

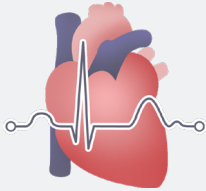


NEWBORN VITAL SIGNS



Normal range

Heart rate



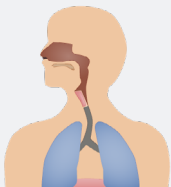
120–160
beats per minute

Blood pressure



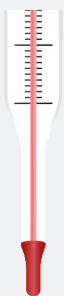
Systolic:
60–80
Diastolic:
30–45

Respiratory rate



30–60
breaths per minute

Temperature



Axillary:
97°F–99°F
(36.1°C–37.2°C)
Rectal:
97.7°F–100.2 °F
(36.5°C–37.8°C)

Oxygen saturation



95%–100%
on room air

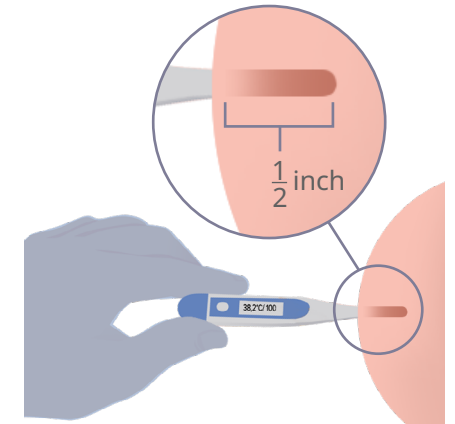
Tips

- Start with the least invasive vital sign first.
- Check vital signs every 4 hours.
- Room temperature and clothing may alter temperature readings.

Axillary



Rectal



- Count respirations for one full minute.
- Heart rate may be irregular when crying.
- Count the apical pulse by auscultating for 1 full minute. The apical pulse on a newborn is lateral to the left midclavicular line, at the 4th intercostal space.

Interventions for abnormal vital signs

- Notify provider of abnormal vital signs. Frequently reassess.
- **Respiratory rate:** Look for signs of respiratory distress, such as wheezing, labored breathing, or apnea.
- **Temperature:** Keep the newborn dry and tightly wrapped in a blanket. Provide a warm environment.
- **O₂ saturation:** Stimulate the infant. Suction the airway as needed.