

## Births at the “Xhaferr Kongoli” Regional Hospital in Elbasan Before and After 90s

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### Abstract

**Background:** Birth weight and length of newborns are two important indicators of intrauterine development. The aim of this study was to analyze the differences in births and perinatal outcomes during two different periods at “Xhaferr Kongoli” Hospital in Elbasan, before and after the 1990s.

This is a retrospective cross-sectional study.

**Study design:** This is a retrospective cross-sectional study.

**Methods:** Data on infant and mother characteristics and perinatal outcomes for all deliveries that occurred between 1977 and 2018 were extracted from birth registers at the “Xhaferr Kongoli” Regional Hospital in Elbasan. Data were analyzed using SPSS version 26.

**Result:** Before the 1990s, in 1988 compared to 1977, the number of births increased by 32%, the low birth weight rate increased by 25%, the prevalence of macrosomic infants increased by 2%, the rate of infants born with small length decreased by 51%, stillbirth rates increased by 5%, and early neonatal mortality increased by 81%. After the 1990s, in 2018 compared to 1997, the number of births decreased by 34%, the low birth weight rate decreased by 64%, the prevalence of macrosomic infants increased by 17%, the prevalence of babies born with short length decreased by 31%, stillbirth rates decreased by 64%, and early neonatal mortality decreased to 0% in 2018.

**Conclusion:** This study shows that after the

1990s, significant progress was made in reducing the number of newborns with low birth weight and length, as well as in reducing stillbirths and early neonatal mortality rates. However, despite this progress, the sharp decline in the number of births, the increase in the percentage of macrosomic infants, and the increase in the gender ratio remain worrying.

**Keywords:** birth weight, perinatal outcomes, macrosomic infants, stillbirth rates.