

## **MTW National Maternity Survey 2015**

---

You can compare the results of our National Maternity Survey for 2010, 2013 and 2015 using the following table.

Question	Answers	2015-%	2013-%	2010-%
Did you give birth to a single baby, twins or more in your most recent pregnancy?	A single baby	96.5	98.2	98
	Twins	3.5	1.8	2
	Triplets, quads or more	0.0	0.0	0
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)	22.9	30.4	25
	Morning (6:01am-12:00 noon)	31.8	31.3	27
	Afternoon (12:01pm-6:00pm)	18.4	19.2	25
	Evening / Night (6:01pm-12:00 midnight)	26.9	19.2	23
Roughly how many weeks pregnant were you when your baby was born?	Before I was 37 weeks pregnant	7.4	5.3	8
	When I was 37 weeks pregnant or more	92.6	94.7	92
Who was the first health professional you saw when you thought you were pregnant?	GP / family doctor	63.2	61.9	71
	Midwife	32.3	35.4	24
	Other	4.5	2.7	5
Roughly how many weeks pregnant were you when you first saw this health professional about your pregnancy care?	When I was 0 to 6 weeks pregnant	51.2	55.2	54
	When I was 7 to 12 weeks pregnant	45.3	42.1	41
	When I was 13 or more weeks pregnant	3.5	2.7	5
Roughly how many weeks pregnant were you when you had your 'booking' appointment (the appointment where you were given your pregnancy notes)?	When I was 0 to 7 weeks pregnant	14.9	14.8	17
	When I was 8 or 9 weeks pregnant	48.7	49.1	36
	When I was 10 or 11 weeks pregnant	23.1	19.5	22
	When I was 12 weeks pregnant	6.7	7.6	14
	When I was 13 or more weeks pregnant	6.7	9.5	11
Were you offered any of the following choices about where to have your baby?	I was offered a choice of hospitals	64.9	52.7	-
	I was offered a choice of giving birth in a midwife led unit or birth centre	73.2	50.4	-
	I was offered a choice of giving birth in a consultant led unit	22.6	14.2	-
	I was offered a choice of giving birth at home	41.7	30.5	-
	I was not offered any choices	6.5	10.2	-
Before your baby was born, did you plan to have a home birth?	Yes	3.9	4.9	7
	No	96.1	95.1	93
Did you get enough information from either a midwife or doctor to help you decide where to have your baby?	Yes, definitely	62.6	56.7	57
	Yes, to some extent	25.7	30.0	31
	No	11.7	13.3	11

During your pregnancy were you given a choice about where your antenatal check-ups would take place?	Yes	24.7	21.7	25
	No	75.3	78.3	75
Which of the following health professionals did you see for your antenatal check-ups?	Midwife	98.5	98.7	96
	GP (family doctor)	7.5	7.1	21
	Hospital doctor (e.g. a consultant)	35.8	45.1	38
	Other	1.5	0.9	1
If you saw a midwife for your antenatal check-ups, did you see the same one every time?	Yes	50.8	39.6	-
	Yes, but would have preferred not to	0.5	0.5	-
	No, but I wanted to	20.9	24.8	-
	No, but I did not mind	27.9	35.1	-
During your antenatal check-ups, did the midwives appear to be aware of your medical history?	Yes, always	56.1	-	-
	Yes, sometimes	31.3	-	-
	No	12.6	-	-
During your antenatal check-ups, were you given enough time to ask questions or discuss your pregnancy?	Yes, always	85.4	75.9	-
	Yes, sometimes	12.6	19.6	-
	No	2.0	4.5	-
During your antenatal check-ups, did the midwives listen to you?	Yes, always	84.1	81.7	-
	Yes, sometimes	14.4	17.4	-
	No	1.5	0.9	-
During your antenatal check-ups, did a midwife ask how you were feeling emotionally?	Yes, definitely	52.9	-	-
	Yes, to some extent	34.7	-	-
	No	12.4	-	-
During your pregnancy, did you have a telephone number for a midwife or midwifery team that you could contact?	Yes	98.5	96.4	92
	No	1.5	3.6	8
If you contacted a midwife, were you given the help you needed?	Yes, always	86.5	79.4	72
	Yes, sometimes	9.8	17.2	23
	No	1.2	2.2	6
	No, as I was not able to contact a midwife	2.5	1.1	-
Thinking about your antenatal care, were you spoken to in a way you could understand?	Yes, always	93.0	88.5	83
	Yes, sometimes	7.0	9.7	15
	No	0.0	1.8	2
Thinking about your antenatal care, were you involved enough in decisions about	Yes, always	81.7	80.0	74

your care?	Yes, sometimes	15.7	16.4	22
	No	2.5	3.6	4
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?	Yes	86.1	84.3	-
	No	13.9	15.7	-
Did you have a home birth?	Yes	7.1	-	-
	No	92.9	-	-
During your labour, were you able to move around and choose the position that made you most comfortable?	Yes, most of the time	72.1	72.2	64
	Yes, sometimes	17.0	21.3	27
	No, not at all	10.9	6.5	9
During your pregnancy, what type of pain relief did you plan to use when giving birth?	Natural methods (e.g. hypnosis, breathing, massage)	42.2	37.8	47
	Water or a birthing pool	57.2	47.2	13
	TENS machine (with pads on your back)	32.9	28.0	19
	Gas and air (breathing through a mask)	78.0	73.6	81
	Injection of pethidine or a similar painkiller	9.8	9.3	31
	Epidural (injection in your back, given by an anaesthetist)	17.3	21.2	29
	I did not want to use pain relief	2.3	5.2	6
	I had not decided	9.8	9.8	-
Did the pain relief you used change from what you had originally planned?	Yes	55.0	57.0	65
	No	45.0	43.0	34
Why did you not use the choice of pain relief that you originally planned to?	For medical reasons	31.3	34.0	-
	I changed my mind	13.2	12.4	-
	I did not need to use the pain relief I had planned to use	7.2	9.3	-
	There was not time to use my planned pain relief	32.5	27.8	-
	The pain relief I had planned to use did not work	14.5	16.5	-
	I was told there were not enough staff to provide my chosen pain relief	6.0	2.1	-
	I was not told why I could not have my choice of pain relief	3.6	4.1	-
	Other	14.5	16.5	-
Where was your baby born?	At a consultant led unit in the hospital (please write in hospital name)	-	84.3	94
	In a birth centre/midwifery led unit (please write in hospital name if it was within the hospital or birth centre/unit)	-	13.0	4
	At home	-	2.2	3
	Other	-	0.5	0

<b>Thinking about the birth of your baby, what type of delivery did you have? (If you had twins or more than two babies this time, please fill in this question about the baby who was born first)</b>	A normal vaginal delivery	60.4	58.0	62
	An assisted vaginal delivery (e.g. with forceps or ventouse suction cup)	10.7	15.2	14
	A planned caesarean delivery	11.7	12.5	10
	An emergency caesarean delivery	17.3	14.3	15
<b>Where did you give birth?</b>	On a bed	74.8	82.3	88
	On the floor	5.0	4.9	4
	In a water or birthing pool	14.4	10.4	5
	Other	5.8	2.4	2
<b>What position were you in when your baby was born?</b>	Sitting / sitting supported by pillows	15.8	16.2	18
	On my side	2.9	5.0	5
	Standing, squatting or kneeling	24.5	20.5	13
	Lying flat / lying supported by pillows	15.1	15.5	32
	Lying with legs in stirrups	36.7	41.0	30
	Other	5.0	1.9	3
<b>Did you have skin to skin contact (baby naked, directly on your chest or tummy) with your baby shortly after the birth?</b>	Yes	90.6	90.8	85
	Yes, but I did not want this	0.0	1.0	-
	No	9.4	8.2	15
<b>If your partner or someone else close to you was involved in your care during labour and birth, were they able to be involved as much as they wanted?</b>	Yes	98.0	96.8	-
	No	2.0	3.2	-
<b>Did the staff treating and examining you introduce themselves?</b>	Yes, all of the staff introduced themselves	82.1	76.4	-
	Some of the staff introduced themselves	16.3	20.9	-
	Very few or none of the staff introduced themselves	1.5	2.7	-
<b>Were you (and/or your partner or a companion) left alone by midwives or doctors at a time when it worried you?</b>	Yes, during early labour	12.6	-	12
	Yes, during the later stages of labour	8.5	-	6
	Yes, during the birth	2.0	-	-
	Yes, shortly after the birth	6.0	-	4
	No, not at all	77.9	-	78
<b>If you raised a concern during labour and birth, did you feel that it was taken seriously?</b>	Yes	80.8	77.9	-
	No	19.2	22.1	-
<b>If you needed attention during labour and birth, were you able to get a member of staff to help you within a reasonable time?</b>	Yes, always	65.4	-	-
	Yes, sometimes	9.9	-	-

	No	5.0	-	-
	A member of staff was with me all the time	19.8	-	-
<b>If you used the call button how long did it usually take before you got the help you needed?</b>	0 minutes/right away	-	15.7	-
	1 – 5 minutes	-	63.9	-
	6 – 10 minutes	-	11.1	-
	11 – 20 minutes	-	3.7	-
	Over 20 minutes	-	4.6	-
	I never got help when I used the call button	-	0.9	-
<b>Thinking about your care during labour and birth, were you spoken to in a way you could understand?</b>	Yes, always	89.5	83.9	84
	Yes, sometimes	7.5	12.5	14
	No	3.0	3.6	2
<b>Thinking about your care during labour and birth, were you involved enough in decisions about your care?</b>	Yes, always	74.1	72.4	71
	Yes, sometimes	19.7	21.7	23
	No	6.2	5.9	6
<b>Thinking about your care during labour and birth, were you treated with respect and dignity?</b>	Yes, always	84.3	82.7	-
	Yes, sometimes	10.6	13.7	-
	No	5.1	3.5	-
<b>Did you have confidence and trust in the staff caring for you during your labour and birth?</b>	Yes, definitely	82.5	70.0	73
	Yes, to some extent	13.5	27.8	23
	No	4.0	2.2	4
<b>How long did you stay in hospital after your baby was born?</b>	Up to 12 hours	16.2	16.3	16
	More than 12 hours but less than 24 hours	21.2	16.7	20
	1 to 2 days	29.3	35.3	35
	3 to 4 days	20.7	20.8	21
	5 or more days	12.6	10.9	8
<b>Looking back, do you feel that the length of your stay in hospital after the birth was...</b>	Too long?	10.4	10.1	16
	Too short?	11.4	17.1	12
	About right?	78.2	72.8	72
<b>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?</b>	Yes, always	62.9	-	-
	Yes, sometimes	28.6	-	-
	No	8.6	-	-
<b>Thinking about the care you received in hospital after the birth of your baby, were you</b>	Yes, always	64.6	58.2	53

given the information or explanations you needed?	Yes, sometimes	28.2	28.2	36
	No	7.2	13.6	11
Thinking about the care you received in hospital after the birth of your baby, were you treated with kindness and understanding?	Yes, always	70.1	70.6	63
	Yes, sometimes	25.9	23.5	31
	No	4.1	5.9	7
Thinking about your stay in hospital, if your partner or someone close to you was involved in your care, were they able to stay with you as much as you wanted?	Yes	90.1	-	-
	No, as they were restricted to visiting hours	1.6	-	-
	No, as there was no accommodation for them in the hospital	8.4	-	-
Thinking about your stay in hospital, how clean was the hospital room or ward you were in?	Very clean	82.7	86.9	-
	Fairly clean	16.2	10.9	-
	Not very clean	1.0	1.4	-
	Not at all clean	0.0	0.9	-
Thinking about your stay in hospital, how clean were the toilets and bathrooms you used?	Very clean	83.8	84.9	-
	Fairly clean	14.7	13.2	-
	Not very clean	1.5	0.9	-
	Not at all clean	0.0	0.9	-
During your pregnancy did midwives provide relevant information about feeding your baby?	Yes, definitely	64.6	57.4	55
	Yes, to some extent	30.2	30.7	28
	No	5.3	11.9	17
In the first few days after the birth how was your baby fed?	Breast milk (or expressed breast milk only)	70.0	68.6	59
	Both breast and formula (bottle) milk	16.0	17.3	19
	Formula (bottle) milk only	14.0	14.2	22
Did you ever put your baby to the breast (even if it was only once)?	Yes	0.0	31.3	24
	No	0.0	68.7	76
Were your decisions about how you wanted to feed your baby respected by midwives?	Yes, always	86.9	82.9	-
	Yes, sometimes	10.6	13.1	-
	No	2.5	4.1	-
Did you feel that midwives and other health professionals gave you consistent advice about feeding your baby?	Yes, always	52.6	56.5	36
	Yes, sometimes	25.3	25.1	43
	No	21.6	16.9	21
	I did not receive any advice	0.5	1.5	-
Did you feel that midwives and other health professionals gave you active support	Yes, always	68.5	66.5	44

and encouragement about feeding your baby?	Yes, sometimes	25.7	20.1	42
	No	5.9	13.4	14
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?	Yes	98.0	96.4	95
	No	2.0	3.6	5
If you contacted a midwife were you given the help you needed?	Yes, always	89.5	84.9	75
	Yes, sometimes	8.3	10.1	21
	No	2.3	3.1	4
	No as I was not able to contact a midwife	0.0	1.9	-
Since your baby's birth have you been visited at home by a midwife?	Yes	94.6	92.9	99
	Yes, but I had to contact them to ask them to visit	2.0	4.4	
	No, I visited the midwife or saw a midwife in clinic	3.5	2.2	1
	No, I was not offered a visit	0.0	0.0	0
	No, I was visiting or staying near my baby in a neonatal unit (NNU, NICU, SCBU)	0.0	0.0	-
	No, for another reason	0.0	0.4	-
Did you see the same midwife every time?	Yes	32.8	30.0	-
	Yes, but would have preferred not to	1.0	0.5	-
	No, but I wanted to	22.9	21.1	-
	No, but I did not mind	43.2	48.4	-
How many times in total did you see a midwife after you went home?	1 - 2	38.6	31.2	22
	3 - 4	46.2	52.0	54
	5 - 6	9.1	11.8	18
	7 times or more	6.1	5.0	7
Would you have liked to have seen a midwife?	More often?	24.4	19.1	21
	Less often?	1.5	1.8	4
	I saw a midwife as much as I wanted	74.1	79.1	75
Did the midwife or midwives that you saw appear to be aware of the medical history of you and your baby?	Yes	82.9	81.1	-
	No	17.1	18.9	-
Did you feel that the midwife or midwives that you saw always listened to you?	Yes, always	86.6	84.1	-
	Yes, sometimes	9.4	13.7	-
	No	4.0	2.2	-
Did the midwife or midwives that you saw take your personal circumstances into	Yes, always	83.0	81.0	-



account when giving you advice?	Yes, sometimes	14.2	15.8	-
	No	2.8	3.2	-
Did you have confidence and trust in the midwives you saw after going home?	Yes, definitely	80.1	76.7	-
	Yes, to some extent	15.9	20.2	-
	No	4.0	3.1	-
Did a midwife tell you that you would need to arrange a postnatal check-up of your own health with your GP? (Around 4-8 weeks after the birth)	Yes	97.5	92.3	-
	No	2.5	7.7	-
Did a midwife or health visitor ask you how you were feeling emotionally?	Yes	98.0	95.5	-
	No	2.0	4.5	-
Were you given enough information about your own recovery after the birth?	Yes, definitely	58.2	63.8	42
	Yes, to some extent	31.1	29.0	40
	No	10.7	7.2	18
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?	Yes, definitely	64.2	56.4	52
	Yes, to some extent	29.1	30.2	35
	No	6.7	13.4	13
If, during evenings, nights or weekends, you needed support or advice about feeding your baby, were you able to get this?	Yes, always	46.6	-	-
	Yes, sometimes	37.0	-	-
	No	16.4	-	-
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?	Yes, definitely	67.8	68.1	60
	Yes, to some extent	28.8	24.2	34
	No	3.4	7.7	7
Were you given enough information about any emotional changes you might experience after the birth?	Yes, definitely	58.8	56.7	42
	Yes, to some extent	33.7	31.0	37
	No	7.5	12.4	21
Were you told who you could contact if you needed advice about any emotional changes you might experience after the birth?	Yes	82.4	-	-
	No	17.6	-	-
Were you given information or offered advice from a health professional about contraception?	Yes	87.4	89.1	92
	No	12.6	10.9	8
"5 age groups"	16 – 18	1.0	1.3	1
	19 – 24	6.9	13.9	13
	25 – 29	17.3	23.9	23
	30 – 34	38.6	31.6	33

	35 and over	36.1	29.2	29
<b>Have you had a previous pregnancy?</b>	Yes	54.2	60.0	56
	No	45.7	40.0	44
<b>How many babies have you given birth to before this pregnancy?</b>	None	22.0	16.0	10
	1 – 2	72.5	75.6	80
	3 or more	5.5	8.4	10