



Maryland Autism and Developmental Disabilities Monitoring Project

The Autism and Developmental Disabilities Monitoring (ADDM) Network. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is now funding researchers in many states, including Maryland, to develop programs to monitor the prevalence of autism spectrum disorders (ASDs) and other developmental disabilities. The goal of the ADDM Network is to provide comparable, population-based estimates of the prevalence rates of autism and related disorders in different sites over time. For more information, please see: www.cdc.gov/autism

The Maryland Autism and Developmental Disabilities Monitoring Project (MD-ADDM) is a multiple-source investigation to determine and monitor the number of children with an autism spectrum disorder (ASD). This study will help establish, for the first time, an accurate count of the number of Maryland children with autism starting with the year 2000. Other years will include 2002, 2004, 2006, and 2008. The Maryland site is administered at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health (JHBSPH) and involves the cooperation of the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE), Kennedy Krieger Institute, Mount Washington Pediatric Hospital, University of Maryland Medical Systems and the Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (MDHMH).

What part of Maryland is included in the Maryland Autism and Developmental Disabilities Monitoring Project? The Maryland site has collected data from the following counties since 2000: Baltimore, Baltimore City, Carroll, Cecil, Harford, and Howard. There are approximately 22,000 babies born in the Maryland study area each year.

How many people 3-21 years of age are classified as having autism by the Maryland Department of Education? In the 2005 - 2006 study year, 5,764 children were classified as having autism under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). IDEA is the federal law that supports special education and related services for children and youth with disabilities. However, there are additional children with ASDs who are classified in other disability categories under IDEA. There are also other children with ASDs and mental retardation who are in regular education classes, who attend private school, or who are home schooled.

How common are autism spectrum disorders (ASDs) among children who live in Maryland? Data available from MD-ADDM from the 2000 study year found that 5.5 per 1,000 children had an ASD. This resulted in 118 eight year old children being identified with an ASD within the Maryland study area. The 2002 study year found that 6.7 per 1,000 children had an ASD and resulted in 199 children being identified with an ASD.

What kinds of education and training programs will the project offer to people who work with children who have ASDs?

- Education & Outreach Networking
- Continuing Education at Johns Hopkins University

What are some of the programs in Maryland that work with children with ASDs and their families?

- Family NET Works-empowers families across state to share and connect with one another.
- NIH and Human Development-provide easy access to the most current information about projects, publications, news releases and other activities related to autism.
- AutismOnline.org, Bethesda, MD (connects parents of newly diagnosed children with autism with critical resources and research information).
- Autism Speaks, Rockville, MD
- Family Works Program / Family Service Agency, Gaithersburg, MD
- MD Autism Recovery Coalition, Silver Spring, MD (Serve as a source of information and support for children with autism and their families in the state of MD)

Does study staff work with any other monitoring programs in the state?

- Maryland State Department of Education
- Kennedy Krieger Institute
- Mt. Washington Pediatrics Hospital
- University of Maryland Clinics

Do any laws or statutes in Maryland have to do with identifying children with ASD?

- Maryland State Department of Education and Early Intervention
- Md. Code Ann. 15-835
"Policies must include coverage for habilitative services for children under age 19. Habilitative services means services, including occupational, physical, and speech therapies, for the treatment of a child with a congenital or genetic birth defect, including autism, to enhance the child's ability to function. Reimbursement for habilitative services delivered through early intervention or school services is not required."
www.cga.ct.gov
- IDEA Act of 1973 -Requires public schools to locate and identify children with disabilities who may need specialized education

For further information, please contact:

Maria K. Kolotos, MS
Department of Epidemiology,
Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health
615 N. Wolfe Street, Suite E6037 Baltimore, MD 21205
PHONE: 410-955-2638 FAX: 410-502-6652 E-MAIL: mkolotos@jhsph.edu