



## Intellectual/Developmental Disability (IDD) Fact Sheet

**Developmental Disability Definition:** includes intellectual and other disabilities present in childhood. Developmental disabilities are severe, chronic disabilities that can be cognitive, physical, or both. These disabilities appear before age 22, and are likely to be lifelong. Some developmental disabilities are characterized by largely physical issues such as cerebral palsy or epilepsy. Other disabilities may include both physical and cognitive issues, such as Down syndrome.

**Intellectual Disability Definition:** occurs when a person has certain limitations in mental functioning and in skills such as communicating, taking care of him or herself and social skills. This disability originates before the age of 18. It is the most common developmental disability.

Because intellectual and other developmental disabilities often co-occur, intellectual disability professionals often work with people who have both types of disabilities.

Empower is a social service agency that helps individuals with intellectual/developmental disabilities and their families. To learn more, please contact us at (716) 297-0798 or visit our website at [www.empower-wny.org](http://www.empower-wny.org).

**7 to 8 million Americans** have an I/DD (up to 3% of the general US population)

- **75%** are supported by families;
- **25%** receive services through publicly funded programs such as Medicaid or Medicare;
  - This group is rapidly growing due to such factors as longevity and greater availability of non-institutionalized supports and services
  - Services include housing, employment, service coordination, education and healthcare

**30 million Americans** are directly affected by an individual with intellectual or developmental disability

**198,590** New Yorkers with IDD and their families receive support services, costing **\$10.1 billion**.

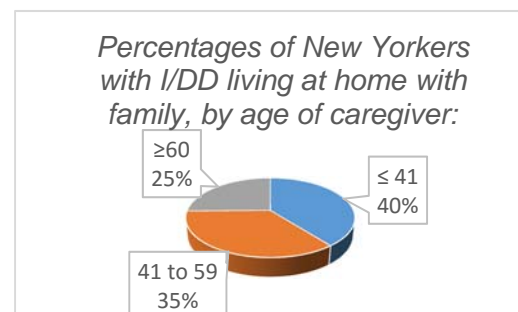
**Medicaid service coordination:** helps individuals with I/DD and their families identify and obtain services that support their needs and preferences.

### Housing:

In 2013, **two thirds** of individuals with I/DD lived at home with family: **22%** lived in a supervised residential setting and **14%** lived alone or with a roommate.

Each Year, 100 individuals with I/DD receive community housing services through Empower. Supports are customized to individuals' needs and wishes, including education in skills to live

independently, respite, and 24/7 assistance in a group home.

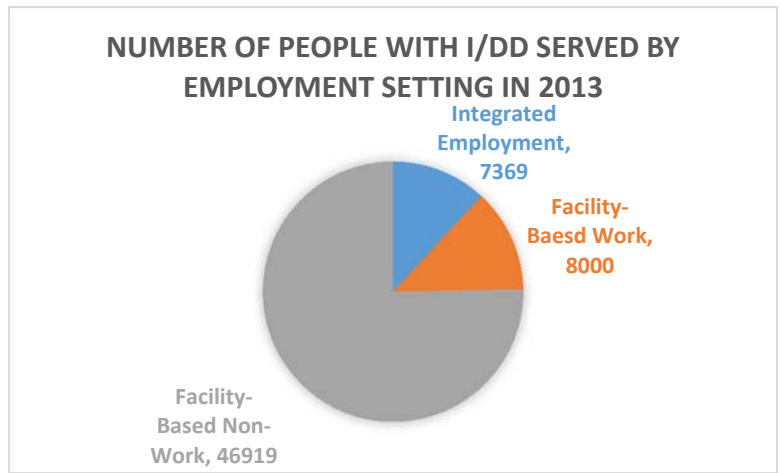
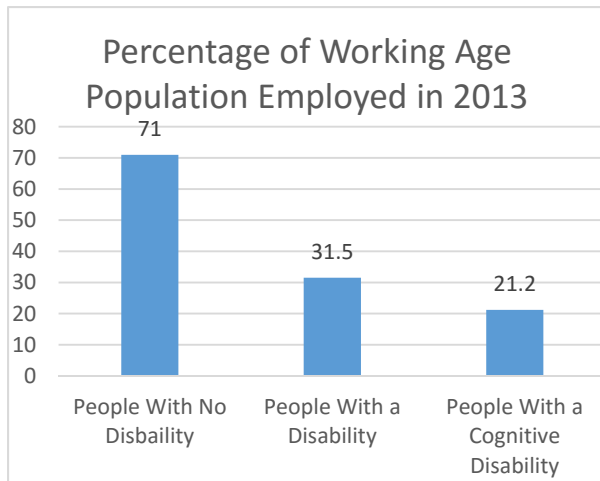




### Job Training and Day Programs:

The percentage of working age persons with a cognitive disability who are employed is less than one third that of those without a disability.

Agencies such as Empower that provide job and day programs for individuals with I/DD now are required to transition to more integrated sites, while still meeting the needs and abilities of all individuals served, including those for whom work is not possible or desired.



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