

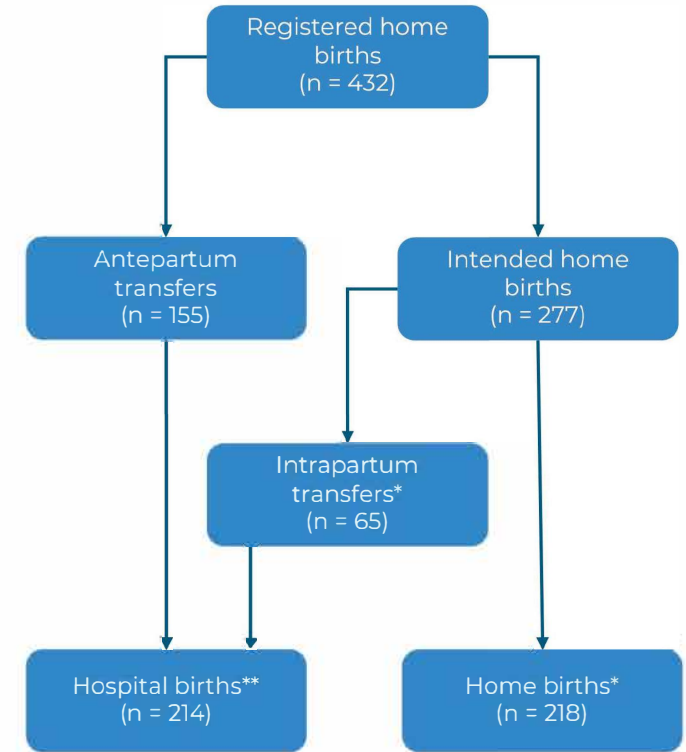
Registered homebirths in Ireland 2022



0.4%
of births occurred
at home in 2022

In Ireland, 0.4% of all births occurred at home in 2022. There were 432 women who registered for a home birth with 218 women giving birth at home.

Flow Diagram for home births 2022



Notes:

*Six women gave birth at home but required intrapartum transfers in the 3rd stage of labour.

**Born before arrival to the hospital and other type of births are included as hospital births (n = 11)



Average
number
of visits 6

The average number of antepartum visits by the community midwife to women registered for a home birth was six.

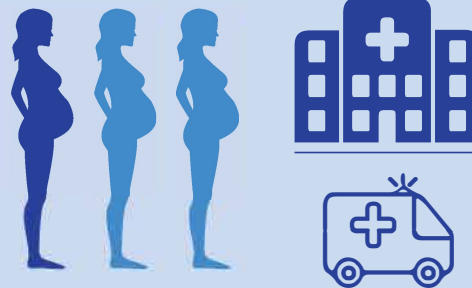


64%

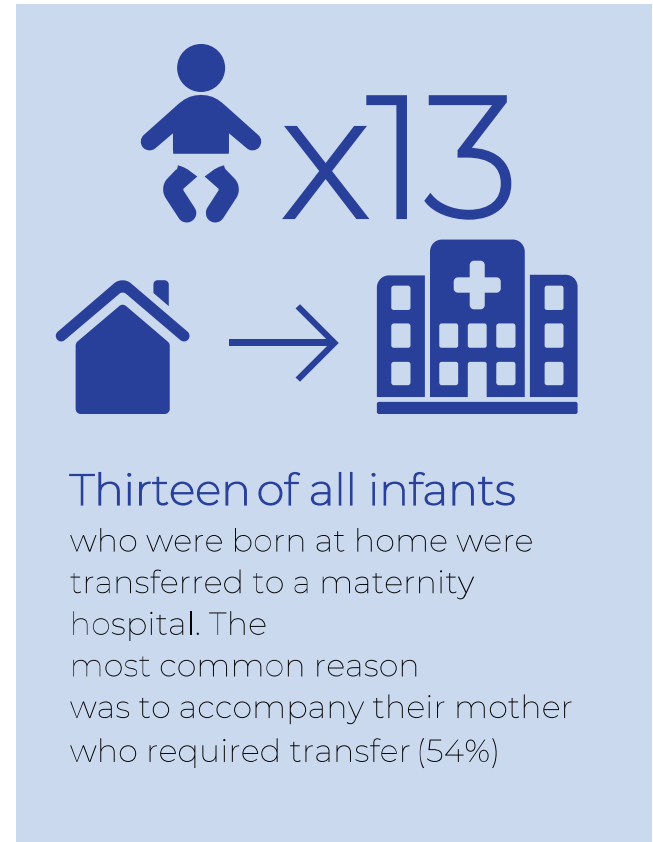
Almost two-thirds of women who registered for a home birth in 2022 had a previous birth.

1-in-3
One in three women

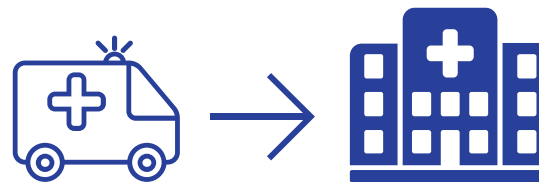
were transferred to a maternity hospital due to complications arising during the antepartum period, the most common reason being post-dates pregnancy.



Registered homebirths in Ireland 2022



Almost one quarter of women who began labouring at home were transferred to the maternity hospital in the intrapartum period, the majority during the **first stage of labour** (79%). The mean time for transfer was **28.1 minutes**.



transfers (x3)

First time mothers were **three times** more likely to transfer during labour than women who had a previous birth (44% versus 15%).



On average, the women received **five postpartum visits** from the community midwife with the average day of discharge on day 12.



Intrapartum transfers

The most common reasons for transfer during labour were slow progress and maternal request for **medical analgesia**.



On the day of discharge from the home birth service, 94% of women were **breastfeeding exclusively**.

