

Idaho State Independent Living Council

State Fiscal Year 2022 Annual Report



Emery Pass Picnic Area, City of Rocks National Reserve, Almo, Idaho

Idaho SILC Mission

The State Independent Living Council (SILC) is Idaho's only statewide, cross-disability organization dedicated to independent living and full community inclusion governed by a majority of people with disabilities in service to people with disabilities across the lifespan.



2023 Idaho SILC members and staff

Mission:

The Idaho SILC's mission is to promote the independent living philosophy for all Idahoans with disabilities: choice, self-determination and access for all.

Vision:

The Idaho SILC promotes independent living, including the following:

- consumer control
- peer-support
- self-help
- self-determination
- equal access
- individual and systemic advocacy, maximizing opportunities for full inclusion of individuals with disabilities within the broader community

Who Makes Up the Idaho SILC

Idaho State Independent Living Council Members

Shiloh Blackburn.....Council Chair-Region VI Person with a Disability
Candy Harris.....Vice-Chair- Region IV Person with a Disability
Erik Kimes.....Region III Person with a Disability
Eric Peterson.....Region II Person with a Disability
Tara Marie Adams..... At Large Person with a Disability-Region IV
Sherri Boelter.....CIL Representative-Disability Action Center NW
Michael Lefevor.....CIL Director
Brittany Shipley.....Parent Advocate-Region V
Brianna Tamayo.....CIL Representative-LIFE

Angela Hertz (Termed Off 5/28/22).....Region I Person with a Disability
Denise Myler (Termed Off 5/28/22).....Region VII Person with a Disability
Maxwell Hudson (Termed Off 5/28/22).....Young Adult Person with a Disability
Molly Pollastrini (Termed Off 5/28/22).....CIL Representative-Disability Action Center NW
Sean Burlile (Termed Off 5/28/22).....At Large Person with a Disability-VA Rep
Jeremy Maxand (Termed Off 5/28/22).....CIL Director

Ex-Officio Members

Steve Achabal.....Idaho Commission for the Blind and Visually Impaired
Alan Aamodt.....Idaho Division of Vocational Rehabilitation
Erin Olsen.....Idaho Commission on Aging
Russ Salyards.....Idaho Department of Health and Welfare

Beth Kriete (Termed Off 5/28/22).....Idaho Division of Medicaid

Idaho State Independent Living Council Staff

Mel Leviton.....Executive Director
Jami Davis.....Program Specialist
Megan Bates.....Financial Specialist
Janey Bruesch.....Administrative Assistant II

We Live in All Corners of Idaho

Idaho's frontier counties include the highest percentages of people who self-identify as having a disability.*

Frontier counties

19.20%

Rural Counties

13.80%

Metro Counties

12.90%

Percentage of People with Disabilities by County

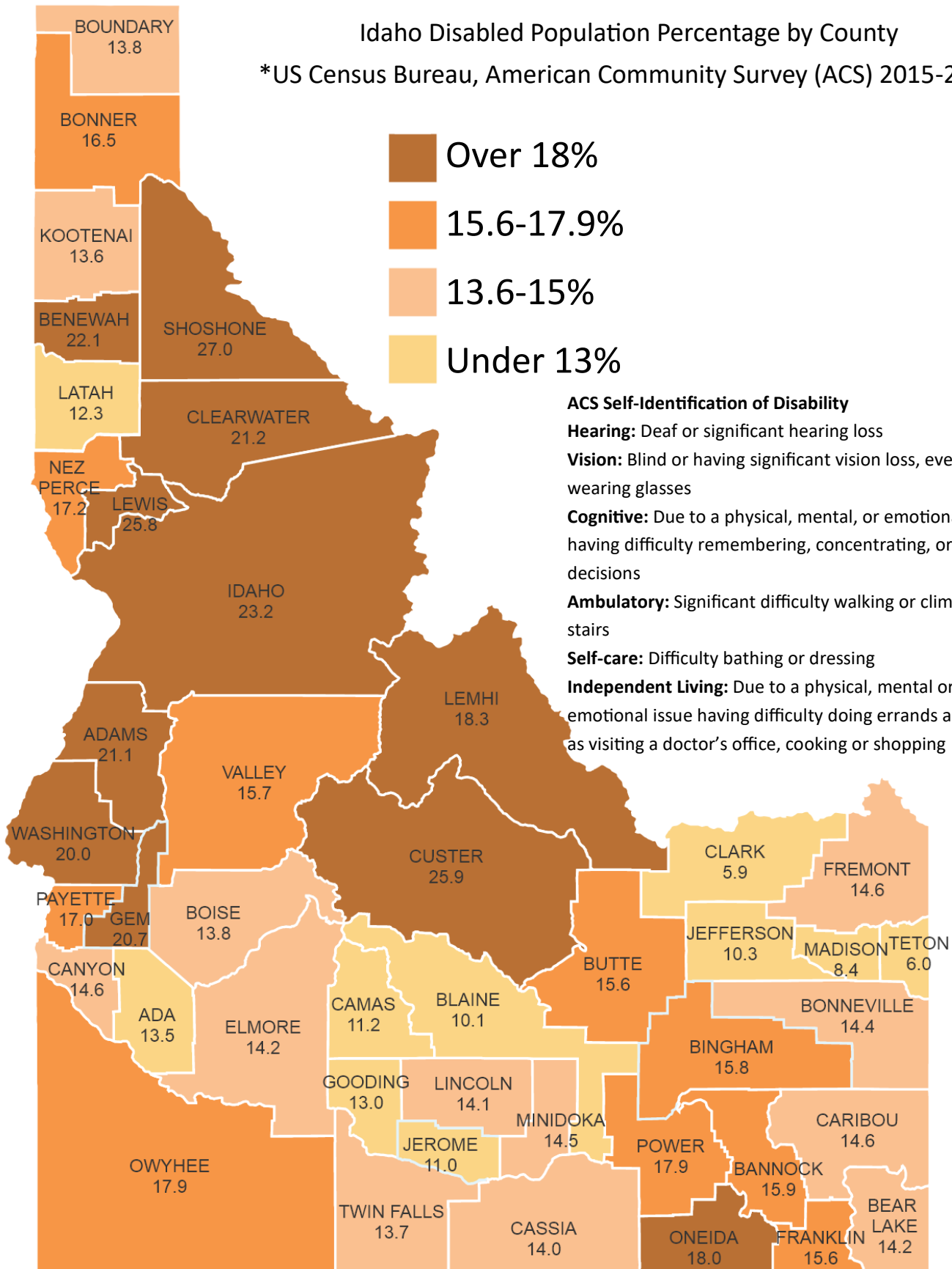
County	Percentage	County	Percentage	County	Percentage
Ada	10.3%	Cassia	14.0%	Lewis	25.8%
Adams	21.1%	Clark	5.9%	Lincoln	14.1%
Bannock	15.9%	Clearwater	21.2%	Madison	8.4%
Bear Lake	14.2%	Custer	25.9%	Minidoka	14.5%
Benewah	22.1%	Elmore	14.2%	Nez Perce	17.2%
Bingham	15.8%	Franklin	15.6%	Oneida	18.0%
Blaine	10.1%	Fremont	14.6%	Owyhee	17.9%
Boise	13.8%	Gem	20.7%	Payette	17.0%
Bonner	16.5%	Gooding	13.0%	Power	17.9%
Bonneville	14.4%	Idaho	23.2%	Shoshone	27.0%
Boundary	13.8%	Gem	20.7%	Payette	17.0%
Butte	15.6%	Jerome	11.0%	Twin Falls	13.7%
Camas	11.2%	Kootenai	13.6%	Valley	15.7%
Canyon	14.6%	Latah	12.3%	Washington	20.0%
Caribou	14.6%	Lemhi	18.3%		

*US Census Bureau, American Community Survey (ACS) 2015-2019

Map Legend

Idaho Disabled Population Percentage by County

*US Census Bureau, American Community Survey (ACS) 2015-2019



2022 Highlights

In FY2022, the Idaho State Independent Living Council in collaboration with the Centers for Independent Living (CIL) and the Idaho Commission for the Blind and Visually Impaired (ICBVI) began the Statewide Needs Assessment for the FFY* 2025-2027 State Plan for Independent Living. As of June 30th, 2022, SILC and CIL staff visited 20 communities across Idaho, holding 26 listening sessions.** Listening sessions focused on reaching Idahoans where they live, work and play. Additionally, community members submitted 204 assessment surveys.***

Communities Visited:

- | | | | |
|-------------|-----------|--------------|-----------------|
| • Burley | • Rexburg | • Lewiston | • Payette |
| • Pocatello | • Salmon | • Twin Falls | • Gooding |
| • Preston | • Challis | • Jerome | • Mountain Home |
| • Driggs | • Lapwai | • Hailey | • Boise |
| • Ammon | • Orofino | • Nampa | • Cascade |



Edge of the Middle Fork of the Clearwater River near Kooskia, Idaho

*Federal Fiscal Year: October 1—September 30

**Listening sessions and surveys continued into the first quarter of FY2023, total: 24 communities; 32 meetings

*** Assessment survey January 27—September 16, 2022, total: 658 responses

2022 Highlights

ABLE Accounts

ABLE Accounts are savings accounts for people who became disabled before age 26. The passage of the Stephen Beck Jr., Achieving a Better Life Experience Act of 2014 (ABLE Act) provides the opportunity to save money beyond typical public benefit resource limits.

The Idaho State Independent Living Council provides information and referral about ABLE savings; and technical assistance when opening an account in another state. The SILC may provide limited individual financial literacy education when needed.

In FY2022, the Idaho SILC educated 201 Idahoans about ABLE savings programs, an increase of 39% from FY2021.

Emergency Preparedness

The Idaho State Independent Living Council provides education on Emergency Preparedness for people with disabilities and their families. In FY2022, 240 people learned about emergency preparedness through online and in-person training provided locally and nationally by the Idaho SILC, increasing outreach by 342%.

In alignment with the Governor's priorities, the SILC works to improve and strengthen mental health awareness through our Mental Health Emergency Planning Checklist and open community discussions facilitated by the SILC and our partners.

Workgroups, Committees and Collaboration

The State Independent Living Council values connections within and outside of the disability community. Strengthening these bonds benefits Idahoans in every corner of the State. A few of the workgroups and committees SILC staff and Council members take part in are:

- SILC - Health Equity Coalition
- SILC - Idaho Inclusive Emergency Coalition
- Consortium for Idahoans with Disabilities
- IDHW - State of Idaho's Disaster Medical Advisory Committee (SIDMAC)
- IDHW - Medicaid Workgroups
- Neighbors United
- Idaho Asset Building Network
- Behavioral Health Taskforce
- St Alphonsus Deaf & Hard of Hearing Advisory Board
- Behavioral Health Solutions Workgroup



Idaho State Independent Living Council

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