

Title

Ethnic Groups & Childbirth

Reference Number: RDF1448-23

Date of Response: 11/05/2023

Further to your Freedom of Information Act request, please find the Trust's response(s) below:

Please be aware that the Royal Devon University Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust (Royal Devon) has existed since 1st April 2022 following the integration of the Northern Devon Healthcare NHS Trust (known as Northern Services) and the Royal Devon and Exeter NHS Foundation Trust (known as Eastern Services).

Please see below Trust response for Eastern and Northern services – Please note when indicated:

<5 Section 40 (2) - Less than five

In accordance with Section 40 (2) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, we are unable to provide figures where the number of patients is less than or equal to five and could risk the identification of those patients/staff and breach Caldicott principles. In these cases, ≤5 is used to indicate that a figure between 1 and 5 is being suppressed.

Please note that if only one cell required suppression, at least one other number has been suppressed to avoid calculation of suppressed values from the totals. (if information presented in table format with totals)

These figures are withheld under Section 40(2) due to low patient numbers. The disclosure of which could risk the identification of those staff members and breach Caldicott principles.

This follows NHS Digital (formerly HSCIC) analysis guidance (2014) which states that small numbers within local authorities, wards, postcode districts, CCG's providers and Trusts may allow identification of patients and should not be published.

1. [How many black mothers your trust has cared for 2018-2023?](#) Please see below charts for Eastern and Northern services.

a. [How many have died during childbirth.](#) Trust joint response - 0 from 2018 to 2022

2. [How many white mothers your trust has cared for 2018-2023?](#) Please see below charts for Eastern and Northern services.

a. [How many have died during childbirth.](#) Trust joint response - <5 in 2022. No other deaths.

The Trust recognises that whilst the information requested does not itself identify the patient(s), the questions ask for very specific and focused details, and due to the low number of cases involved to provide this detail would create a potential for the deceased patient(s) concerned to be identified. The Trust believes that the release of such sensitive information meets the definition of personal data and disclosing the information would also be likely to cause distress to the individuals family members concerned.

Whilst data protection principles do not apply to a deceased person the Trust still has a duty to maintain the confidentiality of the deceased patient.

3. How many other ethnicities has your Trust cared for 2018-2023?? Please see below charts for Eastern and Northern services.

a. How many have died during childbirth. 0 deaths from 2018 to 2022.

Eastern Service response:

Please note - Ethnicity is coded and data collected as below, as we need to refer to two different IT systems the information is coded differently from 10 October 2020 when we changed IT systems.

No. New Mothers cared for Ethnicity	Epic 10 Oct 2020 onwards	2021	2022 – EAST
A British	741	3505	3240
B Irish	0	<5	9
C Any other White background	65	310	301
D White and Black Caribbean	<5	12	15
E White and Black African	6	15	20
F White and Asian	5	37	46
G Any other mixed background	20	96	49
H Indian	<5	22	15
J Pakistan	<5	6	5
K Bangladeshi	<5	16	11
L Any other Asian background	7	30	53
M Caribbean	0	<5	3
N African	5	13	17
P Any other Black background	<5	<5	<5
R Chinese	<5	13	9
S Any other ethnic group	5	34	41
Z Not stated	16	43	30

Eastern response – prior Epic

Eastern - No. New Mothers cared for Ethnicity	2018	2019	1 Jan – 9 Oct 2020
African	19	22	14
African/Caucasian	0	<5	0
Caucasian	3577	3495	2592
Caucasian/Other	12	9	7
Caucasian/Far East	<5	<5	<5
Other	145	128	136
Indian Sub-Continent	34	34	21
Caucasian/Middle East	0	0	<5
Far East	21	19	21
West Indian	<5	6	9
Not Known	13	10	10
Caucasian/West Indian	<5	<5	<5
Caucasian/Indian sub cont	<5	<5	<5

Caucasian/African	7	<5	<5
Middle East	34	29	21
Blanks	38	35	21
Caucasian/African/Other	0	<5	0
West Indian/Caucasian	<5	0	0
Far East/African	0	<5	0
Indian sub cont/Caucasian	<5	<5	<5
Other/Caucasian	<5	0	0

Northern Service response

Please note. For Northern data, 2022 numbers are split before and after a new EPR system was live.

The names of Ethnicity groups are slightly different

Northern - Mother's Ethnic Group	Year				
	2018	2019	2020	2021	01/07/22-08/07/22
A. White British	1229	1169	1174	1170	559
B. White Irish	6	<5	<5	<5	<5
C. Any other White background	40	40	42	43	18
D. White and Black Caribbean	<5	6	<5	<5	<5
E. White and Black African	<5	<5	<5	<5	
F. White and Asian	<5	5	<5	<5	
G. Any other mixed background	5	<5	<5	5	<5
H. Indian	9	<5	8	<5	<5
J. Pakistani	<5	<5	5	<5	<5
K. Bangladeshi	<5	7	<5	<5	<5
L. Any other Asian background	<5	7	9	8	<5
M. Caribbean				<5	<5
N. African	<5	<5	<5	<5	5
P. Any other Black background	<5	<5	<5	<5	
R. Chinese	<5	<5	<5	<5	<5
S. Any other ethnic group	6	4	6	<5	<5
Z. Not stated	<5	<5	5	10	9