Outcome for extremely premature babies born between 22-26 gestation

Chance of baby being born alive

Overall chance of survival
If born alive and receive intensive treatment

Chance of severe disability if survives

22 weeks

1 in 3 die in labour 2 in 3 are liveborn 8 in 10 die 2 in 10 survive 1 in 3 babies has severe disability
2 in 3 do not*

23 weeks 1 in 6 die in labour 5 in 6 are liveborn 6 in 10 die 4 in 10 survive 1 in 4 babies has severe disability
3 in 4 do not*

24 weeks 1 in 10 die in labour 9 in 10 are liveborn 3 in 10 die 7 in 10 survive 1 in 5 babies has severe disability
4 in 5 do not*

25 weeks 1 in 20 die in labour 19 in 20 are liveborn 2 in 10 die 8 in 10 survive 1 in 9 babies has severe disability 8 in 9 do not*

26 weeks Less than 1 in 20 die in labour

More than 19 in 20 are liveborn

1-2 in 10 die8-9 in 10 survive

1 in 12 babies has severe disability
11 in 12 do not*

These are the outcomes that are seen on average. For any individual baby, their risk may be higher or lower than this because of other risk factors eg how well grown baby is, where they are born, whether their mother has received steroids etc. Your doctor will tell you if your baby is at higher or lower risk than average.

^{*}Even if your baby is born without a severe disability there is a 1 in 4 chance that they will have other forms of disability such as learning difficulty, cerebral palsy or behavioural problems if they are born before 27 weeks.