



## **TIMELINESS STUDY – HOSPITAL REPORTS OF ADVERSE PREGNANCY OUTCOMES RECEIVED IN 2025**

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### **PURPOSE**

Timeliness studies are performed periodically by the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) Adverse Pregnancy Outcomes Reporting System (APORS) to evaluate the time hospitals take to report APORS cases. IDPH regulations require Illinois hospitals to report infants who meet the APORS case definition within seven days of the infant’s hospital discharge, but the actual timeliness often varies across hospitals. Assurance of timeliness is important because APORS cases are considered high-risk and, therefore, are referred to local community health agencies for follow-up services. The sooner intervention services begin, the better the outcomes for high-risk infants and their families. This study assesses the performance of hospitals in making timely reports in 2025. The results are used to provide hospital-specific feedback to improve case reporting.

### **METHODS**

In 2025, 89 hospitals reported cases to APORS either electronically through the APORS database or on paper reporting forms provided by APORS. The hospitals provide the infants’

hospital discharge dates and the reporting dates for paper reports. The reporting date is generated automatically by the data system for electronic reports. These two dates were compared to determine hospital processing time for each report. For 2025, a total of 9,682 reports were analyzed. The average processing time was calculated for each hospital, as well as the percentage of cases reported within the seven-day requirement. An APORS case is considered timely if the report is correctly completed by the hospital within seven days of the infant's discharge. Cases for whom drug exposure was the only case condition were not included in this study because obtaining results from drug testing may take longer than seven days. In 2025, the Illinois Vital Records System (IVRS) converted to a new system. During the transition period, technical challenges impacted timely reporting. Therefore, APORS notified hospital reporting staff that timeliness of reports for infants discharged June 1- June 15 would not be included in the evaluation of their compliance.

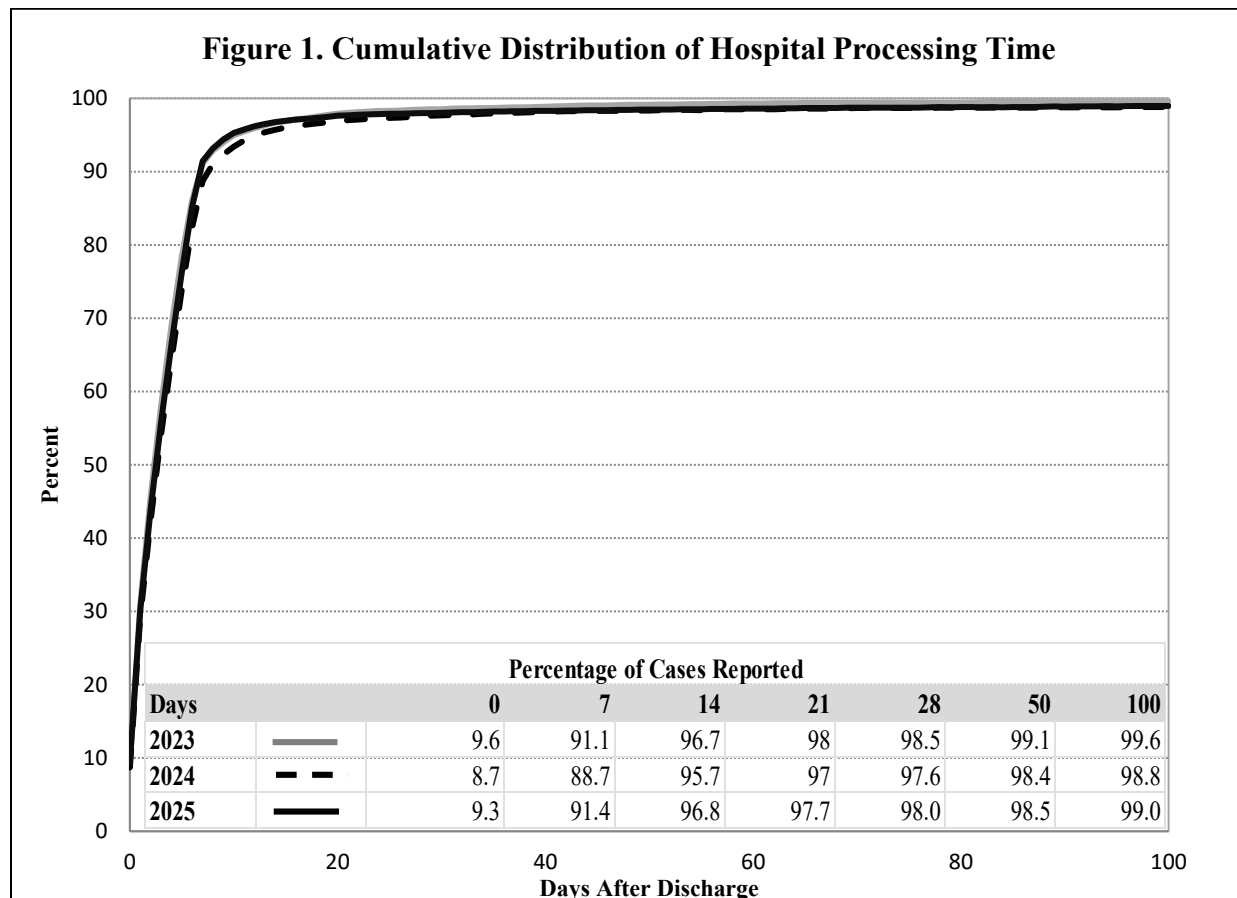
The APORS Program also examined the time it took for reports to arrive at IDPH. The reporting date on the paper report and the date the form was received by the APORS Program were compared to calculate transit time. Extended transit times to IDPH mean that referrals to local community health agencies for follow-up services are slower than they should be. Transit times for cases reported through the electronic data system are zero days.

## **RESULTS**

**Processing Time for Cases Reported in 2025.** Among all the cases, processing time ranged from 0 to 927 days with the median being 3 days and the mean being 7.2 days. The difference between the mean and the median indicates a right-skewed distribution of processing times. The cumulative distributions of cases with respect to reporting time are displayed in Figure 1; 43.7% of cases were reported within 2 days, while 91.4% were reported within the required 7 days.

Ninety-nine percent of cases were reported within 98 days. For comparison purposes,

percentages of cases for 2023 and 2024 are also shown in the inset table of Figure 1. Timeliness in 2025 was slightly better than 2024 and about the same as 2023.



Source: Illinois Department of Public Health, Adverse Pregnancy Outcomes Reporting System as of January 2026

Table 1 shows the average hospital processing time ranges from 0 to 217.5 days. Sixty-two hospitals (69.7%) averaged 7 or fewer days to process their reports. Hospital names on Tables 1 and 2 were eliminated to protect confidentiality. Table 2 shows that 53 (59.6%) hospitals reported 90% of cases, or more, within 7 days of an infant’s discharge.

Table 1. 2025 Cases: Average Time for Processing Infant Discharge Records by Hospital

Hospital Number	Number of Reports	Average Days	Hospital Number	Number of Reports	Average Days	Hospital Number	Number of Reports	Average Days
1	21	17.5	31	43	6.0	61	27	16.7
2	1	0.0	32	94	6.4	62	260	2.3
3	51	1.7	33	14	5.6	63	2	15.0
4	23	73.2	34	204	43.1	64	18	0.3
5	103	5.3	35	66	5.4	65	11	74.1
6	4	8.0	36	107	3.8	66	315	2.1
7	115	13.2	37	234	4.4	67	110	2.3
8	97	2.1	38	21	1.5	68	94	2.5
9	330	4.3	39	90	3.8	69	206	3.5
10	485	7.7	40	121	4.7	70	45	46.4
11	27	5.1	41	19	0.0	71	69	0.4
12	34	3.8	42	547	2.5	72	10	4.0
13	485	12.5	43	20	3.1	73	135	3.4
14	16	5.7	44	369	6.0	74	262	2.9
15	5	9.8	45	2	3.5	75	29	0.1
16	3	9.7	46	8	217.5	76	10	5.5
17	418	5.5	47	7	190.3	77	53	10.8
18	7	1.1	48	374	2.7	78	5	0.0
19	26	0.8	49	129	8.8	79	37	1.2
20	141	4.3	50	145	12.1	80	83	7.4
21	3	31.3	51	79	1.6	81	81	3.8
22	23	2.0	52	83	1.2	82	4	0.0
23	12	18.7	53	11	4.4	83	5	2.8
24	53	1.7	54	23	10.2	84	268	4.4
25	13	8.5	55	26	6.3	85	13	105.8
26	3	4.3	56	7	7.0	86	355	11.6
27	310	3.7	57	259	5.8	87	37	17.9
28	65	5.5	58	16	2.7	88	864	5.2
29	53	5.8	59	32	38.9	89	108	4.2
30	35	4.5	60	54	1.6	<b>APORS AVERAGE</b>		<b>7.2</b>

Source: Illinois Department of Public Health, Adverse Pregnancy Outcomes Reporting System as of January 2026.

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**Table 2. 2025 Cases: Percentage of Reports Submitted Within Seven Days by Hospital**

Hospital Number	Number of Reports	% Reports in 7 Days	Hospital Number	Number of Reports	% Reports in 7 Days	Hospital Number	Number of Reports	% Reports in 7 Days
1	21	90.5	31	43	100.0	61	27	66.7
2	1	100	32	94	78.7	62	260	98.5
3	51	100	33	14	71.4	63	2	50.0
4	23	87.0	34	204	71.6	64	18	100.0
5	103	89.3	35	66	90.9	65	11	45.5
6	4	75.0	36	107	95.3	66	315	99.7
7	115	89.6	37	234	98.3	67	110	99.1
8	97	99.0	38	21	100.0	68	94	92.6
9	330	90.0	39	90	95.6	69	206	95.1
10	485	88.0	40	121	88.4	70	45	75.6
11	27	92.6	41	19	100.0	71	69	98.6
12	34	91.2	42	547	97.1	72	10	90.0
13	485	90.1	43	20	85.0	73	135	96.3
14	16	93.8	44	369	96.2	74	262	97.3
15	5	40.0	45	2	100.0	75	29	100.0
16	3	66.7	46	8	37.5	76	10	60.0
17	418	87.1	47	7	0.0	77	53	79.2
18	7	100.0	48	374	96.5	78	5	100.0
19	26	96.2	49	129	80.6	79	37	100.0
20	141	95.0	50	145	95.9	80	83	85.5
21	3	66.7	51	79	96.2	81	81	92.6
22	23	95.7	52	83	98.8	82	4	100.0
23	12	66.7	53	11	90.9	83	5	80.0
24	53	98.1	54	23	78.3	84	268	91.4
25	13	53.8	55	26	88.5	85	13	69.2
26	3	100.0	56	7	71.4	86	355	70.4
27	310	93.9	57	259	91.5	87	37	64.9
28	65	96.9	58	16	100.0	88	864	96.9
29	53	77.4	59	32	43.8	89	108	89.8
30	35	100.0	60	54	96.3	<b>ALL APORS CASES</b>		<b>91.4</b>

Source: Illinois Department of Public Health, Adverse Pregnancy Outcomes Reporting System as of January 2026.

**Transit Time for Cases Reported in 2025.** Among all cases, transit time ranged from 0 to 244 days with the mean being 0.09 days and median zero days. There were no hospitals that had an average transit time of more than 7 days. Two hospitals (2.2%) had at least one record that took more than 7 days in transit.

## **DISCUSSION**

**Case-Level Assessment.** In 2025, 20.8% were reported on the day following discharge, the highest proportion for any single day. Together, this day, the day of discharge, and the subsequent four days accounted for 76.3% of all reports.

As required by administrative rules 91.4% of cases were reported within seven days of discharge, as required by administrative rules. This is better than 2024 when 88.7% of cases were reported within seven days. The conversion to a new IVRS system and exclusion of babies discharged during the transition period does not appear to have impacted the overall timeliness of APORS reporting. Timely reporting assures that newborns can be offered case-management services soon after being discharged from the hospital, when the children and families will most benefit.

*IVRS NX System upgrade. Our office implemented the new and upgraded “IVRS-NX” in June 2025, and allows for electronic filing of Birth, Death, Fetal Death, and Stillborn certificates. In addition, IVRS-NX will allow the reporting and referral of APORS cases. The system experienced issues during the upgrade to IVRS NX, babies who were discharged between June 1-15, 2025, were excluded from this timeliness report.*

**Hospital-Level Assessment.** The main objective of the study is to assess the timeliness of reporting APORS cases at the hospital level. To that end, individual hospitals were rated based

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on reports received in 2025. Eight hospitals were not rated as they submitted too few cases (less than 5) to provide stable estimates. Table 3 illustrates how the categorical ratings were determined. Of the 81 rated hospitals, 61 (75.3%) met compliance standards. The percentage of hospitals meeting compliance standards in 2025 was less than in 2024 when 80.2% of the hospitals were compliant.

**Table 3. Hospital Ratings for Compliance with Timeliness Standards in 2025**

Rating	Cases Reported Within 7 Days	Number of Hospitals	Percentage
Compliant Overall	80 - 100%	61	75.3
Not Compliant	< 80%	20	24.7

A facility-specific summary report has been distributed to each hospital (see the Appendix for an example). The summary report documents each facility’s level of compliance with APORS’s requirements and contains information about the transit times for a facility’s reports. Hospitals are also provided with the statewide report to give them an overview of the study and its results.

***Training and Education.*** Hospital training and education are important for APORS data quality, case completeness, and timeliness. APORS webinar recordings were made available for viewing by hospital staff and perinatal administrators in the state at any time. Additionally, throughout the year, APORS provided individual level training for facilities with compliance challenges or staff turnover.

APORS regards the timeliness study as an important tool for determining hospital compliance with reporting standards and will repeat this study annually. The hospital-specific timeliness reports serve as a valuable measure of facility performance and can assist hospital managers with identifying issues regarding timely reporting.

Appendix Sample Report

Illinois Department of Public Health  
Adverse Pregnancy Outcomes Reporting System

Timeliness Study for Cases Submitted in 2025  
Hospital Compliance Report

January 2026

**Timeliness Standard for Reporting APORS Cases:**

Cases must be reported within seven days of the infant’s discharge or death.

Hospital Name  
Facility ID Number

Cases Reported	Average Time (Days)	Percent of Cases Reported within 7 Days	Compliance Rating
29	3.2	89.5	Compliant

**Compliant** means that 80 to 100 percent of the cases were reported within seven days.

**Not Compliant** means fewer than 80 percent of the cases were reported within seven days.

**Not rated** means the hospital reported fewer than five cases or it was an out-of-state hospital and not subject to APORS regulations.

*The following information does not have a bearing on compliance or non-compliance with the timeliness standard for reporting APORS cases, but delays in reporting may impact the care a child receives after discharge from hospital.*

Average Time in Transit (Days)	Percent of Cases Received within 7 Days of Being Reported
2.8	95%