

# The New Jersey Autism Center of Excellence Coordinating Center



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This NJ ACE Coordinating Center is funded by the  
New Jersey Governor's Council for  
Medical Research and Treatment of Autism,  
New Jersey Department of Health.

# CDC Autism Prevalence Rates

ADDN Network

**2000**

**New Jersey 1/101**

**United States 1/166**

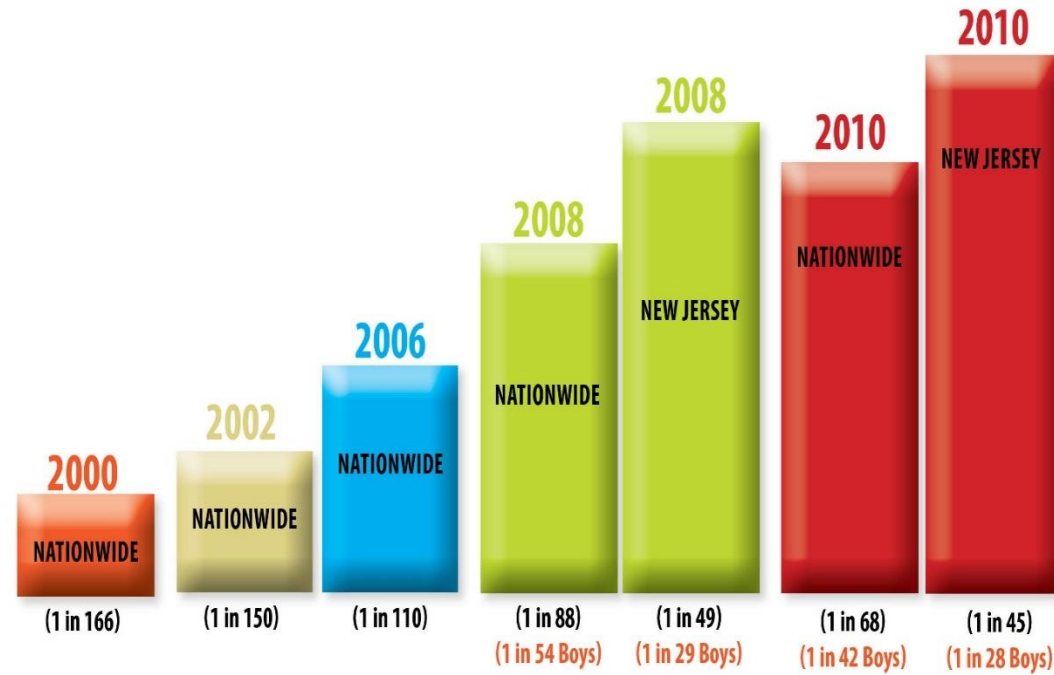
**2010**

**New Jersey 1/45**

**United States 1/68**

<http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/ss5601a1.htm>

# Prevalence Rates



NOTE: Year indicates Surveillance Year

# Timeline



1999 - Governor's Council for Medical Research and Treatment of Autism was created.

2000 - Governor's Council started issuing grants.

2007 - Governor's Council transitioned to the Department of Health and Human Services.

2011 - RFA for a coordinating center

2012 - the Coordinating Center at Montclair State University (CC-MSU) was established.

PL 2007, c. 168 stated that the NJ ACE should conduct:

(1) basic and clinical research into the cause, diagnosis, early detection, prevention, control and treatment of autism, including research in the fields of developmental neurobiology, genetics, psychopharmacology, neuroimaging, immunology, infectious diseases, gastroenterology and endocrinology.

# CC-MSU Team



The New Jersey Autism Center of Excellence  
Coordinating Center



MONTCLAIR STATE  
UNIVERSITY

**Current Research Questions Are:**



Find U : <http://njace-cc.montclair.edu>

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The NJ ACE was established under [P.L.2007, c.168](#), pursuant to [P.L.2007, c.168](#), the NJ ACE was charged to conduct basic and clinical research into the cause, diagnosis, early detection, prevention, control and treatment of autism, including research in the fields of developmental neurobiology, genetics, psychopharmacology, neuroimaging, immunology, infectious diseases, gastroenterology and endocrinology. The CC-MSU coordinates these research efforts.

A large, solid blue puzzle piece is centered on a white background. The puzzle piece has a complex shape with several interlocking tabs and blanks. Inside the piece, the text "What Causes Autism?" is written in a bold, white, sans-serif font, slanted upwards from left to right. Below this, a list of potential causes is also written in white, sans-serif font, slanted in the same direction.

# What Causes Autism?

Genes?  
Brain Development?  
Immunology?  
Environment?



- **GENES?**

“Elucidating Genetic Components of Autism and Related Disorders”, Linda Brzustowicz, M.D.

“Mitochondrial and Channelopathy Disorders and Dysfunction in ASDs: Genotypic and Phenotypic Correlations”, Mark Mintz, M.D.

- **BRAIN DEVELOPMENT?**

“The Generation and Characterization of Autism iPSCs”, James Millonig, Ph.D.

- **IMMUNOLOGY?**

“Autism Spectrum Disorder-Inflammatory Subtype: Molecular Characterization”, Harumi Jyonouchi, M.D.

- **ENVIRONMENT**

“Glucuronidation and Autism”, Peter Stein, Ph.D.

“Metabolomic Analysis of Neural Precursor Cells Derived from Autism iPSCs and their Response to Environmental Stressors”, Emanuel DiCicco-Bloom, M.D.



**How do we  
Diagnose/Screen  
for Autism?**

## 2

- “Development of a New Autism Screening Tool for Traditionally Underserved Families”, Yvette Janvier, M.D.
- “New Objective Autism Inventory to Quantify Peripheral Plasticity During Standardized ADOS-2 Social Exchange”, Elizabeth B. Torres, Ph.D.



How do we  
Identify Autism  
Early?

# 3

- “Piloting Very Early and Early Markers for Risk of Autism Spectrum Disorder in Premature and Low Birth Weight Infants”
- “Piloting Electrophysiologic Biomarkers for ASD and Related Disorders in Premature and Low Birth Weight Infants”, TBD
- “A Human Stem Cell-Based Model to Study Autism-Linked Endoplasmic Reticulum Stress and Initial Testing of Therapeutic Strategies”, Davide Comoletti, Ph.D.,



*Can we Prevent  
Autism?*

# 4

- “Perinatal Risk Factors and their Influence on ASD Prevalence: Study of Two Birth Cohorts in NJ”, Walter Zahorodny, Ph.D.

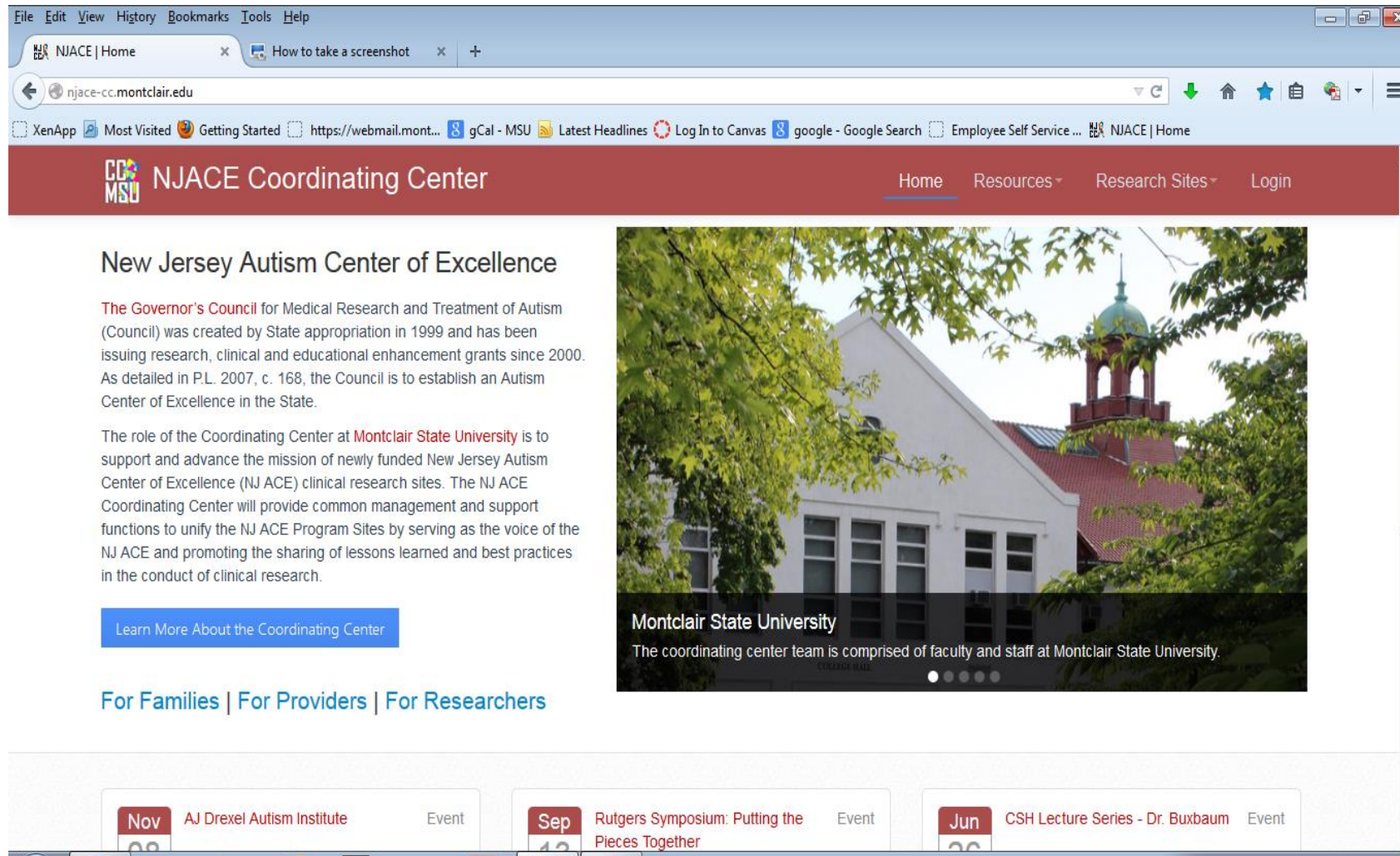
*How do we  
Treat  
Autism?*



# 5

- “Efficacy of Relationship Development Intervention and Parent Implemented Applied Behavior Analysis/ Verbal Behavior on Joint Attention and Communication of Preschool Children with Autism”, Mary Lou Kerwin, Ph.D.
- “An Assessment of the Transportation and Mobility Needs and Barriers of Adults on the Autism Spectrum Disorder in NJ”, Cecilia Feeley, M.S.
- “Analysis, Validation, and Dissemination of a Paratransit Travel and Mobility Assessment for Adults on the Autism Spectrum”, Cecilia Feeley, M.S.
- “Can Video Speak the Language of Autism?”, Amy E. Learmonth, Ph.D.

# njace-cc.montclair.edu



The screenshot shows a web browser window with the address bar displaying `njace-cc.montclair.edu`. The browser's address bar also shows a search bar with the text "NJACE | Home". The browser's toolbar includes icons for back, forward, home, and search. The browser's menu bar includes File, Edit, View, History, Bookmarks, Tools, and Help. The browser's status bar shows the text "XenApp", "Most Visited", "Getting Started", "https://webmail.mont...", "gCal - MSU", "Latest Headlines", "Log In to Canvas", "google - Google Search", "Employee Self Service ...", and "NJACE | Home".

The website's header is a dark red banner. On the left, it features the "CC MSU" logo and the text "NJACE Coordinating Center". On the right, it has navigation links: "Home", "Resources", "Research Sites", and "Login".

The main content area is divided into two columns. The left column has a section titled "New Jersey Autism Center of Excellence". Below the title, it states: "The Governor's Council for Medical Research and Treatment of Autism (Council) was created by State appropriation in 1999 and has been issuing research, clinical and educational enhancement grants since 2000. As detailed in P.L. 2007, c. 168, the Council is to establish an Autism Center of Excellence in the State." Below this, it says: "The role of the Coordinating Center at Montclair State University is to support and advance the mission of newly funded New Jersey Autism Center of Excellence (NJ ACE) clinical research sites. The NJ ACE Coordinating Center will provide common management and support functions to unify the NJ ACE Program Sites by serving as the voice of the NJ ACE and promoting the sharing of lessons learned and best practices in the conduct of clinical research." At the bottom of this section is a blue button that says "Learn More About the Coordinating Center".

The right column features a large image of a building with a red roof and a green dome, partially obscured by green trees. Below the image, the text reads: "Montclair State University" and "The coordinating center team is comprised of faculty and staff at Montclair State University." Below this text are four small, light blue circular icons.

At the bottom of the page, there is a horizontal bar with three event listings. The first listing is for "Nov" and "AJ Drexel Autism Institute" with the word "Event" to its right. The second listing is for "Sep" and "Rutgers Symposium: Putting the Pieces Together" with the word "Event" to its right. The third listing is for "Jun" and "CSH Lecture Series - Dr. Buxbaum" with the word "Event" to its right.

Questions?