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# Community Counts 2012

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The Arc of Minnesota  
The Minnesota Consortium  
for Citizens with Disabilities  
Minnesota State Council on  
Disability

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Minnesota has a civic and moral responsibility to protect the rights of people with disabilities and to ensure that all citizens have the choices and opportunities that allow them to participate as valued members of the community.

During the 2010 legislative session, legislation was passed creating a “Community Counts” report. This report, put together annually by The Minnesota State Council on Disability, The Arc of Minnesota, and The Minnesota Consortium for Citizens with Disabilities, presents statistics regarding the effectiveness of state programs serving people with disabilities.

On an annual basis, the data included in the report represents the progress we as a state are making in using tax dollars efficiently to serve citizens with disabilities. The report includes data on areas such as employment, education, transportation, housing, quality assurance, consumer direction, and health care.

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### Key Measures

#### **Special Education**

Graduation and dropout rate of students with disabilities

- Graduation, 2010-2011 – 85.0%
- Dropout, 2010-2011– 4.3%

Inclusion of Students with Disabilities

- 2010/2011: settings for students with disabilities have remained stable over time, with a majority of students of all disability types (61%) in the most inclusive settings
- 2010/2011: almost all students with Speech or Language Impairment are served in a regular classroom at least 80% of the day
- 2010-2011: Only 9% of students with Developmental Cognitive Delay are served in a regular classroom at least 80% of the day.

Transition/Post Graduation Activities of Students with Disabilities

- 2009/2010 - 29.1% enrolled in higher education within one year of leaving school
- 2009/2010 - 61.9% enrolled in higher education or competitively employed within one year of leaving high school

- 2009/2010 - 77.6% enrolled in higher education or some other postsecondary education training or program; or competitively employed or in some other employment within one year of leaving high school

### **Quality Assurance**

- The Quality Assurance process promotes and encourages quality improvement in the support services to persons with developmental disabilities.
- There are currently 5 out of 11 counties in Region 10 Minnesota participating in the Quality Assurance process.
- The Minnesota Legislatures mandates that a minimum of 2 people of 5% of persons being supported through a licensed program be interviewed during that licensed program review period, which typically is two years.

### **Housing**

- June 2011: 343 Minnesotans with disabilities were using Shelter Needy. The Minnesota Supplemental Aid (MSA) Shelter Needy program helps people with disabilities under age 65. The program provides \$200 a month to people who qualify so they can pay rent, a mortgage, or basic utilities.

### **Healthcare/Long term Services & Supports**

#### Waivered Services

- 598 individuals had been screened but were waiting for services on the CAC, CADI, & TBI waivers in 2010
- 3858 individuals were waiting for the DD waiver in 2010

### **Transportation**

#### Greater MN Transit

- Every county in Minnesota should have some form of public transportation. As of 2012, Waseca and Wilkin County have none. (Source: Office of Transit, MN Department of Transportation)
- The Greater MN Transit Investment Plan of the MN Department of Transportation includes a goal of increasing the number of service hours provided in greater Minnesota. In 2009, greater MN transit provided 11.1 million trips for a total of 1.03 million service hours. (Source: Greater Minnesota Transit Investment Plan, MN Department of Transportation)

## Metro Area Transit

- The Metropolitan Council's 2030 Transportation Policy Plan includes a goal of increasing public transportation in the metro area to 147 million rides by 2030. In 2009, rides reached nearly 89 million. (Source: 2030 Transportation Policy Plan, Metropolitan Council).

## **Consumer Direction**

- Consumer Directed Community Support recipients (2012): 3516
- Consumer Support Grant recipients (2012): 2081
- PCA Choice program participants (2012): 10575

## **Employment**

### MA-EPD

- Average earned income, Dec. 2010 - \$533.87
- Average earned income, June 2011 - \$537.38

### Voc Rehab

- Average hourly wage, 2009 - \$11.04
- Average hourly wage, 2010 - \$11.29

### 2000 Census

- 32% of Minnesota's citizens with disabilities that are employable are unemployed

### Poverty

- 25.3% of Minnesotans with disabilities live below the poverty line (2011)

### Average Annual Income

- Minnesotans with disabilities (2011): \$40,700
- Minnesotans without disabilities (2011): \$45,800