



# Autism Prevalence

- A decade ago: prevalence was estimated to be 4 to 5 per 10,000
- Then 1 in 500 to 1000
- Now: 1 in 150

*CDC Autism and Developmental Disabilities Monitoring Network, MMWR Feb 2007*

*Surveys done at 6 sites in 2000 and repeated at 14 sites in 2002. In 2002 10% of the population of 8 year olds was surveyed, and 2,685 were identified as having an ASD (Autism Spectrum Disorder), giving average prevalence of 6.6/1000 ranging from 3.3 in Alabama to 10.6 in NJ*

([www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/autism/faq\\_prevalence.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/autism/faq_prevalence.htm))



# More information from the CDC

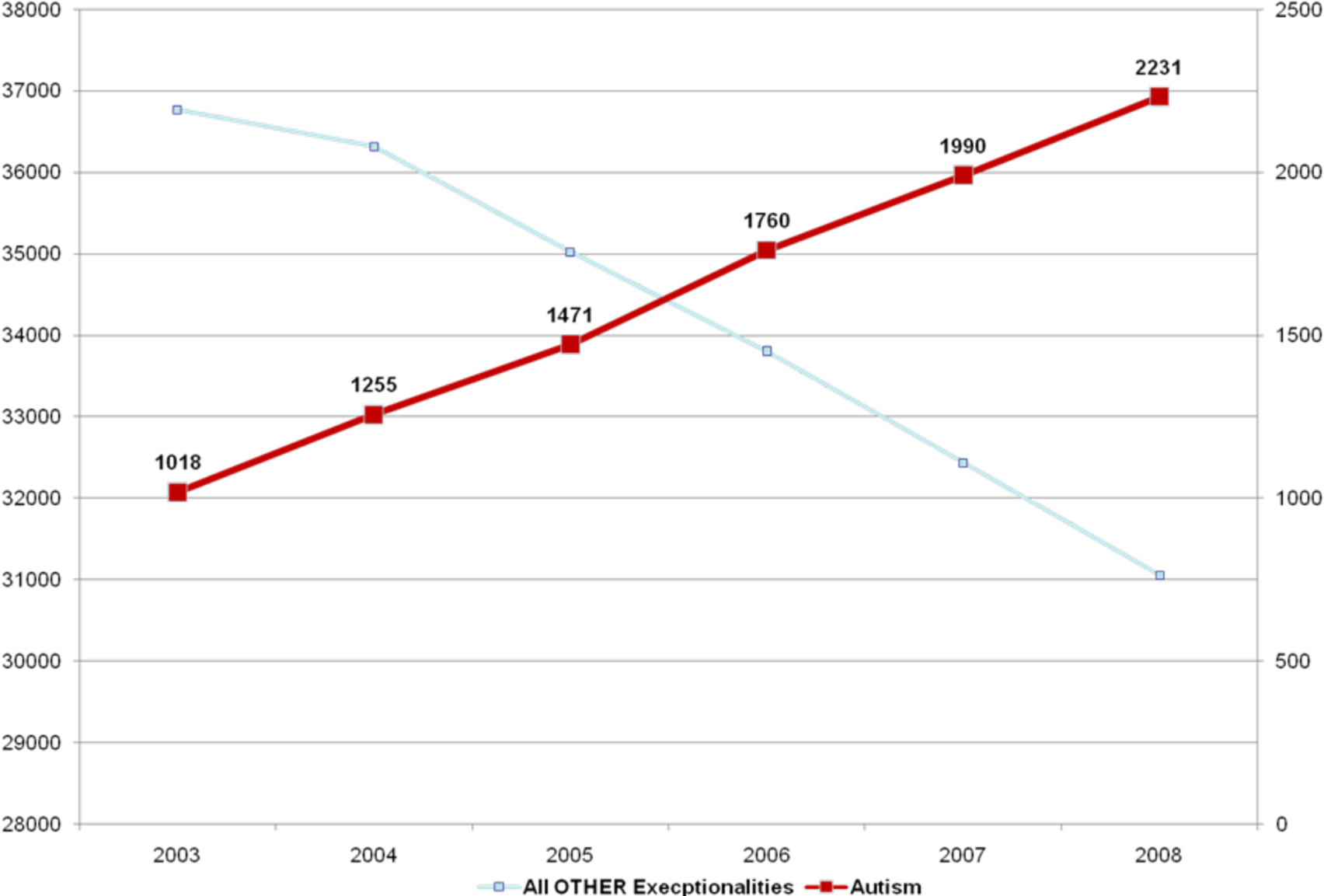
- Over half a million children in the US ages 0 to 21 may have an ASD (Autism and Developmental Disabilities Monitoring Network).
- The median age of ASD diagnosis ranged from 4y 1m to 5y 6m, but 51–91% had developmental concerns recorded before age 3 years.
- Last year, almost 300,000 children ages 3-21 were served under the “autism” classification for special education, *but the CDC has stated that education data underestimate the actual prevalence of ASDs*

Maine Special Education Data<sup>1</sup>  
for the last six years indicates:

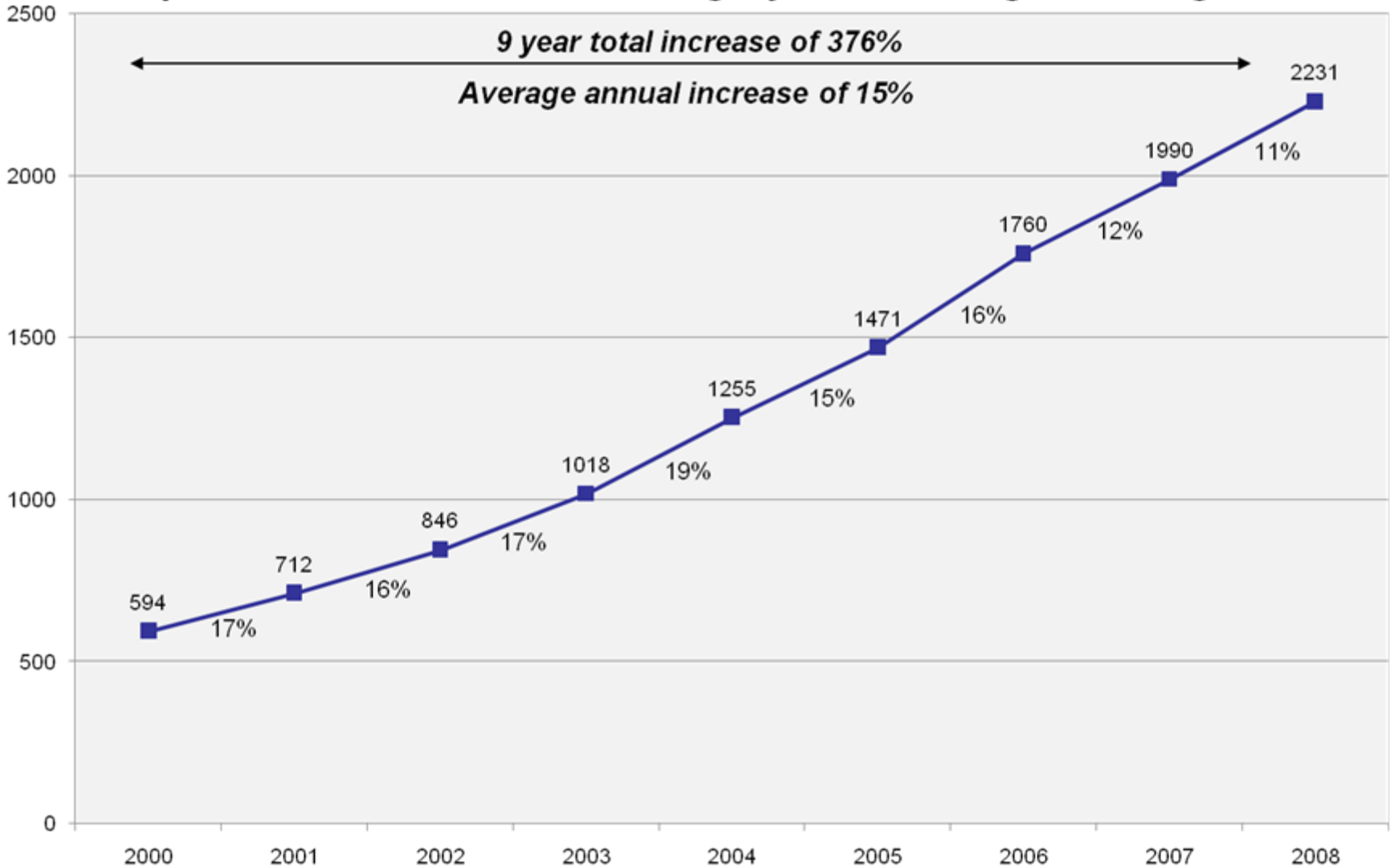
- **General Enrollment** has **decreased 8%**.
- Number of children receiving Special Education under the category of **Autism** has **increased 219%**.
- Number of children receiving services under **all other service categories** has **decreased 16%**.

<sup>1</sup> Maine Department of Education (2007) *Special Education Data*, [http://www.maine.gov/education/speced/EFS05/public\\_reports.htm](http://www.maine.gov/education/speced/EFS05/public_reports.htm)

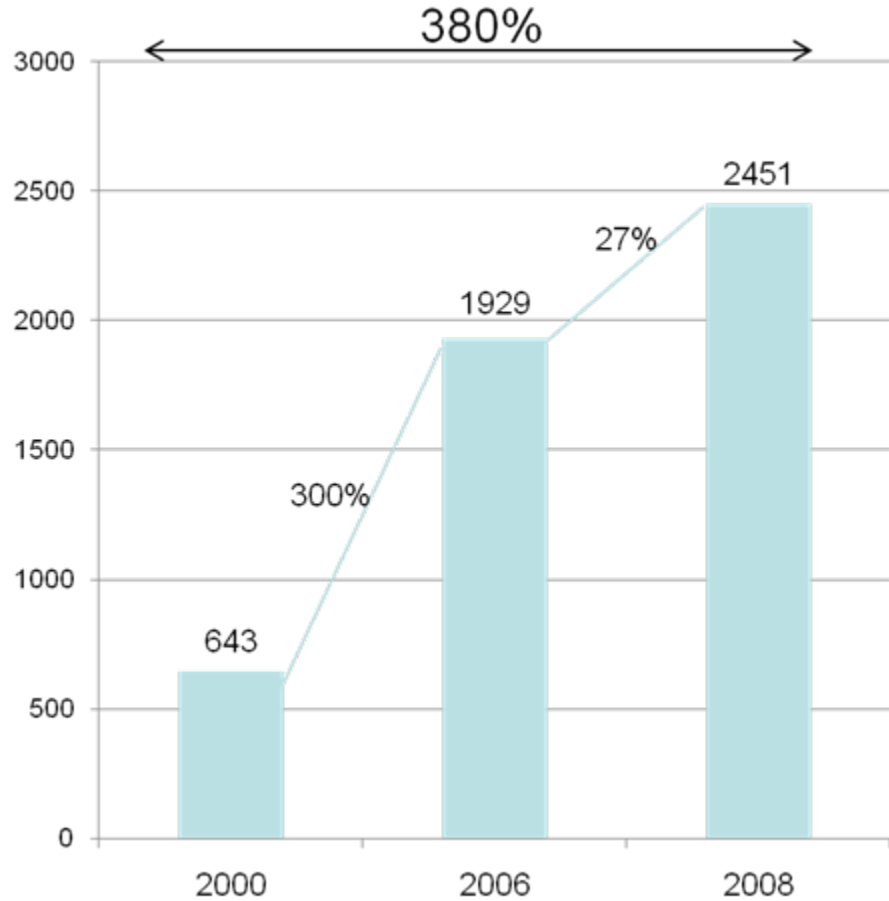
# Identifcation Change Over time



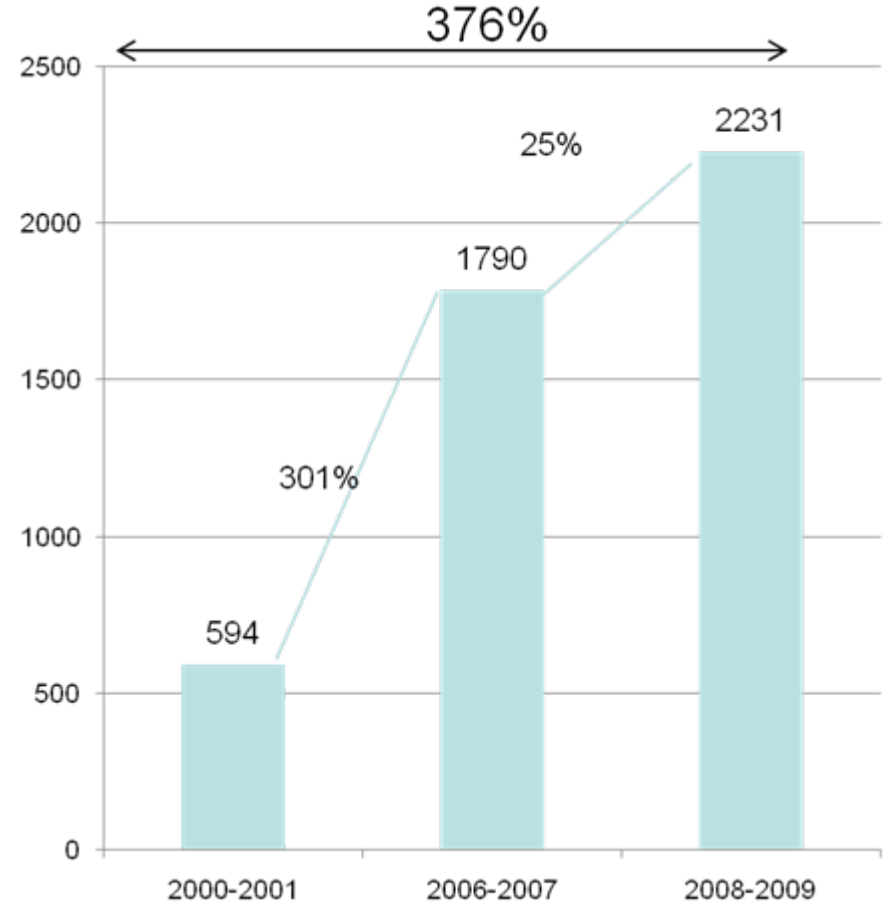
# Nine-year trend in number of children being served in Maine public schools under the category of autism age 3 through 20



### Increase in Individuals with PDD receiving services billed to MaineCare



### Increase in Individuals 3-20 receiving Special Education Services under the category of autism

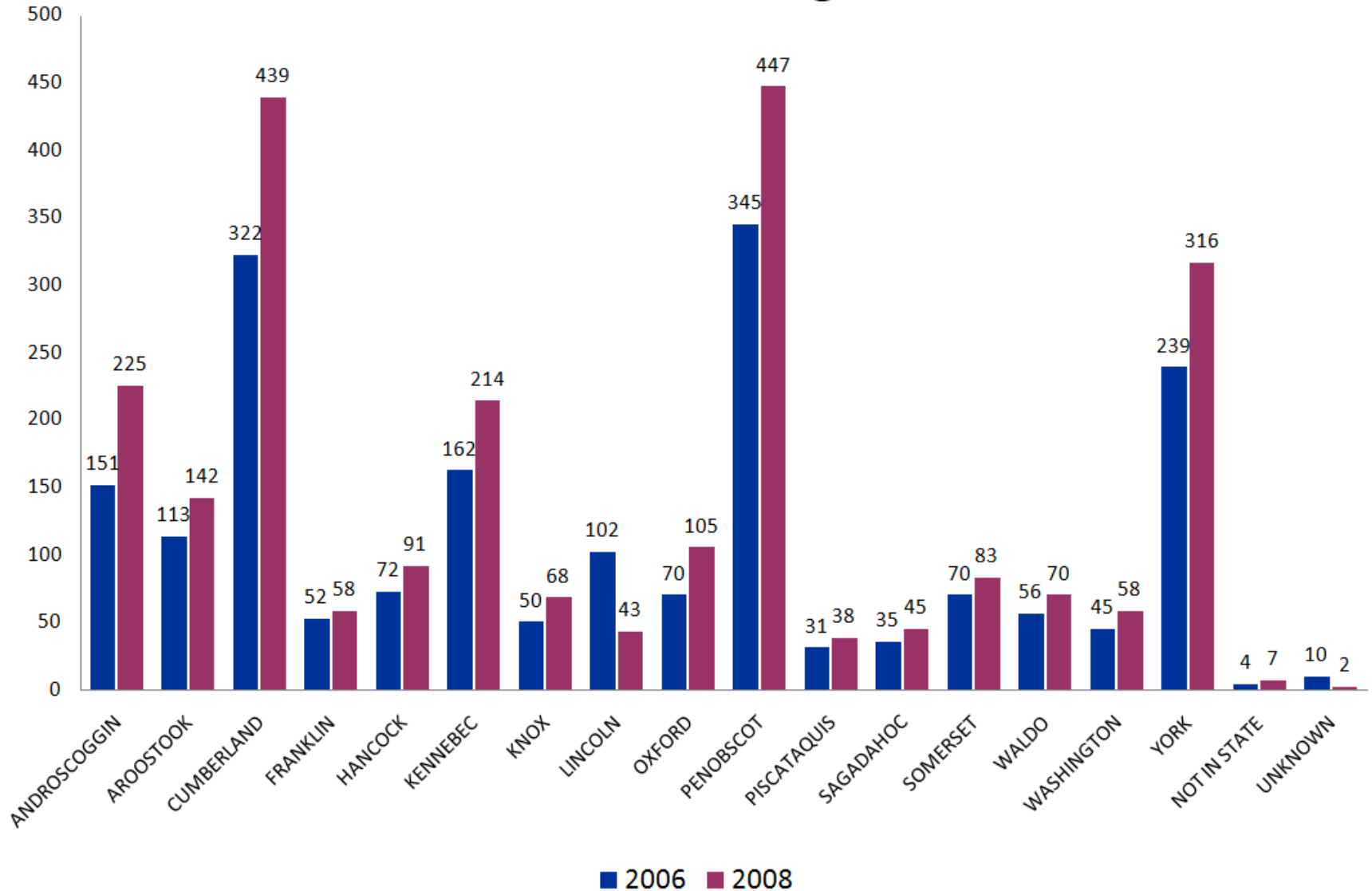


According to MaineCare claims data, 83% of individuals with PDD are under the age of 18

<i>Age</i>	<i>2006</i>	<i>2008</i>	<i>% Increase</i>
<i>0-3</i>	<i>173</i>	<i>225</i>	<i>30%</i>
<i>4-5</i>	<i>252</i>	<i>302</i>	<i>20%</i>
<i>6-11</i>	<i>685</i>	<i>910</i>	<i>33%</i>
<i>12-17</i>	<i>489</i>	<i>607</i>	<i>24%</i>
<i>18-20</i>	<i>103</i>	<i>131</i>	<i>27%</i>
<i>21-34</i>	<i>128</i>	<i>161</i>	<i>26%</i>
<i>35-54</i>	<i>78</i>	<i>94</i>	<i>21%</i>
<i>55-64</i>	<i>17</i>	<i>16</i>	<i>-6%</i>
<i>65+</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>25%</i>
<i>Total</i>	<i>1929</i>	<i>2451</i>	<i>27%</i>

# 2006/2008 Comparison by County

## Number of individuals with PDD receiving MaineCare funded services



Data Source: Office of Quality Assurance Services – Medicaid Data