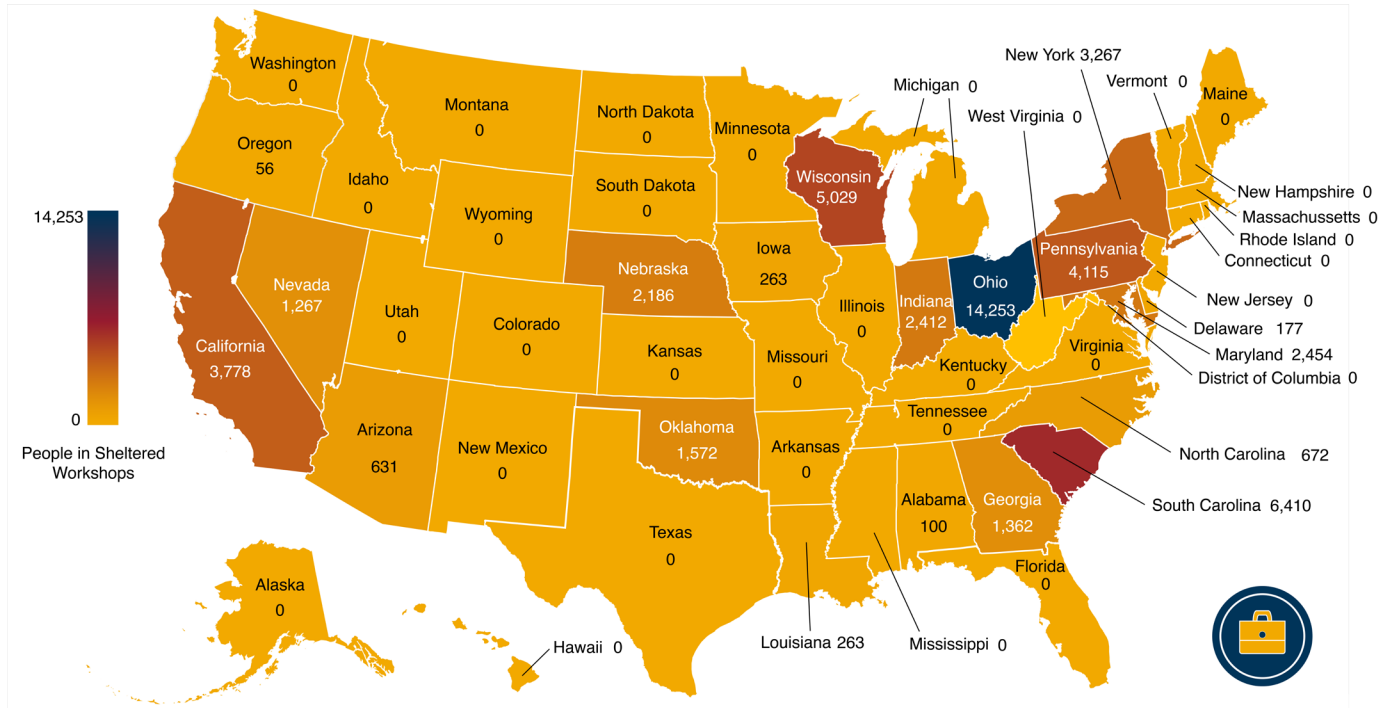




**Question:** As of Fiscal Year (FY) 2021, how many people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD) participate in sheltered workshops?



Currently, there are over 50,000 people with intellectual and developmental disabilities participating in sheltered workshop settings as reported by State Developmental Disabilities Agencies. These numbers do not include sheltered work settings that are funded through other sources outside the state developmental disabilities agency such as those privately funded or those funded by other state departments.

## Definitions

**Sheltered Workshops:** Employment opportunities for people with I/DD provided by a private non-profit, state, or local government institution. The aim of a Sheltered Workshop is to prepare people for employment in the general economy. The individual is paid sub-minimum wage, or the activities do not satisfy the criteria of competitive integrated employment. These services occur in a setting where the majority of participants have a disability.

**Sub-Minimum Wage:** An hourly pay wage that is below the federal minimum wage of **\$7.25 per hour**.

**Competitive Integrated Employment:** An employee with a disability working in the community alongside non-disabled peers. Typically, the employee is paid at or above the federal minimum wage of **\$7.25 per hour**. Please see the next page for the core criteria for competitive integrated employment.



# Competitive Integrated Employment Criteria

According to the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA), the core criteria for Competitive Integrated Employment are as follows:



**Compensated at or above minimum wage and comparable to the customary rate paid by the employer to employees without disabilities performing similar duties and with similar training and experience;**



**Receiving the same level of benefits provided to other employees without disabilities in similar positions;**



**At a location where the employee interacts with other individuals without disabilities; and**



**Presented opportunities for advancement similar to other employees without disabilities in similar positions.**



Source: Tanis, E.S., et al. (2024). The State of the States in Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities, Life Span Institute, University of Kansas. [www.stateofthestates.ku.edu](http://www.stateofthestates.ku.edu).

Source: Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014, Pub. L. 113-128, 128 Stat. 1425

The State of the States in Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Project is a national longitudinal comparative study of financial and programmatic trends in spending on supports and services for people with intellectual/developmental disabilities (IDD) in the United States. The project is funded by the U.S. Administration on Community Living as a Longitudinal Data Project of National Significance.



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