

Arkansas

Early Hearing Detection and Intervention

2019

In accordance with the Joint Committee on Infant Hearing (JCIH) recommendations:

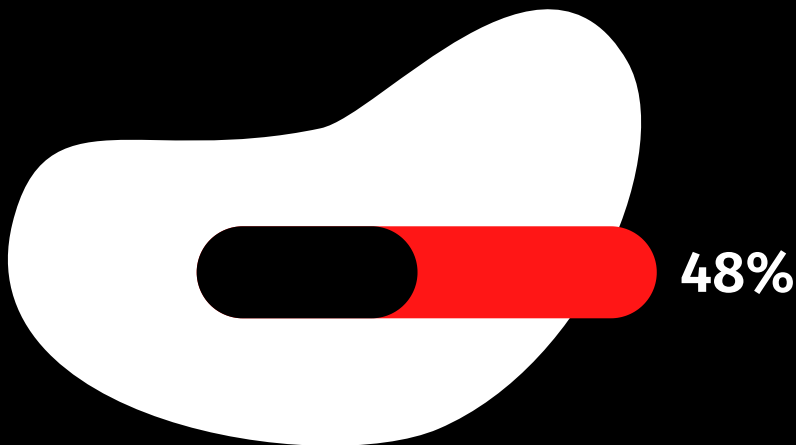
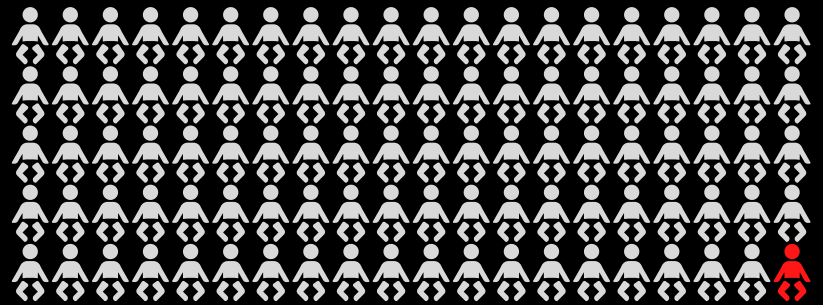
All infants should be screened for hearing loss **before** 1 month of age;

All infants who screen positive (do not pass) should have a diagnostic audiologic evaluation **before** 3 months of age; and

All infants identified with a hearing loss should be enrolled in early intervention (EI) services **before** 6 months of age.

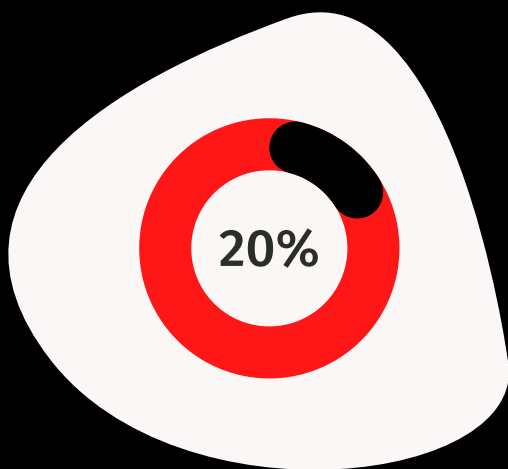
Number of Infants Screened by 1 Month of Age

35,339 births were reported to Vital Records. Of these, 34,517 babies received hearing screens by 1 month of age (99.0%).



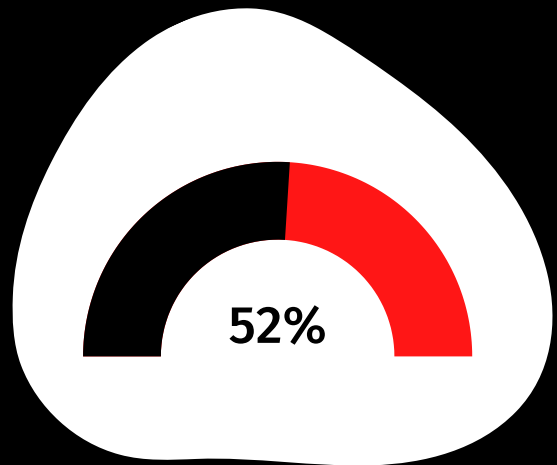
Number of Infants with Hearing Loss Diagnosed Before 3 Months of Age

62 babies were identified with hearing loss. Of these, 30 babies received their diagnoses **before** 3 months of age (48.4%).



Number of Infants Diagnosed

740 babies did not pass their initial hearing screen. Of these, 146 received a diagnosis of normal hearing or a hearing condition (19.7%). However, 594 babies did not receive the recommended diagnostic evaluation (80.3%).



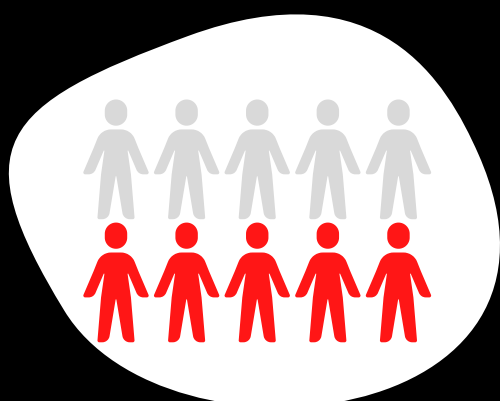
Number of Infants Diagnosed before 3 Months of Age

Of the 146 babies receiving any type of diagnosis, 76 received their diagnosis **before** 3 months of age (52.1%).

Late identification of hearing loss can negatively impact a child's ability to develop speech, language, and social skills.

Number of Infants With Hearing Loss Receiving Early Intervention (EI) Services

Of the 62 children diagnosed with hearing loss, 32 were enrolled in an EI service (51.6%).



Number of Infants With Hearing Loss Receiving EI Services by 6 Months of Age

Of the 62 children diagnosed with hearing loss, 23 were enrolled in an EI service **before** 6 months of age (37.1%).

