

Rates of Neurodevelopmental, Mental Health Conditions on Rise in Youth

Patterns of neurodevelopmental or mental health disability in children and adolescents changed from 2001 to 2011, with lower prevalence of physical problems and higher rates of neurodevelopmental or mental health conditions.

	2001-2002 ^a Estimated no. cases	2001-2002 (N=54,651) Cases per 100,000 (SE)	2010-2011 (N=50,793) Cases per 100,000 (SE)	2010-2011 ^a Estimated no. cases	2001-2011 % Change in prevalence
Any physical health condition	1,099,000	1,512 (65)	1,333 (66)	994,000	-11.8
Asthma or breathing problem	586,000	807 (47)	612 (40)	456,000	-24.2
Hearing problem	196,000	270 (24)	312 (32)	233,000	15.6
Vision problem	188,000	259 (27)	295 (29)	220,000	13.9
Bone, joint, or muscle problem	175,000	1241 (23)	269 (34)	200,000	11.6
Injuries	62,000	86 (15)	71 (16)	53,000	-17.4
Any neurodevelopmental or mental health condition	3,927,000	5,404 (125)	6,531 (149)	4,864,000	20.9
Epilepsy or seizures	162,000	223 (23)	203 (23)	151,000	-9.0
Speech problems	835,000	1,150 (59)	1,876 (80)	1,397,000	63.1
Learning disability	1,590,000	2,188 (72)	1,903 (80)	1,417,000	-13.0
Attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder	1,071,000	1,474 (67)	1,799 (83)	1,400,000	22.0
Mental retardation ^b	163,000	224 (23)	365 (36)	272,000	63.0
Other mental, emotional, or behavioral problems	695,000	956 (54)	1,575 (71)	1,173,000	64.7
Other developmental problem	462,000	636 (40)	873 (48)	650,000	37.3

^a Parents could answer that their child had more than one condition contributing to activity limitation.

^b Wording for this item was altered in 2011 to "intellectual disability, also known as mental retardation."

Source: Amy Houtrow, M.D., et al., *Pediatrics*, August 18, 2014