



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 New York 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 New York.

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 New York, 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 New York that are presented:

- For people with and without disabilities:
 - The **range** of total people across New York counties, also known as the difference between the largest and smallest counts of people across New York counties, was **2,580,312**.
 - The county with the greatest number of total people was **Kings** (2,585,048 people).
 - The county with the least number of total people was **Hamilton** (4,736 people).
 - The **average** number of total people across all counties was **313,344**.
 - The **median**, also known as the middle-most number, of total people across New York counties was **87,664.5**.

- For people with disabilities:
 - The **range** of people with disabilities across New York counties, also known as the difference between the largest and smallest counts of people with disabilities across New York counties, was **255,218**.
 - The county with the greatest number of people with disabilities was **Kings** (256,027 people).
 - The county with the least number of people with disabilities was **Hamilton** (809 people).
 - The **average** number of people with disabilities across all counties was **34,830**.
 - The **median**, also known as the middle-most number, of people with disabilities across New York counties was **11,538.5**

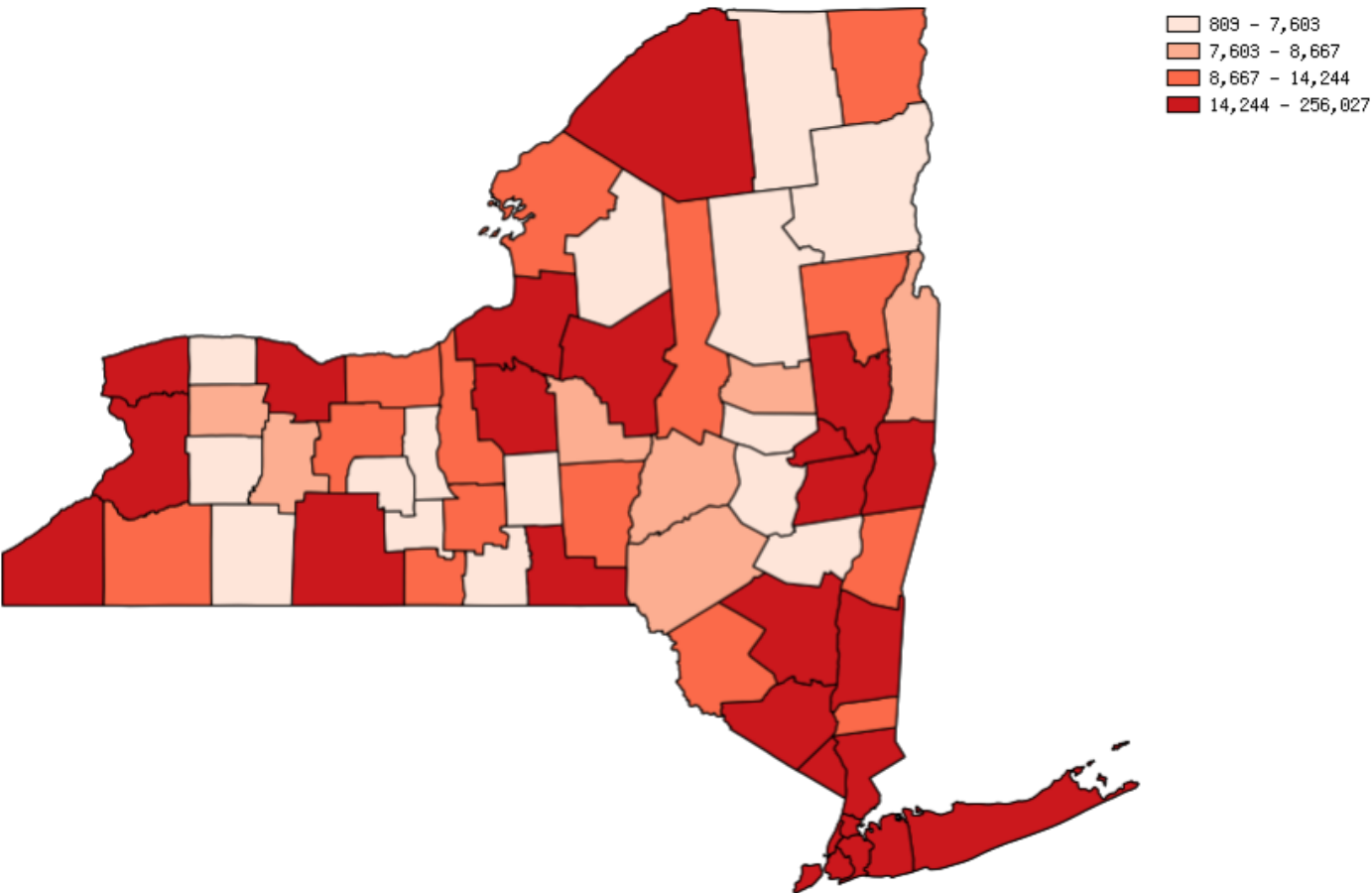
Prevalence of People with and without Disabilities for New York, by County: 2015

County	Total	Disability		No Disability	
		Count	%	Count	%
New York	19,427,310	2,159,439	11.1	17,267,871	88.9
Albany	303,811	34,159	11.2	269,652	88.8
Allegany	47,597	7,257	15.2	40,340	84.8
Bronx	1,406,091	190,871	13.6	1,215,220	86.4
Broome	195,125	28,132	14.4	166,993	85.6
Cattaraugus	78,228	11,803	15.1	66,425	84.9
Cayuga	75,997	10,532	13.9	65,465	86.1
Chautauqua	130,012	19,771	15.2	110,241	84.8
Chemung	83,978	11,374	13.5	72,604	86.5
Chenango	48,980	8,673	17.7	40,307	82.3
Clinton	77,192	11,570	15.0	65,622	85.0
Columbia	60,471	9,470	15.7	51,001	84.3
Cortland	48,573	6,288	12.9	42,285	87.1
Delaware	46,366	7,708	16.6	38,658	83.4
Dutchess	289,320	37,945	13.1	251,375	86.9
Erie	909,999	119,315	13.1	790,684	86.9
Essex	36,689	5,891	16.1	30,798	83.9
Franklin	46,449	6,772	14.6	39,677	85.4
Fulton	53,767	8,667	16.1	45,100	83.9
Genesee	58,923	7,919	13.4	51,004	86.6
Greene	45,396	7,144	15.7	38,252	84.3
Hamilton	4,736	809	17.1	3,927	82.9
Herkimer	63,372	8,782	13.9	54,590	86.1
Jefferson	106,421	14,244	13.4	92,177	86.6
Kings	2,585,048	256,027	9.9	2,329,021	90.1
Lewis	26,772	3,757	14.0	23,015	86.0

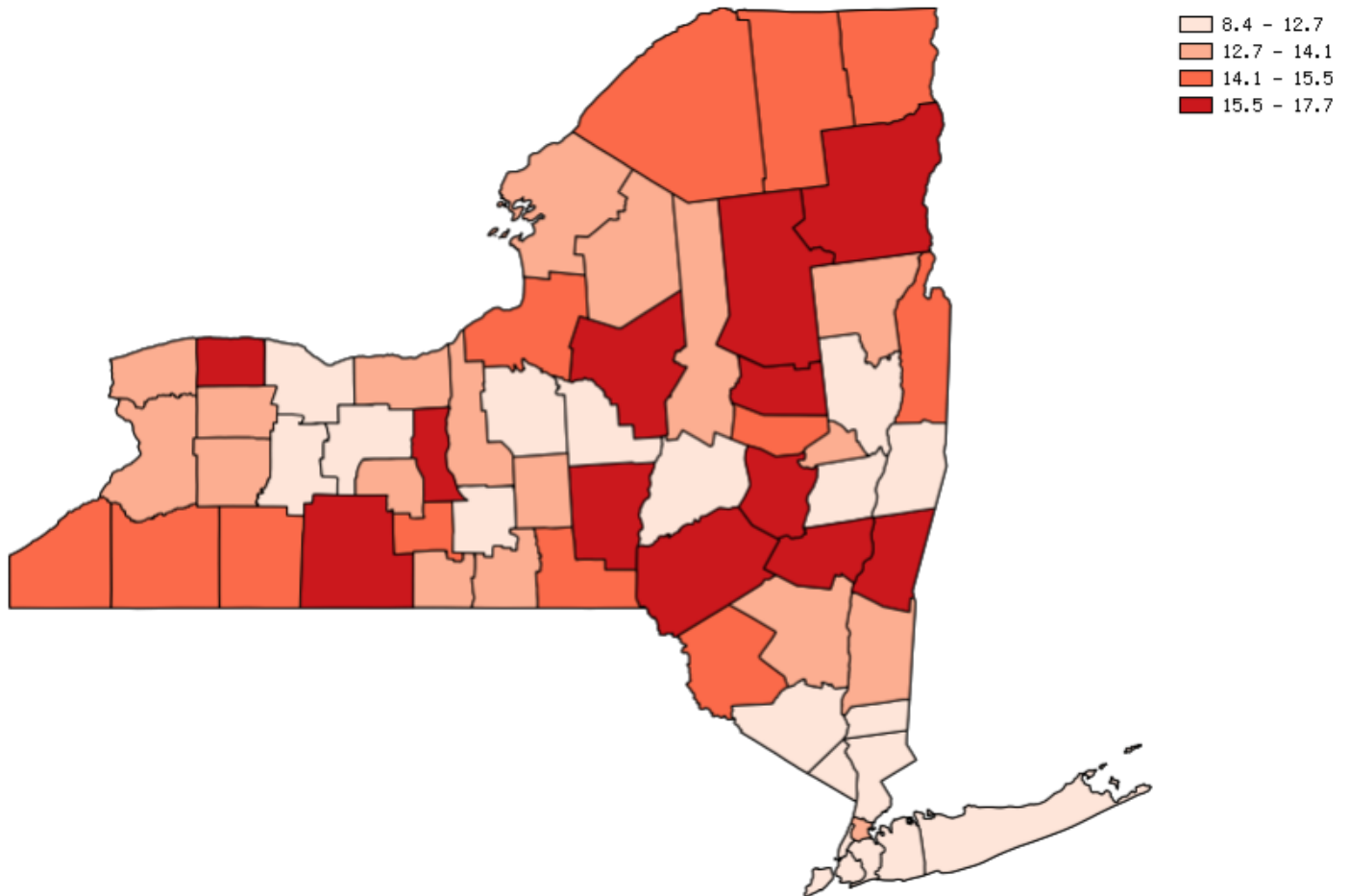
County	Total	Disability		No Disability	
		Count	%	Count	%
Livingston	62,337	7,932	12.7	54,405	87.3
Madison	71,788	8,161	11.4	63,627	88.6
Monroe	742,169	93,814	12.6	648,355	87.4
Montgomery	49,025	7,603	15.5	41,422	84.5
Nassau	1,344,466	113,159	8.4	1,231,307	91.6
New York	1,618,623	159,003	9.8	1,459,620	90.2
Niagara	212,045	28,458	13.4	183,587	86.6
Oneida	225,782	35,211	15.6	190,571	84.4
Onondaga	463,030	55,925	12.1	407,105	87.9
Ontario	108,183	12,895	11.9	95,288	88.1
Orange	365,674	43,513	11.9	322,161	88.1
Orleans	39,378	6,734	17.1	32,644	82.9
Oswego	120,399	17,448	14.5	102,951	85.5
Otsego	60,741	7,739	12.7	53,002	87.3
Putnam	98,830	10,131	10.3	88,699	89.7
Queens	2,286,325	216,809	9.5	2,069,516	90.5
Rensselaer	158,130	19,778	12.5	138,352	87.5
Richmond	468,626	46,358	9.9	422,268	90.1
Rockland	318,078	28,633	9.0	289,445	91.0
Saratoga	220,444	24,560	11.1	195,884	88.9
Schenectady	153,072	19,997	13.1	133,075	86.9
Schoharie	31,801	5,021	15.8	26,780	84.2
Schuyler	18,089	2,691	14.9	15,398	85.1
Seneca	32,465	5,139	15.8	27,326	84.2
St. Lawrence	108,388	16,814	15.5	91,574	84.5
Steuben	97,509	15,320	15.7	82,189	84.3

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 New York, by County: 2015



Percentage of People with Disabilities for New York, 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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