

Maricopa Association of Governments  
Social Services Block Grant  
**Developmental Disabilities Fact Sheet**  
Draft September 11, 2008

**1. Purpose Statement**

Provide assistance so people with developmental disabilities may live as independently as possible.

**2. Demographics**

The American Community Survey and the US Census report on disabilities but do not offer data the way the State of Arizona defines developmental disabilities. As a result, data for persons with developmental disabilities not receiving services already from the Arizona Department of Economic Security's Division for Developmental Disabilities is not available. These data were reported by DES for July 2008. Of the 18,300 people described below, 330 of them receive services directly funded by locally planned SSBG.

**a. Age**

Birth to three years of age	2,563
3.1 years to 18 years of age	8,379
18.1 years to 50 years of age	5,861
50.1 years to 89 years of age	1,497
Total	18,300

**b. Race/ethnicity**

Alaska/American Indian	460
Asian/Pacific Island	364
Black or African American	1,217
Hispanic or Latino	5,095
White not Hispanic	9,508
Other	391
Unknown	1,265
Total	18,300

**c. Gender**

Male	11,285
Female	7,015
Total	18,300

**d. Income**

Eligible for Title XIX	13,021
Not Eligible for Title XIX	5,279
Total	18,300

**e. Employment**

Eligible for Employment	2,647
Employed	906

Wait listed	141
Total	3,694

**f. Assistance levels: See Income**

**g. Disability rates**

Cognitive Disability	7,192
Autism	2,345
Cerebral Palsy	1,534
Epilepsy	614
Other	8,606
Total	18,300

**h. Family status**

Living at home or on their own	15,047
Group quarters	3,253
Total	18,300

**3. Gaps and Impact**

**a. Wait list data**

Employment	141
Overall services	4,622
Total	4,763

**b. Number of people estimated to be eligible for services**

18,300 are currently enrolled and eligible for services.

**c. Global impact of services**

People with developmental disabilities have much higher rates of unemployment. The state's unemployment rate as of August 1, 2008 was 5.7 percent. According to the DES Division for Developmental Disabilities (Division), the unemployment rate for persons with developmental disabilities is 70.2 percent.

When persons with developmental disabilities are employed, their salary tends to be much lower than the average for persons without developmental disabilities. The Division supplied the following statistics for people receiving services:

<b>Developmental Disability</b>	<b>% Employed</b>	<b>Average Annual Wage</b>
Cognitive Disability	29.5%	\$7,545
Epilepsy	32.3%	\$13,079
Cerebral Palsy	23.3%	\$22,178

The impact of this funding is that persons with developmental disabilities receive assistance that enables them to work, live as independently as possible and depend less on the community to provide for their care.

For example, according to the Division, the average employed person with developmental disabilities pays \$1,207 in taxes, no longer needs or qualifies for \$49,608 in state and local services, and receives only half of the Social Security Income benefit at \$2,432. This saves tax payers \$53,247 per person every year. This computes to a savings of \$32.71 for every SSBG dollar allocated to this target group.