NEW YORK ASSOCIATION ON INDEPENDENT LIVING

NYAIL Housing Education

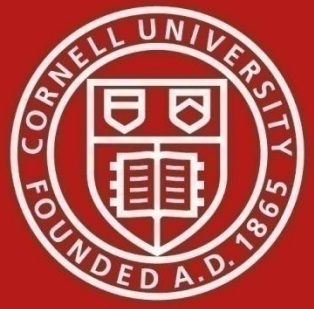
Statistics on Disability: What's Out There?

December 7, 2011

Presenter: William Erickson, MS

Housing Education Project

- This webinar is sponsored by **NYAIL's Housing Education Project**, funded by the New York State Department of Health with federal Money Follows the Person funding.
- The Housing Education project promotes the availability of affordable, accessible, and integrated housing options for people with disabilities and older adults across New York State.
- The project provides training and technical assistance to increase public and stakeholder knowledge of housing programs, policies and resources, and to foster systemic change locally and statewide.



Cornell University
ILR School
Employment and Disability Institute

Statistics on Disability: What's Out There?

Presenter:
Bill Erickson

Cornell Employment and Disability Institute (EDI)

Dec 7, 2011 ***NY State Association on Independent Living***

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Why Disability Statistics?

- Statistics are valuable in many ways:
  - Identify needs
  - Provide support for services & proposals
  - Identify patterns and associations

However, finding, using, and documenting relevant disability statistics can be challenging

Objectives

- Strengths and limitations of different sources/resources
- Important considerations when presenting and exploring disability statistics
- Demonstrate how to access online disability statistical resources

Data Source Types:

- Administrative data (eg SSA, VR)
  - Includes only program participants
  - Not representative of overall population
  - Limited utility outside of program
- Survey data
  - Based on a sample of a population
  - Primary source of “population-based” statistics.

National Level Survey Data: Strengths and Limitations

- Samples are designed to be representative of the population and estimates statistically “weighted”.
- Sample size can be an issue.
- Survey data is based on self-reports and personal interpretation of the questions.
- Sometimes proxy responses are used.
- Over time the wording of questions may change or survey instrument redesigned.

Survey Data Source Examples:

- American Community Survey (ACS)
- Current Population Survey (CPS)
- Survey of Program Participation (SIPP)
- Behavioral Risk Factors Surveillance System (BRFSS)

Question:
How many people in the US have a disability?

- 54.4 Million
- 36.1 Million
- 15.2 Million
- 40.8 Million

How many people in the US have a disability?

- 54.4 Million: 2005 SIPP
- 36.4 Million: 2010 ACS
- 15.2 Million: 2010 CPS
  - work limitation disability, ages 18-64
- 40.8 Million: 2006 BRFSS
  - Ages 18 & older

Answer: All of the above . . .

There is no single accepted definition of disability

Different surveys may use:

- Different sampling strategies
- Different data collection methods
- Different populations
- Different disability questions

All of the above can result in different estimates!

Which data source should I use?

- Depends on the question you are trying to address:
  - Overall disability or specific type(s)
  - Population of interest: children, working age
  - Topic: prevalence, employment, wages, etc.
  - Time frame: most recent, longitudinal
  - Geographic level: local, state, national?

Consider the Question!!

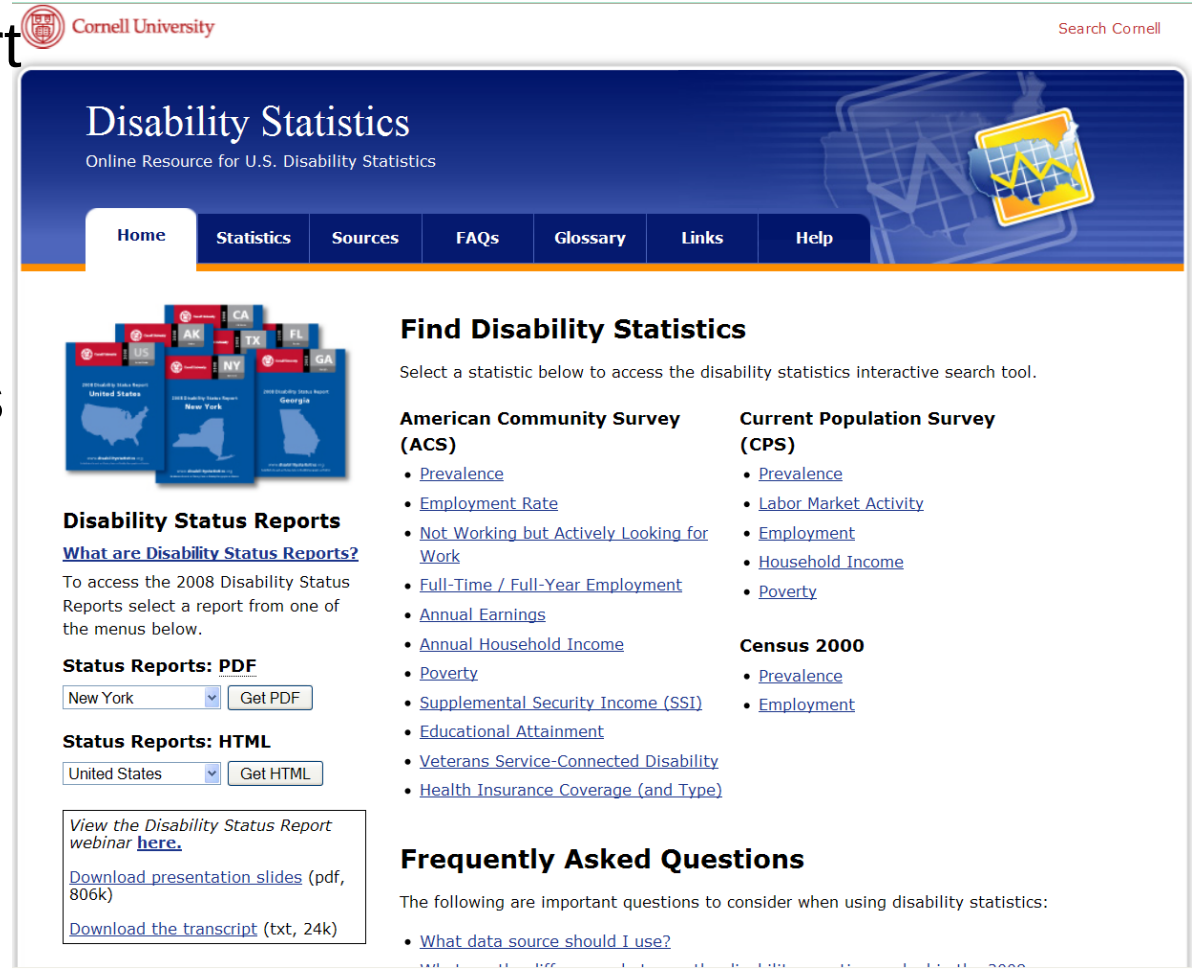
- Disability labels can be misleading.
- Whenever possible, carefully read the actual survey question used.
- How might a respondent interpret the question?
- Does it identify the specific population you are interested in?

American Community Survey (ACS)

- Replaces Decennial Census Long Form
- Annual survey
- National, state (including PR), local level data
- Variety of other topics available w/disability
- Six disability types:
  - Vision
  - Hearing
  - Cognitive
  - Ambulatory
  - Self-care
  - Independent living

www.DisabilityStatistics.org

- Disability Status Report
- Interactive search tool
- National & state data
- Variety of demographics & topics
- Data:
  - Census 2000
  - American Community Survey (ACS)
  - Current Population Survey (CPS)

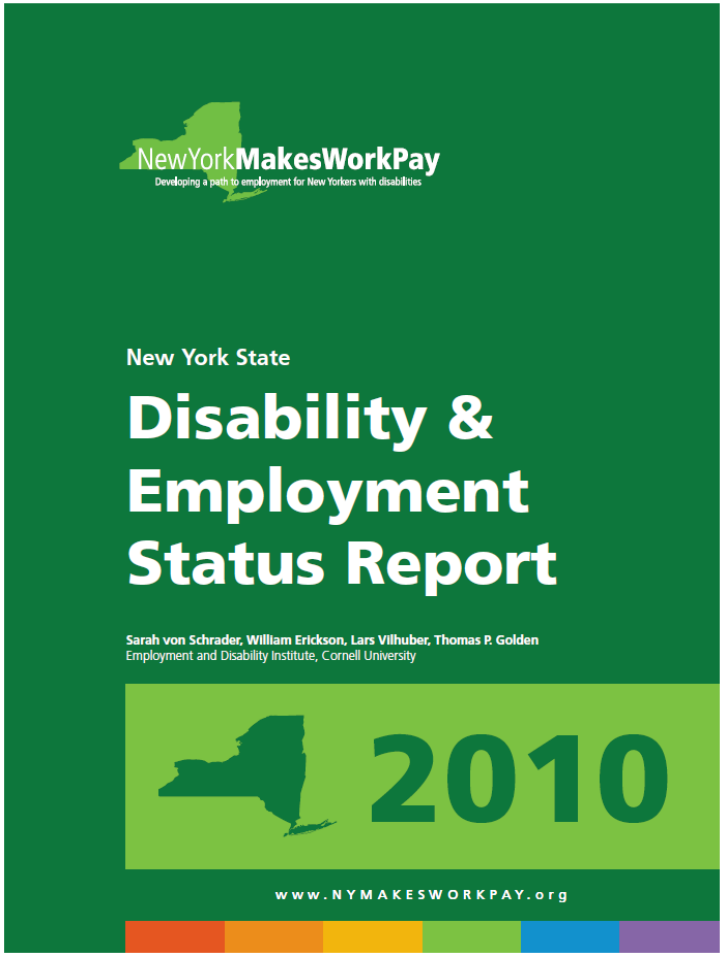


2010* New York State Disability and Employment Status Report

http://www.nymakesworkpay.org/policy/index.cfm

- Detailed NYS narrative
- Disability prevalence
- Employment disparities
- Economic environment
- Program utilization
- Financial disparities

*Updated report to be released early 2012

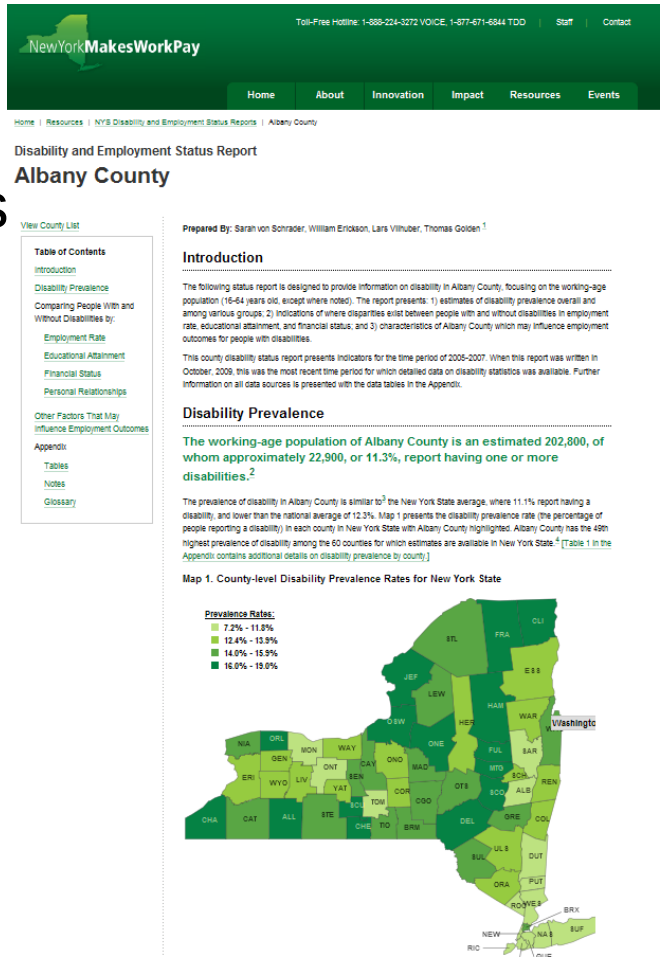


NY County Level Disability and Employment Status Report

http://www.nymakesworkpay.org/status-reports/index.cfm

- Individual NYS county level reports
- Based on 2005-07 ACS data
- Working age population
- Disability demographics
- Employment disparities
- Economic environment

* Updated in early 2012

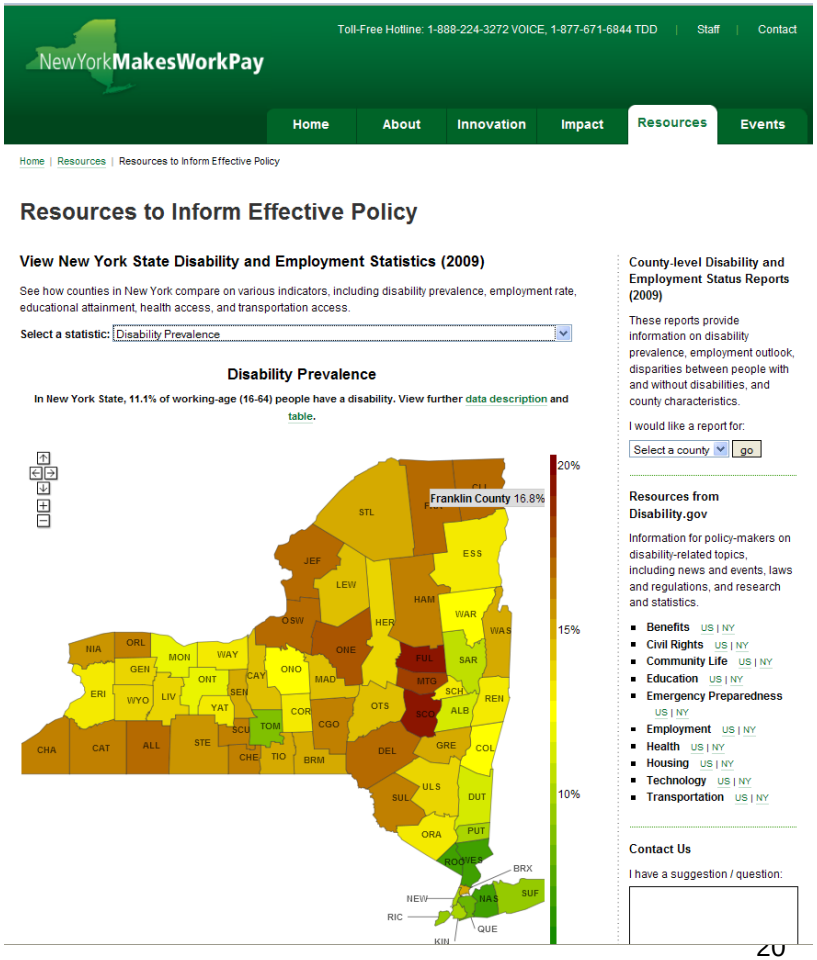


NY County Disability Data Maps:

http://www.nymakesworkpay.org/policy/stats_2009.cfm

- County level data maps
- Based on 2005-07 ACS data*
- Prevalence
- Employment
- Poverty
- Health care availability
- Benefits
- Education
- Commuting

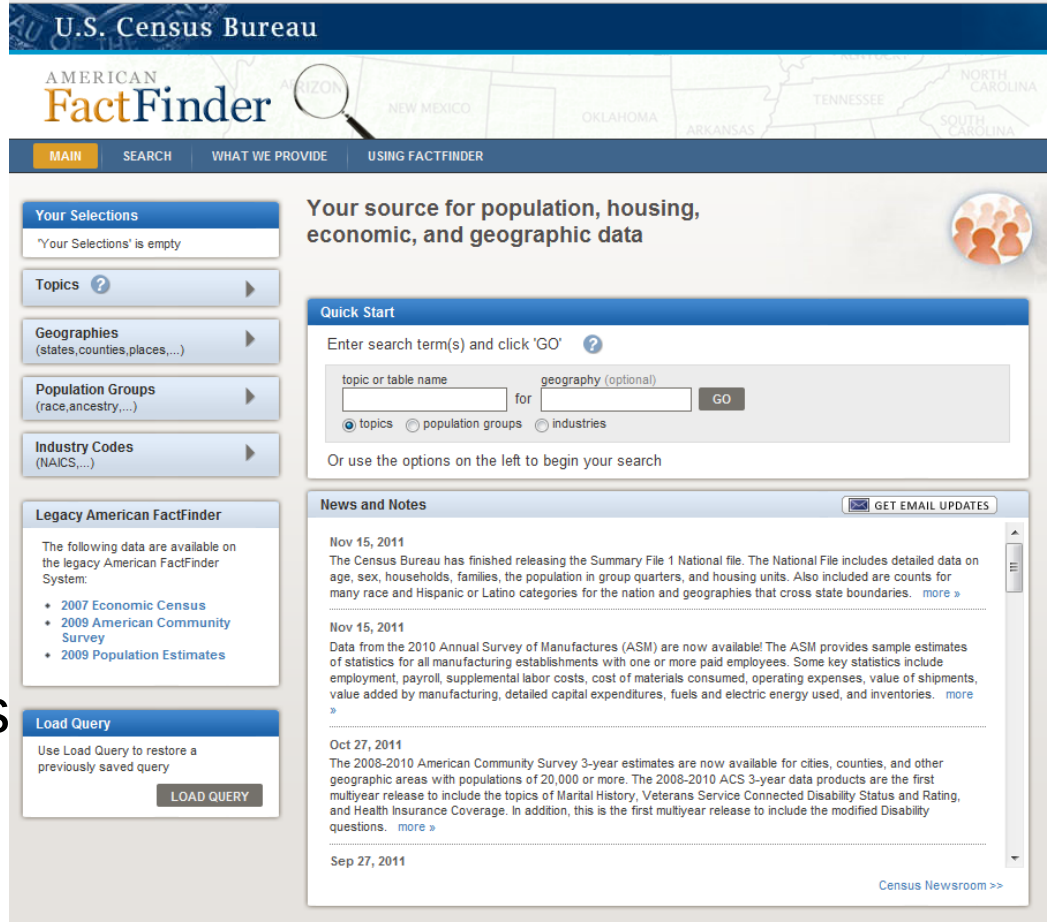
*Updated in winter of 2012



U.S. Census Bureau American Factfinder

http://factfinder2.census.gov/

- ACS data
- National, state & local level
  - 1 year estimates:
    - Population 65,000
  - 3 year estimates (2008-2010)
    - Population 20,000
  - 5 year estimates (2008-2012)
    - Available for all areas in 2013
- Summary tables
  - Disability Characteristics
  - Economic Characteristics
- Detailed tables



Other useful resources

- Household and individual level data for counties (2005-2007 ACS data)

  http://disabilityplanningdata.com/

- State Level data

  http://statedata.info

Includes program data for RSA, SSA, MH, MR/DD

- Annual Disability Statistics Compendium

  http://disabilitycompendium.org/

  Compendium of disability tables from a variety of survey and administrative data sources

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Current Population Survey (CPS)

- Bureau of Labor Statistics
- Economic focus: employment, government programs, and economic well-being
- National and state level data
- Time trends
- Work Limitation disability (since 1981)
- 6 ACS disability questions (since Oct. 2008)
- Monthly disability employment figures

Current Population Survey (CPS)
Data Resources:

Bureau of Labor Statistics

http://www.bls.gov/cps/cpsdisability.htm

National monthly labor force statistics (October 2008 onward using the 6 ACS disability questions)

Work limitation disability

www.DisabilityStatistics.org

Time trends (1981-2009) employment, poverty etc.

Behavioral Risk Factors Surveillance System (BRFSS)

- National & state level data (includes US VI)
- CDC Annual Survey
- Health and behavior focused
- 2009 most recent estimate
- Two very broad disability questions
- Includes some specific conditions:
  - diabetes, arthritis, asthma
- Data access:
  - http://apps.nccd.cdc.gov/BRFSS/

Survey of Income and Program Participation (SIPP)

- Information about the income and program participation of individuals and households
- National and regional level data
- Extensive set of disability questions
  - "kitchen sink" definition
- Disability severity measures
- 2005 most recent survey
- Relatively small sample

Americans with Disabilities: 2005 US Census Bureau Report (SIPP)

http://www.census.gov/prod/2008pubs/p70-117.pdf

- National Level estimates
- Based on 2005 SIPP data
- Comprehensive disability measures
- Prevalence rates: adults &children
- Severity
- ADLs, IADLs
- Number requiring assistance
- Selected disabling conditions
- Employment

Americans With Disabilities: 2005

Household Economic Studies

Issued December 2008

P70-117

Current Population Reports

By Matthew W. Brault

Recent public policy in the United States concerning disability has focused on improving the socioeconomic conditions for people with disabilities. Increasing access to employment opportunities by reducing discrimination and providing public services are the centerpieces of the New Freedom Initiative, which renewed the government's commitment to the Americans With Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA).[1] For years, the ADA has mandated that people with disabilities be afforded legal protections and provided with essential public services. In addition to these provisions, the ADA provides a definition for people with disabilities, in part, as those who have "a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities."[2] Other federal laws that offer guidance on issues affecting people with disabilities include the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Individuals With Disabilities Education Act, the Fair Housing Amendments Act of 1988, and the Telecommunications Act of 1996.[3]

In order to assist governmental agencies and advocacy and research organizations that monitor the efficacy of these laws, programs, and policies, as well as the public at large, this report provides estimates of the socioeconomic characteristics of people with disabilities. In addition, since many of the programs and policies target specific groups, this report provides estimates for different categories of disability—from specific activity limitations to the broad category of "with a disability." This report is an update of *Americans With Disabilities: 2002*, which presented similar estimates of disability.[4] As such, this report includes some comparisons of prevalence estimates between the two reports.

The Survey of Income and Program Participation (SIPP), through its supplemental questionnaires on adult and child functional limitations, asks questions about the ability of respondents to perform functional and participatory activities. When a respondent indicates having difficulty performing an activity, a follow-up question is usually asked to determine the severity of the limitation. The responses to these and other related questions are used to develop two overall measures of disability—severe disability and nonsevere disability—described in Figure 1. Throughout this report, these terms will be used to allow analysis of subsets of people with disabilities.

The estimates shown in this report use data collected from June through September 2005 during the fifth interview of the 2004 SIPP panel. The SIPP provides estimates representative of the civilian noninstitutionalized population living in the United States (the population

[1] *Community-Based Alternatives for Individuals With Disabilities*, Exec. Order No. 13217, June 18, 2001.

[2] Americans With Disabilities Act of 1990, 42 U.S.C. §12102(2)(A).

[3] *A Guide to Disability Rights Laws: September 2005*, available at <www.usdoj.gov/crt/ada/cguide.htm>, describes the federal laws that specifically address the interests of people with disabilities.

[4] Erika Steinmetz, *Americans With Disabilities: 2002*, Current Population Reports, P70-107, U.S. Census Bureau, Washington, DC. 2006. See <www.census.gov/prod/2006pubs/p70-107.pdf>.

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Summary: Data sources

ACS:

Current national, state local level data,

6 disability types

CPS:

Time trends, monthly employment figures

SIPP:

Detailed disability types (national level only)

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