



Arizona Developmental Disabilities Surveillance Program

The Autism and Developmental Disorders Monitoring Network (ADDMM Network). The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is funding researchers in many states, including Arizona, to develop programs to monitor the prevalence of autism spectrum disorders (ASDs) and other developmental disabilities. The goal of the ADDMM 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 Arizona Developmental Disabilities Surveillance Program (ADDSP) is a multiple-source investigation to determine and monitor the number of 8-year-old children in the population with an autism spectrum disorder (ASD) and/or intellectual disability (ID). This surveillance system will help establish, for the first time, an accurate count of the number of Arizona children and families affected by these disorders. The investigators are members of the Department of Pediatrics and College of Public Health at the University of Arizona. The ADDSP is a joint undertaking with the CDC, the Arizona State Department of Education, and many other agencies and organizations that serve children with developmental disabilities and their families.

What part of Arizona is included in the ADDSP? The study includes the majority of Maricopa County. About 64,000 babies are born in Maricopa County each year.

How many people 3-21 years of age are classified as having autism by the Arizona Department of Education? In the 2005–2006 school year, 4,266 Arizona students were classified as having autism and received special education services. That number was 0.48% of the 1,065,082 children enrolled in Arizona public schools on October 1, 2006.

How common are ASDs among children who live in Arizona? Data available from ADDSP from the 2002 study year found that 6.2 per 1,000 children had an ASD. This resulted in 280 8-year-old children being identified with an ASD within the Arizona study area.

What kinds of education and training programs will the project offer to people who work with children who have ASDs and other developmental disabilities? Study staff will provide workshops to medical and nonmedical personnel to increase recognition of the early signs of ASDs and to enhance their capacity to diagnose and report ASDs, including childhood autism, Asperger's syndrome, atypical autism, and pervasive developmental disorder. Staff will also give talks about ASD to pediatric faculty and staff at major hospitals in the Phoenix community.

What are some of the resources available in Arizona for children with developmental disabilities and their families? The Southwest Autism Research and Resource Center (SARRC) is a nonprofit, community-based organization dedicated to autism research, education, and community outreach. The center also provides information to families and professionals on current research about autism and related disorders.

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