

# How Common is Intersex?

## Prevalence of Variations

VARIATION	PREVALENCE
Not XX and not XY	1 in 1,666 births
Klinefelter (XXY)	1 in 1,000 births
Androgen Insensitivity Syndrome (CAIS)	1 in 13,000 births
Partial Androgen Insensitivity Syndrome (PAIS)	1 in 130,000 births
Classical Congenital Adrenal Hyperplasia (CAH)	1 in 13,000 births
Late Onset Adrenal Hyperplasia (LOAH)	1 in 66 individuals
Vaginal Agenesis	1 in 6,000 births
Ovotestes	1 in 83,000 births
Idiopathic (no discernable medical cause)	1 in 110,000 births
Iatrogenic (caused by medical treatment, for instance progestin administered to pregnant mother)	No estimate
5 Alpha Reductase Deficiency	No estimate
Mixed Gonadal Dysgenesis	No estimate
Complete Gonadal Dysgenesis	1 in 150,000 births
Hypospadias (urethral opening in perineum or along penile shaft)	1 in 2,000 births
Hypospadias (urethral opening between corona and tip of glans penis)	1 in 770 births
Total number of people whose bodies differ from standard male or female	1 in 100 births
Total number of people receiving surgery to “normalize” genital appearance	1 or 2 in 1,000 births

**Source:** Blackless, Melanie, Anthony Charuvastra, Amanda Derryck, Anne Fausto-Sterling, Karl Lauzanne, and Ellen Lee. 2000. *How sexually dimorphic are we?* Review and synthesis. *American Journal of Human Biology* 12:151-166.

**Please Note:** The new term – Disorders of Sex Development (DSD) – which OII rejects for many different reasons includes a whole host of intersex variations which were never considered intersex before but which OII has always included as intersex, since OII’s definition of intersex is “anyone born with a body which is not standard female or standard male according to the norms arbitrarily sanctioned by medical and legal institutions throughout the world.”

**Thus the numbers listed in the chart above would be extremely low if one were counting all the people born with what doctors are now calling a DSD.**