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The Hilltop Institute

Medicaid Long-Term Services and Supports in Maryland: The Autism Waiver FY 2014 to FY 2019

Autism waiver services enable individuals who have Autism Spectrum Disorder and who meet an institutional level of care to be supported in their own homes or community-based settings. Graphics presented below provide information about Maryland Medicaid participants who received services through the Autism Waiver in fiscal years (FYs) 2014 through 2019.

Number of Unduplicated Enrolled Participants, FY 2014 & FY 2019

The number of Autism Waiver participants increased from 1,016 in FY 2014 to 1,245 in FY 2019, an increase of 22.5%.

The largest proportion of FY 2019 Autism Waiver participants were White and male. Of that population, more than 65% were aged 16 or older.

Demographics	FY 2014		FY 2019	
	Frequency	Percentage	Frequency	Percentage
Sex				
Female	209	20.6%	248	19.9%
Male	807	79.4%	997	80.1%
Race				
Black	274	27.0%	370	29.7%
Other/Unknown*	245	24.1%	405	32.5%
White	497	48.9%	470	37.8%
Age Group				
15 years and younger	498	49.0%	427	34.3%
16 years and older	518	51.0%	818	65.7%

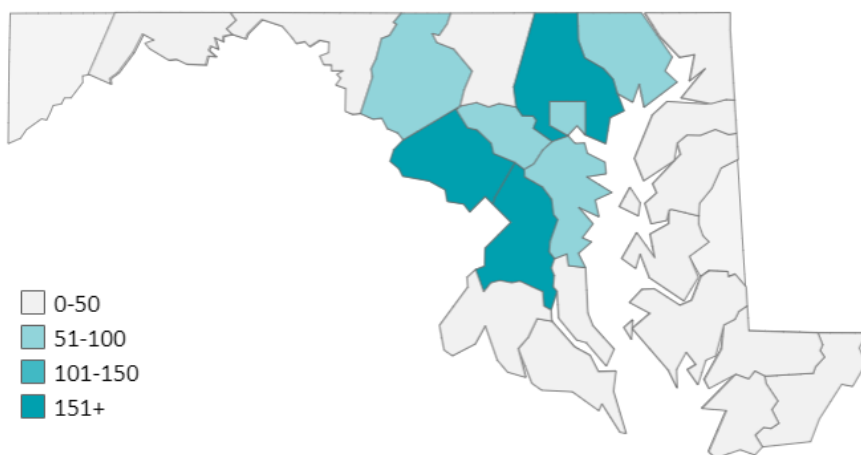
*"Other/Unknown" includes Asian, Hispanic, Pacific Islanders, Native American, & Other/Unknown participants. The five groups were combined due to the small number of participants.

Waiver Participant Summary, FY 2014 – FY 2019

	FY 2014	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2019
Total Number of Participants	1,016	1,045	1,064	1,017	1,127	1,245
Average Annual Medicaid Expenditures	\$42,925	\$46,153	\$47,691	\$48,407	\$45,706	\$45,120
Average Age at Fiscal Year's End	15.7	16.1	16.4	16.8	16.7	16.7
Average Autism Waiver Span in Years	5.9	5.9	5.9	6.2	5.3	4.7
Number of Participants Newly Enrolled	233	129	148	72	259	264
Average Age at Time of First Enrollment	9.5	9.9	10.2	10.3	11.1	11.7
Number of Participants Disenrolled	97	128	112	146	166	197
Average Age at Time of Disenrollment	19.3	19.3	19.5	19.5	18.9	19.2

The average annual per-person Medicaid expenditure decreased from \$45,706 in FY 2018 to \$45,120 in FY 2019.
The average age of Autism Waiver participants in FY 2019 was 16.7 years.

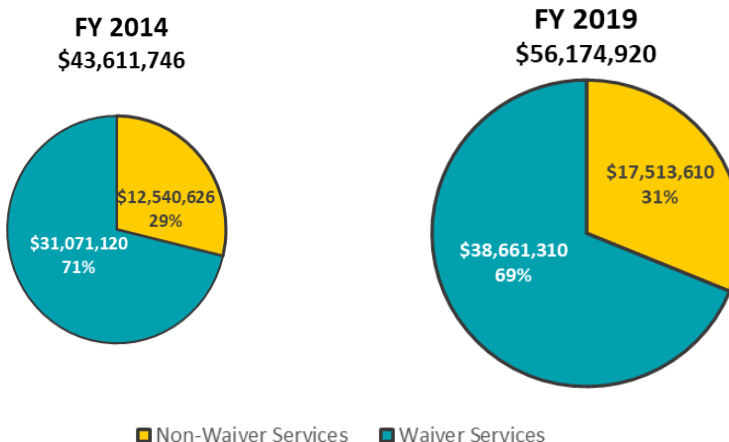
Autism Waiver Participants, by County, FY 2019



In FY 2019, the largest number of Autism Waiver participants resided in Montgomery, Baltimore and Prince George's Counties. Sixteen counties had fewer than 50 participants. No participants resided in Garrett or Caroline Counties.

Medicaid Waiver & Non-Waiver Expenditures, FY 2014 & FY 2019

The total Medicaid expenditures for Autism Waiver participants increased from FY 2014 to FY 2019 by almost 30%. This outpaced the increase of waiver participants (22.5%) during the same time period.



Use of Waiver Services, FY 2014 & FY 2019

	FY 2014		FY 2019	
	Service Users	Payments	Service Users	Payments
Total	1,002	\$31,071,120	1,175	\$38,661,310
Adult Life Planning	105	\$58,052	196	\$124,875
Environmental Accessibility Adaptations	66	\$77,322	64	\$101,336
Family Consultation	838	\$1,302,062	907	\$1,320,483
Intensive Individual Support Services (IISS)	962	\$19,009,757	1,097	\$21,727,724
Family Leave - Residential	≤ 20	\$70,226	25	\$90,785
Residential Habilitation - Intensive & Regular*	33	\$3,742,949	45	\$6,101,838
Respite Care	843	\$2,967,456	921	\$3,297,321
Therapeutic Integration - Intensive	N/A	N/A	118	\$1,102,062
Therapeutic Integration - Regular	451	\$3,843,296	499	\$4,794,885

In both FY 2014 and FY 2019, over 93 percent of service users received IISS, and this service accounted for more than 56 percent of all waiver expenditures.

*Intensive and regular residential habilitation have been combined due to the small number of participants. Therapeutic Integration - Intensive was not available in FY 2014.