# **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 hospital<sup>1</sup>.

Since 2005 **over 84,000**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 screening<sup>2</sup>.

# Hearing Professionals Use These Important 1-3-6 Benchmarks



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



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



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/HH<sup>3</sup>.

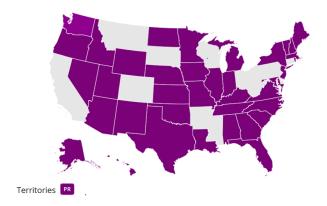
## **How CDC** is making a difference

- 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.



# Number of infants identified early as D/HH has increased<sup>3</sup> 7,000 6,000 5,000 4,000 3,000 2,634 2,000 1,000 0 2005 2020

### **CDC Funded States and Territories**



# 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.
- Since 2005, more infants are receiving recommended follow-up services, like a hearing evaluation (test), and more are successfully meeting the 1-3-6 Benchmarks recommended by hearing professionals.

### **CDC** supports states

- CDC funds 39 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.



### For more information



visit: www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/hearingloss

email: ehdi@cdc.gov call: 800-CDC-INFO

call: 800-CDC-INF

Follow us on Twitter: @CDC\_NCBDDD

### **References:**

- <sup>1</sup> Data obtained from CDC Hearing Screening and Follow-up Survey at <a href="www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/hearingloss/ehdi-data.html">www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/hearingloss/ehdi-data.html</a>.
- <sup>2</sup> Gross, SD. Education cost savings from early detection of hearing loss: New findings. Volta Voices 2007;14(6):38-40.
- <sup>3</sup> Yoshinaga-Itano C, Sedey AL, Wiggin M, Chung W. Early Hearing Detection and Vocabulary of Children with Hearing Loss. Pediatrics. 2017:140(2):e20162964