

## GEORGIA NEWBORN SCREENING PROGRAM

# ANNUAL REPORT 2022

### OVERVIEW

**Newborn screening (NBS)** identifies potentially serious and life-threatening conditions within the first days of a newborn's life, giving Georgia newborns the best opportunity for linkage to early treatment and interventions.

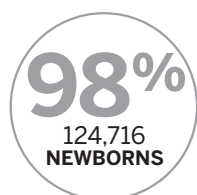
**All newborns MUST have a blood screening, hearing screening, and critical congenital heart disease (CCHD)** screening to identify certain conditions which pose a threat of severe illness, physical or developmental disability, or death. **GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH RULES AND REGULATIONS 511-5-5-.3**

**127,051** INFANTS BORN IN GEORGIA

**540** INFANTS DIAGNOSED  
with at least one genetic or hearing loss condition through screenings performed at birth.

### Dried Blood Spot Screening

A few drops of blood are collected from the newborn's heel at 24 hours of age and sent to the Georgia Public Health Laboratory to test for more than 30 heritable conditions.



DRIED BLOOD  
SPOT SCREENING



PRESUMPTIVE  
POSITIVE  
SCREENING RESULT



DIAGNOSED  
WITH GENETIC NBS  
CONDITION

3 most identified + diagnosed NBS genetic conditions among screened newborns:

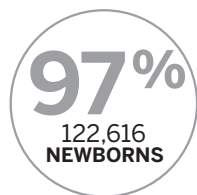
**40% (132) Hemoglobinopathies**  
(e.g., sickle cell disease)

**29% (97) Congenital Hypothyroidism**

**7% (23) Cystic Fibrosis**

### Hearing Screening

Soft sounds are delivered to each ear to measure response to sounds.



HEARING  
SCREENING



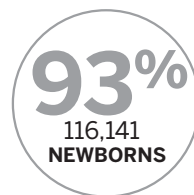
FAILED AT LEAST 1  
SCREENING AT BIRTH



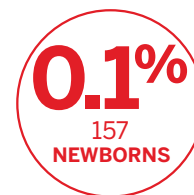
FAILED + DIAGNOSED  
WITH PERMANENT  
HEARING LOSS

### Critical Congenital Heart Disease Screening\*

Pulse oximetry testing is conducted by placing a sensor on the newborn's right hand and foot to measure the amount of oxygen in the blood.



SCREENED FOR CCHD



FAILED CCHD  
SCREENING

\*Referral + outcome data is unavailable for birth cohort.

Follow up for abnormal screening results is provided through a collaborative network of contracted medical systems and organizations which includes Augusta University, Children's Healthcare of Atlanta, Emory University, Hemophilia of Georgia, and Sickle Cell Foundation of Georgia, as well as primary care providers and audiologists.

For more information: [dph.georgia.gov/NBS](https://dph.georgia.gov/NBS)