

DATA BITES MARCH 2026

ISSUE 30.0

WHAT TECHNOLOGY ARE YOU MOST INTERESTED IN LEARNING ABOUT?



BACKGROUND & CONTEXT

Wearables for Wellness is a two-year research project partnership between Oklahoma Human Services, Oklahoma State University's Center for Developmental Disabilities, Oklahoma ABLE Tech, and the University of Kansas Center on Disabilities' State of the States team.

PROJECT PARTNERS



MAIN FINDINGS

ACCORDING TO THE WEARABLES FOR WELLNESS PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS, PEOPLE WITH I/DD WANTED TO LEARN ABOUT THE FOLLOWING TECHNOLOGIES:



5

participants wanted to learn about transportation technology



12

participants wanted to learn about applications (apps)



13

participants wanted to learn about using smartphones (e.g., iPhones, Samsung)



6

participants wanted to learn about smart home technology



5

participants wanted to learn about other technologies



7

participants wanted to learn about the internet



4

participants wanted to learn about conversational agents



7

participants wanted to learn about computers



16

participants wanted to learn about communication technology

DEFINITIONS

CONVERSATIONAL AGENTS



A conversational agent is a smart system that uses online technology to understand what you say and respond in a way that feels natural, just like a real person would. These agents can be chatbots or virtual assistants on your phone or computer. They help people do things like ordering food, asking questions, or getting information, all through talking or typing.

ABOUT THE STATE OF THE STATES



State of the States
In Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities

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 (I/DD) in the United States. The project is funded by the U.S. Administration on Community Living as a Longitudinal Data Project of National Significance.

Source: Tanis, E.S., et al. (2026). The State of the States in Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities, Kansas University Center on Disabilities, Life Span Institute, University of Kansas. www.stateofthestates.ku.edu