

- The perinatal mortality rate (PMR) was 4.30 per 1,000 total births in 2023.
- The corrected PMR rate was 3.00 per 1,000 total births.
Corrected for Major Congenital Anomalies (MCA)
- The stillbirth rate was 2.89 per 1,000 total births.
- The early neonatal death rate was 1.41 per 1,000 live births.

A **stillbirth** is when a baby is born at or after 24 weeks of pregnancy, or weighing 500g or more, with no signs of life

Neonatal death is when a live born baby dies within the first 28 days of being born.

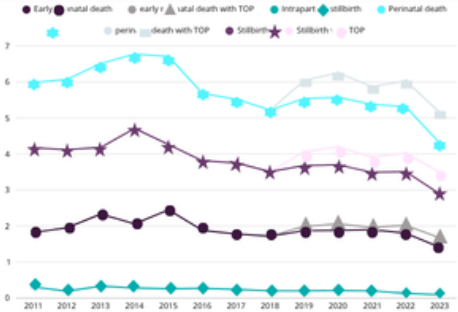
Overall perinatal mortality rate (PMR) is the number of stillbirths and early neonatal deaths per 1,000 total births (live births and stillbirths from 24 weeks gestation or weighing >500g).

Corrected PMR is the Perinatal mortality rate excluding perinatal deaths associated with or due to a major congenital anomaly.



Perinatal mortality reached its lowest level ever recorded rate in Ireland in 2023.

The stillbirth rate showed a similar pattern, with a decline beginning in 2014, while early neonatal death rates decreased from 2015 onward.



Maternal Characteristics

<25

Maternal age (**less than 25**) was associated with an increased risk of perinatal mortality.



Women with one **previous birth** had a **lower risk** of perinatal mortality, while higher parity did not increase the risk.

Infant Characteristics

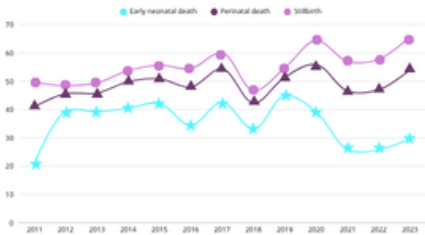


Low birthweight centiles were associated with perinatal deaths in 2022, particularly stillbirths.



Multiple pregnancies had an increased risk of perinatal death, which accounted approximately 11% of them.

Autopsy uptake



- The rate of autopsy uptake continues to be **higher in stillbirths (65.8%)** in 2023.
- In Ireland, **parental decline of autopsy** was more frequent in **early neonatal deaths** (n=48 of 77, 62.3%)