

Improving the Health of People Across the Lifespan:



NCBDDD'S CONGENITAL HEART DEFECTS TRACKING AND RESEARCH

NCBDDD is committed to helping individuals with congenital heart defects in each phase of life, through public health tracking, research, prevention, and intervention.



WHAT'S THE PROBLEM?

Congenital heart defects are **common, costly, and critical** conditions that affect people throughout their lives.



Every **15 minutes**, a baby is born with a congenital heart defect in the United States.



In 2013, hospital costs exceeded **\$6 billion** to care for children with congenital heart defects.



More than **2.4 million** U.S. children and adults are living with congenital heart defects.



Over **1 in 6** adults with a congenital heart defect have physical, educational, or occupational limitations.

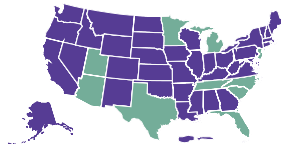
WHAT'S THE SOLUTION?

NCBDDD is learning more about congenital heart defects through public health **tracking and research to inform interventions** that could improve the lives of those living with these conditions.



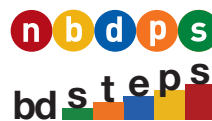
NCBDDD has worked with programs to **evaluate and conduct newborn screening for critical congenital heart defects** and conducted a cost-effectiveness analysis.

NCBDDD scientists estimate that nationwide critical congenital heart defects screening could **save at least 120 babies each year**.



NCBDDD funds 10 state programs to **track birth defects**, including congenital heart defects. Several sites also **link data on timing and method of detection of critical congenital heart defects**, including newborn pulse-oximetry screening results, with birth defects tracking data.

Based on state data, we know that **about 1 in every 500** U.S. babies are born with a critical congenital heart defect each year.



NCBDDD funds several **research centers** across the nation to help understand the **causes** of birth defects, including congenital heart defects.

For example, we found a **2-fold** increased risk for hypoplastic left heart syndrome in babies of mothers who took opioid pain medications early in pregnancy.



NCBDDD conducted **CH STRONG**, a survey of over 1,600 adults living with congenital heart defects, and found that **4 in 10** has a disability.

NCBDDD funds **CHD STAR**, a 7-site project to track children and adults with heart defects, to assess survival, healthcare use, and longer-term outcomes.

While we have learned a lot, much work remains. For more information on congenital heart defects, visit www.cdc.gov/heartdefects.



Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
National Center on Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities



Saving Babies



Helping Children



Protecting People



Improving Health