

## Autism and the AAPI Communities

AAPI stands for Asian American Pacific Islander.

Understanding the intersectionality of race and ethnicity with Autism is critical for creating inclusive and equitable support systems.



**In 2023 reports, the percentage of 8-year-old Asian or Pacific Islander identified with Autism was higher than among 8-year-old White children for the first time.**



There is a shortage of culturally competent services and resources tailored to meet the unique needs of Autistic AAPI individuals and their families.



People's education, upbringing, AAPI culture, religious and spiritual ties all play a role in how they view and define "disability."



AAPI children with Autism are less likely to receive special education services compared to their White counterparts, potentially due to cultural and linguistic barriers.



AAPI adolescents with Autism report higher levels of depressive symptoms compared to their non-AAPI peers, highlighting the importance of culturally sensitive mental health support.



**The AAPI community is underrepresented within the Autism community due to a variety of factors, including:**

Cultural Barriers, Diagnosis Disparities, Disability Definitions, Model Minority Myth, Shame, and Socioeconomics.

## About the Autism Society

### Mission

We create connections, empowering everyone in the Autism community with the resources needed to live fully.

### Vision

Creating a world where everyone in the Autism community is connected to the support they need, when they need it.



**Get connected to the  
support you need,  
when you need it.**

The connection is you.™

AutismSociety.org