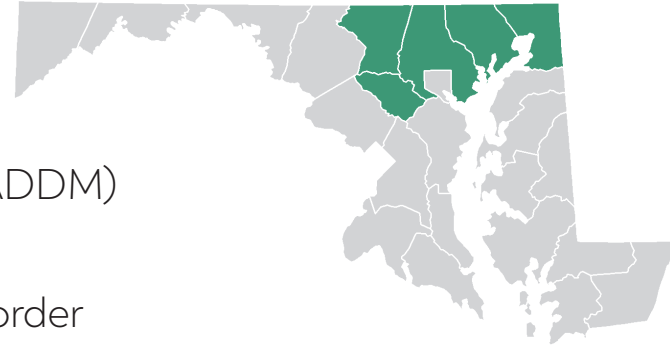


# A Snapshot of Autism Spectrum Disorder in Maryland

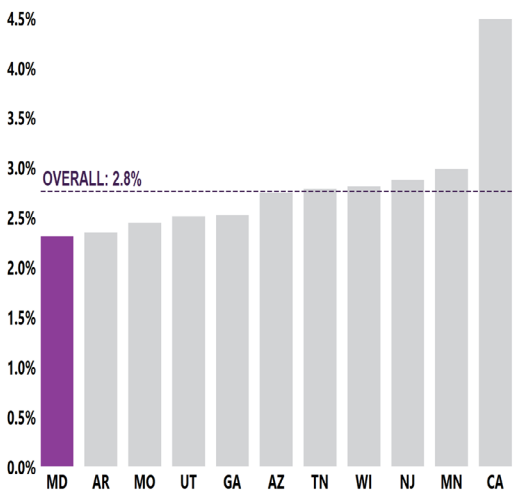
Findings from the Maryland Autism and Developmental Disabilities Monitoring (MD-ADDM) program help us understand more about the number of children with autism spectrum disorder (ASD), the characteristics of those children, and the age at which they are first evaluated and diagnosed.



**SITE TRACKING AREA**

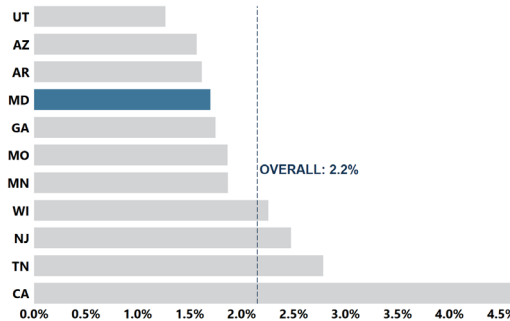
## 1 in 43

Or 2.3% of 8-year-old children were identified with ASD in 2020



This percentage is lower than the overall percentage identified with ASD (2.8%) in all communities tracked by the CDC.

About 1 in 59 or 1.7% of 4-year-old children were identified with ASD in 2020.

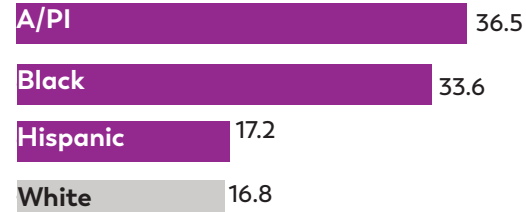


This percentage is lower than the overall percentage identified with ASD (2.2%) in all communities tracked by the CDC.

About 83% of 4-year-old children identified with ASD received a comprehensive developmental evaluation by 3 years of age.

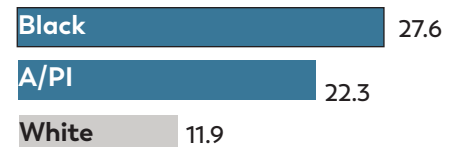


Among 8 year-olds, Asian/Pacific Islander (A/PI) and Black children were twice as likely to be identified with ASD as Hispanic and White children.



Values indicate prevalence per 1000.

Among 4-year-olds, Black children were 2.3 times as likely and Asian/Pacific Islander (A/PI) children were 1.9 times as likely to be identified with ASD as White children.



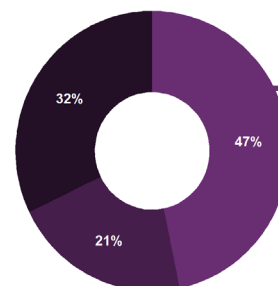
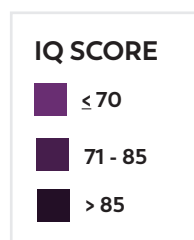
Values indicate prevalence per 1000. There were no significant differences in identification between Hispanic children and White children.

About 60% of 8-year-old children identified with ASD received a Comprehensive Developmental Evaluation by age 3 years. This is a 11% decrease from 2018.



## IQ data available for 60%

Of children identified with ASD by the MD-ADDM Project



**46.6%** had Intellectual Disability

IQ = Intelligence Quotient  
Intellectual disability = IQ ≤ 70

## What are the key take-away messages Maryland data?

- The prevalence of ASD in MD-ADDM continues to increase.
- Following the onset of COVID-19 in March 2020, there was a reduction in the number of evaluations in all ADDM communities, including MD-ADDM.
- Black and Asian/Pacific Islander children are more likely to be identified with ASD than White children in MD-ADDM.
- Most 4-year-old and 8-year-old children identified with ASD in MD-ADDM had a comprehensive evaluation by age 3 years, but more 4-year-old children had one compared with 8-year-olds.

## How can this information be useful?

MD-ADDM's latest findings can be used to

- Promote early identification of ASD.
- Identify and plan for the service needs of individuals with ASD.
- Improve collaborations between health providers, educators, researchers, and the children with ASD and their families.
- Inform policies promoting improved health and education outcomes.
- Guide future ASD research.

## How and where was this information collected?

MD-ADDM uses a record review method. Specifically, this information is based on the analysis of data collected from the health and special education records of children who were 4 and 8 years-old and living in five counties in Maryland in 2020.

**Tracking areas:** Baltimore, Carroll, Cecil, Harford, and Howard counties

**8-year-old children in tracking area: 21,278**    **4-year-old children in tracking area: 20,745**

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| • 51% White                            | • 51% White                            |
| • 24% Black                            | • 23% Black                            |
| • 9% Hispanic                          | • 10% Hispanic                         |
| • 10% Asian or Pacific Islander        | • 9% Asian or Pacific Islander         |
| • <1% American Indian or Alaska Native | • <1% American Indian or Alaska Native |
| • 6% Multiracial                       | • 6% Multiracial                       |

## What else does MD-ADDM do besides provide estimates of ASD?

MD-ADDM collaborates with the Maryland Department of Health, the Maryland State Department of Education, the Kennedy Krieger Institute, and local school districts, to track the number and characteristics of 4-year-old and 8-year-old children with ASD. MD-ADDM offers presentations for partners, state and local agencies, partnering institutes, parent groups, and the ADDM Network. MD-ADDM also participates in and organizes annual autism awareness month events in the community.

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*"There was a major impact of COVID-19 school closures on timely evaluations and early intervention and special education services. Our regular resources were not enough to address that increase in needs. The ADDM prevalence data are timely for planning and making budgetary requests for staffing to inclusively meet these needs."* -

### DR. TERRI SAVAGE

**Executive Director, Department Of Special Education, Howard County Public School System**

## Resources

**GET RESOURCES AND CONNECT FAMILIES TO SERVICES AND SUPPORT IN MARYLAND**

### PATHFINDERS FOR AUTISM

[www.pathfindersforautism.org](http://www.pathfindersforautism.org)  
443-330-5341

### CENTER FOR AUTISM AND RELATED DISORDERS AT KENNEDY KRIEGER INSTITUTE

<https://www.kennedykrieger.org/patient-care/centers-and-programs/center-for-autism-and-related-disorders>  
1-800-229-2038

### THE PARENT'S PLACE OF MARYLAND

<https://www.ppm.org/>

### DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION'S DIVISION OF SPECIAL EDUCATION AND EARLY INTERVENTION SERVICES

<http://marylandpublicschools.org/programs/Pages/Special-Education/index.aspx>  
410-767-0238

### ITINERIS

<https://www.itinerisbaltimore.org/>  
443-275-1100

### AUTISM SOCIETY OF BALTIMORE-CHESAPEAKE

[www.baltimoreautismsociety.org](http://www.baltimoreautismsociety.org)  
410-655-7933

### COMMUNITY SERVICES FOR AUTISTIC ADULTS AND CHILDREN (CSAAC)

<http://csaac.org/>  
240-912-2220

### CDC'S LEARN THE SIGNS. CDC'S LEARN THE SIGNS. ACT EARLY.

Kristen Paul  
Maryland's Act Early Ambassador  
<https://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/actearly/ambassadors-list.html>

### CONNECT WITH MD-ADDM

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Bloomberg School of Public Health