

Epi Data Brief

New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene

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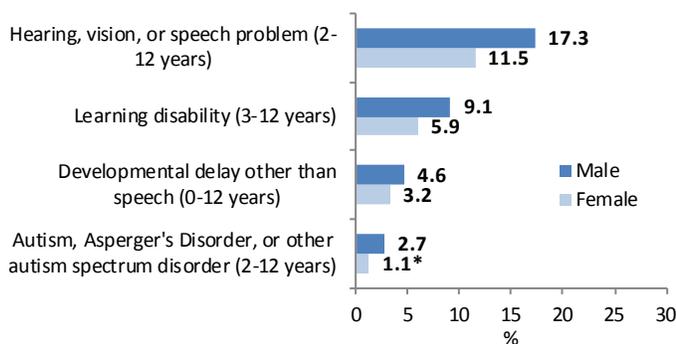
Developmental Conditions and Delays in New York City Children

Prevalence of developmental conditions and delays, according to parent reports, 2009^{1,2}

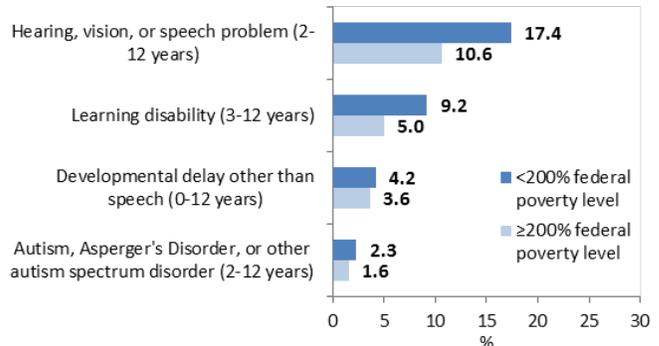
- Developmental delays can affect a child's ability to communicate, learn, interact with others or regulate behavior.
- Approximately 4% of children (53,000) ages 12 years and younger had a health care provider tell their parent that they had a developmental delay other than a speech problem.[†] Nearly 165,000 children (15%) ages two to 12 had a hearing, vision, or speech problem; 22,000 children (2%) had an autism spectrum disorder; and 78,000 children (8%) ages three to 12 had a learning disability.
- The prevalence of ever having several common developmental conditions – such as learning disability, a hearing, vision, or speech problem, or autism – was similar among children in New York City compared with children nationwide (e.g. autism, 2% in NYC and in the US).

Characteristics associated with developmental delays and conditions¹

Prevalence of developmental delay and other conditions by gender, NYC 2009



Prevalence of developmental delay and other conditions by household poverty, NYC 2009



Source: Child Community Health Survey 2009

- Boys were more likely than girls to have an autism spectrum disorder (3% vs. 1%*), hearing, vision, or speech problem (17% vs. 11%), or a learning disability (9% vs. 6%).
- Children in poorer households (those with incomes below 200% of the federal poverty level) were more likely than children in households with higher incomes to have a hearing, vision or speech problem (17% vs. 11%) or a learning disability (9% vs. 5%).

Data Sources

¹**Child Community Health Survey 2009:** The Child Community Health Survey is a population-based telephone survey conducted in 2009 by the Health Department with support from Children's Health Fund. A parent, guardian or other knowledgeable adult (referred to as "parent," as 92% of respondents were either the child's mother or father) was interviewed about the health of one child in the selected household for a sample of 3,002 children. Survey data are weighted to the NYC population of children from birth to 12 years using the 2006-2008 American Community Survey (PUMS).

²**National Survey on Children's Health 2007:** The National Survey on Children's Health (NSCH) is a population-based telephone survey conducted in 2007 by the US Department of Health and Human Services. In each household, one child was randomly selected to be the subject of the interview. A total of 91,642 surveys were completed nationally for children ages 17 years and younger. Survey results are weighted to represent the population of non-institutionalized children ages 17 years and younger nationally and in each state. Analyses were restricted to children two to 12 years in order to compare results to Child Community Health Survey 2009. For more survey details, visit www.nschdata.org.

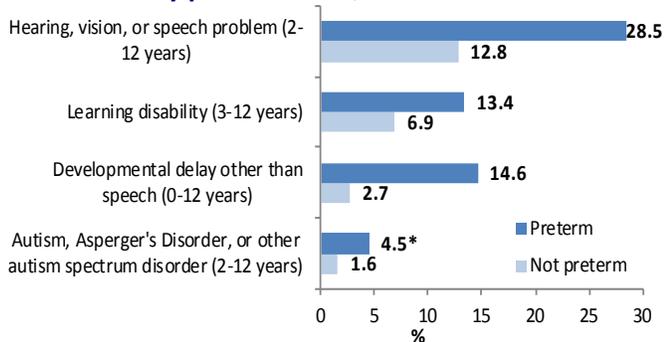
*Estimate should be interpreted with caution. Estimate's Relative Standard Error (a measure of estimate precision) is greater than 30% or the sample size is too small, making the estimate potentially unreliable.

† Developmental delay other than speech may include specific conditions reported in response to other questions.

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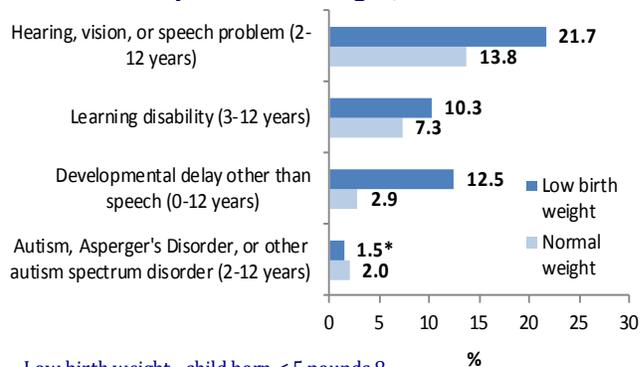


Prevalence of developmental delay and other conditions by preterm birth, NYC 2009



Preterm birth - child born before 37 weeks

Prevalence of developmental delay and other conditions by low birth weight, NYC 2009



Low birth weight - child born ≤ 5 pounds 8

Source: Child Community Health Survey 2009

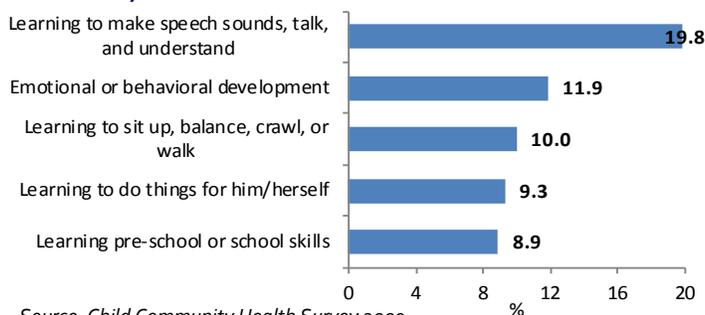
- Children born preterm (before 37 weeks) were more likely to have a developmental delay other than speech than children born at term (15% vs. 3%). Preterm birth children were also more likely to have a hearing, vision, or speech problem (29% vs. 13%) or a learning disability (13% vs. 7%).
- Similarly, low birth weight children (birth weight less than or equal to 5 pounds 8 ounces) were more likely to have a developmental delay other than speech than children who did not have low birth weight (12% vs. 3%) or to have a hearing, vision, or speech problem (22% vs. 14%).

Parental concern about child developmental milestones, and professional and social support¹

Parents of children aged 18 months to five years were asked whether they ever had any concerns about their child's developmental milestones.

- Parents reported having a concern about developmental milestones for 29% of NYC young children. Nearly half of children with concerned parents (49%) had only one identified developmental milestone of concern, while 31% had three or more identified milestones of concern.
- Parents most frequently reported concern about the child's learning to make speech sounds, talk, and understand (20% of children).
- Among children whose parent had a concern about any developmental milestone, 35% had a professional share this concern. Among children whose parents had any concern, the prevalence of professional concern was higher among children whose parents had a greater number of development concerns.
- Parents of one in five children with an identified concern did not talk with their child's provider about their concerns; parents not talking with a provider was more common among children in lower-income households than those in higher-income households (32% compared with 7%*).
- A substantial proportion of children with a hearing problem, autism, or a vision problem had parents who reported rarely or never having someone to turn to for day-to-day help with raising children (43%, 33%*, and 22%, respectively).

Prevalence of children ages 18 months to five years whose parent had a concern about their developmental milestones, NYC 2009



Source: Child Community Health Survey 2009

MORE New York City Health Data and Publications

- For complete tables of data presented in this Brief, visit www.nyc.gov/html/doh/downloads/pdf/epi/datatable8.pdf
 - Visit EpiQuery – the Health Department's online, interactive health data system at www.nyc.gov/health/EpiQuery
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