

CDC's Progress in Detecting Infant Hearing Loss

CDC's Early Hearing Detection and Intervention (EHDI) is making clear progress in supporting the early identification of deaf and hard of hearing (D/HH) children. The earlier children are identified with hearing loss and start getting intervention, the more likely they will reach their full potential.



98 percent of U.S.-born infants are now screened for hearing loss usually before leaving the hospital¹.

Since 2005 **over 58,000** D/HH infants in the U.S. have been identified early.

\$200 million in education costs are saved each year in the U.S. due to newborn hearing screening².

Hearing Professionals Use These Important 1-3-6 Benchmarks

1 mo Before **one month** of age: *Hearing Screening*

3 mo Before **three months** of age: *Hearing Evaluation*

6 mo Before **six months** of age: *Early Intervention*

Hearing screening is the first hearing service to determine if a baby may have a hearing loss.

Hearing evaluation is a comprehensive test to determine if a baby has hearing loss and the severity and type of hearing loss.



Identifying hearing loss early is important

Hearing loss is one of the most common birth defects.

- When left undetected, a hearing loss can delay a child's speech and language development as well as his or her thinking, learning, and social skills.
- CDC-supported research show meeting the 1-3-6 Benchmarks results in better vocabulary development for children who are D/HH³.

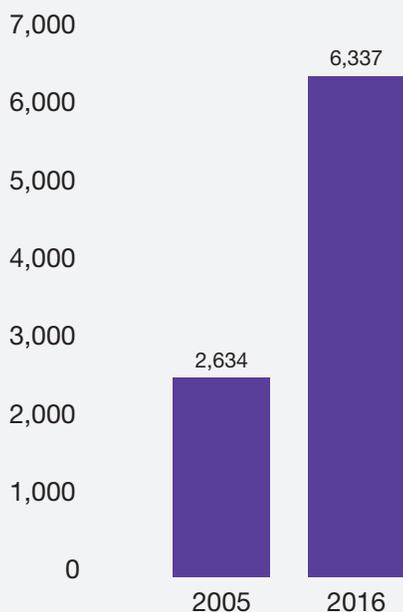
How CDC is making a difference

- The CDC EHDI program provides assistance to all states and territories to support the early identification of all D/HH infants.
- CDC is responsible for collecting and analyzing EHDI data from across the United States.
- CDC funds the development and use of systems and data tools that help states and territories ensure D/HH children receive essential services
 - » Newborn Hearing screening, which is usually done soon after birth.
 - » Diagnostic hearing evaluation, which involves tests to confirm if a child is D/HH.
 - » Early intervention services help D/HH children with learning language and other important skills.



Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
National Center on Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities

Number of infants identified early as D/HH has increased³



CDC's data show clear progress

- Better data systems and tools are helping states and territories to make sure more D/HH infants are identified early.
- The percent of infants receiving a hearing evaluation (test) before the benchmark of 3 months of age has increased from 52 percent in 2005 to 76 percent in 2016.

CDC supports states

- CDC funds 44 states and territories to develop and improve data information systems, which help make sure all infants receive recommended services.
- CDC helps states and territories leverage advances in health information technology to collect, use, and share data.

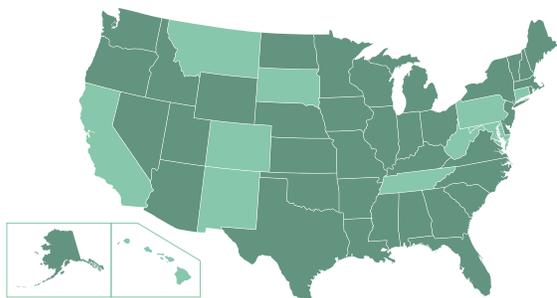
Next steps for CDC

- Expand the capacity of states and territories to collect and use complete and accurate data.
- Promote adoption of standards and quality measures to improve EHDI data.
- Support research about ways to further increase the benefits of early identification.

Continued efforts are needed to

- Make sure all D/HH infants are identified early by documenting that they have received critical screening and diagnostic services.
- Assess progress and support program improvement through timely data analyses.
- Strengthen information exchange between health providers and information systems to help coordinate the delivery of EHDI services for infants.
- Provide assistance to states and territories to support the enhancement and use of their EHDI data systems.

CDC Funded States and Territories



Funded

Not Funded

Funded Territories

- American Samoa
- Guam
- Marshall Islands
- Puerto Rico
- Northern Mariana Islands



For more information

visit: www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/hearingloss



email: ehdi@cdc.gov



call: 800-CDC-INFO

Follow us on Twitter: @CDC_NCBDDD

References:

¹ Data obtained from CDC Hearing Screening and Follow-up Survey at www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/hearingloss/ehdi-data.html.

² Gross, SD. Education cost savings from early detection of hearing loss: New findings. *Volta Voices* 2007;14(6):38-40.

³ Yoshinaga-Itano C, Sedey AL, Wiggin M, Chung W. Early Hearing Detection and Vocabulary of Children with Hearing Loss. *Pediatrics*. 2017;140(2):e20162964