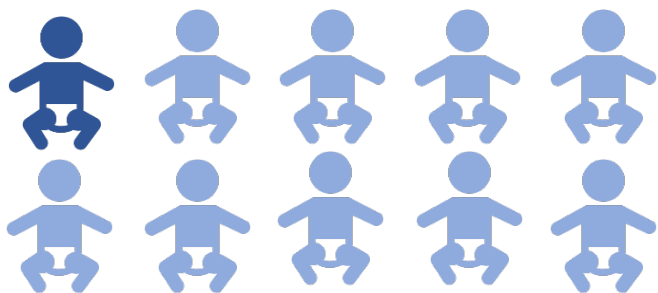


Preterm Birth and the Impact on Child Development

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>

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