



Friends of NCBDDD

In Support of the National Center on Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities

NCBDDD at CDC – Facts and Figures

NCBDDD can provide program performance data and social determinants of illness and disability data upon request. Some of these essential data are provided below.

Assuring Child Health

Health Impact

- Birth defects are a leading cause of death in the first year of life and can result in lifelong disability.
- Congenital heart defects occur in 1% of all births and are the leading cause of death attributable to birth defects.
- NCBDDD data indicate that about 1 in 110 children in the US have an autism spectrum disorder (ASD).

Economic Impact

- Birth defects have accounted for more than 139,000 hospital stays during a single year, resulting in \$2.6 billion in hospital costs.
- Medical costs associated with congenital heart defects are substantial. \$1.2 billion is the estimated lifetime cost for US children born in a single year with one of four major heart defects.
- Recent studies have estimated that the lifetime cost to care for an individual with an ASD is \$1-3 million.

Improving the Health of People with Disabilities

Health Impact

- More than 50 million Americans —about 1 in 5— report having some level of disability.
- Obesity rates for children and adults with disabilities are 38 percent and 57 percent higher than rates for children and adults without disabilities.
- About 40% of adults with a disability rated their own health as fair or poor compared to only about 10% of adults without a disability.
- Smoking rates for people with disabilities are about 62% higher than for people without disabilities.

Economic Impact

- A 2009 study co-authored by CDC researchers found that almost 27% of US adult health care spending was associated with disability, amounting to \$397.8 billion in 2006 alone.
- People with disabilities are 2.5 times more likely than people without disabilities to report not getting the medical care they needed because of cost.

Protecting the Health of People with Blood Disorders

Health Impact

- Deep Vein Thrombosis (DVT) affects about 2.5 million U.S. adults. Pulmonary embolism (PE) is known as the silent killer with sudden death occurring in about one-quarter of people who have a PE. New DVT/PE events occur in 350,000 to 600,000 people each year, at least 100,000 of whom die. Risk factors for DVT/PE include: obesity, immobility, recent hospitalization, and history of inherited clotting disorders.
- Von Willebrand Disease (VWD) affects up to 1 million Americans, in particular women. Because it is typically not diagnosed, VWD can result in ongoing problems and often costly and inappropriate treatment, such as unnecessary hysterectomies.
- People with Sickle Cell Disease (SCD) are estimated to have a life expectancy that is 30 years shorter than the average American.

Economic Impact

- Blood disorders impose high costs on the U.S. health care system, including up to \$10 billion per year from DVT/PE.
- SCD affects about 100,000 people in the US and health care costs exceed \$1 billion per year.
- Hemophilia, directly affects perhaps 20,000 people, with an average cost of care of over \$100,000 per year, and a total impact on the health care system in excess of \$3 billion per year.

Friends of NCBDDD Advocacy Coalition Contacts:

Clarke Ross, D.P.A., Policy in Context Consulting, clarkeross10@comcast.net, 410-451-4295
Emil Wigode, Director, Federal Affairs; March of Dimes; ewigode@marchofdimes.com, 202-659-1800