



How is FASD Recognized Across the United States?

FASD United conducted a national review of how prenatal alcohol exposure and fetal alcohol spectrum disorders (FASD) are recognized and supported across the United States. This included reviewing policies, state websites, and state data. **This document provides a synopsis of the data and policies nationwide.** To see each state's individual information sheet, scan the QR code below.



Scan here to see each state's individual information sheet.

Our research found that most states lack significant support for people with FASD.

As a Nation, we must collaborate to expand awareness, interventions, and supports for people with FASD, their families, and the professionals who support them.

Recognition and accommodation of people with FASD and PAE is crucial. Modifications in practices and policies will support the complex needs of people with FASD. Key systems include:

- Disability
- Child Welfare
- Education
- Justice
- Public Health

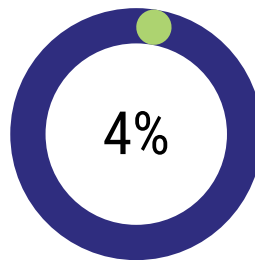


Important Data and Information

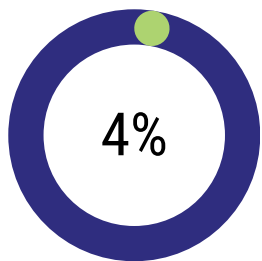
1 in 20 Americans has an FASD.¹

Although an estimated 17,054,561 people² in the United States have an FASD, there are on average only 4.5 diagnostic clinics per state.³

Only 2 states (Nevada and North Dakota) include FASD as a named condition in their definition of developmental disability.



When FASD is not a named condition, a person with FASD may still qualify.



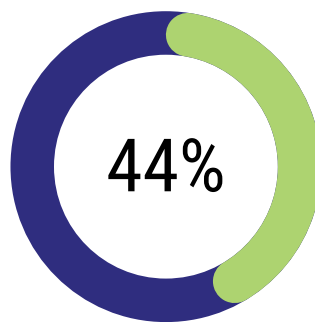
Only 2 states (Nevada North Carolina) include FASD as a named condition for Medicaid waivers.

However, explicitly including FASD in legal definitions and statutes can help impacted people access meaningful resources more easily and accessibly.

Support in education is limited.

3 states name FASD as an eligible condition for Individualized Education Plans (IEPs) under “Other Health Impairment,” or OHI. An additional 3 states name FASD as a possible eligible condition for IEPs in their Department of Education guidebooks, but do not explicitly include FASD in their state statutes for special education. **When FASD is not a named condition, supports and services may not accurately reflect the needs of impacted students.**

22 of 50 states include information about FASD on their Department of Health websites.

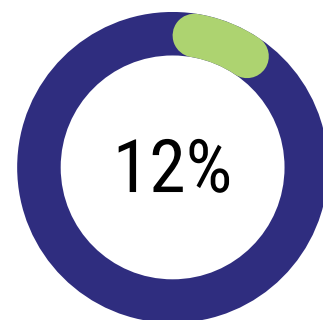


6 states have an advisory committee on FASD.

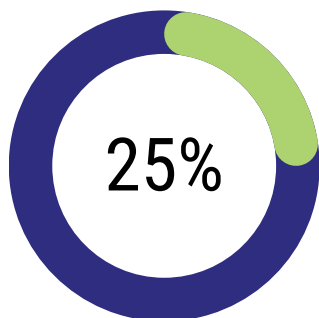


The FASD United Affiliate Network aims to further FASD awareness and support.

35 states currently have at least one organization participating in the Affiliate Network.



49 states track the prevalence of alcohol-exposed pregnancies through surveillance tools like the Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System (PRAMS).⁴⁻⁷



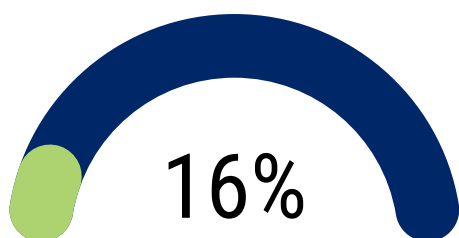
In the 2023 PRAMS survey, 25% of women reported first trimester alcohol use, including instances where they were unaware of their pregnancy.⁸

Other public health surveillance sources found a rate of

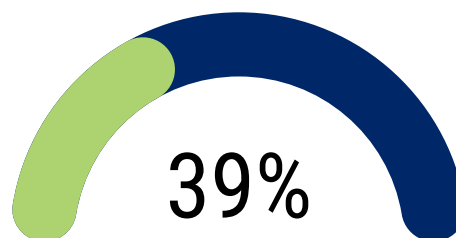
15.2%

pregnancies exposed to alcohol⁹

The National Average Rate of Binge Drinking¹⁰



The National Average Rate of Unintended Pregnancy¹¹



Taking action to reduce binge drinking and prevent unintended pregnancy can result in improved health outcomes and reduce the rates of prenatal alcohol exposure.

SOURCES:

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**For state-specific
resources & citations:**



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