

We Count

The Project

Funder:

- [Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada's Accessible Technology Program](#)
- [William Flora Hewlett Foundation](#)

Project Website: <https://wecount.inclusivedesign.ca/>

Description:

We Count is a community-driven project to address the inherent bias against small minorities and outliers in artificial intelligence and data analytics. Disability often places you at the margins of a data set. More and more critical decisions are made and automated using data. Current artificial intelligence can automate and amplify existing discrimination.

The We Count community is addressing this by:

- making sure people with lived experience of disability can participate in shaping data science,
- addressing data gaps and biases,
- co-designing protections against data abuse and misuse, and
- co-creating more equitable decision supports.

Partners

Organizations that have expressed interest and/or commitment to participating are:

- Canadian Association of Community Living
- Centre for Independent Living in Toronto
- DisAbleD Women's Network
- Canadian Council of the Blind
- Canadian Hearing Society
- Canadian Hard of Hearing Society
- Canadian National Institute for the Blind
- ARCH Disability Law Centre
- British Columbia Aboriginal Network on Disability Society
- Communication Disabilities Access Canada
- Council of Canadians with Disabilities
- Centre for Addiction and Mental Health
- Disabled Peoples' International
- Institute for Research and Development on Inclusion and Society
- Learning Disabilities Association of Ontario
- NEADS (National Education Association of Disabled Students)
- Ontario Federation for Cerebral Palsy, and
- StopGap

Goals of Project

- List of data science tools along with assessment of accessibility
- Resources for marginalized groups looking to get into artificial intelligence
- Resources for C-suite roles looking to apply artificial intelligence to their organization
- Resources for researchers looking to apply more inclusive /accessible artificial intelligence

Milestones

Milestone #1: Co-design approaches and processes to address accessibility challenges, data science barriers and data gaps for persons with disabilities. (July 2019-December 2021)

Milestone #2: Address accessibility barriers in data science tools and biases against persons with disabilities in machine learning and automated decision processes. (October 2019-March 2022)

WeCount Website

The production deployment: <https://wecount.inclusivedesign.ca/>

The development deployment: <https://dev--wecount.netlify.app/>

The Github repository: <https://github.com/inclusive-design/wecount.inclusivedesign.ca>

[General Information and Browser Support](#)

[Architecture Rationale](#)

Accessibility Map

[Accessibility Map of COVID-19 Assessment Centres](#)

Floe Infrastructure

[Floe Infrastructure](#)

Communication

Regular technical check-in meeting times: Monday and Thursday 3:30pm EST

Meeting notes (link): [All meeting Notes](#)

Communication channel or platform (link):

Project Resource

[Data Science Tools](#)

[Add a relevant Link for Review/Curation by Resources Team](#) (internal access only)

[Add a file to the resources to review folder on Sharepoint](#) (internal access only)

References

[Readings](#)

[Literature](#)

Milestone #3: Develop accessible processes and standards for data governance and security (July 2019-June 2020)

Milestone #4: Credential and certify inclusive data science training (October 2019-March 2022)