

In 2021

**13**

**babies a day**

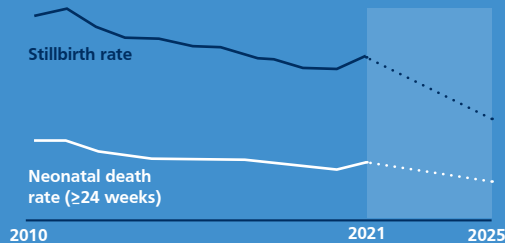
were stillborn or died during the first 28 days of life across the UK

There are **NO** comprehensive data on miscarriages

Approximately **8%** of babies are born preterm

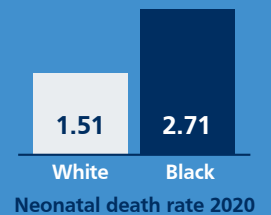
Not enough progress has been made and there is a risk of going backwards

Stillbirth and neonatal death rates are off track to meet the 2025 target for England



Meaningful action is needed to address stark and persistent inequalities

Black babies are almost **2x more likely to die** in the first 28 days after birth compared to white babies



Stillbirths are almost **double** among people living in the most deprived areas of the UK, compared to the least deprived

Lessons are still not being learnt when babies die

In 2021, the cause of **33%** of stillbirths and **7%** of neonatal deaths were unknown

In 2021-22, nearly **1/5** of stillbirths were found to be potentially avoidable if better care had been provided

**2/3** of action plans created following the death of a baby are rated as weak

Research and evaluation are vital

For every **£1** spent on maternity care in the NHS, **only 1p** is spent on pregnancy research

Systemic issues need to be addressed

In 2022 **38%** of maternity units were rated inadequate or requiring improvement by the CQC

In 2022 **63%** of midwives in England had felt unwell in the last 12 months because of stress

**1/4** of respondents to the CQC maternity survey did not feel their concerns during labour & birth were taken seriously

**Sands & Tommy's**  
Policy Unit