

**Documentation of statistics for
Fertility database 2018**

1 Introduction

The fertility database contain information on births and the relation between children and their parents.

2 Statistical presentation

These statistics are a yearly measurement of the number of newborn and the number of births, both live and stillborn. The average weight and length are also published. These statistics are grouped by sex and type of birth, e.g. twin birth.

2.1 Data description

The fertility database contains references between children and their parents. For persons born in Denmark after 1973 there is a reference to birth information, such as. birth weight, birth length and type of birth. There are calculated parities for both mothers and fathers.

2.2 Classification system

These statistics are categorized after type of birth, sex, the child's birth length and birth weight, and whether the child is born alive or stillborn.

2.3 Sector coverage

Not relevant for these statistics.

2.4 Statistical concepts and definitions

Stillborn: A child born after 22nd week of pregnancy who have not shown any sign of life after its birth. Until 2004, the limit for spontaneous abortion and stillbirth was set at the 28th week of pregnancy.

Demographic parity: A live-born child's number in a row of siblings, among the mother's or father's live born children.

2.5 Statistical unit

Newborn and births.

2.6 Statistical population

The fertility database contains persons who have at least one known parent in CPR. Data are published for live and stillborn children, born by mothers living in Denmark, from 1997 onwards.

2.7 Reference area

Denmark.

2.8 Time coverage

These statistics cover the time period from 1997 and onwards.

2.9 Base period

Not relevant for these statistics.

2.10 Unit of measure

Number of children and number of births. In case of a multiple birth, e.g. twins, two children are counted but only one birth.

2.11 Reference period

December 31st 2018.

2.12 Frequency of dissemination

Yearly.

2.13 Legal acts and other agreements

Data is collected from other national authorities.

2.14 Cost and burden

These statistics are based on administrative data. There is thus no direct response burden, in relation to the compilation of these statistics. The data sources are: CPR (the civil registration system), MFR (the medical birth register) and adoption data from Ankestyrelsen (the appeals board)

2.15 Comment

For further information contact Statistics Denmark directly.

3 Statistical processing

Data from administrative sources are collected, matched and validated, before simple summarization, grouping and calculation of averages.

3.1 Source data

Data are collected from Statistics Denmark's population register, which is based on data from CPR (the civil registration system); MFR (the medical birth register) which is based on the national patients register and delivered by the health data agency; and adoption data from Ankestyrelsen (the appeals board)

3.2 Frequency of data collection

Yearly.

3.3 Data collection

Data is collected directly from administrative registers.

3.4 Data validation

Data from administrative sources are reviewed and validated.

3.5 Data compilation

Data from administrative sources are matched and validated, before simple summarization, grouping and calculation of averages.

3.6 Adjustment

Not relevant for these statistics.

4 Relevance

Public interest in knowledge about families and births. Medical and social science research.

4.1 User Needs

Public interest in knowledge about families and births. Medical and social science research.

4.2 User Satisfaction

Not yet relevant for these statistics.

4.3 Data completeness rate

Data is close to complete for live born. Weight and length information are missing between 5 and 50 per cent of the stillborn, depending on the year in question.

5 Accuracy and reliability

These statistics are based on administrative registers that are considered to almost fully the entire population. However, weight and length information is missing for up to half the stillborn.

5.1 Overall accuracy

These statistics are based on administrative registers that are considered to almost fully the entire population. However, weight and length information is missing for up to half the stillborn.

5.2 Sampling error

Not relevant for these statistics.

5.3 Non-sampling error

These statistics are subject to registration errors.

5.4 Quality management

Statistics Denmark follows the recommendations on organisation and management of quality given in the Code of Practice for European Statistics (CoP) and the implementation guidelines given in the Quality Assurance Framework of the European Statistical System (QAF). A Working Group on Quality and a central quality assurance function have been established to continuously carry through control of products and processes.

5.5 Quality assurance

Statistics Denmark follows the principles in the Code of Practice for European Statistics (CoP) and uses the Quality Assurance Framework of the European Statistical System (QAF) for the implementation of the principles. This involves continuous decentralized and central control of products and processes based on documentation following international standards. The central quality assurance function reports to the Working Group on Quality. Reports include suggestions for improvement that are assessed, decided and subsequently implemented.

5.6 Quality assessment

These statistics are based on administrative registers that are considered to almost fully the entire population. However, weight and length information is missing for up to half the stillborn.

5.7 Data revision - policy

Statistics Denmark revises published figures in accordance with the [Revision Policy for Statistics Denmark](#). The common procedures and principles of the Revision Policy are for some statistics supplemented by a specific revision practice.

5.8 Data revision practice

No revisions are planned.

6 Timeliness and punctuality

These statistics are published approximately nine months after the end of the reference year. These statistics are published without delay, with reference to the announced time of publication in the release calendar.

6.1 Timeliness and time lag - final results

These statistics are published approximately nine months after the end of the reference year. Only final statistics are published.

6.2 Punctuality

These statistics are published without delay, with reference to the announced time of publication in the release calendar.

7 Comparability

There is comparability over time for the published period. There are small differences in relation to the Medical Birth Register and the number of live born in the population statistics.

7.1 Comparability - geographical

Similar statistics on fertility from other national statistical authorities are available. However, these statistics do not follow EU law or other international guidelines.

7.2 Comparability over time

These statistics are fully comparable over time.

7.3 Coherence - cross domain

The Medical Birth Register (MFR) has a population that has almost the same frame as the statistics published by Statistics Denmark. However, there are minor differences in the population: MFR also includes, e.g. births of mothers residing in Greenland.

The fertility database accommodates live births according to the census, plus stillborn from the MFR. However, there are fewer differences between the number of live born in the census, as any corrections in the CPR and in basic data are included in the Fertility Database.

7.4 Coherence - internal

Note that there are differences between the number of born and the number of births. In case of multiple births, e.g. twins, two children are counted but only one birth. The sum of the number of newborn by single and multiple births is internally consistent.

8 Accessibility and clarity

These statistics are published yearly in a Danish press release, at the same time as the tables are updated in the StatBank. In the StatBank, these statistics can be found under [Births](#).

8.1 Release calendar

The publication date appears in the release calendar. The date is confirmed in the weeks before.

8.3 User access

Statistics are always published at 8:00 a.m. at the day announced in the release calendar. No one outside of Statistics Denmark can access the statistics before they are published.

8.2 Release calendar access

The Release Calendar can be accessed on our English website: [Release Calendar](#).

8.4 News release

These statistics are published yearly in a Danish press release.

8.5 Publications

Publications only in Danish.

8.6 On-line database

The statistics are published in the StatBank under [Births](#) in the following tables:

- [FODL](#): Live births and stillbirths by length of birth, type of delivery and sex
- [FODV](#): Live births and stillbirths by weight of birth, type of delivery and sex
- [FOD8](#): Single and multiple deliveries by type of delivery
- [FODq](#): Multiple deliveries by sex

8.7 Micro-data access

Researchers and other analysts from authorized research institutions, can be granted access to the underlying micro-data by contacting [Research Services](#).

8.8 Other

DST Consulting [Customized solutions](#).

8.9 Confidentiality - policy

[Data Confidentiality Policy](#) for Statistics Denmark is applied.

8.10 Confidentiality - data treatment

These statistics are published on a level and with information, that does not require discretion. These statistics do not provide additional details than the characteristics used to identify persons other, than the characteristics included in the statistical output.

8.11 Documentation on methodology

Not relevant for these statistics.

8.12 Quality documentation

Results from the quality evaluation of products and selected processes are available in detail for each statistics and in summary reports for the Working Group on Quality.

9 Contact

The administrative placement of these statistics is in the division of Population and Education. The contact person is Lisbeth Harbo, tel.: + 45 2058 6408, and e-mail: LHB@dst.dk.