

Children with Autism in Minnesota

This fact sheet pulls data from Minnesota's Department of Human Services, Department of Education, and the University of Minnesota's Autism Developmental Disabilities Monitoring network to provide current knowledge around the number, characteristics of, and services received by children who have autism in Minnesota.



Autism Spectrum Disorders affect **1 in 44** 8-year-old children in Minnesota.¹



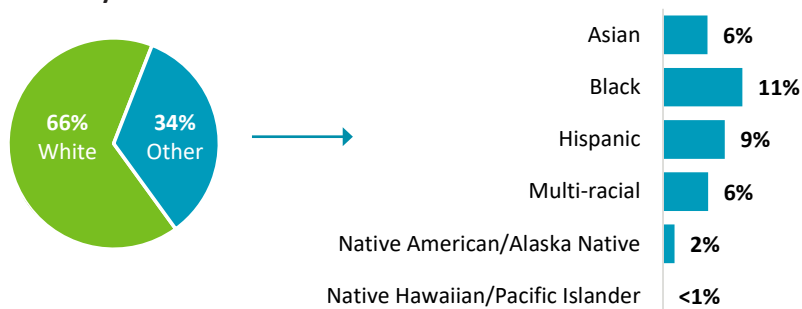
By comparison, **1 in 54** 8-year-old children have been identified to have ASD nationwide.¹

Medical diagnosis

23,879 youth youth aged 21 or younger in Minnesota have been diagnosed as having autism spectrum disorder and were enrolled with DHS in 2020.²

The majority of youth diagnosed with ASD are white; there are no statistically significant differences in ASD prevalence by racial and ethnic groups.¹

ASD totals by race



25% of children with ASD have an intellectual disability. Hispanic and Black (non-Somali) children were more likely to be classified as having an intellectual disability (45% and 36%, respectively).¹



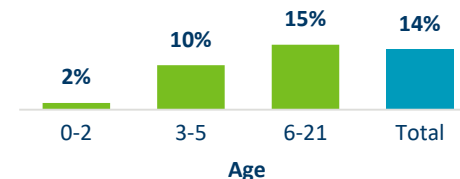
Boys are nearly **4x** more likely to be identified as having autism than girls.¹



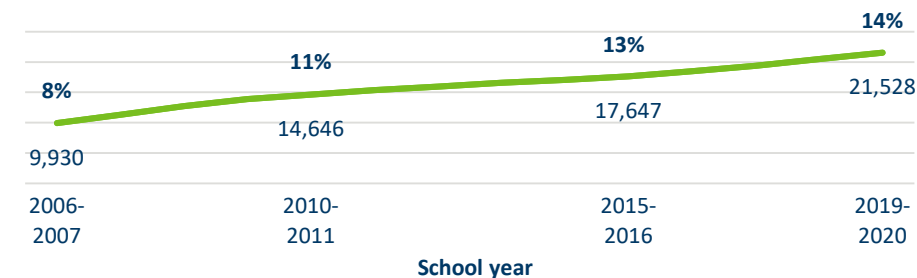
Educational identification

Identification of autism in schools has been on the rise. **21,528 youth** aged 0-21 have been identified by schools to be on the autism spectrum as of December 2019; this is about **2% of the total student population**.³

ASD diagnoses as % of children enrolled in special education, 2019



ASD diagnoses over the years, 2006-2019



School year

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According to Minnesota Autism Developmental Disabilities Monitoring network, the median age of diagnosis was 4 years and 8 months; **ASD can be diagnosed as early as age 2.**¹



While **76% of children** with ASD had developmental concerns noted by age 3, only **39%** received a comprehensive developmental evaluation by this time.¹

Of the 23,833 enrolled youth who received services:

16,924 received **Children's Therapeutic Services and Supports (CTSS)** services



71%

5,802 received **Personal Care Assistant (PCA)** services



24%

1,085 received **EIDBI** services



5%

84 received **Mental Health (MH)** services



<1%

Sources

1. "Key Findings." (2020). Minnesota Autism Developmental Disabilities Monitoring Network. <https://addm.umn.edu/key-findings>
2. Claims Data, Medicaid Management Information System (MMIS). (2020). Saint Paul, MN.
3. Minnesota Department of Education records. (2020). Saint Paul, MN. <https://education.mn.gov/MDE/Data/>.

Note. University of Minnesota data from Hennepin and Ramsey Counties only. DHS data include public and private insurance cases.

^a Data for those enrolled in 2020. Data do not reflect youth receiving services through private insurance or Managed Care Organizations.

Want to learn more?

First Steps: Pathway to Playing, Learning, and Growing: <https://edocs.dhs.state.mn.us/lfserver/Public/DHS-6751L-ENG>

Next Steps: Pathway to Services and Supports for a child recently identified with autism spectrum disorder (ASD): <https://edocs.dhs.state.mn.us/lfserver/Public/DHS-6751J-ENG>

Overview of Medical Identification and Educational Determination: <https://edocs.dhs.state.mn.us/lfserver/Public/DHS-6751M-ENG>

Pathway to Services and Supports for Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD): <https://edocs.dhs.state.mn.us/lfserver/Public/DHS-6751-ENG>

Next Stage: Pathway to Transition and Long-Term Services and Supports for Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD): <https://edocs.dhs.state.mn.us/lfserver/Public/DHS-6751K-ENG>

Mapping the Journey of Families Who Have Children with Autism Through Social and Human Services, Medical, and Education Systems: <https://www.wilder.org/wilder-research/research-library/mapping-journey-families-who-have-children-autism-through-social>

For more information:

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