What Is Autism?
http://www.autismspeaks.org/what-autism

Medicaid & Autism: 8 Things You Should Know
http://www.autismspeaks.org/blog/2014/12/05/medicaid-autism-8-things-you-should-know?utm_medium=text-link&utm_content=Medicaid & Autism: 8 Things You Should Know

Significant Studies and Findings

**Autism Therapy Produces Greatest Gains When Started Before Age 2**
Treatment, based on the principles of Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA), provided 20 to 30 hours of one-on-one therapy each week. The children were between 1 and 3 years old at the time they began therapy. After one year of intervention, testing showed gains in social and communication skills across all age groups.

**Optimal Outcomes in individuals with a history of autism.**
Although possible deficits in more subtle aspects of social interaction or cognition are not ruled out, the results substantiate the possibility of Optimal Outcomes from autism spectrum disorders and demonstrate an overall level of functioning within normal limits.

**The Realities of Autism: Changing the nature of autism for children tomorrow**
http://iacc.hhs.gov/events/2014/slides_ami_klin_011414.pdf

**Using participant data to extend the evidence base for intensive behavioral intervention for children with autism**

**Young adults with autism less likely than any other disability group to be employed or enrolled in higher education**
35 percent of young adults (ages 19-23) with autism have not had a job or received postgraduate education after leaving high school.
http://pediatrics.aappublications.org/content/129/6/1042

**Cost of Autism**
A study in 2006 by the Harvard School of Public Health estimated that it costs $3.2 million to take care of an individual with autism over the lifetime. Adult care and lost productivity are the biggest sources of that amount.

**Implications of childhood autism for parental employment and earnings.**
Adding to the severe financial strain, families with children diagnosed with ASD also earn 28% less overall compared to families whose children do not have health limitations, according to a recent report in the journal Pediatrics. For mothers, the disparity is even starker, with earnings that are 56% less than those of mothers of children with no physical or mental limitations.
http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/22430453
Cost of lifelong care can be reduced by 2/3 with early diagnosis and intervention. (Autism Society estimate based on Government Accounting Office Report on Autism, 2006)

Study Demonstrating Cost-Effectiveness, includes references to additional related studies
http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC2585334/

It costs more than $8,600 extra per year to educate a student with autism. (Lavelle et al., 2014)

Behavioral Approaches to Managing Severe Problem Behaviors in Children with Autism Spectrum and Related Developmental Disorders: A Descriptive Analysis
This review covers 101 outcome studies published since 1995 that used behavioral techniques to address severe aggression, self-injury, and property destruction, in children between 6 and 18 years of age.

Increasing Student Success Through Instruction in Self-Determination

The Importance of Family Involvement for Promoting Self-Determination in Adolescents with Autism and Other Developmental Disabilities
http://foa.sagepub.com/content/14/1/36.short

Outcomes for People with Autism
http://www.researchautism.net/autism/other-aspects-of-autism/outcomes-for-people-on-the-autism-spectrum

Outcomes in adults with autism spectrum disorders: a historical perspective
http://aut.sagepub.com/content/17/1/103.abstract


Autism Spectrum Disorders and Health Care Expenditures The Effects of Co-Occurring Conditions

Data and Statistics
http://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/autism/data.html

BACB Guidelines for Health Plan Coverage of Applied Behavior Analysis Treatment for Autism Spectrum Disorder
Notable States Addressing Autism

Pennsylvania Bureau of Autism Services
http://www.dhs.state.pa.us/dhsorganization/officeofdevelopmentalprograms/bureauofautismservices/index.htm

- Bureau of Autism Services Virtual Training & Resource Center
  http://bastraining.tiu11.org/
- The largest and most comprehensive survey of individuals with ASD to date.

Ohio Center for Autism and Low Incidence
http://www.ocali.org/

- Autism Internet Modules
  Online high-quality information and professional development. AIM modules are available at no cost. Certificate and credit options are available for a fee.
  http://www.autisminternetmodules.org/

New Jersey Office of Autism
http://www.state.nj.us/humanservices/ddd/home/ooa.html

Massachusetts Autism Commission

National Resources

American Academy of Pediatrics – Autism

Association for Science in Autism Treatment
info@asatonline.org
http://www.asatonline.org

Autism National Committee (AUTCOM)
http://www.autcom.org

Autism Research Institute (ARI)
director@autism.com
http://www.autismresearchinstitute.com
Tel: 866-366-3361

Autism Society
http://www.autism-society.org/

Autism Speaks, Inc.
contactus@autismspeaks.org
http://www.autismspeaks.org
Tel: 212-252-8584 (888) 288-4762

Autistic Self Advocacy Network ASAN
http://autisticadvocacy.org

Behavior Analyst Certification Board
http://www.bacb.com/

U.S. Department of Health & Human Services
IACC Interagency Autism Coordinating Committee
http://iacc.hhs.gov/about/index.shtml

MAAP Services for Autism, Asperger Syndrome, and PDD
info@aspergerssyndrome.org
http://www.aspergerssyndrome.org/
Tel: 219-662-1311
Fax: 219-662-1315

SafeMinds
http://www.safeminds.org/
Tel: 404-934-0777

Tel: 212-252-8584 (888) 288-4762