



COMMUNITY

Our programs help moms-to-be in the United States have full-term pregnancies and healthy babies.



ADVOCACY

We advocate for legislation, services and programs that help moms in the United States get care and services to improve their health and the health of their babies.



RESEARCH

We research the serious problems that threaten our babies and work on treating and preventing them.



EDUCATION

From preconception health classes for families-to-be to continuing education for nurses, in every conceivable media, the March of Dimes provides resources to improve maternal and child health.



SUPPORT

Through our online community and in hospitals in the United States, we offer comfort and information to families with a newborn in intensive care.

Annually in the United States:

- 3,988,076 babies are born.
- 381,321 babies are born preterm.
- 120,000 babies are born with a birth defect.
- Prematurity and birth defects are leading causes of infant mortality.
- 23,446 babies die before reaching their first birthday.
- The societal cost of premature birth is \$26.2 billion.

In the last year, the March of Dimes

- funded research grants totaling nearly \$24 million nationally
- invested \$5.56 million in maternal and child health community grants



A FIGHTING CHANCE FOR EVERY BABY™

marchofdimes.org

Sources and Notes

Births and preterm births—National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS), final natality 2014.
 Birth defects—CDC estimate of the number of babies born with a birth defect. Infant mortality—NCHS, infant mortality, 2013. Societal cost—Institute of Medicine report, 2007.
 MOD investment—research and community grants funded in 2015.

These programs support our strategic mission throughout the United States:

Prematurity Research Centers

At five centers around the United States, teams of brilliant minds from a wide range of disciplines are looking for answers and sharing discoveries. This will ultimately transform our understanding of the causes and preventions for premature birth.

NICU Family Support®

Provides comfort and information to families with a premature or critically ill baby who must spend time in a newborn intensive care unit (NICU).

Healthy Babies are Worth the Wait®

A March of Dimes initiative to encourage healthy, full-term births. Through education of women and health care providers, quality improvement activities with hospitals, and awareness activities, Healthy Babies are Worth the Wait helps reduce the number of non-medically necessary labor inductions and elective cesarean sections before 39 weeks gestation, and emphasizes that the last few weeks of pregnancy are key for an infant's development.