

NHS Maternity Survey 2021

Continuity of carer

Percentage of mothers who saw or had spoken to the **same midwife at every antenatal check-up**



Impact of COVID-19

Mothers were offered the option to have their babies at...



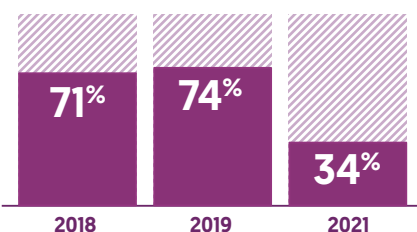
A choice of hospitals



A home birth

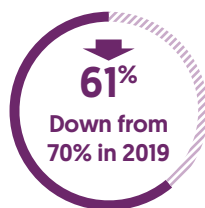


Were not offered any choices

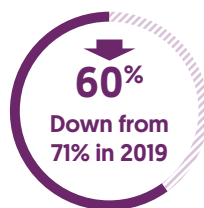


the percentage of mothers whose partners were **able to stay with them as much as mothers wanted during their stay in hospital decreased significantly in 2021**

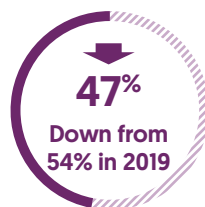
Decline in experiences of postnatal care



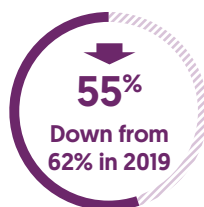
of mothers saw or spoke to a midwife **as much as they wanted**



of mothers felt that they definitely received **help and advice** about their baby's health and progress



of mothers felt that they definitely received enough information about their own **physical recovery**



of mothers felt that they definitely received help and advice about **feeding their baby**

Mental health



mothers were asked about their mental health during **postnatal check ups**



mothers were asked about their mental health during **antenatal check ups**



mothers were given **enough support for their mental health** during pregnancy

Differences in experiences

Mothers were more likely to have a **positive experience** if...



they had continuity of carer throughout their pregnancy journey



this was not their first pregnancy



they had an unassisted vaginal delivery

Mothers were more likely to have a **negative experience** if...



they were a first time mother



they had a caesarean birth



they had a mental health condition

About the survey



45,455 invited to take part and **23,479** responses received. The Maternity Survey provides valuable data on mothers experiences across demographic groups, including different long-term conditions, ethnicities, ages and parity.



The 2021 survey saw a turnaround in the downward response rate trend and achieved a response rate of **52%**. It is very likely that the switch to a mixed methods approach has had an impact on improving response rates. In 2021, **89%** of responses were completed online, versus **11%** on paper.



To see the full results, visit the NHS Surveys website: <https://nhssurveys.org/>