

# Stillbirth (fetal death)

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# Stillbirth (fetal death)

## Identifying and definitional attributes

**Metadata item type:** Glossary Item

**METEOR identifier:** 482008

**Registration status:** [Tasmanian Health](#), Standard 20/12/2016  
[Health!](#), Superseded 03/12/2020  
[Indigenous](#), Superseded 14/07/2021

**Definition:** A fetal death prior to the complete expulsion or extraction from its mother of a product of conception of 20 or more completed weeks of gestation or of 400 grams or more birthweight.

The death is indicated by the fact that after such separation the fetus does not breathe or show any other evidence of life, such as beating of the heart, pulsation of the umbilical cord, or definite movement of voluntary muscles.

**Context:** Perinatal statistics.

## Collection and usage attributes

**Comments:** Terminations of pregnancy performed at gestational ages of 20 or more weeks should be included in perinatal collections and should be recorded either as stillbirths or, in the unlikely event of showing evidence of life, as live births.

Fetus papyraceous and fetus compressus are products of conception recognisable as a deceased fetus. These fetal deaths are likely to have occurred before 20 weeks gestation but should be included as stillbirths in perinatal collections if they are recognisable as a fetus and have been expelled or extracted with other products of conception at 20 or more weeks gestational age.

## Source and reference attributes

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

## Relational attributes

**Related metadata references:** Supersedes [Stillbirth \(fetal death\)](#)  
[Health!](#), Superseded 07/03/2014

Has been superseded by [Stillbirth \(fetal death\)](#)  
[Health!](#), Standard 03/12/2020  
[Indigenous](#), Standard 14/07/2021  
[Tasmanian Health](#), Standard 24/12/2021

**Metadata items which use this glossary item:** [Birth event—birth plurality, code N](#)  
[Health!](#), Superseded 12/12/2018  
[Indigenous](#), Superseded 02/04/2019

[Birthweight](#)  
[Health!](#), Superseded 03/12/2020  
[Indigenous](#), Standard 02/04/2019  
[Tasmanian Health](#), Standard 24/06/2020

[Female—parity](#)  
[Health!](#), Superseded 12/12/2018  
[Tasmanian Health](#), Superseded 03/07/2020

[Female—parity](#)  
[Health!](#), Superseded 03/12/2020  
[Tasmanian Health](#), Superseded 11/06/2021

[Female—parity, total pregnancies N\[N\]](#)  
[Health!](#), Superseded 12/12/2018  
[Tasmanian Health](#), Superseded 03/07/2020

[Female—parity, total pregnancies N\[N\]](#)

[Health!](#), Superseded 03/12/2020  
[Tasmanian Health](#), Superseded 11/06/2021

[Perinatal DSS 2014-15](#)

[Health!](#), Superseded 13/11/2014

[Perinatal DSS 2015-16](#)

[Health!](#), Superseded 04/09/2015

[Perinatal NBEDS 2016-17](#)

[Health!](#), Superseded 05/10/2016

[Perinatal NBEDS 2017-18](#)

[Health!](#), Superseded 02/08/2017

[Perinatal NBEDS 2018-19](#)

[Health!](#), Superseded 12/12/2018

[Perinatal NBEDS 2019–20](#)

[Health!](#), Superseded 20/11/2019

[Perinatal NBEDS 2020–21](#)

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

[Perinatal NMDS 2014-18](#)

[Health!](#), Superseded 02/08/2017

[Perinatal NMDS 2018-19](#)

[Health!](#), Superseded 12/12/2018

[Perinatal NMDS 2019–20](#)

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

[Perinatal NMDS 2020–21](#)

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

[Pregnancy—birth plurality, code N](#)

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

[Indigenous](#), Superseded 14/07/2021

[Product of birth](#)

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

[Indigenous](#), Superseded 14/07/2021

[Tasmanian Health](#), Standard 24/06/2020

[Product of birth—birthweight](#)

[Health!](#), Superseded 20/11/2019

[Indigenous](#), Standard 02/04/2019

[Tasmanian Health](#), Superseded 03/07/2020

[Product of birth—birthweight](#)

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

[Tasmanian Health](#), Standard 03/07/2020

[Product of birth—birthweight, total grams N\[NNN\]](#)

[Health!](#), Superseded 20/11/2019

[Product of birth—birthweight, total grams N\[NNN\]](#)

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

[Tasmanian Health](#), Standard 03/07/2020