

KNOWLEDGE



Autism Spectrum Disorder
Now affects 1 in 44 children

LATEST DATA

According to the CDC's latest data from 2018, 1 in 44 children have autism (ASD). This statistic has more than tripled since 2000. Some growth can be explained by improved diagnostic methods and resources. However, there are no simple explanations as to why the growth has occurred.

WHAT WE KNOW

1. Boys are almost five times more likely to be diagnosed with ASD than girls. This has been recognized since the first cases of autism were described in the 1940s. Though it has remained mostly unclear why this ratio exists, there have been many studies conducted over the years.
2. Autism is more common than childhood diabetes, AIDS, and cancer combined. As the fastest-growing developmental disorder, it is highly likely you will engage with autistic people in your lifetime. It is very important to understand the statistics, and know the facts, to help you better advocate for those affected by autism.
3. Autism affects all creeds, religions, nationalities, races, and sexes. Autism does not discriminate. While boys are more likely to be on the spectrum than girls, no particular group is more likely to have autism.