Child Mortality in Context

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Outline

Infant and child mortality rates

Understanding causes of death

Social deprivation, ethnicity and child death

Modifiable and contributory factors to child death

Sources of data

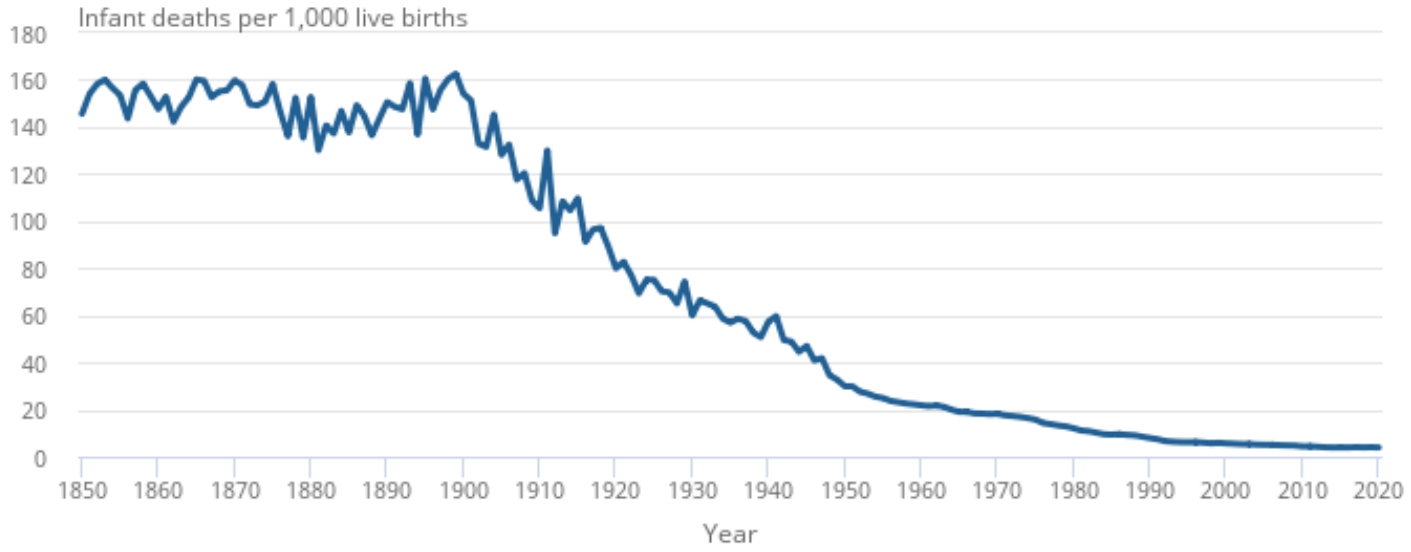
National Child Mortality Database (NCMD) data on all child deaths in England from April 2019, statutory notification within 48 hours, detailed clinical, pathological, social and environmental information for each case

Office National Statistics – birth & death registrations

Infant mortality

Figure 4: Infant deaths have steadily declined since 1900

Infant deaths per 1,000 live births, England and Wales, 1850 to 2020

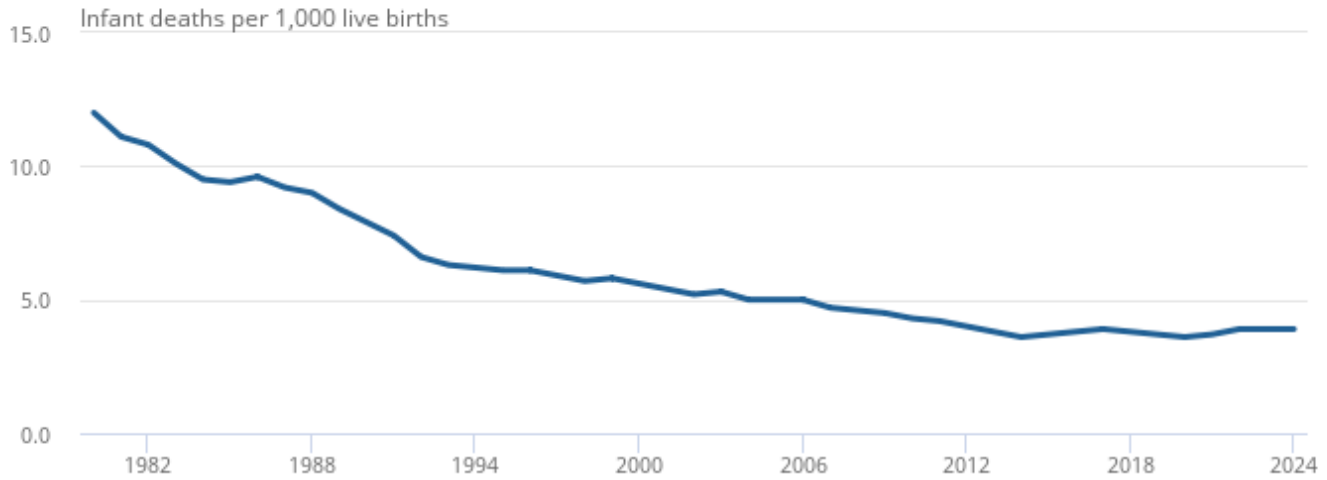


Source: Office for National Statistics - Vital statistics in the UK

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Recent infant mortality

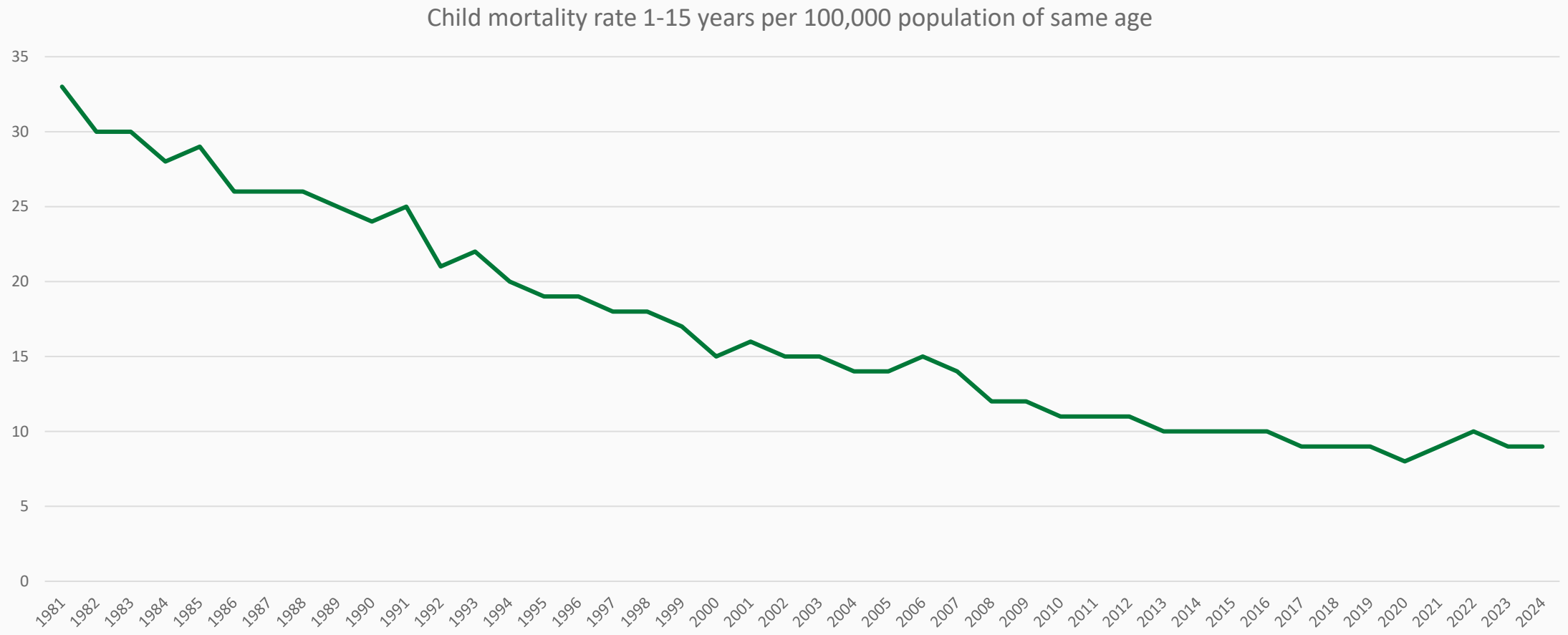
Figure 1: The infant mortality rate in England and Wales remains stable, following a sustained decrease since 1980



Source: Child and infant mortality in England and Wales from the Office for National Statistics

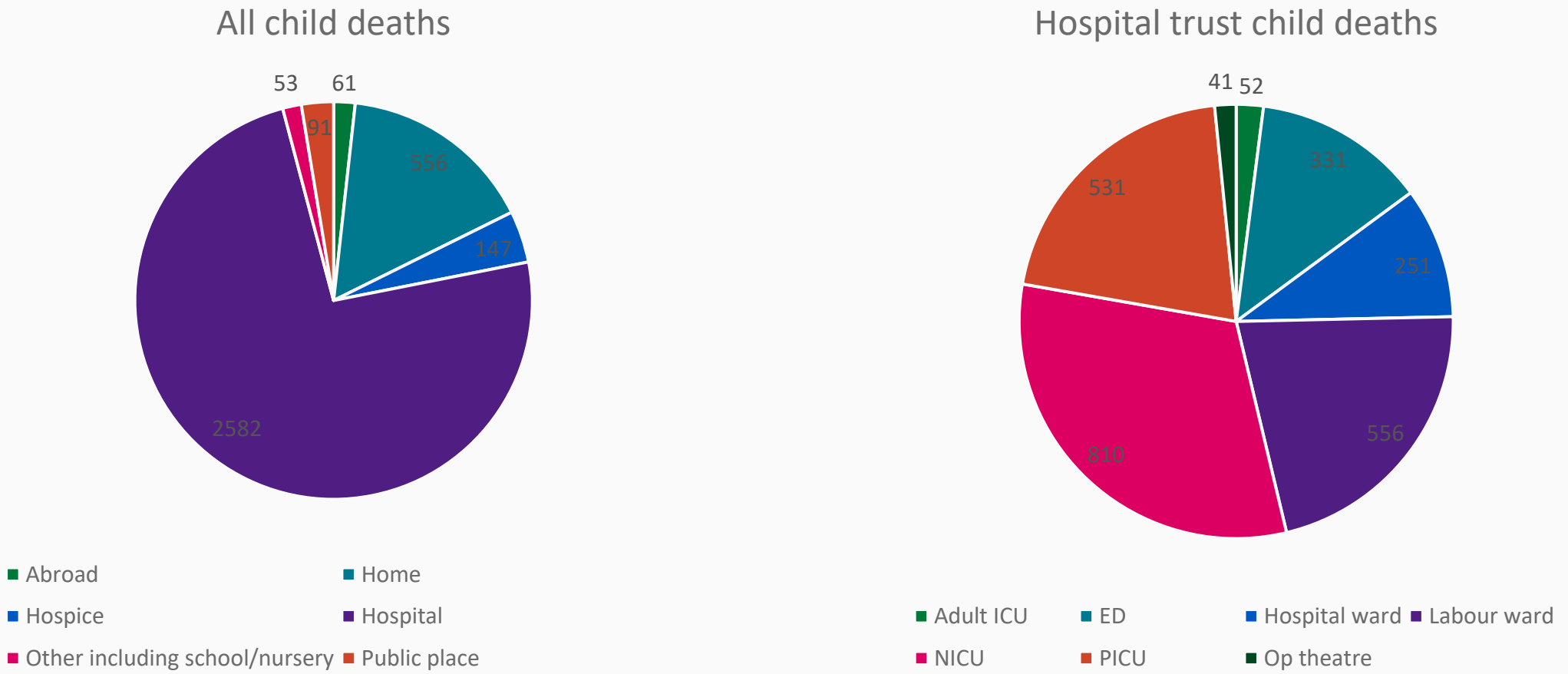
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Child mortality



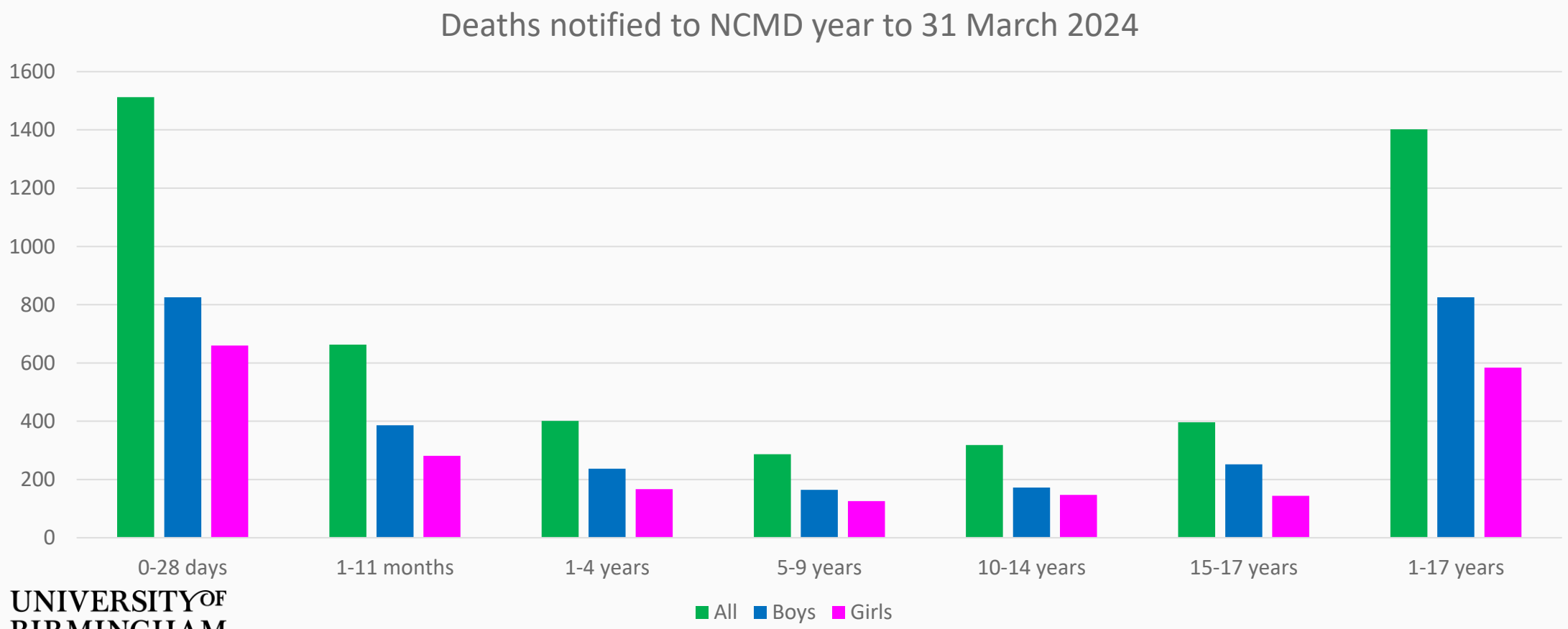
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Place of death year ending 31 March 2025



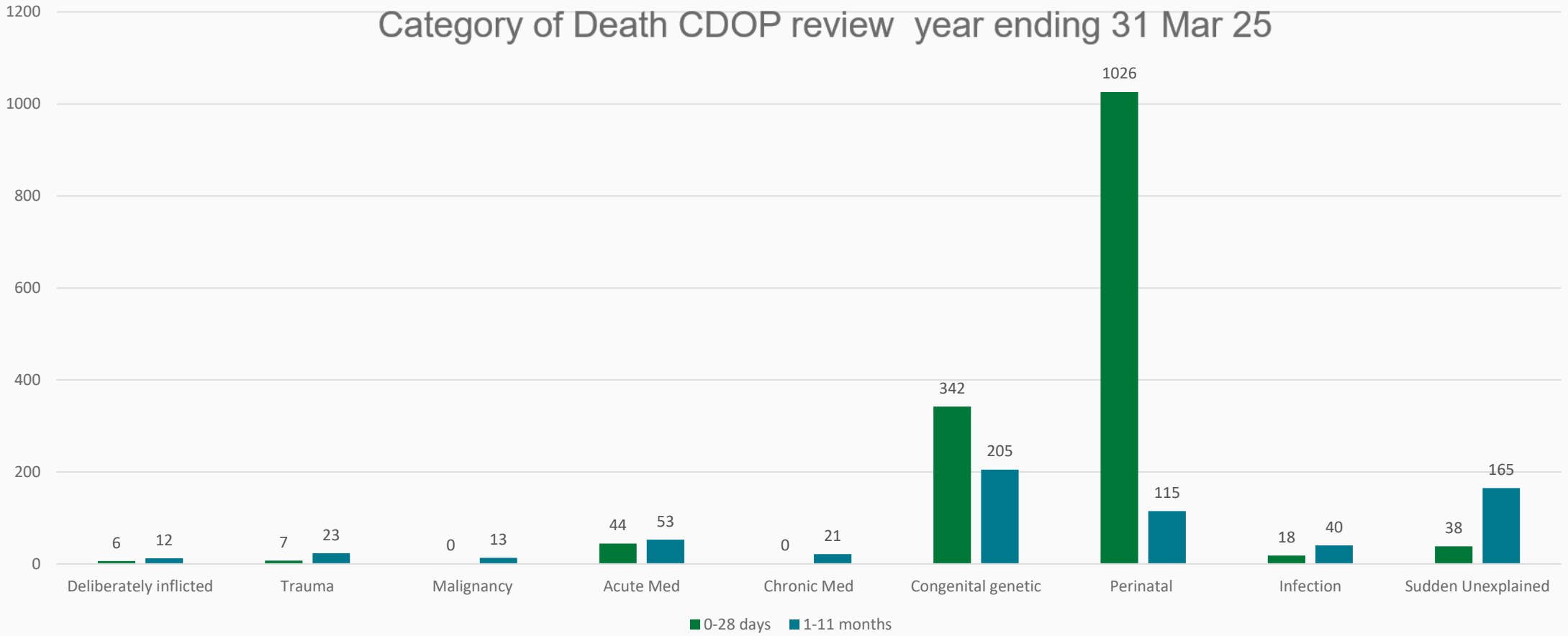
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Which children die?



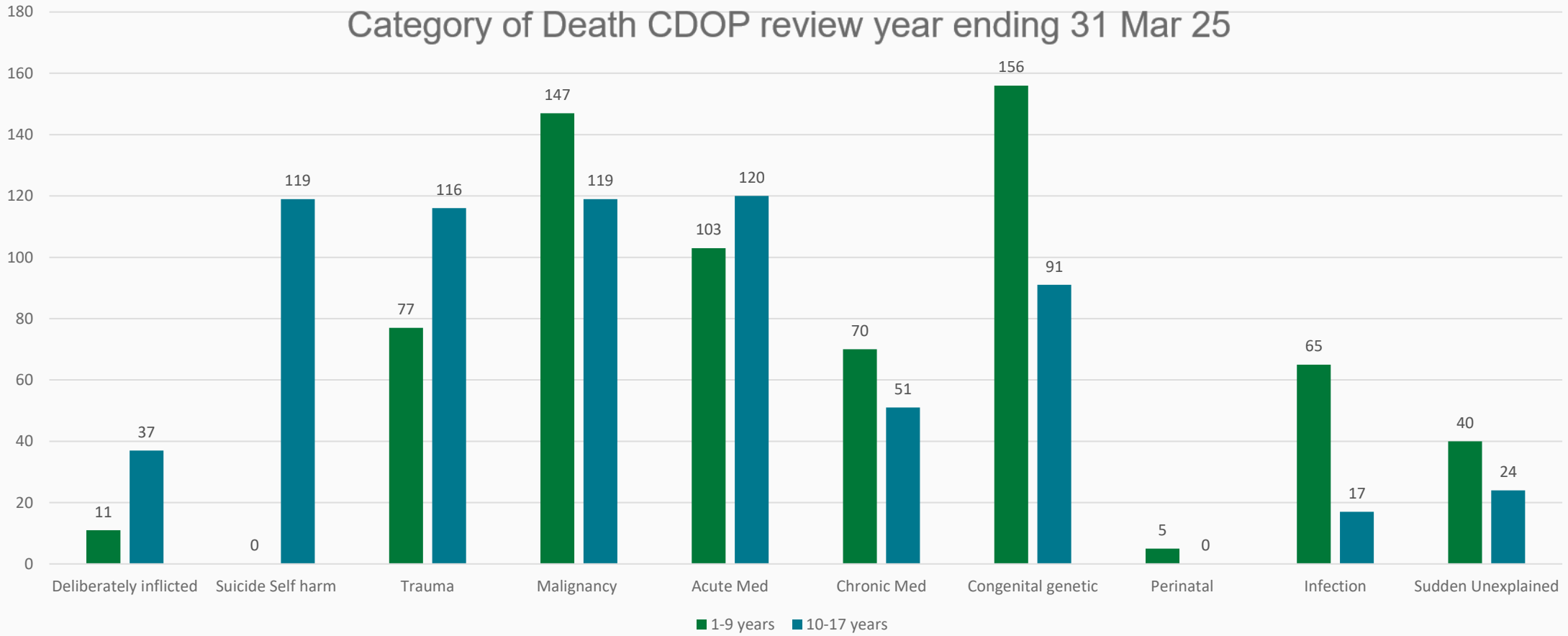
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What do infants die from?



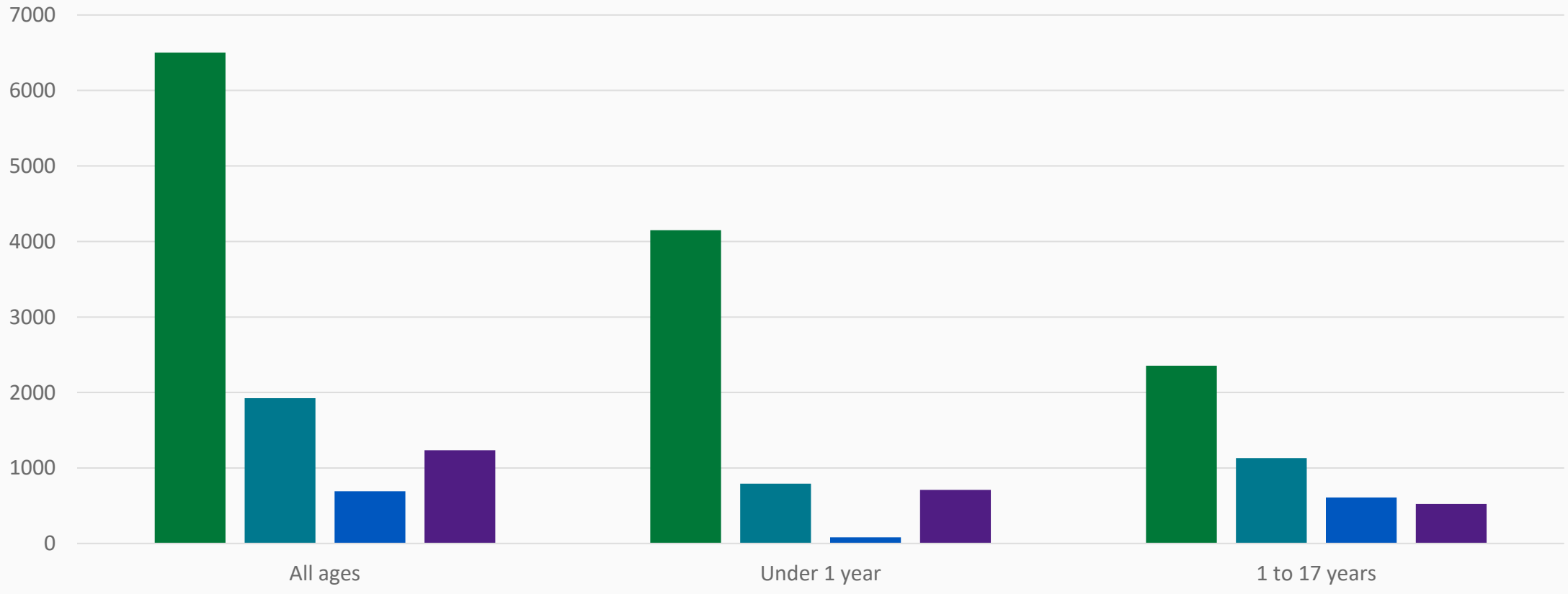
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What do children die from?



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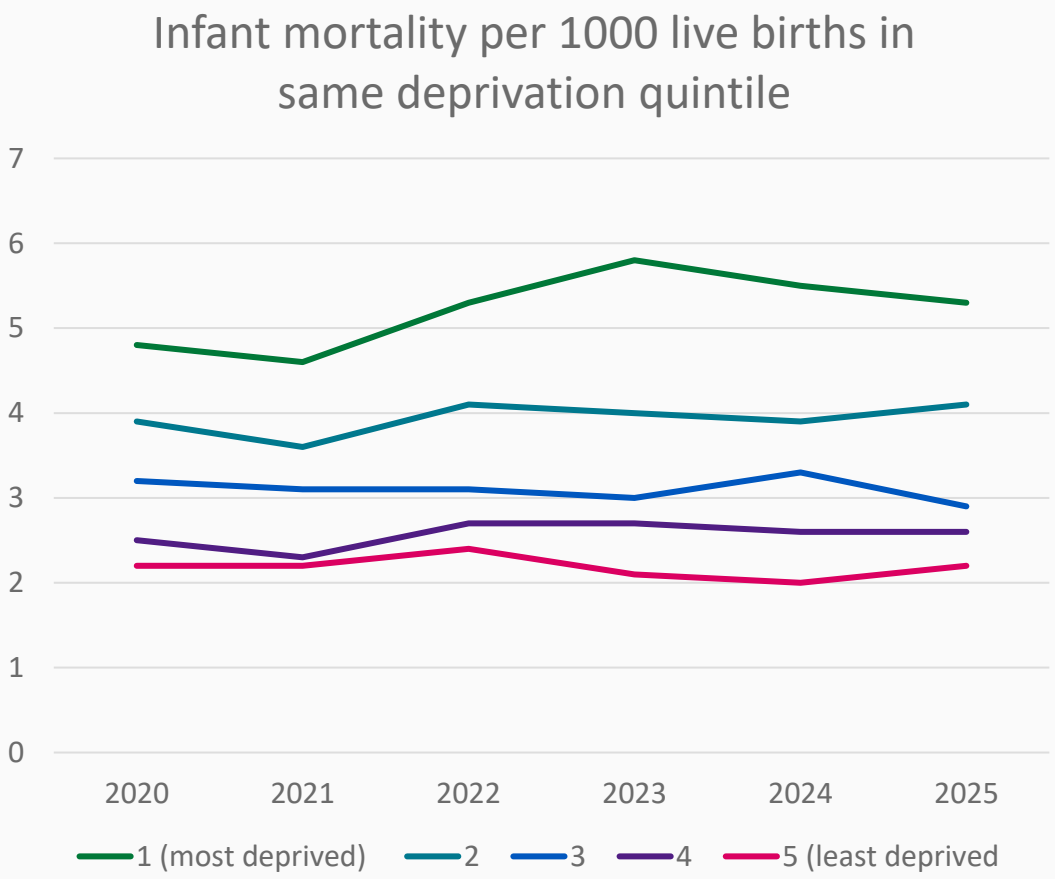
Expected and Unexpected deaths

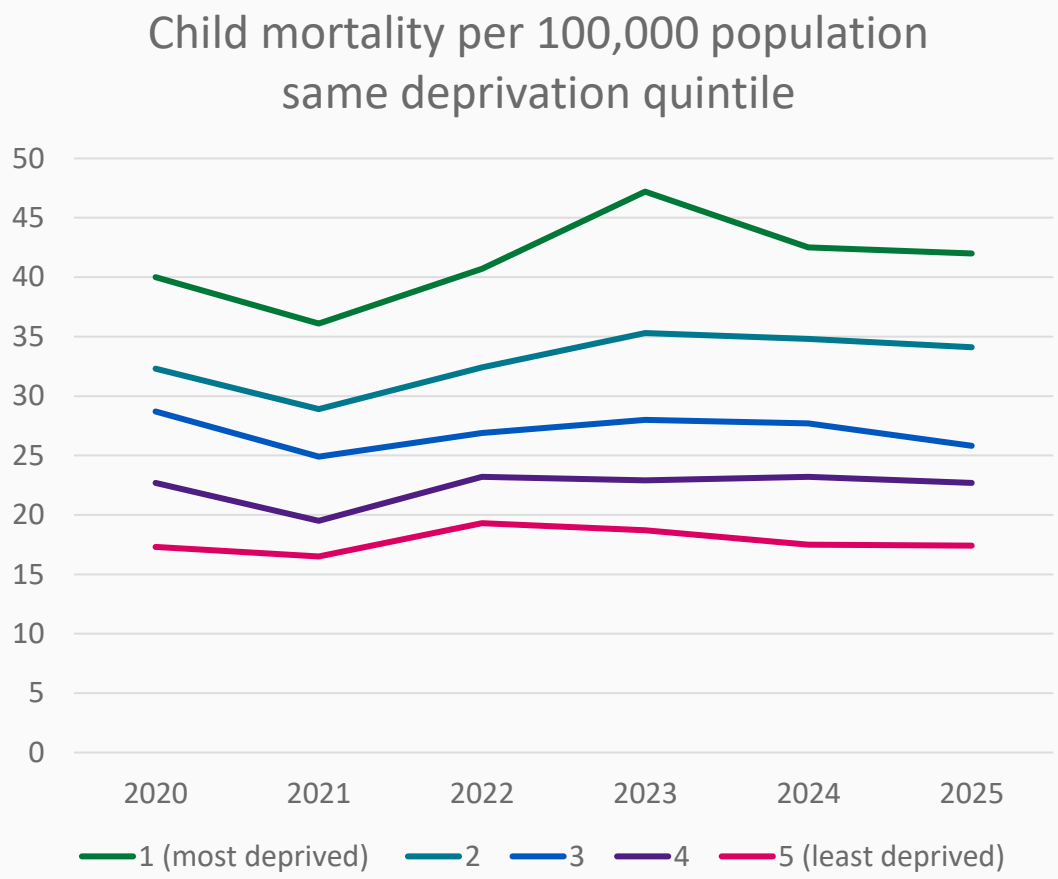


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https://www.ncmd.info/publications/sudden-unexpected-death-infant-child/

Mortality and social deprivation

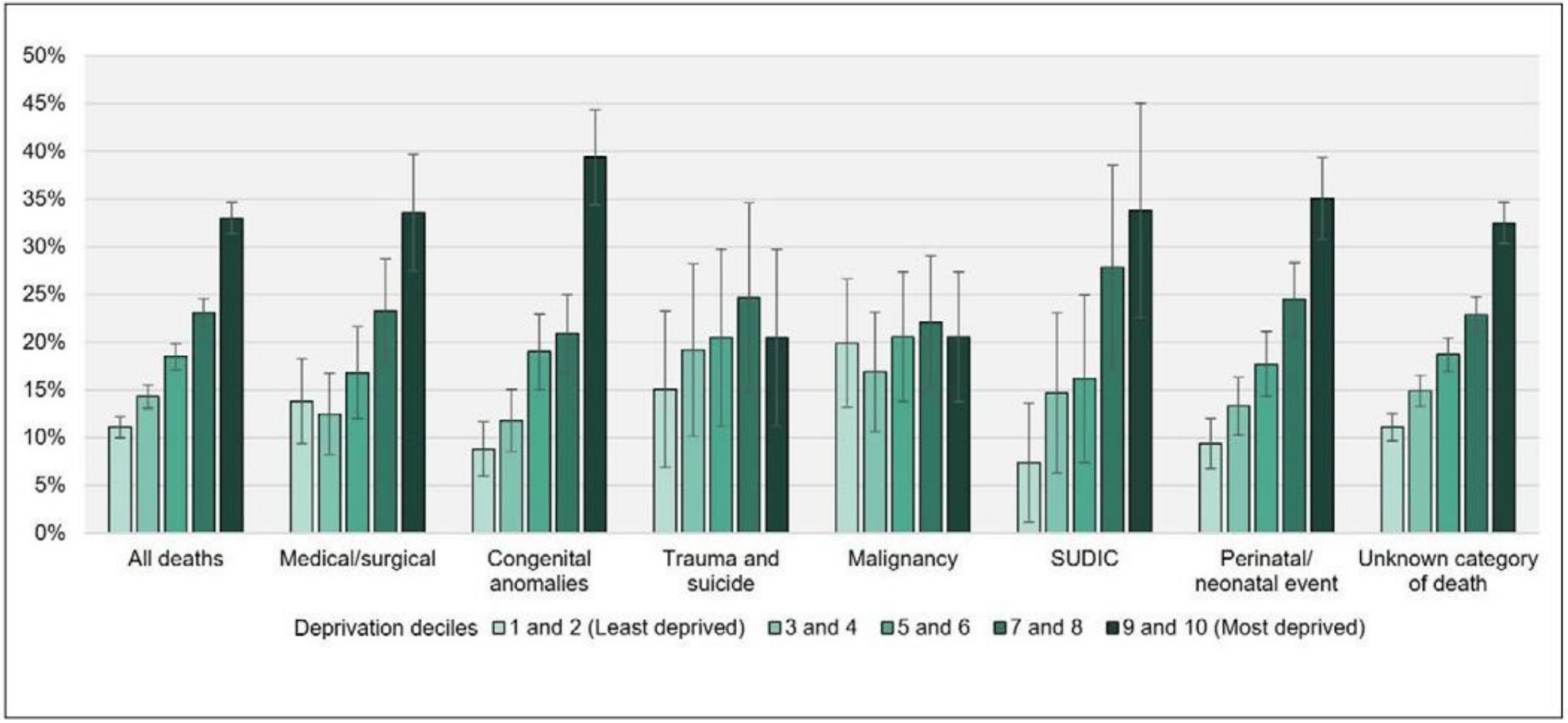




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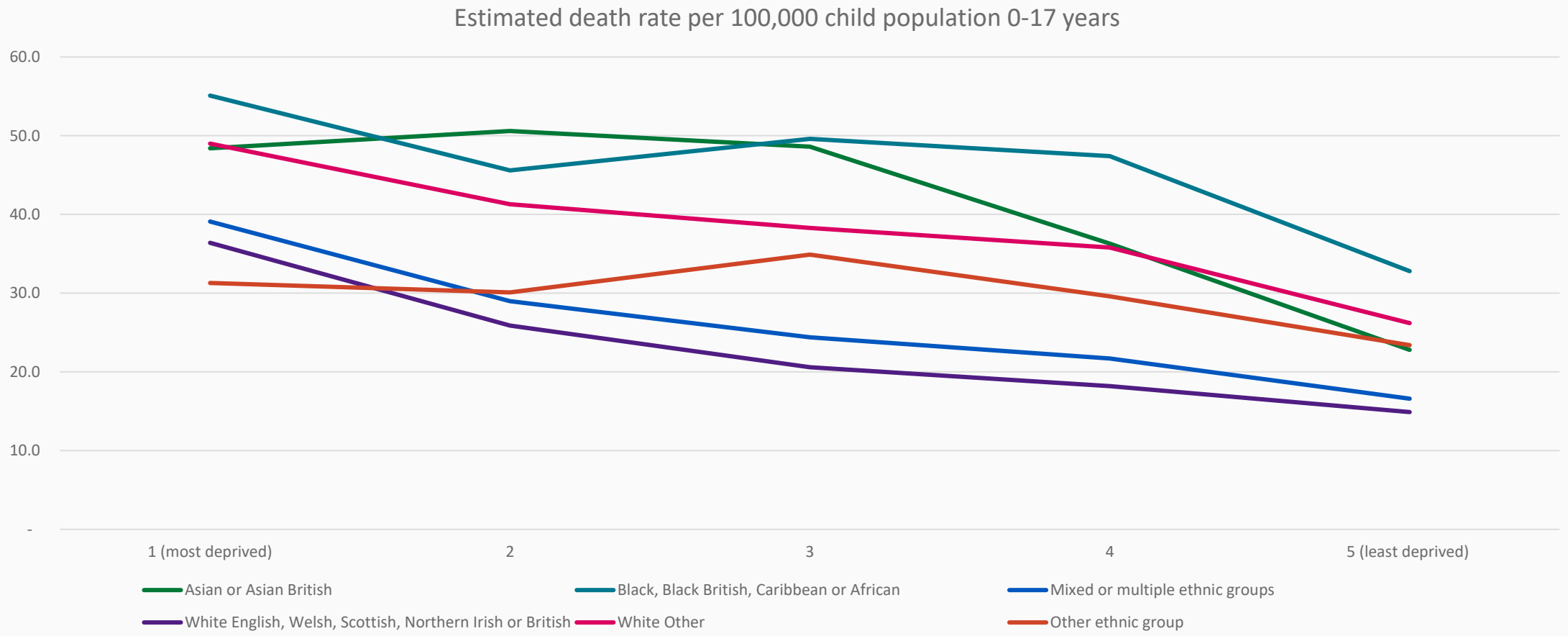
Child mortality and Social Deprivation

Figure 1. The proportion of deaths in each pair of deprivation deciles for all deaths and across each category of death, including 95% confidence intervals. (Cohort 1)



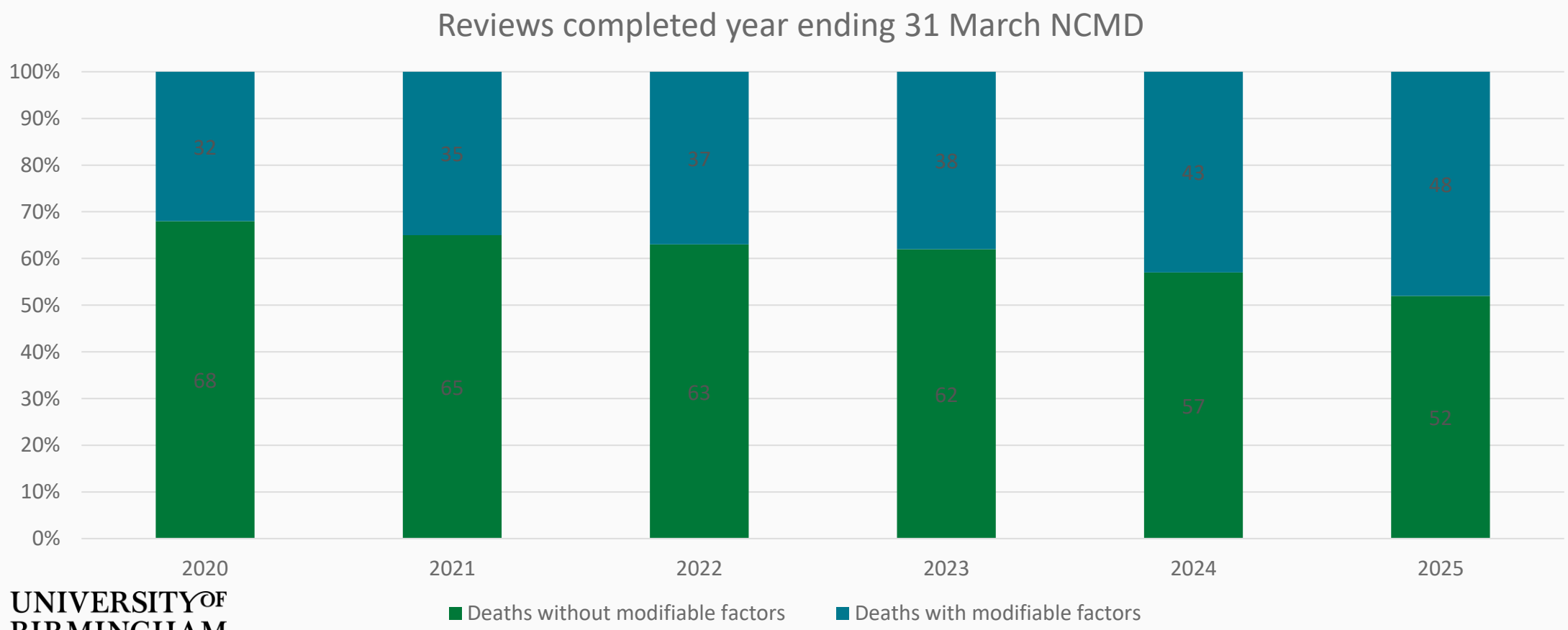
https://www.ncmd.info/publications/child-mortality-social-deprivation/

Child mortality, ethnicity and deprivation



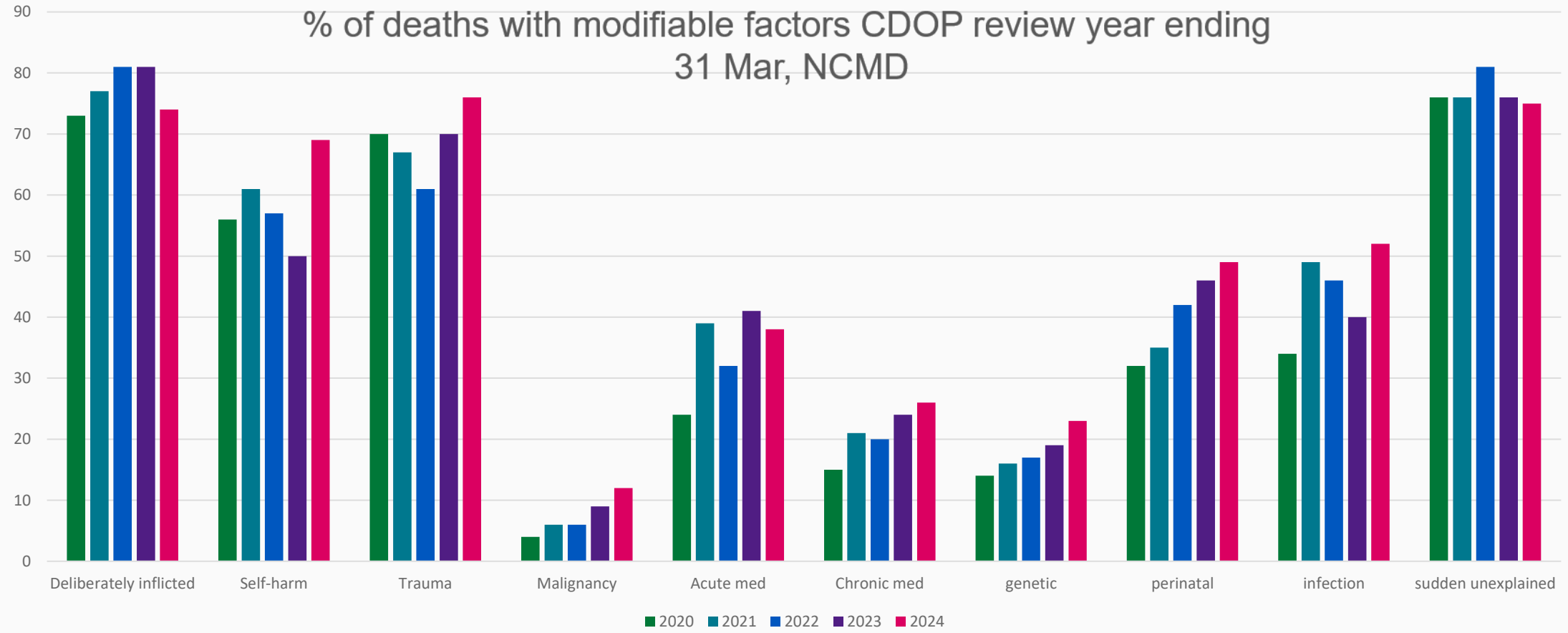
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Proportion of deaths with modifiable factors



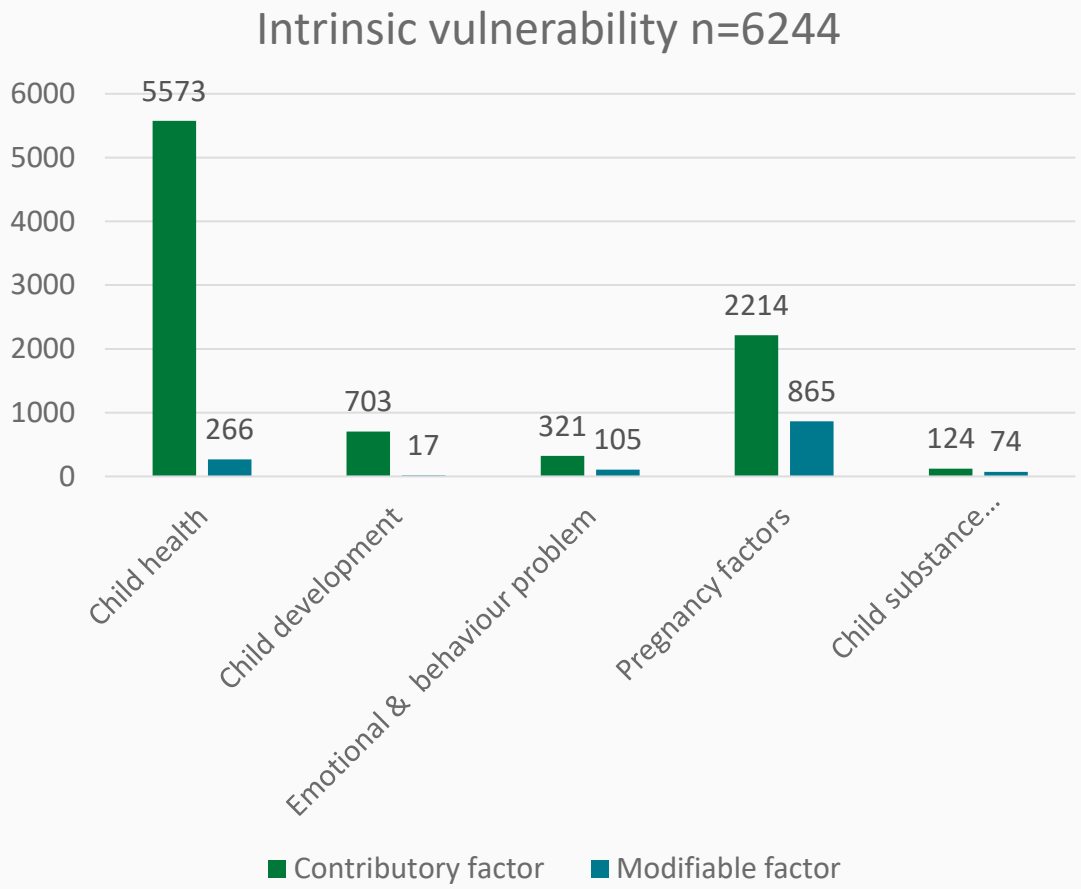
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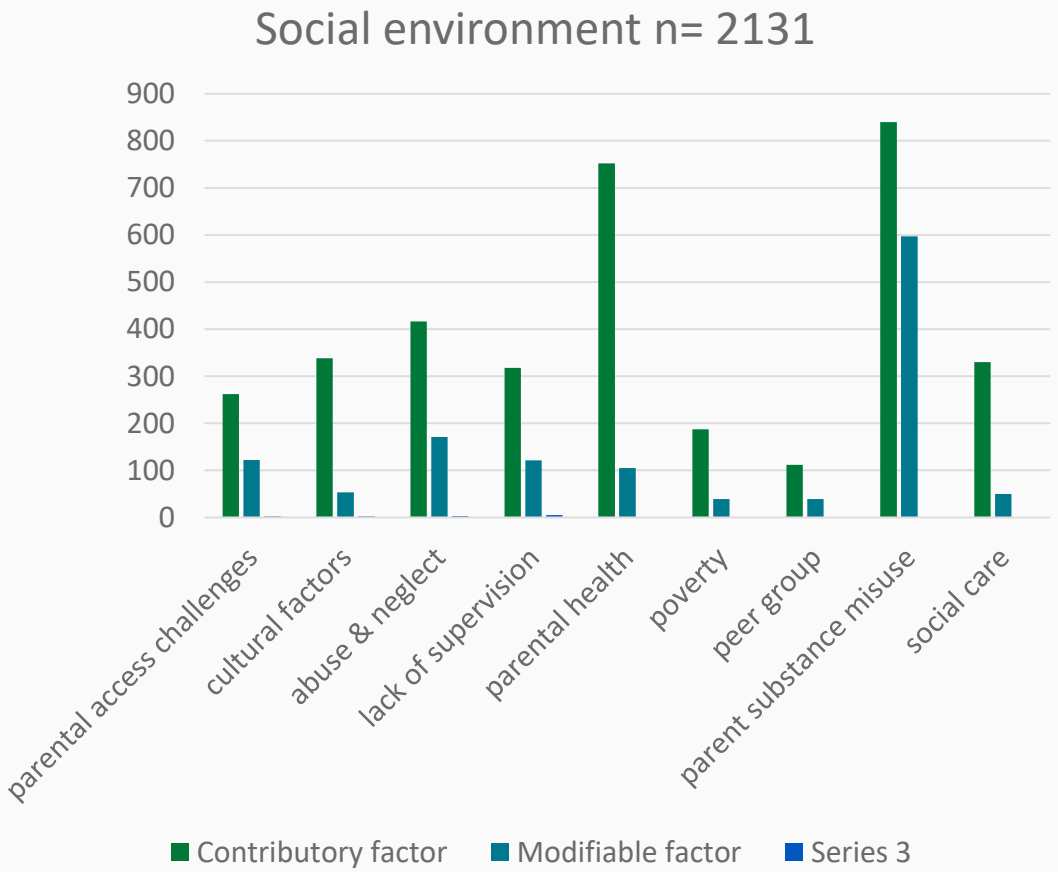
Modifiable factors and category of death



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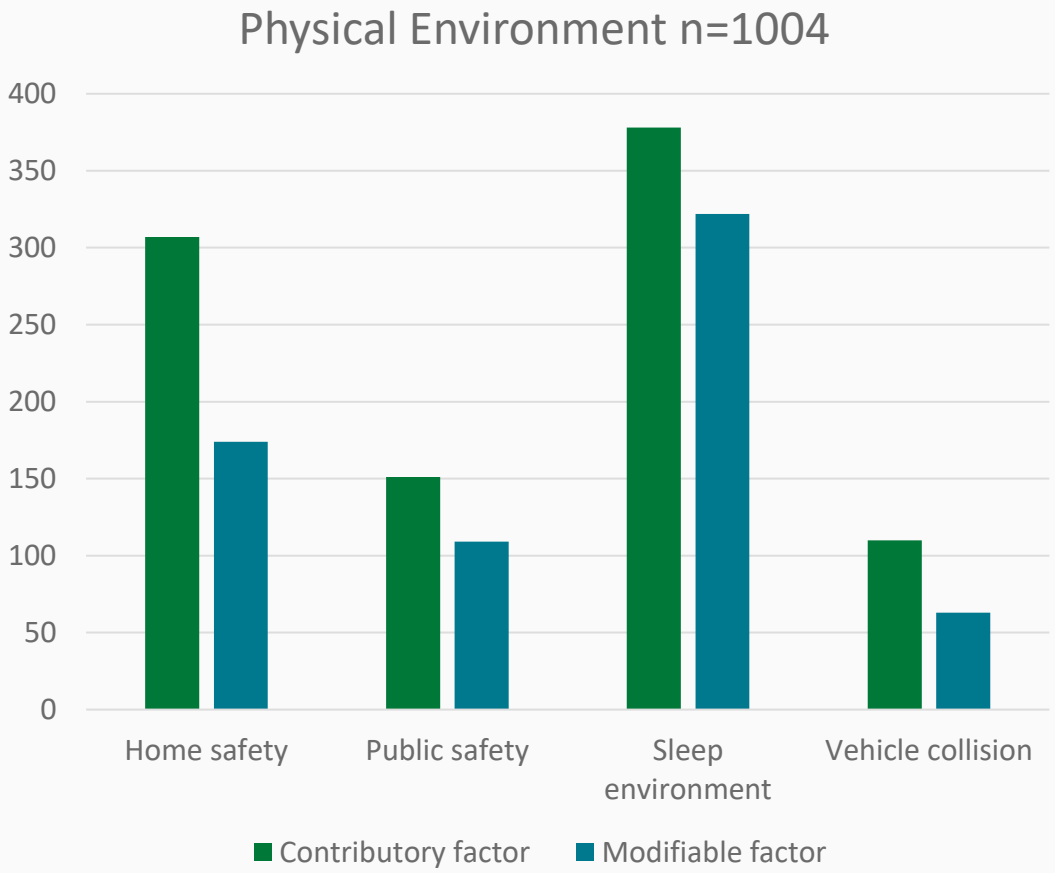
Contributory and modifiable factors, deaths 0-17 years, 2024& 2025, n=6589

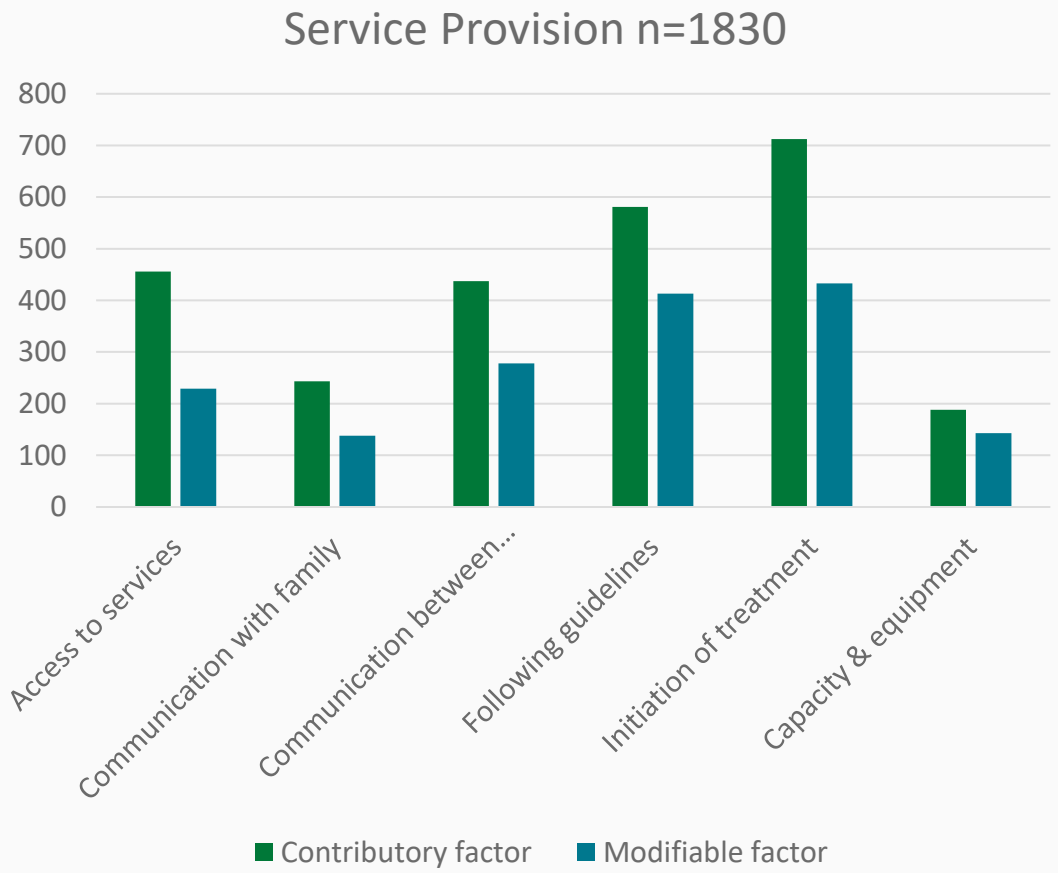




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Contributory and modifiable factors, deaths 0-17 years, 2024& 2025, n=6589





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Summary

Infant and child mortality has fallen significantly, but is now flat-lining

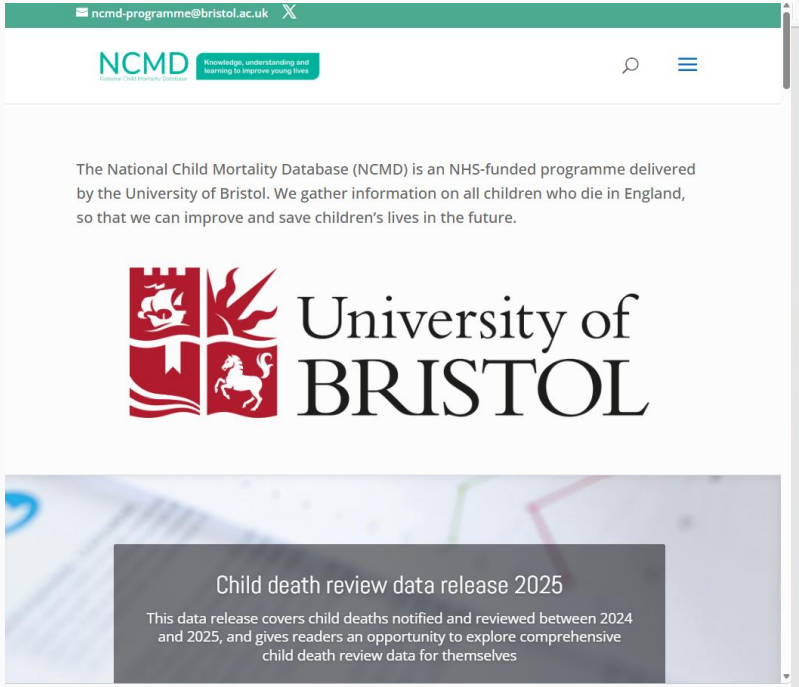
Highest mortality rates in youngest children

- Prematurity is biggest cause of death overall

Boys have higher mortality at all ages

Strong association with social deprivation and ethnicity

Approximately 40% of deaths have modifiable factors



www.ncmd.info

Association of CDR professionals
uk.acdrp@nhs.net

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International sudden child death conference
https://uobevents-ispid2027.eventsairsite.com/

Thank you for listening

Any questions?

Hope to see you at some CDR events



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