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US

United States

2021 Disability Status Report United States



www.disabilitystatistics.org

Yang-Tan Institute on Employment and Disability at the Cornell University ILR School

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Glossary

About the Disability Status Report

The 2021 Annual Disability Status Report

The Annual Disability Status Reports provide policy makers, disability advocates, reporters, and the public with a summary of the most recent demographic and economic statistics on the non-institutionalized population with disabilities. They contain information on the population size and disability prevalence for various demographic subpopulations, as well as statistics related to employment, earnings, household income, veterans' service-connected disability and health insurance. Comparisons are made to people without disabilities and across disability types. Disability Status Reports and other statistics are available for the United States overall, each state, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico at www.disabilitystatistics.org.

The Status Reports primarily look at the working-age population because the employment gap between people with and without disabilities is a major focus of government programs and advocacy efforts. Employment is also a key factor in the social integration and economic self-sufficiency of working-age people with disabilities.

The information in this report is based on data from the US Census Bureau's American Community Survey (ACS) - a survey sent each year to a random sample of over 3.5 million households. For more information see the Census Bureau's ACS website <http://www.census.gov/acs/www/> and our Guide to Disability Statistics from the American Community Survey (2008 Forward): <http://disabilitystatistics.org/sources>.

The estimates in these reports are based on responses from a sample of the population and may differ from actual population values because of sampling variability and other factors. Differences observed between the estimates for two or more groups may not be statistically significant.

<http://www.census.gov/people/disability/methodology/acs.html>

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ACS Disability Questions

There is no single accepted definition of disability. Different definitions and disability questions may identify different populations with disabilities and result in larger or smaller estimates.

Below are the six questions used in the ACS to identify persons with disabilities. Note that the Census Bureau refers to each of the individual types as "difficulty" while in this report the term "disability" is used.

Hearing Disability (asked of all ages):

- Is this person deaf or does he/she have serious difficulty hearing?

Visual Disability (asked of all ages):

- Is this person blind or does he/she have serious difficulty seeing even when wearing glasses?

Cognitive Disability (asked of persons ages 5 or older):

- Because of a physical, mental, or emotional condition, does this person have serious difficulty concentrating, remembering, or making decisions?

Ambulatory Disability (asked of persons ages 5 or older):

- Does this person have serious difficulty walking or climbing stairs?

Self-Care Disability (asked of persons ages 5 or older):

- Does this person have difficulty dressing or bathing?

Independent Living Disability (asked of persons ages 15 or older):

- Because of a physical, mental, or emotional condition, does this person have difficulty doing errands alone such as visiting a doctor's office or shopping?

Note:

- The "Any Disability" category used in this report includes persons who reported one or more of the individual disability types.
- Respondents could report more than one disability type.
- Some disability questions were not asked of children.
- A separate set of survey questions identify veterans with service-connected disabilities. Based on a separate set of survey questions, this report includes estimates related to veterans' service-connected disability (see page 51).

Notes

Spanish Language Reports: Spanish language versions of the Annual Disability Status Reports for the US, all 50 states, Puerto Rico, and Washington D.C. can be downloaded at the same location as the English Status Reports. The Spanish translation was made possible through funding from the Northeast ADA Center and NIDILRR.

Puerto Rico: A Puerto Rico Disability Status Report, based on the parallel 2021 Puerto Rico Community Survey (PRCS), is available again this year in English as well as Spanish. However, please note that the Puerto Rico sample is not included in any U.S. population estimates included in these reports.

Group Quarters: In 2006, the ACS began surveying the group quarters population. We include the non-institutionalized group quarters population, but due to small state level sample sizes exclude the institutionalized group quarters population (see glossary) in the Disability Status Reports.

Margin of Error (MOE): As in previous years' reports we provide the 90% MOE to better illustrate sampling variability. See the glossary entry for more information on this topic.

Glossary: As in previous years, we provide a comprehensive glossary at the back of this report defining the terms used in the Disability Status Report (see glossary).

Note: According to the Census Bureau, estimates based on the ACS Public Use Microdata Sample (PUMS) file such as those included in this report may differ slightly from the ACS summary tables produced by the Census Bureau, because they are subject to additional sampling error and further data processing operations. Please see <http://www.disabilitystatistics.org/faq#Q4> for further information.

United States Summary

These statistics indicate the social and economic status of non-institutionalized people with disabilities in the United States, using data from the 2021 American Community Survey (ACS).

Age: In 2021, the prevalence of disability in the United States was:

- 13.0 percent for persons of all ages
- 0.7 percent for persons ages 4 and under
- 5.8 percent for persons ages 5 to 15
- 7.6 percent for persons ages 16 to 20
- 10.9 percent for persons ages 21 to 64
- 23.9 percent for persons ages 65 to 74
- 46.1 percent for persons ages 75+

Disability Type: In 2021, the prevalence of the six disability types among persons of all ages in the United States was:

- 13.0% reported Any Disability
- 2.5% reported a Visual Disability
- 3.6% reported a Hearing Disability
- 6.6% reported an Ambulatory Disability
- 5.4% reported a Cognitive Disability
- 2.5% reported a Self-Care Disability
- 5.7% reported an Independent Living Disability

Gender: In 2021, 13.2 percent of females of all ages and 12.8 percent of males of all ages in the US reported a disability.

Hispanic/Latino: In 2021, the prevalence of disability among persons of all ages of Hispanic or Latino origin in the United States was 10.0 percent.

Race: In the United States in 2021, the prevalence of disability for working-age people (ages 21 to 64) was:

- 11.1 percent among Whites
- 13.8 percent among Black / African Americans
- 5.0 percent among Asians
- 15.2 percent among Native Americans
- 10.3 percent among persons of some other race(s)

Employment: In 2021, the employment rate of working-age people (ages 21 to 64) with disabilities in the United States was 41.1 percent.

Looking for Work: In the United States in 2021, the percentage actively looking for work among people with disabilities who were not working was 10.3 percent.

Full-Time/Full-Year Employment: In the United States in 2021, the percentage of working-age people with disabilities working full-time/full-year was 26.9 percent.

Annual Earnings: In 2021, the median annual earnings of working-age people with disabilities working full-time/full-year in the United States was \$46,300.

Annual Household Income: In the United States in 2021, the median annual income of households with working-age people with disabilities was \$55,600.

Poverty: In the United States in 2021, the poverty rate of working-age people with disabilities was 24.4 percent.

Supplemental Security Income: In 2021, the percentage of working-age people with disabilities receiving SSI payments in the United States was 15.5 percent.

Educational Attainment: In 2021, the percentage of working-age people with disabilities in the United States:

- with only a high school diploma or equivalent was 33.6 percent
- with only some college or an associate degree was 31.8 percent
- with a bachelor's degree or more was 17.9 percent.

Veterans Service-Connected Disability: In 2021, the percentage of working-age civilian veterans with a VA determined Service-Connected Disability was 32.5 percent in the United States.

Health Insurance Coverage: In 2021 in the United States, 89.8 percent of working-age people with disabilities had health insurance.

Prevalence: Ages 21 - 64

This summary lists percentages by state of non-institutionalized working-age (ages 21 to 64) people with disabilities using data from the 2021 American Community Survey (ACS). The US disability prevalence rate for this population was 10.9%

Location	2021 (%)	Location	2021 (%)
Alabama	14.9	Montana	12.0
Alaska	13.1	Nebraska	11.3
Arizona	11.1	Nevada	10.8
Arkansas	15.9	New Hampshire	9.9
California	8.8	New Jersey	8.0
Colorado	9.3	New Mexico	14.4
Connecticut	9.5	New York	9.5
Delaware	11.2	North Carolina	11.6
District of Columbia	10.0	North Dakota	10.3
Florida	10.4	Ohio	12.4
Georgia	11.2	Oklahoma	15.6
Hawaii	9.0	Oregon	13.2
Idaho	12.0	Pennsylvania	11.3
Illinois	9.8	Rhode Island	11.8
Indiana	12.1	South Carolina	12.5
Iowa	10.8	South Dakota	10.9
Kansas	11.8	Tennessee	13.2
Kentucky	16.5	Texas	10.4
Louisiana	14.5	Utah	9.9
Maine	13.8	Vermont	11.0
Maryland	9.3	Virginia	10.3
Massachusetts	9.0	Washington	10.9
Michigan	12.1	West Virginia	16.7
Minnesota	10.2	Wisconsin	10.3
Mississippi	17.1	Wyoming	11.6
Missouri	12.8	Puerto Rico	17.2

Employment: Ages 21 - 64

This summary lists employment rates by state of non-institutionalized working-age (ages 21 to 64) people with disabilities using data from the 2021 American Community Survey (ACS). The employment rate in the US for this population was 41.1% for people with disabilities and 78.6% for people without disabilities.

Location	People with Disabilities 2021	People without Disabilities 2021	Location	People with Disabilities 2021	People without Disabilities 2021
Alabama	32.4	76.9	Montana	43.3	80.0
Alaska	47.8	78.0	Nebraska	52.3	86.8
Arizona	44.5	77.7	Nevada	43.3	74.7
Arkansas	35.9	79.3	New Hampshire	45.7	83.5
California	40.0	75.6	New Jersey	41.1	78.7
Colorado	50.8	81.6	New Mexico	35.4	73.2
Connecticut	44.3	80.5	New York	37.2	76.3
Delaware	46.8	79.1	North Carolina	39.4	78.8
District of Columbia	41.1	81.1	North Dakota	57.1	85.4
Florida	39.6	78.1	Ohio	39.5	80.4
Georgia	39.6	78.4	Oklahoma	41.0	78.2
Hawaii	42.8	78.1	Oregon	42.2	78.2
Idaho	51.0	80.4	Pennsylvania	39.9	79.9
Illinois	42.0	78.9	Rhode Island	41.6	80.4
Indiana	41.1	80.5	South Carolina	36.5	77.5
Iowa	45.8	84.8	South Dakota	50.7	85.7
Kansas	44.2	82.7	Tennessee	35.8	78.8
Kentucky	34.0	77.8	Texas	46.6	77.7
Louisiana	34.3	74.6	Utah	53.7	81.2
Maine	35.5	81.7	Vermont	39.2	82.2
Maryland	46.5	81.2	Virginia	45.5	81.5
Massachusetts	42.0	81.6	Washington	42.8	78.8
Michigan	37.5	77.1	West Virginia	29.7	73.0
Minnesota	50.6	84.8	Wisconsin	46.0	83.5
Mississippi	33.7	75.8	Wyoming	52.4	81.6
Missouri	41.9	81.4	Puerto Rico	25.6	61.5

Prevalence

All Ages

Introduction

This section addresses the prevalence of disability among non-institutionalized people of all ages in the United States, using data from the 2021 American Community Survey (ACS). For definitions of terms, see Glossary.

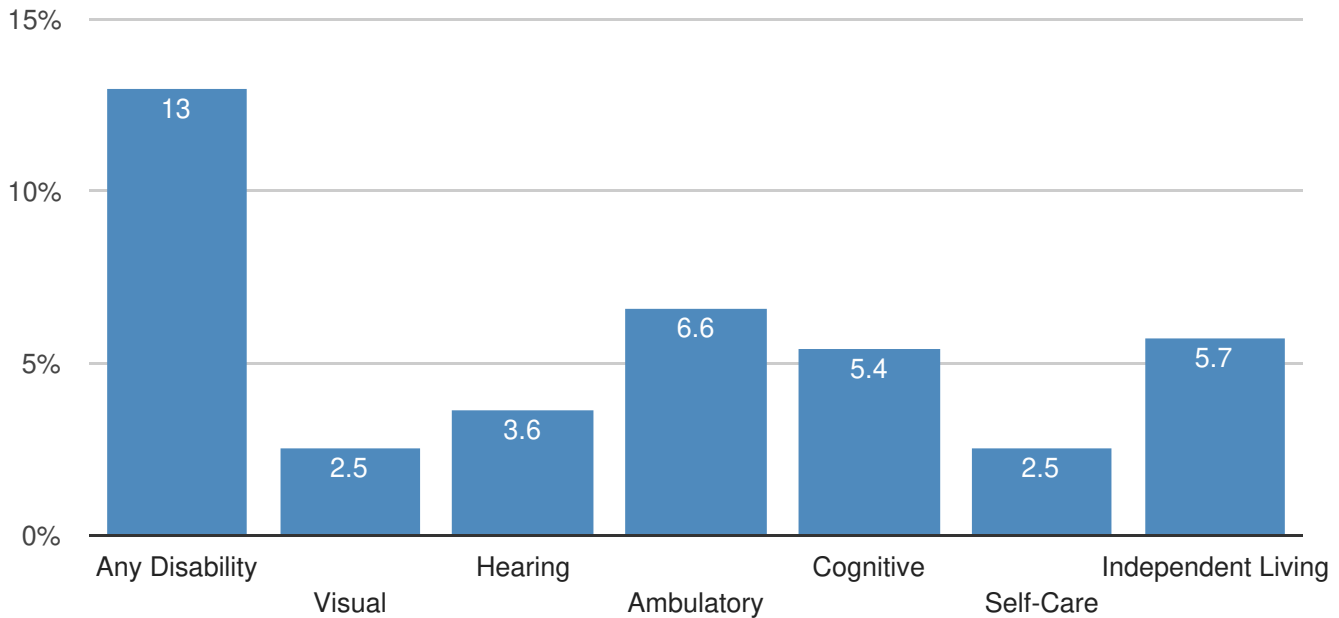
Quick Statistics

Prevalence:
All Ages
13.0%

- In 2021, the overall percentage (prevalence rate) of people with a disability of all ages in the US was 13.0 percent.
- In other words, in 2021, 42,670,500 of the 328,274,300 individuals of all ages in the US reported one or more disabilities.
- In the US in 2021, among the six types of disabilities identified in the ACS, the highest prevalence rate was for "Ambulatory Disability," 6.6 percent. The lowest prevalence rate was for "Self-Care Disability," 2.5 percent.

Prevalence of disability among non-institutionalized people of all ages in the United States in 2021*

Prevalence Rates: All Ages (%)



Disability Type	Percent	MOE	Number	MOE	Base Population	Sample Size
Any Disability	13.0	0.05	42,670,500	159,690	328,274,300	3,175,355
Visual	2.5	0.02	8,096,900	73,600	328,274,300	3,175,355
Hearing	3.6	0.03	11,659,900	87,840	328,274,300	3,175,355
Ambulatory	6.6	0.04	20,463,900	114,760	309,692,500	3,023,564
Cognitive	5.4	0.03	16,629,400	104,080	309,692,500	3,023,564
Self-Care	2.5	0.02	7,836,800	72,440	309,692,500	3,023,564
Independent Living	5.7	0.04	15,154,000	99,590	267,862,000	2,665,699

* **Note:** Children under the age of five were only asked about Vision and Hearing disabilities. The Independent Living disability question was only asked of persons aged 16 years old and older.

Prevalence

Ages 4 years and under

Introduction

This section focuses on the prevalence of disability among non-institutionalized children ages 4 and under in the United States, using data from the 2021 American Community Survey (ACS). Only the two sensory disability questions were asked of this population. For definitions of terms, see Glossary.

Quick Statistics

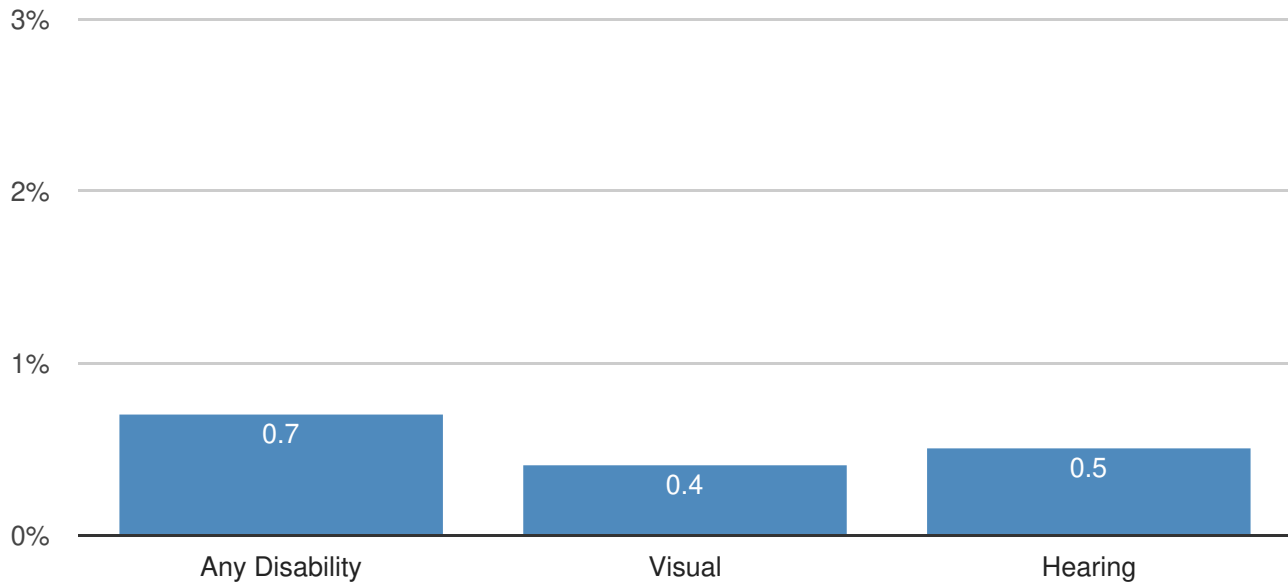
Prevalence:
Ages 4 and
under

0.7%

- In 2021, the overall percentage (prevalence rate) of children with a visual and/or hearing disability ages 0 to 4 in the US was 0.7 percent.
- In other words, in 2021, 126,800 of the 18,581,700 children ages 0 to 4 in the US reported one or more disabilities.
- In the US in 2021, 0.4 percent reported a visual disability
- In the US in 2021, 0.5 percent reported a hearing disability

Prevalence of disability among non-institutionalized people ages 4 and under in the United States in 2021

Prevalence Rates: Ages 4 years and under (%)



Disability Type	Percent	MOE	Number	MOE	Base Population	Sample Size
Any Disability	0.7	3.29	126,800	9,320	18,581,700	151,791
Visual	0.4	3.29	68,700	6,860	18,581,700	151,791
Hearing	0.5	3.29	85,900	7,670	18,581,700	151,791

Prevalence

Ages 5 to 15 years

Introduction

This section focuses on the prevalence of disability among non-institutionalized children ages 5 to 15 in the United States, using data from the 2021 American Community Survey (ACS)*. For definitions of terms, see Glossary.

Quick Statistics

Prevalence:
Ages 5 to 15
years

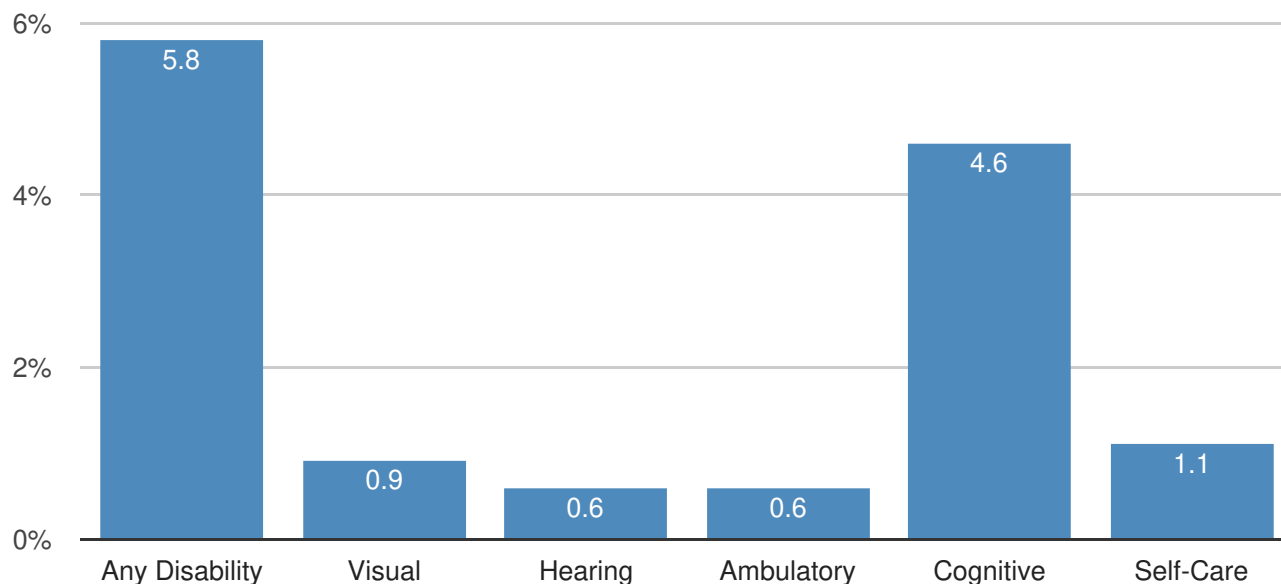
5.8%

- In 2021, the overall percentage (prevalence rate) of children with a disability ages 5 to 15 in the US was 5.8 percent.
- In other words, in 2021, 2,677,900 of the 46,142,100 individuals ages 5 to 15 in the US reported one or more disabilities.
- In the US in 2021, among the five types of disabilities* identified in the ACS, the highest prevalence rate was for "Cognitive Disability," 4.6 percent. The lowest prevalence rate was for "Ambulatory Disability," 0.6 percent.

* **Note:** The "Independent Living Disability" question was not asked of children ages 15 years and younger.

Prevalence of disability* among non-institutionalized people ages 5 to 15 in the United States in 2021

Prevalence Rates: Ages 5 to 15 years (%)



Disability Type	Percent	MOE	Number	MOE	Base Population	Sample Size
Any Disability	5.8	0.09	2,677,900	42,680	46,142,100	396,083
Visual	0.9	3.29	413,700	16,830	46,142,100	396,083
Hearing	0.6	3.29	260,200	13,350	46,142,100	396,083
Ambulatory	0.6	3.29	259,000	13,320	46,142,100	396,083
Cognitive	4.6	0.08	2,104,300	37,870	46,142,100	396,083
Self-Care	1.1	3.29	525,000	18,960	46,142,100	396,083

* **Note:** The "Independent Living Disability" question was not asked of children ages 15 years and younger.

Prevalence

Ages 16 to 20 years

Introduction

This section focuses on the prevalence of disability among non-institutionalized people ages 16 to 20 in the United States, using data from the 2021 American Community Survey (ACS). For definitions of terms, see Glossary.

Quick Statistics

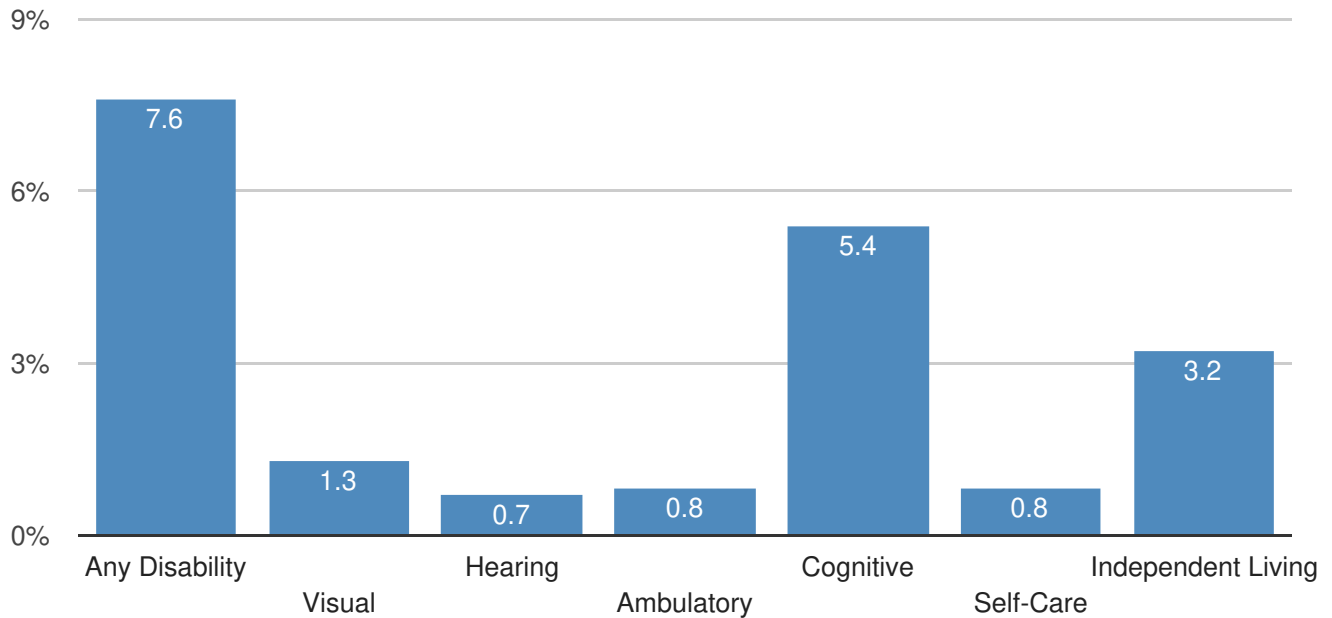
Prevalence:
Ages 16 to 20
years

7.6%

- In 2021, the overall percentage (prevalence rate) of people with a disability ages 16 to 20 in the US was 7.6 percent.
- In other words, in 2021, 1,640,500 of the 21,712,500 individuals ages 16 to 20 in the US reported one or more disabilities.
- In the US in 2021, among the six types of disabilities identified in the ACS, the highest prevalence rate was for "Cognitive Disability," 5.4 percent. The lowest prevalence rate was for "Hearing Disability," 0.7 percent.

Prevalence of disability among non-institutionalized people ages 16 to 20 in the United States in 2021

Prevalence Rates: Ages 16 to 20 years (%)



Disability Type	Percent	MOE	Number	MOE	Base Population	Sample Size
Any Disability	7.6	0.15	1,640,500	33,460	21,712,500	206,251
Visual	1.3	3.29	286,200	14,010	21,712,500	206,251
Hearing	0.7	3.29	148,800	10,100	21,712,500	206,251
Ambulatory	0.8	3.29	175,700	10,970	21,712,500	206,251
Cognitive	5.4	0.13	1,182,700	28,430	21,712,500	206,251
Self-Care	0.8	3.29	175,700	10,970	21,712,500	206,251
Independent Living	3.2	0.10	684,800	21,650	21,712,500	206,251

Prevalence

Ages 21 to 64 years

Introduction

This section focuses on the prevalence of disability among non-institutionalized working-age people (ages 21 to 64) in the United States, using data from the 2021 American Community Survey (ACS). For definitions of terms, see Glossary.

Quick Statistics

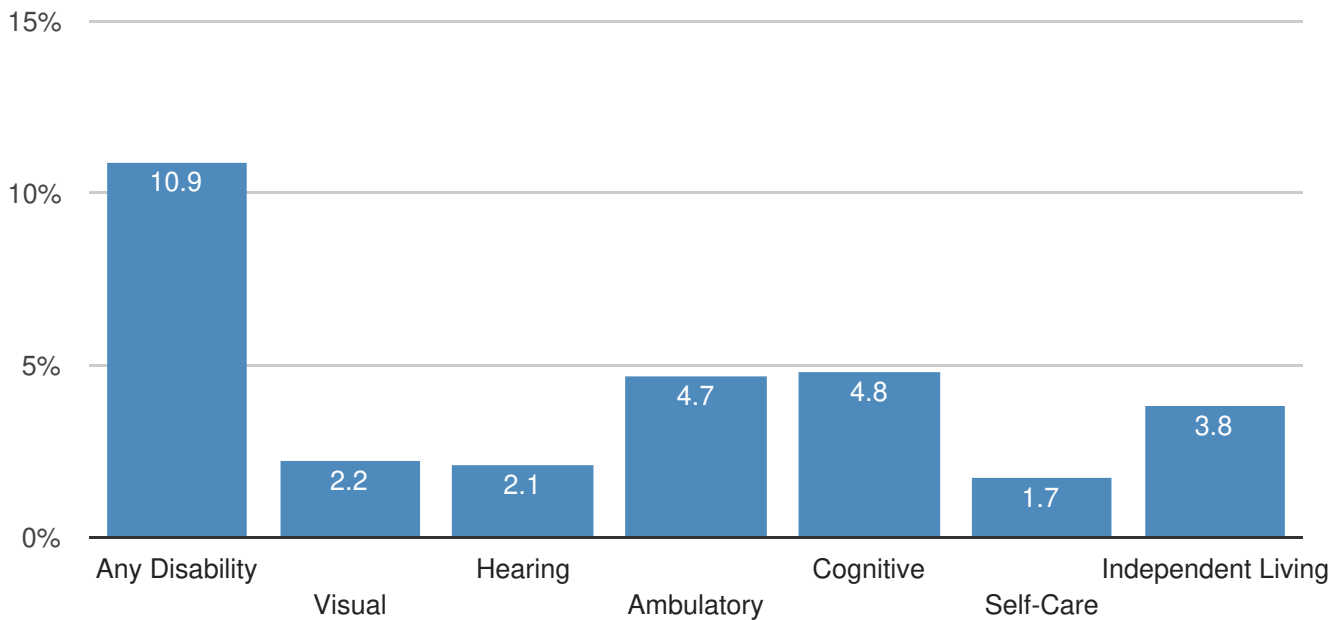
Prevalence:
Ages 21 to 64
years

10.9%

- In 2021, the overall percentage (prevalence rate) of working age people (ages 21 to 64) with a disability in the US was 10.9 percent.
- In other words, in 2021, 20,412,100 of the 187,079,000 individuals ages 21 to 64 in the US reported one or more disabilities.
- In the US in 2021, among the six types of disabilities identified in the ACS, the highest prevalence rate was for "Cognitive Disability," 4.8 percent. The lowest prevalence rate was "Self-Care Disability," 1.7 percent.

Prevalence of disability among non-institutionalized people ages 21 to 64 in the United States in 2021

Prevalence Rates: Ages 21 to 64 years (%)



Disability Type	Percent	MOE	Number	MOE	Base Population	Sample Size
Any Disability	10.9	0.06	20,412,100	114,620	187,079,000	1,734,987
Visual	2.2	0.03	4,035,400	52,290	187,079,000	1,734,987
Hearing	2.1	0.03	3,917,200	51,520	187,079,000	1,734,987
Ambulatory	4.7	0.04	8,837,500	76,810	187,079,000	1,734,987
Cognitive	4.8	0.04	9,038,700	77,650	187,079,000	1,734,987
Self-Care	1.7	3.29	3,245,600	46,950	187,079,000	1,734,987
Independent Living	3.8	0.04	7,128,900	69,170	187,079,000	1,734,987

Prevalence

Ages 65 to 74 years

Introduction

This section explores the prevalence of disability among non-institutionalized people ages 65 to 74 in the United States, using data from the 2021 American Community Survey (ACS). For definitions of terms, see Glossary.

Quick Statistics

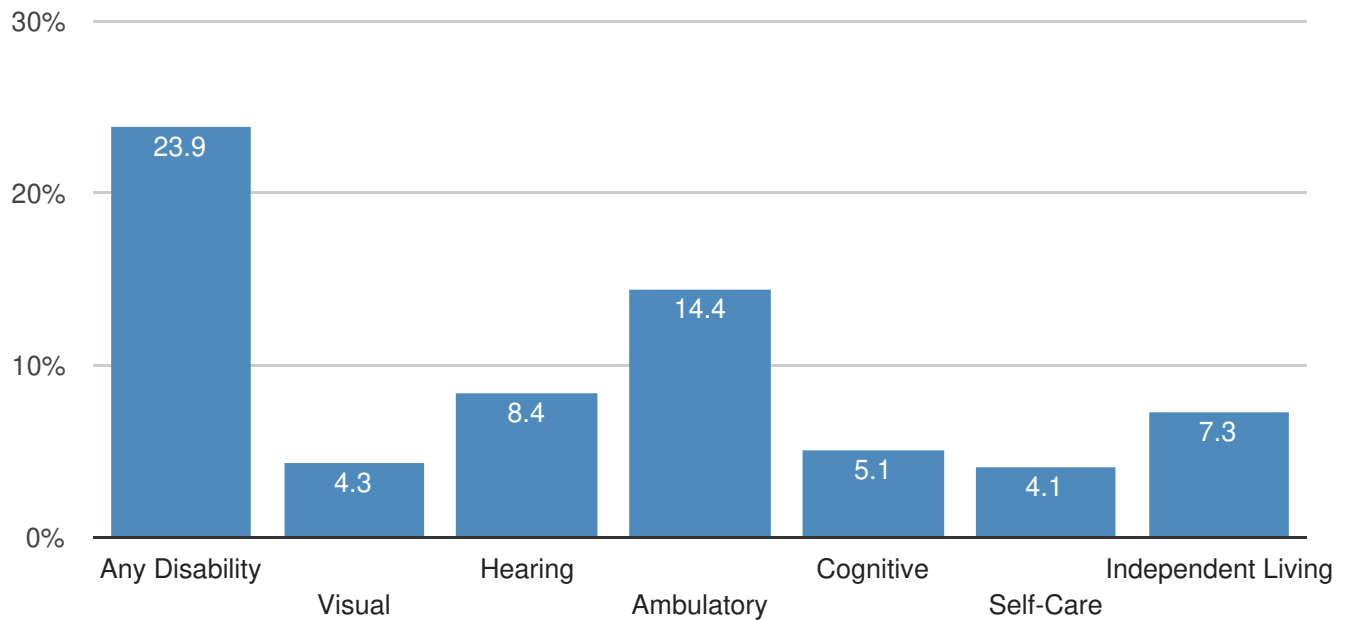
Prevalence:
Ages 65 to 74
years

23.9%

- In 2021, the overall percentage (prevalence rate) of people with a disability ages 65 to 74 in the US was 23.9 percent.
- In other words, in 2021, 7,999,900 of the 33,460,700 individuals ages 65 to 74 in the US reported one or more disabilities.
- In the US in 2021, among the six types of disabilities identified in the ACS, the highest prevalence rate was for "Ambulatory Disability," 14.4 percent. The lowest prevalence rate was for "Self-Care Disability," 4.1 percent.

Prevalence of disability among non-institutionalized people ages 65 to 74 in the United States in 2021

Prevalence Rates: Ages 65 to 74 years (%)



Disability Type	Percent	MOE	Number	MOE	Base Population	Sample Size
Any Disability	23.9	0.19	7,999,900	73,170	33,460,700	412,069
Visual	4.3	0.09	1,437,600	31,330	33,460,700	412,069
Hearing	8.4	0.13	2,815,900	43,760	33,460,700	412,069
Ambulatory	14.4	0.16	4,825,900	57,110	33,460,700	412,069
Cognitive	5.1	0.10	1,693,300	33,990	33,460,700	412,069
Self-Care	4.1	0.09	1,367,300	30,560	33,460,700	412,069
Independent Living	7.3	0.12	2,454,000	40,870	33,460,700	412,069

Prevalence

Ages 75 and Older

Introduction

This section focuses on the prevalence of disability among non-institutionalized people ages 75 and older in the United States, using data from the 2021 American Community Survey (ACS). For definitions of terms, see Glossary.

Quick Statistics

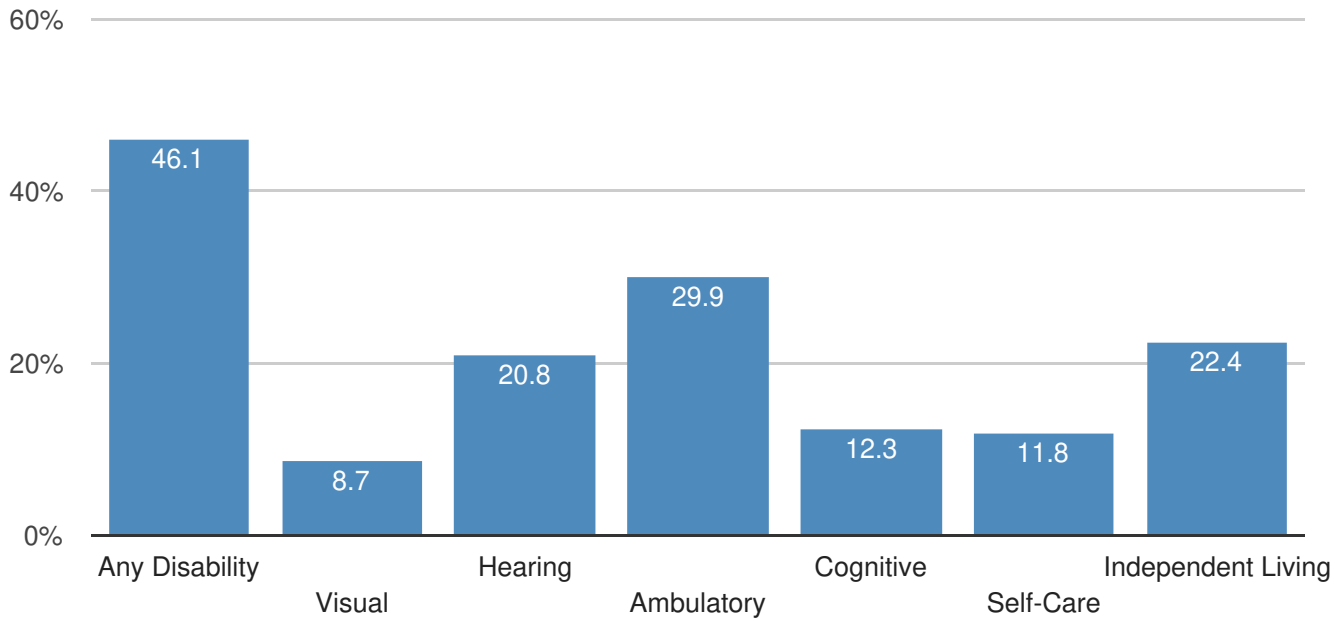
Prevalence:
Ages 75 and
Older

46.1%

- In 2021, the overall percentage (prevalence rate) of people with a disability ages 75 and older in the US was 46.1 percent.
- In other words, in 2021, 9,813,200 of the 21,298,200 individuals ages 75 and older in the US reported one or more disabilities.
- In the US in 2021, among the six types of disabilities identified in the ACS, the highest prevalence rate was for "Ambulatory Disability," 29.9 percent. The lowest prevalence rate was for "Visual Disability," 8.7 percent.

Prevalence of disability among non-institutionalized people ages 75 and older in the United States in 2021

Prevalence Rates: Ages 75 and older (%)



Disability Type	Percent	MOE	Number	MOE	Base Population	Sample Size
Any Disability	46.1	0.28	9,813,200	80,810	21,298,200	274,174
Visual	8.7	0.16	1,855,300	35,570	21,298,200	274,174
Hearing	20.8	0.23	4,431,800	54,760	21,298,200	274,174
Ambulatory	29.9	0.26	6,365,700	65,440	21,298,200	274,174
Cognitive	12.3	0.19	2,610,500	42,150	21,298,200	274,174
Self-Care	11.8	0.18	2,523,200	41,440	21,298,200	274,174
Independent Living	22.4	0.24	4,760,500	56,730	21,298,200	274,174

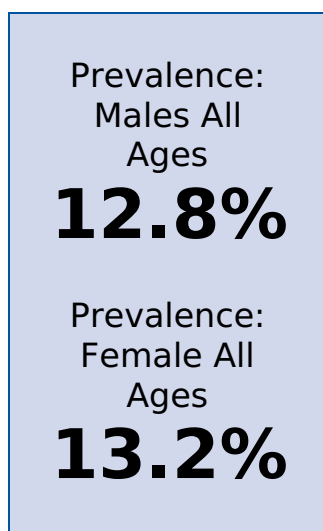
Prevalence

Gender and Age

Introduction

This section examines the prevalence of disability among people by gender and age group in the United States, using data from the 2021 American Community Survey (ACS)*. For definitions of terms, see Glossary.

Quick Statistics

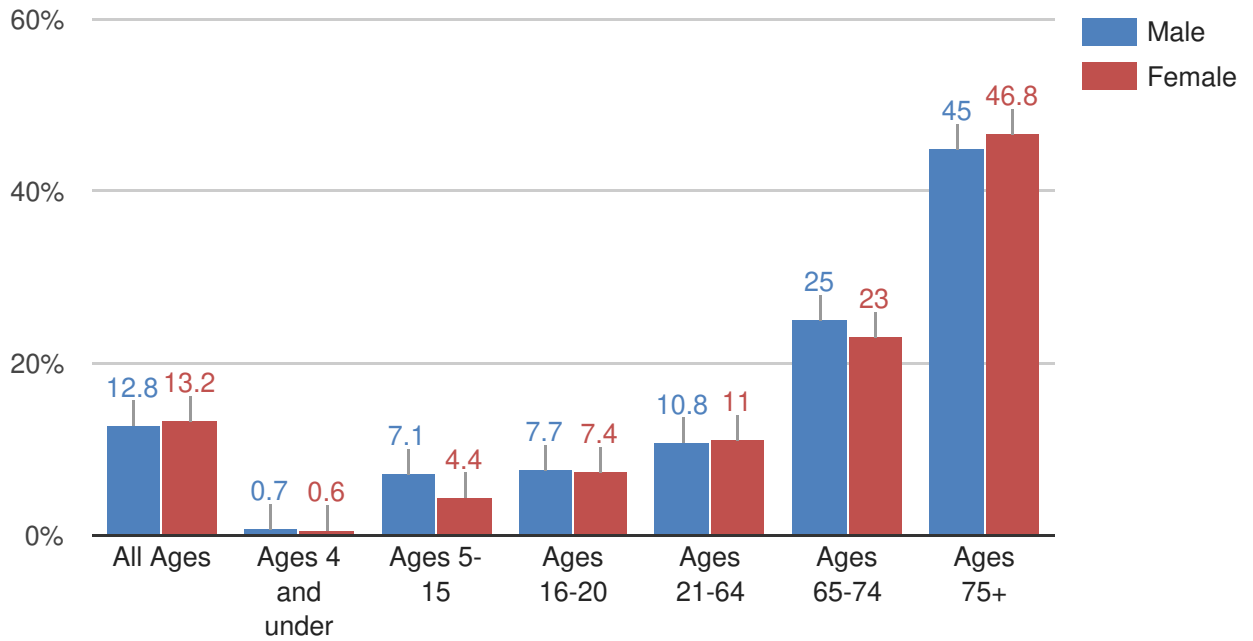


- In the US in 2021, the overall percentage (prevalence rate) of males with a disability of all ages was 12.8 percent.
- In other words, in 2021, 20,628,600 of the 161,776,200 males of all ages in the US reported one or more disabilities.
- In the US in 2021, the overall percentage (prevalence rate) of females with a disability of all ages was 13.2 percent.
- In other words, in 2021, 22,041,900 of the 166,498,000 females of all ages in the US reported one or more disabilities.

* **Note:** Children ages 0-4 were only asked about visual and hearing disabilities, children ages 5-15 were not asked the "Independent Living Disability" question.

Prevalence of disability among non-institutionalized people by gender and age group in the United States in 2021

Prevalence Rates: Gender and Age (%)



Gender & Age	Percent	MOE	Number	MOE	Base Population	Sample Size
Male						
Male: All Ages	12.8	0.07	20,628,600	115,190	161,776,200	1,545,692
Male: Ages 4 and under	0.7	3.29	68,700	6,860	9,518,400	77,565
Male: Ages 5-15	7.1	0.14	1,683,100	33,890	23,664,200	202,785
Male: Ages 16-20	7.7	0.21	853,300	24,160	11,074,100	104,326
Male: Ages 21-64	10.8	0.08	10,031,500	81,680	92,766,500	848,384
Male: Ages 65-74	25.0	0.29	3,925,900	51,580	15,721,700	193,238
Male: Ages 75+	45.0	0.43	4,066,200	52,480	9,031,300	119,394
Female						
Female: All Ages	13.2	0.07	22,041,900	118,800	166,498,000	1,629,663
Female: Ages 4 and under	0.6	3.29	58,200	6,320	9,063,300	74,226
Female: Ages 5-15	4.4	0.11	994,900	26,080	22,477,900	193,298
Female: Ages 16-20	7.4	0.21	787,300	23,210	10,638,400	101,925
Female: Ages 21-64	11.0	0.08	10,380,600	83,050	94,312,500	886,603
Female: Ages 65-74	23.0	0.26	4,074,000	52,530	17,739,000	218,831
Female: Ages 75+	46.8	0.37	5,747,000	62,230	12,266,900	154,780

* **Note:** Children ages 0-4 were only asked about visual and hearing disabilities, children ages 5-15 were not asked the "Independent Living Disability" question.

Prevalence

Hispanic/Latino Origin and Age

Introduction

This section examines the prevalence of disability among people by Hispanic/Latino origin and age group in the United States, using data from the 2021 American Community Survey (ACS)*. For definitions of terms, see Glossary.

Quick Statistics

Prevalence:
Hispanic All
Ages

10.0%

Prevalence:
Non-Hispanic
All Ages

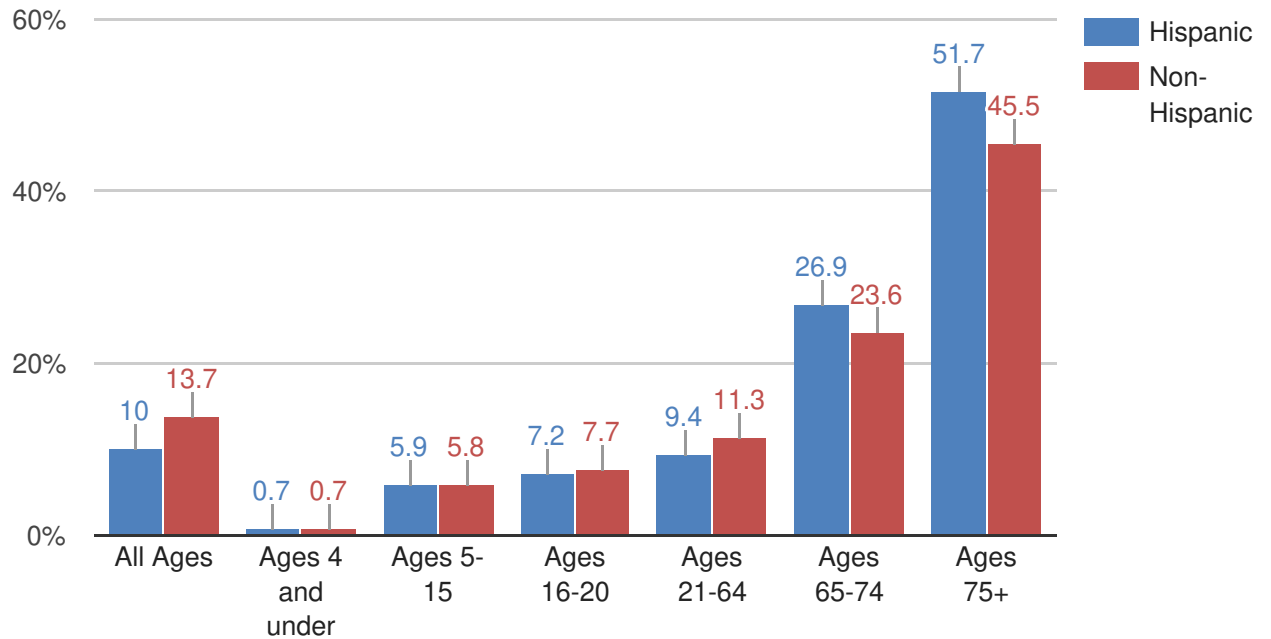
13.7%

- In the US in 2021, the overall percentage (prevalence rate) of disability among people of Hispanic/Latino origin of all ages was 10.0 percent.
- In other words, in 2021, 6,183,900 of the 62,022,800 people of Hispanic/Latino origin of all ages in the US reported one or more disabilities.
- In the US in 2021, the overall percentage (prevalence rate) of disability among people of non-Hispanic/Latino origin of all ages was 13.7 percent.
- In other words, in 2021, 36,486,700 of the 266,251,500 people of non-Hispanic/Latino origin of all ages in the US reported one or more disabilities.

* **Note:** Children ages 0-4 were only asked about visual and hearing disabilities, children age 5-15 were not asked the "Independent Living Disability" question.

Prevalence of disability among non-institutionalized people by Hispanic / Latino origin and age group in the United States in 2021

Prevalence Rates: Hispanic/Latino Origin and Age (%)



Hispanic/Latino Origin & Age	Percent	MOE	Number	MOE	Base Population	Sample Size
Hispanic						
Hispanic: All Ages	10.0	0.10	6,183,900	64,510	62,022,800	486,237
Hispanic: Ages 4 and under	0.7	3.29	34,500	4,860	4,829,200	32,519
Hispanic: Ages 5-15	5.9	0.18	698,500	21,860	11,866,800	86,664
Hispanic: Ages 16-20	7.2	0.30	375,400	16,040	5,234,800	42,470
Hispanic: Ages 21-64	9.4	0.13	3,286,000	47,240	35,117,200	275,651
Hispanic: Ages 65-74	26.9	0.65	845,800	24,050	3,148,800	30,305
Hispanic: Ages 75+	51.7	0.97	943,800	25,410	1,825,900	18,628
Non-Hispanic						
Non-Hispanic: All Ages	13.7	0.06	36,486,700	149,240	266,251,500	2,689,118
Non-Hispanic: Ages 4 and under	0.7	3.29	92,400	7,960	13,752,600	119,272
Non-Hispanic: Ages 5-15	5.8	0.10	1,979,500	36,730	34,275,300	309,419
Non-Hispanic: Ages 16-20	7.7	0.17	1,265,200	29,400	16,477,700	163,781
Non-Hispanic: Ages 21-64	11.3	0.07	17,126,200	105,540	151,961,800	1,459,336
Non-Hispanic: Ages 65-74	23.6	0.20	7,154,100	69,290	30,311,900	381,764
Non-Hispanic: Ages 75+	45.5	0.30	8,869,400	76,940	19,472,300	255,546

* **Note:** Children ages 0-4 were only asked about visual and hearing disabilities, children ages 5-15 were not asked the "Independent Living Disability" question.

Prevalence

Race

Introduction

This section presents the disability prevalence rate among non-institutionalized working-age people (ages 21 to 64) by race category in the US, using data from the 2021 American Community Survey (ACS). For definitions of terms, see Glossary.

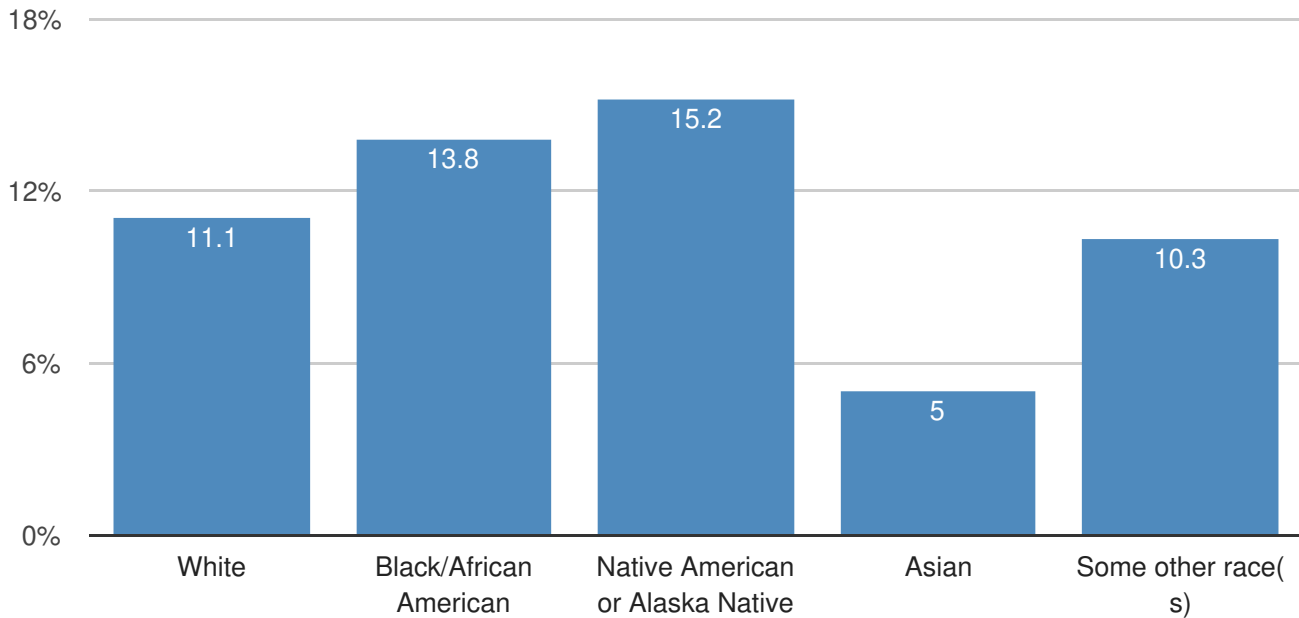
Quick Statistics

In 2021, among working-age people in the US:

- 11.1 percent of persons who were White reported a disability.
- 13.8 percent of persons who were Black/African American reported a disability.
- 15.2 percent of persons who were Native American reported a disability.
- 5.0 percent of persons who were Asian reported a disability.
- 10.3 percent of persons who were some other race(s) reported a disability.

Prevalence of disability among non-institutionalized working-age people (ages 21 to 64) by race in the United States in 2021

Prevalence Rates: Race (%)



Race	Percent	MOE	Number	MOE	Base Population	Sample Size
White	11.1	0.08	12,642,300	91,320	113,836,000	1,132,327
Black/African American	13.8	0.19	3,127,300	46,090	22,726,700	157,001
Native American or Alaska Native	15.2	0.70	276,700	13,770	1,821,700	21,785
Asian	5.0	0.16	603,700	20,330	12,066,300	122,189
Some other race(s)	10.3	0.13	3,762,100	50,510	36,628,400	301,685

Employment

Introduction

This section examines the employment rates of non-institutionalized working-age people (ages 21 to 64) with disabilities in the United States, using data from the 2021 American Community Survey (ACS). For definitions of terms, see Glossary.

Quick Statistics

Employment:
with disability

41.1%

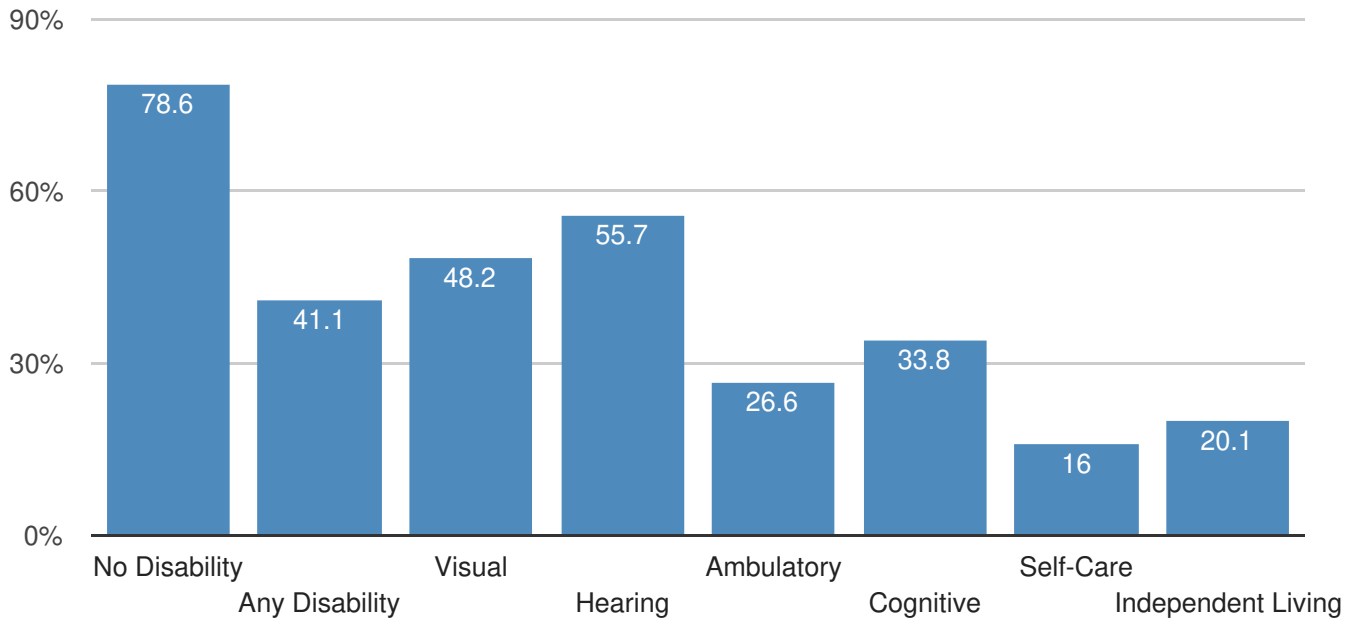
Employment:
without
disability

78.6%

- In 2021, the employment rate of working-age people with disabilities in the US was 41.1 percent.
- In 2021, the employment rate of working-age people without disabilities in the US was 78.6 percent.
- The gap between the employment rates of working-age people with and without disabilities was 37.5 percentage points.
- Among the six types of disabilities identified in the ACS, the highest employment rate was for people with a "Hearing Disability," 55.7 percent. The lowest employment rate was for people with a "Self-Care Disability," 16.0 percent.

Employment of non-institutionalized working-age people (ages 21 to 64) by disability status in the United States in 2021

Employment Rates (%)



Disability Type	Percent	MOE	Number	MOE	Base Pop.	Sample Size
No Disability	78.6	0.08	131,063,500	232,380	166,666,900	1,536,581
Any Disability	41.1	0.29	8,392,400	74,890	20,412,100	198,406
Visual	48.2	0.65	1,945,000	36,410	4,035,400	37,117
Hearing	55.7	0.66	2,182,500	38,560	3,917,200	38,288
Ambulatory	26.6	0.39	2,348,500	39,990	8,837,500	86,850
Cognitive	33.8	0.41	3,057,300	45,580	9,038,700	88,183
Self-Care	16.0	0.53	518,900	18,850	3,245,600	33,038
Independent Living	20.1	0.39	1,433,500	31,290	7,128,900	71,511

Not Working but Actively Looking for Work

Introduction

This section focuses on the percentage of non-institutionalized working-age people (ages 21 to 64) with disabilities in the United States who are not working but actively looking for work, using data from the 2021 American Community Survey (ACS). For definitions of terms, see Glossary.

Quick Statistics

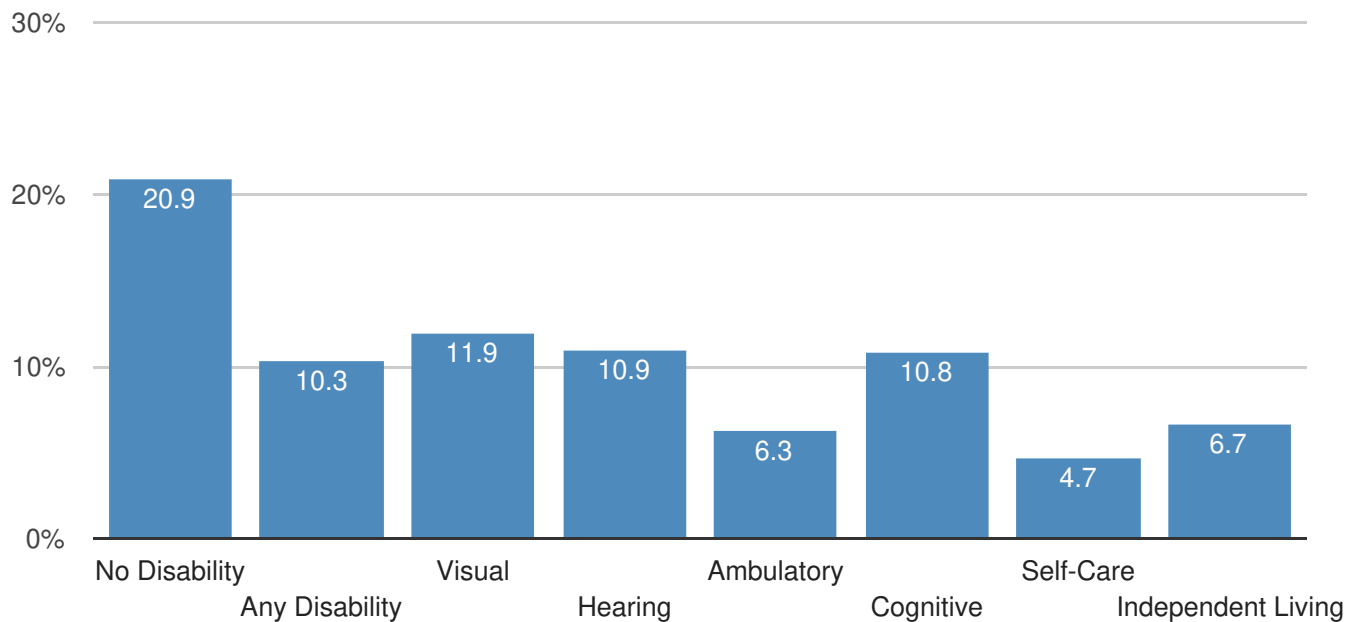
Actively
Looking: with
disability
10.3%

Actively
Looking:
without
disability
20.9%

- In 2021 in the US, the percentage of working-age people with disabilities who were not working but actively looking for work was 10.3 percent.
- In 2021 in the US, the percentage of working-age people without disabilities who were not working but actively looking for work was 20.9 percent.
- The difference in the percentage not working but actively looking for work between working-age people with and without disabilities was 10.6 percentage points.
- Among the six types of disabilities identified in the ACS, the highest percentage of not working but actively looking for work was for people with a "Visual Disability," 11.9 percent. The lowest percentage was for people with a "Self-Care Disability," 4.7 percent.

Percentage who are not working but actively looking for work among non-institutionalized working-age people (ages 21 to 64) in the United States in 2021

Not Working but Actively Looking for Work (%)



Disability Type	Percent	MOE	Number	MOE	Base Pop.	Sample Size
No Disability	20.9	0.18	7,455,800	70,700	35,603,400	335,611
Any Disability	10.3	0.23	1,232,500	29,020	12,019,700	120,046
Visual	11.9	0.59	249,600	13,080	2,090,300	19,487
Hearing	10.9	0.62	188,700	11,370	1,734,700	17,234
Ambulatory	6.3	0.25	411,500	16,790	6,489,000	64,619
Cognitive	10.8	0.33	645,900	21,030	5,981,500	60,408
Self-Care	4.7	0.34	129,200	9,410	2,726,700	28,238
Independent Living	6.7	0.27	380,800	16,150	5,695,400	58,009

Full-Time / Full-Year Employment

Introduction

This section presents the percentage of non-institutionalized working-age people (ages 21 to 64) with disabilities working full-time/full-year in the United States, using data from the 2021 American Community Survey (ACS). For definitions of terms, see Glossary.

Quick Statistics

FT / FY
Employment:
with disability

26.9%

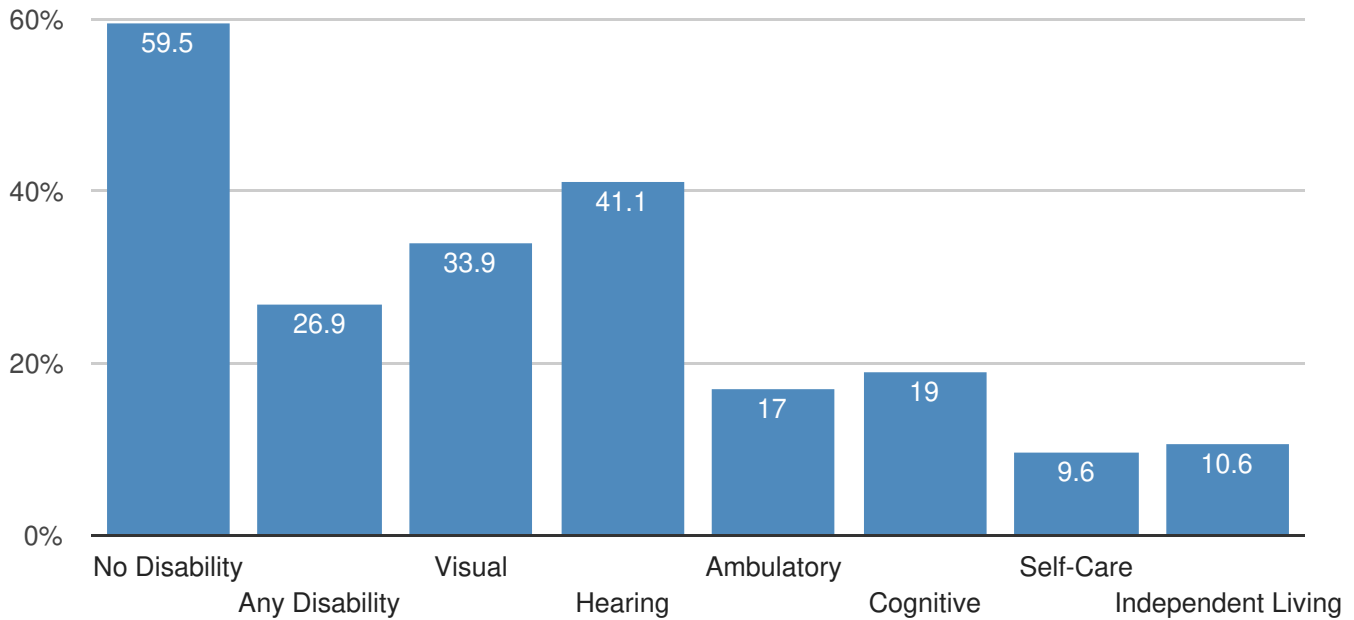
FT / FY
Employment:
without
disability

59.5%

- In 2021, the percentage of working-age people with disabilities working full-time/full-year in the US was 26.9 percent.
- In 2021, the percentage of working-age people without disabilities working full-time/full-year in the US was 59.5 percent.
- The difference in the percentage working full-time/full-year between working-age people with and without disabilities was 32.6 percentage points.
- Among the six types of disabilities identified in the ACS, the highest full-time/full-year employment rate was for people with "Hearing Disability," 41.1 percent. The lowest full-time/full-year employment rate was for people with "Self-Care Disability," 9.6 percent.

Full-Time/Full-Year employment of non-institutionalized working-age people (ages 21 to 64) by disability status in the United States in 2021

Full-Time / Full-Year Employment Rates (%)



Disability Type	Percent	MOE	Number	MOE	Base Pop.	Sample Size
No Disability	59.5	0.10	99,143,600	218,360	166,666,900	1,536,581
Any Disability	26.9	0.26	5,500,800	60,910	20,412,100	198,406
Visual	33.9	0.62	1,369,600	30,580	4,035,400	37,117
Hearing	41.1	0.65	1,608,600	33,130	3,917,200	38,288
Ambulatory	17.0	0.33	1,502,000	32,020	8,837,500	86,850
Cognitive	19.0	0.34	1,718,600	34,240	9,038,700	88,183
Self-Care	9.6	0.43	310,600	14,590	3,245,600	33,038
Independent Living	10.6	0.30	758,900	22,790	7,128,900	71,511

Annual Earnings (Full-Time / Full-Year workers)

Introduction

This section examines the median annual earnings of non-institutionalized working-age people (ages 21 to 64) with disabilities who work full-time/full-year in the United States, using data from the 2021 American Community Survey (ACS). For definitions of terms, see Glossary.

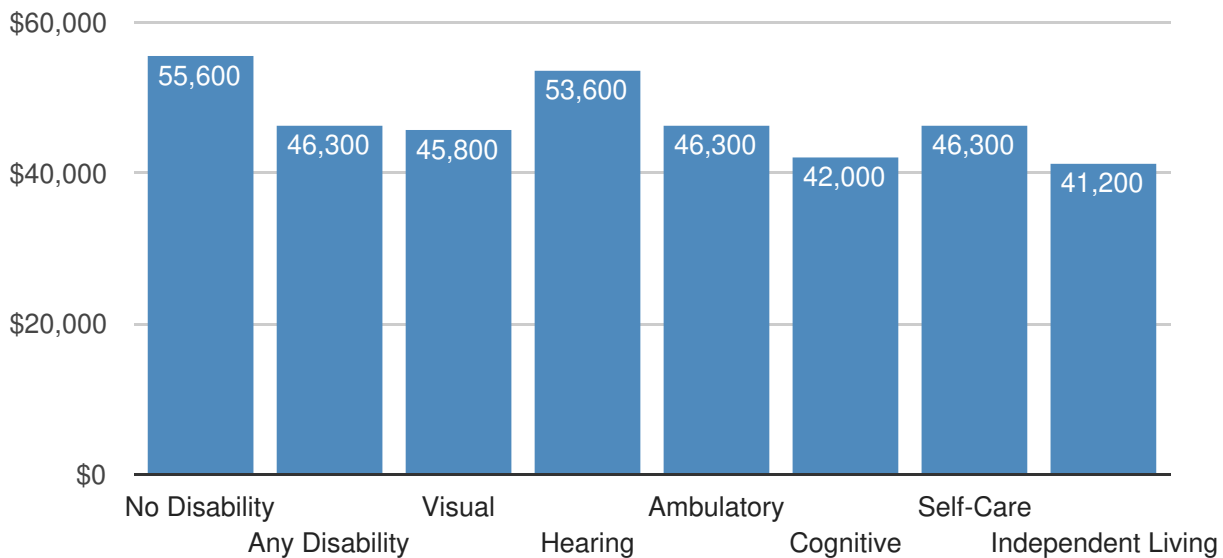
Quick Statistics



- In 2021, the median earnings of working-age people with disabilities who worked full-time/full-year in the US was \$46,300.
- In 2021, the median earnings of working-age people without disabilities who worked full-time/full-year in the US was \$55,600.
- The difference in the median earnings between working-age people with and without disabilities who worked full-time/full-year was \$9,300.
- Among the six types of disabilities identified in the ACS, the highest annual earnings was for people with "Hearing Disability," \$53,600. The lowest annual earnings was for people with "Independent Living Disability," \$41,200.

Median annual earnings of non-institutionalized working-age people (ages 21 to 64) who work full-time/full-year by disability status in the United States in 2021

Median Earnings



Disability Type	Median Earnings	MOE	Base Pop.	Sample Size
No Disability	\$55,600	\$140	99,144,000	907,199
Any Disability	\$46,300	\$470	5,501,000	51,315
Visual	\$45,800	\$920	1,370,000	12,416
Hearing	\$53,600	\$960	1,609,000	15,693
Ambulatory	\$46,300	\$860	1,502,000	14,155
Cognitive	\$42,000	\$760	1,719,000	15,432
Self-Care	\$46,300	\$1,940	311,000	2,799
Independent Living	\$41,200	\$1,040	759,000	6,894

Annual Household Income

Introduction

This section illustrates the median annual income* of households that include any working-age people (ages 21 to 64) with disabilities in the United States, using data from the 2021 American Community Survey (ACS). For definitions of terms, see Glossary.

Quick Statistics

Household Income:
with disability

\$55,600

Household Income:
without disability

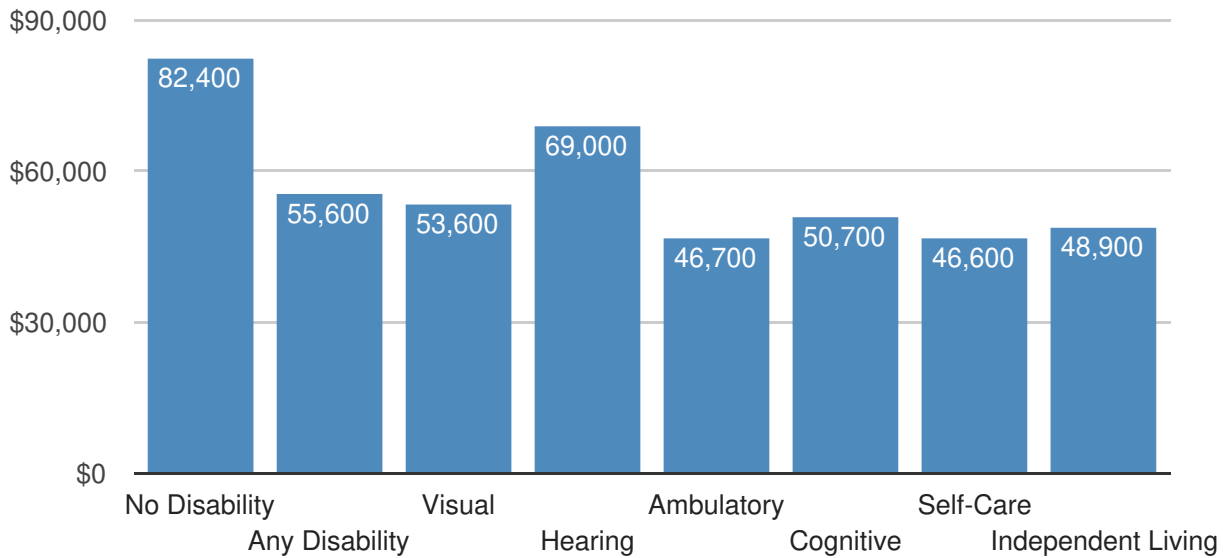
\$82,400

- In 2021, the median income of households that include any working-age people with disabilities in the US was \$55,600.
- In 2021, the median income of households that do not include any working-age people with disabilities in the US was \$82,400.
- The difference in the median income between households including and not including working-age people with disabilities was \$26,800.
- Among the six types of disabilities identified in the ACS, the highest median income was for households including persons with a "Hearing Disability," \$69,000. The lowest median income was for households containing persons with a "Self-Care Disability" \$46,600.

* **Note:** Household income is not available for persons living in group quarters.

Median annual income* of households including any working-age people (ages 21 to 64) by disability status in the United States in 2021

Median Household Income



Disability Type	Median H.H. Income	MOE	Base Pop.	Sample Size
No Disability	\$82,400	\$270	83,810,000	781,701
Any Disability	\$55,600	\$490	16,881,000	163,601
Visual	\$53,600	\$1,050	3,572,000	32,997
Hearing	\$69,000	\$1,210	3,625,000	35,786
Ambulatory	\$46,700	\$650	7,833,000	76,474
Cognitive	\$50,700	\$700	7,529,000	71,974
Self-Care	\$46,600	\$1,070	2,859,000	27,690
Independent Living	\$48,900	\$760	6,062,000	59,647

* **Note:** Household income is not available for persons living in group quarters.

Poverty

Introduction

This section examines the poverty rates* of non-institutionalized working-age people (ages 21 to 64) with disabilities in the United States, using data from the 2021 American Community Survey (ACS). For definitions of terms, see Glossary.

Quick Statistics

Poverty: with
disability

24.4%

Poverty:
without
disability

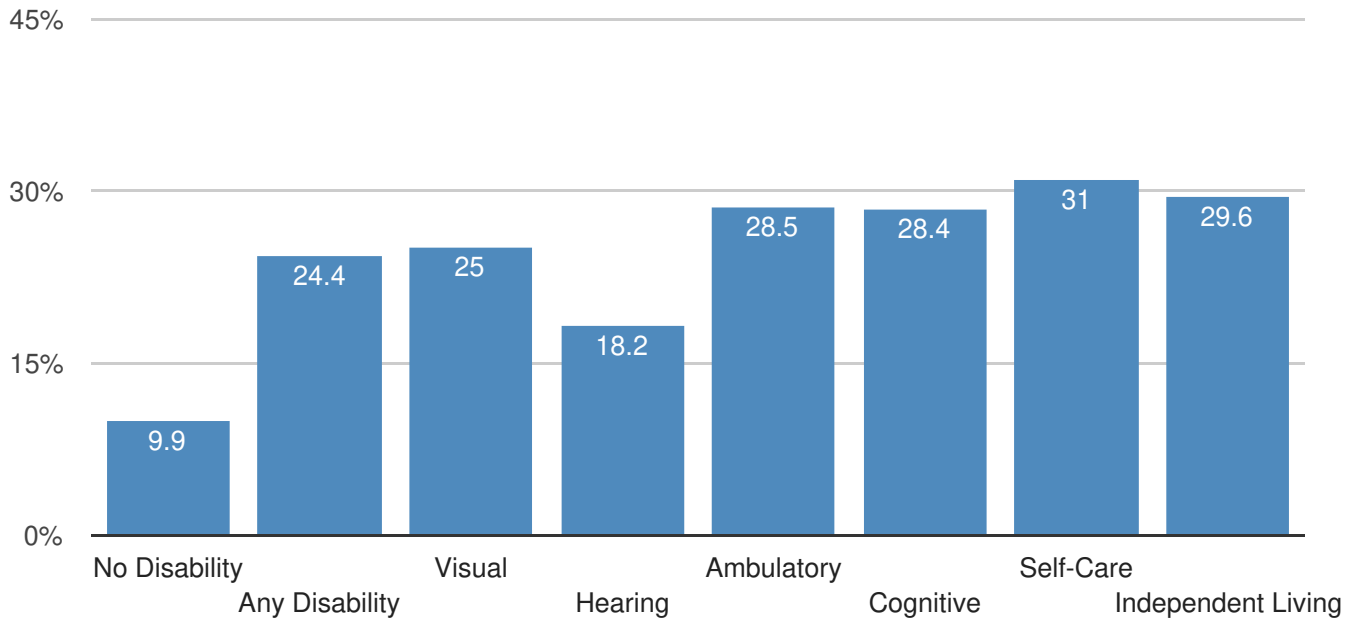
9.9%

- In 2021, the poverty rate of working-age people with disabilities in the US was 24.4 percent.
- In 2021, the poverty rate of working-age people without disabilities in the US was 9.9 percent.
- The difference in the poverty rate between working-age people with and without disabilities was 14.5 percentage points.
- Among the six types of disabilities identified in the ACS, the highest poverty rate was for people with "Self-Care Disability," 31.0 percent. The lowest poverty rate was for people with "Hearing Disability," 18.2 percent.

* Note: The Census Bureau does not calculate poverty status for those people living in military group quarters or college dormitories.

Poverty rates* of non-institutionalized working-age people (ages 21 to 64) by disability status in the United States in 2021

Poverty Rates (%)



Disability Type	Percent	MOE	Number	MOE	Base Pop.	Sample Size
No Disability	9.9	0.07	16,469,900	123,040	165,942,600	1,523,605
Any Disability	24.4	0.30	4,960,600	68,740	20,360,700	197,453
Visual	25.0	0.67	1,006,900	31,160	4,028,700	36,996
Hearing	18.2	0.61	711,300	26,200	3,909,400	38,141
Ambulatory	28.5	0.47	2,513,200	49,110	8,829,600	86,717
Cognitive	28.4	0.47	2,560,400	49,570	9,002,400	87,499
Self-Care	31.0	0.80	1,006,500	31,150	3,244,200	33,008
Independent Living	29.6	0.53	2,109,900	45,030	7,120,300	71,354

* **Note:** The Census Bureau does not calculate poverty status for those people living in military group quarters or college dormitories.

Supplemental Security Income (SSI)

Introduction

This section focuses on the percentage of non-institutionalized working-age people (ages 21 to 64) with disabilities who receive Supplemental Security Income (SSI) payments in the United States, using data from the 2021 American Community Survey (ACS). For definitions of terms, see Glossary. Please note that these results will differ from official Social Security Administration reports for several reasons. For additional information, please email DisabilityStatistics@cornell.edu.

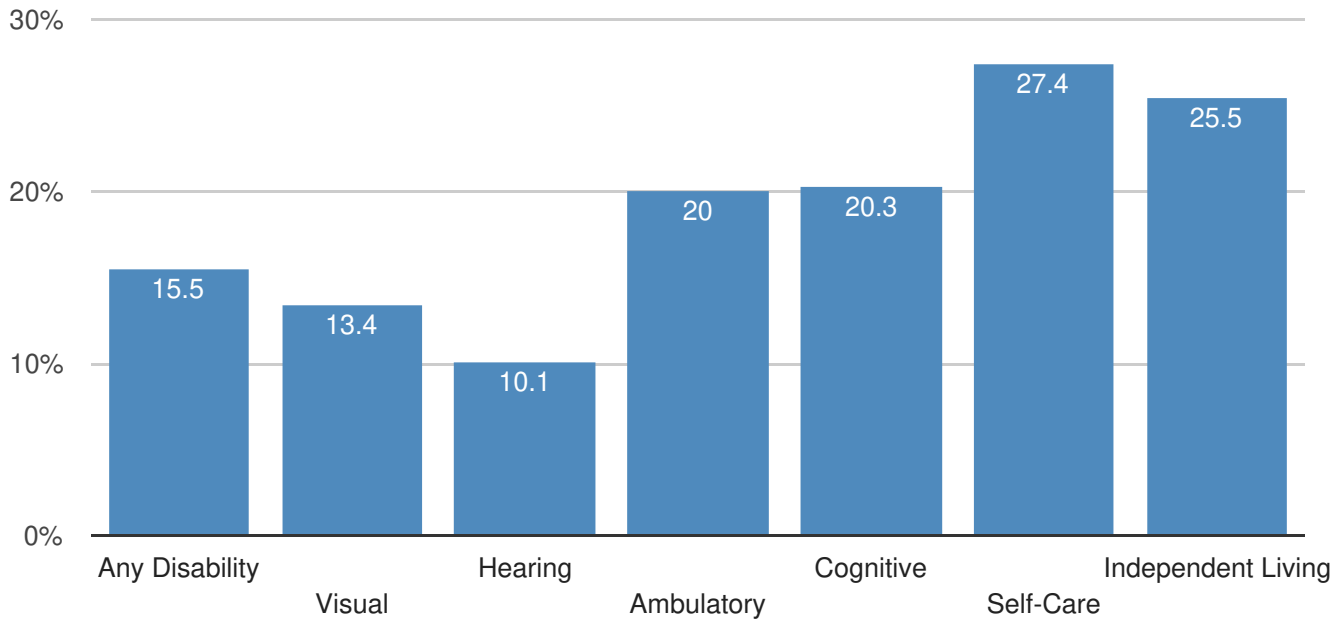
Quick Statistics

SSI
Recipients:
with disability
15.5%

- In 2021, the percentage of working-age people with disabilities receiving Supplemental Security Income payments in the US was 15.5 percent.
- In 2021, the number of working-age people with disabilities receiving Supplemental Security Income payments in the US was 3,173,000.
- Among the six types of disabilities identified in the ACS, the highest percentage that received SSI was people with "Self-Care Disability," 27.4 percent. The lowest percentage that received SSI was people with "Hearing Disability," 10.1 percent.

Percentage of non-institutionalized working-age people (ages 21 to 64) with disabilities who receive Supplemental Security Income (SSI) payments in the United States in 2021

SSI Recipients (%)



Disability Type	Percent	MOE	Number	MOE	Base Pop.	Sample Size
Any Disability	15.5	0.21	3,173,000	46,420	20,412,100	198,406
Visual	13.4	0.44	540,200	19,230	4,035,400	37,117
Hearing	10.1	0.40	397,500	16,500	3,917,200	38,288
Ambulatory	20.0	0.35	1,765,900	34,710	8,837,500	86,850
Cognitive	20.3	0.35	1,836,700	35,390	9,038,700	88,183
Self-Care	27.4	0.65	888,100	24,650	3,245,600	33,038
Independent Living	25.5	0.43	1,814,700	35,180	7,128,900	71,511

Education

High School Diploma/Equivalent

Introduction

This section explores the percentage of non-institutionalized working-age people (ages 21 to 64) with disabilities with only a high school diploma or equivalent in the United States, using data from the 2021 American Community Survey (ACS). For definitions of terms, see Glossary.

Quick Statistics

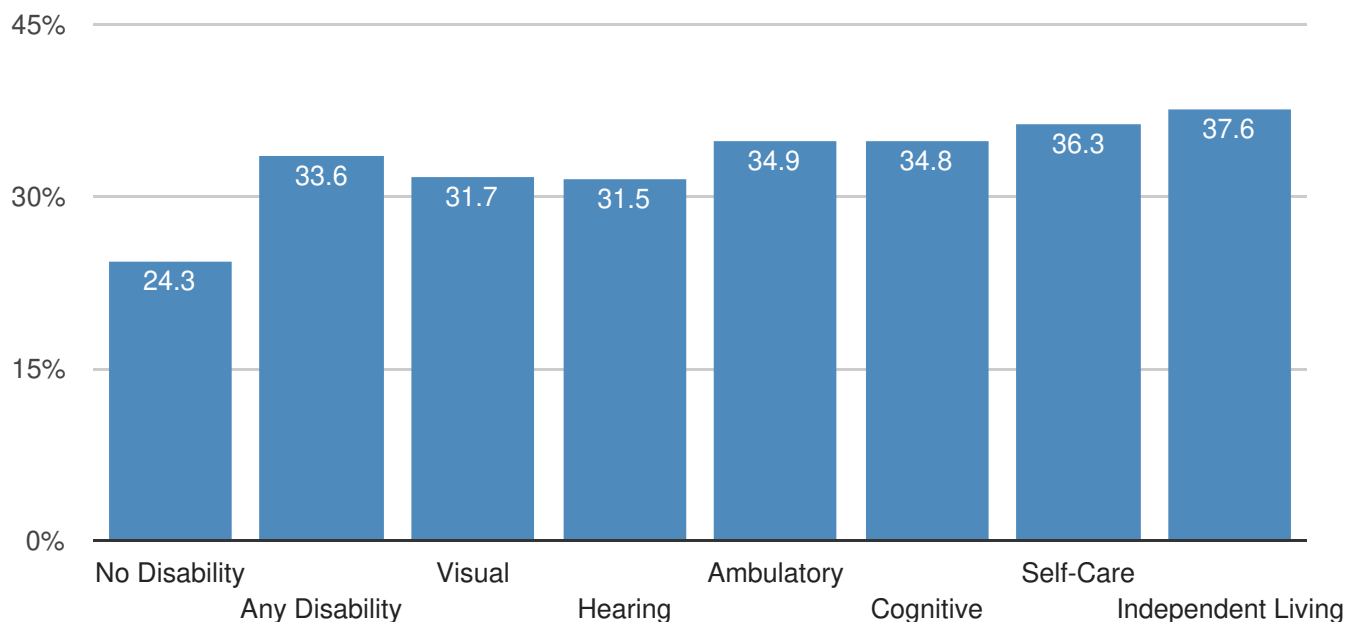
High School Only: with disability
33.6%

High School Only: without disability
24.3%

- In 2021, the percentage of working-age people with disabilities with only a high school diploma or equivalent in the US was 33.6 percent.
- In 2021, the percentage of working-age people without disabilities with only a high school diploma or equivalent in the US was 24.3 percent.
- The difference in the percentage with only a high school diploma or equivalent between working-age people with and without disabilities was 9.3 percentage points.
- Among the six types of disabilities identified in the ACS, the highest percentage with only a high school diploma or equivalent was for people with "Independent Living," 37.6 percent. The lowest percentage with only a high school diploma or equivalent was for people with "Hearing" 31.5 percent.

Percentage of non-institutionalized working-age people (ages 21 to 64) with only a high school diploma or equivalent by disability status in the US in 2021

Education: High School Diploma Only or Equivalent (%)



Disability Type	Percent	MOE	Number	MOE	Base Pop.	Sample Size
No Disability	24.3	0.09	40,483,800	156,130	166,666,900	1,536,581
Any Disability	33.6	0.27	6,849,600	67,830	20,412,100	198,406
Visual	31.7	0.61	1,279,300	29,560	4,035,400	37,117
Hearing	31.5	0.61	1,233,800	29,040	3,917,200	38,288
Ambulatory	34.9	0.42	3,087,600	45,800	8,837,500	86,850
Cognitive	34.8	0.41	3,149,000	46,250	9,038,700	88,183
Self-Care	36.3	0.70	1,177,200	28,360	3,245,600	33,038
Independent Living	37.6	0.48	2,682,200	42,720	7,128,900	71,511

Education

Some College/Associate's Degree

Introduction

This section examines the percentage of non-institutionalized working-age people (ages 21 to 64) with disabilities with only some college or an Associate's degree in the United States, using data from the 2021 American Community Survey (ACS). For definitions of terms, see Glossary.

Quick Statistics

Some
College: with
disability

31.8%

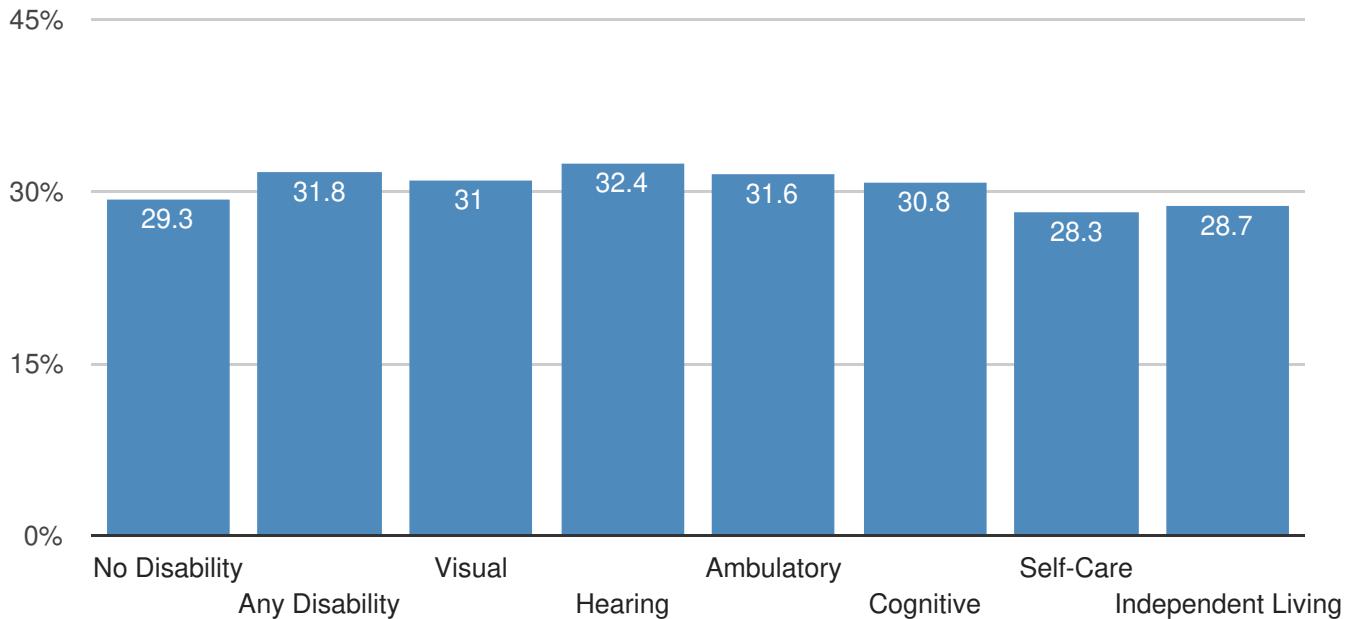
Some
College:
without
disability

29.3%

- In 2021, the percentage of working-age people with disabilities with only some college or an Associate's degree in the US was 31.8 percent.
- In 2021, the percentage of working-age people without disabilities with only some college or an Associate's degree in the US was 29.3 percent.
- The difference in the percentage with only some college or an Associate's degree between working-age people with and without disabilities was 2.5 percentage points.
- Among the six types of disabilities identified in the ACS, the highest percentage with only some college or an Associate's degree was for people with "Hearing," 32.4 percent. The lowest percentage with only some college or Associate's degree was for people with "Self-Care," 28.3 percent.

Percentage of non-institutionalized working-age people (ages 21 to 64) with only some college or an Associate's degree by disability status in the United States in 2021

Education: Some College/Associate's Degree Only (%)



Disability Type	Percent	MOE	Number	MOE	Base Pop.	Sample Size
No Disability	29.3	0.09	48,750,100	168,890	166,666,900	1,536,581
Any Disability	31.8	0.27	6,500,400	66,110	20,412,100	198,406
Visual	31.0	0.60	1,251,400	29,240	4,035,400	37,117
Hearing	32.4	0.62	1,270,500	29,460	3,917,200	38,288
Ambulatory	31.6	0.41	2,788,500	43,550	8,837,500	86,850
Cognitive	30.8	0.40	2,779,800	43,480	9,038,700	88,183
Self-Care	28.3	0.65	918,300	25,060	3,245,600	33,038
Independent Living	28.7	0.44	2,048,100	37,360	7,128,900	71,511

Education

Bachelor's Degree or More

Introduction

This section presents the percentage of non-institutionalized working-age people (ages 21 to 64) with disabilities with a Bachelor's degree or more in the United States, using data from the 2021 American Community Survey (ACS). For definitions of terms, see Glossary.

Quick Statistics

Bachelor's
Degree or
More: with
disability

17.9%

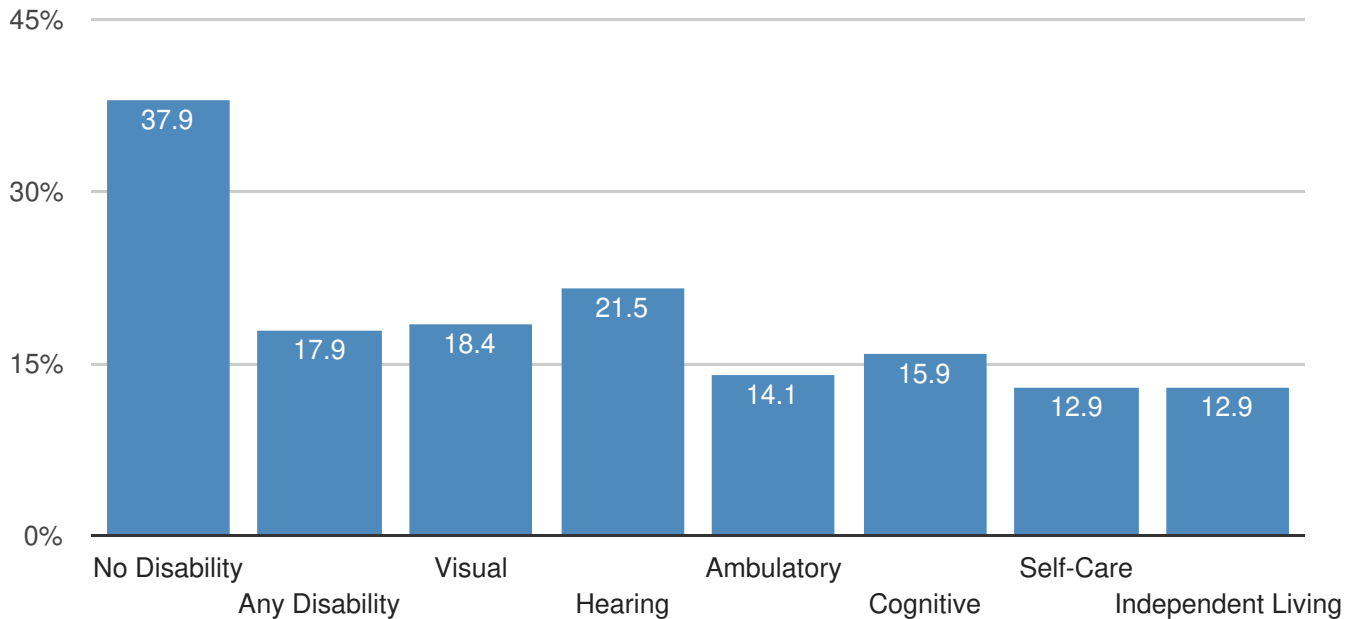
Bachelor's
Degree or
More: without
disability

37.9%

- In 2021, the percentage of working-age people with disabilities with a Bachelor's degree or more in the US was 17.9 percent.
- In 2021, the percentage of working-age people without disabilities with a Bachelor's degree or more in the US was 37.9 percent.
- The difference in the percentage with a Bachelor's degree or more between working-age people with and without disabilities was 20 percentage points.
- Among the six types of disabilities identified in the ACS, the highest percentage with a Bachelor's degree or more was for people with "Hearing," 21.5 percent. The lowest percentage with a Bachelor's degree or more was for people with "Self-Care," 12.9 percent.

Percentage of non-institutionalized working-age people (ages 21 to 64) with a Bachelor's degree or more by disability status in the United States in 2021

Education: Bachelor's Degree or More (%)



Disability Type	Percent	MOE	Number	MOE	Base Pop.	Sample Size
No Disability	37.9	0.10	63,150,100	187,270	166,666,900	1,536,581
Any Disability	17.9	0.22	3,649,200	49,750	20,412,100	198,406
Visual	18.4	0.51	743,700	22,560	4,035,400	37,117
Hearing	21.5	0.54	843,200	24,020	3,917,200	38,288
Ambulatory	14.1	0.31	1,246,400	29,180	8,837,500	86,850
Cognitive	15.9	0.32	1,435,700	31,310	9,038,700	88,183
Self-Care	12.9	0.49	420,100	16,960	3,245,600	33,038
Independent Living	12.9	0.33	918,800	25,070	7,128,900	71,511

Veterans Service-Connected Disability Rating

Introduction

This section presents the percentage of non-institutionalized working-age (ages 21 to 64) civilian veterans reporting a service-connected disability rating in the United States. The 2008 American Community Survey (ACS) asks if the veteran has a service-connected disability, and if so, what their rating is (0-100%). A "service-connected" disability is one that has been determined by the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) as being a result of disease or injury incurred or aggravated during military service. Note that a veteran can receive disability compensation for a wide range of conditions, and a veteran with a service-connected disability may not report having one of the six ACS functional or activity limitation disabilities. For definitions of terms, see Glossary.

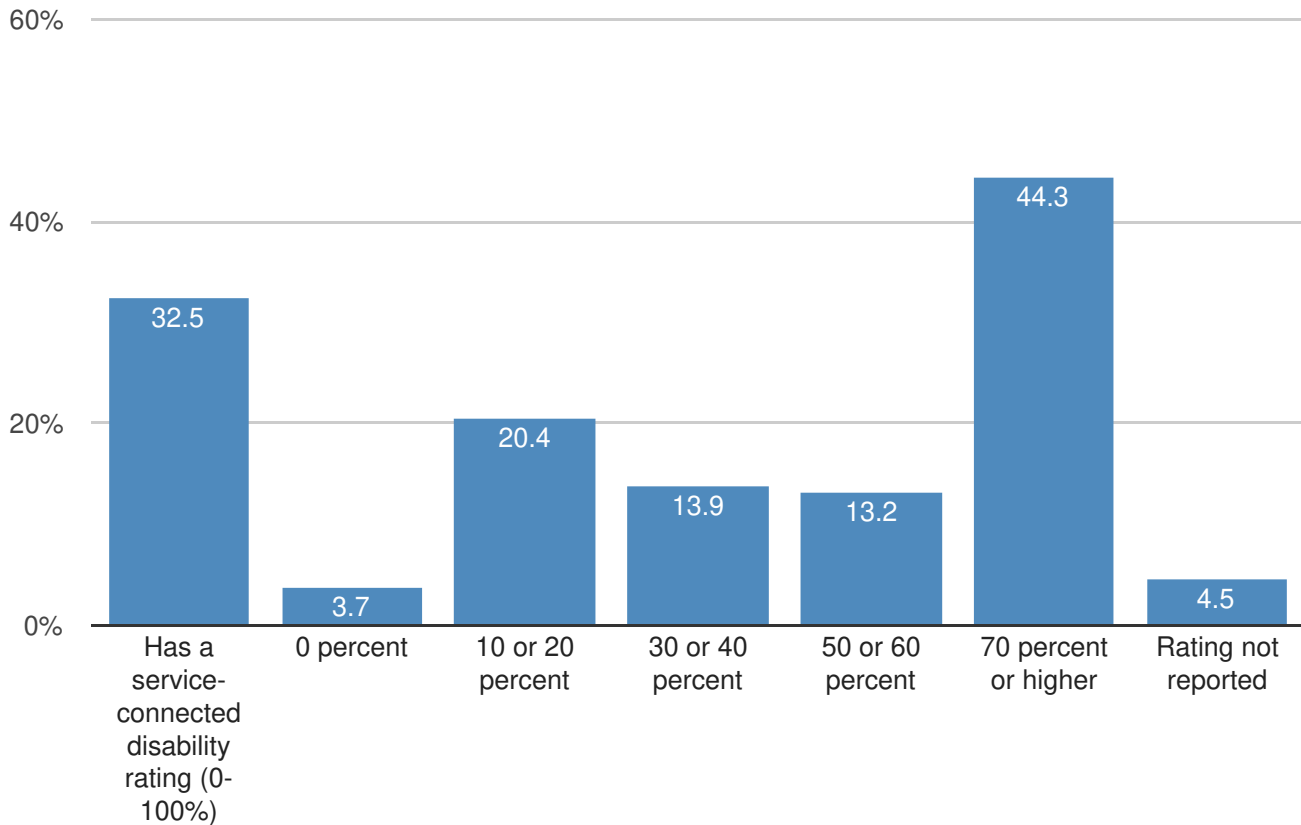
Quick Statistics

Veterans with
a Service-
Connected
Disability
32.5%

- In 2021, there were 8,294,400 working-age civilian veterans in the US, of whom 2,696,700 had a VA service-connected disability.
- In 2021, the percentage of working-age civilian veterans in the US with a VA service-connected disability was 32.5 percent.
- In 2021, 1,194,100 working-age civilian veterans in the US had the most severe service-connected disability rating (70 percent or above).
- In 2021, 44.3 percent of the working-age civilian veterans in the US who had a service connected disability had a service-connected disability rating of 70 percent or above.

Disability rating of working-age civilian veterans (ages 21 to 64) with a service-connected disability in the United States in 2021

Veteran Disability Rating (%)



Service-Connected Disability	Percent	MOE	Number	MOE	Base Pop.	Sample Size
Has a service-connected disability rating (0-100%)	32.5	0.43	2,696,700	42,830	8,294,400	79,120
Disability rating of veterans with a service connected-disability						
0 percent	3.7	0.30	99,900	8,270	2,696,700	25,163
10 or 20 percent	20.4	0.64	549,300	19,390	2,696,700	25,163
30 or 40 percent	13.9	0.55	374,600	16,020	2,696,700	25,163
50 or 60 percent	13.2	0.54	356,500	15,630	2,696,700	25,163
70 percent or higher	44.3	0.79	1,194,100	28,570	2,696,700	25,163
Rating not reported	4.5	0.33	122,300	9,160	2,696,700	25,163

Health Insurance Coverage

Introduction

This section examines the health insurance coverage of non-institutionalized working-age people (ages 21 to 64) with disabilities in the United States, using data from the 2021 American Community Survey (ACS). For definitions of terms, see Glossary.

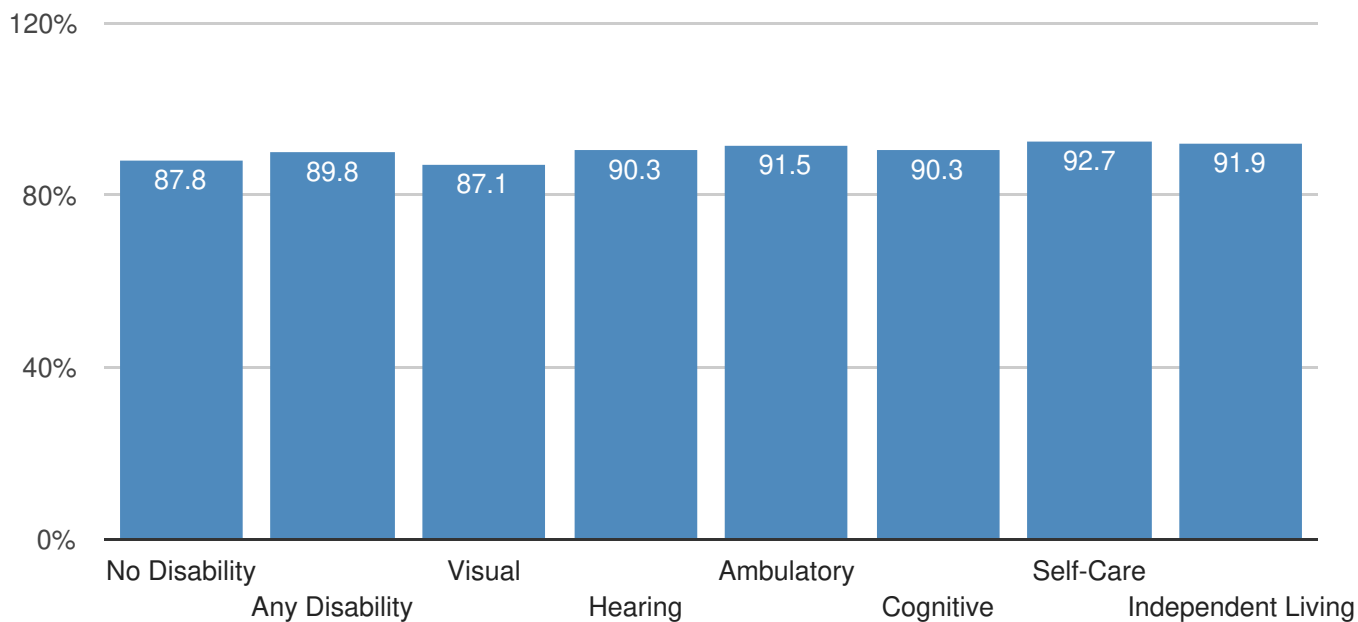
Quick Statistics



- In 2021, 89.8 percent of working-age people with disabilities in the US had some type of health insurance coverage.
- In 2021, 87.8 percent of working-age people without disabilities in the US had some type of health insurance coverage.
- The difference in the health insurance coverage rate between working-age people with and without disabilities was 2.0 percentage points.
- Among the six types of disabilities identified in the ACS, the highest health insurance coverage rate was for people with "Self-Care Disability," 92.7 percent. The lowest health insurance coverage rate was for people with "Visual Disability," 87.1 percent.

Health Insurance Coverage of non-institutionalized working-age people (ages 21 to 64) by disability status in the United States in 2021

Health Insurance Coverage - By Disability Type (%)



Disability Type	Percent	MOE	Number	MOE	Base Pop.	Sample Size
No Disability	87.8	0.07	146,282,100	236,870	166,666,900	1,536,581
Any Disability	89.8	0.18	18,336,000	109,000	20,412,100	198,406
Visual	87.1	0.44	3,514,000	48,830	4,035,400	37,117
Hearing	90.3	0.39	3,535,600	48,980	3,917,200	38,288
Ambulatory	91.5	0.25	8,085,200	73,550	8,837,500	86,850
Cognitive	90.3	0.26	8,159,900	73,880	9,038,700	88,183
Self-Care	92.7	0.38	3,007,400	45,210	3,245,600	33,038
Independent Living	91.9	0.27	6,548,000	66,350	7,128,900	71,511

Type of Health Insurance Coverage

Introduction

This section examines the type of health insurance coverage for non-institutionalized working-age people (ages 21 to 64) with disabilities in the United States, using data from the 2021 American Community Survey (ACS). Note that people can report more than one type of insurance coverage. For definitions of terms, see Glossary.

Quick Statistics

Coverage
through
Employer/Union:
with Disability

37.3%

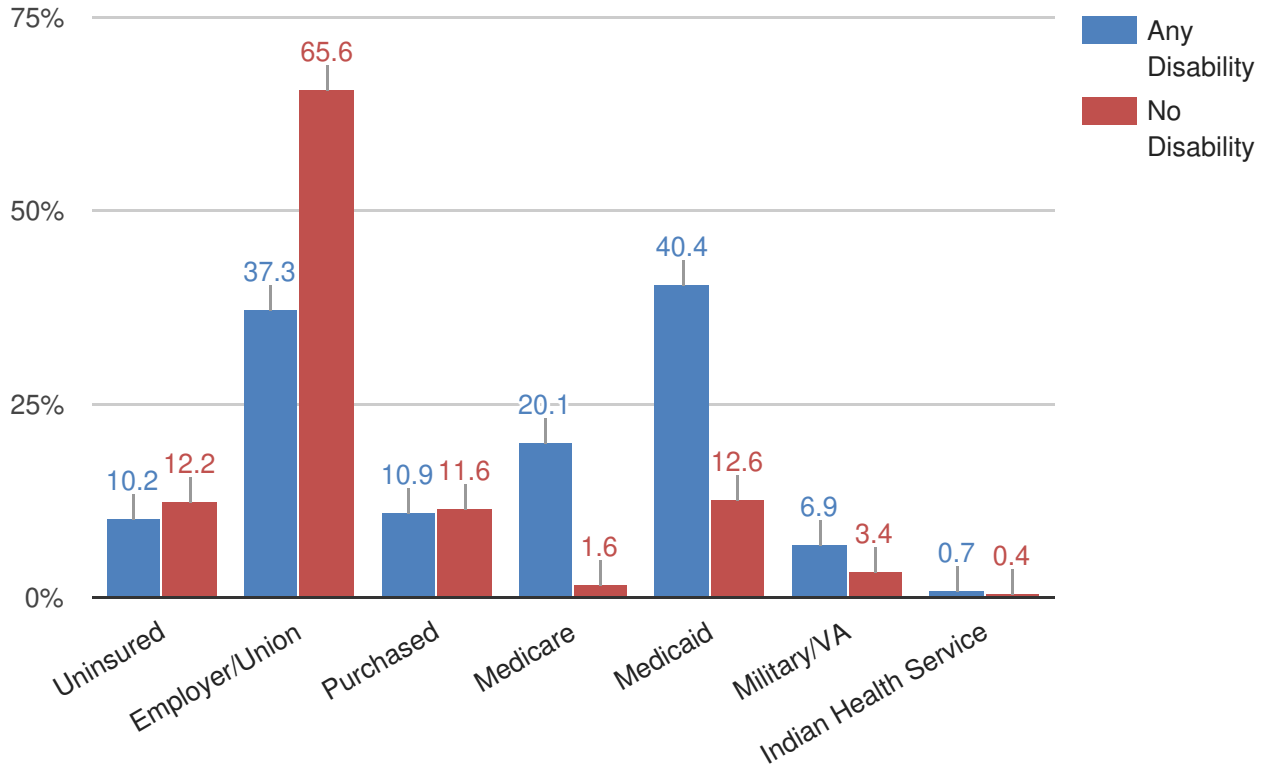
Coverage
through
Employer/Union:
without
Disability

65.6%

- In 2021, 37.3 percent of working-age people with disabilities in the US reported health insurance coverage through a current or former employer or union (theirs or another family member).
- In 2021, 65.6 percent of working-age people without disabilities in the US reported health insurance coverage through a current or former employer or union (theirs or another family member).
- In 2021, 10.9 percent of working-age people with disabilities in the US reported purchasing health insurance coverage directly from an insurance company (by themselves or another family member).
- In 2021, 20.1 percent of working-age people with disabilities in the US reported Medicare coverage and 40.4 percent reported Medicaid coverage (or other government-assistance plan for those with low incomes or a disability).

Type of Health Insurance Coverage of non-institutionalized working-age people (ages 21 to 64) by disability status in the United States in 2021

Type of Health Insurance Coverage (%)



Disability Status/ Insurance Type	Percent	MOE	Number	MOE	Base Pop.	Sample Size
Any Disability						
Uninsured	10.2	0.18	2,076,100	37,620	20,412,100	198,406
Employer/Union	37.3	0.28	7,612,700	71,420	20,412,100	198,406
Purchased	10.9	0.18	2,223,700	38,920	20,412,100	198,406
Medicare	20.1	0.23	4,107,300	52,740	20,412,100	198,406
Medicaid	40.4	0.28	8,237,200	74,220	20,412,100	198,406
Military/VA	6.9	0.15	1,415,500	31,090	20,412,100	198,406
Indian Health Service	0.7	3.29	150,200	10,150	20,412,100	198,406
No Disability						
Uninsured	12.2	0.07	20,384,700	114,550	166,666,900	1,536,581
Employer/Union	65.6	0.10	109,259,000	224,200	166,666,900	1,536,581
Purchased	11.6	0.06	19,289,800	111,630	166,666,900	1,536,581
Medicare	1.6	3.29	2,699,200	42,850	166,666,900	1,536,581
Medicaid	12.6	0.07	20,927,800	115,960	166,666,900	1,536,581
Military/VA	3.4	0.04	5,689,200	61,930	166,666,900	1,536,581
Indian Health Service	0.4	3.29	669,300	21,400	166,666,900	1,536,581

Glossary

Actively Looking for Work

A person is defined as ACTIVELY looking for work if he or she reports looking for work during the last four weeks.

Ambulatory Disability

This disability type is based on the question (*asked of persons ages 5 or older*): Does this person have serious difficulty walking or climbing stairs?

Base Population (Base Pop.)

The estimated number of individuals upon which the calculation is based. (For percentages, this is the denominator).

Cognitive Disability

This disability type is based on the question (*asked of persons ages 5 or older*): Because of a physical, mental, or emotional condition, does this person have serious difficulty concentrating, remembering, or making decisions?

Disability and Disability Types

The ACS definition of disability is based on six questions. A person is coded as having a disability if he or she or a proxy respondent answers affirmatively for one or more of these six categories.

- Hearing Disability (*asked of all ages*): Is this person deaf or does he/she have serious difficulty hearing?
- Visual Disability (*asked of all ages*): Is this person blind or does he/she have serious difficulty seeing even when wearing glasses?
- Cognitive Disability (*asked of persons ages 5 or older*): Because of a physical, mental, or emotional condition, does this person have serious difficulty concentrating, remembering, or making decisions?
- Ambulatory Disability (*asked of persons ages 5 or older*): Does this person have serious difficulty walking or climbing stairs?
- Self-care Disability (*asked of persons ages 5 or older*): Does this person have difficulty dressing or bathing?
- Independent Living Disability (*asked of persons ages 15 or older*): Because of a physical, mental, or emotional condition, does this person have difficulty doing errands alone such as visiting a doctor's office or shopping?

Earnings

Earnings are defined as wages, salary, commissions, bonuses, or tips from all jobs including self-employment income (NET income after business expenses) from own nonfarm businesses or farm businesses, including proprietorships and partnerships.

Education

Our definition is based on the responses to the question: "What is the highest degree or level of school this person has completed? If currently enrolled, mark the previous grade or highest degree received." Our category "high school diploma/equivalent" includes those marking the ACS option "Regular high school diploma — GED or alternative credential." Our category "Some college/Associate's degree" includes those marking the ACS options: some college credit, but less than 1 year of college credit; one or more years of college credit but no degree, or "Associate's degree (for example: AA, AS)." Our category "a Bachelor's or more" includes those marking the ACS options: "Bachelor's degree (for example: BA, BS)"; "Master's degree (for example: MA, MS, MEng, MEd, MSW, MBA)"; "Professional degree (for example: MD, DDS, DVM, LLB, JD)"; or "Doctorate degree (for example: PhD, EdD)." Note in 2008 changes were made to some of the response categories and the layout of this question.

Employment

A person is considered employed if he or she is either

- a. "at work": those who did any work at all during the reference week as a paid employee (worked in his or her own business or profession, worked on his or her own farm, or worked 15 or more hours as an unpaid worker on a family farm or business) or
- b. "with a job but not at work": had a job but temporarily did not work at that job during the reference week due to illness, bad weather, industrial dispute, vacation or other personal reasons. The reference week is defined as the week preceding the date the questionnaire was completed.

Employment Rate

The employment rate is calculated by dividing the number of persons employed by the number of persons in that population.

** Note that the unemployment rate cannot be calculated using the employment rate:

- The employment rate is the percentage of all persons who have a job.
- The unemployment rate is the percentage of persons in the labor force who do not have a job but are actively looking for work. The labor force includes people who have a job, are on layoff, or who actively searched for work in the last four weeks.

Please see <http://www.disabilitystatistics.org/faq.cfm#Q6> for more information on unemployment rate calculation and its implications.

Full-Time/Full-Year Employment

A person is considered employed full-time/full-year if he or she worked 35 hours or more per week (full-time) and 50 or more weeks per year (full-year). The reference period is defined as the year preceding the date the questionnaire was completed. Note: this does not signify whether a person is eligible for fringe benefits. The question and response categories regarding weeks worked per year was changed in 2008.

Group Quarters (GQ)

A GQ is a place where people live or stay that is normally owned or managed by an entity or organization providing housing and/or services for the residents. These services may include custodial or medical care as well as other types of assistance, and residency is commonly restricted to those receiving these services. People living in group quarters are usually not related to each other. Group quarters include such places as college residence halls, residential treatment centers, skilled nursing facilities, group homes, military barracks, correctional facilities, and workers' dormitories. See the definitions of institutional GQs and non-institutional GQs for more information. In addition, a description of the types of group quarters included in the 2008 ACS is located on the U.S. Census Bureau's Web site at www.census.gov/acs/www/Downloads/2008_ACS_GQ_Definitions.pdf.

Health Insurance Coverage

Is based on the following question: Is this person CURRENTLY covered by any of the following types of health insurance or health coverage plans? Mark "Yes" or "No" for EACH type of coverage in items a – h.

- a. Insurance through a current or former employer or union (of this person or another family member)
- b. Insurance purchased directly from an insurance company (by this person or another family member)
- c. Medicare, for people 65 and older, or people with certain disabilities
- d. Medicaid, Medical Assistance, or any kind of government-assistance plan for those with low incomes or a disability
- e. VA (including those who have ever used or enrolled for VA health care)
- f. TRICARE or other military health care
- g. Indian Health Service
- h. Any other type of health insurance or health coverage plan – Specify (Note: "Other type" were recoded into one of the categories a-g by the Census Bureau)

Hearing Disability

This disability type is based on the question (*asked of all ages*): Is this person deaf or does he/she have serious difficulty hearing?

Hispanic or Latino Origin

People of Hispanic or Latino origin are those who classify themselves in a specific Hispanic or Latino category in response to the question, "Is this person Spanish/Hispanic/Latino?" Specifically, those of Hispanic or Latino origin are those who are Cuban; Mexican, Mexican American, Chicano; Puerto Rican; or other Spanish/Hispanic/Latino. Origin may be the heritage, nationality group, lineage, or country of birth of the person or the person's parents or ancestors before their arrival in the United States. People who identify their origin as Spanish, Hispanic, or Latino may be of any race.

Household Income

Household Income is defined as the total income of a household including: wages, salary, commissions, bonuses, or tips from all jobs; self-employment income (NET income after business expenses) from own non-farm or farm businesses, including proprietorships and partnerships; interest, dividends, net rental income, royalty income, or income from real estates and trusts; Social Security or Railroad Retirement; Supplemental Security Income; any public assistance or welfare payments from the state or local welfare office; retirement, survivor or disability pensions; and any other regularly received income (e.g., Veterans' payments, unemployment compensation, child support or alimony). Median household income is calculated with the household as the unit of analysis, using household weights without adjusting for household size.

Independent Living Disability

This disability type is based on the question (*asked of persons ages 15 or older*): Because of a physical, mental, or emotional condition, does this person have difficulty doing errands alone such as visiting a doctors office or shopping?

Institutional Group Quarters (GQs)

Includes facilities for people under formally authorized, supervised care or custody at the time of enumeration. Generally, restricted to the institution, under the care or supervision of trained staff, and classified as "patients" or "inmates." Includes: correctional, nursing, and in-patient hospice facilities, psychiatric hospitals, juvenile group homes and residential treatment centers.

Margin of Error (MOE)

Data, such as data from the American Community Survey, is based on a sample, and therefore statistics derived from this data are subject to sampling variability. The margin of error (MOE) is a measure of the degree of sampling variability. In a random sample, the degree of sampling variation is determined by the underlying variability of the phenomena being estimated (e.g., income) and the size of the sample (i.e., the number of survey participants used to calculate the statistic). The smaller the margin of error, the lower the sampling variability and the more "precise" the estimate. A margin of error is the difference between an estimate and its upper or lower confidence bounds. Confidence

bounds are calculated by adding the MOE to the estimate (upper bound) and subtracting the MOE from the estimate (lower bound). All margins of error in this report are based on a 90 percent confidence level. This means that there is a 90% certainty that the actual value lies somewhere between the upper and lower confidence bounds.

Non-Institutional Group Quarters (GQs)

Includes facilities that are not classified as institutional group quarters; such as college/university housing, group homes intended for adults, residential treatment facilities for adults, workers' group living quarters and Job Corps centers and religious group quarters.

Not Working but Actively Looking for Work

A person is defined as not working but actively looking for work if he or she reports not being employed, but has been looking for work during the last four weeks.

Number

This term appears in the tables; it refers to estimated number of people in the category. (for percentages, this is the numerator).

Poverty

The poverty measure is computed based upon the standards defined in Directive 14 from the Office of Management and Budget. These standards use poverty thresholds created in 1982 and index these thresholds to 2008 dollars using poverty factors based upon the Consumer Price Index. They use the family as the income sharing unit and family income is the sum of total income from each family member living in the household. The poverty threshold depends upon the size of the family; the age of the householder; and the number of related children under the age of 18.

Race

Race categories are based on the question, "[w]hat is this person's race? Mark (X) one or more races to indicate what this person considers himself/herself to be." Responses include the following: White; Black or African-American; American Indian or Alaska Native (print name of enrolled or principal tribe); Asian Indian; Chinese; Filipino; Japanese; Korean; Vietnamese; Other Asian (Print Race); Native Hawaiian; Guamanian or Chamorro; Samoan; Other Pacific Islander (Print Race Below); Some other race (print race below). "Other race" also contains people who report more than one race.

Sample Size

The number of survey participants used to calculate the statistic.

Self-care Disability

This disability type is based on the question (*asked of persons ages 5 or older*): 17c. Does this person have difficulty dressing or bathing?

Supplemental Security Income (SSI)

A person is defined as receiving SSI payments if he or she reports receiving (SSI) income in the 12 months prior to the survey.

Note: The Supplemental Security Income (SSI) does not apply to Puerto Rico. SSI is a federal cash assistance program that provides monthly payments to low-income aged, blind, or disabled persons in the 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the Northern Mariana Islands.

Veteran Service-Connected Disability

A disease or injury determined to have occurred in or to have been aggravated by military service. A disability is evaluated according to the VA Schedule for Rating Disabilities in Title 38, CFR, and Part 4. Extent of disability is expressed as a percentage from 0% (for conditions that exist but are not disabling to a compensable degree) to 100%, in increments of 10%. This information was determined by the following two part question:

- a. **Does this person have a VA service-connected disability rating?**
Yes (such as 0%, 10%, 20%, ... , 100%)
No *SKIP* to question 28a
- b. **What is this person's service-connected disability rating?"**
Responses included: 0 percent; 10 or 20 percent; 30 or 40 percent; 50 or 60 percent; 70 percent or higher

Visual Disability

This disability type is based on the question:(*asked of all ages*): Is this person blind or does he/she have serious difficulty seeing even when wearing glasses?

About the Disability Status Reports

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Contact Us

K. Lisa Yang and Hock E. Tan
Institute on Employment and Disability
Cornell University
Ithaca, New York 14853
Phone: 607.255.7727
Email: disabilitystatistics@cornell.edu
Web: www.disabilitystatistics.org