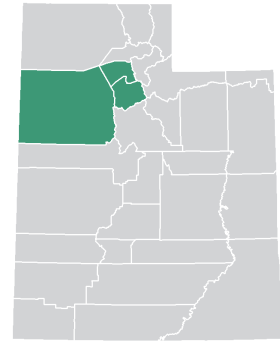


A Snapshot of Autism Spectrum Disorder in Utah

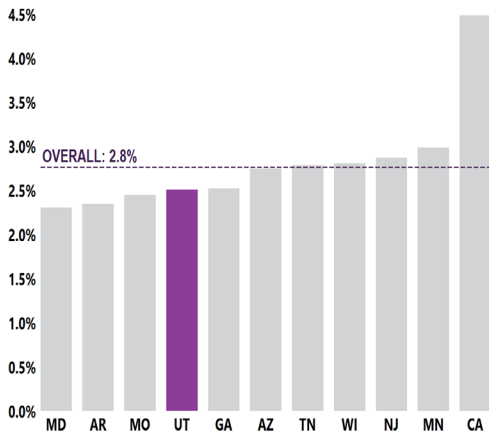
Findings from the Utah Autism and Developmental Disabilities Monitoring (UT-ADDM) Program help understand more about the number of children with autism spectrum disorder (ASD), the characteristics of those children, and the age at which they are first evaluated and diagnosed.



SITE TRACKING AREA

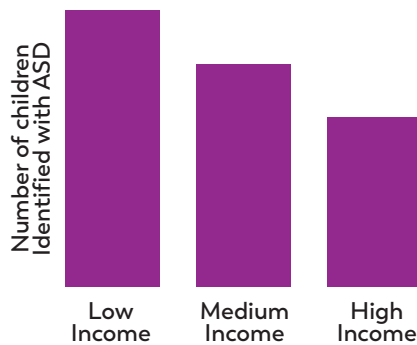
1 in 40

Or 2.5% of 8-year-old children were identified with ASD in a three-county area in Utah by UT-ADDM in 2020.



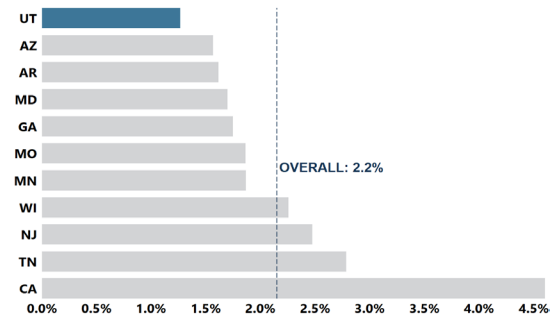
This percentage is similar to the average percentage identified with ASD (2.8%) in all communities in the United States where CDC tracked ASD among 8-year-olds in 2020.

8-year-old children living in lower-income neighborhoods had a higher rate of ASD identification compared to children living in higher-income neighborhoods.



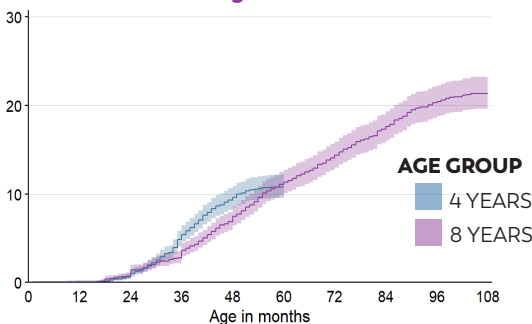
For every 2 children identified with ASD who were age 4 there was 1 child who was suspected but not confirmed to have ASD.

About 1 in 79 or 1.3% of 4-year-old children were identified with ASD in a three-county area in Utah by UT-ADDM in 2020.



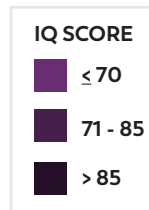
This percentage is lower than the overall percentage identified with ASD (2.2%) in all communities tracked by the CDC.

Children who were age 4 were 1.3 times as likely to receive an ASD diagnosis or ASD special education classification by 48 months of age compared to children who were aged 8.

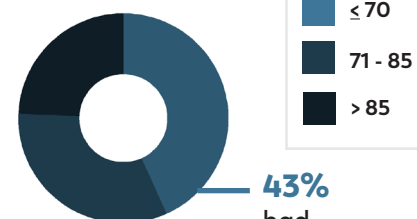
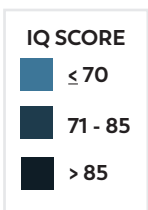


IQ data available for

51% Of 8-year-old and 48% 4-year-old children identified with ASD by the UT-ADDM Project



IQ = Intelligence Quotient
IQ ≤ 70 = Intellectual disability



What are the key take-away messages in UT-ADDM?

- Utah's estimated prevalence of ASD among 8-year-old children increased slightly since our last study from 2.2% in 2018 to 2.5% in 2020.
- Compared with 2018 when there was no difference, 4-year-old children in 2020 were more likely than 8-year-old children in 2020 to be identified with ASD by 48 months. This suggests that there have been improvements in Utah in identifying ASD at earlier ages.
- The prevalence of suspected ASD suggests that many 4-year-old children in Utah may have experienced challenges accessing assessments for ASD in 2020. This finding supports continued efforts in Utah to expand ASD diagnostic strategies to improve identification at earlier ages.
- ASD prevalence was higher among children from lower socioeconomic backgrounds. This shows improved access to diagnostic and treatment services across the socioeconomic spectrum.

How can this information be useful?

Utah-ADDM's latest findings can be used to

- Promote new initiatives aimed at fostering earlier identification of ASD.
- Plan for ASD services and trainings.
- Guide future ASD research.
- Inform policies promoting improved outcomes in health care and education for individuals with ASD.

How and where was this information collected?

UT-ADDM uses a record review method. Specifically, this information is based on the analysis of data collected from health, early intervention, and special education records of 4-year-old and 8-year-old children living within a three-county area in Utah in 2020.

Tracking area

Salt Lake, Davis, and Tooele counties

8-year-old children in tracking area: 24,734 4-year-old children in tracking area: 24,330

- | | |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 68% White• 2% Black• 21% Hispanic• 4% Asian or Pacific Islander• 1% American Indian or Alaska Native• 4% Multiracial | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 67% White• 2% Black• 22% Hispanic• 5% Asian or Pacific Islander• 1% American Indian or Alaska Native• 4% Multiracial |
|---|---|

What else does UT-ADDM do besides tracking ASD among 4-8-year-olds?

UT-ADDM's prevalence data are provided to our valued partners and used to support legislative initiatives aimed at increasing the services available to persons with ASD and their families. Data from UT-ADDM are also used to help understand community needs related to ASD to inform resource and service development. UT-ADDM is leading projects to improve our knowledge of early life risk factors for ASD, differences in characteristics among children with ASD, and disparities in ASD recognition across the ADDM Network. Finally, UT-ADDM is active in conducting education and outreach activities in the community to provide the latest information on the epidemiology of ASD.

"This year's study shows how a wider range of families are accessing autism services, but more needs to be done so that children with autism receive a timely diagnosis to make the most of the treatment available."

CALLEEN KENNEY

Autism Council of Utah, Parent Consultant, Utah Family Voices, Family To Family Health Information Center at the Utah Parent Center

RESOURCES TO CONNECT FAMILIES TO SERVICES AND SUPPORT IN UTAH

UTAH DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICE'S BUREAU OF CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL HEALTH CARE NEEDS

Provides information about a range of services and resources

(801) 273-2800

<https://health.utah.gov/cshcn/>

BABY WATCH EARLY INTERVENTION

Services for children under the age of 3 years with developmental delays or disabilities

(800) 961-4226

<https://health.utah.gov/cshcn/programs/babywatch.html>

HELP ME GROW UTAH

Information referral helpline and free screening services

(801) 691-5322

<https://www.helpmegrowutah.org>

CDC'S LEARN THE SIGNS. ACT EARLY. Janel Preston

Utah's Act Early Ambassador

<https://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/actearly/ambassadors-list.html>

AUTISM COUNCIL OF UTAH

Information and advocacy for families

autismcouncilofutah@gmail.com
www.autismcouncilofutah.org

UTAH REGISTRY OF AUTISM AND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES (URADD)

Utah ADDM site and research center

(801) 587-8971

<https://medicine.utah.edu/psychiatry/research/labs/uradd/>

UTAH PARENT CENTER

Support for parents of children with special needs

1-800-468-1160

www.utahparentcenter.org

CONNECT WITH UT-ADDM

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