



1977 SURVEY COMPLETED!
Community Residential Findings Summarized

INTRODUCTION

The Developmental Disabilities Project on Residential Services and Community Adjustment was initiated in order to provide state and federal policy makers with information needed to improve planning, management, and evaluation of residential and community services for mentally retarded people. A national mail survey was determined to be the most appropriate means to obtain current information about the kinds of residential services available to retarded individuals as of June 30, 1977.

The questionnaire focused on the facility or home and its mentally retarded residents. The issues covered provided a profile of the general characteristics of facilities such as location, size, ownership, type and reimbursement rates. Basic demographic information such as age, level of retardation and movement trends was obtained on the residents. This brief presents a summary of the major findings from the 1977 National Survey.

DEFINITION

The survey included all facilities and homes which met the following definition of a **Community Residential Facility (CRF)**:

Any community-based living quarter(s) which provides 24-hour, 7 days-a-week responsibility for room, board, and supervision of mentally retarded persons as of June 30, 1977 with the exceptions of: (a) single family homes providing services to a relative; (b) nursing homes, boarding homes and foster homes that are not formally state licensed or contracted as mental retardation service providers; and (c) independent living (apartment) programs which have no staff residing in the same facility.

A Community Residential Facility is a general category that included 37 different types such as group home, ICF-MR, residential schools and supervised apartments reported to us by state licensing agencies. There is no standard classification

system for the wide range of residential facilities which serve mentally retarded persons. Information on Public Residential Facilities which includes state institutions is not included in this brief but will be published at a later date in the Brief series.

SOURCE OF MAILING LIST

In an attempt to develop a complete list of all eligible facilities serving mentally retarded people it was necessary to contact a variety of sources including: (a) all State Mental Retardation Coordinators, (b) State Developmental Disabilities Councils, (c) State Associations for Retarded Citizens, (d) Administrators of Public and Private Residential Facilities, (e) the National Association of Private Residential Facilities, (f) licensing agencies, (g) individuals or agencies listed as contacts in past reports of Developmental Disabilities Office Annual Surveys of Institutions, and (h) the 1973 National Center for Health Statistics Master Facility Inventory of Inpatient Facilities for Mentally Retarded and the 1977 update.

PROCEDURES

The initial mailing was launched on August 19, 1977 to 10,271 facilities. In order to insure that all facilities on the original list were contacted, three mail follow-up inquiries and a telephone follow-up were conducted. Due to the large number of multiple systems (a single ownership which operates more than one facility) additions were made to the mailing list throughout the survey. The survey was completed on April 28, 1978 with a total number of 11,351 facilities and homes. Of the total number surveyed, 5,038 met the definition for a Community Residential Facility*. After four follow-ups, 611 (12%) of the CRFs did not participate. Therefore, the response rate was 87.9%.

Table 1 summarizes data collected from 4,427 Community Residential Facilities.

TABLE I
A. National Summary Data On
Community Residential Facilities
as of June 30, 1977

Number of Facilities	4,427
Licensed Bed Capacity	83,688
Total Number of Residents	76,250
Total Number of Mentally Retarded Residents	62,397
Average Daily Reimbursement Rate	\$15.70

B. National Summary Data on Mentally Retarded Residents Living in Community Residential Facilities Between July 1, 1976 and June 30, 1977

First Admissions	16,044
Readmissions	1,354
Total Admissions	17,398
Deaths	612
Live Releases	9,297
Total Releases	9,909

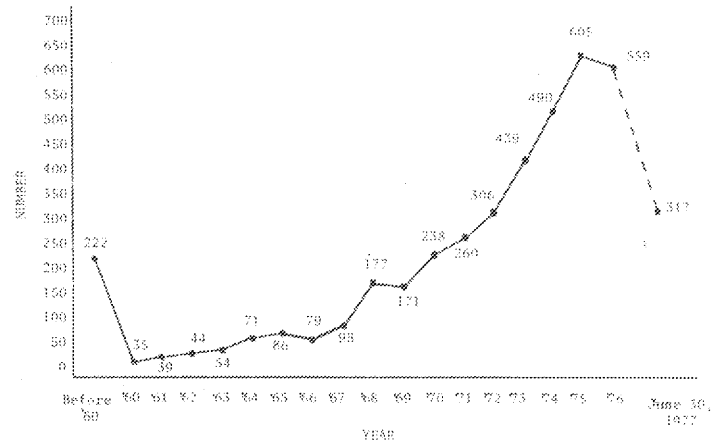
*This summary does not include information reported by foster homes.

GROWTH OF COMMUNITY RESIDENTIAL FACILITIES

The 1977 National Survey of Residential Facilities asked, "When did your facility accept its first mentally retarded resident at its current address?" Figure 1 depicts the growth of CRFs in recent years.

FIGURE 1

Year of Opening for 4290 CRFs:
United States, 1977 (97% CRFs Reporting)



- Over one half (2,410) of the total number of Community Residential Facilities responding to this question opened between January 1, 1973 and June 30, 1977.

- When asked about admission requirements, over 55% of the CRFs stated that their minimum accepted was 18 years or older, while over 72% of the CRFs stated they had no maximum age a person may remain in their facility. Over half of the CRFs (2,424) stated that they would accept severely or profoundly mentally retarded residents.

GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION

National data on number of facilities and residents are summarized in both Figure 2 and Table 2. The 1977 National Survey asked, "As of June 30, 1977, what is your total number of mentally residents (excluding respite care)?"

Also given in Table 2 is the statewide average daily reimbursement rate for the time period between July 1, 1976 and June 30, 1977.

DISTRIBUTION OF FACILITIES, MENTALLY RETARDED RESIDENTS AND REIMBURSEMENT RATE

FIGURE 2

Number of CRFs by State: United States, 1977 (100% CRFs Reporting)

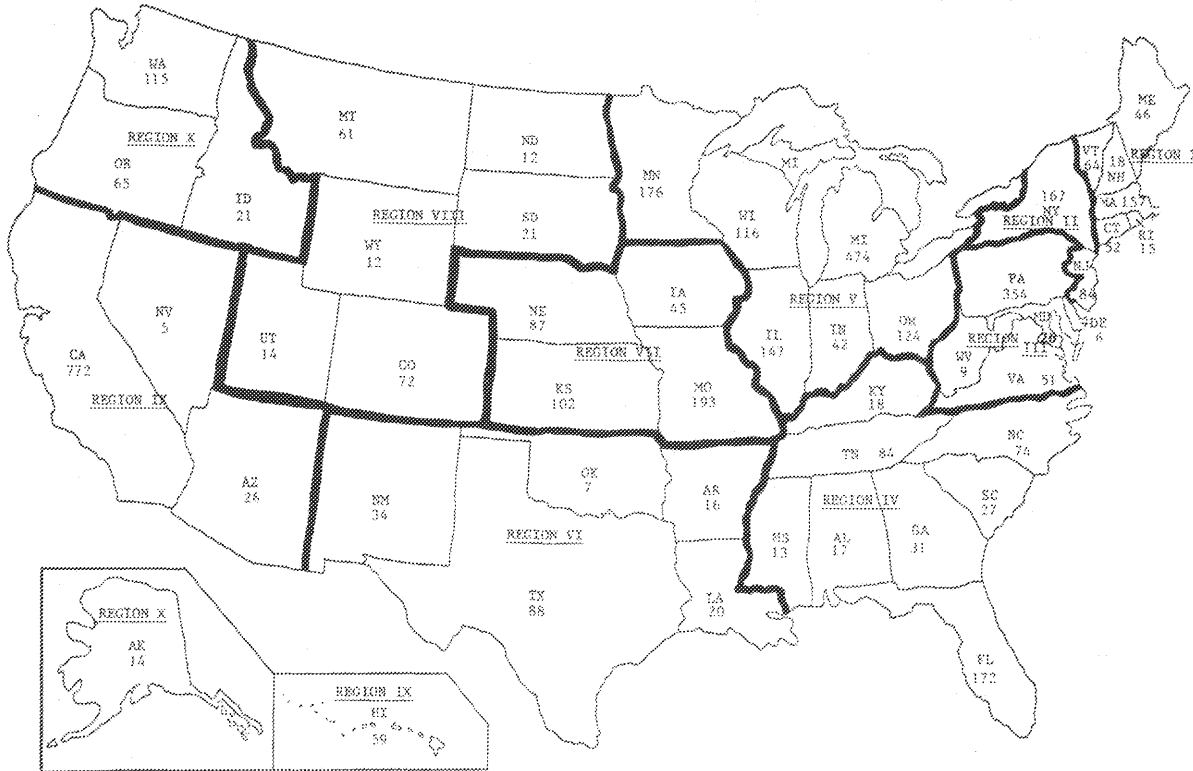


TABLE 2

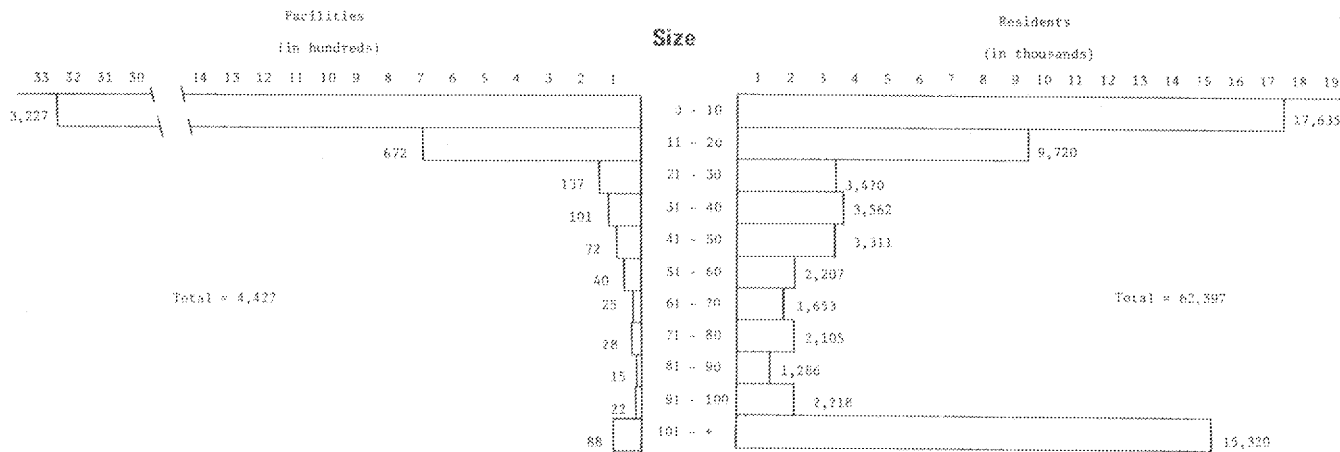
Number of CRFs, Mentally Retarded Residents and Average Daily Reimbursement Rate by Federal Region: United States, 1977 (100% CRFs Reporting A and B, 92% CRFs Reporting C)

Region/ State	A. CRFs	B. Residents	C. \$/Day	Region/ State	A. CRFs	B. Residents	C. \$/Day
Region I — 352 Facilities		3,930	15.18	Region VI — 165 Facilities		4,541	18.81
Connecticut		947	18.06	Arkansas		215	12.52
Maine		629	12.39	Louisiana		1,256	21.19
Massachusetts		1,848	17.81	New Mexico		206	14.98
New Hampshire		105	10.91	Oklahoma		584	12.30
Rhode Island		181	17.56	Texas		2,280	21.00
Vermont		220	9.43	Region VII — 427 Facilities		5,839	14.69
Region II — 251 Facilities		4,103	17.60	Iowa		1,150	24.38
New Jersey		789	10.78	Kansas		1,089	12.83
New York		3,314	20.86	Missouri		2,663	12.20
Region III — 448 Facilities		7,169	21.41	Nebraska		937	16.71
Delaware		89	20.28	Region VIII — 192 Facilities		2,244	14.28
Maryland		374	17.94	Colorado		848	16.20
Pennsylvania		6,102	21.96	Montana		438	12.52
Virginia		508	20.14	North Dakota		185	14.18
West Virginia		56	16.24	South Dakota		260	10.67
Washington, D.C.		40	32.47	Utah		412	17.35
Region IV — 436 Facilities		6,015	16.06	Wyoming		101	14.79
Alabama		207	32.03	Region IX — 862 Facilities		7,420	13.16
Florida		2,342	12.77	Arizona		343	17.78
Georgia		306	20.53	California		6,870	13.03
Kentucky		950	26.00	Hawaii		177	12.53
Mississippi		354	15.60	Nevada		30	15.82
North Carolina		643	15.91	Region X — 215 Facilities		2,746	13.09
South Carolina		310	24.31	Alaska		119	22.40
Tennessee		903	13.36	Idaho		266	10.46
Region V — 1,079 Facilities		18,390	15.77	Oregon		811	11.91
Illinois		6,076	16.39	Washington		1,550	13.07
Indiana		479	17.61				
Michigan		4,126	12.22	U.S. Total	4,427 Facilities	62,397	U.S. Avg. \$15.70
Minnesota		3,140	22.82				
Ohio		2,485	18.01				
Wisconsin		2,084	14.99				

SIZE

FIGURE 3

Distribution of CRFs and Mentally Retarded Residents by Size: United States, 1977 (100% CRFs Reporting)



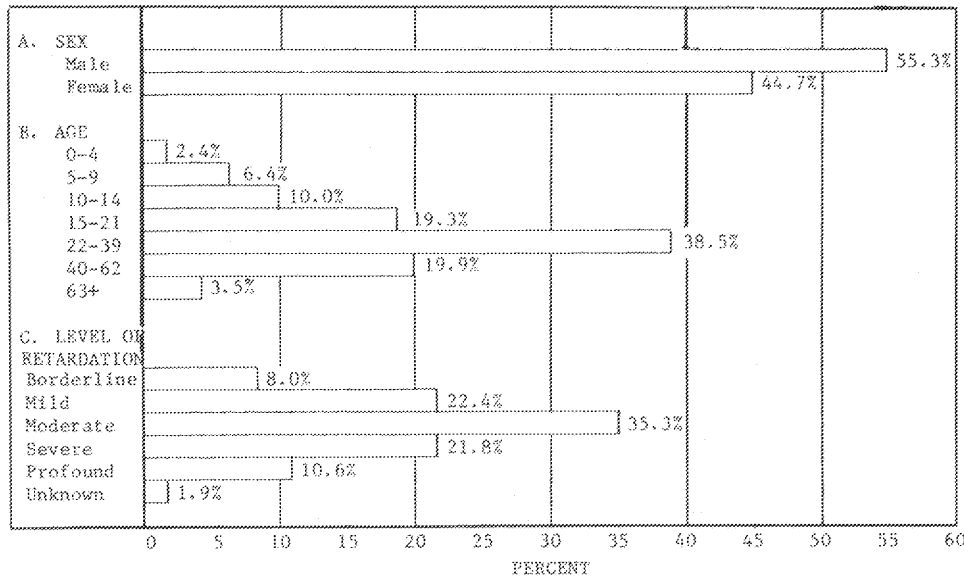
The size of Community Residential Facilities was assessed with questions about licensed bed capacity, total number of residents and total number of mentally retarded residents as of June 30, 1977. The facilities under the classification of Community Residential Facility do not include state institutions.

- The total number of residents in Community Residential Facilities ranged from 1 to 942.
- Most Community Residential Facilities are small: over 88% of the facilities serve 20 or fewer mentally retarded residents.
- While one fourth of the mentally retarded residents in Community Residential Facilities live in homes with 10 or fewer other mentally retarded residents, an almost equal number live in Community Residential Facilities which serve over 100 mentally retarded residents.

DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

FIGURE 4

Sex, Age, Level of Retardation of Mentally Retarded Persons in CRFs: United States, 1977 (98% CRFs Reporting A, 96% CRFs Reporting B and C)



The 1977 National Survey asked, "How many mentally retarded residents are male and how many are female?" The nationwide breakdown was 55.3% male and 44.7% female in CRFs.

Respondents were also asked to classify the number of mentally retarded residents into age categories and level of retardation.

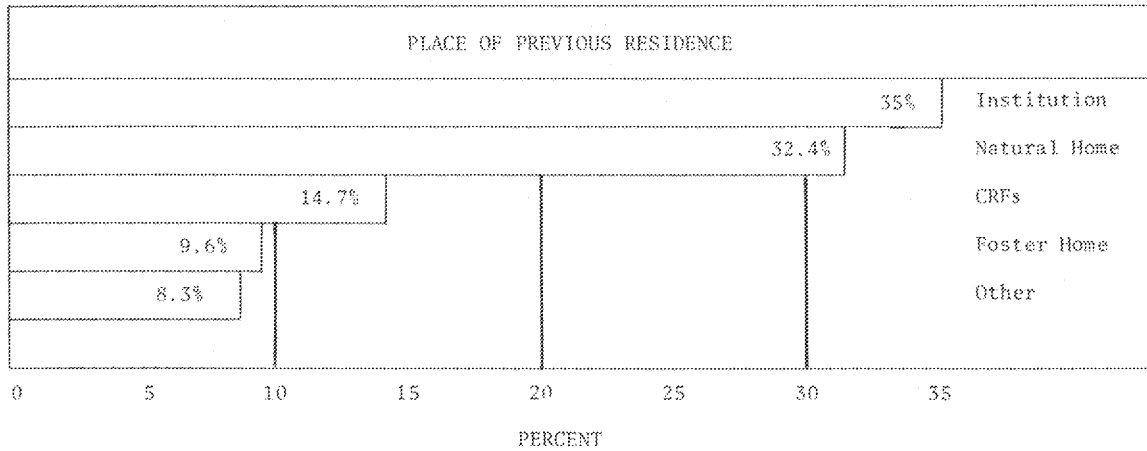
- Over 75% of the mentally retarded residents living in Community Residential Facilities on June 30, 1977 were over 14 years old.

- Approximately 65% of the mentally retarded residents living in Community Residential Facilities on June 30, 1977 were classified as borderline, mildly or moderately retarded while 32% were severely or profoundly retarded. Only 2% could not be classified into one of the levels of retardation by the respondents.

RESIDENT MOVEMENT

FIGURE 5

Previous Placement of First Admissions:
United States, 1977 (95% CRFs Reporting)



Community Residential Facilities were asked to indicate how many mentally retarded residents were admitted, readmitted, discharged or died during July 1, 1976 — June 30, 1977.

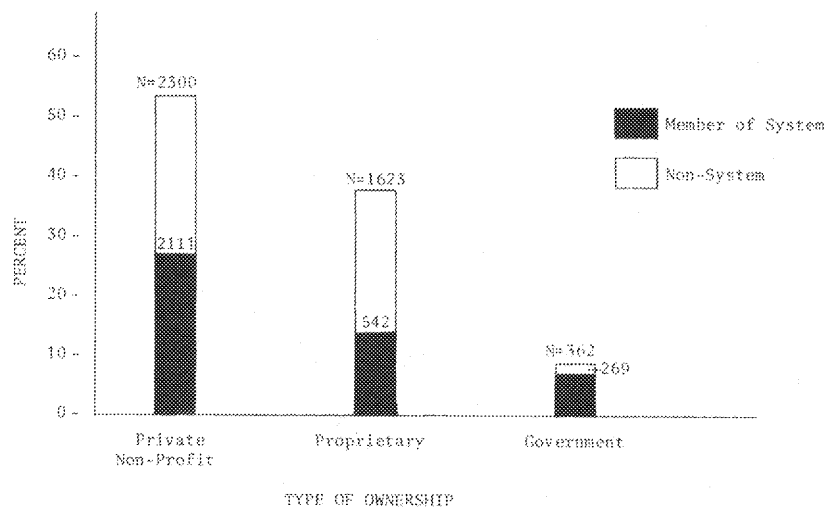
- Over 50% of the Community Residential Facilities reported no movement into or movement out of their facilities during that time period. In other words, there were no first admissions, no readmissions, no live releases and no deaths in half of the CRFs.

- There were over 16,000 first admissions reported by Community Residential Facilities during July 1, 1976-June 30, 1977. Facilities were asked to indicate the previous placement of first admissions. Institutions and natural homes accounted for 67.4% of previous placements for first admissions during that time period.

OWNERSHIP

FIGURE 6

Ownership of CRFs:
United States, 1977 (97% CRFs Reporting)



The 1977 National Survey asked residential facilities to classify themselves as to who operated the facility, whether the facility was operated for profit or non-profit, and whether the facility was a member of a group of facilities operated under one general ownership.

- Over 50% of the Community Residential Facilities reported that they were operated by non-profit organizations.
- Almost half of the Community Residential Facilities indicated that they were members of systems, that is, a group of facilities operating under one general ownership. There were 532 different systems reported in the survey.

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A comprehensive report on this survey will be published in 1979 at a cost of \$5.00 per copy.

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