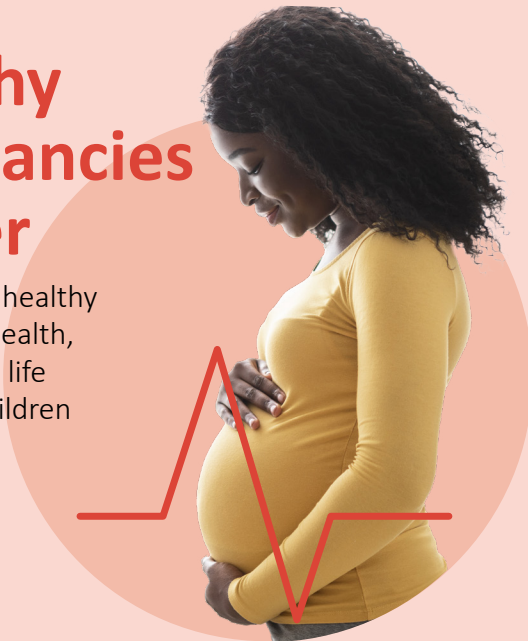


# A fair start in life: What drives inequalities in pregnancy outcomes?

## Healthy pregnancies matter

for a safe and healthy birth, better health, wellbeing and life chances as children grow up.



This research looked at:

**35 studies**

**Over 17 million pregnancies**

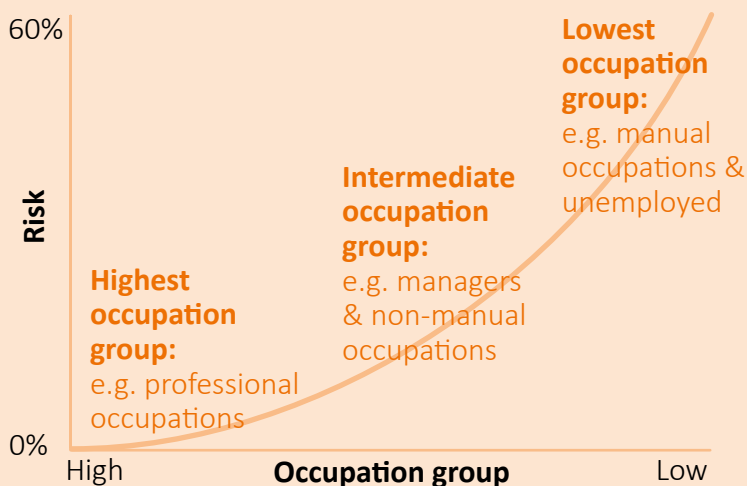


## People in lower paid occupations had a **40%** increased chance of the baby...

- Dying
  - Being born too early
  - Being born with a low birth weight
- ... than people in higher paid occupations



## An inequality gradient based on occupation



Parents in higher occupation groups

are more likely to have a safe and healthy birth.

Parents in lower occupation groups

are more likely to have pregnancy and birth complications.

## Better data are needed

to understand in more detail how other types of disadvantage including education, income and housing influence pregnancy outcomes.



## How could employment influence pregnancy outcomes

- Physical environment
- Access to services and support networks
- Effort and stress
- Income
- Time



## How can maternity services help make a difference?

- Identify at the earliest stage families that may need additional support
- Consider how usual care could be adapted to better meet the needs of disadvantaged families
- Ensure data collection is complete and consistent



To find out more...

Policy brief [click here](#)

Podcast [click here](#)

Published research article [click here](#)

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