



Facts and Statistics

- 1 percent of the population of children in the U.S. ages 3-17 have an autism spectrum disorder.¹
- Prevalence is estimated at 1 in 110 births.²
- 1 to 1.5 million Americans live with an autism spectrum disorder.³
- Fastest-growing developmental disability; 1,148% growth rate.⁴
- 10 - 17 % annual growth.⁵
- \$60 billion annual cost.⁶
- 60% of costs are in adult services.⁷
- Cost of lifelong care can be reduced by 2/3 with early diagnosis and intervention.⁸
- In 10 years, the annual cost will be \$200-400 billion.⁹
- 1 percent of the adult population of the United Kingdom have an autism spectrum disorder.¹⁰
- The cost of autism over the lifespan is 3.2 million dollars per person.¹¹

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- *Pediatrics*, October 5, 2009, based on a National Children's Health Survey done with 78,000 parents in 2007.
- "Prevalence of Autism Spectrum Disorders - Autism and Developmental Disabilities Monitoring Network, United States, 2006." Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report*, 18 December 2009.
- Based on the autism prevalence rate of 1 in 150 (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 2007) and 2000 U.S. Census figure of 280 million Americans.
- "Autistic Spectrum Disorders: Changes in the California Caseload, An Update June 1987 June 2007." Cavagnaro, Andre T., California Health and Human Services Agency. State of California 2003 survey of developmental disabilities.
- Autism Society estimate based on 2003 US state educational data.
- Autism Society estimates based on UK study by Jarbrink K, Knapp M, 2001, London School of Economics: "The economic impact on autism in Britain," 5 (1): 7-22.
- Autism Society estimate.
- Autism Society estimate, using Government Accounting Office Report on Autism 2007.
- Autism Society estimate.
- Autism Spectrum Disorders in adults living in households throughout England," *Report from the Adult Psychiatric Morbidity Survey 2007*, a survey carried out for the United Kingdom NHS Information Centre for health and social care.
- Arch Pediatric Adolesc Med. 2007;161:343-349.