

A Look at DISABILITY in West Virginia

West Virginia has the **HIGHEST RATE** of people with disabilities **IN THE NATION**

1 THAT'S **IN 4**

Among those who have disabilities... Over **HALF** have an ambulatory disability.

AGING POPULATION

2 out of 5 West Virginians 65+ have a disability
4th highest rate of seniors in the country



POVERTY
71.5%
unemployed

32.2% of working-aged West Virginians (18-64 year olds) with disabilities **live in poverty***



Adults with

Disabilities in WV



Have had **Arthritis** **33.6%**

Currently have **Diabetes** **16.3%**



Are **Obese** **44.6%**

Currently **Smoke** **42.7%**



Have had **High blood pressure** **48.9%**

MENTAL & EMOTIONAL HEALTH **49.6%**
Have had Depression

*Poverty - "The U.S. Office of Management and Budget in Statistical Policy Directive 14 sets the standards for which poverty is calculated. The U.S. Census Bureau uses a set of dollar value thresholds that vary by family size and composition to determine who is in poverty." 2018 Annual Disability Statistics Compendium

National Center on Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. West Virginia Health Topics by Disability Status State Profile. <https://dhds.cdc.gov/profiles/profile?profileId=24&geoTypeId=1&geoIds=54>. Disability and Health Data System dhds.cdc.gov.

What is CED doing to improve the lives of people with disabilities?

The WVU Center for Excellence in Disabilities (CED) has a variety of program offerings to help individuals with disabilities be as independent as possible in their own communities. Most programs work with individuals outside of the medical setting to help ensure that they remain as independent as possible and are able to participate fully in their lives.

The CED supports eight programs and four clinical services that work to improve the quality of life for people with disabilities.

Our detailed five-year work plan proposes services and activities that represent four areas of need:

1. Quality health care

Increase percentage of individuals with disabilities who have access to quality health care services.

2. Employment

Increase percentage of individuals with disabilities who are employed in integrative, minimum wage or higher positions.

3. Health and wellness

Improve quality of life and health of individuals with disabilities in West Virginia through targeted programming, training, and research designed to increase autonomy, self-efficacy, and choice and reduce unhealthy risk behaviors and select health concerns.

4. Transitional planning and supports

Support successful transitions for individuals with disabilities who are transitioning from: 1) a home or school/learning setting; 2) a post-secondary to higher education and/or work setting; OR 3) caregivers who are planning to transition their dependents in the later stages of their lives.



West Virginia University
CENTER FOR EXCELLENCE IN DISABILITIES

For more detailed information about disability statistics, visit
www.disabilitycompendium.org

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