



2015

State Report for County-level Data: Prevalence



Disability Statistics & Demographics
Rehabilitation Research & Training Center

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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 Michigan 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 [Michigan](#).

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 Michigan, 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 Michigan that are presented:

- For people with and without disabilities:
 - The **range** of total people across Michigan counties, also known as the difference between the largest and smallest counts of people across Michigan counties, was **1,764,586**.
 - The county with the greatest number of total people was **Wayne** (1,766,776 people).
 - The county with the least number of total people was **Keweenaw** (2,190 people).
 - The **average** number of total people across all counties was **117,942**.
 - The **median**, also known as the middle-most number, of total people across Michigan counties was **36,302**.

- For people with disabilities:
 - The **range** of people with disabilities across Michigan counties, also known as the difference between the largest and smallest counts of people with disabilities across Michigan counties, was **283,173**.
 - The county with the greatest number of people with disabilities was **Wayne** (283,631 people).
 - The county with the least number of people with disabilities was **Keweenaw** (458 people).
 - The **average** number of people with disabilities across all counties was **16,633**.
 - The **median**, also known as the middle-most number, of people with disabilities across Michigan counties was **6,267**

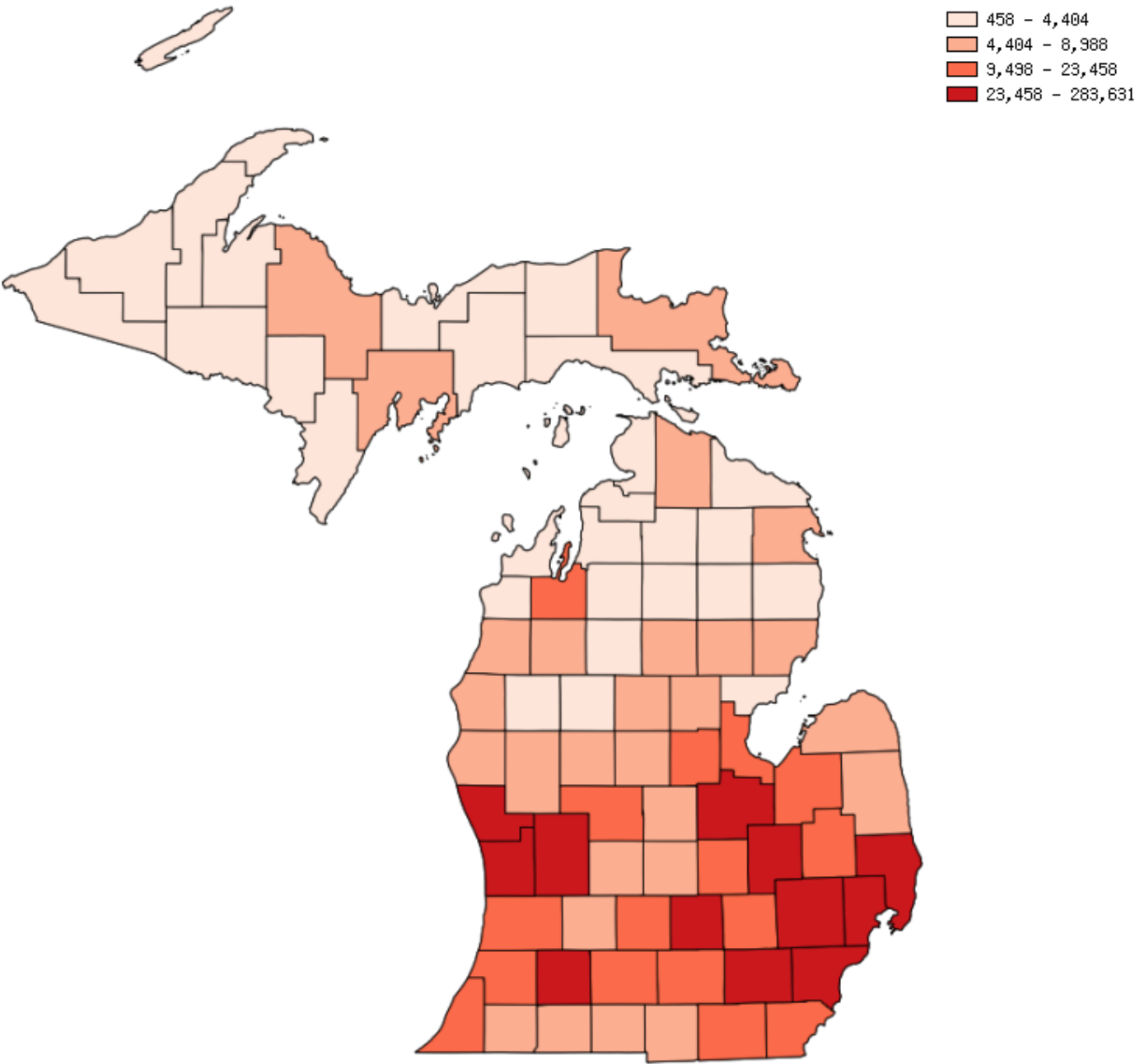
Prevalence of People with and without Disabilities for Michigan, by County: 2015

County	Total	Disability		No Disability	
		Count	%	Count	%
Michigan	9,789,145	1,380,552	14.1	8,408,593	85.9
Alcona	10,454	2,288	21.9	8,166	78.1
Alger	8,499	1,623	19.1	6,876	80.9
Allegan	112,118	12,572	11.2	99,546	88.8
Alpena	28,703	5,208	18.1	23,495	81.9
Antrim	23,101	3,624	15.7	19,477	84.3
Arenac	15,255	3,185	20.9	12,070	79.1
Baraga	6,387	1,053	16.5	5,334	83.5
Barry	58,660	8,378	14.3	50,282	85.7
Bay	105,742	17,107	16.2	88,635	83.8
Benzie	17,249	3,045	17.7	14,204	82.3
Berrien	154,339	21,633	14.0	132,706	86.0
Branch	41,575	5,967	14.4	35,608	85.6
Calhoun	133,138	20,630	15.5	112,508	84.5
Cass	51,817	8,214	15.9	43,603	84.1
Charlevoix	25,866	3,924	15.2	21,942	84.8
Cheboygan	25,387	5,213	20.5	20,174	79.5
Chippewa	34,898	6,267	18.0	28,631	82.0
Clare	30,387	6,748	22.2	23,639	77.8
Clinton	76,277	8,731	11.4	67,546	88.6
Crawford	13,713	2,839	20.7	10,874	79.3
Delta	36,302	6,603	18.2	29,699	81.8
Dickinson	25,640	4,204	16.4	21,436	83.6
Eaton	107,663	15,781	14.7	91,882	85.3
Emmet	32,678	4,404	13.5	28,274	86.5
Genesee	413,289	67,720	16.4	345,569	83.6

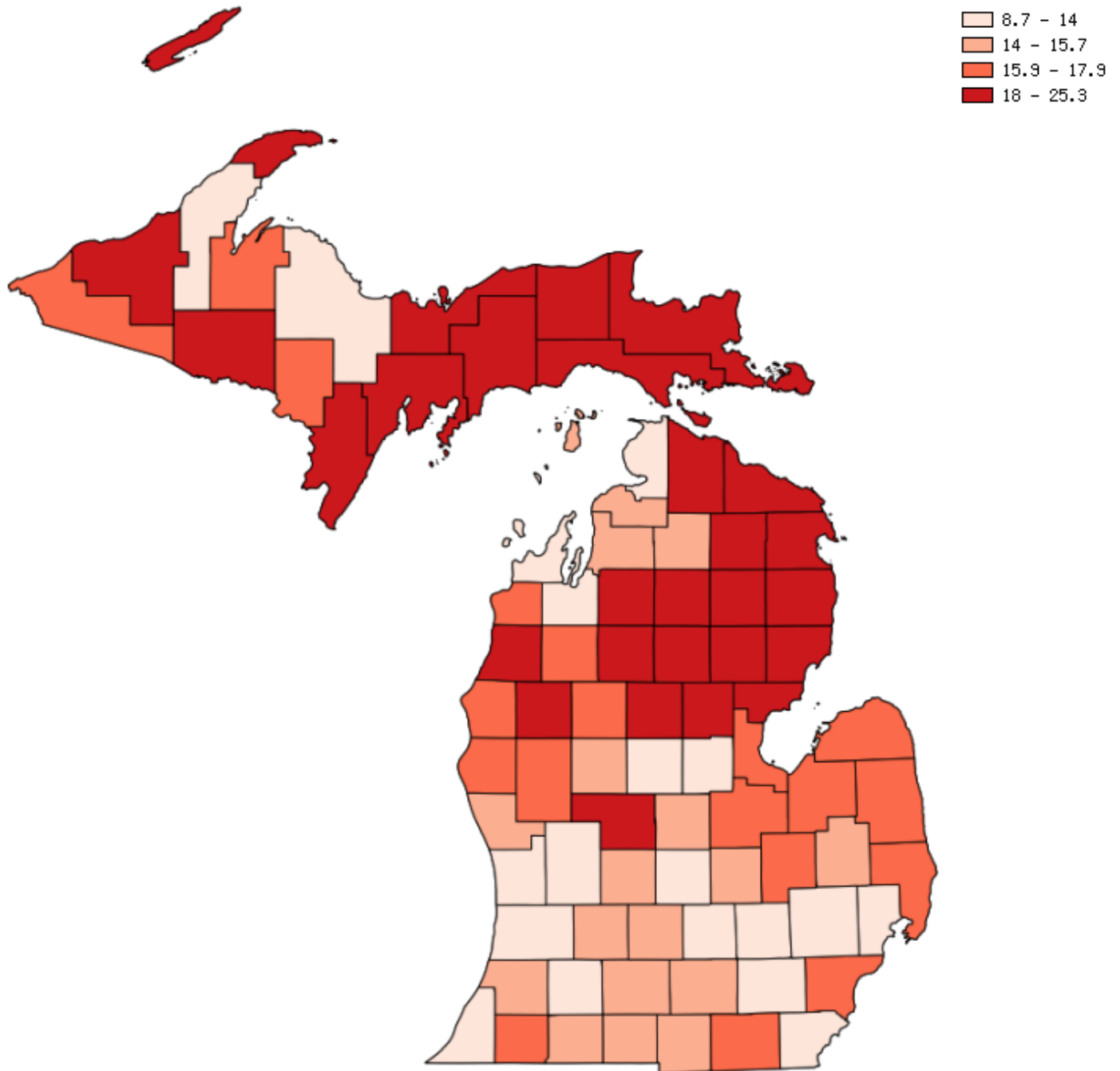
County	Total	Disability		No Disability	
		Count	%	Count	%
Gladwin	25,275	5,209	20.6	20,066	79.4
Gogebic	14,292	2,459	17.2	11,833	82.8
Grand Traverse	87,764	11,173	12.7	76,591	87.3
Gratiot	37,518	5,764	15.4	31,754	84.6
Hillsdale	45,781	6,837	14.9	38,944	85.1
Houghton	36,232	4,331	12.0	31,901	88.0
Huron	31,921	5,470	17.1	26,451	82.9
Ingham	281,784	34,610	12.3	247,174	87.7
Ionia	60,309	8,988	14.9	51,321	85.1
Iosco	25,079	5,571	22.2	19,508	77.8
Iron	11,225	2,245	20.0	8,980	80.0
Isabella	70,081	8,388	12.0	61,693	88.0
Jackson	151,972	23,458	15.4	128,514	84.6
Kalamazoo	254,844	32,833	12.9	222,011	87.1
Kalkaska	17,168	3,224	18.8	13,944	81.2
Kent	618,639	69,884	11.3	548,755	88.7
Keweenaw	2,190	458	20.9	1,732	79.1
Lake	11,059	2,619	23.7	8,440	76.3
Lapeer	86,725	12,324	14.2	74,401	85.8
Leelanau	21,631	2,731	12.6	18,900	87.4
Lenawee	95,725	15,210	15.9	80,515	84.1
Livingston	183,760	18,299	10.0	165,461	90.0
Luce	5,434	1,373	25.3	4,061	74.7
Mackinac	10,902	2,085	19.1	8,817	80.9
Macomb	848,168	117,174	13.8	730,994	86.2
Manistee	23,296	4,502	19.3	18,794	80.7

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 Michigan, by County: 2015



Percentage of People with Disabilities for Michigan, 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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