



# New York **Makes Work Pay**

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New York Regional Disability Population Report #9

## **A Disability Population Overview of Native Americans in New York**

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# MBI-WPD Outreach Brief

## A Disability Population Overview of Native Americans in New York

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 Native Americans living in N.Y. State

There are approximately 92,600 persons ages 16-64 Native Americans living in N.Y. Of this population, approximately 24.3% or 22,500 have a disability. Native Americans account for approximately 1.7% 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, 68.0% (15,300) report more than one of disability type.

<b>Native American 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...”	4.8%	4,400
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”.	16.7%	15,500
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 ...”	11.0%	10,200
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...”	5.3%	4,900
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?”	6.5%	6,000
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?”	14.9%	13,800

## 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 22,500 Native Americans ages 16-64 with a disability living in New York:

- 93.8% are US citizens
- 78.7% do not receive SSI
- 60.0% live at 250% of poverty level or less

Altogether, 39.6% of Native Americans ages 16-64 with disabilities living in N.Y. (about 8,900 people) fulfill all three criteria above.

The 8,900 potential MBI-WPD account for 1.9% 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 62.9% (5,600) reported more than one disability type, the total will add up to more than 100%.

Disability Type	Percent	Number
Sensory	16.9	1,500
Physical	64.0	5,700
Mental	44.9	4,000
Self-care	15.7	1,400
Go-outside-home	22.5	2,000
Employment Disability	62.9	5,600

Gender	Percent	Number
Women	52.8	4,700
Men	48.3	4,300

Age category	Percent	Number
16-20	6.7	600
21-35	21.3	1,900
36-50	38.2	3,400
51-64	34.8	3,100

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

Native Americans account for about 4.4% of the total New York state potential MBI-WPD minority population.

Race category	Percent	Number
White	.0	
Black/African American	.0	
Native American	100.0	8,900
Asian	.0	
Other race(s)	.0	

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

<b>Hispanic/Latino origin</b>	<b>Percent</b>	<b>Number</b>
Hispanic	14.6	1,300
Non-Hispanic	86.5	7,700

<b>Language Spoken at Home</b>	<b>Percent</b>	<b>Number</b>
English	84.3	7,500
Spanish	10.1	900
Some other language	5.6	500

<b>Educational Attainment</b>	<b>Percent</b>	<b>Number</b>
Less than High School	20.2	1,800
High School/GED	29.2	2,600
Some college or Associates degree	37.1	3,300
BA/BS degree or higher	13.5	1,200

<b>Employment Status</b>	<b>Percent</b>	<b>Number</b>
Employed	27.0	2,400
Full Time (35+ hrs/week)	58.3	1,400
Part Time	41.7	1,000
Self Employed (part time or full time)	.0	
Not Employed	74.2	6,600
Looking for work	13.6	900
Not looking for work	86.4	5,700

<b>When last worked:</b>	<b>Percent</b>	<b>Number</b>
Currently working	27.0	2,400
Worked in past year	14.6	1,300
1-5 years ago	25.8	2,300
5 or more years ago or never worked	34.8	3,100

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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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