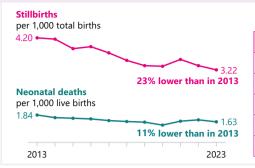
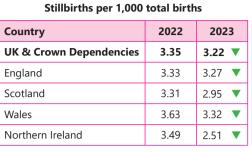
State of the nation report

UK perinatal deaths of babies born in 2023



1. Perinatal mortality rates continued to decrease in 2023, driven by a reduction in stillbirths.

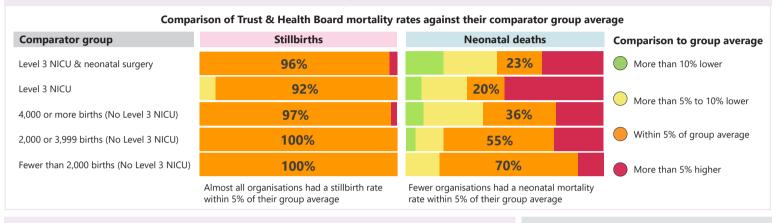




	• •								
	Country	2022	2023						
1	UK & Crown Dependencies	1.69	1.63 ▼						
]	England	1.67	1.62 ▼						
1	Scotland	1.59	1.61						
]	Wales	1.91	1.79 🔻						
]	Northern Ireland	2.29	1.66 ▼						

Neonatal deaths per 1,000 live births

2. There was wide variation in neonatal mortality rates



3. Neonatal mortality rates increased for the most preterm babies

Stillbirths per 1,000 total births			Neonatal deaths per 1,000 live births		
Gestational age	2022	2023	Gestational age	2022	2023
22 to 23 weeks	405.5	403.0 ▼	22 to 23 weeks	625.2	641.1 🔺
24 to 27 weeks	216.0	207.8 🔻	24 to 27 weeks	139.6	146.1 🔺
28 to 31 weeks	74.4	69.9 ▼	28 to 31 weeks	29.5	31.1 🔺
32 to 36 weeks	12.7	12.5 ▼	32 to 36 weeks	6.58	5.05 ▼
37 to 41 weeks	1.09	0.99 🔻	37 to 41 weeks	0.62	0.60

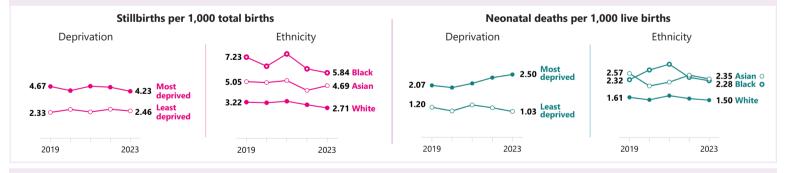
What is a stillbirth or neonatal death?

A **stillbirth** is the death of a baby before or during birth once a pregnancy has reached 24 completed weeks.

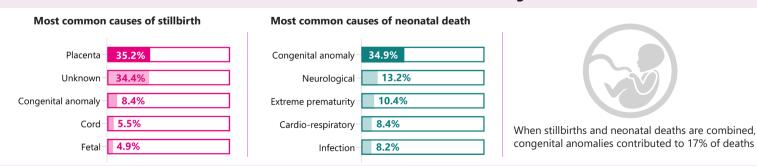
A **neonatal death** is a baby born at any gestation who lives, even briefly, but dies within 28 days of birth.

All rates in this report are for babies born from 24 completed weeks and include deaths due to congenital anomalies, unless otherwise stated.

4. Neonatal mortality rates for babies from the most deprived areas increased for the third year



5. The most common causes of stillbirth and neonatal death were unchanged



Gallimore ID, Matthews RJ, Page GL, Smith LK, Fenton AC, Knight M, Smith PW, Redpath S, Manktelow BN, on behalf of the MBRRACE-UK Collaboration. MBRRACE-UK Perinatal Mortality Surveillance: UK Perinatal Deaths of Babies Born in 2023 - State of the Nation Report. Leicester: TIMMS, Department of Population Health Sciences, University of Leicester. 2025.















