

A stylized map of New York State is positioned behind the main title. The map is filled with a gradient of green, matching the overall theme of the document. The background of the top section features a pattern 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 #6

## **A Disability Population Overview of the New York & Richmond WIPA Office Area**

William Erickson, MS  
Employment and Disability Institute

Thomas Golden, MS, CRC  
Employment and Disability Institute

Edwin J. Lopez-Soto, J.D.  
Employment and Disability Institute

## MBI-WPD Outreach Brief

### A Disability Population Overview of the New York & Richmond WIPA Office Area

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 New York & Richmond WIPA Office Area

There are approximately 1,425,800 persons ages 16-64 living in New York & Richmond counties. Of this population, approximately 9.5% or 136,000 have a disability. The New York & Richmond accounts for approximately 10.1% 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 (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, 57.9% (78,700) report more than one of disability type.

<b>New York &amp; Richmond Population with Disabilities, Ages 16-64 (ACS 2005-2007)</b>			
<b>Type</b>	<b>Definition (Question asked on ACS to Determine Disability)</b>	<b>% of area pop.</b>	<b># of people</b>
Sensory Disability	"Does this person have any of the following long-lasting conditions (a) blindness, deafness, or a severe vision or hearing impairment..."	1.8%	26,200
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".	5.6%	80,000
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 ..."	3.4%	48,700
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..."	1.6%	22,900
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?"	2.5%	36,300
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?"	5.6%	80,500

## Identifying the Potential Eligible MDI-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. Using the information available in the 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 136,000 persons ages 16-64 with a disability living in New York & Richmond counties:

- 86.3% are US citizens
- 75.7% do not receive SSI
- 60.7% live at 250% of poverty level or less

Altogether, 32.5% of persons ages 16-64 with disabilities living in New York & Richmond (about 44,200 people) fulfill all three criteria above.

The 44,200 potential MBI-WPD account for 9.4% 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 58.1% (25,700) reported more than one disability type, the total will add up to more than 100%.

Disability Type	Percent	Number
Sensory	16.7	7,400
Physical	60.4	26,700
Mental	37.6	16,600
Self-care	17.4	7,700
Go-outside-home	26.5	11,700
Employment Disability	58.6	25,900

Gender	Percent	Number
Women	56.1	24,800
Men	43.9	19,400

Age category	Percent	Number
16-20	6.3	2,800
21-35	15.8	7,000
36-50	33.5	14,800
51-64	44.6	19,700

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

Of the potential MBI-WPD population living in New York & Richmond, 71.0% (31,400) are minorities. This accounts for about 15.6% of the total New York state potential MBI-WPD minority population.

Race category	Percent	Number
White	41.0	18,100
Black/African American	27.4	12,100
Native American	1.4	600
Asian	4.3	1,900
Other race(s)	26.0	11,500

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

Hispanic/Latino origin	Percent	Number
Hispanic	38.9	17,200
Non-Hispanic	61.3	27,100

Language Spoken at Home	Percent	Number
English	55.9	24,700
Spanish	34.4	15,200
Some other language	9.7	4,300

Educational Attainment	Percent	Number
Less than High School	31.4	13,900
High School/GED	27.4	12,100
Some college or Associates degree	24.7	10,900
BA/BS degree or higher	16.5	7,300

Employment Status	Percent	Number
Employed	24.7	10,900
Full Time (35+ hrs/week)	64.2	7,000
Part Time	36.7	4,000
Self Employed (part time or full time)	2.8	300
Not Employed	75.3	33,300
Looking for work	13.5	4,500
Not looking for work	86.5	28,800

When last worked:	Percent	Number
Currently working	24.7	10,900
Worked in past year	12.4	5,500
1-5 years ago	19.7	8,700
5 or more years ago or never worked	43.0	19,000

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#### **Contact Information**

Employment and Disability Institute  
ILR School / Cornell University  
201 Dolgen Hall  
Ithaca, New York 14853-3901  
607.255.7727 (voice)  
607.255.2891 (tty)  
607.255.2763 (fax)  
ilr\_edi@cornell.edu  
www.edi.cornell.edu

#### **Partnering Organizations**

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

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