

Infant Mortality Continues to Plague Indiana

Indiana 211 Partnership Community Report : Infant Mortality

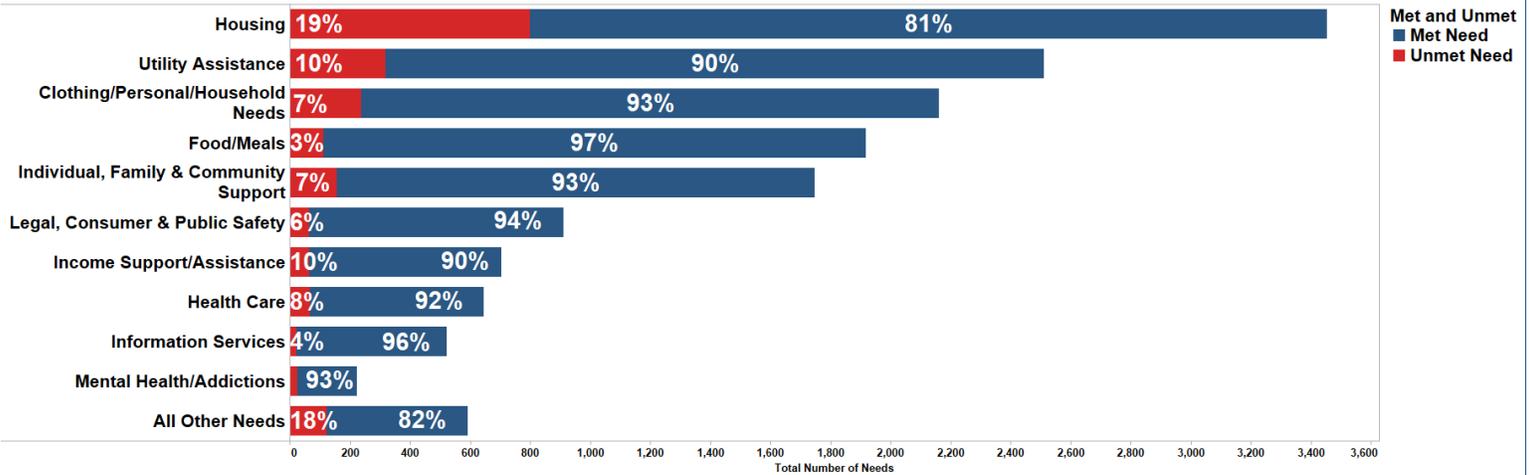
February 1st, 2016—January 31st, 2017



A recent report by the United Health Foundation shows that, despite the fact that Indiana’s infant mortality rate rose **2.9%**, the state moved up marginally (from 41st to 39th) in America’s Health Rankings list. The study noted that “The top five causes of infant death are birth defects, preterm birth and low birth weight, maternal complications of pregnancy, sudden infant death syndrome, and injuries. These causes account for 57 percent of infant deaths”¹. Our Indiana 211 Health Care pre-screening data shows that, amongst callers most at risk for facing the issue of Infant Mortality, **89%** of these callers already had health insurance (be that Medicaid or private insurance) and requests for health care ranked **8th** on this group’s needs list. These callers’ primary needs were more basic, such as finding shelter or stable housing, obtaining financial assistance with utility bills, and acquiring the baby items needed to eliminate infant injuries such as car seats, strollers, and cribs.

In the last year, **9,829** pregnant or newly delivered mothers, most at risk for encountering Infant Mortality, **dialed 2-1-1** seeking help with **17,504** individual needs. An additional **7,105** searched for pregnancy, new mother and baby resources on the website **www.IN211.org**. Unfortunately, not all needs could be met with existing resources and **1,761** needs (**10%**), were documented as unmet. Below is a breakdown of the callers’ needs, both met and unmet.

IN211 Infant Mortality Callers' Met & Unmet Needs

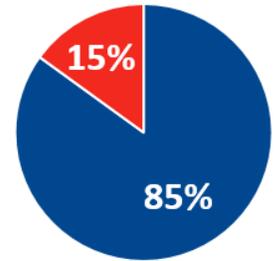
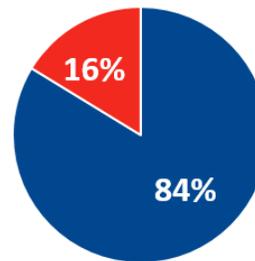


For those needs that were met with information on community agencies, Specialists offered **24,381** referrals for assistance from the **IN211 Database** which contains **over 20,000 agencies, programs and sites** offering help to Hoosiers in need.

2-1-1 works for Hoosier families.

An average call concerning Infant Mortality lasts 9½ minutes, over *3½ minutes longer* than a typical 2-1-1 call. Those extra minutes that a Specialist spends with a new mother or a mother-to-be, often provides both the mother and her child with the support they will need for a healthy start in life.

2-1-1 follows up with callers to see if they received help they needed. Outcome Survey data show that of the **84%** of people who contacted the referrals provided to them, **85%** reported improvement in their situation.



■ Followed Through ■ Did Not Follow Through ■ Improved ■ Did Not Improve

Need More Information?

2-1-1 is available 24/7/365 by live answer or online at www.IN211.org.



¹<http://news.medicine.iu.edu/releases/2016/12/indiana-health-rankings.shtml>