

A Snapshot of Autism Spectrum Disorder in Maryland

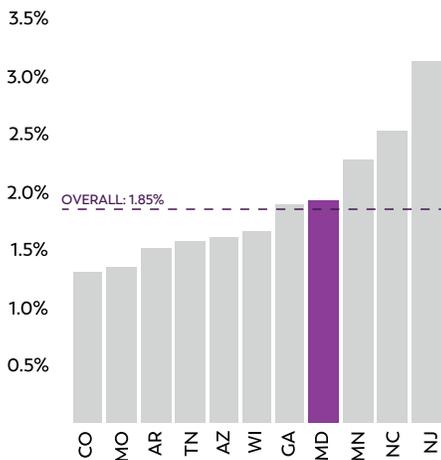
Findings from the Maryland Autism and Developmental Disabilities Monitoring (MD-ADDM) Project help increase understanding about the number of children with autism spectrum disorder (ASD), the characteristics of those children, and the age at which they are first evaluated and diagnosed.



■ SITE TRACKING AREA

1 in 52

Or **1.9%** of 8-year-old children in an area of Maryland were identified with ASD by the MD-ADDM Project in 2016



This percentage is about the same as the average percentage identified with ASD (1.85%) in all communities in the United States where CDC tracked ASD in 2016.

By 47.5 months

Half of children identified with ASD were diagnosed

No significant differences in ASD prevalence

Were found among white, black, and Hispanic children

Boys were 3.9x More likely to be identified with ASD than girls



48% of children

Identified with ASD received a Comprehensive Developmental Evaluation by age 3 years



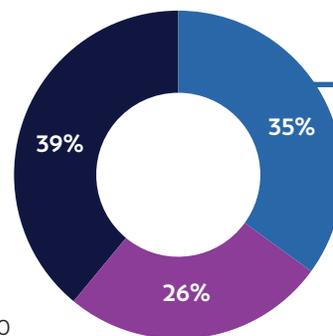
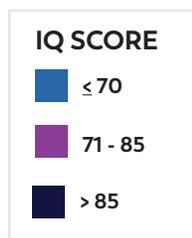
78% of children

Identified with ASD had a documented ASD diagnosis



IQ data available for 65%

Of children identified with ASD by the MD-ADDM Project



35% had Intellectual Disability

IQ = Intelligence Quotient
Intellectual disability = IQ ≤ 70

What are the key take-away messages?

- Many children with ASD need services and support, now and as they grow into adolescence and adulthood.
- ASD can be diagnosed as young as 18 months of age.
- Efforts may be directed toward evaluating and diagnosing all children with ASD as early as possible so that they can be connected to the services they need.

How can this information be useful?

Stakeholders in Maryland might consider different ways to lower the age of first evaluation by community providers.

Where was this information collected?

The MD-ADDM Project information is based on the analysis of data collected from the health and special education records of children who were 8 years old and living in Baltimore County in 2016.

8-year-old children in tracking area: 9,993

- 48% white
- 35% black
- 9% Hispanic
- 7% Asian or Pacific Islander
- 1% other

What is MD-ADDM doing currently?

The MD-ADDM Project collaborates with the Maryland Department of Health and investigators from Johns Hopkins University, as well as partners with the Maryland State Department of Education and the Kennedy Krieger Institute, to track the number and characteristics of 8-year-olds with ASD and/or intellectual disability in Baltimore County, Maryland. The MD-ADDM Project offers presentations on the number and characteristics of children with ASD in Maryland and across the ADDM Network for stakeholders, state and local agencies, partnering institutes, and parent groups. The MD-ADDM Project also participates in and organizes annual autism awareness month events in the community.

“MD-ADDM Project data help us plan person-centered services for individuals with autism so they can achieve their fullest potential. We appreciate having an ADDM site in Maryland to inform us of the number and characteristics of individuals with autism in the community that we serve.”

ERIC SALZANO, Executive Director, Community Services for Autistic Adults and Children Inc. (CSAAC)

Resources

PATHFINDERS FOR AUTISM

www.pathfindersforautism.org

CENTER FOR AUTISM AND RELATED DISORDERS AT KENNEDY KRIEGER INSTITUTE

www.card.kennedykrieger.org

THE PARENT'S PLACE OF MARYLAND

<https://www.ppmmd.org/>

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION'S DIVISION OF SPECIAL EDUCATION AND EARLY INTERVENTION SERVICES

<http://marylandpublicschools.org/programs/Pages/Special-Education/index.aspx>

ITINERIS

<https://www.itinerisbaltimore.org/>

AUTISM SOCIETY OF BALTIMORE-CHESAPEAKE

www.baltimoreautismsociety.org

COMMUNITY SERVICES FOR AUTISTIC ADULTS AND CHILDREN (CSAAC)

<http://csaac.org/>

CDC'S LEARN THE SIGNS. ACT EARLY.

www.cdc.gov/actearly

CONNECT WITH MD-ADDM Li-Ching Lee, PhD, ScM

Johns Hopkins University
615 N. Wolfe St., Suite E6032
Baltimore, MD 21205
410-502-0605
llee38@jhu.edu