

Out of Sight, Out of Mind: Including Group Quarters Residents with Household Residents Can Change What We Know About Working-Age People with Disabilities

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Overview

- **Background on group quarters (GQ) and people with disabilities (PWD)**
- **Data/methods**
- **Results**
- **Policy implications**

Residence Types

- **Household residence (people live apart from others who reside in the building)**
- **GQ (people live in building managed by an entity/organization providing services)**
 - **Institutional: adult/juvenile correctional facilities, nursing facilities, psychiatric hospitals**
 - **Noninstitutional: college student housing, military quarters, shelters, group homes, residential treatment centers, YMCA/YWCA**

GQ Trends

- **Modest increase in total population residing in GQ**
 - From 2.6% in 1980 to 2.8% in 2000
- **But shift from nursing facilities to correctional facilities ...**
 - Nursing facilities: 57% (1980) → 42% (2000)
 - Correctional facilities: 19% (1980) → 49% (2000)
- **... means that more of the working-age population are in GQ**

Possible Effect of GQ Trends

- **Biased estimates for disability prevalence and characteristics for household-only surveys**
- **The following disability prevalence statistics are for those age 5+ from Brault (2008)**
 - 14.9% of household population
 - 15.1% of the household and noninstitutional GQ
 - 15.7% of total population

Brault, M. "Disability Status and the Characteristics of People in Group Quarters: A Brief Analysis of Disability Prevalence Among the Civilian Noninstitutionalized and Total Populations in the American Community Survey." Washington, DC: U.S. Census Bureau, February 2008.

Two Research Questions

- **What is the distribution of the working-age population with disabilities by major residence type?**
- **How sensitive are disability statistics to the inclusion or exclusion of GQ residents from survey samples?**

Data

- **2006 and 2007 American Community Survey**
 - Includes GQ, but public use file does not include specific GQ types
 - Large sample allows estimates for smaller geographic locations and demographic groups
 - Broad disability questions (sensory, physical, mental, self-care, go outside home, and employment)
- **Approximately 1.3 million records**
- **Data pooled to improve accuracy of estimates**

We Provide Estimates for ...

- **Overall disability prevalence**
- **Demographic differences (age, sex, race, ethnicity, marital status, education)**
- **Employment statistics**
- **All statistics for ages 25 to 64**

What Proportion of PWD Reside in GQ?

	Percent of Males in GQ (Institutional/ Noninstitutional) (%)	Percent of Females in GQ (Institutional/ Noninstitutional) (%)
No Disability	2.0 (1.6/ 0.5)	0.3 (0.2/ 0.3)
Any Disability	8.4 (5.3/ 3.1)	3.4 (1.7/ 1.7)
Sensory	7.6 (5.3/ 2.4)	3.8 (2.0/ 1.7)
Physical	7.6 (5.3/ 2.3)	3.0 (1.8/ 1.3)
Mental	13.8 (7.4/ 6.4)	6.6 (2.9/ 3.8)
Self-care	13.9 (7.5/ 6.4)	8.2 (4.4/ 3.9)
Go outside home	14.2 (6.7/ 7.5)	7.7 (3.7/ 4.0)
Employment	8.2 (4.1/ 4.1)	4.3 (2.0/ 2.3)

Source: ACS (2006 & 2007).

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Source: ACS (2006 & 2007).

What Proportion of Males Has a Disability?

	Household (%)	Group Quarters (%)	Total Population (%)	Percentage Increase in Household Estimate
Any Disability	13.1	40.2	13.9	6.0
Sensory	3.6	9.9	3.8	5.3
Physical	7.9	21.8	8.3	5.2
Mental	4.5	24.1	5.1	12.6
Self-Care	2.1	11.6	2.4	13.1
Go Outside Home	3.0	16.5	3.4	13.4
Employment	7.6	22.7	8.1	5.8

Source: ACS (2006 & 2007).

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Mental	4.5	24.1	5.1	12.6
Self-Care	2.1	11.6	2.4	13.1
Go Outside Home	3.0	16.5	3.4	13.4
Employment	7.6	22.7	8.1	5.8

Source: ACS (2006 & 2007).

What Characteristics of PWD Are Most Associated with GQ Residence?

- Male
- Younger age
- Black
- American Indian
- Never married
- Less than high school education

How Does GQ Inclusion Affect Employment Statistics?

	Household Employment Rate (%)	Non- Institutional Group Quarters Employment Rate (%)	Total Population Employment Rate (%)	Percentage Difference Between Household and Total Population
Males with Disabilities	40.7	24.0	38.1	6
Age 25–34	51.0	31.2	45.8	10
Black	29.2	16.7	25.1	14
Females with Disabilities	33.3	20.9	32.6	2
Age 25–34	41.5	25.7	40.5	2
Black	29.7	12.7	28.6	4

Source: ACS (2006 & 2007).

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Black	29.2	16.7	25.1	14
Females with Disabilities	33.3	20.9	32.6	2
Age 25–34	41.5	25.7	40.5	2
Black	29.7	12.7	28.6	4

Source: ACS (2006 & 2007).

Results Summary

- **Although few PWD are in GQ, high proportion of GQ residents are PWD**
 - 1 in 13 males with disabilities and 1 in 33 females with disabilities live in GQ
 - Among GQ residents, 40 percent of males and 66 percent of females are PWD
- **Including GQ residents increases disability prevalence slightly**

Limitations

- **Do not have information on specific GQ types**
- **GQ population might answer disability questions differently if not in GQ**
- **Institutional GQ population might not be in their state of origin, so state statistics could be misleading**

Policy Implications

- **Excluding PWD in GQ residences can affect statistics**
 - **For example, excluding GQ PWD from employment statistics inflates the employment rate of PWD**

Policy Implications

- **Institutional GQ is a sizeable portion of the GQ population**
 - **What policies are in place to assist those at risk of criminal justice encounters?**

Policy Implications

- **Although institutional GQ is the predominant GQ residence, noninstitutional GQ numbers are not negligible**
 - **Might reflect intellectual and developmental disability population**
 - **Such residences have considerable costs (and waiting lists)**

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