

Inclusive Library Services

January 27, 2023

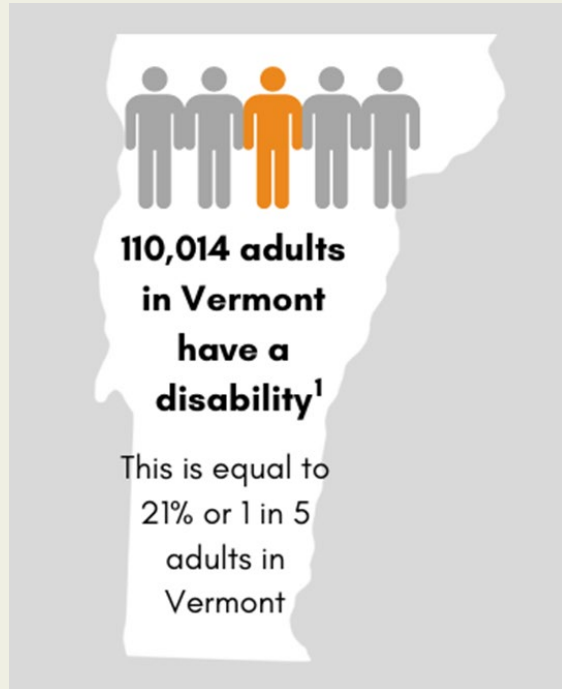
Today's Presentation

- What are inclusive services?
- Library services to people with disabilities
- Other traditionally underserved populations
 - Library services in correctional facilities and other state institutions
 - Services to new Americans
- Best practices in libraries

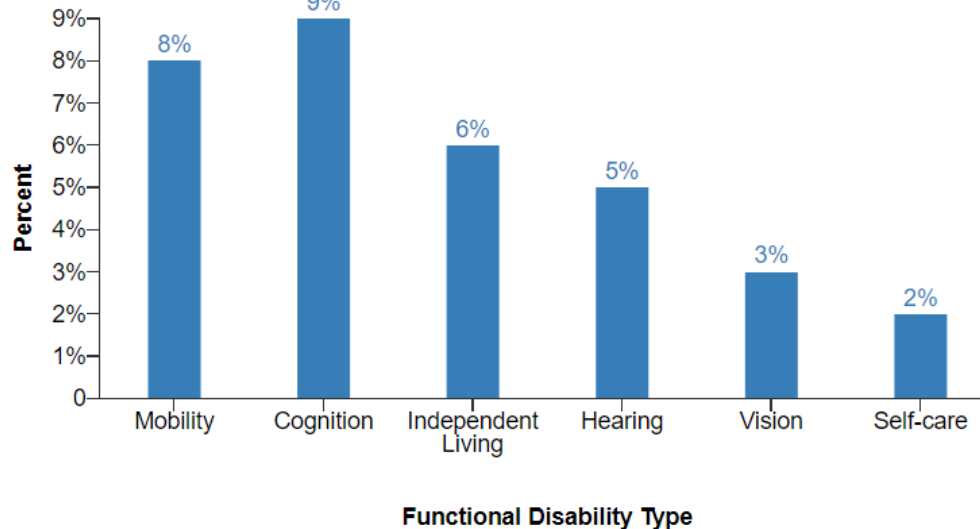
Inclusive Library Services

- Terminology
 - Inclusive services
 - Accessible services
 - Access services
- What data do we have?
- My role

VT Disability and Health State Profile



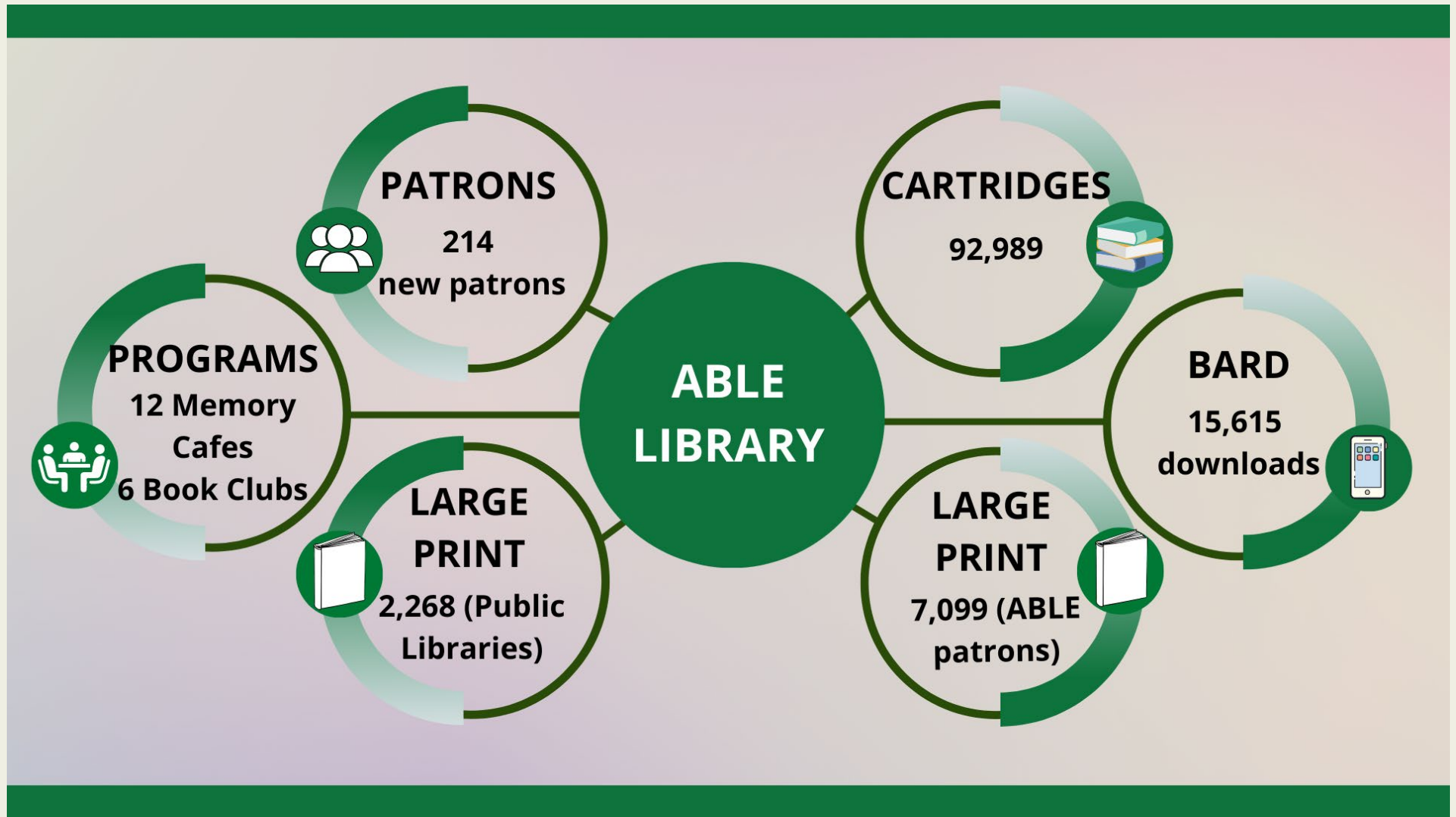
Percentage of adults in Vermont with select functional disability types



13,793 Vermont youth ages 5 through 21 have Individual Education Plans (?%)

ABLE Library

- What is the ABLE Library
- Our collections
- Eligibility
- Partnerships with public libraries



Centralized library services provided by other states

- ASL and TTY reference services and collections for deaf and hard of hearing individuals
- Books by mail for people with mobility disabilities
- Collections and library services specific to people with cognitive disabilities and learning differences
- Collections and library services specific to people with mental health disabilities

Groups underserved by libraries

- People in poverty: 10.3%
- Vermonters aged 65 and up: 20.6%
- BIPOC: 8.2%
- Veterans: 34,347 (%)
- LGBTQ+: 9%
- New Americans: 4.4% were born in other countries

Groups underserved by libraries

(contd)

- Home schoolers
- People with substance use disorders
- Members of religious minorities
- People experiencing homelessness
- People living in rural areas
- Incarcerated individuals

Library services in correctional facilities and other state institutions

- Outlined in VT Statutes (§605.6)
- Total incarcerated population – 1,363
- 6 correctional facilities
- Collection purchases for each state Correctional Facility
- Collection purchases for each Vermont Psychiatric Care Hospital and Middlesex Therapeutic Community Residence
- Continued collaboration with DOC and DMH

Services to New Americans

- Over 8,000 refugees in VT (estimate)
- 5.5% of Vermonters speak a language other than English
- Welcoming Library kits
- Translated “What is a public library” document
- Webpage with resources for libraries

Examples of best practices in libraries

- ESL classes, citizenship classes, conversation classes
- Partnerships with food pantries
- Providing specific information for a group (ex. veterans)
- Offering programming and resources for a group (ex. home schoolers)
- Book delivery services (books by mail, bookmobile, etc.)
- Collection audits and development for diversity

Data Sources and Resources

- Disability statistics from the CDC:
<https://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/disabilityandhealth/impacts/vermont.html>
- Demographic information from the US Census:
<https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/fact/table/VT#>
- Agency of Education Special Education Report (2020):
<https://education.vermont.gov/documents/edu-vt-annual-performance-report-part-b-fy2020>
- ABLE Library: <https://able.vermont.gov/>
- VTLIB inclusive services: https://libraries.vermont.gov/services/inclusive_services

Inclusive services CE

- [The Americans with Disabilities Act: What Libraries Need to Know](#)
- [ABLE Library Overview & Updates](#)
- [HUD Resources for Libraries & Library Patrons](#)
- Inclusive Arts VT Accessibility in Libraries series
 - [Disability Awareness Overview](#)
 - [The Power of Language & Disability Etiquette](#)
 - [Accessibility Features & Meeting Accommodation Requests](#)
 - [Digital Programs & Events](#)
- [Librarians Connecting Patrons to Vermont 211 Resources](#)
- [Rural Literacy and Public Libraries](#)
- [Library Resources and Services for Veterans](#)

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