

Pregnancy loss: Statistics at a glance.

Total Births in Australia: 297,903

Total Fetal (Stillborn) deaths: 1,767

Total Neonatal (Newborn) deaths: 842

Total Perinatal (Newborn+Stillborn): 2,609

Rate: 0.88% (or roughly 1 in 120 births).

Perinatal deaths per day 7.1

Total perinatal deaths for 2010 by state:

Vic: 566

NSW: **778**

Qld: 684

All others: 581

Is the rate increasing or decreasing?

The rate is decreasing slightly. The 2010 rate of perinatal death is 8.8 out of 1000. In 2001, the rate was 10.4 out of 1000.

Rates of miscarriage.

Calculating the rate of miscarriage is extremely difficult, and is not collected by the Australian Bureau of Statistics, not any other agency. This is because many miscarriages happen even before the woman knows she is pregnant.

Estimated miscarriage rate: 50% of all conceptions.

Estimated miscarriage rate of all 'diagnosed' pregnancies: 15-20% (or roughly 1 in 6)

These statistics are used by the American National Institute of Health (NIH).

(From the study "Conception, early pregnancy loss, and time to clinical pregnancy: a population-based prospective study". By Wang X, et al. Department of Paediatrics, Boston University School of Medicine and Boston Medical Center, Massachusetts, USA. Published in Fertil Steril. 2003 Mar;79(3):577-84.)

Rate of miscarriage of all 'diagnosed' pregnancies for women aged 45 or older: 75%

Age of father is also a risk factor. Pregnancies from men aged 40+ are more than twice as likely to end in miscarriage.

(Source: Fertil Steril. 2003 Mar;79(3):577-84. "Maternal age and fetal loss: population based register linkage study" by Nybo Andersen AM, et. Al.)