

AID TO THE DISABLED IN MINNESOTA

The "typical" recipient of aid to the disabled could be described as an unmarried man, 54 years old who was born and raised in Minnesota, has been drawing an aid to the disabled grant for almost three years. He lives within a \$99 monthly budget, the majority of which is received from his aid to the disabled grant. He lives in an urban or non-farm environment with other adults, usually in his own home or his parents' or children's home. He usually has one impairment which confines him to the home, requires services other than financial from the welfare office, has not received vocational rehabilitation services, and has likely never been employed, at least not for the past nine years. His education is limited, averaging about eight years. This is a reflection of the fact that his primary impairment is usually mental deficiency and has been a problem long before he became a recipient of aid to the disabled.

GENERAL CHARACTERISTICS OF RECIPIENTS OF AID TO THE DISABLED

There was a total of 2,848 individuals receiving Aid to the Disabled in Minnesota. The greatest proportion of these recipients live in an urban environment. Of these recipients, 1,452 (58%) live in urban areas and 1,152 (40%) live in rural areas. Fourteen of the recipients live out of the state. Male recipients slightly outnumber female recipients. There were 1,474 (52%) men and 1,374 (48%) women. The average age of these recipients was about 54 years. Sixty-one percent of the recipients (1,738) were never married. The following table illustrates the marital status of these recipients.

MARITAL STATUS

	Total	Married	Widowed	Divorced or Separated	Never Married	Unknown
	2848	498	286	316	1738	10
	100%	17%	10%	11%	61%	
Men	1474	324	48	152	942	8
Women	1374	174	238	164	796	2

### RESIDENTIAL FACILITIES

	Total	Own Home	Home of Children or Parent	Home of Other Relative	Home of Other Person	Nursing Home or Hospital	Non-Med. Inst.	Elsewhere (Hotel, etc.)
	2848	744	616	354	148	588	104	204
	100%	26%	22%	12%	5%	21%	4%	7%
Men	1474	423	288	172	70	280	116	120
Women	1374	321	328	182	78	308	78	84

Sixty percent of these individuals were residing in their own home or the home of a relative. This figure represents 1714 individuals.

### NATURE OF IMPAIRMENTS OF INDIVIDUALS RECEIVING AID TO THE DISABLED

#### PRIMARY IMPAIRMENTS

	Total	Men	Women
	2848	1474	1374
<u>Mental Deficiency</u>	<u>568</u>	<u>302</u>	<u>266</u>
Vascular Lesions Of Central Nervous System & Residuals	226	136	90
Arthritis	212	84	128
Schizophrenic Disorders	198	80	128
Cerebral Spastic Infantile Paralysis	164	98	66
Multiple Sclerosis	150	56	94
Late Effects of Acute Poliomyelitis	132	56	76
Epilepsy	116	62	54
Other Diseases of Central Nervous System	102	62	40
All Others (grouped)	980	538	442

of

Mental deficiency was the most frequently reported primary impairment/the Aid to the Disabled caseload. A total of 568 individuals receiving this aid (20%) were reported as having a primary impairment classified as mental deficiency. Mental deficiency was reported as being the primary impairment  $2\frac{1}{2}$  times as often as the next most frequent primary impairment.

A total of 1278 (45%) of the individuals receiving Aid to the Disabled were reported as having secondary impairments. The following depicts the types and frequencies of secondary impairments reported.

Secondary Impairments

	Total	Men	Women
	2848	1474	1374
No Secondary Impairment	1570	812	758
Mental Deficiency	168	84	84
Other Allergic Endocrine System, Metabolic and Nutritional Diseases	90	36	54
Arthritis	88	44	44
Hypertensive Heart Disease	74	32	42
Psychoneurotic Disorders and Other Disorders of Character, Behavior and Intelligence	74	24	50
Epilepsy	70	38	32
Deformities	66	38	28
All Others	648	366	282

For these individuals who were reported as having a secondary impairment, mental deficiency was again the most frequently reported impairment. A total of 736 individuals (29%) receiving Aid to the Disabled are reported as having mental deficiency as a primary or secondary impairment. The following table depicts the type of living arrangements in terms of primary impairment.

Residential Facilities Of Individuals In Terms Of Primary Impairment

	Total	In Own Home	In Home Of Children or Parents	In Home of Other Person Or Relative	In Inst.	Elsewhere (hotel, rooming house, etc)
Total	2848	744	616	502	782	204
	100%	26%	22%	17%	28%	7%
Mental Deficiency	568	50	224	154	84	56
Vascular Lesions of Central Nervous System	226	76	20	12	106	12
Arthritis	212	94	32	24	56	6
Schizophrenic Disorders	198	16	16	44	88	34
Cerebral Spastic Infantile Paralysis	164	18	66	46	24	10
Multiple Sclerosis	150	26	28	12	82	2
Late Effect of Acute Polio	132	52	38	24	16	2
Epilepsy	116	18	40	30	18	10
Other Diseases Of Central Nervous Sys.	102	36	20	10	36	-
All Others	980	358	132	146	272	72

Reference: Aid to the Disabled, Minnesota Dept. of Public Welfare, October, 1962

Prepared by the  
Minnesota Association for Retarded Children  
December, 1964