

# NEWBORN HEARING SCREENING IN MAINE

A DATA BRIEF FOR HEALTHCARE PROVIDERS AND BIRTHING CENTERS (2017)



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.<sup>1</sup>

- 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.<sup>1</sup>

## MAINE SCREENING DATA

**98%** of the 12,075 births that occurred in Maine in 2017 received a newborn hearing screening

- Of those screened, **98%** (11,534 newborns) were screened within 1 month of birth
- 98%** (11,558 newborns) who were screened passed, **2%** (231 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



**25%** of home births screened



**286 newborns (2% of all births) did not receive a hearing screening in 2017**

Missed Screening (202) **71%**

Infant died (58) **20%**

Declined services (18) **6%**

Non-resident (5) **2%**

Transferred out of state (3) **1%**

Reasons for Not Being Screened

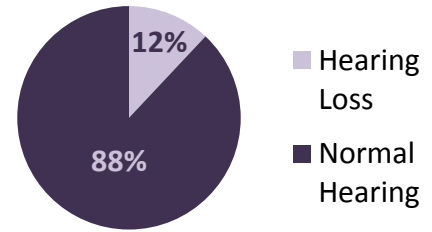
## MISSED SCREENINGS

**197** of the 202 missed screenings in 2017 were home births, accounting for **98%** of all missed screenings and **69%** of all births not screened in 2017

## MAINE DIAGNOSTIC DATA

- Of the 231 newborns who were referred for further testing:
- **22%** (51) had no follow-up testing and received no diagnosis
  - **78%** (180) had an audiological report with a complete diagnosis sent to the Maine Newborn Hearing Program

Of the 180 births with a complete diagnosis and audiological report:



**73%** of the 180 newborns with an audiological report and a complete diagnosis occurred within 3 months of birth

## MAINE EARLY INTERVENTION DATA

- Of the 21 newborns with hearing loss referred to the Maine Newborn Hearing Program:
- **100%** (21) referred to early intervention (Part C) provider
  - **67%** (14) had confirmed enrollment with an early intervention (Part C) provider sent to the Maine Newborn Hearing Program

**64%** of the 14 newborns with confirmed enrollment with an early intervention (Part C) provider were enrolled within 6 months\*

**\*4 of 14 newborns** (29%) with confirmed enrollment in early intervention were diagnosed after 6 months; 1 (7%) declined services

## 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 63% in 2016 to 73% in 2017.** While Maine already screens most newborns for hearing loss, there is room to improve the 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: 2017 Maine Newborn Hearing Screening data obtained via *ChildLink*, the Maine Newborn Hearing Program's data reporting platform.

For more information: Maine Newborn Hearing Program, 207.287.4623  
[www.maine.gov/dhhs/mecdc/population-health/mch/cshn/hearing-screening](http://www.maine.gov/dhhs/mecdc/population-health/mch/cshn/hearing-screening)

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