



## FACTS ABOUT DOWN SYNDROME

Down syndrome occurs when an individual has third copy of the 21st chromosome, and can be a full or partial copy.

Down syndrome is the most commonly occurring chromosomal condition.

1 in every 691 babies born in the United States is born with Down syndrome. There are more than 400,000 people living with Down syndrome in the U.S.

Down syndrome occurs in people of all races and socio-economic levels.

A few of the common physical traits of Down syndrome are low muscle tone, small stature, an upward slant to the eyes, and a single deep crease across the center of the palm.

People with Down syndrome have an increased risk for certain medical conditions such as congenital heart defects, respiratory and hearing issues, Alzheimer's disease, childhood leukemia, and thyroid conditions.

Life expectancy for people with Down syndrome has increased dramatically in recent decades from 25 in 1983 to 60+ today.

People with Down syndrome attend school, work, participate in decisions that affect them, and contribute to society in many ways

All people with Down syndrome experience cognitive delays, but the effect is usually mild to moderate and is not indicative of the many strengths and talents that each individual has.