

The Cost Of Prematurity

- Hospital care for preterm babies costs approximately 25 times more than hospital care for term babies.
- In 2005, preterm birth cost the U.S. at least \$26.2 billion, \$51,600 for every infant born prematurely.
- Over 500,000 babies were born preterm in the US in 2008, 12.3% of births
- Preterm birth accounts for approximately 35% of all U.S. health care spending on infants and 10% for children.
- In 2001, the average preterm/low birth weight hospitalization cost \$15,100 with a 12.9-day length of stay.
- Hospital stays for extremely preterm infants averaged \$65,600 in 2001, with a high likelihood of re-hospitalization.