



2015

State Report for County-level Data: Prevalence



Disability Statistics & Demographics
Rehabilitation Research & Training Center

Acknowledgement

Special thanks to the following individuals who have contributed to the success of this effort: Deb Brucker, Erin Dame, Adam Lavoie, Rachel Coleman, Kate Filanoski, and Karen Volle.

Funding for this publication is made possible by:

The Rehabilitation Research and Training Center on Disability Statistics and Demographics (StatsRRTC), funded by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Administration for Community Living National Institute on Disability, Independent Living, and Rehabilitation Research (NIDILRR), grant number 90RT5022-02-01; and the Rehabilitation Research and Training Center on Employment Policy and Measurement (EPM-RRTC), also funded by NIDILRR, grant number 90RT5037-01-00. The information developed by the StatsRRTC and EPM-RRTC does not necessarily represent the policies of the Department of Health and Human Services, and you should not assume endorsement by the Federal Government (Edgar, 75.620 (b)).

The StatsRRTC and EPM-RRTC are part of the Institute on Disability at the University of New Hampshire. The Institute on Disability/UCED (IOD) was established in 1987 to provide a university-based focus for the improvement of knowledge, policies, and practices related to the lives of people with disabilities and their families and is New Hampshire's University Center for Excellence in Disability (UCED). Located within the University of New Hampshire, the IOD is a federally designated center authorized by the Developmental Disabilities Act. Through innovative and interdisciplinary research, academic, service, and dissemination initiatives, the IOD builds local, state, and national capacities to respond to the needs of individuals with disabilities and their families.

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2015 Arkansas Report for County-level Data: Prevalence

Rehabilitation Research and Training Center on
Disability Statistics and Demographics
A NIDILRR-Funded Center



Introduction

The *State Reports for County-Level Data on Prevalence* are designed to provide the users of disability statistics with the number of people with disabilities for any given state and county in the United States (U.S.). This report is intended to be an online compliment to [Section 1: Population and Prevalence](#) of the *Annual Disability Statistics Compendium* and *Annual Disability Statistics Supplement*, providing greater detail within each state. The *State Reports for County-Level Data on Prevalence* can be used to compare county-level statistics between counties in any given state or states. The following report provides county-level statistics for [Arkansas](#).

The proportions of people with disabilities, sometimes called prevalence, presented in the *State Reports for County-Level Data* is a useful tool for advocates, researchers, and policy-makers to plan and provide services and supports for people with disabilities. In this report, the prevalence of people with disabilities is presented as the number of people with disabilities in a given state and county per total state and county populations, respectively. Counts and percentages are provided in tables and maps.

The data for this report comes from the [American Community Survey 5-year data](#). The [American Community Survey \(ACS\)](#) is a national survey developed by the U.S. Census Bureau to provide information on a number of topics about social, economic, and demographic characteristics of the U.S. population. ACS 5-year data is collected over a longer period of time than 1-year data, providing larger sample sizes and increased reliability for less populated areas and small population subgroups. All of the statistics in this report use the ACS 5-year data which includes data from the year of the report and data from the four previous years.

In the ACS, people are identified as having a disability based on responses to a series of six questions asking about having difficulties with vision, hearing, ambulation, cognition, self-care, and independent living. These questions are:

- Are you blind or do you have serious difficulty seeing, even when wearing glasses?
- Are you deaf or do you have serious difficulty hearing?
- Do you have serious difficulty walking or climbing stairs?

- Because of a physical, mental, or emotional condition, do you have serious difficulty concentrating, remembering, or making decisions?
- Do you have difficulty dressing or bathing?
- Because of a physical, mental, or emotional condition, do you have difficulty doing errands alone such as visiting a doctor's office or shopping?

A response of 'yes' to any one of these six questions identifies an individual as having a disability in the ACS. Specific to Arkansas, the state chosen for this report, sentences providing interpretation and context for prevalence statistics are included below. A short glossary of terms is also provided at the end of the report explaining the statistics that are illustrated in each sentence.

Interpretation

The following statements are designed to help understand the 2015 county-level statistics from Arkansas that are presented:

- For people with and without disabilities:
 - The **range** of total people across Arkansas counties, also known as the difference between the largest and smallest counts of people across Arkansas counties, was **2,900,007**.
 - The county with the greatest number of total people was **Pulaski** (384,831 people).
 - The county with the least number of total people was **Calhoun** (5,186 people).
 - The **average** number of total people across all counties was **76,452**.
 - The **median**, also known as the middle-most number, of total people across Arkansas counties was **19,349.0**.

- For people with disabilities:
 - The **range** of people with disabilities across Arkansas counties, also known as the difference between the largest and smallest counts of people with disabilities across Arkansas counties, was **488,835**.
 - The county with the greatest number of people with disabilities was **Pulaski** (52,806 people).
 - The county with the least number of people with disabilities was **Calhoun** (1,533 people).
 - The **average** number of people with disabilities across all counties was **12,904**.
 - The **median**, also known as the middle-most number, of people with disabilities across Arkansas counties was **4,037.0**

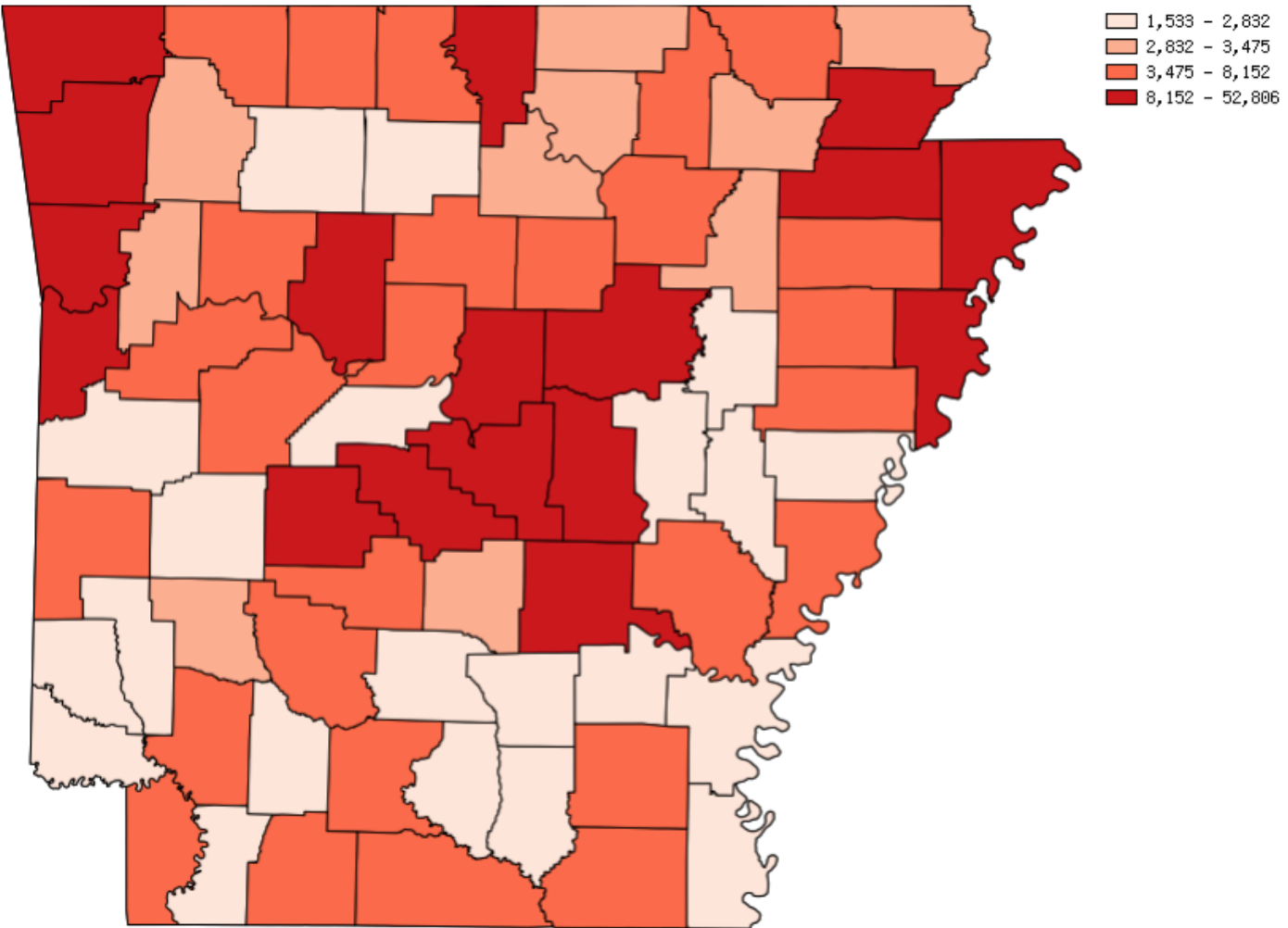
Prevalence of People with and without Disabilities for Arkansas, by County: 2015

County	Total	Disability		No Disability	
		Count	%	Count	%
Arkansas	2,905,193	490,368	16.9	2,414,825	83.1
Arkansas	18,492	4,018	21.7	14,474	78.3
Ashley	21,054	4,718	22.4	16,336	77.6
Baxter	40,572	8,933	22.0	31,639	78.0
Benton	236,524	21,905	9.3	214,619	90.7
Boone	36,802	7,321	19.9	29,481	80.1
Bradley	11,113	2,506	22.6	8,607	77.4
Calhoun	5,186	1,533	29.6	3,653	70.4
Carroll	27,422	4,781	17.4	22,641	82.6
Chicot	10,686	2,634	24.6	8,052	75.4
Clark	22,411	4,033	18.0	18,378	82.0
Clay	15,266	3,475	22.8	11,791	77.2
Cleburne	25,351	4,679	18.5	20,672	81.5
Cleveland	8,432	1,892	22.4	6,540	77.6
Columbia	23,904	4,486	18.8	19,418	81.2
Conway	20,933	4,163	19.9	16,770	80.1
Craighead	100,428	15,866	15.8	84,562	84.2
Crawford	61,194	11,106	18.1	50,088	81.9
Crittenden	49,204	8,258	16.8	40,946	83.2
Cross	17,256	3,682	21.3	13,574	78.7
Dallas	7,340	1,808	24.6	5,532	75.4
Desha	12,306	2,550	20.7	9,756	79.3
Drew	18,348	3,809	20.8	14,539	79.2
Faulkner	118,057	14,425	12.2	103,632	87.8
Franklin	17,580	3,240	18.4	14,340	81.6
Fulton	12,040	2,967	24.6	9,073	75.4

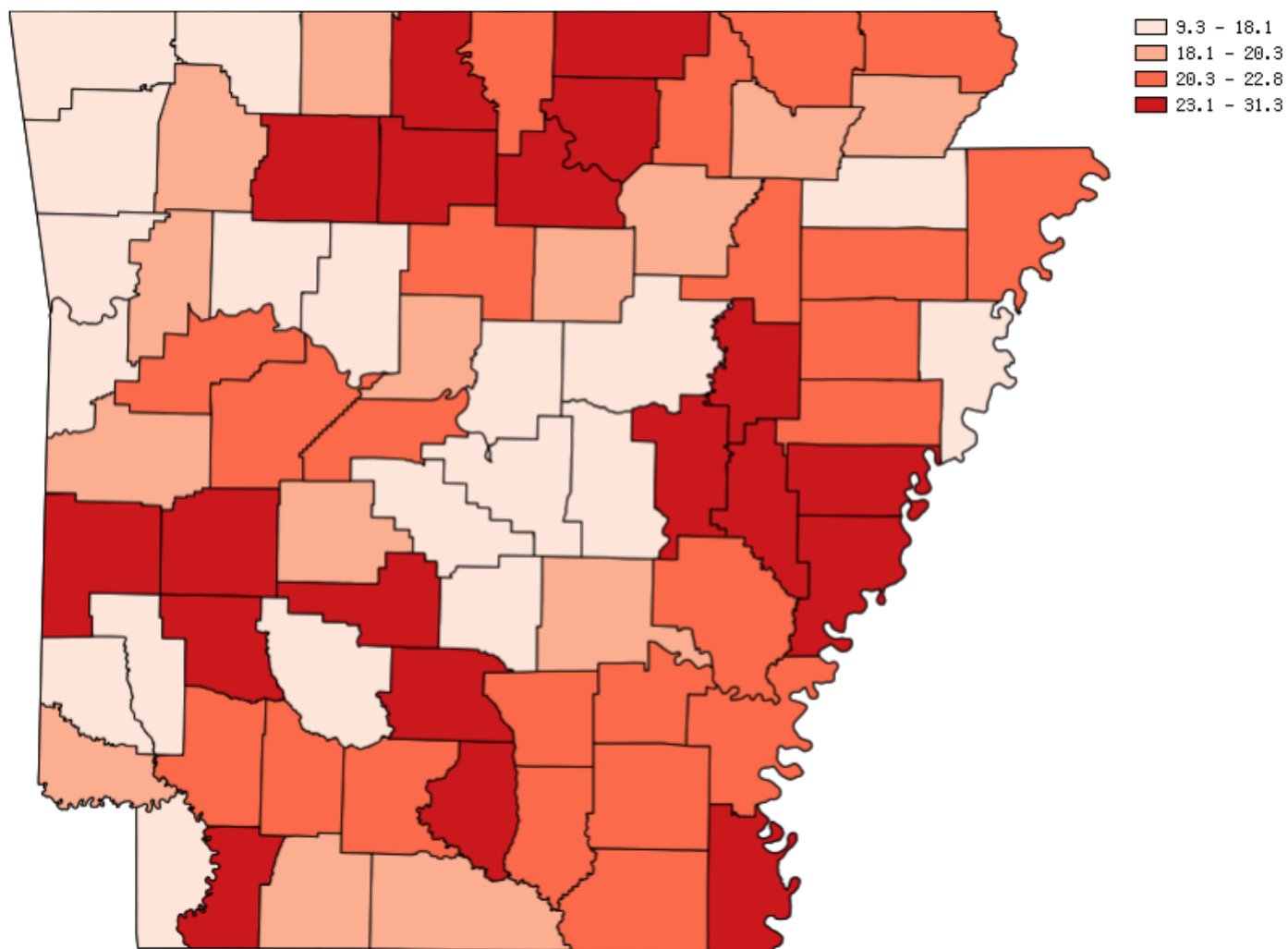
County	Total	Disability		No Disability	
		Count	%	Count	%
Garland	95,661	18,539	19.4	77,122	80.6
Grant	17,897	3,176	17.7	14,721	82.3
Greene	42,896	8,652	20.2	34,244	79.8
Hempstead	22,092	4,553	20.6	17,539	79.4
Hot Spring	31,416	7,657	24.4	23,759	75.6
Howard	13,377	2,365	17.7	11,012	82.3
Independence	36,451	7,031	19.3	29,420	80.7
Izard	12,687	2,941	23.2	9,746	76.8
Jackson	14,285	3,119	21.8	11,166	78.2
Jefferson	69,255	12,799	18.5	56,456	81.5
Johnson	25,728	4,317	16.8	21,411	83.2
Lafayette	7,138	1,651	23.1	5,487	76.9
Lawrence	16,715	3,277	19.6	13,438	80.4
Lee	8,457	2,164	25.6	6,293	74.4
Lincoln	9,818	2,092	21.3	7,726	78.7
Little River	12,559	2,519	20.1	10,040	79.9
Logan	21,753	4,439	20.4	17,314	79.6
Lonoke	69,105	10,373	15.0	58,732	85.0
Madison	15,631	2,870	18.4	12,761	81.6
Marion	16,304	4,041	24.8	12,263	75.2
Miller	42,456	7,609	17.9	34,847	82.1
Mississippi	44,030	9,369	21.3	34,661	78.7
Monroe	7,636	1,875	24.6	5,761	75.4
Montgomery	9,056	2,832	31.3	6,224	68.7
Nevada	8,594	1,939	22.6	6,655	77.4
Newton	7,996	1,870	23.4	6,126	76.6

Source: Calculations based on U.S. Census Bureau, 2016 American Community Survey, Public Use Microdata Sample. Data represents the civilian, noninstitutional population. Based on a sample and subject to sampling variability.

Count of People with Disabilities for Arkansas, by County: 2015



Percentage of People with Disabilities for Arkansas, by County: 2015



Discussion

There are a number of concepts and factors which complicate the interpretation of the estimates presented in this report. These concerns affect all statistics from population-based surveys. The estimates included in this document should be interpreted the following limitations in mind and generalized with caution. In each point, a link to the U.S. Census Bureau website describing the limitation or concept in greater detail in the ACS has been provided (www.census.gov/programs-surveys/acs/).

- Statistics are based on a sample and subject to sample variation (a discussion of this topic can be found [here](#)).
- Statistics based on a sample may not fully represent the total U.S. population (a discussion of this topic can be found [here](#)).
- People responding to the ACS may be different than people not responding (a discussion of this topic can be found [here](#)).
- When people do not respond to all ACS questions their responses are created based on assignment or allocation (a discussion of this topic can be found [here](#)).

Additional resources for the ACS:

- Information on the disability questions can be found [here](#).
- The ACS design and methodology can be found [here](#).
- The ACS questionnaire and instructions can be found [here](#).

Definitions

Average—The sum of all of the values in a sample divided by the number of values in the sample.

Median—The middlemost value of a sample that separates the upper half of the values from the lower half of the values.

Prevalence—The proportion of the population with a particular status or condition. Prevalence is usually expressed as a percentage or a number of people per unit of the population.

Population—The total number of inhabitants in a defined geographic area including all races, classes, and groups.

Range—The difference between the largest and smallest values in a sample. In a sample, when the smallest value is subtracted from the largest value the resulting value is called the range.

Rehabilitation Research and Training Center on Disability Statistics and Demographics

Policymakers, program administrators, service providers, researchers, advocates for people with disabilities, and people with disabilities and their families need accessible, valid data/statistics to support their decisions related to policy improvements, program administration, service delivery, protection of civil rights, and major life activities. The StatsRRTC supports decision making through a variety of integrated research and outreach activities by (a) improving knowledge about and access to existing data, (b) generating the knowledge needed to improve future disability data collection, and (c) strengthening connections between the data from and regarding respondents, researchers, and decision makers. In this way, the Stats RRTC supports the improvement of service systems that advance the quality of life for people with disabilities.

Led by the University of New Hampshire, the StatsRRTC is a collaborative effort involving the following partners: American Association of People with Disabilities, Center for Essential Management Services, Council of State Administrators of Vocational Rehabilitation, Kessler Foundation, Mathematica Policy Research, and Public Health Institute. The StatsRRTC is funded by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Community Living, National Institute on Disability, Independent Living and Rehabilitation Research under grant number 90RT502201, from 2013–2018.

Employment Policy and Measurement Rehabilitation Research and Training Center

The EPM-RRTC generates and translates new information about disability employment policy and ways to measure the labor market experiences of people with disabilities. By improving the quality of available information about program interactions, policy options, and employment outcomes, the EPM-RRTC increases evidence-based advocacy and policymaking.

Led by the University of New Hampshire, the EPM-RRTC is a collaborative effort involving the following partners: Association of University Centers on Disability, Hunter College, Kessler Foundation, Mathematica Policy Research, and the University of Chicago. The EPM-RRTC is funded by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Community Living, National Institute on Disability, Independent Living and Rehabilitation Research under grant number 90RT503701, from 2015–2020.



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