

autism speaks

autism by the numbers

Data to help you plan and advocate

NEW YORK

Average Age of Autism Diagnosis

Receiving a diagnosis and beginning special services as early as possible is critical for autistic children. In general, girls present with autism differently than boys, which can make them more difficult to diagnose early.

Some states have a higher parent-reported age of diagnosis than others, indicating potential difficulty accessing an early medical diagnosis.

Source: National Survey of Children's Health, 2016-2019, parent survey data

New York	United States
4.5	5.2

Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) Services Outcomes for Autistic Students

Studies show that receiving VR services during high school leads to better employment outcomes later in life. The implementation and success of VR services may vary between states due to differences in experience delivering transition services or the level of government funding each state receives.

	New York	United States
Autistic students who started VR services during high school	72%	50%
Autistic students employed when they left VR services	59%	58%

Source: U.S. Department of Education, Rehabilitation Services Administration (RSA-911), FY 2014-2016

Access to Services and Benefits

States offer Medicaid waivers that provide access to home and community-based services (HCBS). Many states have waivers for all people with intellectual or developmental disabilities, but some states have special waivers specifically for autism.

There are often waitlists for Medicaid waivers. Each state manages waitlists differently—some states don't have eligibility requirements to join a waitlist. Even if your state does not offer a special autism waiver, contact your state's developmental disabilities agency for more information. You may have benefits available to you.

State Social Security offices also offer Supplemental Security Income (SSI) and Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) benefits. Application processing times vary.

New York

Number of people on the HCBS waiver waiting list in New York

Does New York have a special waiver for autism?

Expected number of days the Social Security office in New York takes to process a disability claim

Source: Kaiser Family Foundation, Policy Impact Project, Washington Post