

Newborn Bloodspot Screening in Maine, 2022

A data brief for providers



Newborn bloodspot screening can detect rare but serious medical conditions. Infants who are diagnosed and treated early can avoid serious complications.



All newborns delivered in Maine (about 11,000 per year) are required to be tested for certain congenital genetic disorders that can cause intellectual and developmental disability, serious illness, or death if left untreated. The newborn bloodspot screening test helps identify infants in need of follow-up testing.

Maine currently tests for 55 conditions. Types of conditions include endocrine, metabolic, hematologic, pulmonary, neuromuscular, and immune system disorders.

Maine Screening Data

99.0%

of babies born in Maine in 2022 received a newborn bloodspot screening.

Home births accounted for approximately 75% of the babies who did not receive a screen.



94.5%

of screened babies had results in the normal range



5.5%

of screened babies required repeat screens or additional diagnostic testing



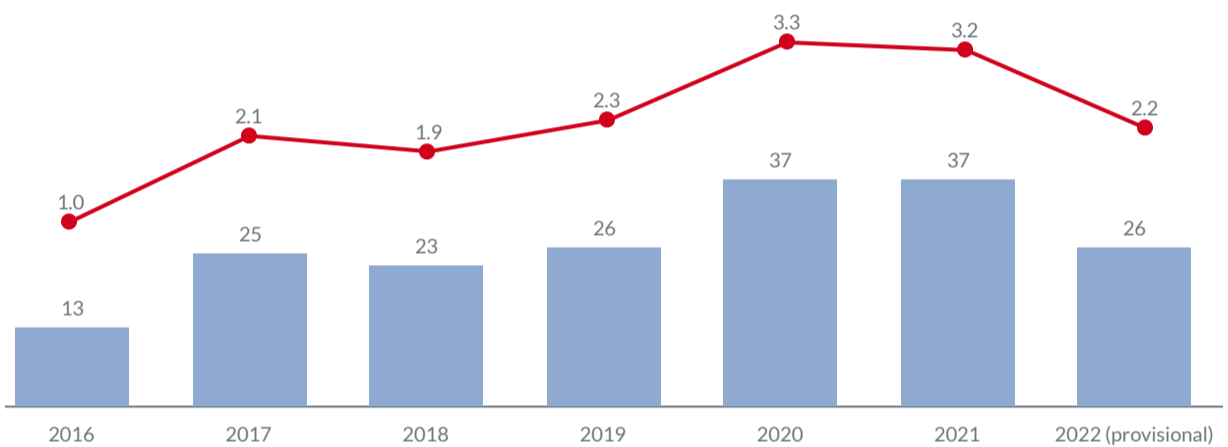
0.2%

of all births in Maine had a confirmed condition

Confirmed Conditions, Maine, 2016-2022

Rate per 1,000 occurrent births¹

Count



Data by Condition

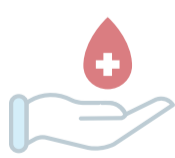
The most frequent conditions identified are:

- Endocrine Disorders that disrupt the release of specific hormones necessary for important energy and growth functions. Maine averaged **17.0** confirmed cases per year from 2019-2022.
- Cystic Fibrosis in which the body produces thick and sticky mucus that can clog the lungs and obstruct the pancreas. Maine averaged **4.3** confirmed cases per year from 2019-2022.
- Inborn Errors of Metabolism in which the body cannot properly turn food into energy. Maine averaged **5.5** confirmed cases per year from 2019-2022.
- Sickling Diseases are a group of inherited red blood cell disorders. Maine averaged **2.5** cases per year from 2019-2022.

Data Collection and Use

Maine providers are a vital link between parents and test results.

Providers help ensure initial testing takes place and conduct follow-up testing if necessary.



Birth attendants help ensure initial bloodspot collection takes place



The Newborn Bloodspot Program monitors lab results and notifies primary care providers



Pediatricians and Pediatric Specialty Care **providers** perform follow-up testing and care

Maine CDC Newborn Bloodspot Screening Program

For more information, contact us at:

<https://www.maine.gov/dhhs/mecdc/population-health/mch/cshn/bloodspot-screening/>

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1. Occurrent births are those occurring in Maine, regardless of whether the mother is a Maine resident.

