



**REPUBLIC OF CYPRUS  
MINISTRY OF HEALTH**



# **CYPRUS PUBLIC AND PRIVATE MATERNITY UNITS**

## **PERINATAL HEALTH IN CYPRUS IMPORTANT INDICATORS FOR THE YEARS 2014-2018**

**January 2020**

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## Presentation of indicators and glossary<sup>1</sup>

**Total births:** a birth is defined as the start of life when a child emerges from the body of its mother. The total number of births includes both live births and stillbirths in a given year or period of time. A **live birth** is the birth of a child who showed any sign of life; the number of live births refers to the number of births excluding stillbirths. **Stillbirth** means fetal death, namely death prior to the complete expulsion or extraction from its mother of a product of conception, irrespective of the duration of pregnancy. Death is indicated by the fact that after such separation from its mother the fetus does not breathe or show any other evidence of life, such as beating of the heart, pulsation of the umbilical cord, or definite movement of voluntary muscles (*Eurostat Commission Regulation*).

**Distribution of mother's residence:** is the distribution of the permanent residence of women delivering live or stillbirths. In this report, residency is classified as follows: Government Controlled Areas, Non-government Controlled Areas, countries in the European Union (EU), other countries not in the EU, and British Bases (Sovereign Base Areas of Akrotiri and Dhekelia).

**Distribution of maternal age at delivery:** is defined as the distribution of age in years at delivery for women delivering a liveborn or stillborn baby. Data in this report is presented as follows: less than 20 years old, between 20-34 years and 35 years old or more (*Euro-Peristat Indicator Definitions, C8*).

**Percentage of women who smoked during pregnancy<sup>2</sup>:** is the number of women who smoke during the first trimester or/and the third trimester of pregnancy expressed as a proportion of all women delivering liveborn or stillborn babies. When data are not available for the first trimester or/and third trimester of pregnancy, data are requested for another time point during pregnancy (*Euro-Peristat Indicator Definitions, R8*).

**Alcohol use during pregnancy:** is the number of women who used alcohol during the whole period of pregnancy expressed as a proportion of all women delivering liveborn or stillborn babies. The alcohol use is scored by the AUDIT-C assessment tool - World Health Organization Alcohol Use Disorders Identification Test – Consumption<sup>3</sup>.

**Mode of subfertility treatment<sup>4</sup>:** is the number of women delivering liveborn or stillborn babies after the following fertility treatments: ovulation induction (OI),

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<sup>1</sup> All definitions and the glossary are from the sources below:

a. EUROSTAT: <https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/statistics-explained/index.php/Glossary:Birth>

b. COMMISSION REGULATION (EU) No 328/2011 – EUROSTAT:  
<https://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:L:2011:090:0022:0024:EN:PDF>

c. EURO-PERISTAT:  
<http://www.europeristat.com/our-indicators/indicators-of-perinatal-health.html#footer>

<sup>2</sup> In this report, we present the number of women who smoke during the total duration of pregnancy expressed as a proportion of all women delivering liveborn or stillborn babies.

<sup>3</sup> World Health Organization:

[http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/handle/10665/67205/WHO\\_MSD\\_MSB\\_01.6a.pdf;jsessionid=D6279314E6A7F3E6330316A31258EA5B?sequence=1](http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/handle/10665/67205/WHO_MSD_MSB_01.6a.pdf;jsessionid=D6279314E6A7F3E6330316A31258EA5B?sequence=1)

<sup>4</sup> In this report we present only the following categories: In vitro fertilization (IVF), intra uterine insemination (IUI),

intrauterine insemination (IUI) with or without ovulation induction, in vitro fertilisation (IVF), intracytoplasmic sperm injection (ICSI), in vitro maturation (IVM) which may include frozen embryo transfers (*Euro-Peristat Indicator Definitions, R13*).

**Mode of delivery:** for a population of women and year: the number of live births or stillbirths associated with each of the following modes: vaginal non instrumental, vaginal forceps, vaginal ventouse, vaginal (other, Thierry's spatula, etc..), caesarean before or at onset of labour/elective, caesarean during labour/emergency, as a proportion of all still and live births (*Euro-Peristat Indicator Definitions, C10*).

**Multiple birth rate:** is the number of women in a multiple gestation pregnancy at delivery as a proportion of all women delivering live births or stillbirths by number of fetuses (*Euro-Peristat Indicator Definitions, C7*).

**Gestational age (GA) distribution:** is the number of live births (starting from any week) and stillbirths (fetal deaths) at each completed week of gestation (starting from 22 weeks) expressed as a proportion of all live births and stillbirths. Gestational age is defined as the best obstetrical estimate. This distribution is presented, as follows: less than 37 weeks of gestation (preterm births), 37-41 weeks (term births) and 41+ weeks (post-term births). Preterm births can be subdivided as: 22-27 weeks (extremely preterm), 28-31 weeks (very preterm) and 32-36 weeks (moderately preterm) (*Euro-Peristat Indicator Definitions, C5*).

**Admission to Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU<sup>5</sup>):** is the number of live births admitted in NICU (*Euro-Peristat Indicator Definitions, R17*).

**Breast feeding during the first 48 hours after birth:** is the number of newborn babies who are exclusively breastfed (baby receives breast milk and is allowed to receive drops and syrups) or the number of newborn babies who receive mixed food (baby receives breast milk and is allowed any food or liquid including non-human milk), throughout the first 48 hrs of age as a proportion of all newborn babies (*Euro-Peristat Indicator Definitions, R20*).

**Fetal mortality rate<sup>6</sup>:** is the number of fetal deaths (stillbirths) at or after 22 completed weeks of gestation in a given year, expressed per 1000 live births and stillbirths in the same year, calculated by plurality, gestational age and birthweight (*Euro-Peristat Indicator Definitions, C1*).

**Infant mortality rate:** is defined as the number of infant deaths (days 0-364) after live birth in a given year, expressed per 1000 live births that same year, calculated by plurality, gestational age and birth weight (*Euro-Peristat Indicator Definitions, C3*).

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ovulation induction (intra cytoplasmic sperm injection (ICSI) and in vitro maturation (IVM); including frozen embryo transfers are not presented).

<sup>5</sup> In Cyprus, until year 2017, there was only one NICU, at the Makarios Hospital in Nicosia. Due to the constantly increasing needs, a new NICU was set up in 2018 at the General Hospital of Limassol.

<sup>6</sup> Fetal deaths in this report are not differentiated by whether they are spontaneous fetal deaths or result from a termination of pregnancy.

## About these indicators

Data for live births and stillbirths were collected by the midwifery staff of the maternity units of all public and private hospitals in the Government Controlled Areas of Cyprus. They were entered into an electronic database and analysed by the Health Monitoring Unit (HMU) of the Ministry of Health.

The majority of the indicators presented in this report are according to the definitions of the European Perinatal Health Report 2010 of the European Project Euro-Peristat<sup>7</sup>. For comparability reasons, the crude birth rate and the mortality indicators are measured with the number of births by mothers with permanent residency in the Cyprus Government controlled areas. The reason that the numbers of live births under the Government controlled areas in this report differ from those published in the Demographic Report of the Statistical Service 2018<sup>8</sup>, is due to the different data source and the different periods of data processing of each department, HMU and Statistical Service.

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<sup>7</sup> <http://www.europeristat.com/our-indicators/euro-peristat-perinatal-health-indicators-2010.html>

<sup>8</sup>

[http://www.mof.gov.cy/mof/cystat/statistics.nsf/populationcondition\\_21main\\_en/populationcondition\\_21main\\_en?OpenForm&sub=1&sel=4](http://www.mof.gov.cy/mof/cystat/statistics.nsf/populationcondition_21main_en/populationcondition_21main_en?OpenForm&sub=1&sel=4)

## Tables and graphs, Cyprus 2014-2018

### Birth Distribution by year

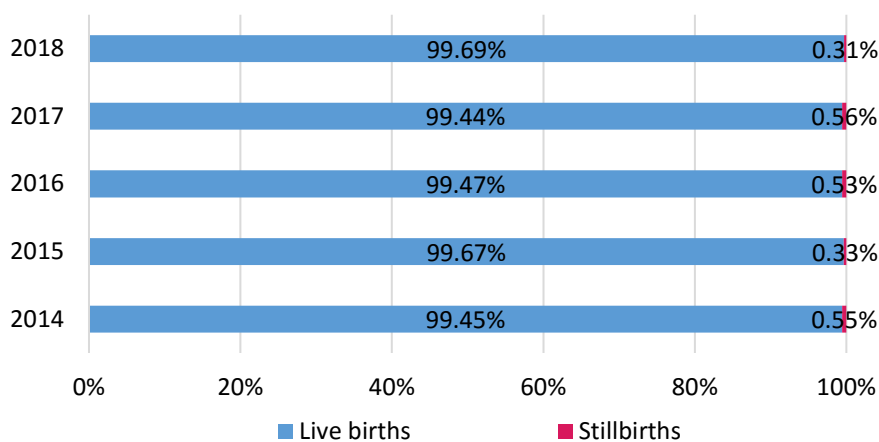
The absolute number of live births in 2018 were 9406, fewer births compared to 2017 (9443) and 2016 (9670). Fetal deaths in 2018 were 29, much less than in 2017 53 and 2016 (52), giving a fetal mortality rate equal to 3.1 per 1000 total births. In 2018 the number of births by mothers with permanent residency in the Cyprus Government controlled areas was 9261, giving a crude birth rate of 10,6 per 1.000 population.

Birth distribution by year, Cyprus 2014–2018

Births by year	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2014 - 2018
Live births	9499	9394	9670	9443	9406	<b>47412</b>
Stillbirths	53	31	52	53	29	<b>218</b>
<b>Total births</b>	<b>9552</b>	<b>9425</b>	<b>9722</b>	<b>9496</b>	<b>9435</b>	<b>47630</b>

Births per year	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2014 - 2017
Live births	99.45%	99.67%	99.47%	99.44%	99.69%	<b>99.54%</b>
Stillbirths	0.55%	0.33%	0.53%	0.56%	0.31%	<b>0.46%</b>
<b>% of total births</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Percentage distribution of births by year, Cyprus 2014 - 2018



Distribution of live births, births with mother's permanent residency the Cyprus Government controlled areas, by year, Cyprus 2014-2018

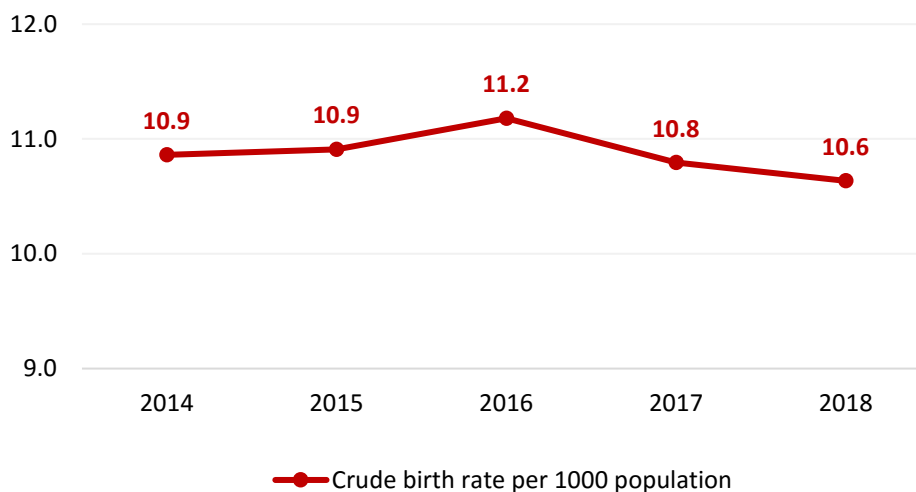
Year	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Live births	9268	9198	9501	9285	9261
Population (mid-year)*	853200	843100	849800	860200	870800
<b>Crude birth rate per 1000 population</b>	<b>10.9</b>	<b>10.9</b>	<b>11.2</b>	<b>10.8</b>	<b>10.6</b>

**Denominator:** Live births

\* **Source:** The data for the mid-year de jure population (de jure population: all the persons who have their usual residence in the Cyprus Government controlled areas. This concept was used in Censuses and population estimates after 1960) derived from the Demographic Report 2016 of the Statistical Service of Cyprus.

**Notes:** Live births and stillbirths presented in the above table are only of mothers with permanent residency in the Government controlled areas. The reason we exclude births of mothers with residence not under the Government Controlled areas is for the rates to be adjustable with the population of Cyprus.

Crude birth rate per 1000 population, births with mother's permanent residency the Cyprus Government controlled areas, Cyprus 2014-2018



## Mother's residence

The percentage of live births in all Cyprus Maternity Units from mothers with residency in the Government Controlled Areas for the years 2014-2018, was 98.1% on average.

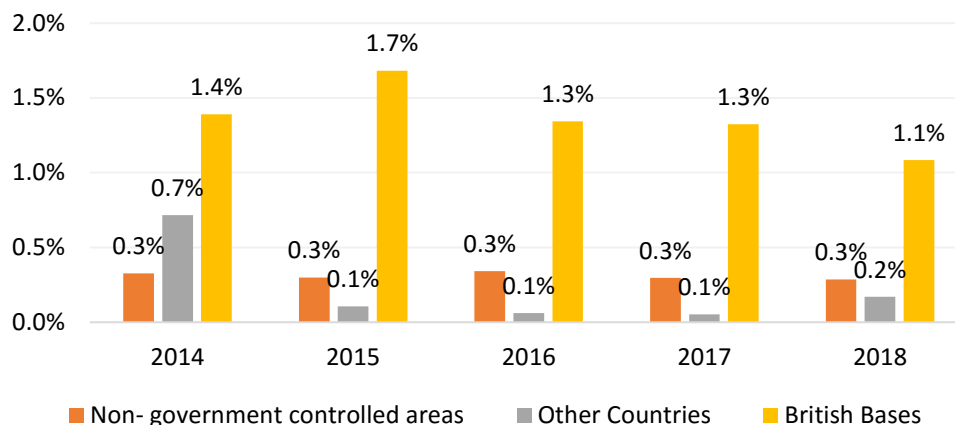
Live births in all public and private maternity units by mother's residence, Cyprus 2014-2018

Mother's residence	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2014-2018
Government controlled areas	9268	9198	9501	9285	9261	<b>46513</b>
Non- government controlled areas	31	28	33	28	27	<b>147</b>
Other Countries	68	10	6	5	16	<b>105</b>
British Bases	132	158	130	125	102	<b>647</b>
<b>Live births*</b>	<b>9499</b>	<b>9394</b>	<b>9670</b>	<b>9443</b>	<b>9406</b>	<b>47412</b>

Mother's residence	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2014-2018
Government controlled areas	97.6%	97.9%	98.3%	98.3%	98.5%	<b>98.1%</b>
Non- government controlled areas	0.3%	0.3%	0.3%	0.3%	0.3%	<b>0.3%</b>
Other Countries	0.7%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.2%	<b>0.2%</b>
British Bases	1.4%	1.7%	1.3%	1.3%	1.1%	<b>1.4%</b>
<b>% of live births</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

**Denominator:** Live births

Percentage of live births in all public and private maternity units by mother's residence, Cyprus 2014-2018





### Mother's age

The percentage of mothers aged younger than 20 was 1.5% in 2014 and increased to 2.3% in 2018. The percentage of older mothers, women giving birth at 35 years or older, was 19.2% in 2014 and increased to 25.1% in 2018. The group of women aged between 20 and 34 years had 79.3% in 2014 and decreased to 72.6% in 2018.

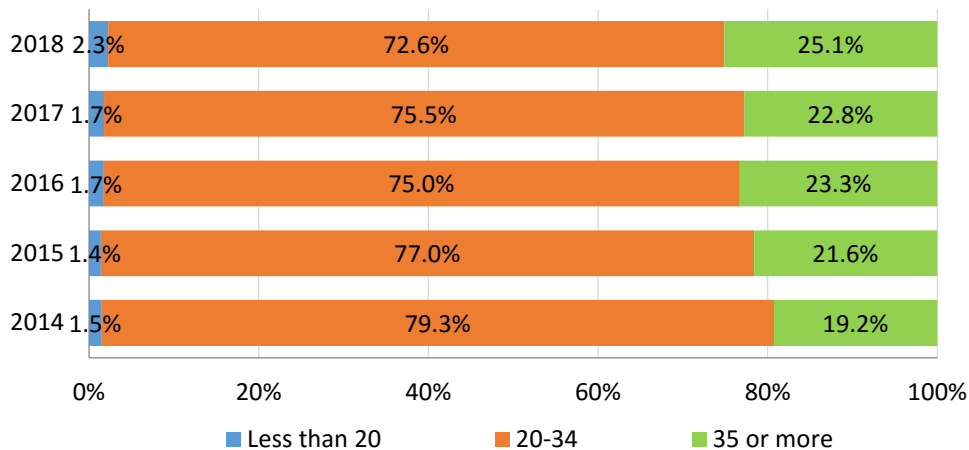
Total births by mother's age by year, Cyprus 2014-2018

Mother's age by year	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2014-2018
Less than 20	143	130	162	166	214	815
20-34	7537	7246	7294	7167	6850	36094
35 or more	1830	2031	2263	2163	2370	10657
Not stated	42	18	3	0	1	64
<b>Total births</b>	<b>9552</b>	<b>9425</b>	<b>9722</b>	<b>9496</b>	<b>9435</b>	<b>47630</b>

Mother's age by year	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2014-2018
Less than 20	1.5%	1.4%	1.7%	1.7%	2.3%	1.7%
20-34	79.3%	77.0%	75.0%	75.5%	72.6%	75.9%
35 or more	19.2%	21.6%	23.3%	22.8%	25.1%	22.4%
<b>% of total births</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

\* "Not stated" cases are distributed in each category by a weighting factor

Percentage of births, by mother's age by year, Cyprus 2014-2018



### Assisted fertilization

On average, 5.0% of births are of women became pregnant after some form of assisted reproductive technique. Particularly, the percentage of in vitro fertilization (IVF) was on average 4.3%. The percentage of pregnancies following fertility treatment is higher, the higher the age of the mother, as it is expected.

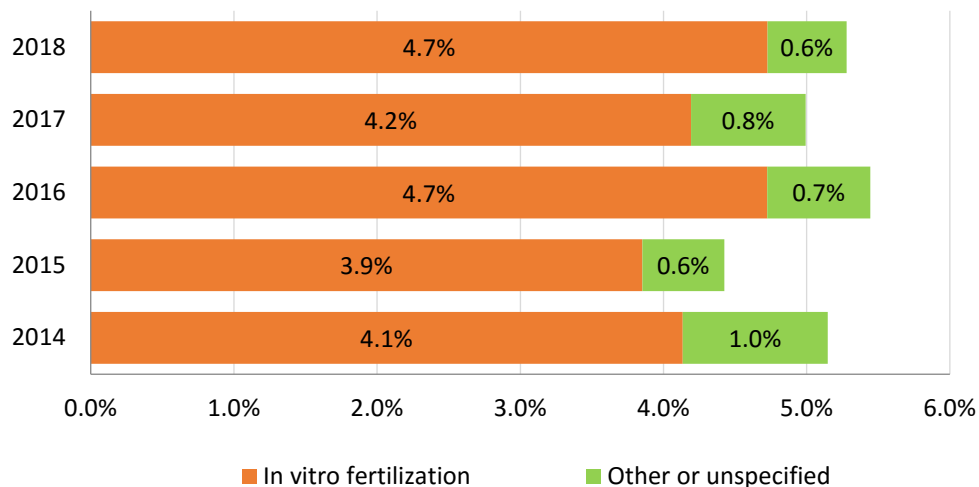
Total births by mother's mode of subfertility treatment by year, Cyprus 2014-2018

Subfertility treatment by year	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2014-2018
None	8995	9005	9186	9020	8937	<b>45143</b>
In vitro fertilization (IVF)	392	363	459	398	446	<b>2058</b>
Intrauterine insemination	21	17	14	17	5	<b>74</b>
Ovulation induction	19	30	31	50	40	<b>170</b>
Unspecified treatment	56	7	25	9	7	<b>104</b>
Not stated	69	3	7	2	0	<b>81</b>
<b>Total births</b>	<b>9552</b>	<b>9425</b>	<b>9722</b>	<b>9496</b>	<b>9435</b>	<b>47630</b>

Subfertility treatment by year	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2014-2018
None	94.9%	95.6%	94.6%	95.0%	94.7%	<b>94.9%</b>
In vitro fertilization	4.1%	3.9%	4.7%	4.2%	4.7%	<b>4.3%</b>
Other or unspecified	1.0%	0.6%	0.7%	0.8%	0.6%	<b>0.7%</b>
<b>% of total births</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

\* "Not stated" cases are distributed in each category by a weighting factor

Percentage of births by mother's mode of subfertility treatment by year, Cyprus 2014-2018



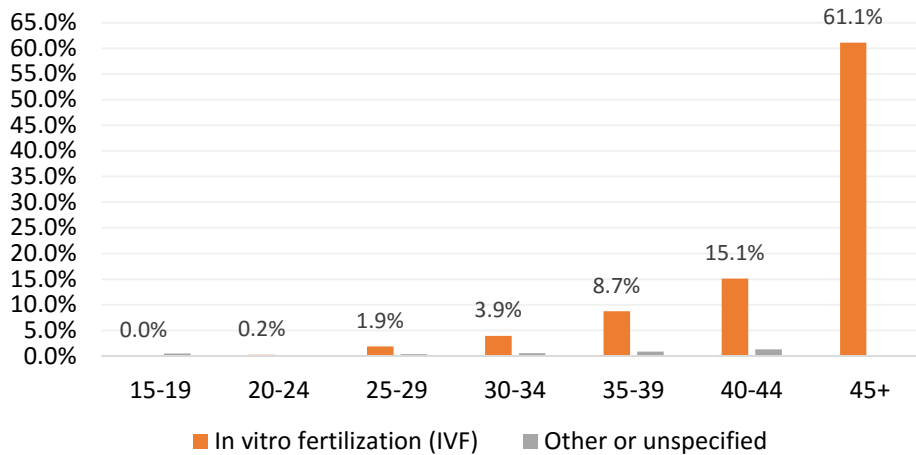
Total births by mother's mode of subfertility treatment by mother's age,  
Cyprus 2014-2018

Subfertility treatment / Age	<19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45+	2018
None	213	869	2406	3361	1741	326	21	<b>8937</b>
In vitro fertilization (IVF)	0	2	46	138	168	59	33	<b>446</b>
Other or unspecified	1	0	9	20	17	5	0	<b>52</b>
Not stated	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	<b>0</b>
<b>Total births</b>	<b>214</b>	<b>871</b>	<b>2461</b>	<b>3519</b>	<b>1926</b>	<b>390</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>9435</b>

Subfertility treatment / Age	15-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45+	2018
None	99.5%	99.8%	97.8%	95.5%	90.4%	83.6%	38.9%	<b>94.7%</b>
In vitro fertilization (IVF)	0.0%	0.2%	1.9%	3.9%	8.7%	15.1%	61.1%	<b>4.7%</b>
Other or unspecified	0.5%	0.0%	0.4%	0.6%	0.9%	1.3%	0.0%	<b>0.6%</b>
<b>% of total births</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

\* "Not stated" cases are distributed in each category by a weighting factor

Percentage of births by mother's mode of subfertility treatment by mother's age, Cyprus 2014-2018



### Smoking history during pregnancy

The percentage of births of mothers with smoking history during pregnancy for the years 2014-2018, was on average 7.0%. Maternal smoking during pregnancy has been linked to a host of negative infant and child outcomes, including low birthweight, preterm birth, and various birth defects. The percentage of births of mothers who smoked during pregnancy is on average higher for stillborn than for liveborn births. The same case appears for neonatal deaths as well.

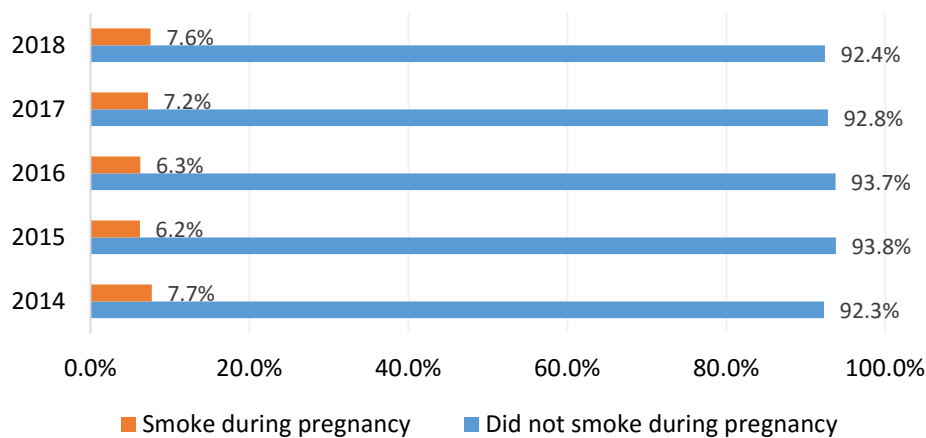
Total births by mother's smoking status during pregnancy by year, Cyprus 2014-2018

Smoking status by year	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2014-2018
Did not smoke during pregnancy	8404	8545	9094	8808	8719	<b>43570</b>
Smoke during pregnancy	701	566	609	685	714	<b>3275</b>
Not stated	447	314	19	3	2	<b>785</b>
<b>Total births</b>	<b>9552</b>	<b>9425</b>	<b>9722</b>	<b>9496</b>	<b>9435</b>	<b>47630</b>

Smoking status by year	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2014-2018
Did not smoke during pregnancy	92.3%	93.8%	93.7%	92.8%	92.4%	<b>93.0%</b>
Smoke during pregnancy	7.7%	6.2%	6.3%	7.2%	7.6%	<b>7.0%</b>
<b>% of total births</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

\* "Not stated" cases are distributed in each category by a weighting factor

Percentage of births by mother's smoking status during pregnancy by year, Cyprus 2014-2018



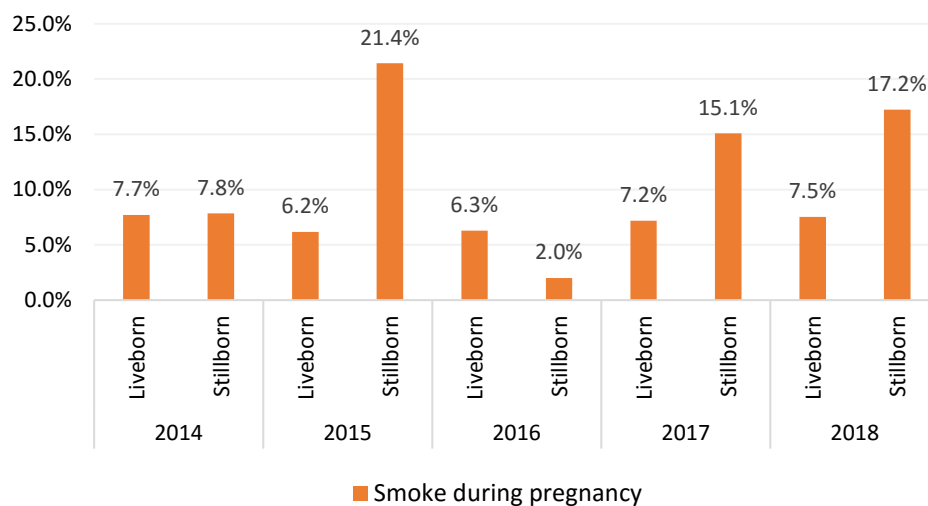
Vital status of births by mother's smoking status during pregnancy by year,  
Cyprus 2014-2018

Smoking status by vital status	2014		2015		2016		2017		2018	
	Live born	Still-born	Live born	Still-born	Live born	Still-born	Live born	Still-born	Live born	Still-born
Did not smoke during pregnancy	8357	47	8523	22	9045	49	8763	45	8695	24
Smoke during pregnancy	697	4	560	6	608	1	677	8	709	5
Not stated	445	2	311	3	17	2	3	0	2	0
<b>Total births</b>	<b>9499</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>9394</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>9670</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>9443</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>9406</b>	<b>29</b>

Smoking status by vital status	2014		2015		2016		2017		2018	
	Live born	Still-born	Live born	Still-born	Live born	Still-born	Live born	Still-born	Live born	Still-born
Did not smoke during pregnancy	92.3%	92.2%	93.8%	78.6%	93.7%	98.0%	92.8%	84.9%	92.5%	82.8%
Smoke during pregnancy	7.7%	7.8%	6.2%	21.4%	6.3%	2.0%	7.2%	15.1%	7.5%	17.2%
<b>% of total births</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

\* "Not stated" cases are distributed in each category by a weighting factor

Percentage of vital status of births by mother's smoking status  
during pregnancy by year, Cyprus 2014-2018



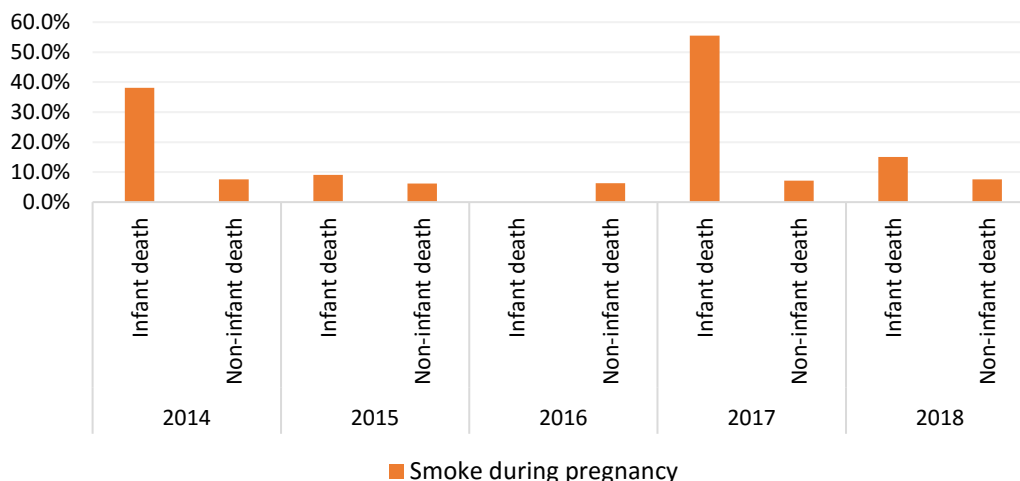
Infant deaths (<1 year) by mother's smoking status during pregnancy by year, Cyprus  
2014-2018

Infant deaths (<1 year) by mother's smoking status during pregnancy	2014		2015		2016		2017		2018	
	Infant death	Non-infant death	Infant death	Non-infant death	Infant death	Non-infant death	Infant death	Non-infant death	Infant death	Non-infant death
Did not smoke during pregnancy	13	8391	20	8525	26	9068	4	8804	17	8702
Smoke during pregnancy	8	693	2	564	0	609	5	680	3	711
Not stated	0	447	0	314	0	19	0	3	0	2
<b>Total births</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>9531</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>9403</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>9696</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>9487</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>9415</b>

Infant deaths (<1 year) by mother's smoking status during pregnancy	2014		2015		2016		2017		2018	
	Infant death	Non-infant death	Infant death	Non-infant death	Infant death	Non-infant death	Infant death	Non-infant death	Infant death	Non-infant death
Did not smoke during pregnancy	61.9%	92.4%	90.9%	93.8%	100.0%	93.7%	44.4%	92.8%	85.0%	92.4%
Smoke during pregnancy	38.1%	7.6%	9.1%	6.2%	0.0%	6.3%	55.6%	7.2%	15.0%	7.6%
<b>% of total births</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

\* "Not stated" cases are distributed in each category by a weighting factor

Percentage of infant deaths (<1 year) by mother's smoking status during pregnancy by year, Cyprus 2014-2018



### Alcohol use during pregnancy

The indicator of alcohol consumption during pregnancy is new in the Birth Registry and data are available only for years 2017 and 2018. For the year 2017 the percentage was 5.4% and for the year 2018 the percentage was 1.0%.

Alcohol consumption data is a sensitive topic and comes from a questionnaire<sup>9</sup> survey so questions about the reliability of the answers are likely to arise, given the large variation between the 2017 and 2018 rates.

The results of the questionnaire showed that the percentage of maternal alcohol consumption is low in both years 2017 and 2018 (points scored between 0-3).

Total births by mother's alcohol use during pregnancy by year, Cyprus 2014-2018

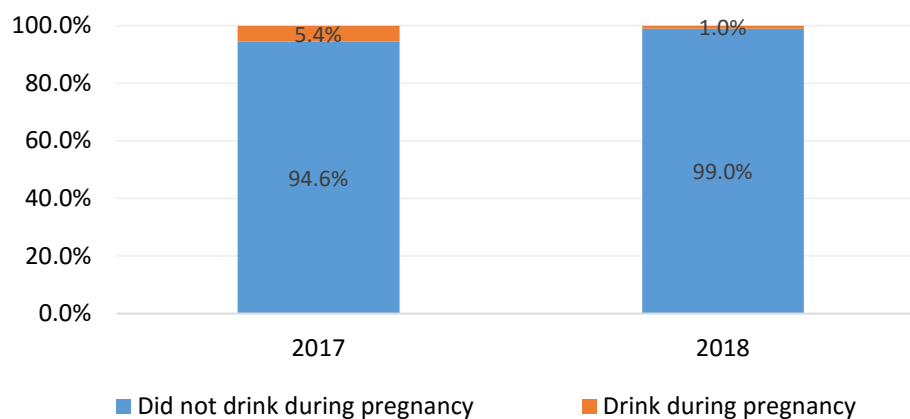
Alcohol use by year	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Did not drink during pregnancy	0	0	0	8704	9344
Drink during pregnancy	0	0	0	501	90
Not stated	9552	9425	9722	291	1
<b>Total births</b>	<b>9552</b>	<b>9425</b>	<b>9722</b>	<b>9496</b>	<b>9435</b>

Alcohol use by year	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Did not drink during pregnancy	-	-	-	94.6%	99.0%
Drink during pregnancy	-	-	-	5.4%	1.0%
<b>% of total births</b>	-	-	-	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

\* "Not stated" cases are distributed in each category by a weighting factor

Percentage of births by mother's alcohol use during pregnancy by year, Cyprus 2014-2018



<sup>9</sup> **Source:** AUDIT-C assessment tool - World Health Organization Alcohol Use Disorders Identification Test – Consumption  
[http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/handle/10665/67205/WHO\\_MSD\\_MSB\\_01.6a.pdf;jsessionid=D6279314E6A7F3E6330316A31258EA5B?sequence=1](http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/handle/10665/67205/WHO_MSD_MSB_01.6a.pdf;jsessionid=D6279314E6A7F3E6330316A31258EA5B?sequence=1)

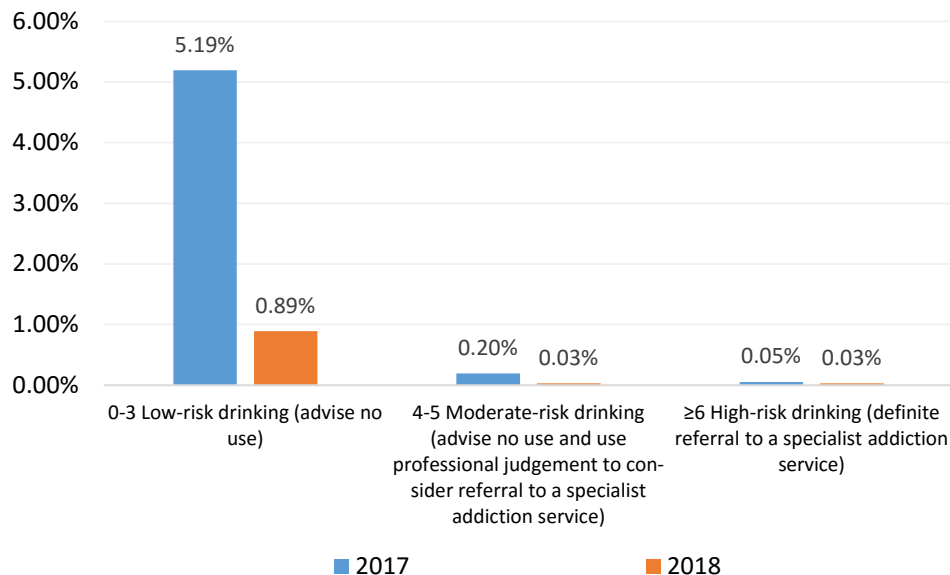
**Total births by mother's alcohol score of use during pregnancy by year,  
Cyprus 2014-2018**

Alcohol use - Score by year	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
<b>Did not drink during pregnancy</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>8704</b>	<b>9344</b>
<b>Drink during pregnancy</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>501</b>	<b>90</b>
0-3 Low-risk drinking (advise no use)	0	0	0	478	84
4-5 Moderate-risk drinking (advise no use and use professional judgement to con-sider referral to a specialist addiction service)	0	0	0	18	3
≥6 High-risk drinking (definite refer-ral to a specialist addiction service)	0	0	0	5	3
<b>Not stated</b>	<b>9552</b>	<b>9425</b>	<b>9722</b>	<b>291</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Total births</b>	<b>9552</b>	<b>9425</b>	<b>9722</b>	<b>9496</b>	<b>9435</b>

Alcohol use - Score by year	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
<b>Did not drink during pregnancy</b>	-	-	-	<b>94.56%</b>	<b>99.05%</b>
<b>Drink during pregnancy</b>	-	-	-	<b>5.44%</b>	<b>0.95%</b>
0-3 Low-risk drinking (advise no use)	-	-	-	5.19%	0.89%
4-5 Moderate-risk drinking (advise no use and use professional judgement to con-sider referral to a specialist addiction service)	-	-	-	0.20%	0.03%
≥6 High-risk drinking (definite refer-ral to a specialist addiction service)	-	-	-	0.05%	0.03%
<b>% of total births</b>	-	-	-	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

\* "Not stated" cases are distributed in each category by a weighting factor

**Percentage births by mother's alcohol score of use during pregnancy by year, Cyprus 2014-2018**





## Mode of delivery

The percentage of caesarean sections in Cyprus is among the highest in the world. From 53% in 2008 became 57% in 2014 and 2015, in 2016 was 55%, in 2017 was 53% and in 2018 the percentage was around 54%. The percentage of women who had a planned/elective caesarean is much higher than the percentage of women who had an emergency caesarean section, and this is the case in both Private and Public Sectors. The World Health Organization (WHO), on its website, states that the "ideal rate" for caesarean section is between 10% and 15%, and that caesarean section should only be made when it is medically necessary, that is, when vaginal (normal) is risky to the mother or baby<sup>10</sup>. A very high percentage of planned caesareans, 76.7%, concerned births less than 39 weeks of gestation (44.7% concerned births of 38 weeks of gestation). Even more, it is more likely for births after caesarean section to be admitted in Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU), compared with births after vaginal delivery.

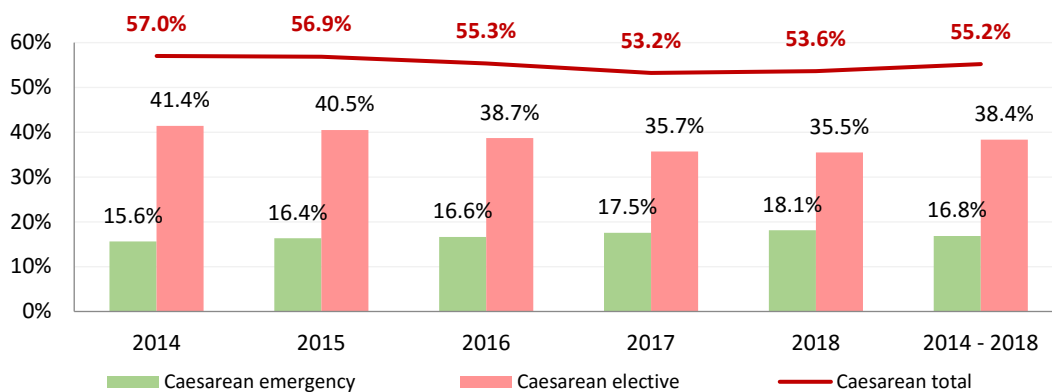
Total births by mode of delivery by year, Cyprus 2014-2018

Mode of delivery by year	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2014 - 2018
Normal	3784	3714	3990	4035	3881	19404
Forceps assisted vaginal	71	50	45	61	61	288
Ventouse assisted vaginal	244	300	308	329	425	1606
Thierry's or other instrument	0	0	0	16	9	25
Caesarean after onset (emergency)	1488	1542	1618	1665	1708	8021
Caesarean before onset (elective)	3950	3816	3759	3390	3351	18266
Unknown mode of delivery	15	3	2	0	0	20
<b>Total births</b>	<b>9552</b>	<b>9425</b>	<b>9722</b>	<b>9496</b>	<b>9435</b>	<b>47630</b>

Mode of delivery	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2014 - 2018
Normal (incl. vaginal instrumental)	43.0%	43.1%	44.7%	46.8%	46.4%	44.8%
Caesarean emergency	15.6%	16.4%	16.6%	17.5%	18.1%	16.8%
Caesarean elective	41.4%	40.5%	38.7%	35.7%	35.5%	38.4%
<b>% of total births</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

\* "Not stated" cases are distributed in each category by a weighting factor

Percentage of births by type of caesarean section by year, Cyprus 2014-2018



<sup>10</sup> <http://www.who.int/mediacentre/news/releases/2015/caesarean-sections/en/>

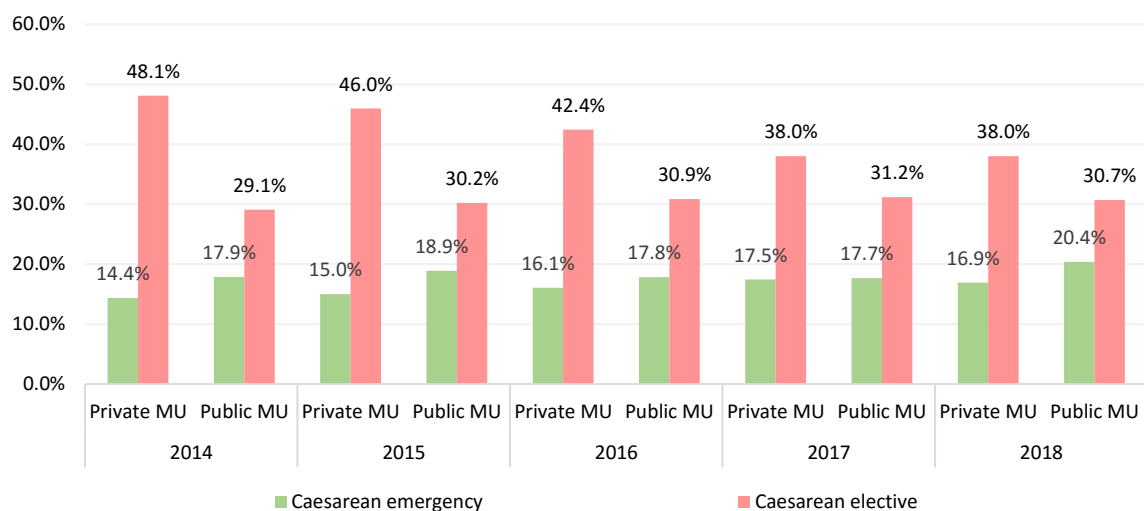
Total births by mode of delivery by Sector<sup>11</sup>, Cyprus 2014-2018

Mode of delivery by sector and year	2014		2015		2016		2017		2018	
	Private MU	Public MU	Private MU	Public MU	Private MU	Public MU	Private MU	Public MU	Private MU	Public MU
Normal	2116	1668	2162	1552	2442	1548	2457	1578	2417	1464
Forceps assisted vaginal	48	23	38	12	39	6	54	7	56	5
Ventouse assisted vaginal	159	85	196	104	238	70	258	71	324	101
Thierry's or other instrument	0	0	0	0	0	0	16	0	8	1
Caesarean after onset (emergency)	890	598	922	620	1053	565	1093	572	1053	655
Caesarean before onset (elective)	2977	973	2824	992	2782	977	2380	1010	2365	986
Unknown mode of delivery	15	0	3	0	2	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total births</b>	<b>6205</b>	<b>3347</b>	<b>6145</b>	<b>3280</b>	<b>6556</b>	<b>3166</b>	<b>6258</b>	<b>3238</b>	<b>6223</b>	<b>3212</b>

Mode of delivery by sector and year	2014		2015		2016		2017		2018	
	Private MU	Public MU	Private MU	Public MU	Private MU	Public MU	Private MU	Public MU	Private MU	Public MU
Normal (incl. vaginal instrumental)	37.5%	53.1%	39.0%	50.9%	41.5%	51.3%	44.5%	51.1%	45.1%	48.9%
Caesarean emergency	14.4%	17.9%	15.0%	18.9%	16.1%	17.8%	17.5%	17.7%	16.9%	20.4%
Caesarean elective	48.1%	29.1%	46.0%	30.2%	42.4%	30.9%	38.0%	31.2%	38.0%	30.7%
<b>% of total births</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

\* "Not stated" cases are distributed in each category by a weighting factor

Percentage of births by type of caesarean section by sector and year, Cyprus 2014-2018



<sup>11</sup> By Sector we mean the Private and the Public Sector and in this case the Private and the Public Maternity Units (MU).

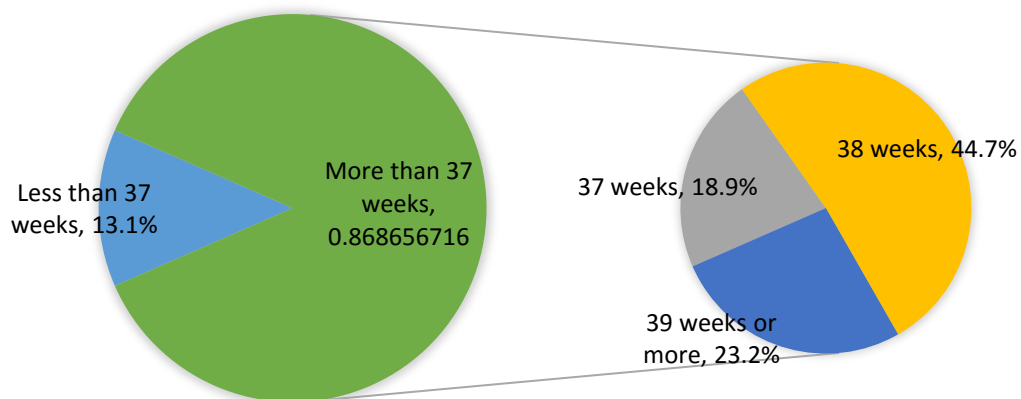
Total births by mode of delivery by gestational age, Cyprus 2018

Mode of delivery by gestational age	Caesarean Elective	Caesarean Emergency	Normal (incl. instrumental)	2018
Less than 37 weeks	440	345	261	1046
<b>More than 37 weeks</b>				
37 weeks	634	236	384	1254
38 weeks	1499	373	1007	2879
39 weeks or more	777	752	2714	4243
<b>Not stated</b>	1	2	5	8
<b>Total births (live and stillbirths)</b>	<b>3351</b>	<b>1708</b>	<b>4371</b>	<b>9430</b>

Mode of delivery by gestational age	Caesarean Elective	Caesarean Emergency	Normal (incl. instrumental)	2018
Less than 37 weeks	13.1%	20.2%	6.0%	11.1%
<b>More than 37 weeks</b>				
37 weeks	18.9%	13.8%	8.8%	13.3%
38 weeks	44.7%	21.9%	23.1%	30.6%
39 weeks or more	23.2%	44.1%	62.2%	45.0%
<b>% of total births (live and stillbirths)*</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

\* "Not stated" cases are distributed in each category by a weighting factor

CAESAREAN ELECTIVE, CYPRUS 2018



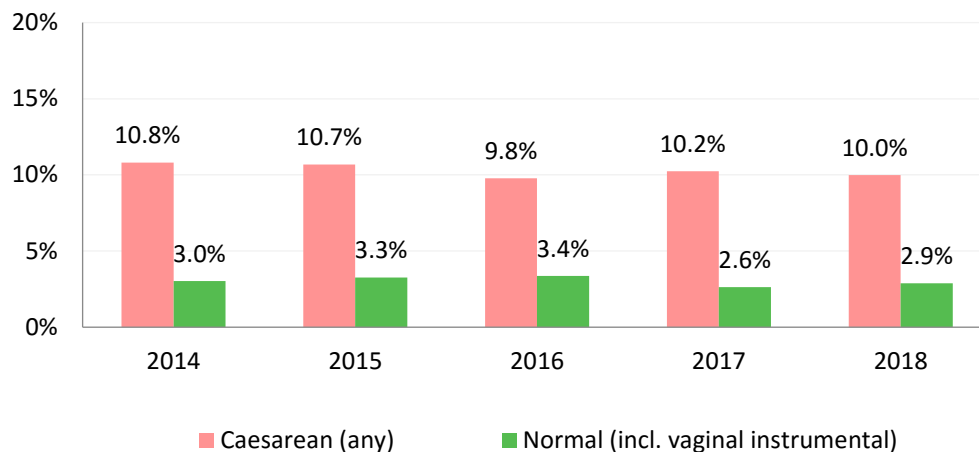
Live births by mode of delivery by admission to Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU),  
Cyprus 2014-2018

Mode of delivery by admission to NICU	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2014 - 2018
<b>Caesarean (any)</b>	<b>5446</b>	<b>5360</b>	<b>5378</b>	<b>5055</b>	<b>5059</b>	<b>26298</b>
Admitted in NICU	588	573	526	518	505	2710
No NICU admission	4858	4787	4852	4537	4554	23588
<b>Normal (incl. vaginal instrumental)</b>	<b>4106</b>	<b>4065</b>	<b>4344</b>	<b>4441</b>	<b>4376</b>	<b>21332</b>
Admitted in NICU	124	133	146	117	126	646
No NICU admission	3982	3932	4198	4324	4250	20686
<b>Live births</b>	<b>9552</b>	<b>9425</b>	<b>9722</b>	<b>9496</b>	<b>9435</b>	<b>47630</b>

Mode of delivery by admission to NICU	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2014 - 2018
<b>Caesarean (any)</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>
Admitted in NICU	10.8%	10.7%	9.8%	10.2%	10.0%	10.3%
No NICU admission	89.2%	89.3%	90.2%	89.8%	90.0%	89.7%
<b>Normal (incl. vaginal instrumental)</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>
Admitted in NICU	3.0%	3.3%	3.4%	2.6%	2.9%	3.0%
No NICU admission	97.0%	96.7%	96.6%	97.4%	97.1%	97.0%

**Denominator:** Live births

Percentage of live births admitted to Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) by mode of delivery, Cyprus 2014-2018



### Multiple births (plurality)

During years 2014 and 2018, 5 out of 100 live births and stillbirths resulted from multiple pregnancies. The rate for triplets is decreasing overtime.

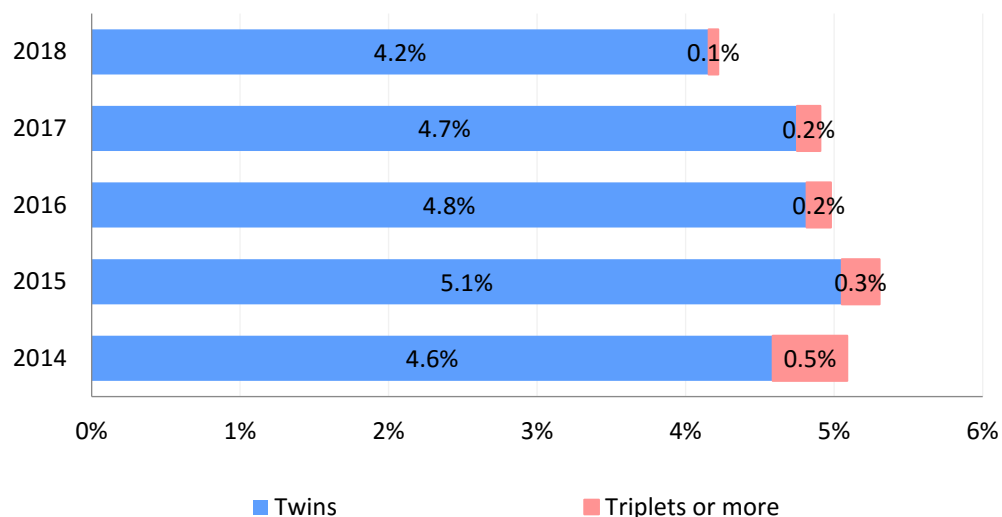
The percentage of multiple births it is higher, the higher the age of the mother.

Total births by plurality (number of fetuses) by year, Cyprus 2014-2018

Plurality by year	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2014 - 2018
Single	9066	8925	9238	9030	9037	<b>45296</b>
Twins	438	476	468	451	392	<b>2225</b>
Triplets or more	48	24	16	15	6	<b>109</b>
<b>Total births</b>	<b>9552</b>	<b>9425</b>	<b>9722</b>	<b>9496</b>	<b>9435</b>	<b>47630</b>

Plurality by year	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2014 - 2018
Single	94.9%	94.7%	95.0%	95.1%	95.8%	<b>95.1%</b>
Twins	4.6%	5.1%	4.8%	4.7%	4.2%	<b>4.7%</b>
Triplets or more	0.5%	0.3%	0.2%	0.2%	0.1%	<b>0.2%</b>
<b>% of total births</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Percentage of multiple births (number of fetuses) by year, Cyprus 2014-2018



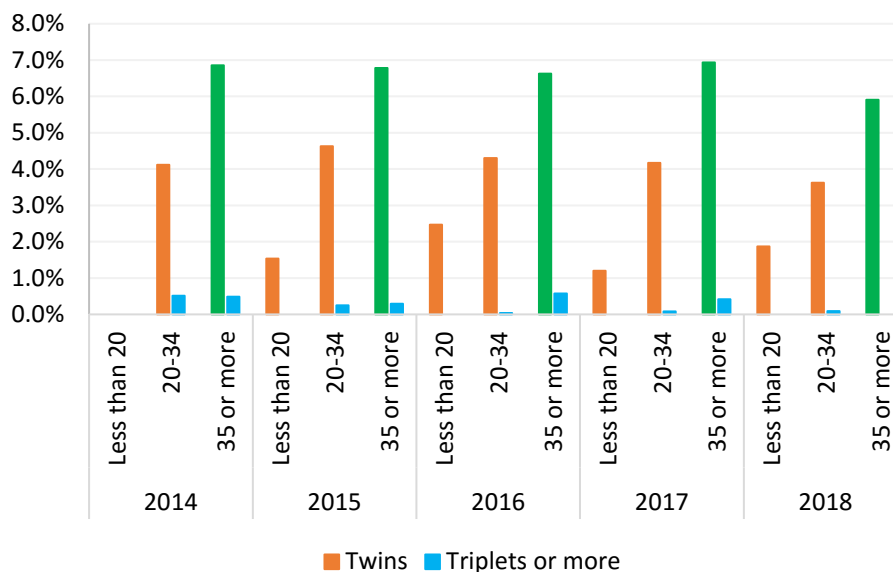
### Total births by plurality by mother's age and by year, Cyprus 2014-2018

Plurality by mother's age and year	2014			2015			2016			2017			2018		
	Less than 20	20-34	35 or more	Less than 20	20-34	35 or more	Less than 20	20-34	35 or more	Less than 20	20-34	35 or more	Less than 20	20-34	35 or more
Single	144	7220	1703	128	6906	1891	158	6979	2101	164	6862	2004	210	6597	2230
Twins	0	312	126	2	336	138	4	314	150	2	299	150	4	248	140
Triplets or more	0	39	9	0	18	6	0	3	13	0	6	9	0	6	0
<b>Total births</b>	<b>144</b>	<b>7571</b>	<b>1838</b>	<b>130</b>	<b>7260</b>	<b>2035</b>	<b>162</b>	<b>7296</b>	<b>2264</b>	<b>166</b>	<b>7167</b>	<b>2163</b>	<b>214</b>	<b>6851</b>	<b>2370</b>

Plurality by mother's age and year	2014			2015			2016			2017			2018		
	Less than 20	20-34	35 or more	Less than 20	20-34	35 or more	Less than 20	20-34	35 or more	Less than 20	20-34	35 or more	Less than 20	20-34	35 or more
Single	100.0%	95.4%	92.7%	98.5%	95.1%	92.9%	97.5%	95.7%	92.8%	98.8%	95.7%	92.6%	98.1%	96.3%	94.1%
Twins	0.0%	4.1%	6.9%	1.5%	4.6%	6.8%	2.5%	4.3%	6.6%	1.2%	4.2%	6.9%	1.9%	3.6%	5.9%
Triplets or more	0.0%	0.5%	0.5%	0.0%	0.2%	0.3%	0.0%	0.0%	0.6%	0.0%	0.1%	0.4%	0.0%	0.1%	0.0%
<b>% of total births*</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

### Percentage of multiple births by mother's age and by year, Cyprus 2014-2018



## Gestational age

The percentage of preterm babies was around 12.0% for the period 2014-2018. There was a small decline from the year 2017 (11.8%) to 2018 (11.1%).

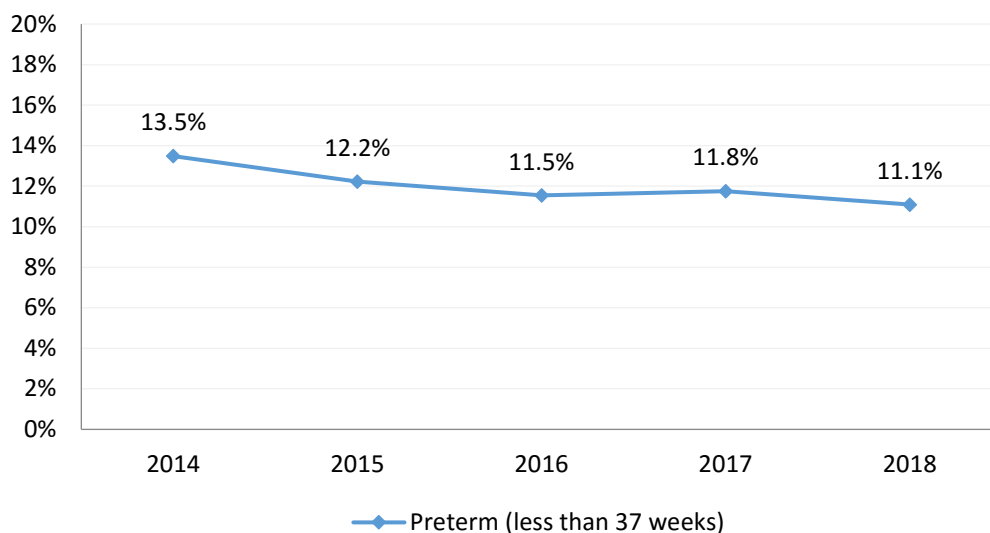
Total births by gestational age by year, Cyprus 2014-2018

Gestational age by year (completed weeks) by year	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2014 - 2018
Less than 22 weeks	0	0	2	0	0	2
Extremely preterm (22-27 weeks)	54	42	51	53	40	240
Very preterm (28-31 weeks)	120	76	90	91	95	472
Moderately preterm (32-36 weeks)	1074	1015	971	970	911	4941
Term (37-40 weeks)	7817	7936	8365	8149	8204	40471
Post-term (more than 40 weeks)	190	194	171	217	177	949
Not stated	297	162	72	16	8	555
<b>Total births</b>	<b>9552</b>	<b>9425</b>	<b>9722</b>	<b>9496</b>	<b>9435</b>	<b>47630</b>

Gestational age by year (completed weeks) by year	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2014 - 2018
Preterm (less than 37 weeks)	13.5%	12.2%	11.5%	11.8%	11.1%	12.0%
Term (37-40 weeks)	84.5%	85.7%	86.7%	86.0%	87.0%	86.0%
Post-term (more than 40 weeks)	2.1%	2.1%	1.8%	2.3%	1.9%	2.0%
<b>% of total births*</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

\* "Not stated" cases are distributed in each category by a weighting factor

Percentage of preterm births (less than 37 weeks) by year, Cyprus 2014-2018



### Admission to Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU)

During the period 2014-2018, around 7% of live births were admitted to NICU. In Public Maternity Units around 12.2% of live births were admitted to NICU, while the corresponding percentage in the Private Maternity Units were around 4.4%. The percentage of preterm live births admitted to NICU was around 5% out of 7% of all live births admitted to the NICU, while the percentage of term live births admitted to NICU was around 2%. The percentage of preterm births that survived after admission to the NICU in 2016 was 97.4%, in 2017 was 98.7% and in 2018 was 95.9%<sup>12</sup>.

Live births by admission to Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) by year,  
Cyprus 2014-2018

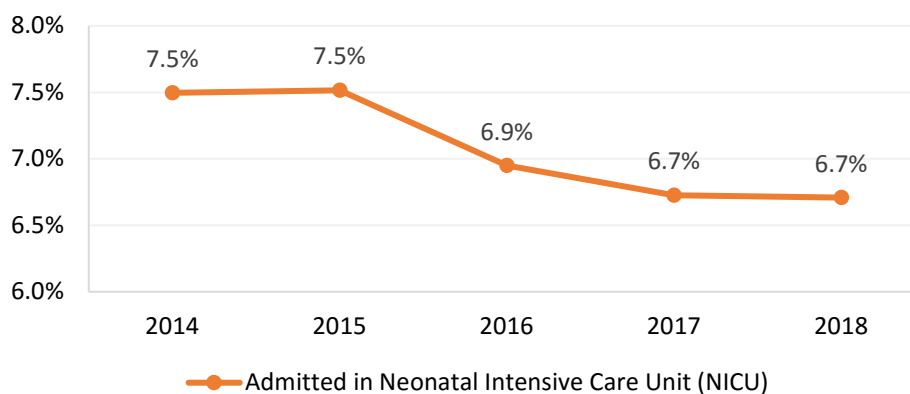
Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) admission by year	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2014 - 2018
No admission in Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU)	8772	8688	8998	8807	8775	44040
Admitted in Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU)	711	706	672	635	631	3355
Not stated	16	0	0	1	0	17
<b>Live births</b>	<b>9499</b>	<b>9394</b>	<b>9670</b>	<b>9443</b>	<b>9406</b>	<b>47412</b>

Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) admission by year	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2014 - 2018
No admission in Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU)	92.5%	92.5%	93.1%	93.3%	93.3%	92.9%
Admitted in Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU)	7.5%	7.5%	6.9%	6.7%	6.7%	7.1%
<b>Percentage of live births</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

**Denominator:** Live births

\* NICU is available at Makarios Hospital (Nicosia District) for all the years and from 2018 at Limassol General Hospital as well

Percentage of live births admitted in Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) by year, Cyprus 2014-2018



<sup>12</sup> The charts show live births by gestational age (completed weeks) by admission to the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (MENN) and by survival. The infant deaths shown in the charts relate to newborns born and dying in the same year.



Live births by admission to Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) by sector and by year,  
Cyprus 2014-2018

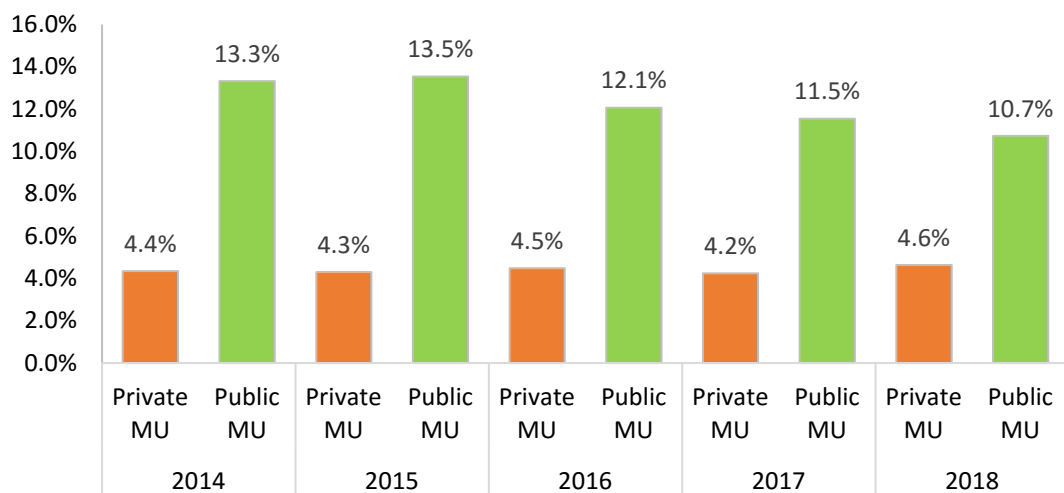
Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) admission by sector	2014		2015		2016		2017		2018	
	Private MU	Public MU	Private MU	Public MU	Private MU	Public MU	Private MU	Public MU	Private MU	Public MU
No admission in Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU)	5896	2876	5865	2823	6235	2763	5964	2843	5922	2853
Admitted in Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU)	269	442	264	442	293	379	264	371	288	343
Not stated	16	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
<b>Live births</b>	<b>6181</b>	<b>3318</b>	<b>6129</b>	<b>3265</b>	<b>6528</b>	<b>3142</b>	<b>6229</b>	<b>3214</b>	<b>6210</b>	<b>3196</b>

Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) admission by sector	2014		2015		2016		2017		2018	
	Private MU	Public MU	Private MU	Public MU	Private MU	Public MU	Private MU	Public MU	Private MU	Public MU
No admission in Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU)	95.4%	86.7%	95.7%	86.5%	95.5%	87.9%	95.7%	88.5%	95.4%	89.3%
Admitted in Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU)	4.4%	13.3%	4.3%	13.5%	4.5%	12.1%	4.2%	11.5%	4.6%	10.7%
<b>Percentage of live births</b>	<b>99.7%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

**Denominator:** Live births

\* NICU is available at Makarios Hospital (Nicosia District) for all the years and from 2018 at Limassol General Hospital as well

Percentage of live births admitted in Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) by sector and by year, Cyprus 2014-2018



Live births by gestational age by admission to Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU),  
Cyprus 2014-2018

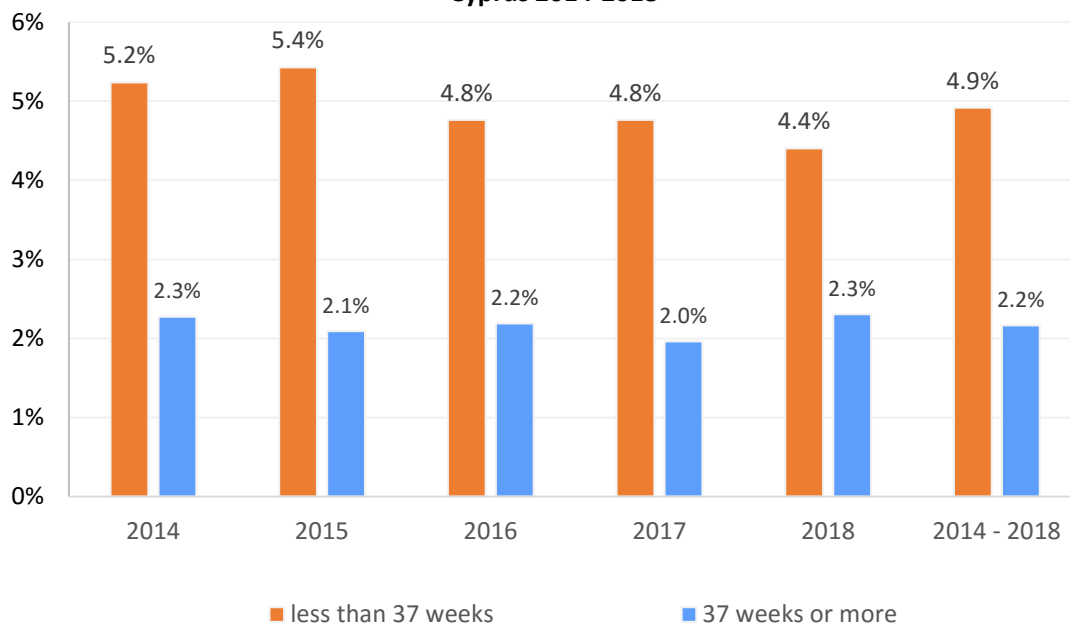
Gestational age and NICU admission by year	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2014 - 2018
<b>No NICU Admission</b>	<b>8786</b>	<b>8688</b>	<b>8998</b>	<b>8808</b>	<b>8775</b>	<b>44055</b>
less than 37 weeks	719	612	618	619	606	3174
37 weeks or more	7790	7931	8317	8175	8161	40374
Not stated	277	145	63	14	8	507
<b>Admitted in NICU</b>	<b>713</b>	<b>706</b>	<b>672</b>	<b>635</b>	<b>631</b>	<b>3357</b>
less than 37 weeks	484	501	455	449	414	2303
37 weeks or more	210	193	209	185	217	1014
Not stated	19	12	8	1	0	40
<b>Live births</b>	<b>9499</b>	<b>9394</b>	<b>9670</b>	<b>9443</b>	<b>9406</b>	<b>47412</b>

Gestational age and NICU admission by year	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2014 - 2018
<b>No NICU Admission</b>	<b>92.5%</b>	<b>92.5%</b>	<b>93.1%</b>	<b>93.3%</b>	<b>93.3%</b>	<b>92.9%</b>
less than 37 weeks	7.8%	6.6%	6.4%	6.6%	6.4%	6.8%
37 weeks or more	84.7%	85.9%	86.6%	86.7%	86.8%	86.1%
<b>Admitted in NICU</b>	<b>7.5%</b>	<b>7.5%</b>	<b>6.9%</b>	<b>6.7%</b>	<b>6.7%</b>	<b>7.1%</b>
less than 37 weeks	5.2%	5.4%	4.8%	4.8%	4.4%	4.9%
37 weeks or more	2.3%	2.1%	2.2%	2.0%	2.3%	2.2%
<b>Percentage of live births</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

**Denominator:** Live births

\* NICU is available at Makarios Hospital (Nicosia District) for all the years and from 2018 at Limassol General Hospital as well

Percentage of live births admitted in NICU by gestational age and by year,  
Cyprus 2014-2018

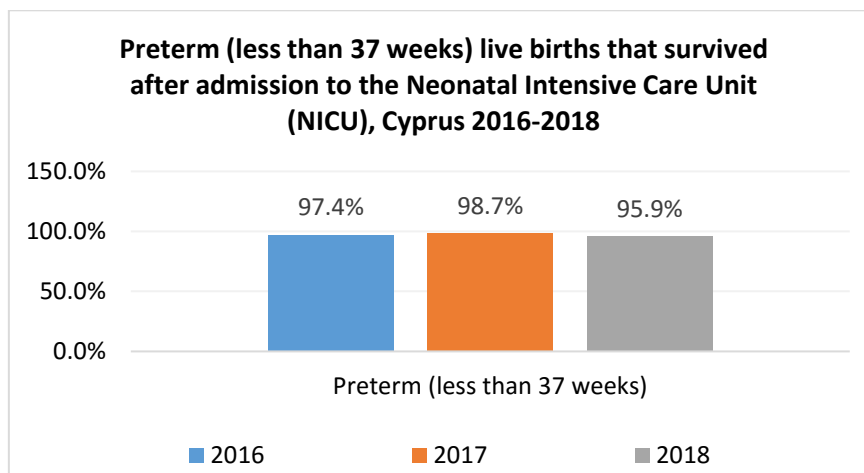


Preterm live births that survived after admission to the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU), Cyprus 2016-2018

Gestational age by year (completed weeks) by year	Admitted in NICU			No NICU Admission			2016
	Survival	Infant deaths	Total	Survival	Infant deaths	Total	
Very preterm (less than 32 weeks)	98 <b>90.7%</b>	10 9.3%	108	2 33.3%	4 66.7%	6	<b>114</b>
Moderately preterm (32-36 weeks)	345 <b>99.4%</b>	2 0.6%	347	612 100.0%	0 0.0%	612	<b>959</b>
Term (37-40 weeks)	203 97.1%	6 2.9%	209	8313 100.0%	4 0.0%	8317	<b>8526</b>
Not stated	8 100.0%	0 0.0%	8	63 100.0%	0 0.0%	63	<b>71</b>
<b>Live births / Percentage of live births</b>	<b>654 97.3%</b>	<b>18 2.7%</b>	<b>672</b>	<b>8990 99.9%</b>	<b>8 0.1%</b>	<b>8998</b>	<b>9670</b>

Gestational age by year (completed weeks) by year	Admitted in NICU			No NICU Admission			2017
	Survival	Infant deaths	Total	Survival	Infant deaths	Total	
Very preterm (less than 32 weeks)	97 <b>94.2%</b>	6 5.8%	103	4 100.0%	0 0.0%	4	<b>107</b>
Moderately preterm (32-36 weeks)	346 <b>100.0%</b>	0 0.0%	346	614 99.8%	1 0.2%	615	<b>961</b>
Term (37-40 weeks)	184 99.5%	1 0.5%	185	8174 100.0%	1 0.0%	8175	<b>8360</b>
Not stated	1 100.0%	0 0.0%	1	14 100.0%	0 0.0%	14	<b>15</b>
<b>Live births / Percentage of live births</b>	<b>628 98.9%</b>	<b>7 1.1%</b>	<b>635</b>	<b>8806 100.0%</b>	<b>2 0.0%</b>	<b>8808</b>	<b>9443</b>

Gestational age by year (completed weeks) by year	Admitted in NICU			No NICU Admission			2018
	Survival	Infant deaths	Total	Survival	Infant deaths	Total	
Very preterm (less than 32 weeks)	99 <b>89.2%</b>	12 10.8%	111	2 50.0%	2 50.0%	4	<b>115</b>
Moderately preterm (32-36 weeks)	298 <b>98.3%</b>	5 1.7%	303	602 100.0%	0 0.0%	602	<b>905</b>
Term (37-40 weeks)	216 99.5%	1 0.5%	217	8161 100.0%	0 0.0%	8161	<b>8378</b>
Not stated	0 -	0 -	0	8 100.0%	0 0.0%	8	<b>8</b>
<b>Live births / Percentage of live births</b>	<b>613 97.1%</b>	<b>18 2.9%</b>	<b>631</b>	<b>8773 100.0%</b>	<b>2 0.0%</b>	<b>8775</b>	<b>9406</b>



## Breastfeeding during the first 48 hours after birth by Sector

On average, more than 90.0% of live babies received breast milk during the first 48 hours after birth. The rate of exclusive breastfeeding for 2018 was 44.3% (35.9% for the Private and 60.6% for the Public Sector). These percentages are increasing overtime and are much higher than those in year 2014. The rates of exclusive breastfeeding after caesarean section were less than the one in vaginal delivery, however both are increasing overtime.

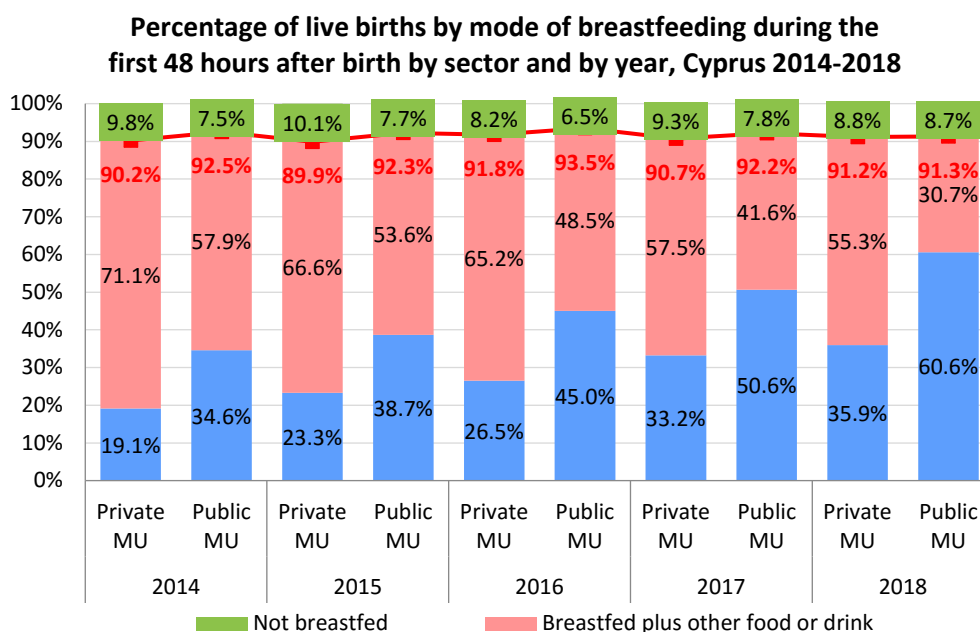
### Live births by mode of breastfeeding during the first 48 hours after birth by sector and by year, Cyprus 2014-2018

Breastfeeding during the first 48 hours after birth by sector	2014		2015		2016		2017		2018	
	Private MU	Public MU	Private MU	Public MU	Private MU	Public MU	Private MU	Public MU	Private MU	Public MU
Breastfed exclusively	1139	1147	1375	1263	1729	1414	2069	1627	2229	1937
Breastfed plus other food or drink	4233	1921	3938	1749	4249	1524	3582	1336	3431	982
Not breastfed	585	250	598	253	537	204	577	251	548	277
Not stated	224	0	218	0	13	0	1	0	2	0
<b>Live births</b>	<b>6181</b>	<b>3318</b>	<b>6129</b>	<b>3265</b>	<b>6528</b>	<b>3142</b>	<b>6229</b>	<b>3214</b>	<b>6210</b>	<b>3196</b>

Breastfeeding during the first 48 hours after birth by sector	2014		2015		2016		2017		2018	
	Private MU	Public MU	Private MU	Public MU	Private MU	Public MU	Private MU	Public MU	Private MU	Public MU
Breastfed exclusively	19.1%	34.6%	23.3%	38.7%	26.5%	45.0%	33.2%	50.6%	35.9%	60.6%
Breastfed plus other food or drink	71.1%	57.9%	66.6%	53.6%	65.2%	48.5%	57.5%	41.6%	55.3%	30.7%
Not breastfed	9.8%	7.5%	10.1%	7.7%	8.2%	6.5%	9.3%	7.8%	8.8%	8.7%
<b>% of live births*</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>
<b>Breastfed</b>	<b>90.2%</b>	<b>92.5%</b>	<b>89.9%</b>	<b>92.3%</b>	<b>91.8%</b>	<b>93.5%</b>	<b>90.7%</b>	<b>92.2%</b>	<b>91.2%</b>	<b>91.3%</b>

**Denominator:** Live births

\* "Not stated" cases are distributed in each category by a weighting factor



Live births by mode of breastfeeding during the first 48 hours after birth by mode of delivery and year, Cyprus 2014-2018

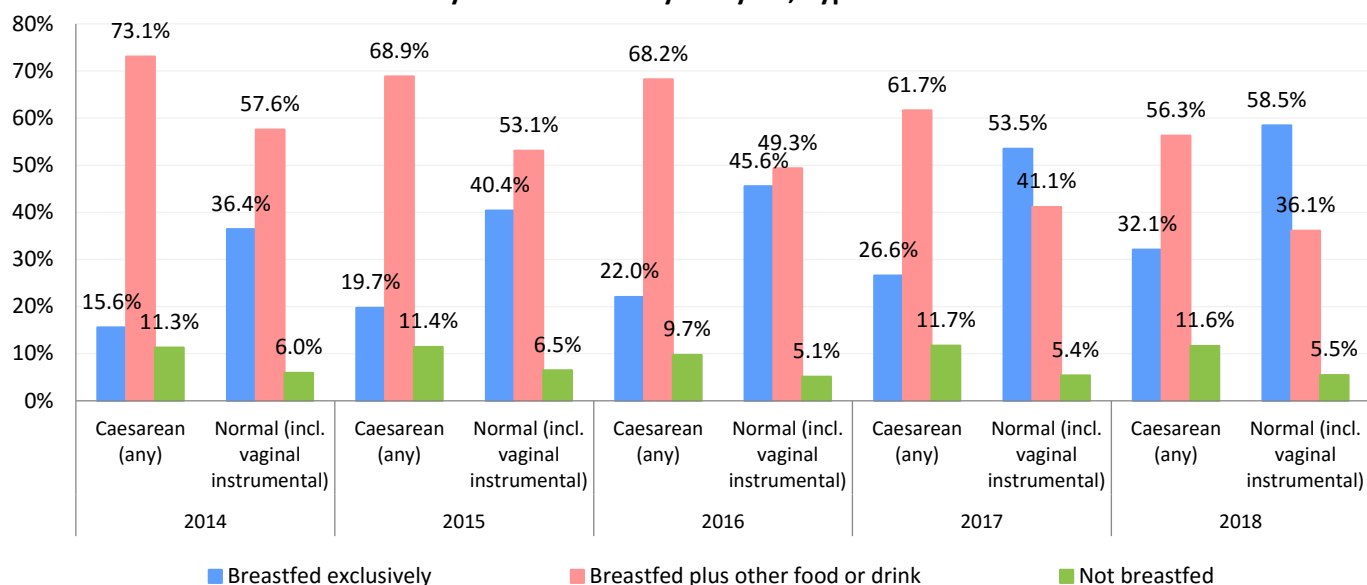
Breastfeeding by mode of delivery by year	2014		2015		2016		2017		2018	
	Caesar-ean (any)	Normal (incl. vaginal instrumental)	Caesar-ean (any)	Normal (incl. vaginal instrumental)	Caesar-ean (any)	Normal (incl. vaginal instrumental)	Caesar-ean (any)	Normal (incl. vaginal instrumental)	Caesar-ean (any)	Normal (incl. vaginal instrumental)
Breastfed exclusively	820	1466	1020	1618	1178	1965	1339	2357	1620	2546
Breastfed plus other food or drink	3836	2318	3559	2128	3646	2127	3107	1811	2842	1571
Not breastfed	595	240	590	261	521	220	591	237	587	238
Not stated	176	48	177	41	12	1	0	1	0	2
<b>Live births</b>	<b>5427</b>	<b>4072</b>	<b>5346</b>	<b>4048</b>	<b>5357</b>	<b>4313</b>	<b>5037</b>	<b>4406</b>	<b>5049</b>	<b>4357</b>

Breastfeeding by mode of delivery by year	2014		2015		2016		2017		2018	
	Caesar-ean (any)	Normal (incl. vaginal instrumental)	Caesar-ean (any)	Normal (incl. vaginal instrumental)	Caesar-ean (any)	Normal (incl. vaginal instrumental)	Caesar-ean (any)	Normal (incl. vaginal instrumental)	Caesar-ean (any)	Normal (incl. vaginal instrumental)
Breastfed exclusively	15.6%	36.4%	19.7%	40.4%	22.0%	45.6%	26.6%	53.5%	32.1%	58.5%
Breastfed plus other food or drink	73.1%	57.6%	68.9%	53.1%	68.2%	49.3%	61.7%	41.1%	56.3%	36.1%
Not breastfed	11.3%	6.0%	11.4%	6.5%	9.7%	5.1%	11.7%	5.4%	11.6%	5.5%
<b>% of live births*</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

**Denominator:** Live births

\* "Not stated" cases are distributed in each category by a weighting factor

Percentage of live births by mode of breastfeeding during the first 48 hours after birth by mode of delivery and year, Cyprus 2017



## Mortality rates

In 2014, around 5 out of 1000 births were stillborn, same rates as in years 2016 and 2017. Fetal mortality rates in 2015 and 2018 were lower, around 3 per 1000 total births. Infant mortality rates for 2014-2018 ranged between 2.2 and 2.7 per 1000 live births, except in year 2017 that the rate was 1.0 per 1000 live births.

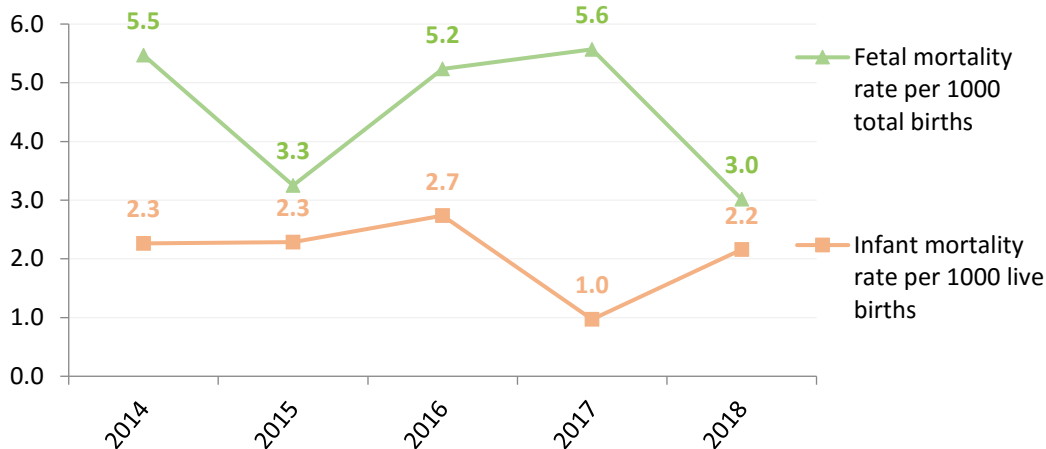
Summary table of fetal, neonatal and infant mortality rates<sup>13</sup>, Cyprus Government Controlled Areas 2014-2018

Fetal and infant deaths* by year	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Fetal (stillborn fetus of 22 or more completed weeks of gestation)	51	30	50	52	28
Infant deaths (<1 year)	21	21	26	9	20

Fetal and infant deaths* by year	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Live births Cyprus**	9268	9198	9501	9285	9261
Total births Cyprus (live and stillbirths)	9319	9228	9551	9337	9289
Fetal mortality rate per 1000 <u>total</u> births	5.5	3.3	5.2	5.6	3.0
Infant mortality rate per 1000 <u>live</u> births	2.3	2.3	2.7	1.0	2.2

\* Source: Death Registry 2004-2018, Health Monitoring Unit, Ministry of Health

Fetal mortality rate per 1000 total births and infant mortality rates per 1000 live births, Cyprus Government controlled areas 2014-2018



<sup>13</sup> Live births and stillbirths presented in the above table are only of mothers that are residents in the Government controlled areas. The reason we exclude births of mothers with residence not under the Government controlled areas is for the rates to be adjustable with the population of Cyprus. The data for live births used in the above table for the years 2014-2018, differ from these of the Cyprus Statistical Service's live births due to the different periods of data processing. The rates, however, are the same since the differences are very small.

### Mortality rates – Fetal mortality rate

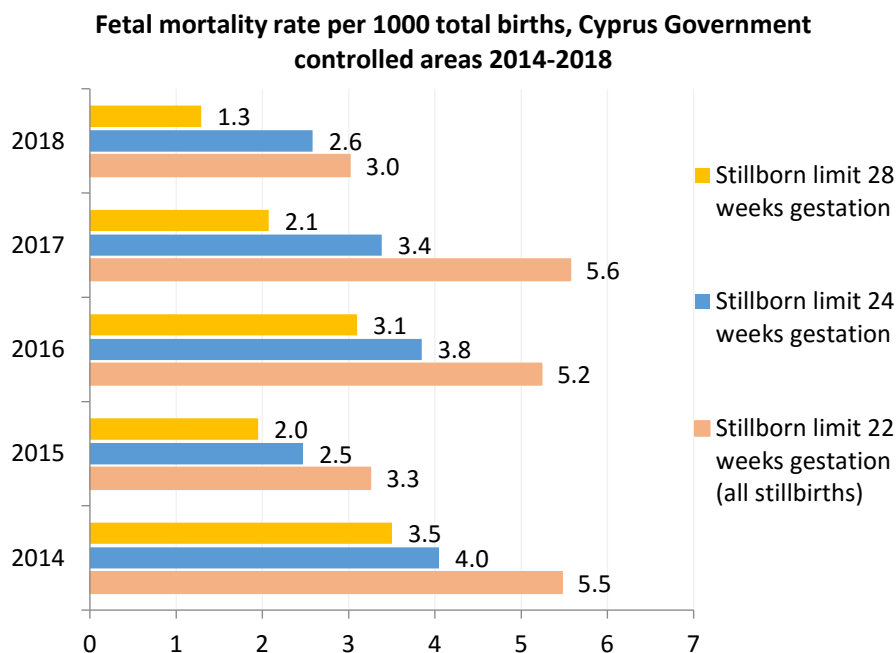
Countries have different gestational age criteria for registration of stillbirths. For Cyprus the registration limits for stillbirths is 22 weeks of gestation. For comparability between countries sometimes the data for stillbirths are presented with a cut-off of 28 weeks of gestation or with a cut-off of 24 weeks of gestation. Thus, for Cyprus for the year 2018, the fetal mortality rates at a cut-off of 22 weeks was 3.0 per 1000 total births, at a cut-off of 24 weeks was 2.6 and at a cut-off of 28 weeks was 1.3. In 2014, the percentage of fetal deaths for pregnancies with gestational age less than 32 weeks was 52.0%, while in 2018 the percentage was 67.9%. For all preterm births (less than 37 weeks) the percentage in 2014 was 34.0%, while in 2018 the percentage was 21.4%. The fetal mortality rate for singletons during 2014-2018 was on average 3.9 per 1000 total births and for multiples was 0.6.

Fetal mortality, Cyprus Government Controlled Areas 2014-2018

Vital status by gestation and year	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Liveborn	9268	9198	9501	9285	9261
Stillborn limit 22 weeks gestation (all stillbirths)	51	30	50	52	28
<b>Total births (live and stillbirths)</b>	<b>9319</b>	<b>9228</b>	<b>9551</b>	<b>9337</b>	<b>9289</b>
Stillborn limit 24 weeks gestation	38	23	37	32	24
Stillborn limit 28 weeks gestation	33	18	30	19	12

Fetal mortality rate per 1000 total births by gestation and year	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Stillborn limit 22 weeks gestation (all stillbirths)	5.5	3.3	5.2	5.6	3.0
Stillborn limit 24 weeks gestation	4.0	2.5	3.8	3.4	2.6
Stillborn limit 28 weeks gestation	3.5	2.0	3.1	2.1	1.3

**Denominator:** Total births in the Cyprus Government controlled areas.



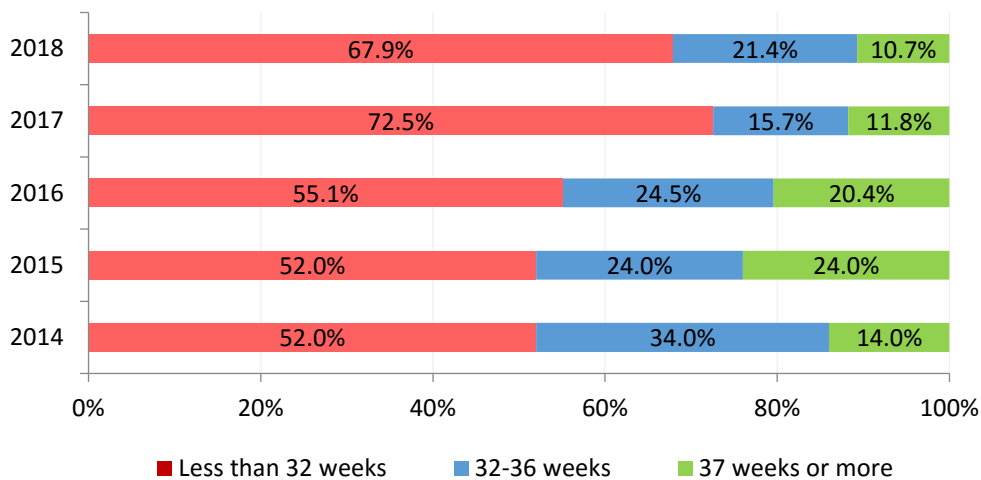
### Fetal deaths by gestational age, Cyprus Government Controlled Areas 2014-2018

Vital status by gestation and year	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Less than 32 weeks	26	14	27	37	19
32-36 weeks	17	7	12	8	6
37 weeks or more	7	7	10	6	3
<b>Stillbirths</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>28</b>

Fetal deaths by gestational age	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Less than 32 weeks	52.0%	52.0%	55.1%	72.5%	67.9%
32-36 weeks	34.0%	24.0%	24.5%	15.7%	21.4%
37 weeks or more	14.0%	24.0%	20.4%	11.8%	10.7%
<b>% of stillbirths</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

**Denominator:** Stillbirths in the Cyprus Government controlled areas

Percentage of fetal deaths by gestational age, Cyprus Government controlled areas 2014-2018





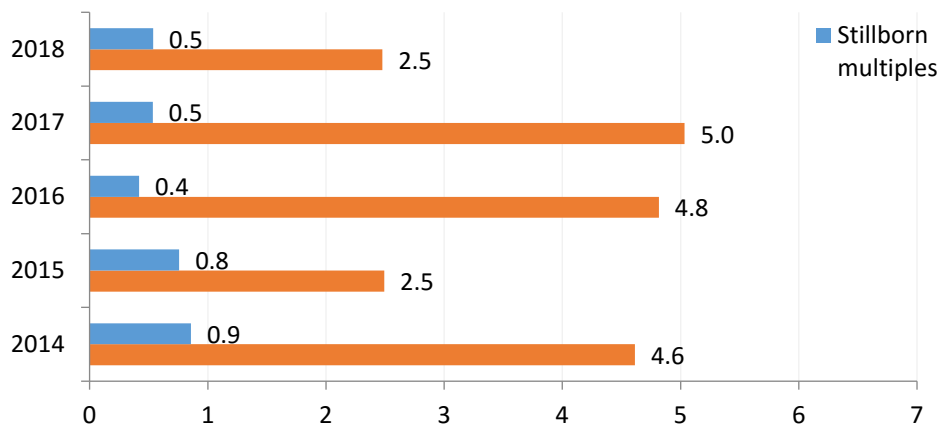
Fetal mortality by plurality, Cyprus Government Controlled Areas 2014-2018

Vital status by plurality and year	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Liveborn	9268	9198	9501	9285	9261
Stillborn singletons	43	23	46	47	23
Stillborn multiples	8	7	4	5	5
<b>Total births (live and stillbirths)</b>	<b>9319</b>	<b>9228</b>	<b>9551</b>	<b>9337</b>	<b>9289</b>

Fetal mortality rate per 1000 total births by plurality and year	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Stillborn singletons	4.6	2.5	4.8	5.0	2.5
Stillborn multiples	0.9	0.8	0.4	0.5	0.5

**Denominator:** Total births in the Cyprus Government controlled areas

Fetal mortality rate per 1000 singleton and multiple births, Cyprus Government controlled areas 2014-2018



### Mortality rates – Infant mortality rate

In the case of infant deaths (0-364 days), the percentage for babies with gestational age less than 32 weeks was, on average, 60.0%, and for all preterm births (less than 37 weeks) the percentage, on average, was 77.3%. The infant mortality rate for singletons during 2014-2018, on average, was 68.4%, while for multiples the rate was 31.6%.

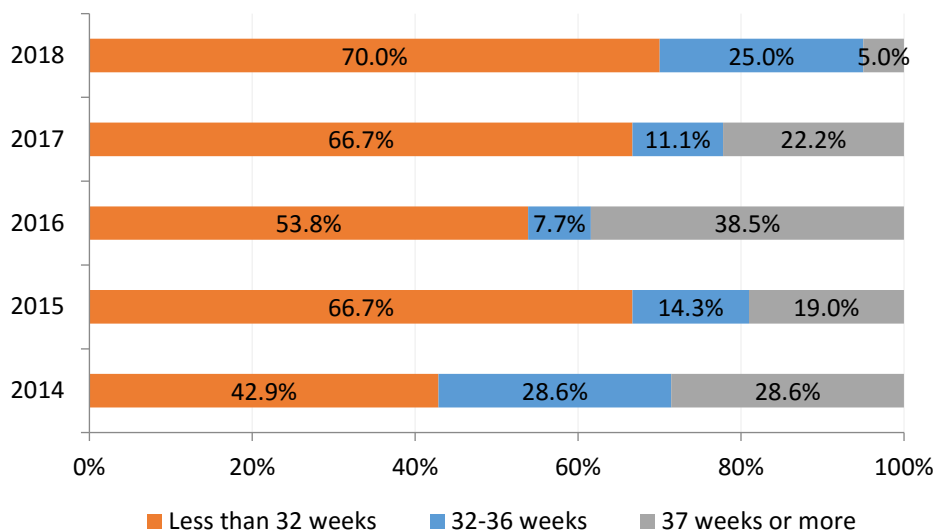
Infant deaths (<1 year) by gestational age, Cyprus Government Controlled Areas 2014-2018

Infant deaths (<1 year) by gestational age by year	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Less than 32 weeks	9	14	14	6	14
32-36 weeks	6	3	2	1	5
37 weeks or more	6	4	10	2	1
<b>Infant deaths (0-364 days)</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>20</b>

Infant deaths (<1 year) by gestational age by year	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Less than 32 weeks	42.9%	66.7%	53.8%	66.7%	70.0%
32-36 weeks	28.6%	14.3%	7.7%	11.1%	25.0%
37 weeks or more	28.6%	19.0%	38.5%	22.2%	5.0%
<b>% of infant deaths (0-364 days)</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

**Denominator:** Infant deaths (0-364 days) in the Cyprus Government Controlled Areas happened in the same year of birth

Percentage of infant deaths (<1 year) by gestational age, Cyprus Government controlled areas 2014-2018



Infant deaths (<1 year) by plurality, Cyprus Government  
Controlled Areas 2014-2018

Infant deaths by plurality by year	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Singletons	16	11	20	6	14
Multiples	5	10	6	3	6
<b>Infant deaths (&lt;1 year)</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>20</b>

Infant deaths by plurality by year	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Singletons	76.2%	52.4%	76.9%	66.7%	70.0%
Multiples	23.8%	47.6%	23.1%	33.3%	30.0%
<b>Infant deaths (&lt;1 year)</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

**Denominator:** Infant deaths (0-364 days) in the Cyprus Government controlled areas happened in the same year of birth

Percentage of infant deaths (<1 year) by plurality, Cyprus  
Government controlled areas 2014-2018

