ISSUE NO. 9, 2020

Fast Facts about Employment for People with Disabilities in Florida

Data source: Rehabilitation Services Administration-911

How many Floridians with disabilities are working?

There are many different ways to answer this question. Florida's Division of Vocational Rehabilitation, or VR program, reports data every year to the **Rehabilitation Services Administration**, which is part of the US government. The report shares the outcomes of the services Florida VR gave to job seekers with disabilities. Outcomes are what happens after someone gets services. For example, are they able to find work?

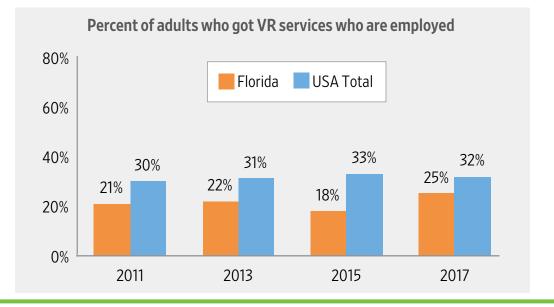
What does this data tell us, and why is it important?

This chart shows how many people who got services from VR were working. Look at the blue bar above "2017." This bar shows us that across the whole country in 2017, only 32% of adults with disabilities who got services from their state VR agency got a job in the community. This means only about one out of every three people who got VR services got a job.

In Florida, the percentage is lower. Look at the orange bar above "2017." In 2017, 25% of adults who received VR services were working. This means only about one out of every four Floridians who got VR services got a job.

This data shows that across the country, only a small percentage of people who received services from their VR agency got a job. In Florida, this percentage is lower, but it is getting higher every year.

Florida is an Employment First State. This means the state has a policy that employment should be the first option considered for adults with disabilities. Many groups are working together to help more people in Florida get jobs.



"Employment First" means that working in the community should be a choice for everyone, with or without a disability.

The Institute for Community Inclusion at the University of Massachusetts Boston is working with the Florida Developmental Disabilities Council and other state agencies to make "Employment First" happen in Florida.



For more information about Employment First Florida, please visit the website www.EmploymentFirstFL.org/

Employment First FLORIDA

For more information about this data, please email: ashley.wolfe@umb.edu allison.hall@umb.edu

Sponsored by United States Department of Health and Human Services, Administration on Developmental Disabilities and the Florida Developmental Disabilities Council, Inc. The EmployMe1st project is a joint project of the Florida Developmental Disabilities Council, the Institute for Community Inclusion at the University of Massachusetts Boston, and the National Association of State Directors of Developmental Disabilities Services.