

Data Note

Data Source: National Survey of State Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Agencies' Employment and Day Services FY2017 (Institute for Community Inclusion, State Data Project)

State Intellectual and Developmental Disability Agencies' Funding for Employment Services, FY2017

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In FY2017, states continued to vary in their ability to report on the services they provide to individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD) and the amount of funding allocated to employment and non-work services. In this Data Note, we looked at average per-person spending across states and how it compares for two different types of services: integrated employment services and facility-based employment services.

The per-person cost for each service was calculated for the 44 states that reported integrated employment spending in FY2017 and 28 states that reported facility-based employment spending in FY2017. We then looked at overall averages for the groups who reported these data. It is important to note that these are not national averages, but rather averages for the group of states that reported funding for certain types of services.

The average cost per person indicates that for these states, integrated employment was the less costly employment service per person, and that facility-based work services were on average more expensive per person to provide. Since the number of states reporting these funding streams differ, the overall averages are not directly comparable, yet they can provide insight into how states vary in their distribution of funds across service categories (Figure 1, left).

We also examined the average cost per person of the 28 states that reported spending for both integrated employment and facility-based work services. In these states, the average amount spent per person on integrated employment services did not substantially differ from the amount spent by the full cohort of states reporting (Figure 1, right).

These data suggest that, despite efforts to support more people with disabilities in integrated employment services, resources have not shifted away from facility-based work and towards integrated employment. If more individuals are to be supported in jobs in the community, state IDD agencies must rebalance their service funding models so that integrated employment is the priority.

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Since Fiscal Year 1988, the Institute for Community Inclusion has administered the National Survey of State Intellectual and Developmental Disability Agencies' (IDD Agencies) Employment and Day Services. This work is funded by the Administration on Developmental Disabilities and is designed to describe the nature of day and employment services for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Figure 1.
Average per Person Spending for Integrated Employment and Facility-based work

