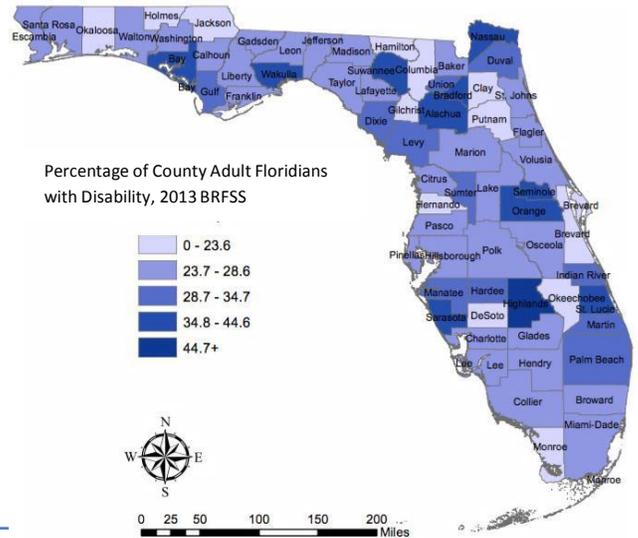


# Health Status and Healthcare Access for People with Disabilities in Florida

In this brief we capture and track the involvement of Floridians living with disabilities in local and statewide health promotion, wellness, disease prevention, and disaster preparedness activities. We describe demographic characteristics, quality of life, health behaviors, access to health care, chronic illness, and disease management in Florida adult residents with and without disabilities using data from the 2013 Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) and the Florida Medicaid Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and Systems (CAHPS).



## Demographics BRFSS 2013

Persons with Disabilities (PWD) are more likely to be older, have been married, less educated, and either have lower household incomes or be unable to work as compared to persons without disabilities (PWoD).

- 30% were over 65 years old at the time of disability diagnosis
- 20.5% of PWD did not graduate high school, compared to 13.1% of PWoD
- 26.2% of PWD are unable to work, compared to 0.9% of PWoD
- 25.3% of PWD make less than \$15,000/year, compared to 11% of PWoD

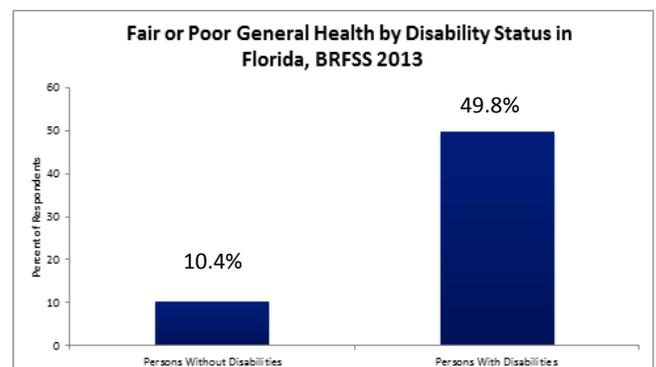
## General Health BRFSS 2013

PWD rate their general health as fair to poor almost five times more often than PWoD. PWD are more likely to have longer durations of poor physical and mental health than PWoD, and their negative health status prevents them from performing usual activities far more than PWoD.

## Healthcare Access and Utilization BRFSS 2013

Almost 30% of respondents reported having no health insurance, and one-fifth of all respondents reported having no type of health coverage whatsoever, regardless of disability status. Cost is a significant barrier to care for over a third of respondents, and nearly a quarter of respondents with disabilities reported experiencing additional non-cost related barriers to healthcare.

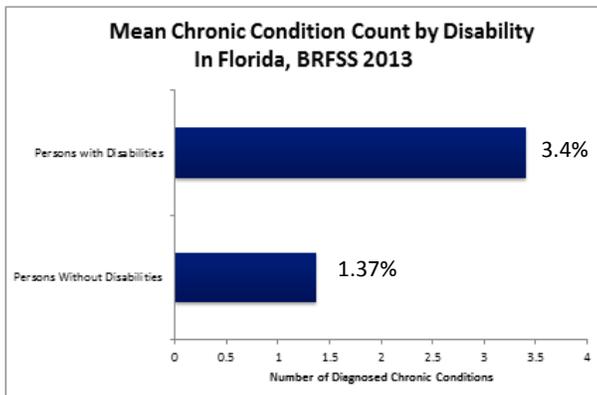
- 19% of PWD have more than one care provider compared to 9.2% of PWoD
- 30.6% of PWD report cost as a barrier to care, compared to 17.8% of PWoD



## Chronic Conditions BRFSS 2013

PWD have more chronic conditions, on average, than PwOD, and have significantly limited activities as a result.

- PWD have 2.5 times more chronic condition diagnoses than PwOD
- 14.1% of PWD have had a heart attack, compared to 3.2% of PwOD
- 76.9% of PWD have been limited in activity due to joint symptoms, compared to 29.7% of PwOD



## Health Behaviors and Preventative Health BRFSS 2013

Health behaviors do not vary greatly by disability status, though PWD show slightly higher utilization of preventative health measures (vaccinations and screenings). Additionally, on average PWD drink significantly less than PwOD.

## Diabetes and Diabetic Health BRFSS 2013

PWD reported higher rates of diabetes diagnosis than PwOD. PWD also report higher utilization of diabetes-related healthcare, but there is no significant difference in utilization of diabetes management courses between PWD and PwOD.

## Cardiovascular Disease Risk BRFSS 2013

PWD reported increased diagnoses of high blood pressure and high blood cholesterol compared to PwOD.

- 56.5% of PWD have high blood pressure, compared to 29.1% of PwOD

## Medicaid Beneficiary Characteristics CAHPS 2013

Medicaid beneficiaries with disabilities are older compared to Medicaid beneficiaries without disabilities, and there are significant gender and ethnic differences.

- For PWD, 39.4% of respondents identified as White, 20.9% Black/African American, 29.1% Hispanic/Latino, and 10.5% as other. For PwOD, respondents identified in the same categories as 21.1%, 30.7%, 42.9%, and 5.3%, respectively

## Physician Communication and Patient Experience among Medicaid Beneficiaries CAHPS 2013

PWD report being dissatisfied with their healthcare experiences due to lack of physician attentiveness, respectfulness, and communication clarity compared to PwOD.

## Care Satisfaction and Barriers among Medicaid Beneficiaries CAHPS 2013

A higher proportion of PWD rate their health plans, healthcare, and personal doctors as “low” quality compared to PwOD; although specialists were rated as “high” quality by a larger proportion of PWD than PwOD. PWD also report increased barriers to care, with transportation being the most frequently reported barrier.

