

Down Syndrome Facts

There is a wide variation in cognitive abilities, behavior and physical development among individuals with Down syndrome.

Each individual has his/her own unique personality, capabilities and talents.



www.ndscenter.org
info@ndscenter.org

Down syndrome is a genetic variation of the 21st chromosome, which usually causes delay in physical, intellectual and language development.

The exact cause of the chromosomal rearrangement and the primary prevention of Down syndrome are currently unknown.

According to a 2010 study reported by the CDC, the incidence of Down syndrome in the United States is estimated to be 1 in every 691 live births.

Down syndrome is one of the leading clinical causes of cognitive delay in the world – it is not related to race, nationality, religion or socio-economic status.

Of all children born in this country annually, approximately 6,000 will have Down syndrome.

There are about 350,000 to 400,000 people living in the United States with Down syndrome.



The likelihood of giving birth to a child with Down syndrome increases with maternal age; however, 80% of babies with Down syndrome are born to women under 35 years old, as women in that age group have the most babies.

As many as 50% of individuals with Down syndrome have heart anomalies, and 8% - 12% have gastrointestinal abnormalities present at birth. Most of these defects are correctable by surgery.

Individuals with Down syndrome benefit from loving homes, early intervention, special education, appropriate medical care and positive public attitudes.

In adulthood, people with Down syndrome hold jobs, enjoy recreational opportunities in their communities, and increasingly, live independently.

30 Mansell Court
Suite 108
Roswell, GA 30076
Toll Free: 800.232.6372
Local: 770.604.9500
Fax: 770.604.9898