

Perinatal Substance Use

A summary of core issues affecting Lake County

#1

Prenatal substance abuse is 5x the state rate

The rate of prenatal substance abuse for Lake County – 96.9 per 1,000 hospitalizations of pregnant women – is five times the state rate (19.9).

- Lake County
- California



#2

The impact is long-lasting on babies exposed to drugs

Babies exposed to drugs in utero are more likely to be **stillborn** and are more likely to experience developmental disorders, including **impaired growth, birth defects, and altered brain development.**



50-60%

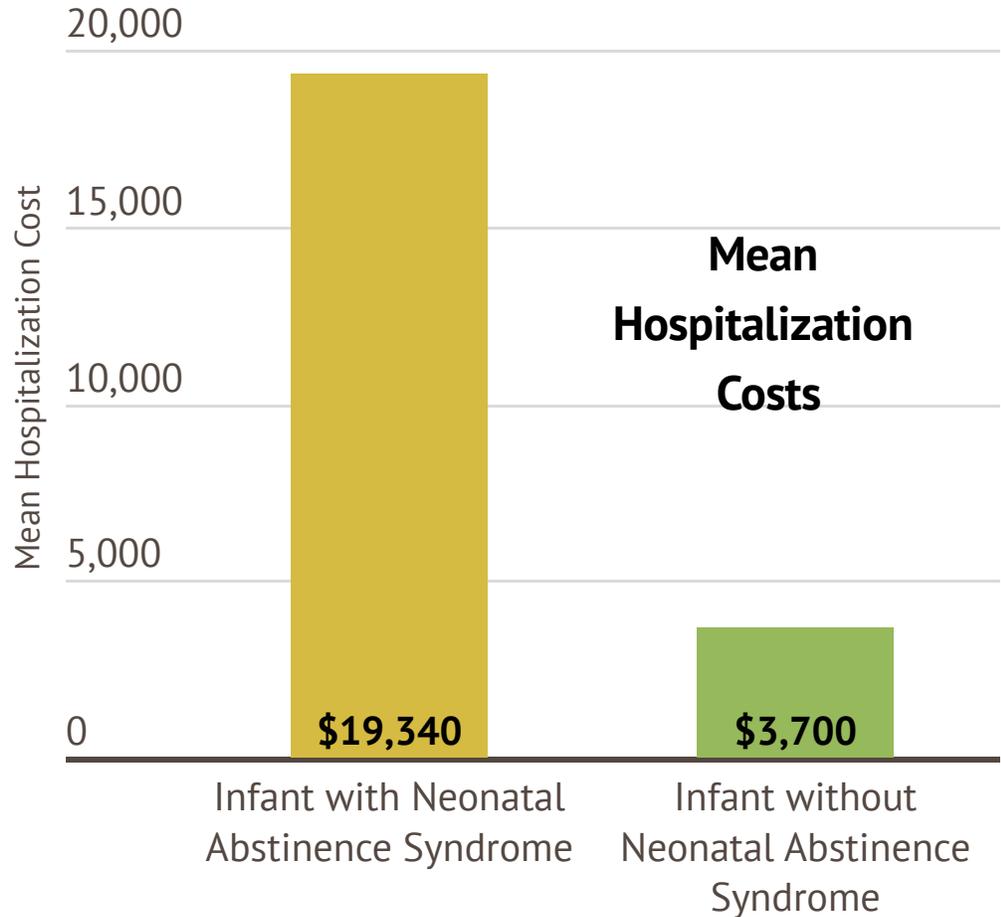
Percent of babies born to mothers addicted to opioids who develop withdrawal symptoms

#3

We pay in other ways, too.

According to an April 2018 article in the journal *Pediatrics*, average hospital costs were more than **five times as high** for a baby in Medicaid with neonatal abstinence syndrome (NAS) than a baby without.

Across the United States, this study found, we paid **\$2 billion in excess costs** from 2004-2014 for babies covered by Medicaid who had NAS.



There *are* solutions.

The National Institute on Drug Abuse notes that every \$1 invested in addiction treatment programs yields a return between \$12-\$16 in reduced drug-related crime, criminal justice costs, theft and health care.



12x-16x ROI

\$1 invested in addiction treatment can yield a return on investment of between \$12 to \$16.