Birth registrations, England and Wales

Microdata Metadata

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Edition: 1

Office for National Statistics

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Basic Information

Title
Birth registrations, England and Wales
Topics Covered/ key words
live births, stillbirths, maternities
Time Covered
1982 onwards
Data Source
Birth registrations, part of civil registration
Geographic Coverage
Births registered in England and Wales
Lowest level of Geography
Postcode of usual residence of mother
Frequency of Release
Annual
Revision Policy
Revisions are not usually made to annual datasets once signed off unless they are considered vital for publications.
Data Owner and Supplier
Vital Statistics Outputs Branch, Office for National Statistics

For information on data quality, legislation and procedures relating to birth statistics, please see Births Metadata and Quality and Methodology Information for Birth Statistics.

1 Introduction to birth registrations

1.1 Aim of birth registration data

Birth registrations data, collected as part of civil registration, provide information on both live births and stillbirths that occur in and are then registered in England and Wales. A stillbirth is a baby born dead after 24 completed weeks of pregnancy. There is a legal requirement to register all births which occur in England and Wales within 42 days. This administrative data are used to produce birth statistics and maternity statistics (women giving birth rather than babies born). Births to women usually resident in England or Wales who give birth abroad are not included in the dataset. Births occurring in England and Wales to women whose usual residence is outside England and Wales are included as these births will be registered in England and Wales.

1.2 Background

Birth registration is a legal requirement under the Births and Deaths Registration Act 1836. The registration of births occurring in England and Wales is a service carried out by the Local Registration Service in partnership with the General Register Office (GRO). Information collected at birth registration is recorded on the Registration Online (RON) system by Registrars. Most of the information is usually supplied by the parent(s). Birth registration data are passed to us electronically from GRO for statistical purposes.

Each annual dataset is a static file of birth registration records available at the time the annual subset was closed. Revisions to records can still be made after the subset has been finalised but these will not be reflected in the annual dataset or used to compile statistics.

Since 2001, the annual dataset has included:

i. births occurring in the reference year which were registered by 25 February the following year (parents are allowed 42 days to register a birth)
ii. births occurring in the year before the reference year which were registered between 26 February in the reference year and 25 February the following year, that is, births in the previous year which had not been tabulated previously

Prior to 2001 the annual dataset included:

i. births occurring in the reference year which were registered by 11 February the following year (parents are allowed 42 days to register a birth)
ii. births occurring in the year before the reference year which were registered between 12 February in the reference year and 11 February the following year, that is, births in the previous year which had not been tabulated previously

Total births for 1994 to 1999 were included in a similar way except that births for earlier years were included in the annual subset, not just births in the previous year. Up to 1993, the cut off date was 31 January but from 1994 this was extended to the legal time limit by which a birth should be registered (42 days).

Annual datasets of birth registrations are available in the Virtual Microdata Laboratory (VML) going back to 1982.

For information on data quality, legislation and procedures relating to birth statistics, please see Births Metadata and Quality and Methodology Information for Birth Statistics.

1.3 Information recorded at birth registration

Most of the information, for both live births and stillbirths, is typically supplied to registrars by one or both parents. Since 1 September 2009 it has been possible for 2 females in a same sex couple to

register a birth. This new law (Human Fertilisation and Embryology Act 2008) applied to fertility treatments carried out on or after 6 April 2009 where the birth was registered from 1 September 2009.

Information supplied by the parents:

- **date of birth**, if more than 1 live child is born to the mother, then time of birth is also recorded
- **place of birth,** the usual name and the address of a hospital, maternity home or other communal establishment, or the address of a private dwelling. **Place of birth** is then coded to one of the following: NHS hospital, non-NHS hospital, at home or elsewhere
- **name of the child**
- **sex of the child**
- **place of birth of each parent,** recorded in detail if this was in the UK
- **mother's usual address**, as is that of the informant where appropriate
- **occupation** for each parent, if both parent's names are entered in the register. The informant is asked whether each parent was in employment at any time before the child's birth, and a description of the occupation may be recorded. If either parent is unemployed, their last full-time occupation will be recorded
- **employment status and industry of each parent**
- whether the pregnancy resulted in a **multiple birth**

Informants are also required to provide further information, treated as confidential, under the provisions of the Population Statistics Acts (PSA), as below:

- **mother's date of birth**
- **father's/second parent's date of birth,** if his/her name is entered in the register
- **date of the parents' marriage/civil partnership** if the child's parents were married/in a civil partnership at the time of the birth, or when the child was conceived even if they later divorced/dissolved their civil partnership or the father died before the child's birth

Until May 2012 the following information was also collected under the PSA for births occurring within marriage only:

- **whether the mother has been married more than once**
- **number of previous children** by her present husband and any former husband that were, (a) **born alive** and (b) **stillborn**

Two amendments to the PSA mean that from 28 May 2012 information is now collected at all birth registrations on:

- **whether the mother has been previously married or in a civil partnership** (if she is currently married or in a civil partnership) or **whether the mother has ever been married or in a civil partnership** (if she is not currently married or in a civil partnership)
- **the total numbers of previous live births and previous stillbirths that the mother has had** (not just those with the current or former husband). This has simplified the question asked by registrars and provides improved coverage

  This brings the birth registration process more in line with equality legislation.

Information not supplied by the parents:

- for live births, details of **birthweight** are provided by the hospital where the birth took place, or by the midwife or doctor in attendance at the birth. The birthweight is passed to ONS as a consequence of the NHS birth notification being linked to the corresponding birth registration by the registrar

- for stillbirths, details of **cause of death, duration of pregnancy** and **weight of foetus** are supplied on a certificate or notification by a doctor or midwife who was present at the birth, or who examined the body. The certificate or notification is then taken by the informant to a registrar

1.4 Relevance

Birth registration data are available for statistical purposes in 3 main ways;

- Published annual birth statistics
- Special extracts and tabulations of births data for England and Wales which are available to order (subject to legal frameworks, disclosure control, resources and agreements of costs, where appropriate). For more information email: vsob@ons.gsi.gov.uk. Our charging policy is available on our website. In line with the ONS approach to open data, ad hoc data requests are published onto the website
- Births data which could reveal personal information are made available for research purposes. Under the Statistics and Registration Service Act 2007 (SRSA) there are two main ways that ONS can release this:
    i. Under section 39 of the SRSA, a researcher can apply to become an ONS accredited Approved Researcher to access personal information for the purposes of statistical research
    ii. Release is also permitted under section 42(4) of the SRSA that allows ONS to provide personal information to the Secretary of State for Health for statistical purposes

Local authorities and other government departments are important users of birth statistics produced from birth registration data, using the data for planning and resource allocation. For example, local authorities use birth statistics to decide how many school places will be needed in a given area. The Department for Work and Pensions uses detailed birth statistics to feed into statistical models they use for pensions and benefits. The Department of Health uses the data to plan maternity services and inform policy decisions.

Other users include academics, demographers and health researchers, who conduct research into birth trends and characteristics. Lobby groups use birth statistics for their cause, for example, campaigns against school closures or midwife shortages. Special interest groups, such as Birth Choice UK, make the data available to enable comparisons between maternity units to help women choose where they might like to give birth and work closely with health professionals. Charities, such as the Twins and Multiple Births Association provide advice and support to multiple birth parents and use the data to monitor trends. Organisations such as Eurostat and the UN use our birth statistics for international comparison purposes. The media also report on main trends and statistics.

Disclosure control guidance for birth and death statistics was revised in January 2014.

1.5 Longitudinal

This dataset cannot be used longitudinally however birth registrations are included in the ONS Longitudinal Study which contains linked census and life events data for a 1% sample of the population of England and Wales.

1.6 Geography

Birth registrations included in the VML are for births occurring in England and Wales. Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency (NISRA) and National Records Scotland (NRS) hold birth registrations for Scotland and Northern Ireland and use these for the production of their own birth statistics. We do however publish some birth statistics for the UK and its constituent countries in the Vital Statistics Population and Health Reference tables.

Birth registrations are sometimes analysed by the mother's area of usual residence. The postcode of the mother's area of usual residence is available for those whose usual residence is within England and Wales. This enables geographic analysis at any level by mapping postcodes to higher level geographies. The benefit of this is that the same boundaries can be used over time, thereby eliminating the effects of boundary change over time.

1.7 Status of the data in the VML

Annual birth registration datasets covering the period 1982 onwards are available in the VML. All data are final. Future annual datasets will be deposited in the VML around July/August time, around 7 months after the end of the reference year.

1.8 Microdata and Publications Produced

Annual births statistics are published on our website in a series of packages. Summary figures are released in July, supported by a statistical bulletin providing commentary on the data. Following this, more detailed figures are released between August and November in a series of theme-specific packages. Each package consists of a number of data tables and each release is generally accompanied by a statistical bulletin. The tables released show the latest year's figures with some tables also showing historical data for comparison, sometimes back to 1837.

The packages published annually are:

- Birth summary tables: summary figures including the number of live births and stillbirths, fertility rates, percentage of live births outside marriage/civil partnership, mean age of mother and percentage of live births to non-UK born mothers − live births (number and rate) are also provided by age of mother and by local area
- Parents' country of birth: includes births by country of birth of mother, by local authority as well as total fertility rates for UK born and non-UK born women − we publish detailed analysis on parents' country of birth because this information is collected at birth registration and does not change over time, while their nationality or ethnicity may change
- Births by area of usual residence: provides summary data for live births down to local authority level including figures by age of mother − figures are published using boundaries in place during the year the birth occurred
- Birth characteristics: provides summary statistics on stillbirths, including birthweight data for live and stillbirths by mother's area of usual residence and maternities, live births, and stillbirths in hospitals by area of occurrence − these tables also provide live birth statistics by month and quarter of occurrence, and maternity figures for multiple births and by place of birth; prior to the 2014 data year these statistics were published in separate releases: Characteristics of birth 1 and Characteristics of birth 2
- Births by parents' characteristics: provide live birth, stillbirth and maternity statistics by age of mother, type of registration (within marriage/civil partnership, joint, sole), and mean age of mother by birth order – these tables also provide live birth statistics (numbers and rates) within and outside marriage and civil partnership, data on live births by age of mother and number of previous live-born children along with median birth intervals; prior to the 2014 data year these statistics were published in separate releases: Characteristics of mother 1, Characteristics of mother 2 and Further parental characteristics

For more details on annual birth releases, the GOV.UK release calendar is available online and provides 12 months' advance notice of release dates.

1.9 Other important points to note

Disclosure control guidance for birth and death statistics was revised in January 2014.

For information on data quality, legislation and procedures relating to birth statistics, please see Births Metadata and Quality and Methodology Information for Birth Statistics.

Figures may differ slightly from previously published statistics, particularly those produced close to the date of birth registration. This is because:
(a) Where geographical breakdowns are given, ONS policy is to use the latest available postcode data and area boundaries, which may differ from those which applied at the time of registration.
(b) A small number of corrections are applied to historical records for reasons of quality control, consistency or coding policy.
(c) A small number of registrations are received late, cancelled as duplicates or amended after communication with the General Register Office, and these changes may on rare occasions affect records which have already been counted in annual statistics.

2 Quality Assurance and Validation

2.1 Accuracy

Quality checks

Birth registrations are provided by the General Register Office (GRO). These data represent the legal record, making them the best and most complete data source for births. These data are then supplemented by linking the birth registration to the NHS birth notification to obtain birthweight data.

As part of the birth registration process, before data are submitted through the RON system, the registrar asks the informant to verify that all data entered are accurate. The registrar is then able to correct any errors. There are some validation checks built into RON to help the registrar with this process. Information supplied at birth registration is generally believed to be correct since wilfully supplying false information may render the informant liable to prosecution for perjury.

When we receive birth registrations from GRO, a number of checks are carried out on records to ensure that they are valid. Checks are more frequent on those records with extreme values for main variables (such as age of mother and age of father) as these have a greater impact on published tables. For example, when looking at multiple births, checks are carried out to ensure that the number of triplets is divisible by 3 and that there is 1 maternity recorded for each set of triplets. Any birth records which appear questionable are raised with GRO on a monthly basis for further investigation.

The annual subset used for publications is a static dataset of birth registration records available at the time the subset is finalised (around 5 months after the end of the reference year). Revisions to records can still be made after the subset has been finalised but these will not be reflected in the annual dataset contained within the VML or used to compile published statistics.

Any proposed changes to the recording and collection of birth registration data are carefully managed and involve ourselves, GRO and other stakeholders. This ensures that any implications on birth statistics are taken into full consideration.

Missing data items and imputation

Before May 2012, missing data items which were collected under the Population (Statistics) Act 1938, 1960 and required for the production of birth statistics were imputed. These data items are:

- age of mother
- age of father
- number of previous children both live-born and stillborn,
- duration of marriage/civil partnership

Prior to 2004 the donor record chosen to impute a missing data item was the most recently processed complete record of similar characteristics to the incomplete record.

From 2004 to 2006, all imputed values for PSA data items were re-imputed using the Canadian Census Edit and Imputation System (CANCEIS) (Statistics Canada, 2005) which selects the most appropriate donor record from the entire annual dataset. Compared with the previous imputation system, this improved the distribution of imputed mothers' ages (especially in small areas) and the distributions for each of the other PSA data items.

In 2007, a new process was introduced to link live birth registrations to their corresponding NHS birth notification record. Where mother’s age was missing on the birth registration and the registration was successfully linked to a birth notification containing mother’s date of birth, the mother's date of birth was taken from the birth notification and mother's age was calculated. For

2007 to 2011, any remaining missing PSA data items were imputed using CANCEIS. From 2012 onwards any remaining missing PSA data items were imputed using the most recently processed complete record of similar characteristics to the incomplete record due to the very small number of records requiring imputation. From May 2012, missing data on the number of previous children has not been imputed. This is because the level of missing data is very low. Published tables now provide the information on the number of records where information on previous children was missing.

The Births Metadata contains information on the percentage of records missing information on

- parents' age within each annual dataset for 2005 onwards
- previous children for the years 2005 to 2011
- year of marriage where the birth was registered within marriage (2005 onwards)

It is possible to identify imputed fields on the annual datasets.

Occupation coding on a 10% sample of births

Information on occupation of the father and the mother is coded for a 10% sample of births. Sample figures in tables providing birth statistics by socio-economic classification are grossed-up to agree with known totals derived from the 100% processing of birth registrations by mother's age and previous live-born children. This ensures consistency with sub-totals, and improves the quality of sample estimates. Tables for standard errors for selected numbers of births and percentages are published alongside the statistics by socio-economic classification available in Births by parents' characteristics.

2.2 Comparability

Over the years the format of the data fields has changed. These changes are outlined in the variable section.

Changes to methods or definitions which mean that figures are not directly comparable are explained in section 3.2.

3 Datasets

3.1 Types of microdata produced

A final annual dataset is created each year around May time (approximately 4 to 5 months after the end of the data year). Once the annual dataset has undergone final quality assurance it is used to produce our annual birth statistics publications. This annual dataset is deposited in the VML for use by approved researchers.

3.2 Changes to the dataset over time

Date	Description
Stillbirth definition	
1 October 1992	The stillbirth definition changed to "a child which has issued forth from its mother after the 24th week of pregnancy and which did not at any time after being completely expelled from its mother breathe or show other signs of life." Up until 30 September 1992 it was the 28th week. Figures for stillbirths from 1993 are thus not fully comparable with those for previous years. The data file for 1992 includes 216 babies stillborn between 24 and 27 weeks gestation between 1 October 1992 and 31 December 1992 since the definition changed three-quarters of the way through 1992. For this reason the total number of births in the data file will not match published totals.
Human Fertilisation and Embryology Act 2008 – Births registered to 2 females in a same sex couple	
September 2009	The PIND variable included on the dataset to identify where 2 females in a same sex couple have registered a birth together. This new law (Human Fertilisation and Embryology Act 2008) applied to fertility treatments carried out on or after 6 April 2009 where the birth was registered from 1 September 2009. The couple do not have to be in a civil partnership or marriage. Marriages of same sex couples have taken place in England and Wales since 29 March 2014.
Population Statistics Act (PSA)	
May 2012	Until May 2012 the following information was collected under the PSA for births occurring within marriage only: • **whether the mother has been married more than once** • **number of previous children** by her present husband and any former husband that were, (a) **born alive** and (b) **stillborn** Two amendments to the PSA mean that from 28 May 2012 information is now collected at all birth registrations on: • **whether the mother has been previously married or in a civil partnership** (if she is currently married or in a civil partnership) or **whether the mother has ever been married or in a civil partnership** (if she is not currently married or in a civil partnership). • **the total numbers of previous live births and previous stillbirths that the mother has had** (not just those with the current or former husband). This has simplified the question asked by registrars and provides improved coverage For more information see:

	Quality assurance of new data on birth registrations, as a result of changes to the Population Statistics Act – from May 2012 onwards. An investigation Childbearing by registration status in England and Wales, using birth registration data for 2012 and 2013 examines the patterns and characteristics in birth registrations following these improvements to the data collected at birth registration.
Records included within each annual dataset	
2001 annual dataset onwards	cut-off date for inclusion in the annual dataset was births occurring in the reference year that were registered by 25 February of the following year (see section 1.2 for more information)
1994 to 2000 annual dataset	cut-off date for inclusion in the annual dataset was births occurring in the reference year that were registered by 11 February of the following year (see section 1.2 for more information). The annual dataset also included births occurring in the year before the reference year which were registered between 12 February in the reference year and 11 February the following year. (see section 1.2 for more information)
Up to 1993	cut-off date for inclusion in the annual dataset was births occurring in the reference year that were registered by 31 January of the following year (see section 1.2 for more information) births in previous years registered too late to have been included in previous datasets were also included.
Parents' country of birth	
2007 dataset onwards	Country of birth grouping represent the National Statistics Country Classification. More information on this classification is available at www.ons.gov.uk/methodology/classificationsandstandards/otherclassifications/nationalstatisticscountryclassification
Prior to 2007	Country of birth code list for this period is available as an excel file.
Occupation and social class	
2011 dataset onwards	Occupation was coded using the Standard Occupational Classification SOC2010. The National Statistics Socio-economic Classification (NS-SEC) categorised the socio-economic classification of people. For further information on SOC2010 see: www.ons.gov.uk/methodology/classificationsandstandards/standardoccupationalclassificationsoc/soc2010 For NS-SEC based on SOC2010 see: www.ons.gov.uk/methodology/classificationsandstandards/standardoccupationalclassificationsoc/soc2010/soc2010volume3thenationalstatisticssocioeconomicclassificationnssecrebasedonsoc2010
2001 to 2010 datasets	Occupation was coded using the Standard Occupational Classification SOC2000. The National Statistics Socio-economic Classification (NS-SEC) categorised the socio-economic classification of people. For more information on SOC2000 see: www.ons.gov.uk/methodology/classificationsandstandards/standardoccupationalclass

	ificationsoc/socarchive
1991 to 2000 datasets	Occupation was coded using the Standard Occupational Classification SOC90, and occupation codes were allocated to the Registrar General's Social Class. For more information on SOC90 see: www.ons.gov.uk/methodology/classificationsandstandards/standardoccupationalclassificationsoc/socarchive#other-classificationsdefinitions
1982 to 1990	Occupation was coded using 'Classification of Occupations 1980' for further information see: www.ons.gov.uk/methodology/classificationsandstandards/standardoccupationalclassificationsoc/socarchive#other-classificationsdefinitions
Missing data and imputation methods	
2012 onwards	From 2012 onwards, mother's age and father's age, still missing after linking birth registrations to their corresponding NHS birth notification record, were imputed using the most recently processed complete record of similar characteristics to the incomplete record due to the very small number of records requiring imputation. If the date of marriage/civil partnership is not given, a value for the duration is imputed from a similar record with completely stated and otherwise matching particulars. From May 2012, missing data on the number of previous children have not been imputed. This is because the level of missing data are very low. Published tables now provide the information on the number of records where information on previous children was missing.
2007 to 2011	In 2007 a new process was introduced to link live birth registrations to their corresponding NHS birth notification record. Where mother's age was missing on the birth registration and the registrations was successfully linked to a birth notification containing mother's date of birth, the mother's date of birth was taken from the birth notification and mother's age was calculated. For 2007 to 2011, any remaining missing PSA data items were imputed using CANCEIS.
2004 to 2006	From 2004 to 2006, all imputed values for PSA data items were re-imputed using the Canadian Census Edit and Imputation System (CANCEIS) (Statistics Canada, 2005) which selects the most appropriate donor record from the entire annual dataset. Compared with the previous imputation system, this improved the distribution of imputed mothers' ages (especially in small areas) and the distributions for each of the other PSA data items.
2004 and earlier years	Donor record chosen to impute a missing Population Statistics Act (PSA) data item on mother's age, father's age, number of previous children both live-born and stillborn, and date of marriage/civil partnership was the most recently processed complete record of similar characteristics to the incomplete record.
Cause of death for stillbirths- International Classification of Diseases (ICD)	
2014 onwards	On 1 January 2014, ONS changed the software used to code cause of death to a package called IRIS (version 2013). The development of IRIS was supported by Eurostat, the statistical office of the European Union, and is now managed by the IRIS Institute hosted by the German Institute of Medical Documentation and Information in Cologne. IRIS software version 2013 incorporates all official updates to ICD-10 approved by WHO, which were timetabled for implementation before 2014. A small number of changes were made to the coding of specific conditions, to bring previous

	coding practice in line with international coding rules and changes were made to the coding of neonatal deaths and stillbirths. Further information on the impact of the introduction of IRIS software is on the ONS website.
2011 to 2013	ICD10 was updated to version 2010 which incorporated most of the WHO amendments authorised up to 2009. The main changes in ICD-10 v2010 were amendments to the modification tables and selection rules. Overall, the impact of these changes was small although some cause groups were affected more than others. For further information, see the results of the bridge coding study for stillbirths on the ONS website.
2001 to 2010	ONS used the Mortality Medical Data System (MMDS) ICD-10 version 2001.2 software provided by the United States National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS) to code cause of death. The vast majority of deaths in ICD-9 remained in comparable chapters in ICD-10. However; there were some discontinuities in the data due to the application of new rules for assigning underlying cause in ICD-10, most notably for deaths due to pneumonia. See Mortality Metadata section 3.4 for further details about sources of information on the changes to ICD-10.
1982 to 2000	ICD-9 was used to code cause of death.

3.3 Related datasets

NHS birth notifications: We receive birth notifications data from the NHS for linkage with birth registration records for statistical purposes. The registrar links the birth notification to the registration details at the time of registration. This linkage creates a unique sequence number which we then use to re-link the records. A small number of records require us to use probabilistic linkage where this unique identifier is not available; these records are matched on a number of selected variables. Birth notification data includes information on ethnic group of the baby as reported by the mother and gestational age for live births. The unique sequence number is not available on the births annual datasets from which the data VML data have been compiled.

4 Variables

VMLID **Unique Record identifier**

Unique record identifier

Value Labels/Coding: in the format YYYYNNNN, where N is a number

Coverage: all records

Availability: Present throughout

4.1 Registration Details

DOR (1993 onwards)

REGMTH and REGYR (1982-1992) **Date of registration**

Date the birth was registered

Value: For 1993 onwards, YYYYMMDD for example 18 December 2013 would be 20131218. For 1982-1992, REGMTH (1-12) and REGYR (YYYY) need to be used in combination.

Availability: Present throughout although prior to 1993 only the month and year of registration are available.

4.2 Characteristics of the Birth

DOB (1993 onwards)

DOBDY DOBMTH DOBYR (1982-1993) **Date of birth of child**

Date of birth of child, as recorded at birth registration.

Value: For 1993 onwards, YYYYMMDD for example 22 February 1982 would be 19822202. For 1982 to 1993, the following fields need to be used in combination DOBDY (day of birth), DOBMTH (month of birth), DOBYR (year of birth).

Availability: Present throughout except DOBYR which is not present for 1982 to 1985. DOBYR could be calculated for 1982 to 1985 using the age of the mother (years and months) at the time of the birth and the date of birth of the mother (full date), however the high level of missingness across these fields mean that the year of birth can only be calculated accurately in around 60% of cases. For this reason DOBYR has not been calculated on the datasets for 1982-1985. Documentation published alongside figures in these years, suggests that there were approximately 1,500 to 2,000 late registrations per year which were included in subsequent years datasets.

SEX **Sex of child**

Values:

Coding	Description
1	Male
2	Female

Availability: Present throughout

Further Information: *Each year there may be a record which is received with indeterminate sex. This is changed to Male.*

BIRTHWGT **Birthweight of child**

Units: Birthweight in grams

Missing Values and imputation: 0 = not stated, 9999 = not stated, 9998 = not stated. No imputation is applied.

Availability: Present throughout

Further Information: *For live birth registrations received on RON, birthweight is passed electronically to us from the notification by the midwife or doctor in attendance at the birth. These details are then supplied to the registrar. For stillbirths, details of the weight of the foetus are supplied on a certificate by a doctor or midwife. The certificate is then taken by an informant to the registrar. If the birthweight is missing, but the registration is linked to the birth notification then the birthweight from the notification is taken.*

There are known quality issues with birthweight data which are collected as part of the National Health Service (NHS) birth notification. There were no validation checks in place in the NHS systems prior to 2015 so there are some cases where implausible birthweights are recorded. Therefore, it is ONS policy to group birthweights under 1,000g and over 5,500g for singleton births and under 1,000g and over 3,500g for multiple births. This corresponds with the World Health Organisation (WHO) definition of extremely low birthweight which is less than 1,000g.

The NHS has introduced validation checks within maternity systems which should improve the quality of birthweight data from 2015 onwards.

MATTAB (1993 onwards)

MATSELIN (1991-1992)

MATTYPE (1982-1990) **Maternity tabulation selection indicator**

Values: 1 = Record required for maternity analyses

Missing Values: Fields which are not required for maternity analyses are blank.

Derivation: This indicator is assigned by ONS as part of the multiple birth matching process.

Availability: Present throughout.

Further Information: *In order to be able to conduct analyses based on maternities (mothers giving birth) rather than babies born, it is necessary to be able to identify only one record from a multiple birth. These fields are set to 1 on just one birth/stillbirth in a multiple. The fields will be blank for the remaining births in a multiple.*

MULTBTH **Multiple birth indicator**

When a birth registration is one of a multiple birth maternity the multiple birth indicator is set to 1. This indicator is assigned by ONS.

Values: 1 = multiple birth

Missing Values: MULTBTH is blank on singleton births

Derivation: The Multiple Matching process automatically sets the indicator to 1 for all multiple births that can be automatically matched. There will be coder intervention for those multiple births not automatically matched by the process. Fields compared during the multiple matching process are: mothers date of birth, fathers date of birth, date of marriage, previous marriage, previous stillborn, previous liveborn, postcode, marital status and total births this maternity. If a field is not stated or has been imputed then they are not compared.

Availability: 1993 onwards. Prior to 1993 MULTTYPE needs to be used to identify multiple births.

MULTTYPE **Type of multiple birth**

Code to identify the type of multiple birth.

Coding	Description	Coding	Description
0	2 live male	16	1 live male, 1 live female, 1 still male
1	1 live male, 1 live female	17	1 live male, 1 live female, 1 still female
2	2 live females	18	2 live females, 1 still male
3	1 live male, 1 still male	19	2 live females, 1 still female
4	1 live male, 1 still female	20	1 live male, 2 still males
5	1 live female, 1 still male	21	1 live male, 1 still male, 1 still female
6	1 live female, 1 still female	22	1 live male, 2 still females
7	2 still males	23	1 live female, 2 stills males
8	1 still male, 1 still female	24	1 live female, 1 still male, 1 still female

9	2 still females	25	1 live female, 2 still females
10	3 live males	26	3 still males
11	2 live males, 1 live female	27	2 still males, 1 still female
12	1 live male, 2 live females	28	1 still male, 2 still females
13	3 live females	29	3 still females
14	2 live male, 1 still male	99	Quadruplets or more
15	2 live male, 1 still famle		

Missing Values: MULTTYPE is blank on singleton births

Derivation: This code is allocated during the multiple matching process within ONS. The Multiple Matching process requires coder intervention for multiple births which cannot be automatically matched. Fields compared during the multiple matching process are: mothers date of birth, fathers date of birth, date of marriage, previous marriage, previous stillborn, previous liveborn, postcode, marital status and total births this maternity. If a field is not stated or has been imputed then they are not compared.

Availability: Present throughout.

4.3 Stillbirth Variables

SBIND **Stillbirth indicator**

Values: 1 = stillbirth

Missing Values: SBIND is blank on live births

Availability: Present throughout.

Further Information: *This indicator is set to 1 for stillbirths.*

SBSUFFIX **Stillbirth suffix**

Values: S = stillbirth

Missing Values: SBSUFFIX is blank on live births

Availability: 1993 onwards.

Further Information: *This indicator is set to S for stillbirths.*

DEATHLAB (1993 onwards)

LABDTH (1991-1992)

LABDEATH (1986-1990) **Death during labour for stillbirths only**

It indicates when a stillborn baby died.

Values DEATHLAB:

Coding	Description
1	Before labour
2	During labour
9	Not known/Not stated

Values LABDTH and LABDEATH:

Coding	Description
A	Before labour
B	During labour
C	Not known
Blank	Not stated

Missing Values: DEATHLAB, LABDTH and LABDEATH are blank on live births

Availability: 1986 onwards.

Further Information: *This field is present for stillbirths only. This field is entered at registration and is taken from the medical certificate.*

GESTATN (1993 onwards)

DURPREG (1982-1992) **Duration of pregnancy**

It provides the duration of pregnancy in weeks.

Unit: gestation in weeks

Missing Values and imputation: GESTATN is blank on live births and can be blank on some stillbirths.

DURPREG is set to 0 for live births instead of being blank. DURPREG can be blank on some stillbirths.

No imputation is applied on GESTATN or DURPREG.

Availability: Present throughout.

Further Information: *This field is present for stillbirths only. This field is entered at registration and is taken from the medical certificate.*

4.4 Cause of Death Information for Stillbirths 1993 onwards

I10P001-I10P015 (2001 onwards)

IC9PV001-IC9PV008 (1993-2000) **Original cause of death for stillbirth mentioned on the stillbirth certificate**

The fields contain the original cause of death codes according to the 9th or 10th Revision of the International Classification of Disease (ICD-9 or ICD-10) depending upon the year.

Unit: Cause of death codes based on ICD-10 for 2001 onwards or ICD-9 for 1993 to 2000.

Missing values: The number of causes of death mentioned on the stillbirth certificate determines the number of fields I10P001 to I10P015 which will contain an ICD-10 code or IC9PV001 to IC9PV0008 which will contain an ICD-9 code. All fields beyond this will be blank. For example, if a stillbirth in 2002 has 3 causes of death mentioned then I10P001, I10P002 and I10P003 will contain the corresponding ICD-10 codes for these causes. All further codes I10P004 to I10P015 will remain blank.

Availability: 1993 onwards, for 1993 to 2000 only 8 fields store the original cause of death codes.

Further Information: *These fields are only present for stillbirths. ICD-9 is used for 1993-2000 and ICD-10 is used for 2001 onwards. These multiple fields contain each cause mentioned on the stillbirth certificate translated into ICD codes. Up to 15 causes can be stored on the dataset. For 1993 to 2000 only 8 causes are stored.*

I10PF001-I10PF015 (2001 onwards)

IC9PF001-IC9PF008 (1993-2000) **Final cause of death for stillbirth mentioned on the stillbirth certificate**

The fields contain the final cause of death codes according to the 9th or 10th Revision of the International Classification of Disease (ICD-10).

This field should be used in conjunction with FIC10IND (2001 onwards) and FICODIND (1993 to 2000).

Unit: Final cause of death codes based on ICD-10 for 2001 onwards or ICD-9 for 1993 to 2000.

Missing values: The number of final causes of death mentioned on the stillbirth certificate determines the number of fields I10PF001 to I10PF015 which will contain an ICD-10 code and IC9PF001-IC9PF008 which will contain an ICD-9 code. All fields beyond this will be blank. For example, if a stillbirth in 2007 has 2 final causes of death mentioned then I10PF001 and I10PF002 will contain the corresponding ICD-10 codes for these causes. All further codes (I10PF003 to I10PF015) will remain blank.

Availability: 1993 onwards, 1993 to 2000 only 8 fields store the final cause of death codes.

Further Information: *These fields are only present for stillbirths. These multiple fields contain each cause of death mentioned on any additional medical information for stillbirths referred to a coroner. Sometimes this additional information becomes available only after the annual dataset has been taken in which case these final causes will not be included in the annual births dataset. Up to 15 final causes of death can be stored on the dataset. For 1993 to 2000 only 8 final causes are stored.*

FIC10IND (2001 onwards)

FICODIND (1993-2000) **Final cause of stillbirth present indicator**

Values: 1 = final cause of death fields are populated for stillbirth

Missing values: Stillbirths where no additional information on the cause of death has been received prior to the annual dataset being taken and live births will remain blank.

Derivation: This indicator is automatically set to 1 if final cause of death codes are received.

Availability: 1993 onwards.

Further Information: *This indicator is only present for stillbirths where a change to cause of the stillbirth means that some final cause fields have been populated (I10PF001 to I10PF0015 for 2001 onwards or IC9PF001 to IC9PF008 for 1993-2000).*

CR10001 to CR10015 (2001 onwards)

CCOD001-CCOD008 (1993-2000) **Row number for original cause of death for stillbirth**

Values:

Coding	Description
1	Cause held in 'a' (baby) row
2	Cause held in 'b' (baby) row
10	Cause held in 'c' (mother) row
11	Cause held in 'd' (mother) row
12	Cause held in 'e' (either mother, or baby, or both) row

These fields need to be used in combination with I10P001 to I10P015 and CC1001 to CC10015 for 2001 onwards. For 1993-2000 use in combination with IC9P001-IC9P008 and CCOL001-CCOL008.

Missing values: The number of original causes of death mentioned on the stillbirth certificate determines the number of fields CR10001 to CR10015 (2001 onwards) and CCOD001-CCOD008 (1993-2000) which will contain a value to show which row the cause was recorded on. All fields beyond this will be blank. For example, for the 2003 data year, if a stillbirth certificate has 2 causes of death mentioned then CR10001 and CR10002 will show which row these causes were recorded on, all further fields CR10003 to CR10015 will remain blank. These fields are blank for live births.

Derivation: This field is automatically generated for stillbirths where causes of death are automatically coded and it is entered manually for stillbirths where causes of death need manual coding.

Availability: 1993 onwards.

Further Information: *These fields are only present for stillbirths. The fields contain information to determine the row on which the original causes of death were mentioned on the stillbirth certificate. For example field CR10001 details the row on which the ICD-10 code in field I10P001 was recorded on the stillbirth certificate for data years 2001 onwards.*

CR10F001 to CR10F015 (2001 onwards)

CCODF001-CCODF008 (1993-2000) **Row number for final cause of death for stillbirth**

Values:

Coding	Description
1	Cause held in 'a' (baby) row
2	Cause held in 'b' (baby) row
10	Cause held in 'c' (mother) row
11	Cause held in 'd' (mother) row
12	Cause held in 'e' (either mother, or baby, or both) row

These fields need to be used in combination with I10PF001 to I10PF015 and CCF1001 to CCF10015 for 2001 onwards. For 1993-2000 use in combination with IC9PF001-IC9PF008 and CCOLF001-CCOLF008.

Missing values: The number of final causes of death mentioned determines the number of fields CR10F001 to CR10F015 or CCODF001-CCODF008 which will contain a value. All fields beyond this will be blank. For example, for the 2008 data year, if additional information received on the cause of death for a stillbirth has 2 causes mentioned then CR10F001 and CR10F002 will show which row these causes were recorded on, all further fields CR10F003 to CR10F015 will remain blank. These fields are blank for live births.

Derivation: This field is automatically generated for stillbirths where final causes of death are automatically coded and it is entered manually for stillbirths where causes of death need manual coding.

Availability: 1993 onwards.

Further Information: *These fields are only present for stillbirths. The fields contain information to determine the row on which the final causes of death were mentioned following additional medical information on the cause of the stillbirth for cases referred to a coroner. For example field CR10F001 details the row on which the ICD-10 code in field I10PF001 was recorded on the additional information received on the cause of death for data years 2001 onwards.*

CC10001 to CC10015 (2001 onwards)

CCOL001-CCOL008 (1993-2000) **Column number for original cause of death for stillbirth**

Range: 1 to 12

Missing values: The number of original causes of death mentioned on the stillbirth certificate determines the number of fields CC10001 to CC10015 or CCOL001-CCOL008 which will contain a

value to show which column the cause was recorded in. All fields beyond this will be blank. For example, for the 2007 data year, if a stillbirth certificate has 3 causes of death mentioned then CC10001, CC10002 and CC10003 will show which column these causes were recorded in, all further fields CC10004 to CR10015 will remain blank. These fields are blank for live births.

Derivation: This field is automatically generated for stillbirths where causes of death are automatically coded and it is entered manually for stillbirths where causes of death need manual coding.

Availability: 1993 onwards.

Further Information: *These fields are only present for stillbirths. The fields contain information to determine the column in which the original causes of death were mentioned on the stillbirth certificate. For example field CC10001 details the column in which the ICD-10 code in field I10P001 was recorded on the stillbirth certificate.*

CC10F001 to CC10F015 (2001 onwards)

CCOLF001-CCOLF008 (1993-2000) **Column number for final cause of death for stillbirth**

Range: 1 to 12

Missing values: The number of final causes of death mentioned on the stillbirth certificate determines the number of fields CC10F001 to CC10F015 or CCOLF001-CCOLF008 which will contain a value to show which column the cause was recorded in. All fields beyond this will be blank. For example, for the 2005 data year, if additional information received on the cause of death for a stillbirth has 2 causes mentioned then CC10F001 and CC10F002 will show which column these causes were recorded in, all further fields CC10003 to CR10015 will remain blank. These fields are blank for live births.

Derivation: This field is automatically generated for stillbirths where final causes of death are automatically coded and it is entered manually for stillbirths where causes of death need manual coding.

Availability: 1993 onwards.

Further Information: *The fields contain information to determine the column in which the final causes of death were mentioned following additional medical information on the cause of the stillbirth for cases referred to a coroner. For example field CC10F001 details the column in which the ICD-10 code in field I10PF001 was recorded on the additional information received on the cause of death. Field CCOLF001 details the column in which the ICD-9 code in field IC9PF001 was recorded on the additional information received on the cause of death.*

DWIGS10 ***Wigglesworth code***

Office for National Statistics Hierarchical Classification of cause of death for stillbirths using ICD10

Range: 0-7, 9

Value Labels/Coding:

Coding	Description
0	Other conditions
1	Congenital anomalies
2	Antepartum Infection
3	Immaturity related conditions
4	Asphyxia, Anoxia or Trauma
5	External Conditions
6	Infections
7	Other Specific Conditions
9	Sudden Infant Death Syndrome

Availability: stillbirth records 2001 onwards

Derivation: The design of the stillbirth certificates makes it impossible to derive an underlying cause, instead an ONS Hierarchical Classification code is used. This Classification indicates the severity involved in a stillbirth based on the ICD10 codes identified where conditions are grouped together and assigned a single code using an algorithm. This field appears once for each cause coded stillbirth. This field enables comparisons to be made between stillbirth and infant deaths.

4.5 Cause of Death Information for Stillbirths 1991-1992

ICD9FMC **Original main condition, foetus**

Unit: Main cause of death code, foetus related, for stillbirth based on ICD-9.

Availability: 1991 to 1992.

ICD9MMC **Original main condition, mother**

Unit: Main cause of death code, mother related, for stillbirth based on ICD-9.

Availability: 1991 to 1992.

ICD9F01-ICD9F08 **Other cause of death codes, foetus related**

Unit: ICD-9.

Availability: 1991 to 1992.

ICD9M01-ICD9M08 **Other cause of death codes, mother related**

Unit: ICD-9.

Availability: 1991 to 1992.

ICD9FF1-ICD9FF3 Final cause of death codes, foetus related

Unit: ICD-9.

Availability: 1991 to 1992.

ICD9MF1-ICD9MF3 Final cause of death codes, mother related

Unit: ICD-9.

Availability: 1991 to 1992.

LINEE1-LINEE4 Line e codes

Unit: ICD-9.

Availability: 1991 to 1992.

Further Information: *These fields provide extra information on other relevant causes LINEE1 provides the first cause and LINEE4 provides the fourth cause. These causes could be mother or baby related.*

OVER8F Other conditions for foetus indicator

Values:

Coding	Description
1	over 8 other conditions for foetus on stillbirth certificate
blank	8 or less conditions for foetus on stillbirth certificate

Availability: 1991 to 1992

Further Information: *This indicator shows whether there were more than 8 conditions for the foetus noted on the stillbirth certificate*

OVER8M Other conditions for mother indicator

Values:

Coding	Description
1	over 8 other conditions for foetus on stillbirth certificate
blank	8 or less conditions for foetus on stillbirth certificate

Availability: 1991 to 1992

Further Information: *This indicator shows whether there were more than 8 conditions for the mother noted on the stillbirth certificate*

4.6 Cause of Death Information for Stillbirths 1986-1990

ICD9FM **Original main condition, foetus**

Unit: Main cause of death code, foetus related, for stillbirth based on ICD-9

Availability: 1986 to 1990

ICD9MM **Original main condition, mother**

Unit: Main cause of death code, mother related, for stillbirth based on ICD-9

Availability: 1986 to 1990

ICD9F01-ICD9F08 **Other cause of death codes for stillbirth, foetus related**

Unit: ICD-9

Availability: 1986 to 1990

ICD9M01-ICD9M08 **Other cause of death codes for stillbirth, mother related**

Unit: ICD-9.

Availability: 1986 to 1990.

ICD9FMF1-ICD9FMF3 **Final cause of death codes for stillbirth, foetus related**

Unit: ICD-9.

Availability: 1986 to 1990.

ICD9MMF1-ICD9MMF3 **Final cause of death codes for stillbirth, mother related**

Unit: ICD-9.

Availability: 1986 to 1990.

LINEE1-LINEE4 **Line e codes**

Unit: ICD-9.

Availability: 1986 to 1990.

Further Information: *These fields provide extra information on other relevant causes LINEE1 provides the first cause and LINEE4 provides the fourth cause. These causes could be mother or baby related.*

FOC8IND **Other conditions for foetus indicator**

Values:

Coding	Description
1	over 8 other conditions for foetus on stillbirth certificate
blank	8 or less conditions for foetus on stillbirth certificate

Availability: 1986 to 1990.

Further Information: *This indicator shows whether there were more than 8 conditions for the foetus noted on the stillbirth certificate*

MOT8IND **Other conditions for mother indicator**

Values:

Coding	Description
1	over 8 other conditions for foetus on stillbirth certificate
blank	8 or less conditions for foetus on stillbirth certificate

Availability: 1986 to 1990.

Further Information: *This indicator shows whether there were more than 8 conditions for the mother noted on the stillbirth certificate*

4.7 Cause of Death Information for Stillbirths 1982-1985

ICD8P (1982-1984)

ICD9P (1985) **Cause of death for stillbirths**

Unit: Cause of death codes based on ICD-9.

Availability: ICD8P for 1982 to 1984 and ICD9P for 1985

Further Information: *These fields are only present for stillbirths. The field contains the cause of death code according to the 9th Revision of the International Classification of Disease (ICD-9).*

4.8 Age at birth of parents and dates of birth of parents

AGEBM (1993 onwards)

AGEBMYR AGEBMMTH (1991-1992 and 1982-1985)

AGEMMATY AGEMMATM (1986-1990) **Age of mother at birth**

AGEBF (1993 onwards)

AGEBFYR AGEBFMTH (1991-1992 and 1982-1985)

AGEFPATY AGEFPATM (1986-1990) **Age of father/second parent at birth**

Units: Years and months (YYMM) for 1993 onwards, for example 3201 denotes 32 years and 1 month. Prior to 1993 the following fields need to be used in combination:

AGEBMYR (age of mother in years) and *AGEBMMTH* (age of mother in months)

AGEBFYR (age of father in years) and *AGEBFMTH* (age of father in months)

Derivation: Derived from mother or father/second parents date of birth (DOBM, DOBF) and date of birth of the child (DOB). (Prior to 1993 these fields are DOBMDY, DOBMMTH, DOBMYR; DOBFDY, DOBFMTH, DOBFYR; DOBDY, DOBMTH, DOBYR).

Imputation of missing values: Imputed ages can be identified by using the following variables:

AGEBMIND (1991-2014 and 1982-1985) *AGEMMIND* (1986-1990) = 1 if mother's age is imputed

From 2007 onwards, AGEBMIND = 9 if DOBM and AGEBM are obtained by matching the birth registration record to the corresponding birth notification record.

AGEBFIND (1991-2014 and 1982-1985) *AGEPFIND* (1986-1990) = 1 if father/second parents' age is imputed

The imputation method is explained in section 2.1.

Availability: Present throughout.

Further Information: *Age of mother and father/second parents in years and months YYMM at the time of birth of the child.*

From 1 September 2009, age of second parent is provided in AGEBF if the birth is registered under the Human Fertilisation and Embryology Act 2008 by a same sex female couple (records where the variable PIND = 1).

AGEBMIND (1991 onwards and 1982-1985)

AGEMMIND (1986-1990) **Age of mother at birth imputed indicator**

AGEBFIND (1991 onwards and 1982-1985)

AGEPFIND (1986-1990) **Age of father/second parent at birth imputed indicator**

Value: AGEBMIND (1991 onwards and 1982-1985) AGEMMIND (1986-1990) = 1 if mother's age is imputed

From 2007 onwards, AGEBMIND = 9 if DOBM and AGEBM are obtained by matching the birth registration record to the corresponding birth notification record.

AGEBFIND (1991 onwards and 1982-1985) AGEPFIND (1986-1990) = 1 if father/second parents' age is imputed

Missing values: Imputation indicator fields are blank if the age has not been imputed.

Availability: Present throughout.

Further Information: *Age of mother and father/second parent imputation indicators. The imputation method is explained in section 2.1.*

From 1 September 2009, the age of second parent is provided in AGEBF if the birth is registered under the Human Fertilisation and Embryology Act 2008 by a same sex female couple (records where the variable PIND = 1).

DOBM (1993 onwards)

DOBMDY DOBMMTH DOBMYR (1982-1992) **Date of birth of mother**

DOBF (1993 onwards)

DOBFDY DOBFMTH DOBFYR (1982-1992) **Date of birth of father/second parent**

Value: DD/MM/YY for 1993 onwards. Prior to 1993 these fields need to be used in combination:

> *DOBMDY* (date of birth of mother: day), *DOBMMTH* (date of birth of mother: month), *DOBMYR* (date of birth of mother: year)
>
> *DOBFDY* (date of birth of father: day), *DOBFMTH* (date of birth of father: month), *DOBFYR* (date of birth of father: year)

Missing values and Imputation: Dates of birth can sometimes be missing or only partially complete. If this is the case then the age of the father/second parent or mother is imputed. Since 2007, where possible missing dates of birth of mother have been obtained by matching the birth notification record to the corresponding birth registration record. Any records where the age remains missing are imputed. The imputation method is explained in section 2.1.

Availability: Present throughout.

Further Information: *Date of birth of mother and father/second parent as supplied at birth registration.*

From 1 September 2009, the date of birth of second parent is provided in DOBF if the birth is registered under the Human Fertilisation and Embryology Act 2008 by a same sex female couple (records where the variable PIND = 1).

4.9 Age of parents at marriage/civil partnership

AGEMM (1993 onwards)

AGEMMYR and AGEMMMTH (1982-2000) **Age of mother at marriage/civil partnership to child's father/second parent**

AGEMF (1993 onwards)

AGEMFYR and AGEMFMTH (1982-2000) **Age of father/second parent at marriage/civil partnership to child's mother**

Value: Years and months (YYMM), for example 0801 denotes 8 years and 1 month. Prior to 1993 the following fields need to be used in combination:

AGEMMYR (age of mother at marriage to child's father in years) and *AGEMMMTH* (age of mother at marriage to child's father in months)

AGEMFYR (age of father at marriage to child's mother in years) and *AGEMFMTH* (age of father at marriage to child's mother in months)

Derivation: Derived from mother and father/second parents date of birth and date of marriage/civil partnership. If year of birth is not present for the mother and/or the father/second parent then age at marriage/civil partnership is calculated by subtracting duration of marriage/civil partnership from age at birth of child.

Missing Values and imputation: Age at marriage/civil partnership is derived and could be based upon imputed fields. To identify whether age at marriage/civil partnership is based on any imputed fields look to see whether at least one of the following imputation indicators is set to 1:

AGEBMIND = 1 if mother's age is imputed

AGEBFIND = 1 if father/second parents' age is imputed

DOMYIND (1993 onwards) MARYIND (1982-1992) = 1 if duration of marriage/civil partnership in years (DURMAR or DURMARM) is imputed.

DOMMIND (1993 onwards) MARMIND (1982-1992) = 1 if duration of marriage/civil partnership in remaining months (DURMAR or DURMARM) is imputed.

The imputation method is explained in section 2.1.

Availability: Present throughout.

Further Information: *Age of mother and father/second parents in years and months YYMM at the time of marriage/civil partnership.*

From 1 September 2009, age of parent at civil partnership is provided in AGEMM (mother) and AGEMF (second female parent) if the birth is registered under the Human Fertilisation and Embryology Act 2008 by a same sex female couple in a civil partnership (records where the variable PIND = 1 and BTHIMAR =1).

From 28 March 2014 following the introduction of marriages of same sex couples, age of second female parent at the time of marriage is also entered in AGEMF. It is not possible to distinguish marriages of same sex couples from civil partnerships.

4.10 Marital/Civil Partnership Status information

BTHIMAR **Marital/civil partnership status of parents and Registration type**

Values (1986 onwards):

Coding	Description
1	Within marriage/civil partnership
2	Outside marriage/civil partnership, sole registration
3	Outside marriage/civil partnership, joint registration, parents same address
4	Outside marriage/civil partnership, joint registration, parents different address

Values (1982-1985):

Coding	Description
1	Within marriage
2	Outside marriage

To determine whether a birth registration outside of marriage prior to 1986 is a joint registration or a sole registration you need to look to see whether father's details are recorded on the birth registration. Prior to 1986 it is not possible to determine whether for joint registrations the parents were living at the same address or at different addresses.

Derivation: This field is derived based on whether marriage/civil partnership details are recorded at birth registration and from 1986 onwards whether the addresses of the mother and father/second parent are the same.

Availability: Present throughout.

Further Information: *Marital/civil partnership status of parents and registration type. From 1 September 2009, births could be registered under the Human Fertilisation and Embryology Act 2008 by a same sex female couple (records where the variable PIND = 1), these births could be registered within or outside of a civil partnership/marriage. Marriages of same sex couples could take place in England and Wales from 29 March 2014.*

PIND **Second female parent indicator**

Value: 1 = birth registered under HFEA to two female parents. The females do not need to be married or in a civil partnership.

Missing values: Births which are not registered to a same sex female couple under HFEA have PIND blank.

Availability: 2009 onwards

Further Information: *This indicator is set to 1 to indicate where a birth has been registered under the Human Fertilisation and Embryology Act (HFEA), introduced in 2009. The indicator is assigned when the birth is registered. This indicator should only be present on registrations where there are same sex (female) parents and the baby was born after 1 September 2009.*

MULTMAR (1982-1990 and 1993 onwards)

MULTMARM (1991-1992) **Multiple marriage/civil partnership indicator**

Values:

Coding	Description
0	not previously married or from May 2012 not previously in a civil partnership (for 1990 and earlier years, from 1991 this field is just blank rather than 0)
1	mother previously married or from May 2012 in a civil partnership

Missing Values: Prior to May 2012, births outside of marriage/civil partnership will have the multiple marriage/civil partnership indicator left blank. For 1991 onwards births inside marriage where the mother has not been previously married will have this indicator left blank (Prior to 1991 a 0 was used to represent births inside marriage where the mother had not been previously married).

Availability: Present throughout.

Further Information: *From May 2012 this indicator shows whether the mother has been previously married or in a civil partnership (if she is currently married or in a civil partnership) or whether the mother has ever been married or in a civil partnership (if she is not currently married or in a civil partnership).*

Prior to May 2012, the indicator shows whether the mother has been previously married only if she is currently married. The change in May 2012 was the result of a change to the Population Statistics Act and bought the registration process more in line with equality legislation.

DOMYM **Date of marriage, year and month**

Units: Date of marriage in MM/YYYY.

Missing Values and imputation: This field is only present for births registered within marriage or civil partnership.

If the month or year of marriage is missing then DURMAR (Duration of marriage) is imputed. The imputed value for DURMAR is used to populate DOMYM.

Availability: 1993 onwards.

Further Information: *This field is only present for births registered within marriage/civil partnership (BTHIMAR=1).*

From 1 September 2009, births could be registered under the Human Fertilisation and Embryology Act 2008 by a same sex female couple (records where the variable PIND = 1), these births could be registered within or outside of a civil partnership/marriage. Marriages of same sex couples could take place in England and Wales from 29 March 2014.

DURMAR (1993 onwards)

DURMARM DURMARY (1982-1992) **Duration of marriage/civil partnership**

Units: Duration in YYMM for 1993 onwards. For 1982 and 1992 DURMARM (duration in months) and DURMARY (duration in years) need to be used in combination.

Derivation: Marriage/civil partnership duration is calculated by subtracting the date of marriage/civil partnership from the date of birth of the child when BTHIMAR = 1.

Missing Values and imputation: This field is only present for births registered inside marriage/civil partnership.

When month of marriage/civil partnership has been imputed (DOMMIND=1 for 1993 onwards or MARMIND=1 for 1982-1992) then DURMAR is calculated using the imputed month.

If year of marriage/civil partnership is missing (DOMYIND=1 for 1993 onwards or MARYRIND=1 for 1982-1992), DURMAR is imputed. The imputation method is explained in section 2.1.

Availability: Present throughout.

Further Information: *Duration of marriage/civil partnership at the time of birth of the child; This field is only present for births registered within marriage/civil partnership (BTHIMAR=1). Marriage/civil partnership duration is calculated by subtracting the date of marriage/civil partnership from the date of birth of the child. When month of marriage/civil partnership has been substituted (DOMMIND=1) then DURMAR is calculated using the imputed month. If year of marriage/civil partnership is missing (DOMYIND=1), DURMAR is imputed.*

From 1 September 2009, births could be registered under the Human Fertilisation and Embryology Act 2008 by a same sex female couple (records where the variable PIND = 1), these births could be registered within or outside of a civil partnership/marriage. Marriages of same sex couples could take place in England and Wales from 29 March 2014.

DOMYIND (1993 onwards)

MARYRIND (1982-1992) **Year of marriage/civil partnership imputation indicator**

Value: DOMYIND (1993 onwards) MARYRIND (1982-1992) = 1 if year of marriage/civil partnership is imputed.

Missing values: Imputation indicator fields are blank if the year of marriage/civil partnership has not been imputed.

Availability: Present throughout.

Further Information: *Year of marriage/civil partnership imputation indicator. If month of marriage/civil partnership is imputed then duration of marriage/civil partnership and age at marriage/civil partnership will be based on this imputed value. The imputation method is explained in section 2.1.*

From 1 September 2009, births could be registered under the Human Fertilisation and Embryology Act 2008 by a same sex female couple (records where the variable PIND = 1), these births could be registered within or outside of a civil partnership/marriage. Marriages of same sex couples could take place in England and Wales from 29 March 2014.

DOMMIND (1993 onwards)

MARMIND (1982-1992) **Month of marriage/civil partnership imputation indicator**

Value: DOMMIND (1993 onwards) MARMIND (1982-1992) = 1 if month of marriage is imputed

Missing values: Imputation indicator fields are blank if the month of marriage/civil partnership has not been imputed.

Availability: Present throughout.

Further Information: *Month of marriage/civil partnership imputation indicator. If month of marriage/civil partnership is imputed then duration of marriage/civil partnership and age at marriage/civil partnership will be based on this imputed value. The imputation method is explained in section 2.1.*

From 1 September 2009, births could be registered under the Human Fertilisation and Embryology Act 2008 by a same sex female couple (records where the variable PIND = 1), these births could be registered within or outside of a civil partnership/marriage. Marriages of same sex couples could take place in England and Wales from 29 March 2014.

4.11 Number of previous children born to mother

PREVCHL (1993 onwards)

PREVCHLM (1991-1992)

PREVCHL (1982-1990) **Number of previous children live born to mother**

Values: numeric including 0 (99 = not stated)

Missing values and imputation: Births outside marriage where previous children information was not recorded for 2012 and earlier years have a value of 99.

Births where previous children information was not recorded for 2012 onwards following the changes to the Population Statistics Act have a value of 99.

The number of previous live born children for births registered inside marriage/civil partnership is imputed for 2011 and earlier years if PREVCHLIND = 1 (1993-2012) or PREVCLIN = 1 (1982-1992).

The imputation method for the number of previous children for mother's registering a birth inside marriage (opposite sex couples) is explained in section 2.1.

Where a birth occurred from 1 September 2009, and is registered by 2 females in a same sex couple in a civil partnership/marriage under the Human Fertilization and Embryology Act 2008, the number of previous live born children was imputed as 0 in the annual 2009, 2010, 2011 and 2012 datasets. Information on the number of previous children to the mother was not collected for births registered to 2 females in a same sex couple until 28 May 2012 following the changes to the Population Statistics Act.

In published birth statistics, births registered to a same sex couple in a marriage/civil partnership are included with marital births while births registered to a same sex couple outside a marriage/civil partnership are included with births outside marriage. In 2009, 2010, 2011 and 2012 as there was no suitable distribution for imputing previous live born children for same sex couples in a civil partnership/marriage, 0 was deemed to be the most appropriate imputed value given that a change to recording previous children for all mothers was anticipated and took place in May 2012.

Availability: Present throughout.

Further Information: *Prior to 28 May 2012, this field only applied to births registered inside marriage, and the field provided the number of previous children live born to the mother by her husband and any former husband. For 2011 and earlier years, this field was imputed for births registered inside marriage where the information was not recorded at registration.*

On 28 May 2012, changes to the Population Statistics Act 1938 were implemented and information is now collected at all birth registrations on the number of previous children live born to the mother (not just those with a current or former husband). Where the number of previous live born children is not stated at registration this field is set to 99.

PREVCHS (1993 onwards)

PREVCHSM (1991-1992)

PREVCHS (1982-1990) **Number of previous children stillborn to mother**

Values: numeric including 0 (99 = not stated)

Missing values and imputation:

Births outside marriage where previous children information was not recorded for 2012 and earlier years have a value of 99.

Births where previous children information was not recorded for 2012 onwards following the changes to the Population Statistics Act have a value of 99.

Number of previous stillborn children for births registered inside marriage/civil partnership is imputed for 2011 and earlier years if PREVCHSIND = 1 (1993-2012) or PREVCSIN = 1 (1982-1992).

The imputation method for the number of previous children for mother's registering a birth inside marriage (opposite sex couples) is explained in section 2.1.

Where a birth occurred from 1 September 2009, and is registered by 2 females in a same sex couple in a civil partnership/marriage under the Human Fertilization and Embryology Act 2008, the number of previous stillborn children was imputed as 0 in the annual 2009, 2010 and 2011 datasets. Information on the number of previous children to the mother was not collected for births registered to 2 females in a same sex couple until 28 May 2012 following the changes to the Population Statistics Act.

In published birth statistics, births registered to a same sex couple in a marriage/civil partnership are included with marital births while births registered to a same sex couple outside a marriage/civil partnership are included with births outside marriage. In 2009, 2010 and 2011 as there was no suitable distribution for imputing previous stillborn children for same sex couples in a civil partnership/marriage, 0 was deemed to be the most appropriate imputed value given that a change to recording previous children for all mothers was anticipated and took place in 2012.

Availability: Present throughout.

Further Information: *Prior to 28 May 2012, this field only applied to births registered inside marriage, and the field provided the number of previous children stillborn to the mother by her husband and any former husband. For 2011 and earlier years, this field was imputed for births registered inside marriage where the information was not recorded at registration.*

On 28 May 2012, changes to the Population Statistics Act 1938 were implemented and information is now collected at all birth registrations on the number of previous children stillborn to the mother (not just those with a current or former husband). No imputation has been conducted from 2012 onwards.

PREVCH (1993 onwards)

PREVCHM (1991-1992)

PREVCH (1982-1990) **Total number of previous children born to mother**

Derivation: This field is derived by summing the number of previous children live born PREVCHL (1993 onwards) and PREVCHLM (1982-1992) and stillborn to the mother PREVCHS (1993 onwards) and PREVCHSM (1982-1992). Values for 2011 and earlier years are based on imputed figures if

PRCHLIND = 1 or PRCHSIND = 1 (1993-2012)

PREVCLIN = 1 or PREVCSIN = 1 (1982-1992)

Values: numeric including 0 (99 = not stated)

Missing values: Births outside marriage where previous children information was not recorded for 2012 and earlier years have a value of 99.

Births where previous children information was not recorded for 2012 onwards following the changes to the Population Statistics Act have a value of 99.

Availability: Present throughout

Further Information: *Prior to 28 May 2012, this field only applied to births registered inside marriage, and the field provided the total number of previous children live born and stillborn to the mother by her husband and any former husband. For 2011 and earlier years, this field was imputed for births registered inside marriage where the information was not recorded at registration.*

On 28 May 2012, changes to the Population Statistics Act 1938 were implemented and information is now collected at all birth registrations on the number of previous children live born and stillborn to the mother (not just those with a current or former husband). No imputation has been conducted from 2012 onwards.

PRCHLIND (1993-2011)

PREVCLIN (1982-1992) **Previous children live born imputation indicator**

Values: 1 = Previous number of live born children PREVCHL (1992-2011) or PREVCHLM (1982-1992) is imputed.

Missing values: blank = not imputed

Availability: 1982 to 2011.

Further Information: *This imputation indicator applies to births registered within marriage only. If PREVCHL(1993-2012) or PREVCHLM (1982-1992) is missing for a birth within marriage it will be imputed. The imputation method is explained in section 2.1.*

PRCHSIND (1993-2011)

PREVCSIN (1982-1992) **Previous children stillborn imputation indicator**

Values: 1 = Previous number of stillborn children PREVCHS (1992-2011) or PREVCHSM (1982-1992) is imputed.

Missing values: blank = not imputed

Availability: 1982 to 2011. PRCHSIND is not available for 2000 and 1993-1998.

Further Information: *This imputation indicator applies to births registered within marriage only. If PREVCHS (1993-2011) or PREVCHSM (1982-1992) is missing for a birth within marriage it will be imputed.*

4.12 Country of birth of mother and father

CTRYPOBM **Country code of place of birth of mother**

CTRYPOBF **Country code of place of birth of father**

Codelists:

1) 2007 onwards

For 2007 onwards, the National Statistics Country Classification has been used to code country of birth. The classification is available online at:

www.ons.gov.uk/methodology/classificationsandstandards/otherclassifications/nationalstatisticscountryclassification

2) 1982-2006

Country of birth code lists for this period is provided in separate excel file.

Availability: Present throughout

4.13 Occupation and socio-economic classification of mother and father

SOC2KF (2001 onwards) **Standard occupation classification for father/second parent**

SOC2KM (2001 onwards) **Standard occupation classification for mother**

Values: For 2001-2010 values are coded to SOC2000 for further information see:

www.ons.gov.uk/methodology/classificationsandstandards/standardoccupationalclassificationsoc/socarchive

For 2011 onwards, values are coded to SOC 2010 for further information see:

www.ons.gov.uk/methodology/classificationsandstandards/standardoccupationalclassificationsoc/soc2010

Missing values: Occupation is only coded on 10% of live births. Live births where occupation has not been coded will have SOC2KM and SOC2KF blank. Records where no father/second parent is present on the birth registration will also have SOC2KF blank.

Availability: 2001 onwards. For 1986-2000 use OCC90F and OCC90M. For 1982-1985 use OCC.

Further Information: *Only 10% of live births have occupation of mother and father coded, while 100% of stillbirths have occupation coded for both the mother and father/second parent where present. SOC2KF and SOC2KM are coded automatically where possible from details held in the occupation text field and the industry text field recorded at birth registration. Records which cannot be automatically coded are manually coded instead. From 1 September 2009, occupation of second parent is stored in SOC2KF if the birth is registered under the Human Fertilisation and Embryology Act 2008 by a same sex female couple (records where the variable PIND = 1).*

OCC90F (1986-2000) **Occupation code of father**

OCC90M (1986-2000) **Occupation code of mother**

Values: For 1991-2000 values are coded to SOC90 for further information see:
www.ons.gov.uk/methodology/classificationsandstandards/standardoccupationalclassificationsoc/socarchive

1986-1990 values are coded to Classification of occupations 1980 for further information see:
http://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/20160105160709/http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/guide-method/classifications/archived-standard-classifications/soc-and-sec-archive/index.html

Missing values: Occupation is only coded on 10% of live births. Live births where occupation has not been coded will have OCC90F and OCC90M blank. Records where no father is present on the birth registration will also have OCC90F blank.

Availability: 1986-2000. For 2001 onwards use SOC2KF and SOC2KM. For 1982-1985 use OCC.

Further Information: *Only 10% of live births have occupation of mother and father coded, while 100% of stillbirths have occupation coded for both the mother and father where present. OCC90F and OCC90M are coded automatically where possible from details held in the occupation text field and the industry text field recorded at birth registration. Records which cannot be automatically coded are manually coded instead.*

OCC **Occupation of working parent**

Values: 1982-1985 values are coded to Classification of Occupations 1980 for further information see: http://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/20160105160709/http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/guide-method/classifications/archived-standard-classifications/soc-and-sec-archive/index.html

Missing values: Occupation is only coded on 10% of live births. Live births where occupation has not been coded will have OCC blank.

Availability: For 1982-1985. For 2001 onwards use SOC2KF and SOC2KM. For 1986-2000 use OCC90F and OCC90M.

Further Information: *Only 10% of live births had occupation of parent coded, while 100% of stillbirths had occupation coded.*

EMPSECF (2001 onwards) **Employment Status of father/second parent**

EMPSECM (2001 onwards) **Employment Status of mother**

Values:

Coding	Description
1	Employers
2	Self Employed – no employees
3	Managers (if SOC code in group 1)
4	Supervisors (if SOC code not in group 1)
5	Other Employees
6	Pseudo Employment status

Missing values: Employment status is only coded on 10% of live births. Live births where employment status has not been coded will have EMPSECF and EMPSECM blank. Records where no father/second parent is present on the birth registration will also have EMPSECF blank.

Availability: 2001 onwards

Further Information: *Only 10% of live births have employment status coded, while 100% of stillbirths have employment status coded. From 1 September 2009, employment status of second parent is stored in EMPSECF if the birth is registered under the Human Fertilisation and Embryology Act 2008 by a same sex female couple (records where the variable PIND = 1).*

EMPSTF (1991-2000)

STATUSF (1986-1990) **Employment status of father**

EMPSTM (1991-2000)

STATUSM (1986-1990) **Employment status of mother**

Values:

Coding	Description
1	Employee
2	Manager
3	Foreman
4	Self employed with employees
5	Self employed without employees

6 (1991-2000)	Non workers including fulltime care of home and/or dependents, full time students, no occupation stated
9 (1982-1990)	Non workers including fulltime care of home and/or dependents, full time students, no occupation stated

Missing values: Employment status is only coded on 10% of live births. Live births where employment status has not been coded will have EMPSECF and EMPSECM blank. Records where no father is present on the birth registration will also have STATUSF blank.

Availability: 1986-2000. For 1982-1985, only STATUS is available which represents status of working parent.

Further Information: *Only 10% of live births have employment status coded, while 100% of stillbirths have employment status coded.*

STATUS (1982-1985) **Status of working parent**

Values:

Coding	Description
1	Employee
2	Manager
3	Foreman
4	Self employed with employees
5	Self employed without employees
6	Non workers including housewives, full time students, no occupation

Missing values: Employment status is only coded on 10% of live births. Live births where employment status has not been coded will have STATUS blank.

Availability: 1982-1985.

Further Information: *Only 10% of live births have employment status coded, while 100% of stillbirths have employment status coded.*

SEC90F **Socio-economic classification of father/second parent**

SEC90M **Socio-economic classification of mother**

Values:

Coding	Description
01	Large employers in large organisations
02	Managers in large organisations
03	Professionals (traditional)
04	Professionals (new)
05	Associated Professionals (traditional)
06	Associated Professionals (new)
07	Managers in small organisations
08	Higher Supervisors
09	Intermediate clerical
10	Intermediate service
11	Intermediate technical

12	Employers (small organisations)
13	Employers (small-agriculture)
14	Own account workers (non-professional)
15	Own account workers (agriculture)
16	Lower supervisors
17	Craft and related occupations
18	Semi-routine sales
19	Semi-routine service
20	Semi-routine-technical
21	Semi-routine operatives
22	Semi-routine agriculture
23	Routine services
24	Routine production
25	Routine operatives
26	Never worked
27	Long-term unemployed
28	Full time student
29	Occupations not stated or inadequately described
30	Not classifiable for other reasons

Missing values: Socio-economic classification is only coded on 10% of live births. Live births where employment status has not been coded will have SEC90F and SEC90M blank. Records where no father/second parent is present on the birth registration will also have SEC90M blank.

Derivation: Derived from Occupation and Employment status.

Availability: 1993 -2000.

Further Information: *Only 10% of live births have socio-economic status coded, while 100% of stillbirths have socio-economic status coded.*

SECCLRF (2001 onwards) **National Statistics Socio-economic classification of father/second parent (grouping used for analysis)**

SECCLRM (2001 onwards) **National Statistics Socio-economic classification of mother (grouping used for analysis)**

Values:

Coding	Description
11	Large employers and higher managerial occupations
12	Higher professional occupations
20	Lower managerial and professional occupations
30	Intermediate occupations
40	Small employers and own-account workers
50	Lower supervisory and technical occupations
60	Semi-routine occupations
70	Routine occupations
80	Never worked and long-term unemployed
90	Full-time students
91	Occupations not stated or inadequately described
92	Not classifiable for other reasons

Missing values: National statistics socio-economic classification is only coded on 10% of live births. Live births where employment status has not been coded will have SECCLRF and SECCLRM blank. Records where no father/second parent is present on the birth registration will also have SECCLRF blank.

Derivation: Derived from Occupation (SOC2KM SOC2KF) and Employment status (EMPSECM EMPSECF).

Availability: 2001 onwards. For 1986-2000 use SCLASF and SLASM. For 1982-1985 use SCLAS.

Further Information: *Only 10% of live births have socio-economic status coded, while 100% of stillbirths have socio-economic status coded. National statistics socio-economic classification is automatically coded where possible using employment status and occupation. From 1 September 2009, National Statistics socio-economic classification of second parent is stored in SECCLRF if the birth is registered under the Human Fertilisation and Embryology Act 2008 by a same sex couple (records where the variable PIND = 1).*

SECCATF (2001 onwards) **National Statistics Socio-economic classification of father/second parent (operational grouping)**

SECCATM (2001 onwards) **National Statistics Socio-economic classification of mother (operational grouping)**

Values:

Coding	Description
01	(L1) Employers in large organisations
02	(L2) Higher managerial occupations
03	(L3.1) Higher professionals (traditional) - employees
04	(L3.2) Higher professionals (new) - employees
05	(L3.3) Higher professionals (traditional) - self-employed
06	(L3.4) Higher professionals (new) self-employed
07	(L4.1) Lower professionals and higher technical (traditional) - employees
08	(L4.2) Lower professionals and higher technical (new) - employees
09	(L4.3) Lower professionals and higher technical (traditional) - self-employed
10	(L4.4) Lower professional and higher technical(new)-self-employed
11	(L5) Lower managerial occupations
12	(L6) Higher supervisory occupations
13	(L7.1) Intermediate clerical and administrative occupations
14	(L7.2) Intermediate sales and service occupations
15	(L7.3) Intermediate technical and auxiliary occupations
16	(L7.4) Intermediate engineering occupations
17	(L8.1) Employers in small organisations (non-professional)
18	(L8.2) Employers in small organisations (agriculture)
19	(L9.1) Own account workers (non-professional)
20	(L9.2) Own account workers (agriculture)
21	(L10) Lower supervisory occupations
22	(L11.1) Lower technical craft occupations
23	(L11.2) Lower technical process operative occupations
24	(L12.1) Semi-routine sales occupations
25	(L12.2) Semi-routine service occupations
26	(L12.3) Semi-routine technical occupations

27	(L12.4) Semi-routine operative occupations
28	(L12.5) Semi-routine agricultural occupations
29	(L12.6) Semi-routine clerical occupations
30	(L12.7) Semi-routine childcare occupations
31	(L13.1) Routine sales and service occupations
32	(L13.2) Routine production occupations
33	(L13.3) Routine technical occupations
34	(L13.4) Routine operative occupations
35	(L13.5) Routine agricultural occupations
36	(L14.1) Never worked
37	(L14.2) Long-term unemployed
38	(L15) Full-time students
39	(L16) Occupations not stated or inadequately described
40	(L17) Not classifiable for other reasons

Missing values: National statistics socio-economic classification is only coded on 10% of live births. Live births where employment status has not been coded will have SECCATF and SECCATM blank. Records where no father/second parent is present on the birth registration will also have SECCATF blank.

Derivation: Derived from Occupation (SOC2KM SOC2KF) and Employment status (EMPSECM EMPSECF).

Availability: 2001 onwards. For 1986-2000 use SCLASF and SLASM. For 1982-1985 use SCLAS.

Further Information: *Only 10% of live births have socio-economic status coded, while 100% of stillbirths have socio-economic status coded. National statistics socio-economic classification is automatically coded where possible using employment status and occupation. From 1 September 2009, National Statistics socio-economic classification of second parent is stored in SECCATF if the birth is registered under the Human Fertilisation and Embryology Act 2008 by a same sex couple (records where the variable PIND = 1).*

SCLASF (1986-1990 and 1993-2000) **Social class of father**

SCLASM (1986-1990 and 1993-2000) **Social class of mother**

Values:

Coding	Description
1	Professional
2	Managerial and technical occupations
3	Skilled occupations – non-manual
4	Skilled occupations – manual
5	Partly skilled occupations
6	Unskilled occupation
7	Armed forces
8	Inadequately described occupations
9	Full time care of home and/or dependent relative, full time student, permanently sick, no previous occupation or not stated

Missing values: Social class is only coded on 10% of live births. Live births where employment status has not been coded will have SCLASF and SCLASM blank. Records where no father is present on the birth registration will also have SCLASF blank.

Derivation: Derived from Occupation (OCC90F OCC90M) and Employment status (EMPSTF EMPSTM (1991-2000) and STATUSF STATUSM (1990-1986).

Availability: 1986-1990 and 1993-2000. For 2001 onwards use SECCLRM and SECCLRF For 1982-1985 use SCLAS.

Further Information: *Only 10% of live births have social class coded, while 100% of stillbirths have social class coded.*

SCLAS Social class of working parent

Values:

Coding	Description
1	Professional
2	Managerial and technical occupations
3	Skilled occupations – non-manual
4	Skilled occupations – manual
5	Partly skilled occupations
6	Unskilled occupation
7	Armed forces
8	Inadequately described occupations
9	Full time care of home and/or dependent relative, full time student, permanently sick, no previous occupation or not stated

Missing values: Social class is only coded on 10% of live births. Live births where employment status has not been coded will have SCLAS blank.

Derivation: Derived from Occupation (OCC) and Employment status (STATUS).

Availability: 1982-1985. For 2001 onwards use SECCLRM and SECCLRF For 1986-2000 use SCLASF and SCLASM.

Further Information: *Only 10% of live births have social class coded, while 100% of stillbirths have social class coded.*

4.14 Place of birth

ESTYPEB **Establishment type where birth occurred**

Values:

Coding	Description
1	Other NHS hospitals and communal establishments
2	Non-NHS hospitals and communal establishments (mental health)
3	NHS hospitals and communal establishments (mental health)
4	Other Non-NHS Hospitals and communal establishments
5	Other Communal Establishments
6	At home – denoting the usual place of residence of the mother
7	Elsewhere – including all locations not covered above: most of these are at a private residence not that of the mother, or are on the way to a hospital

Derivation: Derived from CESTRSS.

Availability: 1993 onwards

Further Information: *The type of Communal Establishment in which the birth took place. It is derived from CESTRSS.*

CESTRSS **Communal Establishment code**

Values:

See Communal Establishment code list for more information.

Coding	Description
H	At home
E	Elsewhere

Availability: 1993 onwards

Further Information: *If the birth occurred in a communal establishment then the code is allocated at the time the birth is registered. The code is not presented to the screen, it is generated as a result of the establishment address being input. If the birth occurred at the mother's usual address then an 'H' (at home) will be present. If the event did not take place at home nor in a communal establishment then an 'E' (Elsewhere) will be present.*

NHSIND **NHS establishment indicator**

Values:

Coding	Description
H	NHS establishment
E	Non NHS establishment

Missing values: Not present if birth occurred at home or elsewhere (not in a hospital or communal establishment CESTRSS = H or E).

Availability: 1993 onwards

Further Information: *A code derived during the Communal Establishment validation process.*

4.15 Geography variables

PCDRM **Postcode of usual residence of mother**

Values: Standard UK postcode format

Missing values and Imputation: No postcode is present when mother's area of usual residence is outside of the UK. Where the mother's usual residence is within England and Wales and the postcode is not present or is considered invalid, a postcode will be imputed (PCDIND = 1).

Availability: Present throughout

Further Information: *A validated postcode for the usual residence of the Mother of the child will be held in this field , with a space or spaces present between the 'inward' and 'outward' parts of the code when the postcode is less than 7 characters. If the postcode is in an invalid format or the postcode does not match any postcodes on the latest postcode file, the record is output for manual coding. A valid postcode will be determined by coders using Matchcode in the first instance, following this Google is used.*

Postcodes for Scotland and NI may also be present in this field. For Scottish postcodes only the first 7 of the 8 character code will be held. In these cases the usual residence will of course be country coded.

PCDIND **Postcode imputation indicator**

Value: 1 denotes that the postcode has been imputed.

Missing values: This field is blank if the postcode has not been imputed.

Availability: Present throughout except 1998

Further Information: *The indicator is set to 1 automatically if a valid postcode is not present when data are received. The indicator shows which postcodes have since been imputed.*

PCDPOB **Postcode of place of birth of child**

Values: Standard UK postcode format

Missing values and Imputation: Where CESTRSS = 'H' (Home) of 'E' (Elsewhere) this field is empty. This field is only present where the birth occurred in a communal establishment.

Availability: 1993 onwards

Further Information: *This information is derived during the communal establishment coding process. The field contains the complete.*

CTRYRM **Country code of usual residence of mother of child**

Value:

1) 2007 onwards

For 2007 onwards, the National Statistics Country Classification has been used to code country of birth. The classification is available online at:

www.ons.gov.uk/methodology/classificationsandstandards/otherclassifications/nationalstatisticscountryclassification

2) 1993-2006

Country of birth code lists for this period are provided in a separate excel file.

Availability: 1993 onwards

Annex 1 – Concepts and definitions

Canadian Census Edit and Imputation System (CANCEIS)

A donor-based imputation system, developed by Statistics Canada, used to impute missing values for Population Statistics Act data items for birth records between 2004 and 2011.

Civil Partnership

Civil partnerships are a legal confirmation of a relationship between 2 people of the same sex.

Imputation

A method used to add information to an incomplete birth record, using the details from another similar but complete record.

Informant

The person(s), normally one or both parents, who provide the registrar with the information required at the registration of a birth.

Joint Registration

A birth outside marriage/civil partnership registered by both the mother and father/second parent of the child. Both parents' details are recorded and both must be present at the registration.

Live Birth

A baby showing signs of life at birth.

Maternity

A pregnancy resulting in the birth of one or more live-born or stillborn children. Therefore, the number of maternities (and paternities) is less than the total number of live births and stillbirths.

Multiple Birth

A single maternity resulting in 2 or more births.

Notification

A document completed by the doctor or midwife present at the birth. The notification provides certain data items, such as the birthweight, to the birth record.

NS-SEC

National Statistics Socio-economic Classification categorises the socio-economic classification of people, and has replaced the Registrar General's Social Class and the Socio-economic Group (SEG).

Occurrences

Births which occur in a given period, for example a calendar year.

Place of Birth

Place where a birth occurs.

Population Statistics Act (PSA)

This Act makes provision for certain information to be collected at the registration of a birth for statistical use. This information is confidential and is not entered on the register.

Registrar

Local authority employee responsible for the registration of births, deaths, marriages and civil partnerships.

Registrar General

Statutory appointment with responsibility for the administration of the Registration Acts in England and Wales and other related functions as specified by the relevant legislation.

Registrations

Births that were registered in a particular period, even though some may have occurred in an earlier period.

RON

Registration Online. A web-based system which enables registrars to record births, stillbirths, deaths, marriages and civil partnerships online. From July 2009 all birth registrations have been recorded on RON.

Singleton

Only birth born in a maternity.

SOC2010

Standard Occupational Classification 2010 is the current occupational classification. SOC2010 codes, details of employment status and size of organisation are required for the derivation of NS-SEC. See NS-SEC.

Sole Registration

A birth outside of marriage/civil partnership registered only by the mother. No information on the father is recorded.

Standard Error

A measure of the sampling variation occurring by chance when only part of the total population has been selected for analysis. For example, father's occupation is coded on only 10% of live birth records.

Stillbirth

A child that has issued forth from its mother after the 24th week of pregnancy, and that did not at any time after being completely expelled from its mother breathe or show any signs of life. Up until 30 September 1992 it was the 28th week. Figures for stillbirths from 1993 are thus not fully comparable with those for previous years.

Annex 2 – Quick reference guide for variables

1993 onwards	1991-1992	1990-1986	1985-1982	
AGEBF AGEBFIND	AGEBFYR AGEBFMTH AGEBFIND	AGEFPATY AGEFPATM AGEPFIND	AGEBFYR AGEBFMTH AGEBFIND	**Age of father at birth**
AGEBM AGEBMIND	AGEBMYR AGEBMMTH AGEBMIND	AGEMMATY AGEMMATM AGEMMIND	AGEBMYR AGEBMMTH AGEBMIND	**Age of mother at birth**
AGEMF	AGEMFMTH AGEMFYR	AGEMFMTH AGEMFYR	AGEMFMTH AGEMFYR	**Age of father at marriage**
AGEMM	AGEMMYR AGEMMMTH	AGEMMYR AGEMMMTH AGEMMIND	AGEMMYR AGEMMMTH	**Age of mother at marriage**

1993 onwards	1991-1992	1990-1982	
BIRTHWGT	BIRTHWGT	BIRTHWGT	**Birthweight**

1993 onwards	1991-1992	1990-1982	
BTHIMAR	BTHIMAR	BTHIMAR	**Marital status/registration type**

2001 onwards	2000-1993	
CC10001 CC10002 CC10003 CC10004 CC10005 CC10006 CC10007 CC10008 CC10009 CC10010 CC10011 CC10012 CC10013 CC10014 CC10015	CCOL001 CCOL002 CCOL003 CCOL004 CCOL005 CCOL006 CCOL007 CCOL008	**Column number for original causes of death mentioned on the stillbirth certificate**
CC10F001 CC10F002 CC10F003 CC10F004 CC10F005 CC10F006 CC10F007 CC10F008 CC10F009 CC10F010 CC10F011 CC10F012 CC10F013	CCOLF001 CCOLF002 CCOLF003 CCOLF004 CCOLF005 CCOLF006 CCOLF007 CCOLF008	**Column number for final causes of death for stillbirths mentioned on additional medical information received**

CC10F014 CC10F015		

2001 onwards	**2000-1993**	
CR10001 CR10002 CR10003 CR10004 CR10005 CR10006 CR10007 CR10008 CR10009 CR10010 CR10011 CR10012 CR10013 CR10014 CR10015	CCOD001 CCOD002 CCOD003 CCOD004 CCOD005 CCOD006 CCOD007 CCOD008	**Row number for original causes of death mentioned on the stillbirth certificate**
CR10F001 CR10F002 CR10F003 CR10F004 CR10F005 CR10F006 CR10F007 CR10F008 CR10F009 CR10F010 CR10F011 CR10F012 CR10F013 CR10F014 CR10F015	CCODF001 CCODF002 CCODF003 CCODF004 CCODF005 CCODF006 CCODF007 CCODF008	**Row number for final causes of death for stillbirths mentioned on additional medical information received**

1993 onwards

CESTRSS	**Communal establishment code**

1982 onwards

CTRYPOBF	**Country of birth of father**
CTRYPOBM	**Country of birth of mother**

1993 onwards

CTRYRM	Country code of usual residence of mother of child

1993 onwards	1992-1991	1990-1986	
DEATHLAB	LABDTH	LABDEATH	**Death in labour indicator for stillbirths**

1993 onwards	1992-1986	1985-1982	
DOB	DOBDY DOBYR DOBMTH	DOBDY DOBMTH	**Date of birth of child**
DOBF	DOBFDY DOBFMTH DOBFYR	DOBFDY DOBFMTH DOBFYR	**Date of birth of father**
DOBM	DOBMDY DOBMMTH DOBMYR	DOBMDY DOBMMTH DOBMYR	**Date of birth of mother**

1993 onwards	1992-1982	
DOMMIND	MARYIND	**Month of marriage imputation indicator**
DOMYIND	MARMIND	**Year of marriage imputation indicator**

1993 onwards	
DOMYM	**Date of marriage year and moth**

1993 onwards	1992-1982	
DOR	REGMTH REGYR	**Date of registration**

1993 onwards	1992-1982	
DURMAR	DURMARM DURMARY	**Duration of marriage**

1993 onwards	
DWIGS10	**Wigglesworth code for stillbirths**

1993 onwards	1992-1982	
GESTATN	DURPREG	**Gestation for stillbirths**

2001 onwards	2000-1991	1990-1986	1985-1982	
EMPSECF EMPSECM	EMPSTF EMPSTM	STATUSF STATUSM	STATUS	**Employment status**

1991

onwards

ESTTYPEB	**Establishment type where birth occurred**

2001 onwards	**2000-1993**	
FIC10IND	FICODIND	**Final cause of death present indicator**

2001 onwards	**2000-1993**	**1992-1991**	**1990-1986**	**1985**	**1984-1982**	
I10P001	IC9PV001	ICD9FMC	ICD9FM	ICD9P	ICD8P	**Cause of death information, original and final causes**
I10P002	IC9PV002	ICD9MMC	ICD9MM			
I10P003	IC9PV003	ICD9FO1	ICD9FO1			
I10P004	IC9PV004	ICD9FO2	ICD9FO2			
I10P005	IC9PV005	ICD9FO3	ICD9FO3			
I10P006	IC9PV006	ICD9FO4	ICD9FO4			
I10P007	IC9PV007	ICD9FO5	ICD9FO5			
I10P008	IC9PV008	ICD9FO6	ICD9FO6			
I10P009		ICD9FO7	ICD9FO7			
I10P010		ICD9FO8	ICD9FO8			
I10P011		ICD9MO1	ICD9MO1			
I10P012		ICD9MO2	ICD9MO2			
I10P013		ICD9MO3	ICD9MO3			
I10P014		ICD9MO4	ICD9MO4			
I10P015		ICD9MO5	ICD9MO5			
I10PF001	IC9PF001	ICD9MO6	ICD9MO6			
I10PF002	IC9PF002	ICD9MO7	ICD9MO7			
I10PF003	IC9PF003	ICD9MO8	ICD9MO8			
I10PF004	IC9PF004	ICD9FF1	ICD9FMF1			
I10PF005	IC9PF005	ICD9FF2	ICD9FMF2			
I10PF006	IC9PF006	ICD9FF3	ICD9FMF3			
I10PF007	IC9PF007	ICD9MF1	ICD9MMF1			
I10PF008	IC9PF008	ICD9MF2	ICD9MMF2			
I10PF009		ICD9MF3	ICD9MMF3			
I10PF010		LINEE1	LINEE1			
I10PF011		LINEE2	LINEE2			
I10PF012		LINEE3	LINEE3			
I10PF013		LINEE4	LINEE4			
I10PF014		OVER8F	FOC8IND			
I10PF015		OVER8M	MOT8IND			

1993 onwards	**1992-1991**	**1990-1982**	
MATTAB	MATSELIN	MATTYPE	**Maternity selection indicator**

1993 onwards	
MULTBTH	**Multiple birth indicator**

1982 onwards

MULTTYPE	**Multiple birth type**

1993 onwards	**1992-1991**	**1990-1982**	
MULTMAR	MULTMARM	MULTMAR	**Multiple marriage indicator**

1993 onwards	
NHSIND	**NHS establishment indicator**

1982 onwards	
PCDRM PCDIND	**Postcode of residence of mother**

1993 onwards	
PCDPOB	Postcode of place of birth of child

2009 onwards	
PIND	**Second female parent indicator**

1993 onwards	**1992-1991**	**1990-1982**	
PREVCH PREVCHL PREVCHS PRCHLIND PRCHSIND	PREVCHLM PREVCHM PREVCHSM PREVCLIN PREVCSIN	PREVCH PREVCHL PREVCHS PREVCLIN PREVCSIN	**Information on number of previous children** PRCHSIND is not available for 2000 and 1993-1998

1982 onwards	
SBIND	**Stillbirth indicator**

1993 onwards	
SBSUFFIX	**Stillbirth suffix**

1993-2000	**1990-1986**	**1985-1982**	
SCLASF SCLASM	SCLASF SCLASM	SCLAS	**Social Class**

1993 onwards	
SEC90F	Socio Economic classification of father and mother
SEC90M	

2001 onwards

SECCATF SECCATM	**NSSEC-operation categories**

2001 onwards

SECCLRF SECCLRM	**NS-SEC analytical categories**

1982 onwards

SEX	**Sex of child**

2001 onwards	**2000-1991**	**1990-1986**	**1985-1982**	
SOC2KF SOC2KM	OCC90F OCC90M	OCCF OCCM	OCC	**Occupation**