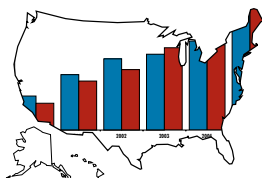


Persons Served in Community Mental Health Programs and Employment

By Frank A. Smith and Samita Bhattarai

State Mental Health Agencies provide a wide range of supports to consumers including rehabilitation services, vocational and pre vocational training, and supported and competitive employment supports. This Data Note explores how states vary in number of individuals served in Community Mental Health Programs, i.e., all services not provided in an inpatient setting, who are employed as well as the percentage of individuals served in Community Mental Health Programs who are employed. "Employed" is defined as competitively employed (full or part-time) at the last assessment available during the reporting year. Looking at the table below, we can see that in 2006 22% of all persons served nationally in a Community Mental Health Program were employed. The number of individuals employed ranged from 401 in Iowa to 82,571 in New Jersey. The percentage employed varied from 8% in California to 48% in Wyoming.

The wide range in number and percentage of individuals employed is not necessarily indicative of success or failure when comparing a state to one or many states. Factors such as the percentage of persons served in Community Mental Health Programs for which employment status is known can affect the final numbers and percentages reported. These variations suggest a need for further research to help policymakers understand the factors responsible for such wide variation and to help determine successful strategies for gaining employment outcomes for persons served in Community Mental Health Programs.



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Table: Total number of individuals served in a Community Mental Health Program (CMHP), individuals in CMHPs who are employed, and the percentage of individuals served who are employed (2006)

State	Total Number of Individuals Served in CMHPs* (A)	Individuals Served in CMHPs Who are Employed (B)	Percentage of Individuals Served Who are Employed (B/A)
AK	1,325	585	44%
AL	73,341	12,110	17%
AR	39,666	11,516	29%
AZ	83,759	31,569	38%
CA	196,058	15,729	8%
CO	39,753	11,925	30%
CT	33,617	8,167	24%
DC	--	--	--
DE	3,962	965	24%
FL	162,206	28,586	18%
GA	85,681	16,241	19%
HI	4,937	1,154	23%
IA	1,387	401	29%
ID	10,550	2,494	24%
IL	117,184	27,240	23%
IN	53,493	12,531	23%
KS	36,399	12,090	33%
KY	85,871	16,479	19%
LA	38,029	4,415	12%
MA	19,518	2,689	14%
MD	38,171	5,524	14%
ME	12,857	1,624	13%
MI	124,490	23,054	19%
MN	42,722	13,592	32%
MO	-1	--	--
MS	51,811	9,160	18%

State	Total Number of Individuals Served in CMHPs* (A)	Individuals Served in CMHPs Who are Employed (B)	Percentage of Individuals Served Who are Employed (B/A)
MT	-1	--	--
NC	163,184	37,322	23%
ND	11,644	4,362	37%
NE	21,123	6,900	33%
NH	11,631	4,942	42%
NJ	257,548	82,571	32%
NM	23,235	5,859	25%
NV	14,735	3,432	23%
NY	345,677	77,116	22%
OH	94,859	22,227	23%
OK	34,122	6,438	19%
OR	34,556	5,876	17%
PA	55,315	4,416	8%
RI	17,071	3,937	23%
SC	52,921	9,119	17%
SD	-1	--	--
TN	7,911	1,518	19%
TX	134,560	22,651	17%
UT	25,428	6,724	26%
VA	72,733	17,065	23%
VT	11,194	3,701	33%
WA	65,009	7,028	11%
WI	14,069	3,949	28%
WV	34,321	6,222	18%
WY	11,481	5,457	48%
US Total	2,871,110	618,668	22%

*This column includes only persons for whom employment status was known at the time of data collection.

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