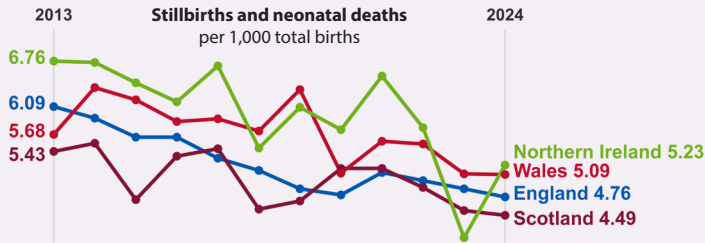


State of the nation report

UK perinatal deaths of babies born in 2024

Fewer babies are dying than in the past

→ Since 2013, the number of babies who die shortly before, during, or soon after birth has fallen across the UK. In 2024, rates continued to decrease.



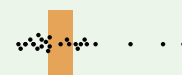
Rates were more consistent for stillbirths than for neonatal deaths

Stillbirth rates



→ When trusts and health boards were grouped by the level of care they provide, they all had a stillbirth rate which was **around the average** for their group.

Lower ← Average → Higher

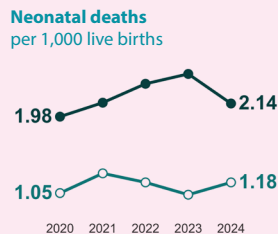
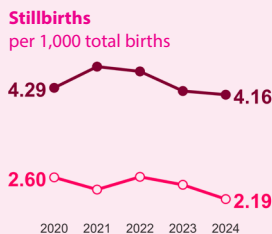


→ Neonatal mortality rates varied more, particularly in the group of trusts and health boards providing the most complex care.

Neonatal mortality rates

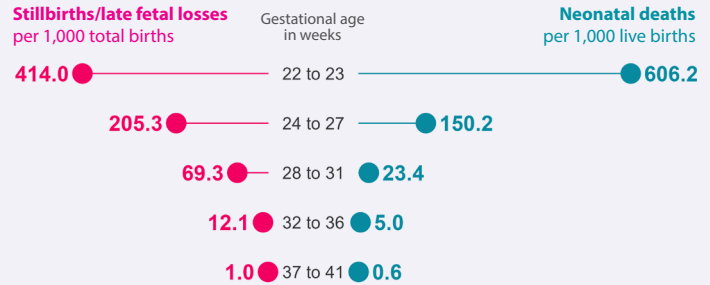
Where families live still makes a big difference

→ Babies born to mothers who live in the most deprived areas continue to face much higher risks, despite recent improvements.



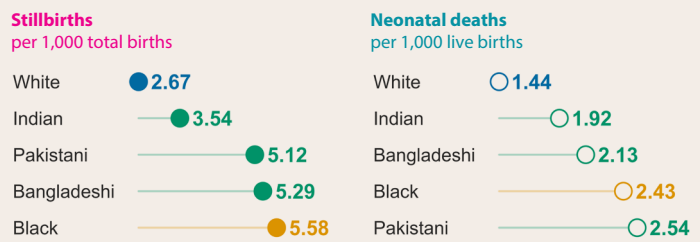
Being born early remains the highest risk

→ Outcomes have improved, particularly for babies born later in pregnancy.
→ The highest rates of stillbirths and neonatal deaths occur before 37 weeks of pregnancy, especially at the earliest gestations.



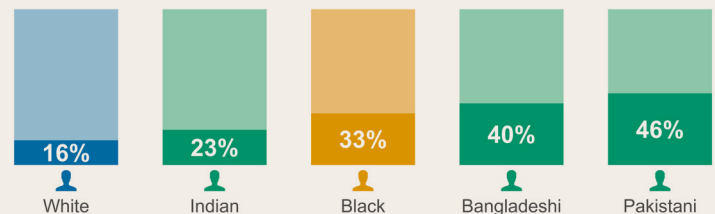
Not all ethnic groups are affected in the same way

→ Babies of Black and Asian ethnicity continue to experience higher mortality rates.



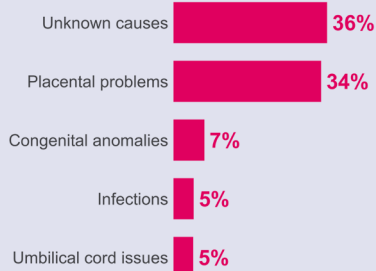
→ A higher proportion of Black and Asian families live in the most deprived areas.

How many babies are born to mothers who live in the most deprived areas?

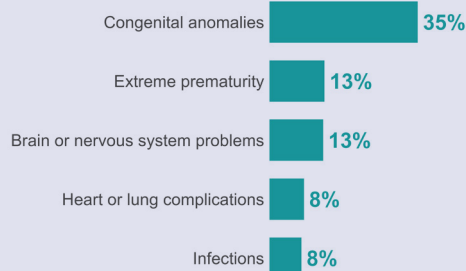


The main causes of baby death have remained the same

Main causes of stillbirth



Main causes of neonatal death



Congenital anomalies make up a large share of deaths

→ Congenital anomalies contribute to deaths in all ethnic groups, but account for a particularly large share of neonatal deaths among Bangladeshi, Pakistani and Black babies.

