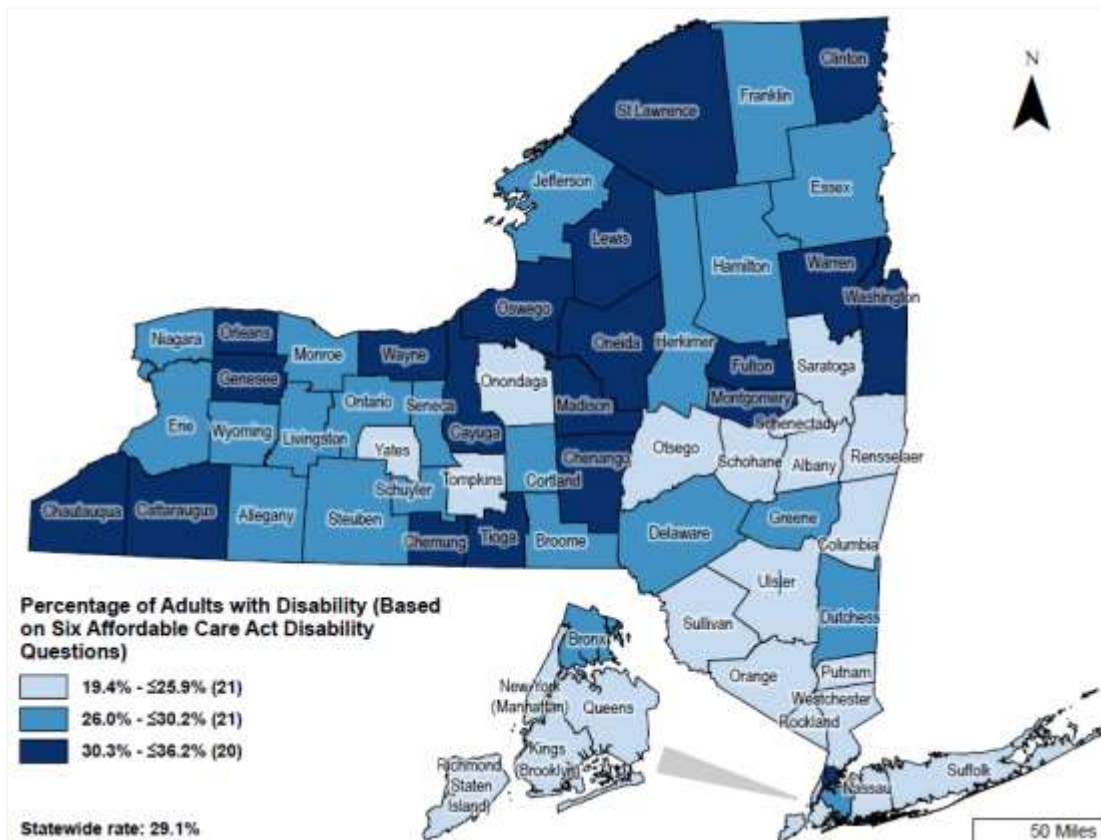


Percentage of Adults Living with a Disability in New York State, by County, Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, 2021

A disability is any condition of the body or mind that makes it more difficult for the person with the condition to do certain activities and interact with the world around them. The Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System captures disability status through a series of six questions including: vision, hearing, mobility, cognition, self-care, and independent living. Persons who responded “yes” to at least one of these six questions were identified as having any disability.

In New York State, 26.6% of adults live with a disability. The percentage varies across counties from 19.4% to 36.2%. The three levels of shading in the map below are based on the rank order (tertiles) of the estimated percentage of adults living with disability in each county and do not represent statistical differences between counties.



Public Health Opportunity

Adults living with disability face substantial inequities in many health-related social needs, including a lack of accessible housing, transportation, and employment opportunities. Society, culture, and environment can create additional barriers for people living with disability that limit access to health care, often resulting in significant health disparities. These barriers need to be identified and eliminated if persons with living disability are to participate in public health programs that promote healthy living. Despite the Americans with Disabilities Act being passed over 30 years ago, additional changes are still needed to ensure that adults living with disability have equal access, opportunities, and rights. It is imperative that public entities serving New York State residents ensure equity when designing and implementing their services, to eliminate health disparities and improve health outcomes for people living with disability. Public health organizations can take positive steps through policy initiatives aimed at improving the disability-related knowledge and skills of health care workers, and implementing sustainable policy, system, and environmental changes that benefit the health of people with disability.

County level estimates can be used to identify areas of concern, inform program planning, and evaluate the effectiveness of programs and policies. Public health organizations and programs can also use this information to educate local decision-makers and increase community engagement.



Percentage of Adults Living with a Disability in New York State, by County

County	Crude Rate	[95%CI]*	County	Crude Rate	[95%CI]*
Albany	24.4	[20.1 - 28.7]	Niagara	27.4	[22.2 - 32.6]
Allegany	27.5	[20.9 - 34.1]	Oneida	30.9	[25.7 - 36.1]
Bronx	34.9	[31.6 - 38.2]	Onondaga	25.3	[21.5 - 29.1]
Broome	30.0	[25.2 - 34.8]	Ontario	28.1	[22.6 - 33.7]
Cattaraugus	31.5	[25.1 - 37.9]	Orange	22.7	[18.4 - 27.0]
Cayuga	30.5	[24.4 - 36.6]	Orleans	35.3	[26.2 - 44.5]
Chautauqua	31.5	[25.4 - 37.5]	Oswego	33.2	[26.9 - 39.5]
Chemung	32.8	[26.9 - 38.6]	Otsego	25.8	[19.6 - 32.0]
Chenango	31.3	[24.9 - 37.8]	Putnam	23.6	[17.5 - 29.8]
Clinton	31.6	[25.0 - 38.2]	Queens	27.4	[24.9 - 30.0]
Columbia	25.4	[18.9 - 31.9]	Rensselaer	23.2	[16.9 - 29.6]
Cortland	29.1	[19.5 - 38.7]	Richmond	24.3	[19.5 - 29.1]
Delaware	28.8	[22.6 - 34.9]	Rockland	22.8	[17.2 - 28.3]
Dutchess	30.2	[23.8 - 36.7]	Saratoga	33.5	[26.6 - 40.4]
Erie	29.5	[26.4 - 32.6]	Schenectady	23.2	[17.7 - 28.8]
Essex	27.1	[21.3 - 33.0]	Schoharie	22.5	[16.9 - 28.2]
Franklin	28.9	[23.4 - 34.5]	Schuyler	25.9	[19.9 - 31.8]
Fulton	32.1	[26.8 - 37.4]	Seneca	28.1	[20.7 - 35.4]
Genesee	33.6	[26.7 - 40.5]	St. Lawrence	29.1	[22.3 - 36.0]
Greene	30.0	[19.9 - 40.2]	Steuben	29.9	[24.6 - 35.3]
Hamilton	26.4	[15.9 - 37.0]	Suffolk	23.1	[20.6 - 25.7]
Herkimer	30.0	[24.0 - 36.0]	Sullivan	24.1	[17.9 - 30.2]
Jefferson	27.4	[23.7 - 31.1]	Tioga	33.3	[24.9 - 41.7]
Kings	25.3	[23.0 - 27.7]	Tompkins	19.5	[13.1 - 25.8]
Lewis	33.1	[25.4 - 40.8]	Ulster	22.5	[17.0 - 28.1]
Livingston	26.3	[18.1 - 34.5]	Warren	33.1	[27.5 - 38.8]
Madison	32.5	[25.6 - 39.5]	Washington	31.2	[25.2 - 37.3]
Monroe	28.0	[25.0 - 30.9]	Wayne	30.7	[25.7 - 35.8]
Montgomery	36.2	[29.5 - 43.0]	Westchester	20.9	[17.5 - 24.2]
Nassau	19.4	[16.9 - 22.0]	Wyoming	29.0	[21.4 - 36.5]
New York	23.2	[20.7 - 25.7]	Yates	21.6	[15.7 - 27.5]

Notes:

*When comparing estimates, the 95% confidence interval (95% CI) provides the statistical range containing the true population percentage with a 95% probability. The width of the confidence interval is influenced by the number of residents in a county surveyed. Although a 95% confidence interval is not a test of statistical significance, counties whose 95% confidence intervals do not overlap can be considered significantly different.

County estimates in this report are crude percentages. Age-adjusted data are available on Health Data New York at: [Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System Health Indicators by County and Region | State of New York \(ny.gov\)](https://www.health.ny.gov/statistics/prevention/injury_prevention/information_for_action/index.htm)
 Estimates are deemed unstable when a confidence interval has a half-width greater than 10, use caution when interpreting.

Contact: For more information about the data included and their specific implications for action, please send an e-mail to BCDER@health.ny.gov with IFA 2024-10 in the subject line.

To access other Information for Action reports, visit the NYSDOH public website: https://www.health.ny.gov/statistics/prevention/injury_prevention/information_for_action/index.htm