

Utah

Tracking Autism Spectrum Disorder and Other Developmental Disabilities in Utah:

What You Need To Know

A Snapshot of Autism Spectrum Disorder in Utah

The following estimates are based on information collected from the health and special education records of children who were 8 years old and living in one of three counties in 2010 (see sidebar). Overall, the Utah Autism and Developmental Disabilities Monitoring Project (UT-ADDM) identified 442 children with autism spectrum disorder (ASD), including children with and without a diagnosis documented in their records.

How many children were identified with ASD?

1 in 54 children (or 18.6 per 1,000 8-year-olds) was identified with ASD.

This estimate is higher than the average number of children identified with ASD (1 in 68) in all areas of the United States where CDC tracks ASD.

Which children were more likely to be identified with ASD?

Boys were almost 5 times more likely to be identified with ASD than girls.

- ❑ 1 in 34 boys was identified with ASD.
- ❑ 1 in 135 girls was identified with ASD.

White and Hispanic children were about equally likely to be identified with ASD¹.

- ❑ 1 in 52 white children was identified with ASD.
- ❑ 1 in 60 Hispanic children was identified with ASD.

When were children first evaluated for developmental concerns?

33% of children identified with ASD were evaluated for developmental concerns by the time they were 3 years old.

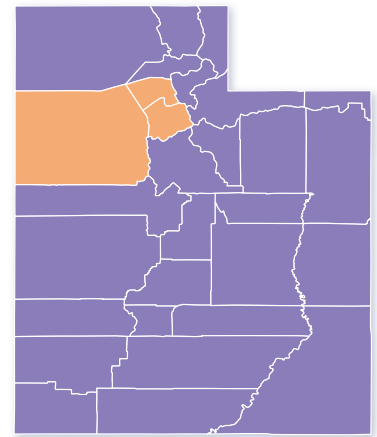
When were children first diagnosed with ASD by a community provider?

On average, children were diagnosed at age 4 years and 5 months, even though children can be diagnosed as early as age 2 years. When looking at age of first diagnosis by subtype, on average, children were diagnosed with:

- ❑ Autistic disorder at age 4 years and 2 months.
- ❑ Pervasive developmental disorder-not otherwise specified (PDD-NOS) at age 4 years and 4 months.
- ❑ Asperger disorder at age 5 years and 8 months.

How many children had an eligibility for autism special education services at school or had an ASD diagnosis?

90% of children either had an eligibility for autism special education services at school or had an ASD diagnosis. The remaining 10% of children identified with ASD had documented symptoms of ASD, but had not yet been classified as having ASD by a community provider.



Site Information

Tracking area: Salt Lake, Davis, and Tooele counties

Children in tracking area: 23,756 8-year-old children, of whom about 73% were white, 2% were black, 20% were Hispanic, and 4% were Asian or Pacific Islander



More is understood about ASD than ever before,
but there is an urgent need to continue the search for
answers and provide help for people living with ASD.

Public Health Action

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) funds programs to track the number and characteristics of children with ASD and other developmental disabilities, as part of the CDC's Autism and Developmental Disabilities Monitoring (ADDM) Network. The Utah Autism and Developmental Disabilities Monitoring Project (UT-ADDM) was established in 2002 as an ADDM Network site in collaboration with the Utah Department of Health and investigators from the University of Utah. UT-ADDM partners with state and local agencies and organizations that serve children with developmental disabilities and their families to track the number of 4-year-old children and 8-year-old children with ASD, intellectual disability, or both. This program also contributes information on the characteristics of children with ASD and on factors that put children at risk for this condition. UT-ADDM data can be used to promote early identification, plan for training and service needs, guide research, and inform policy so that children and families in our community get the help they need.

Training and Education on Autism Spectrum Disorder

UT-ADDM and the Utah Registry of Autism and Developmental Disorders (URADD) provide community outreach through their participation in community events, awareness activities, and professional education meetings. Our ASD estimates are used by the Utah Department of Health, Utah State Office of Education, the Utah Legislature, and by community leaders to inform decision and policymaking and to increase community awareness of ASD.

For more information about UT-ADDM, please contact:

Deborah Bilder MD
University of Utah
Department of Psychiatry, Division of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry
650 Komas Drive, Suite 206
Salt Lake City, UT 84108
Phone: 801-585-9107
E-mail: Deborah.Bilder@hsc.utah.edu

Access Resources and Help Connect Families to Services and Supports in Utah

Baby Watch Early Intervention

Web: [www.utahbabywatch.org/
contactus.htm](http://www.utahbabywatch.org/contactus.htm)

The Utah State Office of Education

Web: www.schools.utah.gov/sars

The Autism Council of Utah

Web: [http://autismcouncil
ofutah.org](http://autismcouncilofutah.org)

Autism Speaks

Web: www.autismspeaks.org

The Utah Parent Center

Web: [http://www.utahparent
center.org](http://www.utahparentcenter.org)

The Child Development Clinic

Web: [http://health.utah.gov/
cshcn/CDC/](http://health.utah.gov/cshcn/CDC/)

Utah Registry of Autism and Developmental Disorders

Web: [http://utahautism
registry.org/](http://utahautismregistry.org/)

Learn the Signs. Act Early.

Tracy Golden, Utah's
Act Early Ambassador
Phone: 801-597-5386
E-mail: tracy.golden@uvu.edu
Web: www.cdc.gov/ActEarly

¹. Due to small numbers of children, we are unable to detect statistical differences between certain racial and ethnic groups.

². This information is based on children who had a diagnosis from a community provider documented in their records. Because the diagnoses were made in 2010 or earlier, they reflect DSM-IV-TR subtypes. This excludes children whose only ASD classification was an ICD-9 billing code or an eligibility for autism special education services.