



NATIONAL STATISTICS ABOUT AUTISM

Information based on prevalence and statistics from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (2014) and the Autism Society of America (2014)

DID YOU KNOW?

Some of the signs of Autism Spectrum Disorders

- not play “pretend” games (pretend to “feed” a doll)
- not point at objects to show interest (point at an airplane flying over)
- not look at objects when another person points at them
- have trouble relating to others or not have an interest in other people at all
- avoid eye contact and want to be alone
- have trouble understanding other people’s feelings or talking about their own feelings
- prefer not to be held or cuddled or might cuddle only when they want to
- appear to be unaware when other people talk to them but respond to other sounds
- be very interested in people, but not know how to talk, play, or relate to them
- repeat or echo words or phrases said to them, or repeat words or phrases in place of normal language (echolalia)
- have trouble expressing their needs using typical words or motions
- repeat actions over and over again
- have trouble adapting when a routine changes
- have unusual reactions to the way things smell, taste, look, feel, or sound
- lose skills they once had (for instance, stop saying words they were using)

CDC 2009

Facts and Statistics about Autism Spectrum Disorders

- 1 percent of the population of children in the U.S. ages 3-17 have an autism spectrum disorder.
- Every 11 minutes, a baby is born who will soon be diagnosed with some form of autism.
- Prevalence is estimated at 1 in 68 births.
- 1 to 1.5 million Americans live with an autism spectrum disorder.
- Fastest-growing developmental disability; 1,148% growth rate.
- 10 - 17 % annual growth.
- \$60 billion annual cost.
- 60% of costs are in adult services.
- Cost of lifelong care can be reduced by 2/3 with early diagnosis and intervention.
- In 10 years, the annual cost will be \$200-400 billion.
- 1 percent of the adult population of the United Kingdom have an autism spectrum disorder.
- The cost of autism over the lifespan is 3.2 million dollars per person.
- There is currently no known cure for autism spectrum disorders.

ASA 2010