



Women's Experience of Maternity Care

What is the survey about?

This is a survey about your recent experience of maternity care. Your views are very important in helping us find out how good the services are and how they can be improved.

Completing the questionnaire

Please only think about the maternity care you received in your **most recent** pregnancy and birth when answering these questions.

For most questions, please cross clearly inside one box 🗵 using a black or blue pen. For some questions you may be asked to cross more than one box.

Don't worry if you make a mistake; simply fill in the box ■ and put a cross ☒ in the correct box.

Not all sections will apply to you. Sometimes you will find the box you have crossed has an instruction to go to another question. By following the instructions carefully you will miss out questions that do not apply to you.

Please **do not** write your name or address anywhere on the questionnaire.

Taking part in this survey is voluntary. Your answers will be treated in confidence.

If you prefer not to fill in the questionnaire, please return it blank in the freepost envelope provided.

If the survey raises issues or questions of concern, you may wish to contact your family doctor (GP) or Health Visitor.

Questions or help?

If you have any questions, please call the helpline number given in the letter enclosed with this questionnaire.

SECTION A. DATES AND YOUR A1. Did you give birth to a single baby, twins or more in your most recent pregnancy? □ A single baby ₂ LI Twins 3 La Triplets, quads or more A2. What time was your baby born? (If you had twins or more than two babies this time, please fill in this question about the baby who was born first) □ Early morning (12:01am-6:00am) ² Morning (6:01am-12:00 noon) ³ Afternoon (12:01pm-6:00pm) 4 D Evening / Night (6:01pm-12:00 midnight) A3. Roughly how many weeks pregnant were you when your baby was born? Before I was 37 weeks pregnant ² When I was 37 weeks pregnant or more SECTION B. CARE WHILE YOU **WERE PREGNANT (ANTENATAL** CARE) The start of your care in pregnancy B1. Who was the first health professional you saw when you thought you were pregnant? (Cross **ONE** only)

B2.	Roughly how many weeks pregnant were when you first saw this health professiona about your pregnancy care?	
1	☐ When I was 0 to 6 weeks pregnant	
2	☐ When I was 7 to 12 weeks pregnant	
3	☐ When I was 13 or more weeks pregnar	nt
4	Don't know / can't remember	
В3.	Roughly how many weeks pregnant were when you had your 'booking' appointment appointment where you were given your pregnancy notes)?	
1	☐ When I was 0 to 7 weeks pregnant	
2	☐ When I was 8 or 9 weeks pregnant	
3	☐ When I was 10 or 11 weeks pregnant	
4	☐ When I was 12 weeks pregnant	
5	☐ When I was 13 or more weeks pregnar	nt
6	Don't know / can't remember	
B4.	Were you offered any of the following cho about where to have your baby? (Cross A that apply)	
2	.5 ₁ I was offered a choice of hospitals	
2	.5 ₂ I was offered a choice of giving birth midwife led unit or birth centre	n in a
2	.5 ₃ I was offered a choice of giving birtl consultant led unit	n in a
2	.5 ₄ I was offered a choice of giving birth home	n at
	0 5 I was not offered any choices	
-	$_{\rm s}$ \square I had no choices due to medical reason	ons
-	Don't know	
	Note: Question B4 multiple choice ques scoring is calculated by adding the sco from all responses (e.g. if three respon	res

Note: Question B4 multiple choice question scoring is calculated by adding the scores from all responses (e.g. if three responses are selected, the question score is 7.5). If respondents select any of the first four options as well as any of the final three, the first four responses are given priority.

□ GP / family doctor

₂ Midwife

☐ Other

B5. Before your baby was born, did you plan to have a home birth?	B9. If you saw a midwife for your antenatal check- ups, did you see the same one every time?
₁ Yes	₁ ☐ Yes
₂ No	$_{\scriptscriptstyle 2}$ \square Yes, but would have preferred not to
B6. Did you get enough information from either a midwife or doctor to help you decide where to	₃ ☐ No, but I wanted to
have your baby?	$_4$ \square No, but I did not mind
10₁ ☐ Yes, definitely	$_{5}$ \square I only saw a midwife once
5 ₂ Yes, to some extent	6 ☐ I did not see a midwife
0₃	₇ Don't know / can't remember
- 4 No, but I did not need this information	
-₅ Don't know / can't remember	B10.During your antenatal check-ups, did the midwives appear to be aware of your medical history?
Antenatal check-ups	10₁ ☐ Yes, always
A 'check-up' is any contact with a doctor or	5 2 Yes, sometimes
midwife to check the progress of your pregnancy. It usually includes having your blood pressure	0 3 N o
and urine checked. Please ignore other	- 4 Don't know / can't remember
appointments that did not include these things, such as a visit to the hospital for a scan or a	- 4 Don't know / can't remember
blood test only.	B11.During your antenatal check-ups, were you
5	given enough time to ask questions or discuss your pregnancy?
B7. During your pregnancy were you given a choice about where your antenatal check-ups	<u> </u>
would take place?	10₁ ☐ Yes, always
10₁ ☐ Yes	5 2 Yes, sometimes
0 ₂ No	0 3 No
- 3 Don't know / can't remember	- 4 Don't know
B8. Which of the following health professionals did	B12. During your antenatal check-ups, did the
you see for your antenatal check-ups?	midwives listen to you?
(Cross <i>ALL</i> that apply)	10₁ ☐ Yes, always
₁	5 2 Yes, sometimes
² GP (family doctor)	0 3 No
₃ ☐ Hospital doctor (e.g. a consultant)	-4 Don't know / can't remember
4 D Other	

B13. During your antenatal check-ups, did a midwife ask you how you were feeling emotionally?	SECTION C. YOUR LABOUR AND THE BIRTH OF YOUR BABY
 10₁ ☐ Yes, definitely 5₂ ☐ Yes, to some extent 	Note: If you had a planned caesarean please go to Question C7
0 ₃ ☐ No -₄ ☐ Don't know / can't remember	C1. At the very start of your labour, did you feel that you were given appropriate advice and support when you contacted a midwife or the hospital?
During your pregnancy	- 1 I did not contact a midwife or the hospital
B14. During your pregnancy, did you have a telephone number for a midwife or midwifery team that you could contact?	10₂ ☐ Yes 0₃ ☐ No
10₁ ☐ Yes	
0 2 No	C2. Did you have a home birth?
-3 Don't know / can't remember	₁ ☐ Yes
PAS During various and an arrangement of the same and a standard of the sam	₂ No
B15. During your pregnancy, if you contacted a midwife, were you given the help you needed?	C3. During your labour, were you able to move around and choose the position that made you
10₁ ☐ Yes, always	most comfortable?
5 2 Yes, sometimes	10₁ ☐ Yes, most of the time
0 з П No	5 2 Yes, sometimes
0 ₄ No, as I was not able to contact a midwife	0 3 No
- 5 I did not contact a midwife	-4 No, but this was not possible due to medical reasons
B16. Thinking about your antenatal care , were you spoken to in a way you could understand?	
10₁ ☐ Yes, always	C4. During your pregnancy, what type of pain relief did you plan to use when giving birth? (Cross ALL that apply)
5 2 Yes, sometimes 0 3 No	Natural methods (e.g. hypnosis, breathing, massage)
- 4 Don't know / can't remember	² Water or a birthing pool
B17.Thinking about your antenatal care, were you	3 TENS machine (with pads on your back)
involved enough in decisions about your care?	4 Gas and air (breathing through a mask)
10₁ ☐ Yes, always	5 Injection of pethidine or a similar painkiller
5 2 Yes, sometimes	₅ ☐ Epidural (injection in your back, given by ar
0 з П No	anaesthetist)
-4 I did not want / need to be involved	7 I did not want to use pain relief
-₅ Don't know / can't remember	₃ ☐ I had not decided
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C5. Did the pain relief yo you had originally	ou used change from what planned?	C8. Where did you give birth? (Cross ONE only)
₁ ☐ Yes	→ Go to C6	₁ ☐ On a bed
2 D No	→ Go to C7	₂ On the floor
_		₃ ☐ In a water or birthing pool
₃ ☐ I did not use pair		4 D Other
₄ ┗┛ I did not have a p	plan → Go to C7	C9. What position were you in when your baby
C6. Why did you not use	e the choice of pain relief	was born? (Cross ONE only)
that you had origina ALL that apply)	ally planned to? (Cross	Sitting / sitting supported by pillows
₁ For medical reas	sons	₂ On my side
₂ l changed my m	ind	₃ ☐ Standing, squatting or kneeling
	use the pain relief I had	₄ ☐ Lying flat / lying supported by pillows
planned to use		₅ ☐ Lying with legs in stirrups
4 LJ There was not tir relief	me to use my planned pain	6 ☐ Other
	nad planned to use did not	C10.Did you have skin to skin contact (baby naked,
work	vere not enough staff to	directly on your chest or tummy) with your baby shortly after the birth?
provide my chos	•	10₁ ☐ Yes
7 I was not told wh choice of pain re	•	0 2 Yes, but I did not want this
₈ Other		0 3 No
		-4 No, but this was not possible for medical
The birth of your bab	ру	reasons
C7. Thinking about the b		-5 LI did not want skin to skin contact with my baby
twins or more than t	d you have? If you had two babies this time, please	C44 If your partner or company also along to you
fill in this question a born first)	bout the baby who was	C11.If your partner or someone else close to you was involved in your care during labour and
₁ ☐ A normal vagina	al delivery → Go to C8	birth, were they able to be involved as much as they wanted?
₂ An assisted vag	inal delivery (e.g. with	10₁ ☐ Yes
forceps or ventor	use suction cup) → Go to C8	0 2 No
3 A planned caes	☐ A planned caesarean delivery	-3 They did not want to be involved
,	→ Go to C10	-4 I did not want them to be involved
⁴ ☐ An emergency caesarean delivery → Go to C10		-5 I did not have a partner or a companion
	7 30 10 010	with me
		1

The staff caring for you	C16. Thinking about your care during labour and birth, were you spoken to in a way you could
C12. Did the staff treating and examining you introduce themselves?	understand?
10 ₁ Yes, all of the staff introduced themselves	10₁ ☐ Yes, always
5 2 Some of the staff introduced themselves	5 2 Yes, sometimes
O 3 Very few or none of the staff introduced themselves	0 ₃ ☐ No -₄ ☐ Don't know / can't remember
- 4 Don't know / can't remember	C17.Thinking about your care during labour and birth, were you involved enough in decisions
C13.Were you (and/or your partner or a companion) left alone by midwives or doctors at a time when it worried you? (Cross ALL that apply)	about your care? 10₁ ☐ Yes, always
0 ₁ ☐ Yes, during early labour	5 2 Tyes, sometimes
0 2 Tes, during the later stages of labour	0 3 No
0 3 Tes, during the birth	-4 I did not want / need to be involved
0 4 The Yes, shortly after the birth	-₅ ☐ Don't know / can't remember
10₅ □ No, not at allC14.If you raised a concern during labour and birth,	C18.Thinking about your care during labour and birth, were you treated with respect and dignity?
did you feel that it was taken seriously?	10₁ ☐ Yes, always
10₁ ☐ Yes	5 2 Tyes, sometimes
0 ₂ No	0 3 No
-₃ ☐ I did not raise any concerns	-4 Don't know / can't remember
C15.If you needed attention during labour and birth, were you able to get a member of staff to help you within a reasonable time?	C19.Did you have confidence and trust in the staff caring for you during your labour and birth?
10₁ ☐ Yes, always	10₁ ☐ Yes, definitely
5 2 Yes, sometimes	5 2 Yes, to some extent
0 3 No	0 3 N o
10 ₄ \square A member of staff was with me all the time	- ₄ Don't know / can't remember
- 5 I did not want / need this	
- 6 Don't know / can't remember	

SECTION D. CARE IN HOSPITAL AFTER THE BIRTH (POSTNATAL CARE)

Note: If you had a home birth and did not go to hospital, please go to question E1 D1. How long did you stay in hospital after your baby was born? ₁ ☐ Up to 12 hours More than 12 hours but less than 24 hours ₃ **□** 1 to 2 days 4 **3** to 4 days 5 or more days

5 or more days

5 or more days

5 or more days

5 or more days

5 or more days

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5 or more days

5 or more days

6 or more days

7 or more days

8 or more D2. Looking back, do you feel that the length of your stay in hospital after the birth was... 0 ₁ ☐ Too long? O₂ Too short? 10₃ ☐ About right? -4 Not sure / Don't know D3. If you needed attention while you were in hospital after the birth, were you able to get a member of staff to help you within a reasonable time? 10₁ ☐ Yes, always 5 2 Yes, sometimes $0_3 \square No$

after the birth of your baby, were you given the information or explanations you needed?
10₁ ☐ Yes, always
5 2 Tyes, sometimes
0 з П No
-4 Don't know / can't remember
D5. Thinking about the care you received in hospital after the birth of your baby, were you treated with kindness and understanding?
10₁ ☐ Yes, always
5 2 Yes, sometimes
0 ₃ No
-4 Don't know / can't remember
D6. Thinking about your stay in hospital, if your partner or someone else close to you was involved in your care, were they able to stay with you as much as you wanted? (Cross ALL that apply)
10₁ ☐ Yes
0 2 No, as they were restricted to visiting hours
0 ₃ \square No, as there was no accommodation for them in the hospital
-4 No, they were not able to stay for another reason
-5 I did not have a partner or companion with me
D7. Thinking about your stay in hospital, how clean was the hospital room or ward you were in?
10₁ ☐ Very clean
6.7 ₂ Fairly clean
3.3₃ ☐ Not very clean
0 4 Not at all clean
-₅ Don't know / can't remember

D4. Thinking about the care you received in hospital

4 L I did not want / need this

5 Don't know / can't remember

D8. Thinking about your stay in hospital, how cl were the toilets and bathrooms you used?	ean E4. Were your decisions about how you wanted to feed your baby respected by midwives?
10₁ ☐ Very clean	10₁ ☐ Yes, always
6.7 ₂ Fairly clean	5 2 Yes, sometimes
3.3₃ ☐ Not very clean	0 з П No
0 4 Not at all clean	-4 Don't know / can't remember
-5 Don't know / can't remember	E5. Did you feel that midwives and other health
-6 I did not use the toilet/bathroom	professionals gave you consistent advice about feeding your baby?
	10₁ ☐ Yes, always
SECTION E. FEEDING YOUR BAR	5 2 L Yes, sometimes
E1. During your pregnancy did midwives pro relevant information about feeding your ba	
10₁ ☐ Yes, definitely	-4 I did not want or need any advice
5 2 Yes, to some extent	0 5 I did not receive any advice
0 з П No	- ₀ Don't know / can't remember
-4 I did not want/need this information	E6. Did you feel that midwives and other health
-5 Don't know / can't remember	professionals gave you active support and encouragement about feeding your baby?
	10₁ ☐ Yes, always
E2. In the first few days after the birth how was your baby fed? (Cross ONE only)	5 2 Yes, sometimes
	0 з П No
□ Breast milk (or expressed breast milk)→ Go to	
 Both breast and formula (bottle) milk → Go to 	-₅ □ Don't know / can't remember • E4
₃ ☐ Formula (bottle) milk only → Go to	SECTION F. CARE AT HOME AFTER
₄ ☐ Not sure → Go to	THE BIRTH
E3. Did you ever try to breastfeed your baby (e	F1. When you were at home after the birth of your baby, did you have a telephone number for a midwife or midwifery team that you could contact?
it was only once)?	10₁ ☐ Yes
₁ ☐ Yes	0 2 No
2 No	-₃ ☐ Don't know / can't remember
	1

F2. If you contacted a midwife were you given the help you needed?	Thinking about all the times you were visited at home or seen in a clinic by a midwife after the birth	
10₁ ☐ Yes, always		
5 2 Yes, sometimes	F5. How many times in total did you see a midwife after you went home?	
0 3 No	₁	
0 4 No as I was not able to contact a midwife	2 🗖 3 - 4	
- 5 I did not contact a midwife	₃ □ 5 - 6	
	₄ \square 7 times or more	
F3. Since your baby's birth have you been visited at home by a midwife?	₅ ☐ Don't know / can't remember	
Yes → Go to F4	F6. Would you have liked to have seen a midwife	
yes, but I had to contact them to ask them to visit → Go to F4 yes, but I had to contact them to ask them to visit	0 ₁ ☐ More often?	
 No, I visited the midwife or saw a midwife in clinic → Go to F4 	0 2 Less often?	
₄ ☐ No, I was not offered a visit	10₃ ☐ I saw a midwife as much as I wanted	
→ Go to F12	F7. Did the midwife or midwives that you saw	
	appear to be aware of the medical history of you and your baby?	
→ Go to F12 6 □ No, for another reason → Go to F12	10₁ ☐ Yes	
	0 2 No	
F4. Did you see the same midwife every time?	-₃ Don't know / can't remember	
₁ Yes		
$_{2}$ \square Yes, but would have preferred not to	F8. Did you feel that the midwife or midwives that you saw always listened to you?	
₃ ☐ No, but I wanted to	10₁ ☐ Yes, always	
4 No, but I did not mind	5 2 Yes, sometimes	
₅ ☐ I only saw a midwife once	0 3 \square No	
6 ☐ I did not see a midwife	- ₄ Don't know / can't remember	
₇ Don't know / can't remember	-4 La Don't know / can't remember	

F14. In the six weeks after the birth of your baby did you receive help and advice from a midwife or health visitor about feeding your baby?
10₁ ☐ Yes, definitely
5 2 Yes, to some extent
0 3 N o
-4 I did not need any
-₅ Don't know / can't remember
F15. If, during evenings, nights or weekends, you needed support or advice about feeding
your baby, were you able to get this?
10₁ ☐ Yes, always
5 2 Tyes, sometimes
0 з П No
-4 I did not need this
-₅ Don't know / can't remember
F16. In the six weeks after the birth of your baby did you receive help and advice from health professionals about your baby's health and
progress?
10₁ ☐ Yes, definitely
5 2 Tyes, to some extent
0 з П No
-4 I did not need any
-₅ Don't know / can't remember
F17. Were you given enough information about any emotional changes you might experience after the birth?
10₁ ☐ Yes, definitely
5 2 Yes, to some extent
0 3 No
-4 No, but I did not need this information
-₅ ☐ Don't know / can't remember
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needed advice about any emotional changes you might experience after the birth? 101 Yes 0 2 No - 3 Don't know / can't remember F19. Were you given information or offered advice from a health professional about contraception? 101 Yes 0 2 No - 3 Don't know / can't remember	standing conditions? (Cross ALL that apply) Deafness or severe hearing impairment Blindness or partially sighted A long-standing physical condition A learning disability A mental health condition A long-standing illness, such as cancer, HIV, diabetes, chronic heart disease, or epilepsy No, I do not have a long-standing condition
SECTION G. YOU AND YOUR	G5. What is your religion? ₁ □ No religion
HOUSEHOLD	₂ D Buddhist
Please complete as many of these questions as you can. Your answers will help us to describe the women taking part in the survey and to find out whether the care offered to women is the same regardless of their background or circumstances.	Christian (including Church of England, Catholic, Protestant, and other Christian denominations)
G1. In what year were you born?	₅ ☐ Jewish
(Please write in) e.g. 1 9 7 5	6 ☐ Muslim
1 9	₇ ☐ Sikh
	₈ ☐ Other
G2. Have you had a previous pregnancy?	₉ I would prefer not to say
₁ ☐ Yes → Go to G3	
2 No → Go to G4	G6. Which of the following best describes how you think of yourself?
G3. How many babies have you given birth to	₁ ☐ Heterosexual / straight
before this pregnancy?	₂ Gay / lesbian
₁	₃ ☐ Bisexual
₂ □ 1-2	4 D Other
₃ ☐ 3 or more	₅ ☐ I would prefer not to say
	•

G7. What is your ethnic group? (Cross ONE box	H. OTHER COMMENTS
only)	If there is anything else you would like to tell us
a. WHITE	about your maternity care, please do so here.
English / Welsh / Scottish / Northern Irish / British Irish Gypsy or Irish Traveller Any other White background,	Please note that the comments you provide in the box below will be looked at in full by the NHS Trust, Care Quality Commission and researchers analysing the data. We will remove any information that could identify you before publishing any of your feedback.
write in	
b. MIXED / MULTIPLE ETHNIC GROUPS	
5 White and Black Caribbean	
6 ☐ White and Black African	
√ White and Asian	
8 Any other Mixed / multiple ethnic	
background, write in	
c. ASIAN / ASIAN BRITISH	
₉ Indian	
₁₀ Pakistani	
₁₁ Bangladeshi	
12 Chinese	
13 Any other Asian background, write in	
d. BLACK / AFRICAN / CARIBBEAN / BLACK BRITISH	
₁₄ ☐ African	
15 Caribbean	
¹⁶ Any other Black / African / Caribbean background, write in	
	THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR YOUR HELP
e. OTHER ETHNIC GROUP	Please check that you answered all the questions that apply to you.
Any other ethnic group, write in	Please post this questionnaire back in the FREEPOST envelope provided.
	No stamp is needed