Disability and Health Risks Among Rhode Island Adults 18-64 Years of Age in 2008

Rhode Island Department of Health
Center for Health Data and Analysis & Office of Special Healthcare Needs
September 2009

Introduction

This report presents data on the demographics, health status, health risk behaviors, and health care access and utilization among Rhode Island adults with and without disabilities. It is based on data from Rhode Island’s 2008 Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS).

About the BRFSS: The BRFSS is a telephone survey administered in all 50 states and 4 U.S. territories with funding and specifications from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). The BRFSS monitors behavioral health risks that contribute to the leading causes of disease and death among adults 18 years and older in the United States. It also monitors access to health care and certain health conditions. Rhode Island has participated in the BRFSS since 1984.

Rhode Island’s 2008 BRFSS: From January through December 2008, the Rhode Island BRFSS conducted random-digit dialed telephone interviews with 4,786 RI non-institutionalized adults 18 and older. Among them, 3,297 were 18-64 years of age. The interviews were conducted by a professional survey organization under contract to the Rhode Island Department of Health.

In this Report: Respondents were defined as having a disability if they answered “yes” to either one or both of the following two questions: “Are you limited in any way in any activities because of physical, mental, or emotional problems?” and “Do you now have any health problem that requires you to use special equipment?” This report presents disability rates by demographic subgroups (Figure 1) and data for 28 health indicators by disability status (Figures 2 and 3) among RI adults 18-64 years of age. “Error” bars represent the 95% confidence limits around the values calculated from the sample data.

Acknowledgements: The RI BRFSS is funded in part by the Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion Programs Cooperative Agreement #U58/CCU122791 from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.


Report prepared by: Y Jiang, PhD and JE Hesser, PhD from the Center for Health Data and Analysis, and by D Garneau, MA and H Kim, PhD from the Division of Community, Family Health and Equity.
Figure 1
Disability* Among Rhode Island Adults
(Ages 18 - 64) within demographic subgroups -- 2008

| Total: All | 17 |
| Age: 18-24 years | 11 |
| 25-44 years | 13 |
| 45-64 years | 24 |
| Sex: Male | 17 |
| Female | 18 |
| Race/Ethnicity: White, non-hispanic | 18 |
| Hispanic | 13 |
| Other, non-hispanic | 17 |
| Education: High school or less | 22 |
| Some college | 17 |
| College graduate | 14 |
| Income**: <$25k | 32 |
| $25k-49,999 | 20 |
| $50K+ | 13 |
| Marital status: Married/unmarried couple | 16 |
| Divorced/separated | 28 |
| Widowed | 35 |
| Never married | 16 |
| Employment: Employed | 12 |
| Unemployed | 23 |
| Homemaker/student | 14 |
| Retired | 34 |
| Unable to work | 87 |
| Veteran status: Veteran | 27 |
| None | 17 |

Bars indicate 95% Confidence intervals (See page 1)

Source: 2008 Rhode Island Behavioral Risk Factor Survey (n=4,786)
* Disability: limited in any way in any activity or using special equipment
** Annual household
Figure 2
Health Risks Among Rhode Island Adults
(Ages 18 - 64) by disability* -- 2008

- Uninsured
  - no health care coverage
  - Bars indicate 95% Confidence intervals (See page 1)

- No Routine Checkup
  - no routine checkup within past year

- Not See A Dr. Due to Cost
  - patient 12 mos. needed to see a Dr but could not due to cost

- Diabetes
  - ever been told by Dr had diabetes**

- Asthma
  - ever been told by Dr had asthma and has asthma now

- Angina/Coronary Heart Disease
  - Dr. ever told had angina/coronary heart disease

- No Mammogram
  - no mammogram past 2 years -- women, ages 40--64 (n=1,482)

- No Pap Smear
  - no pap smear in past 3 years -- women*** (n=1,784)

- No Colorectal Cancer Screening
  - never had a sigmoidoscopy / colonoscopy -- ages 50--64(n=1,542)

- No Prostate Cancer Screening
  - no PSA test in past 2 years -- men, ages 40--64 (n=877)

- No Flu Shot
  - no flu shot past 12 months, ages 50--64 (n=1,542)

- Dental Uninsured
  - has no dental care coverage

- No Dental Visit
  - no visits to the dentist in the past year

- Cavities/Untreated Decay
  - have cavities or untreated dental decay

Source: 2008 Rhode Island Behavioral Risk Factor Survey (n=4,786)
* Disability: limited in any way in any activity or using special equipment
** Other than during pregnancy
*** Excludes women who have had a hysterectomy
Figure 3
Health Risks Among Rhode Island Adults
(Ages 18 - 64) by disability* -- 2008

Bars indicate 95% Confidence intervals (See page 1)

- **Fair Or Poor Health Status**
  - Self-rated general health is fair or poor
  - Percent: 5
  - **With disability (n=743)** 38%
  - **Not disability (n=2,541)**

- **Physically Unhealthy**
  - 14 or more days in past month
  - Percent: 4
  - **With disability (n=743)** 32%
  - **Not disability (n=2,541)**

- **Mentally Unhealthy**
  - 14 or more days in past month
  - Percent: 8
  - **With disability (n=743)** 29%
  - **Not disability (n=2,541)**

- **Insufficient Support**
  - Sometimes, rarely, never social/emotional support
  - Percent: 16
  - **With disability (n=743)** 33%
  - **Not disability (n=2,541)**

- **Not Enough Rest or Sleep**
  - 14 or more days in past month
  - Percent: 26
  - **With disability (n=743)** 48%
  - **Not disability (n=2,541)**

- **Dissatisfaction With Life**
  - Dissatisfied / very dissatisfied with life
  - Percent: 4
  - **With disability (n=743)** 18%
  - **Not disability (n=2,541)**

- **Not in Labor Force**
  - Not employed for wage nor self-employed, ages 21–64(n=3,247)
  - Percent: 21
  - **With disability (n=743)** 150%
  - **Not disability (n=2,541)**

- **Obese**
  - Body Mass Index** >= 30.0
  - Percent: 20
  - **With disability (n=743)** 37%
  - **Not disability (n=2,541)**

- **Sedentary Life Style**
  - No leisure time physical activity in past month
  - Percent: 19
  - **With disability (n=743)** 35%
  - **Not disability (n=2,541)**

- **Current Smoker**
  - Smokes cigarettes daily or some days
  - Percent: 18
  - **With disability (n=743)** 28%
  - **Not disability (n=2,541)**

- **Chronic Drinking**
  - >two drinks/day (men), >1 drinks/day (women)
  - Percent: 8
  - **With disability (n=743)** 7%
  - **Not disability (n=2,541)**

- **Mold in Household**
  - Live in household with mold
  - Percent: 12
  - **With disability (n=743)** 20%
  - **Not disability (n=2,541)**

- **Falls**
  - One or more falls in the past 3 months
  - Percent: 11
  - **With disability (n=743)** 29%
  - **Not disability (n=2,541)**

- **Not Wear Seatbelt**
  - Does not always use seatbelt
  - Percent: 20
  - **With disability (n=743)** 21%
  - **Not disability (n=2,541)**

Source: 2008 Rhode Island Behavioral Risk Factor Survey (n=4,786)
* Disability: limited in any way in any activity or using special equipment
** Body Mass Index = weight in kilograms / (height in meters)²