



New Jersey

The New Jersey Autism Study (NJAS)

RESULTS

Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) Prevalence, 2008

Number of children identified with ASDs: 145

Total prevalence of ASDs: 20.5 per 1,000 (or 1 in 49)

Boys: 34.2 per 1,000 (or 1 in 29)

Girls: 5.8 per 1,000 (or 1 in 172)

Race/ Ethnicity

White: 21.0 per 1,000

Black: 20.6 per 1,000

Hispanic: 20.0 per 1,000

Documented ASD Diagnosis

Children with ASD diagnosis in their records: 68%

Median earliest age ASD was documented in their records:
4 years, 10 months

Autistic Disorder: 3 years, 2 months

ASD/PDD: 4 years, 3 month

Asperger Disorder: 5 years, 6 months

SITE INFORMATION

Part of New Jersey included in ADDM, 2008

Union County (metropolitan Newark, New Jersey)

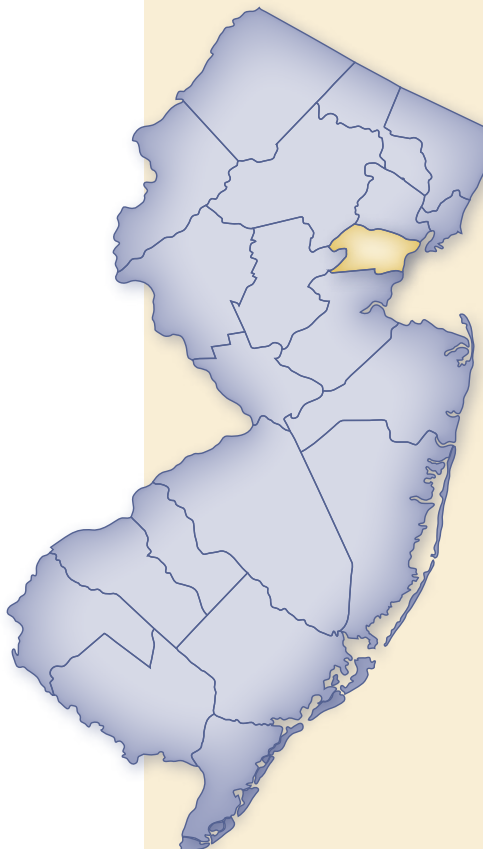
Population of 8-Year-Old Children in Study Area, 2008

8-Year-Old Children: 7,082

White: 43.7%

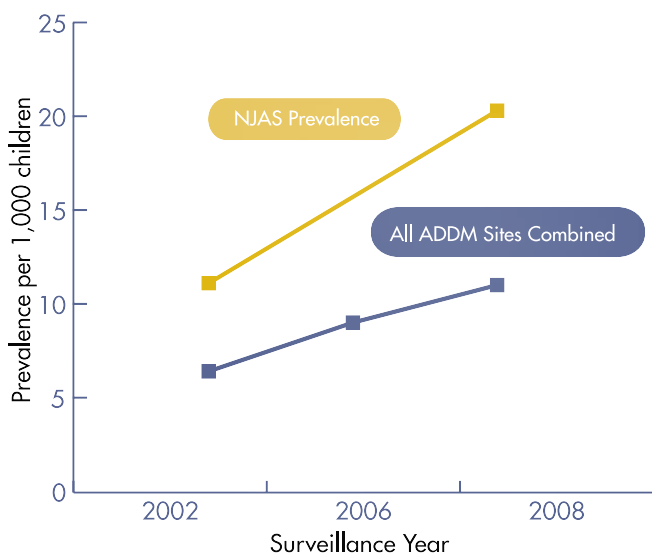
Black: 22.6%

Hispanic: 28.9%



Yellow - Counties in the ADDM Network in 2008

Overall ASD Prevalence



NJAS also collected data for the 2000 surveillance year. See the earlier ADDM Network report for this information. The data shown are based on the surveillance area covered in both time points.

New Jersey

The New Jersey Autism Study (NJAS)

The New Jersey Autism Study (NJAS) is a multisource public health surveillance system established to monitor the number of 8-year-old children in the population with ASDs or other developmental disabilities. This surveillance system has established an accurate baseline count of the number of New Jersey children living with ASDs and tracks changes in the expression of this disorder, over time. NJAS is a joint undertaking of researchers at the New Jersey Medical School, working in cooperation with the New Jersey Departments of Education and Health, the CDC and numerous New Jersey developmental health centers and school districts. NJAS has completed ASD surveillance activities for 2000, 2002, and 2008 surveillance years and will monitor ASDs for 2010 and 2012. NJAS covered a smaller area for the 2008 surveillance year (population of less than 10,000) which may affect the prevalence estimate.

The findings of the New Jersey Autism Study have been instrumental to the development and implementation of several initiatives to improve the quality of services provided to children and adults with ASDs. These include:

- New Jersey Governor's Council for Biomedical Research and Treatment of Autism <http://www.nj.gov/health/autism/>
- The New Jersey Registry for Autism <http://www.state.nj.us/health/fhs/sch/index.shtml>

What part of New Jersey is included in the ADDM Network for 2008?

NJAS covered Union County only for the 2008 surveillance year. This was a smaller study area compared to most ADDM sites and the NJAS results might be affected by looking at this smaller population of 8- year-old children.

What kinds of education and training programs does the program offer to people who work with children who have ASDs or other developmental disabilities?

NJAS sponsors training of professionals in the use of the Autism Diagnostic Observation Schedule (ADOS) and Autism Diagnostic Interview for Research (ADI-R) — autism diagnostic instruments, and supports the early identification of autism through use of autism screeners.

What are some of the resources available in New Jersey for children with developmental disabilities, their families, and the professionals who serve them?

- New Jersey Department of Education, Special Education Program (<http://www.nj.gov/education/specialed/>)

New Jersey is served by excellent parent information and resource programs, including:

- Autism New Jersey (www.autismnj.org)
- Autism Family Services of NJ (www.autismfamilyservicesnj.org)
- Asperger Syndrome Education Network (www.aspennj.org)
- Statewide Parent Advocacy Network (www.spannj.org)

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