

A stylized map of New York State is positioned behind the main title. The map is filled with a green-to-yellow gradient and is set against a background of thin, white, curved lines that create a sense of depth and movement.

New York **Makes Work Pay**

Developing a path to employment for New Yorkers with disabilities

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New York Regional Disability Population Report #1

A Disability Population Overview of the Bronx WIPA Office Area

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MBI-WPD Outreach Brief

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The Medicaid Buy-In for Working People with Disabilities (MBI-WPD) program is an important health insurance option, and ensuring that all New Yorkers with disabilities have knowledge of it is critical to its success. Toward that end, this brief describes the population with disabilities that could be potentially eligible for participation in the MBI-WPD. The analysis provided is configured regionally by the counties in each of the seven primary Work Incentive Planning and Assistance (WIPA) regions established by the Social Security Administration.

About the Bronx WIPA Office Area

There are approximately 852,800 persons ages 16-64 living in the Bronx. Of this population, approximately 14.9% or 126,800 have a disability. The Bronx accounts for approximately 9.4% of the total New York state disability population ages 16-64.

The American Community Survey

The data used to identify this group were taken from the American Community Survey (ACS), an ongoing annual Census Bureau survey designed to collect the same information as the Decennial Census long form on an annual basis. The ACS provides the most accurate, up to date data about America’s communities for community leaders and policy makers.

In the ACS, disability is defined as “a long-lasting physical, mental, or emotional condition. This condition can make it difficult for a person to do activities such as walking, climbing stairs, dressing, bathing, learning, or remembering (*question asked of persons ages 5 years old and older*). This condition can also impede a person from being able to go outside the home alone or to work at a job or business (*question asked of persons ages 15 years old and older*).” The ACS asks questions to differentiate between six types of disability. Of persons with a disability, 58.8% (74,600) report more than one of disability type.

The Bronx Population with Disabilities, Ages 16-64 (ACS 2005-2007)			
Type	Definition (Question asked on ACS to Determine Disability)	% of area pop.	# of people
Sensory Disability	“Does this person have any of the following long-lasting conditions (a) blindness, deafness, or a severe vision or hearing impairment...”	3.2%	26,900
Physical Disability	“Does this person have any of the following long-lasting conditions (b) a condition that substantially limits one or more basic physical activities, such as walking, climbing stairs, reaching, lifting, or carrying”.	9.0%	77,000
Mental Disability	“Because of a physical, mental, or emotional condition lasting 6 months or more, does this person have any difficulty in doing any of the following activities: (a) learning, remembering, or concentrating ...”	6.0%	51,400
Self-Care Disability	“Because of a physical, mental, or emotional condition lasting 6 months or more, does this person have any difficulty in doing any of the following activities: (b) dressing, bathing, or getting around inside the home...”	2.6%	22,500
Go-Outside Home disability	“Because of a physical, mental, or emotional condition lasting 6 months or more, does this person have any difficulty in doing any of the following activities: (a.) Going outside the home alone to shop or visit a doctor’s office?”	4.4%	37,600
Employment Disability	“Because of a physical, mental, or emotional condition lasting 6 months or more, does this person have any difficulty in doing any of the following activities: (b.) Working at a job or business?”	8.4%	71,300

Identifying the Potential Eligible MBI-WPD

This brief focuses on the population with a disability who may be eligible for the Medicaid Buy-In Working Persons with a Disability (MBI-WPD) program. We determined this using the information available in the US Census Bureau's American Population Survey (ACS 2005-2007). The MBI-WPD population is limited to the following: persons ages 16-64 with a disability who are U.S. citizens, are not SSI beneficiaries, and live in households at 250% or less of the poverty level.

Of the 126,800 persons ages 16-64 with a disability living in the Bronx:

- 85.3% are US citizens
- 71.1% do not receive SSI
- 73.7% live at 250% of poverty level or less

Altogether, 38.4% of persons ages 16-64 with disabilities living in the Bronx (about 48,700 people) fulfill all three criteria above.

The 48,700 potential MBI-WPD account for 10.3% of New York State's total potential MBI-WPD population.

Characteristics of the potential Medicaid Buy-In population with disabilities

The following are the characteristics of the potential Medicaid Buy-In population identified above. Note that as 55.9% (27,200) reported more than one disability type, the total will add up to more than 100%.

Disability Type	Percent	Number
Sensory	20.3	9,900
Physical	61.8	30,100
Mental	38.6	18,800
Self-care	14.6	7,100
Go-outside-home	26.7	13,000
Employment Disability	51.7	25,200

Gender	Percent	Number
Women	57.7	28,100
Men	42.3	20,600

Age category	Percent	Number
16-20	9.0	4,400
21-35	17.7	8,600
36-50	35.1	17,100
51-64	38.4	18,700

Minority (non-white and/or of Hispanic/Latino origin)

Of the potential MBI-WPD population living in the Bronx, 90.3% (44,000) are minorities. This accounts for about 21.9% of the total New York state potential MBI-WPD minority population.

Race category	Percent	Number
White	23.2	11,300
Black/African American	33.1	16,100
Native American	1.8	900
Asian	2.5	1,200
Other race(s)	39.4	19,200

Minority (non-white and/or of Hispanic/Latino origin) (continued)

Hispanic/Latino origin	Percent	Number
Hispanic	56.1	27,300
Non-Hispanic	43.9	21,400

Language Spoken at Home	Percent	Number
English	44.8	21,800
Spanish	49.7	24,200
Some other language	5.7	2,800

Educational Attainment	Percent	Number
Less than High School	44.1	21,500
High School/GED	27.3	13,300
Some college or Associates degree	22.2	10,800
BA/BS degree or higher	6.4	3,100

Employment Status	Percent	Number
Employed	24.8	12,100
Full Time (35+ hrs/week)	68.6	8,300
Part Time	32.2	3,900
Self Employed (part time or full time)	2.5	300
Not Employed	75.2	36,600
Looking for work	11.2	4,100
Not looking for work	88.5	32,400

When last worked	Percent	Number
Currently working	24.8	12,100
Worked in past year	10.5	5,100
1-5 years ago	19.9	9,700
5 or more years ago or never worked	44.8	21,800

The New York Makes Work Pay Initiative is a Comprehensive Employment Services Medicaid Infrastructure Grant funded by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) to the New York State Office of Mental Health (OMH) and its management partners the Blatt Institute at Syracuse University and the Employment and Disability Institute (EDI) at Cornell University. The New York Makes Work Pay Initiative is currently funded for calendar years 2009 and 2010 and will provide an array of services to individuals with disabilities and the agencies and advocates that serve them, helping to remove obstacles to work and pave the way to self-supporting employment. To learn more about the New York Makes Work Pay Initiative go to www.NYMAKESWORKPAY.ORG.

www.NYMakesWorkPay.org

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Partnering Organizations

New York State Office Of Mental Health
Employment and Disability Institute (Cornell University)
Burton Blatt Institute (Syracuse University)

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