



Wisconsin

Wisconsin Surveillance of Autism and other Developmental Disabilities System (WISADDS)

RESULTS

Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) Prevalence, 2008

Number of children identified with ASDs: 267

Total prevalence of ASDs: 7.8 per 1,000 (1 in 129)

Boys: 11.7 per 1,000 (1 in 85)

Girls: 3.7 per 1,000 (1 in 270)

Race/ Ethnicity

White: 8.6 per 1,000

Black : 5.0 per 1,000

Hispanic: 3.8 per 1,000

Documented ASD Diagnosis

Children with ASD diagnosis in their records: 83%

Median earliest age ASD was documented in their records:
4 years, 5 months

Autistic Disorder: 3 years, 10 months

ASD/PDD: 4 years, 4 months

Asperger Disorder: 6 years, 2 months

SITE INFORMATION

Part of Wisconsin Included in ADDM, 2008

10 counties: Dane, Green, Jefferson, Kenosha, Milwaukee, Ozaukee, Racine, Rock, Walworth, and Waukesha

Population of 8-Year-Old Children in Study Area, 2008

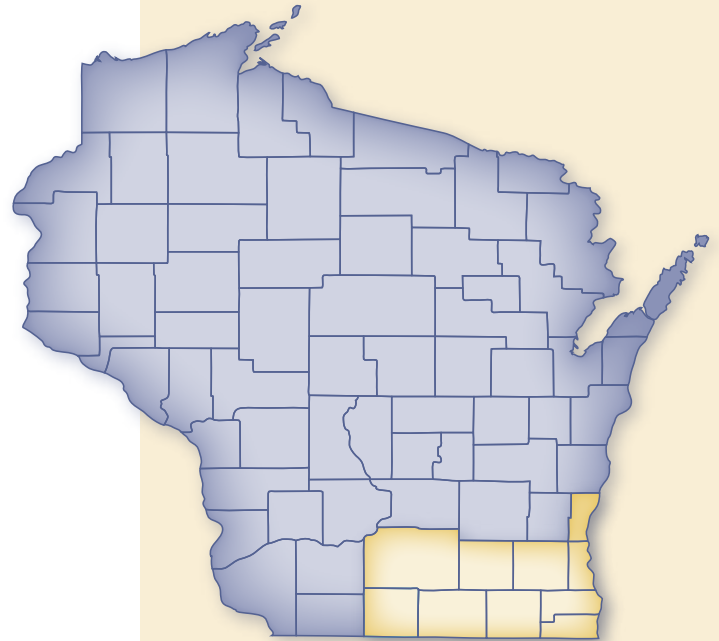
8-Year-Old Children: 34,451

White: 65.2%

Black: 16.9%

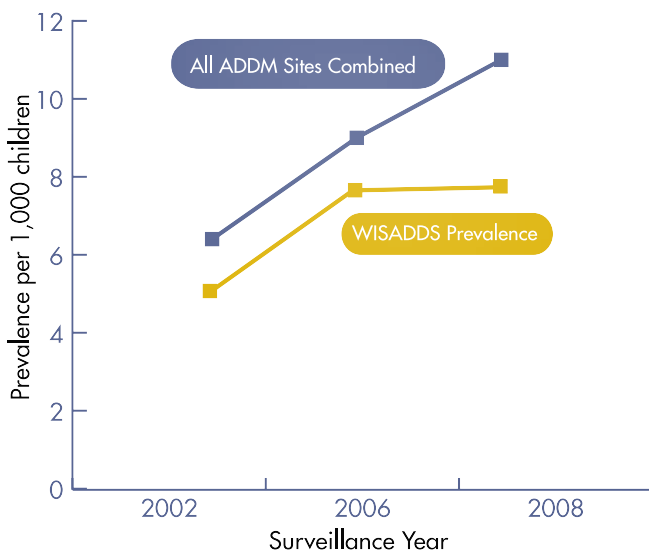
Hispanic: 13.7%

Asian or Pacific Islander: 3.7%



Yellow - Counties in the ADDM Network in 2008

Overall ASD Prevalence



WISADDS also reported data for the 2004 surveillance year. See the earlier ADDM Network report for this information.

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Wisconsin Surveillance of Autism and other Developmental Disabilities System (WISADDS) is a multisource public health surveillance system established to monitor the number of children in the population with ASDs or other developmental disabilities. WISADDS was established in 2003 as an ADDM Network site in collaboration between the Wisconsin Department of Health Services and investigators from the Waisman Center and Department of Population Health Sciences at University of Wisconsin-Madison. WISADDS is currently conducting surveillance of ASDs and cerebral palsy. In addition to prevalence counts, this program contributes information on the characteristics and risk factors for ASDs, including:

- Age of identification of ASDs, (www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/19318992)
- The relationship between both maternal and paternal age and ASD risk, (www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/17404129)
- Socioeconomic disparities in the prevalence of ASDs. (www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/20634960, www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/19743757)

What kinds of education and training programs does WISADDS offer to people who work with children who have ASDs or other developmental disability?

The project sponsors workshops and training in early identification of developmental disabilities for pediatricians and other pediatric health care providers serving southeastern Wisconsin. The goal is to improve the ability of providers to recognize early signs of ASDs and cerebral palsy and for standardized diagnostic practices related to ASDs, including childhood autism, Asperger syndrome, atypical autism, and pervasive developmental disorder not otherwise specified.

What are some of the resources available in Wisconsin for children with developmental disabilities, their families, and the professionals who serve them?

- Wisconsin promotes CDC's Learn the Signs. Act Early. campaign in an effort to raise awareness about developmental milestones and the importance of screening and early intervention. Visit www.ActEarly.wisc.edu for more information.
- Wisconsin Regional Centers for Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs (CYSHCN) provide confidential information, referral and follow-up so all families of children and youth with special health care needs and providers have access to complete and accurate information. The Regional Center staff regularly provides training related to early identification, autism, developmental screening, and community-based resources. To find out what is available in your area, visit www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/health/children/overview/index.htm.
- Finding Your Way: A Navigation Guide for Wisconsin Families Who Have Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs and Disabilities is another valuable resource that provides brief descriptions of programs, services and systems of support available in Wisconsin. You can download the booklet at www.waisman.wisc.edu/cedd/pdfs/findingyourway.pdf.
- Wisconsin First Step is a 24-hour hotline and searchable online database for families and providers who support the needs of children and youth with special needs: call 1-800-642-7837 or visit www.mch-hotlines.org.
- The Autism Society of Wisconsin is a rich resource for all affected by autism. To find out more or to locate your local chapter, visit www.asw4autism.org or call 1-888-4-AUTISM.

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