



SAVING BABIES

Through Surveillance, Research, and Prevention of Birth Defects and Infant Disorders



Every 4½ minutes a baby is born with a major birth defect

Birth defects and infant disorders are common, costly, and critical. CDC's National Center on Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities (NCBDDD) saves babies by preventing birth defects and infant disorders like neonatal abstinence syndrome. NCBDDD identifies causes of these conditions, finds opportunities for prevention, and improves the health of those living with them.

As a result of NCBDDD work on...

Birth Defects

Women and their doctors use our findings on risk factors and prevention to give the 4 million babies born every year in the United States a healthier start.

Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders (FASD)

Health care providers in 75 health centers use proven tools to help pregnant women reduce alcohol use, preventing FASD and a lifetime cost of \$2 million for a child with fetal alcohol syndrome.

Surveillance of Emerging Threats to Mothers and Babies

Thirteen jurisdictions are expanding surveillance systems to address the effects of emerging threats to mothers and babies – specifically hepatitis C, syphilis, and Zika virus.

Infant Health

Our experts in infant health identified Zika as a cause of birth defects and neurodevelopmental problems and continue monitoring more than 7,400 pregnancies across the country.

Folic Acid

Every year more than 1,300 babies are born without a neural tube defect because our science resulted in national folic acid fortification - saving the United States up to \$600 million yearly.

Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome (NAS)

Up to 8 states will be actively monitoring for NAS, linking families affected by the opioid crisis to needed care and informing guidelines on the best treatments for mother and baby.

Fetal Death (Stillbirth)

Scientists are learning more about potential causes of stillbirth, informing research for prevention, and helping families understand potential causes.

Budget Line	FY20
Birth Defects	\$19.0M
Fetal Alcohol Syndrome/ Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders	\$11.0M
Surveillance of Emerging Threats to Mothers and Babies	\$10.0M
Infant Health	\$8.6M
Folic Acid	\$3.2M
Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome	\$2.2M
Fetal Death (Stillbirth)	\$0.9M
Total	\$54.9M

