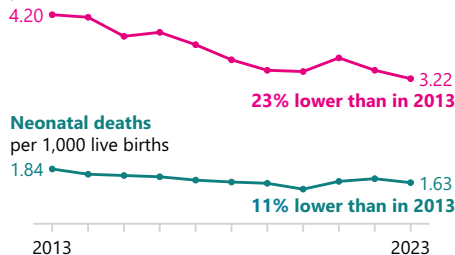


# State of the nation report

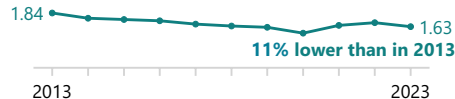
## UK perinatal deaths of babies born in 2023

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

**Stillbirths**  
per 1,000 total births



**Neonatal deaths**  
per 1,000 live births



Stillbirths per 1,000 total births

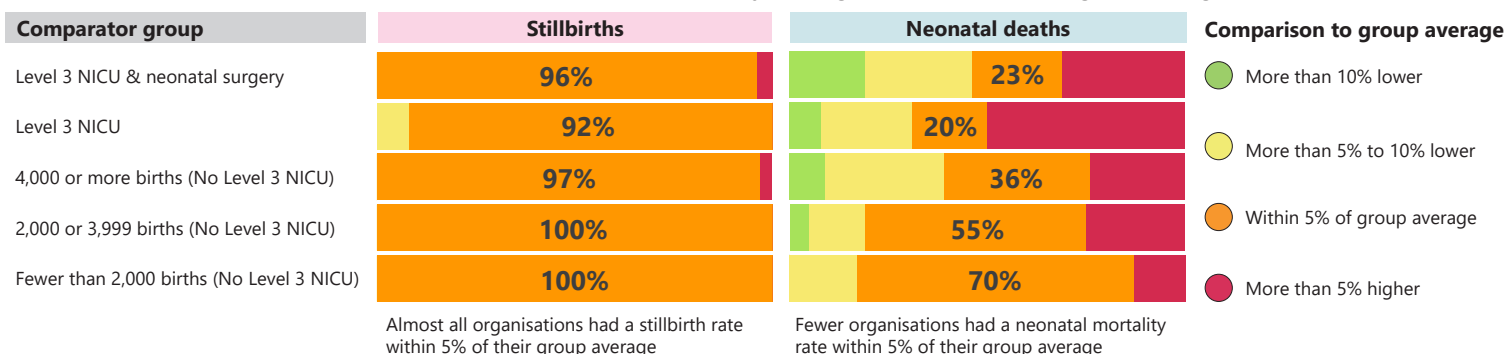
Country	2022	2023
UK & Crown Dependencies	3.35	3.22 ▼
England	3.33	3.27 ▼
Scotland	3.31	2.95 ▼
Wales	3.63	3.32 ▼
Northern Ireland	3.49	2.51 ▼

Neonatal deaths per 1,000 live births

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

### 2. There was wide variation in neonatal mortality rates

Comparison of Trust & Health Board mortality rates against their comparator group average



### 3. Neonatal mortality rates increased for the most preterm babies

Stillbirths per 1,000 total births

Gestational age	2022	2023
22 to 23 weeks	405.5	403.0 ▼
24 to 27 weeks	216.0	207.8 ▼
28 to 31 weeks	74.4	69.9 ▼
32 to 36 weeks	12.7	12.5 ▼
37 to 41 weeks	1.09	0.99 ▼

Neonatal deaths per 1,000 live births

Gestational age	2022	2023
22 to 23 weeks	625.2	641.1 ▲
24 to 27 weeks	139.6	146.1 ▲
28 to 31 weeks	29.5	31.1 ▲
32 to 36 weeks	6.58	5.05 ▼
37 to 41 weeks	0.62	0.60 ▼

#### What is a stillbirth or neonatal death?

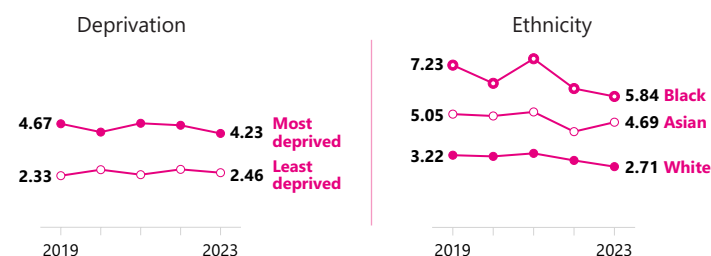
A **stillbirth** is the death of a baby before or during birth once a pregnancy has reached 24 completed weeks.

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

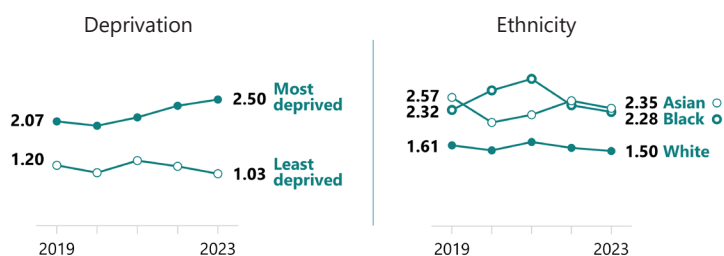
All rates in this report are for babies born from 24 completed weeks and include deaths due to congenital anomalies, unless otherwise stated.

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

Stillbirths per 1,000 total births

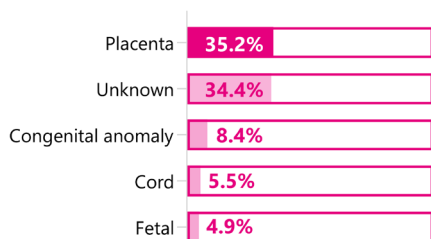


Neonatal deaths per 1,000 live births

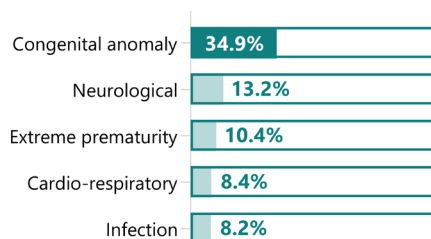


### 5. The most common causes of stillbirth and neonatal death were unchanged

Most common causes of stillbirth



Most common causes of neonatal death



When stillbirths and neonatal deaths are combined, congenital anomalies contributed to 17% of deaths