health!](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/14), Superseded 19/06/2019  [National Core Maternity Indicators: PI 02–Antenatal care visits in the first trimester for all females giving birth, 2019](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/content/717530)  [Health!](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/14), Superseded 16/09/2020  [National Core Maternity Indicators: PI 02–Antenatal care visits in the first trimester for all females giving birth, 2020](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/content/728714)  [Health!](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/14), Superseded 17/12/2021  [National Core Maternity Indicators: PI 02—Antenatal care in the first trimester for all women giving birth (2016)](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/content/613175)  [Health!](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/14), Superseded 06/09/2018  [National Core Maternity Indicators: PI 03-Episiotomy for women giving birth for the first time and giving birth vaginally (2013)](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/content/557083)  [Health!](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/14), Superseded 02/02/2016  [National Core Maternity Indicators: PI 03–Episiotomy for females giving birth for the first time and giving birth vaginally, 2018](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/content/690076)  [Health!](https://meteor-uat.aihw.gov.au/RegistrationAuthority/14), Superseded 19/06/2019  [National Core Maternity Indicators: PI 03–Episiotomy for females giving birth for the first time and giving 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