

Table 4. Attributable factors for the increase in caesarean delivery rate between 1989 and 2016

Factor	'Explained' proportion of the increase in the caesarean delivery rate [^]	Expected caesarean delivery rate [†]
Changes in maternal factors among women with singleton, term, cephalic presentation*		
None	0%	19.1%
Parity only	40.3%	23.6%
Maternal age and parity	52.8%	25.0%
Maternal age, parity, and BMI	55.9%	25.4%
Maternal factors plus changes in the following groups:		
<i>Term, singleton, malpresentation</i>	(+4.9%)	
<i>All multiple gestations</i>	(+2.4%)	
<i>Singleton, preterm birth</i>	(+2.5%)	
Total	65.8%	26.5%
Total after excluding all caesarean deliveries for the following indications from the analysis: (Maternal choice, suspected fetal compromise, previous pregnancy issue, suspected large fetus)	77.6%	27.9%

[^] The formula used to estimate the explained proportion of the increase in the caesarean delivery rate is provided in the methods.

* Factors adjusted for in the regression analyses: parity (nulliparous, parous without previous caesarean delivery, parous with previous caesarean delivery); maternal age; maternal BMI. BMI and age were included as continuous variables.

[†] This is the rate of caesarean delivery that 'would have' occurred in the first time period (Group A) if it had the same mix of maternal factors present in the later time period (Group B).

BMI, body mass index in kg/m²