



## Georgia

### Metropolitan Atlanta Developmental Disabilities Surveillance Program (MADDSP)

#### RESULTS

Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) Prevalence, 2008

Number of children identified with ASDs: 601

Total prevalence of ASDs: 11.9 per 1,000 (or 1 in 84)

Boys: 19.6 per 1,000 (or 1 in 51)

Girls: 3.8 per 1,000 (or 1 in 263)

#### Race/ Ethnicity

White: 11.8 per 1,000

Black: 11.9 per 1,000

Hispanic: 7.1 per 1,000

Asian or Pacific Islander: 15.9 per 1,000

#### Documented ASD Diagnosis

Children with ASD diagnosis in their records: 62%

Median earliest age ASD was documented in their records: 4 years, 8 months

Autistic Disorder: 4 years, 5 months

ASD/PDD: 4 years, 6 months

Asperger Disorder: 6 years

#### SITE INFORMATION

Part of Georgia Included in ADDM, 2008

5 counties: Clayton, Cobb, DeKalb, Fulton, and Gwinnett (metropolitan Atlanta)

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

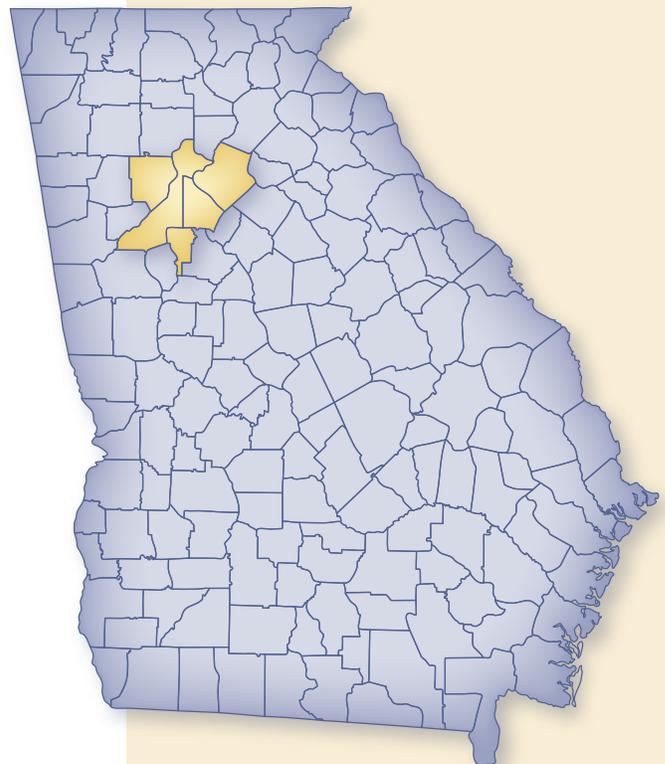
8-Year-Old Children: 50,427

White: 37.1%

Black: 41%

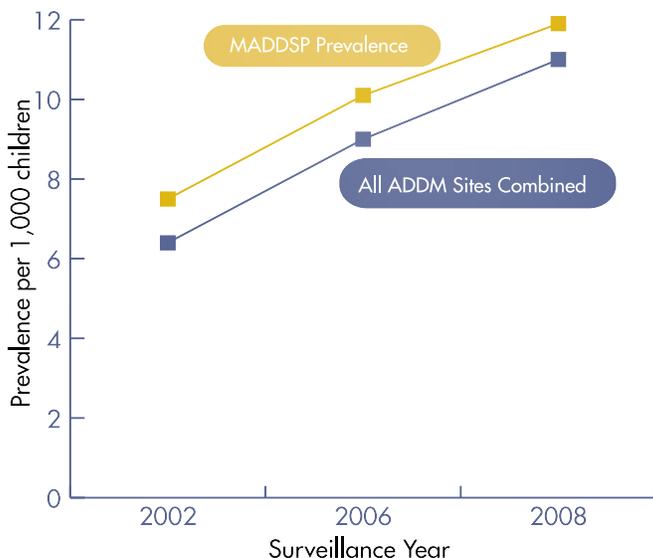
Hispanic: 15.6%

Asian or Pacific Islander: 5.9%



Yellow - Counties in the ADDM Network in 2008

#### Overall ASD Prevalence



MADDSP also reported data for the 2000 and 2004 surveillance years. See the earlier ADDM Network reports for this information.

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## Metropolitan Atlanta Developmental Disabilities Surveillance Program (MADDSP)

**Metropolitan Atlanta Developmental Disabilities Surveillance Program (MADDSP)** is a multisource investigation to monitor the number of 8-year-old children in the population with selected developmental disabilities, including ASDs. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention established MADDSP in 1991 as the first system of its kind for monitoring the numbers of children with developmental disabilities. Since then, MADDSP has been tracking the numbers of 8-year-old children with intellectual disability, cerebral palsy, hearing loss, and vision impairment in the five counties of metropolitan Atlanta. Autism was added as a fifth disability in 1996. MADDSP provides opportunities for special studies through which CDC staff members can identify risk factors for these disabilities and determine whether programs to prevent disabilities have been effective.

MADDSP is the model for all of the other ADDM Network sites and has contributed a wealth of information on the characteristics, risk factors, costs, and implications of developmental disabilities.

### Does MADDSP conduct community outreach?

MADDSP partners with community organizations such as the Autism Society, Autism Speaks, and CADEF: the Childhood Autism Foundation to host autism awareness events in Georgia. MADDSP staff also provide workshops and trainings for parents, teachers and primary health care providers to increase awareness and recognition of the early signs of developmental disabilities.

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

- CDC's Learn the Signs. Act Early. campaign is an effort to raise awareness about developmental milestones and the importance of screening and early intervention. Visit [www.cdc.gov/actearly](http://www.cdc.gov/actearly) for more information.
- Autism Speaks goal is to change the future for all who struggle with autism spectrum disorders. Contact the GA Chapter of Autism Speaks at [www.walknowforautismspeaks.org/georgia](http://www.walknowforautismspeaks.org/georgia)
- The Georgia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities offers a variety of services to people with developmental disabilities who are eligible for services. Contact your Regional Office for more information. <http://dbhdd.georgia.gov/portal/site/DBHDD/> or call the Georgia Crisis and Access Line: 1-800-715-4225
- The Autism Society of Greater Georgia is a great resource for all affected by autism. To find out more, visit <http://www.asaga.com> or call (770) 904-4474.
- Parent 2 Parent of Georgia is another great resource for families affected by disabilities. Visit their roadmap to services at <http://p2pga.org/roadmap/> or call 1-800-229-2038.

### For more information, please contact:

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