

Understanding babies' deaths in the UK: 2014

Out of over 780,000 births in 2014...

5,623

registered deaths of babies before, during or within the first 4 weeks of birth

4,633

deaths of babies born from 24 weeks of pregnancy

3,252

stillbirths

1,381

neonatal deaths

6 deaths for every 1,000 births

What risks do we know about babies who die before, during or shortly after birth?

3x higher risk
twins

80% higher

Black or Black British babies

60% higher

Asian or Asian British babies

60% higher

mothers aged 40 and over

50% higher

mothers living in poverty

30% higher

teenage mothers

How do rates vary across the UK?

Local mortality rates varied across the UK even after taking into account differences in poverty, ethnicity and the age of the mother

They ranged from

4.9

to **7.1**

per 1,000 births

When do babies die?

1 in 3 die at term, when the baby has reached 37 weeks' gestation

1 in 4 die before 28 weeks' gestation



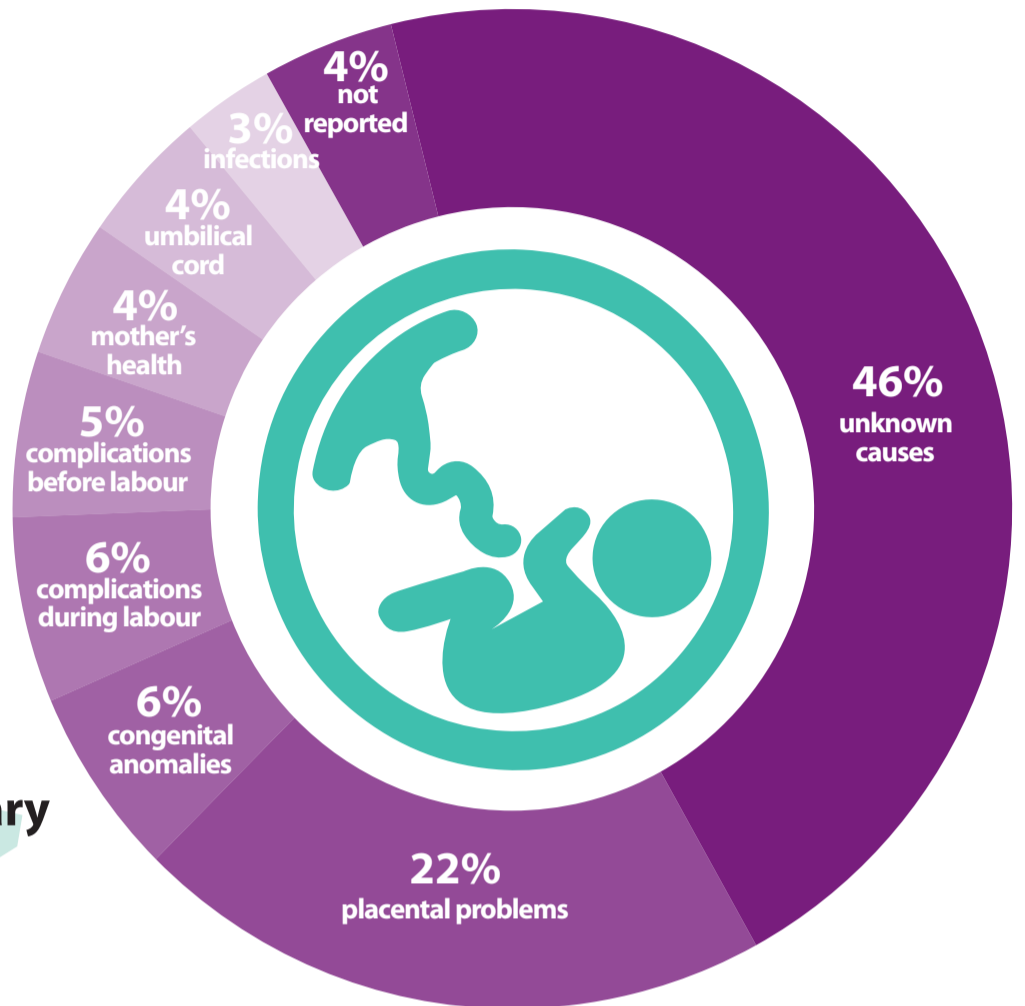
Post-mortem

9 out of every 10 families were offered a post-mortem; 4 out of every 10 families consented to post-mortem

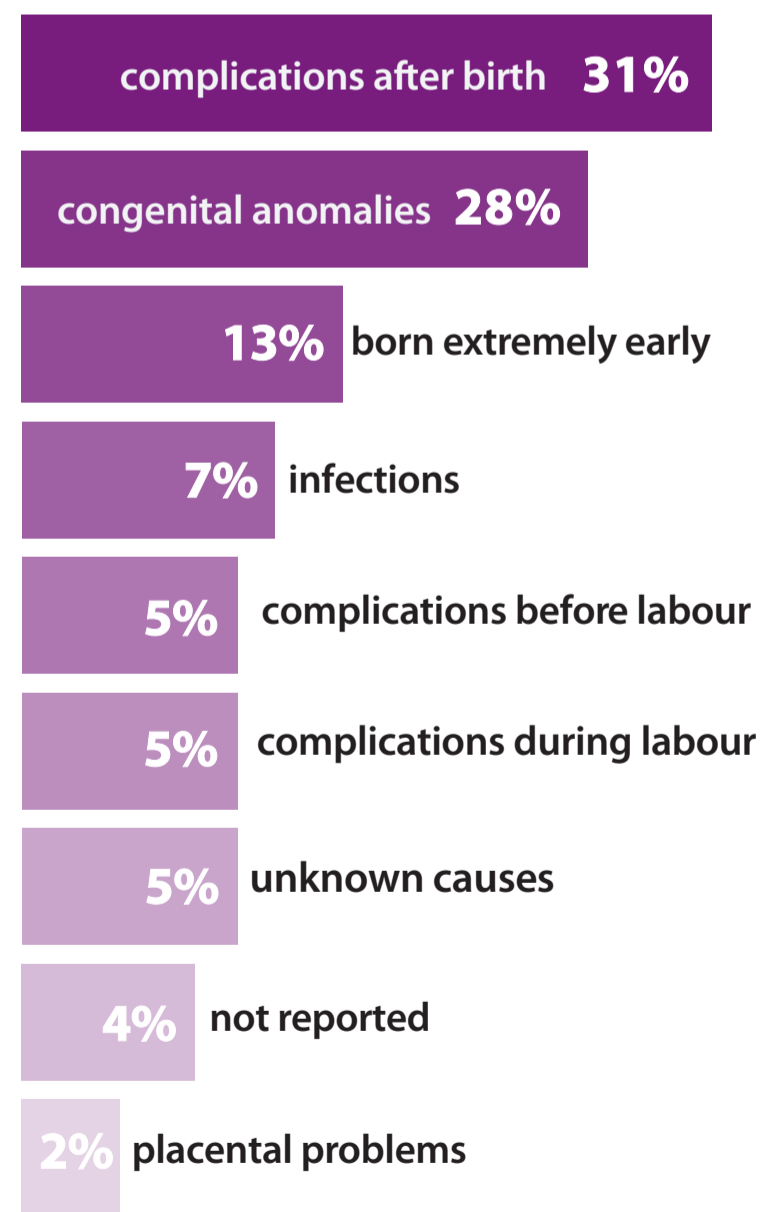


What do we know about why babies die?

Causes of stillbirth



Causes of neonatal death



What can we do to reduce the number of babies who die?

- Carry out local reviews of every death using a standardised process to identify local factors which may be responsible
- Establish aspirational UK targets for rates of stillbirth and neonatal deaths
- Offer a post-mortem to every family when their baby dies