

Published 9 years ago • United States • Updated 5 hours ago



Autism community sounds alarms over 'harmful' RFK Jr. comments

Left | Center | Right | **Bias Comparison**

- Left-Leaning coverage framed RFK Jr.'s autism-related comments as "harmful" and "ridiculous," emphasizing the "outrage" of researchers and highlighting his history of promoting discredited views on vaccines, while right-leaning outlets portrayed him as a truth-seeker bravely raising "concerns" about an autism "epidemic" that "dwarfs COVID," and painted criticism as "bizarre" attacks from "leftists."
- The left focused on the emotional impact on the autism community, detailing how Kennedy's statements "upset" parents, while the right de-emphasized these personal narratives.
- A pivotal divergence was the interpretation of rising autism rates; the right framed it as evidence of an environmental "epidemic," while the left attributed it to improved diagnostic methods.
- Although both sides acknowledged CDC data on autism prevalence, they diverged on its implications, reflecting deeper disagreements about scientific authority and the balance between individual liberties and public health.

Insights by Ground AI

Does this comparison seem wrong?

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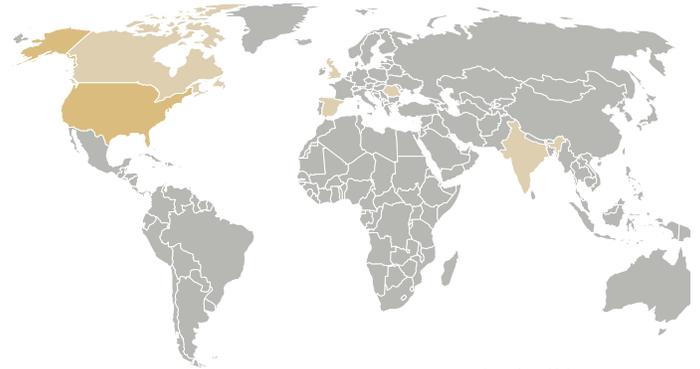
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Parents hit back at RFK Jr.'s claim that 'autism destroys families'

Plenty of parents were not impressed with Robert F. Kennedy Jr.'s recent press conference on autism.

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Robert F. Kennedy Jr. said people with autism “will never pay taxes, they'll never hold a job, they'll never play baseball, they'll never write a poem, they'll never go out on a date.” This is a skewed view of the autistic population, data and experts say

U.S. Health and Human Services Secretary Robert F. Kennedy Jr. attracted notice — and in some quarters, outrage

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Lean Left High Factuality Independent: The Seattle Times Company



Examining RFK Jr.'s claims about measles, autism and diet

Here's a look at some of HHS Secretary Robert F. Kennedy Jr.'s claims about Americans' diets, vaccines, measles and autism, with additional context and facts.

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FACT FOCUS: Examining RFK Jr.'s claims about measles, autism and diet as head of HHS

Health Secretary Robert F. Kennedy Jr. has made sweeping changes to the Department of Health and Human Services in just a few months at the helm.

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“Secret Toxics”: Kennedy Blames the Environment for Increasing Cases of Autism · Global Voices

Robert F. Kennedy Jr., U.S. Secretary of Health, did not go unnoticed after calling autism an “epidemia” during a recent conference. With a defiant gesture, he assured that this increase responds to environmental factors he wants to identify. According to data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), diagnoses increased from 1 in 36 children in 2020 to 1 in 31 in 2022. But while Kennedy raises his flag, specialists and the auti...

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Autism rates rose again. Experts explain why

Autism rates are higher than ever before, probably because of more expansive and sensitive diagnoses. Those numbers highlight the need for more support for people

with autism.

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 Herald Net



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Comment: RFK Jr. isn't interested in finding cause of autism

HeraldNet.com HeraldNet.com - Everett and Snohomish County news from The Daily Herald in Everett, Washington His laughable five-month timeline and lack of understanding point to an intention to blame vaccines. Comment: RFK Jr. isn't interested in finding cause of autism Wire Service

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Letter: RFK Jr.'s comments on autism are disturbing

To the editor:

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RFK Jr. calls autism worse than Covid because the virus 'killed old people'

Autism is a bigger scourge than Covid-19 was because the latter "killed old people," Health and Human Services Secretary Robert F. Kennedy Jr. said in a radio interview that aired Sunday. Days after angering autism advocates by claiming at a press conference those with autism were incapable of holding jobs, dating, paying taxes, or being fully toilet trained, RFK Jr. again sounded off on autism in an interview on "The Cats Roundtable" with radio...

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RFK Jr.'s comments on autism spark outrage among researchers

HHS Sec. Robert F. Kennedy's comments on autism have sparked outrage. NPR's Ayesha Rascoe asks Colin Killick, director of the Autistic Self Advocacy Network, for his reaction.

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RFK Jr. all wrong on autistic children | Letters to the editor

Robert F. Kennedy Jr.'s claim that autistic children will never pay taxes, hold jobs or go out on dates is not just false. It's harmful. Health and Human Services Secretary Robert F. Kennedy Jr. speaks during a news conference on the Autism report by the CDC at the Hubert Humphrey Building Auditorium in Washington, Wednesday, April 16, 2025. (AP Photo/Jose Luis Magana) As a certified education specialist and a tutor to those with autism and ADHD...

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Brittany Cartwright Responds to Robert F. Kennedy Jr.'s Autism Comments After Revealing Son's Diagnosis

Vanderpump Rules alum Brittany Cartwright shared her thoughts on RFK Jr.'s remarks about autism a week after revealing her and ex Jax Taylor's son Cruz, 3, has been diagnosed with the disorder.

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Many in the autism community say RFK Jr. is pushing harmful and regressive rhetoric about who they are

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Brittany Cartwright reacts to RFK Jr.'s autism comments

Originally appeared on E! Online After sharing her son's autism diagnosis, Brittany Cartwright is speaking out against Robert F. Kennedy Jr.'s controversial claims about the disorder. "The Valley" star, who shares 4-year-old Cruz with ex Jax Taylor, said that while she was "so grateful that a light is being shined on" the topic in general, she was upset by some of what of what President Donald Trump's Health and Human Services Secretary had said...

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Autism community sounds alarms over 'harmful' RFK Jr. comments

(The Hill) — Members of the autism community are pushing back against Health and Human Services Secretary Robert F. Kennedy Jr.'s pledge to find the cause for autism by September, calling the plan harmful. Kennedy announced last week that the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) will launch a "massive testing and research effort" to find the cause of autism spectrum disorder in the next five months. He then followed up earlier this w...

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News anchor on autism: 'Why wouldn't we' try to prevent it?

According to a nationwide survey conducted in 2022 by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control (CDC), one in 31 children studied had been diagnosed with autism —a significant increase from the one-in-every-36 reported in 2020, and an even larger increase from the one-in-every-150 reported in 2000. Robert F. Kennedy Jr., the secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services, is spearheading the efforts in identifying the root causes of the chil...

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Families and advocates challenge RFK Jr.'s autism portrayal

Kennedy characterized autism as an epidemic caused by environmental factors. His assertions contradict his own department's scientists.

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'Got me emotional': Mother of autistic boy reacts to RFK Jr.'s comments

A D.C. family of a boy with autism says Health and Human Services Secretary Robert F. Kennedy Jr.'s recent remarks about the disorder were painful. Ronald Duncan, 12, of Northeast D.C. loves trains and recently was chosen for Metro's Autism Acceptance Month campaign. “I was super proud,” said his mother, Maureen McKoy. “I got the text at 7 in the...

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Minnesota advocates, parents reject RFK statements on autism

Comments by the health secretary were a hot topic at Minnesota's annual autism convention, where advocates disagreed with his views on autism's limitations and debunked links to vaccine.

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