

Question:

All births of children with birth defects - special needs born for each of the following years

2019
2020
2021
2022
2023

Response:

Information on the number of babies born each year with a birth defect is not collected. Please find attached numbers of babies born each calendar year who were admitted to hospital within the first year of their life with a birth defect, and potential birth defect. Data for 2023 is not yet available.

Please note, as birth defects is a very generic statement, these figures include many congenital diseases. The majority of these conditions may not be initially diagnosed at birth, but weeks, months, or years later. Birth injuries have not been included in this query.

The column potential birth defects refers to codes which are not specific to congenital conditions, and therefore may include other conditions.

Number of babies with birth defects per calendar year¹ from 2019-2022

Year	Babies with Birth Defect Diagnosis ²	Babies with Potential Birth Defect Diagnosis ³
2019	4399	329
2020	3931	237
2021	4069	412
2022	3611	408

Source: Hospital Inpatient System, Hospital Information Branch, Information & Analysis Directorate, Department of Health, NI.

Notes:

¹Figures represent individuals. Calendar year files were used, and only babies born in that same year were selected out for analysis. Admissions are approximated using deaths and discharges. Admissions to the Mental Health and Learning Disability programmes of care are not included.

²Birth defects were identified using the following ICD-10 codes in any of the seventeen diagnoses fields of the Hospital Inpatient System:

A33X, A500, A501, A502, A503, A504, A505, A506, A507, A509, D180, D181, D220, D221, D222, D223, D224, D225, D226, D227, D229, D550, D551, D552, D553, D558, D559, D560, D561, D562, D563, D564, D568, D569, D571, D572, D573, D578, D580, D581, D582, D588, D589, D610, D644, D680, D681, D682, D71X, D720, D740, D750, D800, D840, E000, E001, E002, E009, E030, E031, E071, E230, E250, E343, E345, E700, E701, E702, E703, E708, E709, E710, E711, E712, E713, E720, E721, E722, E723, E724, E725, E728, E729, E730, E731, E738, E739, E740, E741, E742, E743, E744, E748, E749, E750, E751, E752, E753, E754, E755, E756, E760, E761, E762, E763, E768, E769, E770, E771, E778, E779, E780, E781, E782, E783, E784, E785, E786, E788, E789, E790, E791, E798, E799, E800, E801, E802, E803, E804, E805, E806, E807, E830, E831, E832, E833, E834, E835, E838, E839, E840, E841, E848, E849, E850, E851, E852, E880, E881, E882, E883, E888, E889, G110, G111, G113, G114, G118, G119, G702, G710, G712, G901, I780, I781, M410, P200, P201, P209, P210, P211, P219, P231, P232, P233, P234, P235, P236, P238, P239, P240, P241, P242, P243, P248, P249, P270, P271, P278, P279, P280, P350, P351, P352, P353, P358, P359, P360, P361, P362, P363, P364, P365, P368, P369, P370, P371, P372, P373, P374, P375, P378, P379, P520, P521, P522, P523, P524, P525, P526, P528, P529, P613, P614, P700, P701, P788, P835, P941, P942, P960, P961, P962, P963

³The following ICD-10 codes were used in any of the seventeen diagnoses fields of the Hospital Inpatient System to identify potential birth defects, but these codes are not specific to congenital conditions and other conditions may also be included in these:

D510, D691, D698, D70X, D841, G711, G719, G800, G801, G802, G803, G804, G808, G809, H520, H521, H522, H523, H527, H531, H535, H536, H540, H541, H542, H543, H544, H545, H546, H549, H55X, H570, H900, H901, H902, H903, H904, H905, H906, H907, H908, H919, I278, I424, I456, I607, K006, K009, K071, K072, K073, K075, K078, K079, L00X, L819, M231, N040, N041, N042, N043, N044, N045, N046, N047, N048, N049, P288, P969,

Date response issued: 11/4/2024
Reference Number: DOH/2024-0074