

NEWBORN HEARING SCREENING IN MAINE

A DATA BRIEF FOR HEALTHCARE PROVIDERS AND BIRTHING CENTERS (2018)



The Maine Newborn Hearing Program promotes and supports hearing screening for all Maine newborns and refers those in need for further testing and/or intervention services.

- Early identification of hearing loss and early intervention can minimize the impact hearing loss has on a child and family.
- According to the American Academy of Pediatrics' *Early Hearing Detection and Intervention (EHDI) 1-3-6 Guidelines*, a child should receive:
 - 1** A hearing screening no later than 1 month of age;
 - 3** A diagnosis no later than 3 months of age; and
 - 6** Entry into early intervention services no later than 6 months of age.¹
- In the United States, over **97%** of newborns are screened for hearing loss - however, many do not receive recommended follow-up diagnostic and intervention services.¹

MAINE SCREENING DATA

98% of the 12,001 births that occurred in Maine in 2018 received a newborn hearing screening

- Of those screened, **98%** (11,533 newborns) were screened within 1 month of birth
- **98%** (11,536 newborns) who were screened passed, **2%** (199 newborns) were identified as having possible hearing loss and referred for additional testing

Births that occur at a hospital are more likely to be screened than births that occur at home:

99% of hospital births screened



24% of home births screened



266 newborns (2% of all births) did not receive a hearing screening in 2018

Missed Screening (199) **75%**

Infant died (46) **17%**

Declined services (20) **7%**

Transferred out of state (1) **1%**

Reasons for Not Being Screened

MISSED SCREENINGS

197 of the 199 missed screenings in 2018 were home births, accounting for **99%** of all missed screenings and **74%** of all births not screened in 2018.

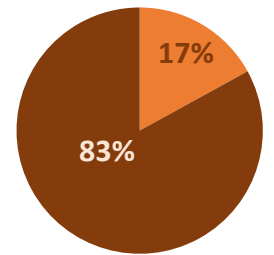
MAINE DIAGNOSTIC DATA

Of the 199 newborns who were referred for further testing:

- **31%** (62) had no follow-up testing and received no diagnosis
- **69%** (137) had an audiological report with a complete diagnosis sent to the Maine Newborn Hearing Program

80% of the 137 newborns with an audiological report and a complete diagnosis occurred within 3 months of birth

Of the 137 births with a complete diagnosis and audiological report:



■ Hearing Loss
■ Normal Hearing

MAINE EARLY INTERVENTION DATA

Of the 23 newborns with hearing loss referred to the Maine Newborn Hearing Program:

- **100%** (23) referred to early intervention (Part C) provider
- **61%** (14) had confirmed enrollment with an early intervention (Part C) provider sent to the Maine Newborn Hearing Program

86% of the 14 newborns with confirmed enrollment with an early intervention (Part C) provider were enrolled within 6 months

ROOM TO IMPROVE

The goal is 100% for all of the *Early Hearing Detection and Intervention (EHDI) 1-3-6 Guidelines*. **The percentage of newborns with a complete diagnosis within 3 months of birth increased from 73% in 2017 to 80% in 2018.** While Maine already screens most newborns for hearing loss, there is room to improve home birth screening rates, diagnosis rates within 3 months of birth and enrollment of those with confirmed hearing loss in early intervention within 6 months of birth.

Data Sources: 1. Hearing Loss In Newborns: The '1-6' Guidelines – *Medscape* – Apr 23, 2018 NOTE: 2018 Maine Newborn Hearing Screening data obtained via *ChildLink*, the Maine Newborn Hearing Program's data reporting platform.

For more information: Maine Newborn Hearing Program, 207.287.8427
www.maine.gov/dhhs/mecdc/population-health/mch/cshn/hearing-screening

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