

Our Key Areas of Focus

Infant and maternal mortality

The city's overall infant mortality rate has steadily declined, but disparities persist among blacks and Latinos. Our goal is to reduce these disparities so that all mothers and babies have the quality care and resources needed for good health outcomes.

Unintended pregnancy

Consistent use of contraception is an important component of family planning – so that women and men can have children if and when they are ready. More than half of New York City pregnancies are unintended, and 40% of the city's pregnancies end in induced abortion. We work to help more women and men gain access to effective contraception and use it consistently.

Teen pregnancy

There are approximately 23,000 teen pregnancies in New York City each year; 60% of these end in induced abortion. Infants born to adolescent mothers are at increased risk of low birth weight and infant mortality, and teen mothers are at greater risk for poor pregnancy-related health outcomes and limited educational attainment. To reduce the city's teen pregnancy rate, we work to increase adolescents' access to sexual and reproductive health education and services.

Breastfeeding

Breastfeeding offers many health benefits to mothers and babies, but early discontinuation is common among the many women who initiate breastfeeding. We work to provide education and support to help more women start and continue breastfeeding and to make breastfeeding the norm in New York City.



How to Reach Us

For more information on our activities and programs, including how to get involved, call us at: **212.442.1740** or visit **nyc.gov/health/maternity**



Bureau of Maternal, Infant & Reproductive Health



THE NEW YORK CITY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND MENTAL HYGIENE
Michael R. Bloomberg, Mayor
Thomas R. Frieden, M.D., M.P.H., Commissioner
nyc.gov/health



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Our Activities and Programs

The Bureau collaborates with other Department programs, other city agencies, hospitals, health care and social service providers, and community-based organizations in all areas of our work.

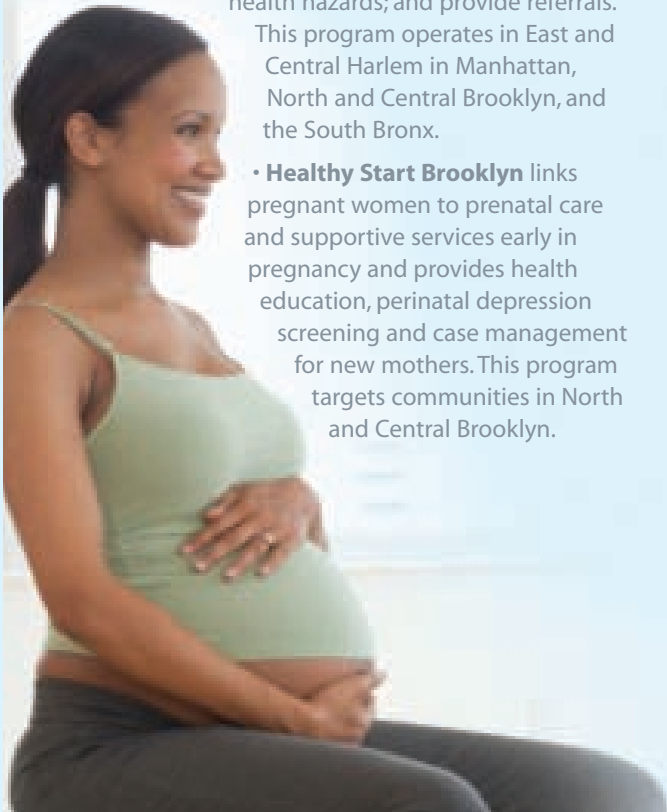
Community Initiatives

- **The Nurse-Family Partnership** provides frequent home visits by public health nurses to low-income, first-time mothers. Visits – which focus on preventive health practices, parenting skills, and strategies for attaining economic self-sufficiency – start in pregnancy and continue until the child's second birthday. This national, evidence-based program operates in neighborhoods throughout New York City.

- **The Newborn Home Visiting Program** involves a one-time visit to low-income mothers. Staff provide education about maternal and child health issues, including breastfeeding; identify home health hazards; and provide referrals.

This program operates in East and Central Harlem in Manhattan, North and Central Brooklyn, and the South Bronx.

- **Healthy Start Brooklyn** links pregnant women to prenatal care and supportive services early in pregnancy and provides health education, perinatal depression screening and case management for new mothers. This program targets communities in North and Central Brooklyn.



Community and Professional Educational Services

The Bureau offers health education programs and training at its site in Brooklyn and at community-based organizations. Topics include breastfeeding, contraception, sexuality, maternal and infant nutrition, pregnancy, SIDS, and parenting. To find out about upcoming events, call (718) 722-7510.

Training and technical assistance for health care professionals – provided via grand rounds, conferences and webcasts – are offered through the Department's Speaker's Bureau. For information, visit nyc.gov/health or call (212) 442-1740.

Breastfeeding Initiative

The Bureau works to increase public awareness and acceptance of breastfeeding; establish "baby-friendly" hospitals; encourage women to choose breastfeeding, exclusively and for longer periods of time; and foster supportive services for breastfeeding mothers.



Family Planning Initiatives

- **The Healthy Teens Initiative** aims to increase access to comprehensive sexual and reproductive health services. Efforts are directed at health care providers and include dissemination of clinical tools and other resources, and free technical assistance and training.
- **The Emergency Contraception Education and Outreach Program** works with community-based and health care organizations to increase awareness and access to emergency contraception, particularly among women and teens at high risk of unintended pregnancy.

Research and Evaluation

The Bureau conducts research, surveillance, and evaluation on a range of health issues, including:

- Factors that contribute to infant and maternal morbidity and mortality
- Trends in family planning, abortion, and teen pregnancy

Community Collaborations

- **The Harlem and Bronx Strategic Action Committees** address infant and maternal mortality prevention at the community level.
- **Regional Perinatal Forums**, in partnership with the New York State Department of Health, provide support and coordination for borough-specific and citywide efforts that link hospitals with community services to improve perinatal outcomes.
- **Family Planning Providers Group** recommends program interventions and policy.
- **Maternal Mortality Review Committee and the Infant Mortality Case Review Committee** review data and make program and policy recommendations.

