

Edits to the Commission on Autism Spectrum Disorders Annual Report to the Governor  
January 10, 2014

FOOTNOTE AS FOLLOWS:

CDC has recently reported 2 estimates of autism prevalence: 1 in 88 and 1 in 50 children in the United States have been identified as having autism. According to CDC, there are several differences between the 2 studies used to determine the estimates that can contribute to the differing results, such as the population covered, method of data collection, and time periods covered. CDC reported its estimate of 1 in 88 in March 2012, which was based on reviews of health and education records of children 8 years of age residing in 14 select population-based sites in the United States during calendar year 2008. The estimate of 1 in 50 was reported in March 2013 and was based on parent reports of a past diagnosis in a representative national sample of children 6 to 17 years of age in calendar years 2011 and 2012. CDC views the 2 data collection methods and estimates to be complementary. According to CDC, each provides unique supplemental information on the population of children with autism. - GAO-14-16 Federal Autism Activities; U.S. Government Accountability Office 11/20/2013