

Appendix 2: Characteristics of the 37 individual studies included in the systematic review (page 1 of 4)

Reference	Study period	n*	Study subjects	Criteria for stillbirth		Confounders adjusted for	Effect modifiers considered	Stillbirth rate† for reference age	Unadjusted RR or OR (95% CI), as calculated from data in original studies	Adjusted RR or OR (95% CI), as reported by original authors
				GA, wk	Weight, g					
Retrospective cohort studies										
Astolfi et al ¹⁴	1990-1994	2 305 879	Singletons; primiparas and secundiparas	≥ 26	≥ 500	Stratified by parity and education	None	4.05	1.44 (1.35-1.53) for ≥ 35 v. < 35 yr	—
Astolfi et al ¹⁵	1990-1996	3 616 622	Singletons; women ≥ 20 yr	≥ 26	All	Paternal age, parity, family education	Age × parity, age × education	4.11	1.57 (1.51-1.64) for ≥ 35 v. 20-29 yr	1.59 (1.51-1.68) for ≥ 35 v. 20-29 yr
Bianco et al ¹⁶	1988-1994	8 382	Singletons; women 20-29 or ≥ 40 yr	All	≥ 500	Medical illness, race, tobacco use	None	4.16	0.34 (0.08-1.43) for ≥ 40 v. 20-29 yr	0.5 (0.1-2.0) for ≥ 40 v. 20-29 yr
Canterino et al ¹⁷	1995-2000	21 610 873	Singletons; women 15-49 yr	≥ 24	≥ 500	Gravidity, race, marital status, prenatal care, smoking, education, abruptio placentae, birth cohort	None	2.77	1.20 (1.16-1.23) for 35-49 v. 20-24 yr	1.23 (1.17-1.30) for 35-39 v. 20-24 yr, 1.62 (1.48-1.76) for 40-44 v. 20-24 yr, 2.40 (1.77-3.27) for 45-49 v. 20-24 yr
Cnattingius et al ¹¹	1983-1987	173 715	Singletons; nulliparous women ≥ 20 yr	≥ 28	All	Hypertension, diabetes, antepartum hemorrhage, infertility, education, cohabitation with infant's father, smoking	None	3.56	1.46 (1.05-2.03) for ≥ 35 v. 20-24 yr	1.4 (1.0-2.0) for ≥ 35 v. 20-24 yr
Conde-Agudelo et al ¹⁸	1985-1997	837 232	Singletons	≥ 20	All	Education, antenatal care, BMI, parity, small for GA, previous stillbirth, medical conditions	Mentioned, but factors not indicated	16.22	1.89 (1.82-1.98) for ≥ 35 v. 20-34 yr	1.53 (1.42-1.55) for ≥ 35 v. 20-34 yr
Donoso et al ¹⁹	1999	182 322	Singletons and multiples; women ≥ 20 yr	All	All	None	None	4.23	2.18 (1.69-2.82) for ≥ 40 v. 20-34 yr	—
Feldman ²⁰	1987-1989	370 051	Singletons and multiples	≥ 26	All	None	None	6.22	1.53 (1.38-1.69) for ≥ 35 yr v. < 35 yr	—
Feresu et al ²¹	1998	17 072	Singletons and multiples (regression on singletons)	≥ 20	≥ 500	Prenatal care, parity, fetal sex, type of delivery, residence	Age × GA	56.76	1.53 (1.25-1.86) for > 35 v. 20-35 yr	1.46 (1.12-1.89) for > 35 v. 20-35 yr

continued

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				GA, wk	Weight, g					
Fretts et al ¹⁰	1961-1974, 1978-1993	94 346	Singletons and multiples	All	≥ 500	Medical conditions, placenta previa, abruptio placentae, year of delivery, plurality, marital status, prior abortion or fetal death	None	6.81	1.57 (1.29-1.90) for ≥ 35 v. < 35 yr	Did not report corresponding adjusted OR
Fretts et al ²²	1961-1974, 1978-1995	101 640	Singletons and multiples	All	≥ 500	None	None	6.58	1.53 (1.27-1.85) for ≥ 35 v. < 35 yr	—
Gadow et al ²³	1982-1986	869 750	Singletons and multiples	All	≥ 500	None	None	17.09	1.92 (1.85-2.00) for ≥ 35 v. < 35 yr	—
Glinianaia et al ²⁴	1982-2000	686 456	Singletons and multiples	≥ 28	≥ 500	None	None	4.25	1.61 (1.42-1.81) for ≥ 35 v. 25-29 yr	—
Haglund et al ²⁵	1985-1986	185 156	Singletons; women 15-44 yr	≥ 28	All	Socioeconomic status, parity, smoking	Age × parity, age × smoking, parity × smoking	3.41	1.30 (1.04-1.61) for 35-44 v. < 35 yr	Did not report for maternal age
Heimann et al ²⁶	1975-1985	1 175	Women 20-29 or ≥ 40 yr	All	All	None	None	17.89	0.70 (0.27-1.81) for ≥ 40 v. 20-29 yr	—
Jacobsson et al ²⁷	1987-2001	1 566 313	Singletons and multiples	≥ 28	All	Nulliparity, marital status, maternal diseases, smoking, plurality, malformations	None	3.18	2.08 (1.81-2.38) for ≥ 40 v. 20-34 yr	2.07 (1.79-2.40) for 40-44 v. 20-34 yr, 3.76 (2.22-6.40) for ≥ 45 v. 20-34 yr
Jolly et al ⁷	1988-1997	385 120	Singletons; women ≥ 18 yr	All	All	Parity, race, BMI, hypertension, pre-eclampsia, diabetes, smoking	None	4.70	1.37 (1.21-1.54) for 35-40 v. 18-34 yr	1.41 (1.17-1.70) for 35-40 v. 18-34 yr 1.83 (1.29-2.61) for > 40 v. 18-34 yr
Khandait et al ²⁸	1993-1997	46 443	Singletons and multiples	≥ 28	≥ 1000	None	None	21.95	2.81 (2.36-3.34) for ≥ 30 v. 20-29 yr	—
Kristensen et al ²⁹	1989-1996	24 505	Singletons and multiples; women ≥ 15 yr	≥ 28	All	BMI, height, parity, smoking, education, working status, alcohol and caffeine intake, fetal sex, marital status	Parity × prepregnancy BMI	4.31	1.47 (0.91-2.38) for ≥ 35 v. < 35 yr	Did not report for maternal age
Lammer et al ³⁰	1982	76 323	Singletons and multiples	All	All	None	None	6.90	1.69 (1.29-2.22) for ≥ 35 v. 20-34 yr	—

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				GA, wk	Weight, g					
Naeye ³¹	1959-1966	44 386	Singletons; women ≥ 17 yr	All	All	None	None	14.74	2.23 (1.83-2.72) for ≥ 35 v. < 35 yr	—
Nybo Anderson et al ³²	1978-1992	813 261	Singletons and multiples	≥ 28	All	None	None	4.24	1.26 (1.11-1.43) for ≥ 35 v. < 35 yr	—
Pugliese et al ³³	1983-1993	6 997	Singletons and multiples; women 20-29 or ≥ 40 yr	All	All	None	None	8.97	0.35 (0.05-2.55) for ≥ 40 v. 20-29 yr	—
Rasmussen et al ³⁴	1967-1998	1 676 160	Singletons	≥ 28	All‡	Birth order	None	1.55	1.80 (1.48-2.19) for ≥ 35 v. < 20 yr	1.7 (1.4-2.1) for 35-39 v. < 20 yr, 2.0 (1.5-2.6) for 40-44 v. < 20 yr, 3.9 (2.2-7.0) for ≥ 45 v. < 20 yr
Raymond et al ³⁵	1983-1989	638 242	Singletons; women ≥ 20 yr	≥ 28 w	All	Parity, smoking	Age × GA	3.22	1.45 (1.29-1.62) for ≥ 35 v. 20-34 yr	1.5 (1.4-1.7) for ≥ 35 v. 20-34 yr
Roman et al ³⁶	2001-2003	8 186	Singletons; women 20-34 or ≥ 40 yr	≥ 22	All	None	None	7.19	3.64 (1.87-7.08) for ≥ 40 v. 20-34 yr	—
Seoud et al ³⁷	1992-1996	645	Singletons; women 20-30 or ≥ 40 yr	≥ 20	All	None	None	12.27	4.53 (1.45-18.68) for ≥ 40 v. 20-30 yr	—
Sheiner et al ³⁸	1990-1997	78 453	Singletons	All	≥ 500 g§	Birth weight, race, abruptio placentae, cord problem, congenital anomalies, polyhydramnios, malpresentation	None	0.67	1.48 (0.74-2.96) for > 35 v. 20-35 yr	2.1 (1.1-3.8) for > 35 v. 20-35 yr
Tough et al ³⁹	1990-1996	283 956	Singletons and multiples	All	All	None	None	6.45	1.44 (1.26-1.63) for ≥ 35 v. < 35 yr	—
Viegas et al ⁴⁰	1986-1991	21 442	Singletons and multiples	≥ 28	All	Race, parity	None	5.31	0.78 (0.41-1.50) for ≥ 35 v. < 35 yr	Did not report for maternal age
Ziadeh ⁴¹	1996-2000	291	Singletons; women 20-29 or ≥ 35 yr	All	All	None	None	6.76	3.15 (0.25-166.47) for > 35 v. 20-29 yr	—

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				GA, wk	Weight, g					
Case-control studies										
Ferraz et al ⁴²	1984-1986	Cases: 234 Controls: 2 555	Singletons	All	≥ 500	Medical conditions, prenatal care, previous pregnancy loss, congenital anomalies, maternal weight, vaginal bleeding, intrapartum complications	Age × smoking	NA	2.00 (1.30-3.06) for ≥ 35 v. < 35 yr	Did not report
Little et al ⁴³	1980	Cases: 1 104 Controls: 2 565	Singletons; nulliparous	≥ 28	≥ 500	Education, race, BMI, drinking, smoking, maternal height and weight, region of birth, fetal sex, nulliparity	None¶	NA	1.61 (1.19-2.18) for ≥ 35 v. < 35 yr	1.67 (1.27-2.20) for ≥ 35 v. < 35 yr
Meda et al ⁴⁴	1988-1989	Cases: 96 Controls: 402	Singletons	≥ 28	≥ 1000	Parity, education	None	NA	3.26 (1.68-6.31) for ≥ 35 v. < 35 yr	Did not report for maternal age
Petridou et al ⁴⁵	1989-1991	Cases: 2 006 Controls: 30 705	Singletons and multiples	≥ 28	All	Fetal sex, plurality, GA, birth weight, education, parity, religion, maternal residence	None	NA	1.80 (1.54-2.11) for > 35 v. < 35 yr	1.32 (1.0-1.65) for 35-39 v. 20-24 yr, 2.15 (1.5-3.06) for ≥ 40 v. 20-24 yr
Smeeton et al ⁴⁶	1996-1998	Cases: 342 Controls: 1 368	Singletons and multiples	≥ 24	All	GA, birth weight, emergency cesarean section	None	NA	1.55 (1.20-1.99) for ≥ 30 v. < 30 yr	1.07 (1.02-1.12) (per year increase)
Stephansson et al ⁴⁷	1987-1996	Cases: 702 Controls: 702	Singletons; primiparous	≥ 28	All	Socioeconomic status, BMI, maternal height, mother's country of birth	None	NA	1.90 (1.23-2.94) for ≥ 35 v. 20-24 yr	Did not report

Note: GA = gestational age, RR = risk ratio, OR = odds ratio, CI = confidence interval, BMI = body mass index, NA = not applicable.

*The n values presented here represent the total number of women in each study; for each study, this value may be greater than the sum of the numbers of older and younger women shown in Figure 2 of main article because it may include participants who, for various reasons, were not included in the determination of the RR or OR for the forest plot.

†Per 1000 total births.

‡Unexplained stillbirths.

§Died before onset of labour.

¶Not mentioned in Methods section of article, but Results section stated "No notable interactions among variables were detected."