

[Print Current Page](#)

KYW Newsradio 1060 Philadelphia

[E-Mail Story](#) [Print Story](#) [ShareThis](#) Text Size: [A](#) [A](#) [A](#)



Posted: Monday, 23 November 2009 3:17AM

Pennsylvania Rolls Out First-Ever "Autism Census"

by KYW's Tony Romeo

Pennsylvania has released what it's billing is the first-ever "autism census" in the country.

Governor Rendell says the survey, begun in 2005, placed the number of Pennsylvanians with autism at 20,000:

"Those were *identified* Pennsylvanians living with autism. We believe that there are many, many children, for example, who are misdiagnosed, and really are living with autism, but are misdiagnosed by schools or caretakers or whatever. But there were 20,000. By 2010, we believe that number will increase to 25,000."

The census put the number of adults with autism at more than 1,400. But that's expected to reach more than 3,800 by next year.

The total autism population in Pennsylvania is projected to reach more than 40,000 by 2015, with the adult population comprising about a fourth of that.

(Photo by KYW's Tony Romeo)

[Print Current Page](#)