

# Five Georgia Voices:

Empowering  
Teachers & Students with Autism  
Through Partnership & Purpose

## A Panel Conversation

**Tara Geiser** Director of Special Education, Walton County

**Amanda Barham** Special Education Coordinator, Walton County

**Dr. Cheryl Rice** Assistant Director of Special Education, Valdosta City

**Lauren Payne** Director of Special Education, Fannin County

**Allison Davis** Director of Special Education, Warren County

Moderated by: **Kelly Bratcher** and **Tara Geiser**



---

01

**To Share Insights from Districts Across Georgia**

---

02

**To discuss real challenges faced in supporting students with autism and developmental disabilities**

---

03

**And, to explore actionable strategies that are making a difference — especially when it comes to supporting and empowering teachers**



**Removing ~~obstacles~~ that limit learning**



# State of Our Districts

Where We Are, Where We're Going



**Tara Geiser** Director of Special Education, Walton County

**Amanda Barham** Special Education Coordinator, Walton County

**Dr. Cheryl Rice** Assistant Director of Special Education, Valdosta  
City

**Allison Davis** Director of Special Education, Warren County

Moderated by: **Kelly Bratcher** Stages Learning

**Who's in the room?**







**Increasing  
Autism Population**

# **Special Education Teacher Shortages**

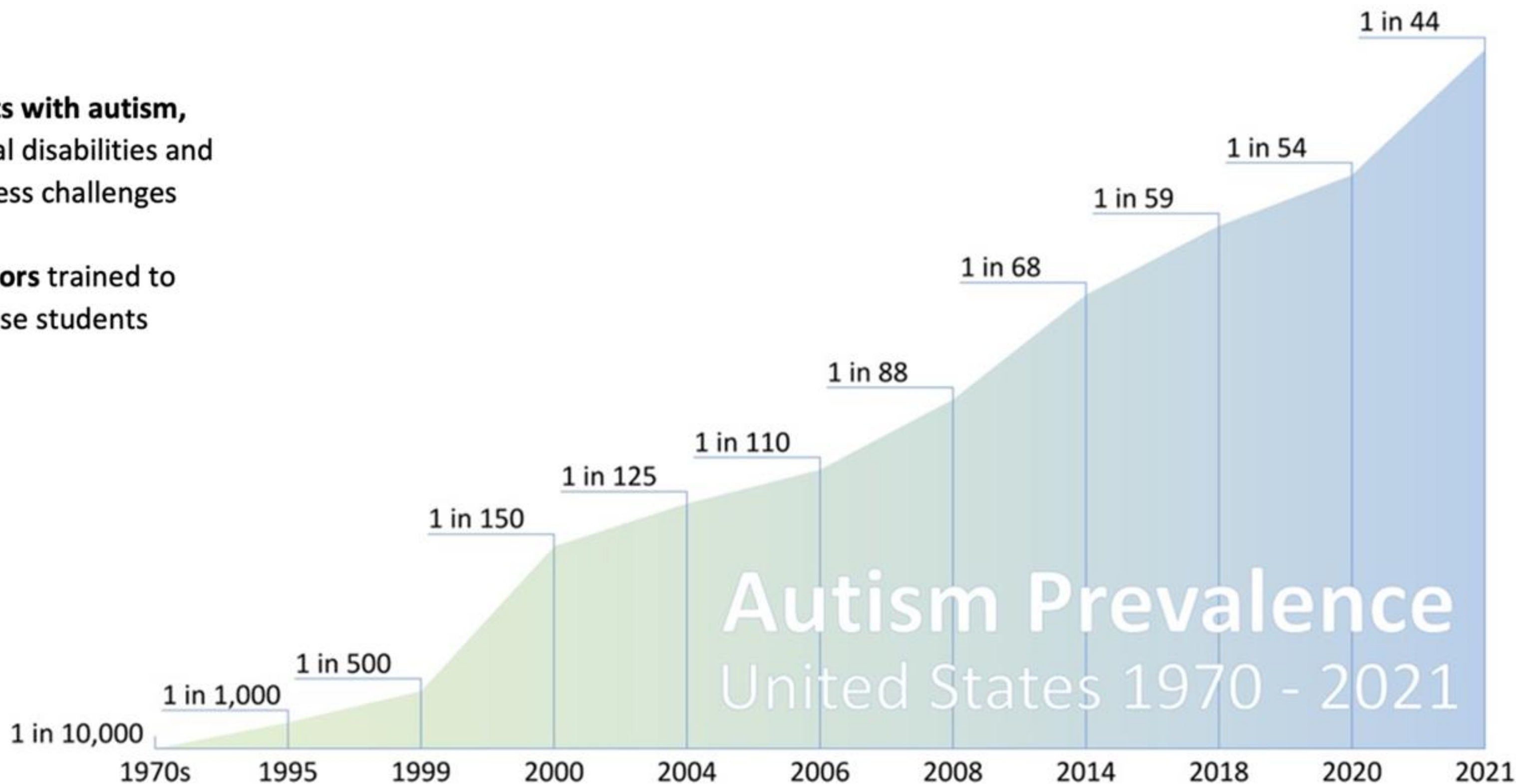




# ARIS' Complete Curriculum is a Solution to Address Growing Needs

**More students with autism,**  
developmental disabilities and  
school readiness challenges

**Fewer educators** trained to  
work with these students





# Five Georgia Voices:

Empowering  
Teachers & Students with Autism  
Through Partnership & Purpose

## A Panel Conversation

**Tara Geiser** Director of Special Education, Walton County

**Amanda Barham** Special Education Coordinator, Walton County

**Dr. Cheryl Rice** Assistant Director of Special Education, Valdosta City

**Lauren Payne** Director of Special Education, Fannin County

**Allison Davis** Director of Special Education, Warren County

Moderated by: **Kelly Bratcher** and **Tara Geiser**









# **Key Takeaways**



