

## How Many People with Intellectual and/or Developmental Disabilities Want a Job in Their Communities?

By John Butterworth and Dorothy Hiersteiner

A key concern for policy and practice is how choice is supported for individuals with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities (IDD). The National Core Indicators (NCI)\* collects data on employment status, including whether individuals are working in a paid job in the community, as well as each person's interest in doing so. This DataNote focuses on interest in working in paid jobs in the community for individuals who are not currently working.

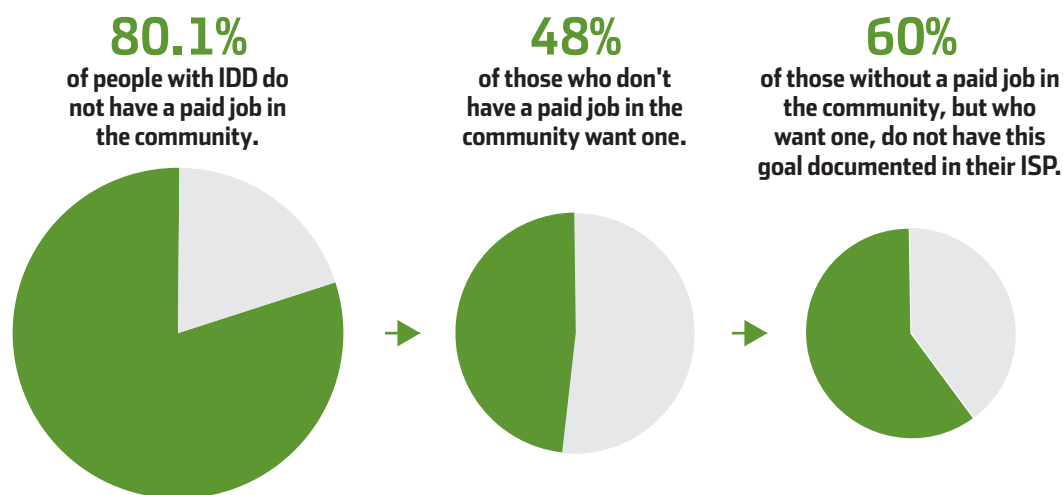
According to NCI, a paid community job includes individual jobs that would typically qualify as competitive integrated employment, as well as group supported employment. Approximately two thirds of jobs are individual community employment, and one third are group supported jobs. Data on employment status is collected for a two-week period and the average wages earned and hours worked over that period are calculated.

Approximately 20% of individuals supported by participating IDD agencies worked in a paid community job in the 2016–2017 data collection year. Figure 1 shows that of the 80% who did not have a paid community job, almost one half (48%) indicated they would like one. Only 40% of people who stated they would like a paid community job had this goal documented in their Individualized Service Plan (ISP).

Figure 1 shares the percent of individuals who worked in a paid community job, the percent of those who were not working in a paid community job who wanted to be, and the percent of those who wanted to be in a paid community job who have an employment goal in their ISP. Table 1 reports these percentages by participating states.

\*National Core Indicators™ (NCI) is a collaborative effort between the [National Association of State Directors of Developmental Disabilities Services \(NASDDDS\)](#) and the [Human Services Research Institute \(HSRI\)](#). The purpose of the program, which began in 1997, is to support NASDDDS member agencies to gather a standard set of performance and outcome measures that can be used to track their own performance over time, to compare results across states, and to establish national benchmarks.

**Figure 1. Supporting choice in employment.**



**Table 1. Supporting choice in employment by state.**

	Was in a paid community job during the two-week period	Of those not in a paid community job, person would like a job	Of those not in a paid community job who would like one, paid employment is a goal in service plan
AL	7.6%	53.1%	37.1%
AR	8.3%	51.4%	18.7%
CO	20.8%	33.8%	26.4%
CT	45.0%	51.1%	38.3%
DC	9.2%	61.5%	63.3%
DE	20.7%	67.5%	48.4%
FL	9.6%	39.1%	47.0%
GA	16.3%	42.8%	12.0%
HI	10.2%	34.8%	26.1%
ID	20.1%	50.9%	52.4%
IL	10.5%	50.6%	25.7%
IN	17.9%	40.0%	30.1%
KS	18.3%	41.7%	41.9%
KY	11.9%	30.1%	26.8%
LA	20.3%	38.3%	32.8%
ME	24.1%	61.5%	42.1%
MI	13.8%	57.4%	23.1%
MN	35.0%	47.4%	73.4%
MO	7.9%	43.9%	47.5%
MS	20.8%	49.1%	53.6%
NC	12.6%	54.0%	25.2%
NE	30.2%	48.2%	81.3%
NH	39.2%	70.7%	48.5%
NJ	8.9%	55.2%	19.2%
NV	18.4%	49.0%	32.3%
NY	16.3%	45.2%	39.6%
OH	24.8%	42.7%	51.0%
OK	21.0%	46.3%	23.2%
PA	19.6%	40.2%	36.0%
RI	26.8%	63.2%	68.1%
SD	33.1%	52.3%	38.5%
TN	17.5%	33.9%	51.3%
TX	8.8%	46.8%	32.0%
UT	23.4%	46.8%	39.2%
VA	10.1%	43.8%	35.2%
VT	41.5%	50.0%	38.0%
WI	23.7%	49.7%	32.5%
WY	33.6%	44.8%	57.1%
Nation	19.9%	48.1%	39.9%

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