

What are my baby's hearing screening results?

Baby's Name: _____

Screening Date: _____

Type of Screening: AABR ☐ OAE ☐

Left Ear Pass ☐ Did Not Pass ☐

Right Ear Pass ☐ Did Not Pass ☐

Please bring your baby back for another hearing screening:

Date: _____

Time: _____

Place: _____

Phone: _____

Contact Person: _____

Please call the number above if you have any questions or need to change your appointment.

Early Hearing Detection and Intervention Program (EHDI - sounds like ready)

We care about your baby's hearing. The EHDI Program provides assistance and education to hospitals, medical providers, and others. It supports families by connecting them to available resources and helping them get the care their baby needs.

E-mail: ncnewbornhearing@dhhs.nc.gov

Website: ncdhhs.gov/ncnewbornhearing

How do I know if my baby is hearing me at home?

Your baby's hearing can change. No one knows your baby better than you do. If you ever have any concerns about your baby's hearing, ask your doctor about getting a hearing screening. Here are some things a baby with typical hearing should be able to do:

Birth to 3 months

- Startles to loud sounds
- Calms to familiar voices
- Makes sounds like "ooh"

3 to 6 months

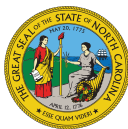
- Looks for sounds with eyes
- Starts babbling
- Uses sounds, squeals, chuckles

6 to 9 months

- Turns head to look for a sound
- Begins to make speech sounds
- Reacts to his or her name

9 to 12 months

- Repeats simple words and sounds
- Responds to singing or music
- Correctly uses "mama" or "dada"



NC DEPARTMENT OF
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
Division of Child and Family Well-Being

www.ncdhhs.gov • NCDHHS is an equal opportunity employer and provider. • 9/2025

This publication is supported by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) as part of an award totaling \$235,000 with 0% financed with non-governmental sources. The contents are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily represent the official views of, nor an endorsement, by HRSA, HHS or the U.S. Government.

North Carolina's Newborn Hearing Screening Program

My Baby's Hearing Screening



We Care

Did You Know?

Hearing loss is invisible. No one knows which babies are born with hearing loss until they are screened.

Why should my baby be screened for hearing loss?

Hearing loss needs to be found as early as possible, so you may take actions that give your baby the best chance to develop language.

Listening in the first few months of life prepares your baby to learn to communicate. Babies who are able to hear are already learning what words mean before their first birthday.

Most babies can hear well at birth, but a few cannot. All hospitals and birthing centers in North Carolina check each baby's hearing before he or she leaves the birthing facility. It is important to be sure that your baby has typical hearing.

What is newborn hearing screening?

Your baby will have a hearing screening while in the hospital or birthing center to check for hearing loss.

How is the hearing screening done?

A special machine detects your baby's response to sound. The screening is simple and does not hurt. It usually takes less than 15 minutes if the baby is sleeping or very quiet. You will get the results before you leave the hospital or birthing center. Know your baby's results.

What do the screening results mean?

Pass means that your baby's hearing appears normal at this time. Some babies who pass the hearing screening can lose their hearing – suddenly or gradually – at a later age.

Did Not Pass (also called “refer” or “fail”) means that your baby needs to have another hearing screening. Some babies who do not pass the first hearing screening will pass future hearing screenings. Some will not.

If my baby does not pass the hearing screening in the hospital or birthing center, what should I do next?

The most important thing you can do is bring your baby back for another hearing screening within two to four weeks. **Time is crucial!**

See the back of this brochure for some hearing milestones.

Be sure your baby is hearing you!

