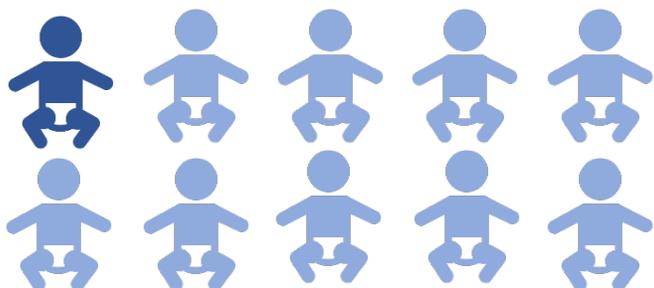


Preterm Birth and the Impact on Child Development

Preterm infants are born before 37 weeks of pregnancy

In Illinois, **1 in 10** infants are born preterm

That's **15,500** children every year



Enough to fill **215** school buses!



Because their brain and organs are not yet fully developed at birth, premature infants are more likely to have:



Cerebral Palsy



Lower IQ Scores



Behavioral problems



Attention problems

If all preterm births in Illinois were prevented, Illinois would save more than \$250 million each year

\$230 million

Medical care costs through age 5

\$16 million

Special Education Services

\$9 million

Early Intervention Services

Questions?

Contact the Illinois Department of Public Health
Office of Women's Health & Family Services
Maternal and Child Health (Title V) Program
DPH.MCH@Illinois.gov



Know the Risk Factors for Preterm Birth



Getting late or
no prenatal care



Having high
blood pressure



Being pregnant
with multiple
infants



Having
Diabetes



Repeated or
severe stress



Smoking during
pregnancy



Drinking alcohol
during pregnancy



Having a previous
preterm delivery



Being under age 18
or over age 35

There are effective ways to prevent preterm birth if a woman's risk factors are identified early in pregnancy AND she is connected with appropriate services and programs

Resources for Pregnant Women and Preterm Infants

For help finding women's health services:

Illinois Women's Health Line:

888-522-1282

For help quitting smoking:

Smoke-Free Illinois Hotline:

866-973-4646

*For help applying for
Medicaid, WIC, or food stamps:*

Health Benefits Hotline:

800-843-6154

*For support during pregnancy and after
your baby is born:*

Illinois Home Visiting:

<http://igrowillinois.org/find-a-program/>

*To find a local Early Intervention office and
request a child development evaluation:*

Illinois DHS Office Locator Hotline:

800-323-GROW (4769)

<http://www.dhs.state.il.us/page.aspx?module=12>

*To see if your child qualifies
for free early childhood education:*

Early Head Start and Head Start:

[https://www.benefits.gov/benefits/benefit-
details/1908](https://www.benefits.gov/benefits/benefit-details/1908)

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