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US

United States

# 2016 Disability Status Report United States



[www.disabilitystatistics.org](http://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 2016 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](http://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.cfm>.

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.

## **Suggested Citation**

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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 through a grant from NIDILRR National Institute on Disability, Independent Living, and Rehabilitation Research

**Puerto Rico:** A Puerto Rico Disability Status Report, based on the parallel 2016 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.

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.cfm#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 2016 American Community Survey (ACS).

**Age:** In 2016, the prevalence of disability in the US was:

- 12.8 percent for persons of all ages
- 0.7 percent for persons ages 4 and under
- 5.5 percent for persons ages 5 to 15
- 6.2 percent for persons ages 16 to 20
- 10.9 percent for persons ages 21 to 64
- 25.3 percent for persons ages 65 to 74
- 49.6 percent for persons ages 75+

**Disability Type:** In 2016, the prevalence of the six disability types among persons of all ages in the US was:

- 2.4% reported a Visual Disability
- 3.6% reported a Hearing Disability
- 7.1% reported an Ambulatory Disability
- 5.2% reported a Cognitive Disability
- 2.7% reported a Self-Care Disability
- 5.7% reported an Independent Living Disability

**Gender:** In 2016, 12.9 percent of females of all ages and 12.7 percent of males of all ages in the US reported a disability.

**Hispanic/Latino:** In 2016, the prevalence of disability among persons of all ages of Hispanic or Latino origin in the US was 9.1 percent.

**Race:** In the US in 2016, the prevalence of disability for working-age people (ages 21 to 64) was:

- 10.9 percent among Whites
- 14.0 percent among Black / African Americans
- 4.5 percent among Asians
- 18.1 percent among Native Americans
- 10.1 percent among persons of some other race(s)

**Employment:** In 2016, the employment rate of working-age people (ages 21 to 64) with disabilities in the US was 36.2 percent.

**Looking for Work:** In the US in 2016, the percentage actively looking for work among people with disabilities who were not working was 7.8 percent.

**Full-Time/Full-Year Employment:** In the US in 2016, the percentage of working-age people with disabilities working full-time/full-year was 23.0 percent.

**Annual Earnings:** In 2016, the median annual earnings of working-age people with disabilities working full-time/full-year in the US was \$40,300.

**Annual Household Income:** In the US in 2016, the median annual income of households with working-age people with disabilities was \$43,300.

**Poverty:** In the US in 2016, the poverty rate of working-age people with disabilities was 26.6 percent.

**Supplemental Security Income:** In 2016, the percentage of working-age people with disabilities receiving SSI payments in the US was 19.2 percent.

**Educational Attainment:** In 2016, the percentage of working-age people with disabilities in the US:

- with only a high school diploma or equivalent was 34.1 percent
- with only some college or an associate degree was 31.5 percent
- with a bachelor's degree or more was 14.4 percent.

**Veterans Service-Connected Disability:** In 2016, the percentage of working-age civilian veterans with a VA determined Service-Connected Disability was 25.1 percent in the US.

**Health Insurance Coverage:** In 2016 in the US, 90.3 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 2016 American Community Survey (ACS). The US disability prevalence rate for this population was 10.9%

<b>Location</b>	<b>2016 (%)</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>2016 (%)</b>
Alabama	<b>14.7</b>	Montana	<b>13.0</b>
Alaska	<b>12.3</b>	Nebraska	<b>10.2</b>
Arizona	<b>11.3</b>	Nevada	<b>11.4</b>
Arkansas	<b>15.6</b>	New Hampshire	<b>10.6</b>
California	<b>8.5</b>	New Jersey	<b>8.0</b>
Colorado	<b>9.0</b>	New Mexico	<b>13.3</b>
Connecticut	<b>8.7</b>	New York	<b>9.2</b>
Delaware	<b>9.8</b>	North Carolina	<b>12.3</b>
District of Columbia	<b>9.7</b>	North Dakota	<b>9.0</b>
Florida	<b>10.7</b>	Ohio	<b>12.3</b>
Georgia	<b>11.5</b>	Oklahoma	<b>15.1</b>
Hawaii	<b>8.0</b>	Oregon	<b>12.7</b>
Idaho	<b>12.2</b>	Pennsylvania	<b>12.2</b>
Illinois	<b>9.0</b>	Puerto Rico	<b>18.1</b>
Indiana	<b>12.4</b>	Rhode Island	<b>11.7</b>
Iowa	<b>10.1</b>	South Carolina	<b>13.3</b>
Kansas	<b>11.3</b>	South Dakota	<b>10.0</b>
Kentucky	<b>17.0</b>	Tennessee	<b>14.4</b>
Louisiana	<b>14.3</b>	Texas	<b>10.2</b>
Maine	<b>13.4</b>	Utah	<b>9.3</b>
Maryland	<b>9.1</b>	Vermont	<b>12.0</b>
Massachusetts	<b>9.3</b>	Virginia	<b>9.8</b>
Michigan	<b>13.1</b>	Washington	<b>11.3</b>
Minnesota	<b>8.9</b>	West Virginia	<b>18.5</b>
Mississippi	<b>15.1</b>	Wisconsin	<b>9.8</b>
Missouri	<b>13.2</b>	Wyoming	<b>12.4</b>



# 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 2016 American Community Survey (ACS). The employment rate in the US for this population was 36.2% for people with disabilities and 78.9% for people without disabilities.

Location	People with Disabilities 2016	People without Disabilities 2016	Location	People with Disabilities 2016	People without Disabilities 2016
Alabama	27.9	75.5	Montana	42.7	80.9
Alaska	49.4	77.6	Nebraska	49.8	85.7
Arizona	35.1	76.1	Nevada	42.6	77.6
Arkansas	32.0	77.6	New Hampshire	45.6	85.2
California	35.0	76.5	New Jersey	37.4	79.7
Colorado	42.8	81.5	New Mexico	31.6	73.9
Connecticut	39.0	81.4	New York	33.0	77.9
Delaware	36.2	79.2	North Carolina	35.2	78.3
District of Columbia	33.8	80.7	North Dakota	51.5	85.4
Florida	32.7	77.3	Ohio	35.7	80.2
Georgia	34.7	77.9	Oklahoma	36.5	77.7
Hawaii	40.5	81.2	Oregon	40.1	78.5
Idaho	42.9	77.9	Pennsylvania	35.2	80.0
Illinois	35.1	79.8	Puerto Rico	23.1	58.6
Indiana	36.9	81.2	Rhode Island	31.5	80.9
Iowa	45.8	84.3	South Carolina	33.4	78.0
Kansas	46.0	82.5	South Dakota	52.0	84.5
Kentucky	31.0	77.6	Tennessee	31.4	78.3
Louisiana	30.9	75.4	Texas	39.7	78.3
Maine	32.4	81.4	Utah	46.2	79.7
Maryland	42.2	82.5	Vermont	41.4	85.0
Massachusetts	38.9	82.3	Virginia	39.5	81.4
Michigan	33.6	78.3	Washington	39.2	79.0
Minnesota	48.7	85.5	West Virginia	27.9	72.6
Mississippi	29.0	74.8	Wisconsin	41.6	83.6
Missouri	34.2	81.0	Wyoming	47.0	80.6

# 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 2016 American Community Survey (ACS). For definitions of terms, see Glossary.

### Quick Statistics

Prevalence:  
All Ages  
**12.8%**

- In 2016, the overall percentage (prevalence rate) of people with a disability of all ages in the US was 12.8 percent.
- In other words, in 2016, 40,890,900 of the 319,215,200 individuals of all ages in the US reported one or more disabilities.
- In the US in 2016, among the six types of disabilities identified in the ACS, the highest prevalence rate was for "Ambulatory Disability," 7.1 percent. The lowest prevalence rate was for "Visual Disability," 2.4 percent.

## Prevalence of disability among non-institutionalized people of all ages in the United States in 2016\*



Disability Type	%	MOE	Number	MOE	Base Pop.	Sample Size
Any Disability	12.8	0.05	40,890,900	156,510	319,215,200	3,085,278
Visual	2.4	0.02	7,675,600	71,690	319,215,200	3,085,278
Hearing	3.6	0.03	11,445,600	87,010	319,215,200	3,085,278
Ambulatory	7.1	0.04	21,246,400	116,670	299,489,800	2,923,204
Cognitive	5.2	0.03	15,507,300	100,620	299,489,800	2,923,204
Self-Care	2.7	0.02	8,134,300	73,740	299,489,800	2,923,204
Independent Living	5.7	0.04	14,788,800	98,380	258,311,400	2,554,281

\* **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 2016 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 2016, 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 2016, 138,500 of the 19,725,400 children ages 0 to 4 in the US reported one or more disabilities.
- In the US in 2016, 0.4 percent reported a "Visual Disability"
- In the US in 2016, 0.5 percent reported a "Hearing Disability"

# Prevalence of disability among non-institutionalized people ages 4 and under in the United States in 2016



Disability Type	%	MOE	Number	MOE	Base Pop.	Sample Size
Any Disability	0.7	3.29	138,500	9,740	19,725,400	162,074
Visual	0.4	3.29	78,600	7,340	19,725,400	162,074
Hearing	0.5	3.29	94,400	8,050	19,725,400	162,074

# 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 2016 American Community Survey (ACS)\*. For definitions of terms, see Glossary.

### Quick Statistics

Prevalence:  
Ages 5 to  
15 years  
**5.5%**

- In 2016, the overall percentage (prevalence rate) of children with a disability ages 5 to 15 in the US was 5.5 percent.
- In other words, in 2016, 2,484,100 of the 45,347,200 individuals ages 5 to 15 in the US reported one or more disabilities.
- In the US in 2016, among the five types of disabilities\* identified in the ACS, the highest prevalence rate was for "Cognitive Disability," 4.2 percent. The lowest prevalence rate was for "Hearing 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 2016



Disability Type	%	MOE	Number	MOE	Base Pop.	Sample Size
Any Disability	5.5	0.09	2,484,100	41,120	45,347,200	407,935
Visual	0.9	3.29	388,400	16,310	45,347,200	407,935
Hearing	0.6	3.29	280,300	13,860	45,347,200	407,935
Ambulatory	0.6	3.29	273,200	13,680	45,347,200	407,935
Cognitive	4.2	0.08	1,914,800	36,130	45,347,200	407,935
Self-Care	1.1	3.29	483,000	18,190	45,347,200	407,935

\* **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 2016 American Community Survey (ACS). For definitions of terms, see Glossary.

### Quick Statistics

Prevalence:  
Ages 16 to  
20 years

**6.2%**

- In 2016, the overall percentage (prevalence rate) of people with a disability ages 16 to 20 in the US was 6.2 percent.
- In other words, in 2016, 1,333,400 of the 21,641,500 individuals ages 16 to 20 in the US reported one or more disabilities.
- In the US in 2016, among the six types of disabilities identified in the ACS, the highest prevalence rate was for "Cognitive Disability," 4.3 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 2016



Disability Type	%	MOE	Number	MOE	Base Pop.	Sample Size
Any Disability	6.2	0.14	1,333,400	30,180	21,641,500	205,004
Visual	1.1	3.29	239,400	12,810	21,641,500	205,004
Hearing	0.7	3.29	142,100	9,870	21,641,500	205,004
Ambulatory	0.8	3.29	178,000	11,050	21,641,500	205,004
Cognitive	4.3	0.11	931,800	25,240	21,641,500	205,004
Self-Care	0.8	3.29	166,900	10,700	21,641,500	205,004
Independent Living	2.3	0.09	505,400	18,600	21,641,500	205,004

# 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 2016 American Community Survey (ACS). For definitions of terms, see Glossary.

### Quick Statistics

Prevalence:  
Ages 21 to 64  
years

**10.9%**

- In 2016, 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 2016, 20,062,500 of the 184,582,700 individuals ages 21 to 64 in the US reported one or more disabilities.
- In the US in 2016, among the six types of disabilities identified in the ACS, the highest prevalence rate was for "Ambulatory Disability," 5.4 percent. The lowest prevalence rate was "Self-Care Disability," 1.9 percent.

## Prevalence of disability among non-institutionalized people ages 21 to 64 in the United States in 2016



Disability Type	%	MOE	Number	MOE	Base Pop.	Sample Size
Any Disability	10.9	0.06	20,062,500	113,600	184,582,700	1,735,531
Visual	2.1	0.03	3,798,200	50,740	184,582,700	1,735,531
Hearing	2.1	0.03	3,934,300	51,630	184,582,700	1,735,531
Ambulatory	5.4	0.04	10,027,900	81,630	184,582,700	1,735,531
Cognitive	4.6	0.04	8,408,200	74,940	184,582,700	1,735,531
Self-Care	1.9	3.29	3,575,900	49,250	184,582,700	1,735,531
Independent Living	3.9	0.04	7,156,600	69,280	184,582,700	1,735,531

# 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 2016 American Community Survey (ACS). For definitions of terms, see Glossary.

### Quick Statistics

Prevalence:  
Ages 65 to 74  
years

**25.3%**

- In 2016, the overall percentage (prevalence rate) of people with a disability ages 65 to 74 in the US was 25.3 percent.
- In other words, in 2016, 7,188,600 of the 28,387,900 individuals ages 65 to 74 in the US reported one or more disabilities.
- In the US in 2016, among the six types of disabilities identified in the ACS, the highest prevalence rate was for "Ambulatory Disability," 15.4 percent. The lowest prevalence rate was for "Self-Care Disability," 4.4 percent.

# Prevalence of disability among non-institutionalized people ages 65 to 74 in the United States in 2016



Disability Type	%	MOE	Number	MOE	Base Pop.	Sample Size
Any Disability	25.3	0.21	7,188,600	69,430	28,387,900	341,367
Visual	4.5	0.10	1,277,600	29,540	28,387,900	341,367
Hearing	9.2	0.14	2,623,500	42,240	28,387,900	341,367
Ambulatory	15.4	0.18	4,381,400	54,440	28,387,900	341,367
Cognitive	5.4	0.11	1,535,100	32,370	28,387,900	341,367
Self-Care	4.4	0.10	1,253,600	29,260	28,387,900	341,367
Independent Living	7.6	0.13	2,169,700	38,450	28,387,900	341,367

# 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 2016 American Community Survey (ACS). For definitions of terms, see Glossary.

### Quick Statistics

Prevalence:  
Ages 75 and  
Older

**49.6%**

- In 2016, the overall percentage (prevalence rate) of people with a disability ages 75 and older in the US was 49.6 percent.
- In other words, in 2016, 9,683,900 of the 19,530,600 individuals ages 75 and older in the US reported one or more disabilities.
- In the US in 2016, among the six types of disabilities identified in the ACS, the highest prevalence rate was for "Ambulatory Disability," 32.7 percent. The lowest prevalence rate was for "Visual Disability," 9.7 percent.

# Prevalence of disability among non-institutionalized people ages 75 and older in the United States in 2016



Disability Type	%	MOE	Number	MOE	Base Pop.	Sample Size
Any Disability	49.6	0.30	9,683,900	80,260	19,530,600	233,367
Visual	9.7	0.18	1,893,500	35,930	19,530,600	233,367
Hearing	22.4	0.25	4,371,000	54,380	19,530,600	233,367
Ambulatory	32.7	0.28	6,386,000	65,520	19,530,600	233,367
Cognitive	13.9	0.21	2,717,400	42,990	19,530,600	233,367
Self-Care	13.6	0.20	2,654,800	42,490	19,530,600	233,367
Independent Living	24.9	0.26	4,854,200	57,260	19,530,600	233,367

# 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 2016 American Community Survey (ACS)\*. For definitions of terms, see Glossary.

### Quick Statistics

Prevalence:  
Males All  
Ages

**12.7%**

Prevalence:  
Female All  
Ages

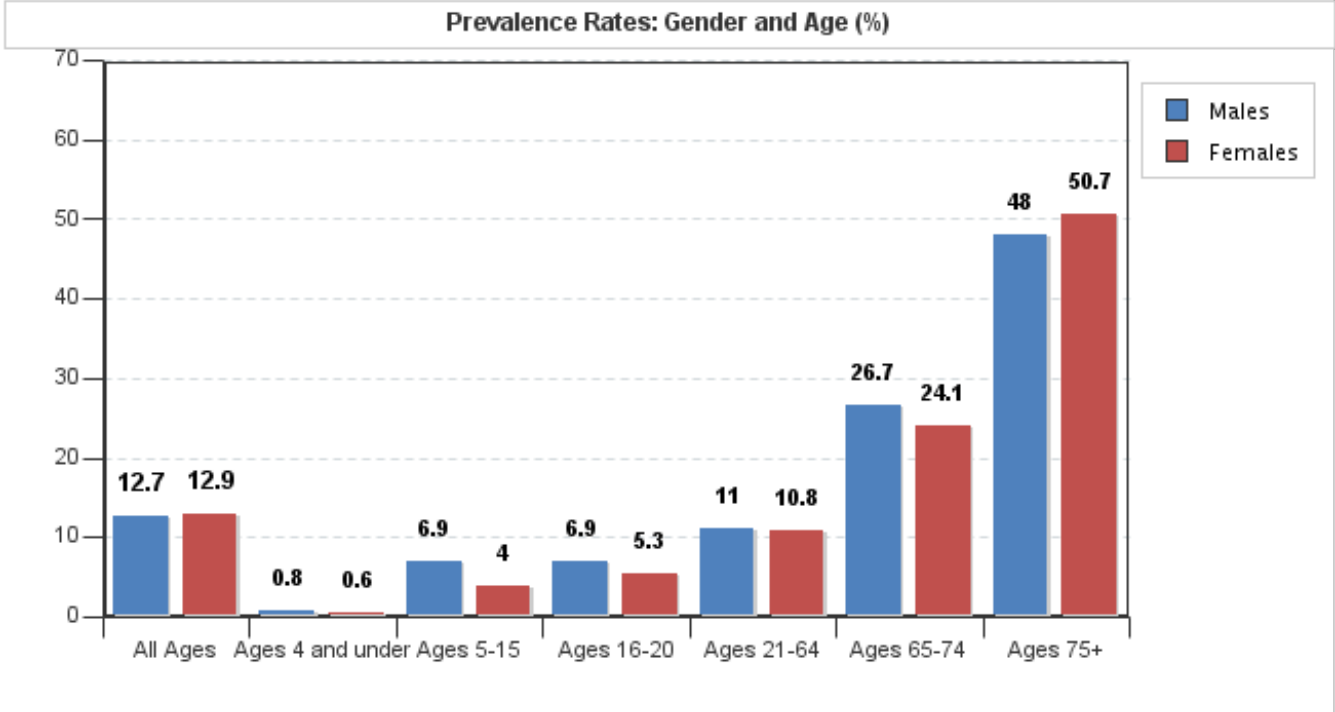
**12.9%**

- In the US in 2016, the overall percentage (prevalence rate) of males with a disability of all ages was 12.7 percent.
- In other words, in 2016, 19,803,600 of the 156,357,700 males of all ages in the US reported one or more disabilities.
- In the US in 2016, the overall percentage (prevalence rate) of females with a disability of all ages was 12.9 percent.
- In other words, in 2016, 21,087,300 of the 162,857,500 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 2016



Gender & Age	%	MOE	Number	MOE	Base Pop.	Sample Size
<b>Males</b>						
Males: All Ages	12.7	0.07	19,803,600	112,910	156,357,700	1,497,200
Males: Ages 4 and under	0.8	3.29	78,500	7,340	10,115,000	83,161
Males: Ages 5-15	6.9	0.14	1,591,900	32,960	23,189,600	208,789
Males: Ages 16-20	6.9	0.20	766,100	22,890	11,032,400	103,932
Males: Ages 21-64	11.0	0.09	9,960,200	81,370	90,722,600	842,620
Males: Ages 65-74	26.7	0.32	3,539,300	49,000	13,241,800	160,174
Males: Ages 75+	48.0	0.46	3,867,500	51,190	8,056,300	98,524
<b>Females</b>						
Females: All Ages	12.9	0.07	21,087,300	116,270	162,857,500	1,588,078
Females: Ages 4 and under	0.6	3.29	59,900	6,410	9,610,400	78,913
Females: Ages 5-15	4.0	0.11	892,200	24,700	22,157,600	199,146
Females: Ages 16-20	5.3	0.18	567,200	19,710	10,609,100	101,072
Females: Ages 21-64	10.8	0.08	10,102,300	81,920	93,860,000	892,911
Females: Ages 65-74	24.1	0.29	3,649,300	49,740	15,146,100	181,193
Females: Ages 75+	50.7	0.39	5,816,400	62,590	11,474,200	134,843

\* **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 2016 American Community Survey (ACS)\*. For definitions of terms, see Glossary.

### Quick Statistics

Prevalence:  
Hispanic All  
Ages

**9.1%**

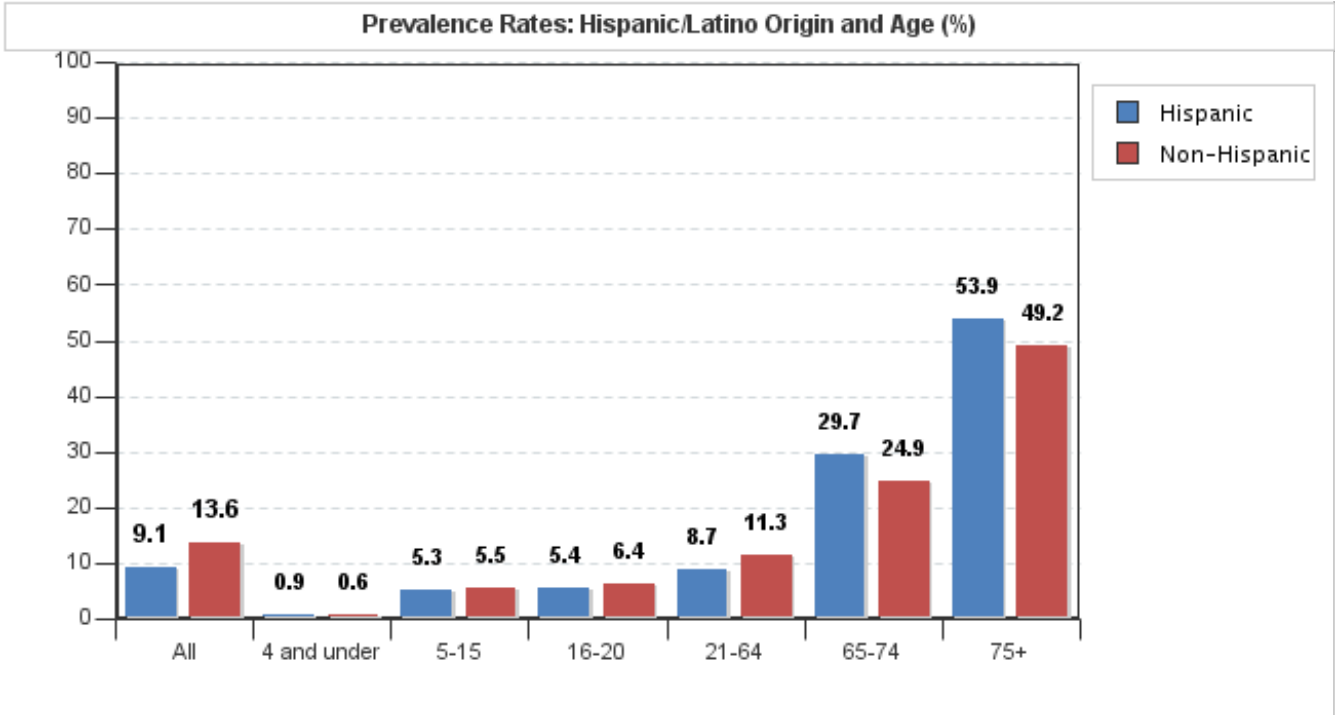
Prevalence:  
Non-Hispanic  
All Ages

**13.6%**

- In the US in 2016, the overall percentage (prevalence rate) of disability among people of Hispanic/Latino origin of all ages was 9.1 percent.
- In other words, in 2016, 5,191,500 of the 56,811,800 people of Hispanic/Latino origin of all ages in the US reported one or more disabilities.
- In the US in 2016, the overall percentage (prevalence rate) of disability among people of non-Hispanic/Latino origin of all ages was 13.6 percent.
- In other words, in 2016, 35,699,400 of the 262,403,400 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 2016



Hispanic/Latino Origin & Age	%	MOE	Number	MOE	Base Pop.	Sample Size
<b>Hispanic</b>						
Hispanic - All Ages	9.1	0.10	5,191,500	59,190	56,811,800	444,792
Hispanic - Ages 4 and under	0.9	3.29	45,900	5,610	5,074,400	33,930
Hispanic - Ages 5-15	5.3	0.18	604,300	20,340	11,299,000	86,219
Hispanic - Ages 16-20	5.4	0.27	262,700	13,420	4,844,500	39,426
Hispanic - Ages 21-64	8.7	0.13	2,769,600	43,400	31,733,700	246,784
Hispanic - Ages 65-74	29.7	0.78	704,300	21,950	2,368,100	23,107
Hispanic - Ages 75+	53.9	1.07	804,500	23,460	1,492,100	15,326
<b>Non-Hispanic</b>						
Non-Hispanic - All Ages	13.6	0.06	35,699,400	147,570	262,403,400	2,640,486
Non-Hispanic - Ages 4 and under	0.6	3.29	92,600	7,970	14,650,900	128,144
Non-Hispanic - Ages 5-15	5.5	0.10	1,879,800	35,800	34,048,200	321,716
Non-Hispanic - Ages 16-20	6.4	0.16	1,070,600	27,050	16,797,000	165,578
Non-Hispanic - Ages 21-64	11.3	0.07	17,292,900	105,950	152,849,000	1,488,747
Non-Hispanic - Ages 65-74	24.9	0.22	6,484,200	66,010	26,019,800	318,260
Non-Hispanic - Ages 75+	49.2	0.31	8,879,300	76,960	18,038,500	218,041

\* **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

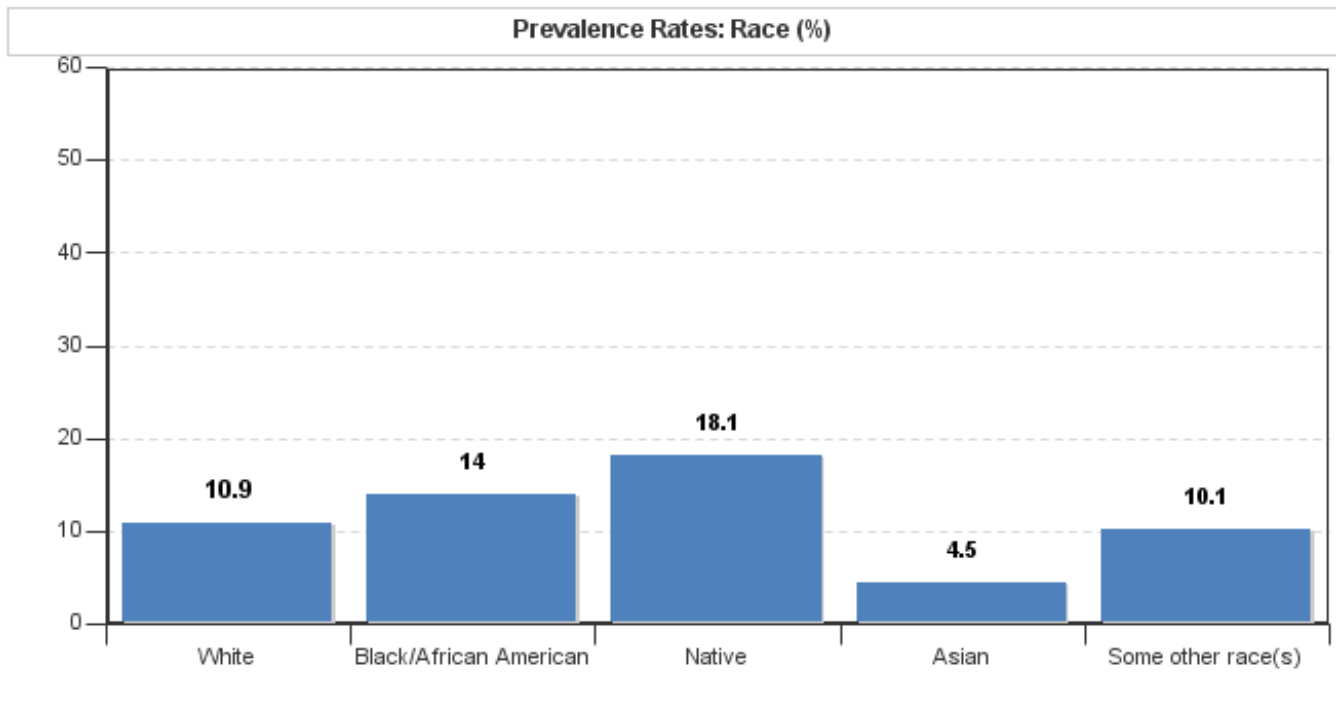
This section presents the disability prevalence rate among non-institutionalized working-age people (ages 21 to 64) by race category in the US, using data from the 2016 American Community Survey (ACS). For definitions of terms, see Glossary.

### Quick Statistics

In 2016, among working-age people in the US:

- 10.9 percent of persons who were White reported a disability.
- 14.0 percent of persons who were Black/African American reported a disability.
- 18.1 percent of persons who were Native American reported a disability.
- 4.5 percent of persons who were Asian reported a disability.
- 10.1 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 2016



Race	%	MOE	Number	MOE	Base Pop.	Sample Size
White	10.9	0.07	14,576,100	97,700	134,256,600	1,327,419
Black/African American	14.0	0.19	3,267,600	47,100	23,322,800	173,912
Native American or Alaska Native	18.1	0.82	272,900	13,680	1,508,600	18,961
Asian	4.5	0.16	509,700	18,680	11,223,000	102,195
Some other race(s)	10.1	0.21	1,436,200	31,310	14,271,600	113,044

# 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 2016 American Community Survey (ACS). For definitions of terms, see Glossary.

## Quick Statistics

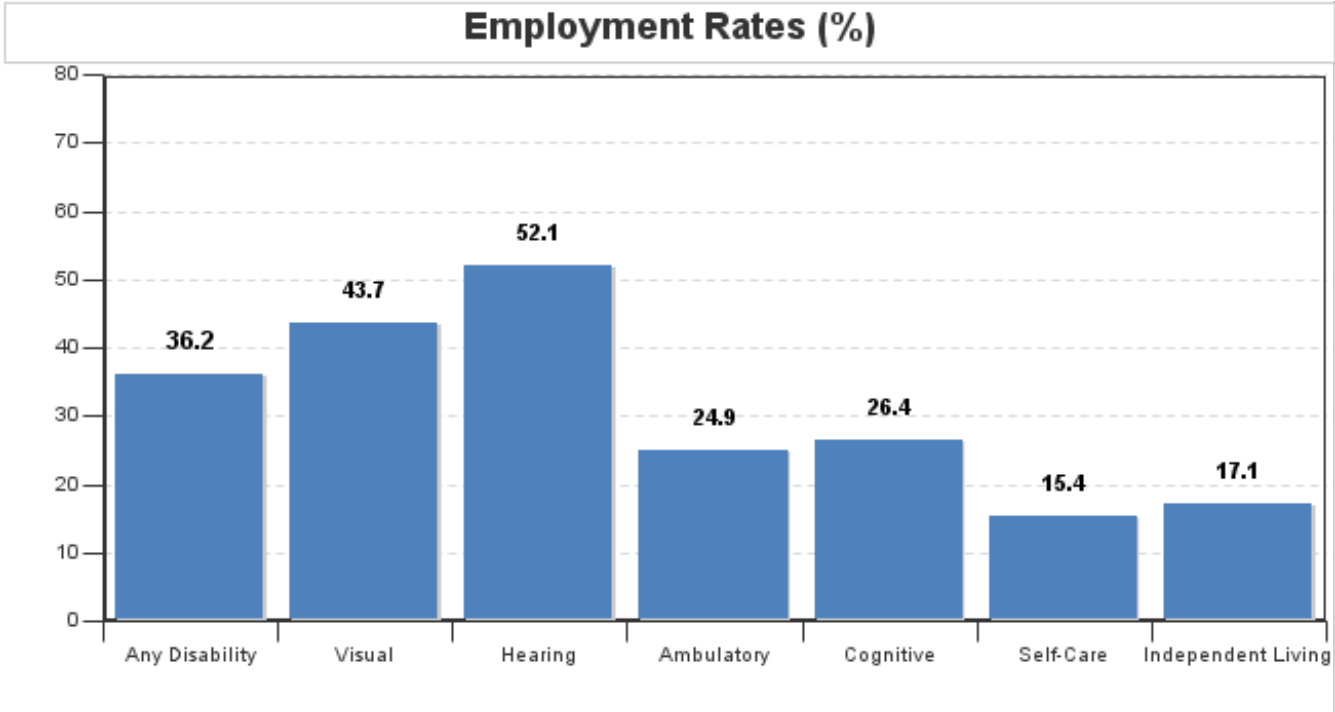
Employment:  
with disability  
**36.2%**

Employment:  
without  
disability  
**78.9%**

- In 2016, the employment rate of working-age people with disabilities in the US was 36.2 percent.
- In 2016, the employment rate of working-age people without disabilities in the US was 78.9 percent.
- The gap between the employment rates of working-age people with and without disabilities was 42.7 percentage points.
- Among the six types of disabilities identified in the ACS, the highest employment rate was for people with a "Hearing Disability," 52.1 percent. The lowest employment rate was for people with a "Self-Care Disability," 15.4 percent.



# Employment of non-institutionalized working-age people (ages 21 to 64) by disability status in the United States in 2016



Disability Type	%	MOE	Number	MOE	Base Pop.	Sample Size
No Disability	78.9	0.08	129,870,100	229,850	164,520,200	1,536,835
Any Disability	36.2	0.28	7,262,500	69,770	20,062,500	198,696
Visual	43.7	0.67	1,658,600	33,640	3,798,200	36,727
Hearing	52.1	0.66	2,051,300	37,390	3,934,300	39,416
Ambulatory	24.9	0.36	2,493,800	41,190	10,027,900	99,215
Cognitive	26.4	0.40	2,218,300	38,870	8,408,200	81,954
Self-Care	15.4	0.50	552,500	19,450	3,575,900	35,973
Independent Living	17.1	0.37	1,221,200	28,880	7,156,600	71,736

# 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 2016 American Community Survey (ACS). For definitions of terms, see Glossary.

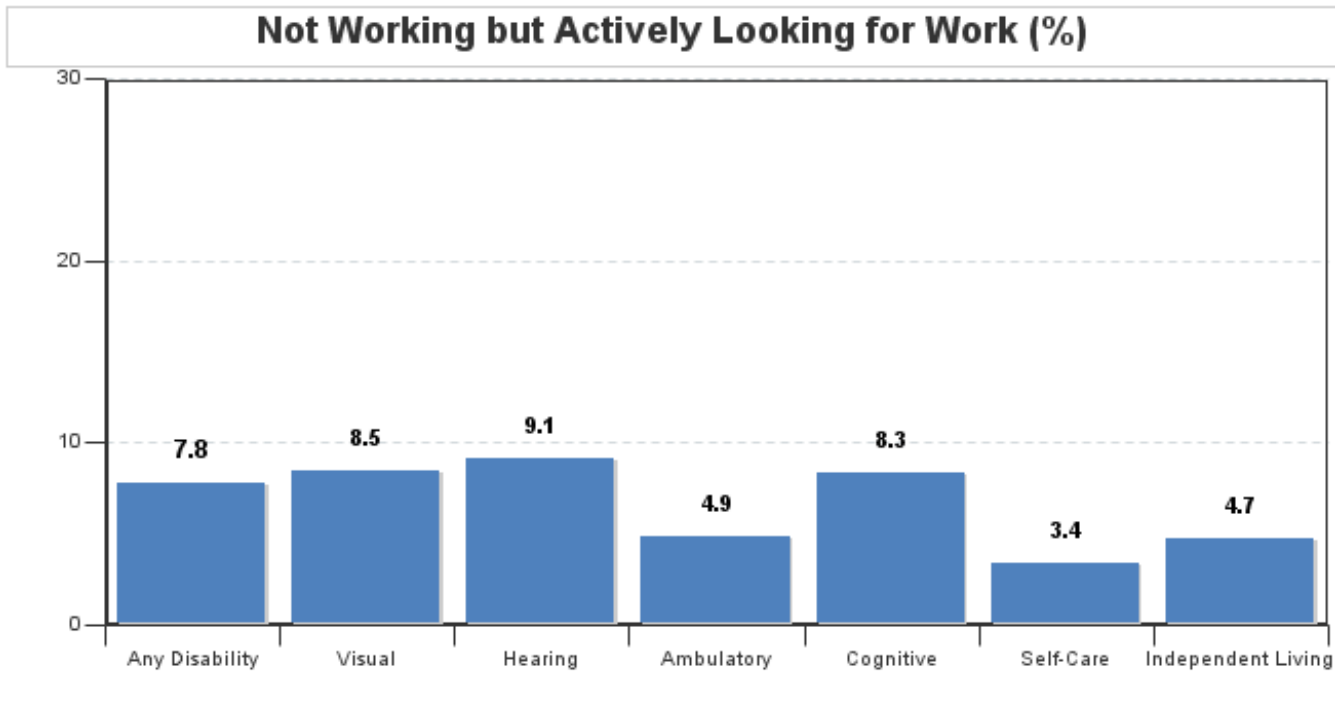
## Quick Statistics

Actively  
Looking: with  
disability  
**7.8%**

Actively  
Looking:  
without  
disability  
**18.6%**

- In 2016 in the US, the percentage of working-age people with disabilities who were not working but actively looking for work was 7.8 percent.
- In 2016 in the US, the percentage of working-age people without disabilities who were not working but actively looking for work was 18.6 percent.
- The difference in the percentage of not working but actively looking for work between working-age people with and without disabilities was 10.8 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 "Hearing Disability," 9.1 percent. The lowest percentage was for people with a "Self-Care Disability," 3.4 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 2016



Disability Type	%	MOE	Number	MOE	Base Pop.	Sample Size
No Disability	18.6	0.17	6,448,500	65,830	34,650,100	325,555
Any Disability	7.8	0.20	997,800	26,120	12,799,900	126,788
Visual	8.5	0.50	181,200	11,140	2,139,600	20,414
Hearing	9.1	0.55	170,800	10,820	1,883,000	18,681
Ambulatory	4.9	0.21	369,600	15,910	7,534,200	74,962
Cognitive	8.3	0.29	511,800	18,720	6,189,900	60,807
Self-Care	3.4	0.27	102,800	8,400	3,023,500	30,640
Independent Living	4.7	0.23	277,000	13,780	5,935,400	59,635

# 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 2016 American Community Survey (ACS). For definitions of terms, see Glossary.

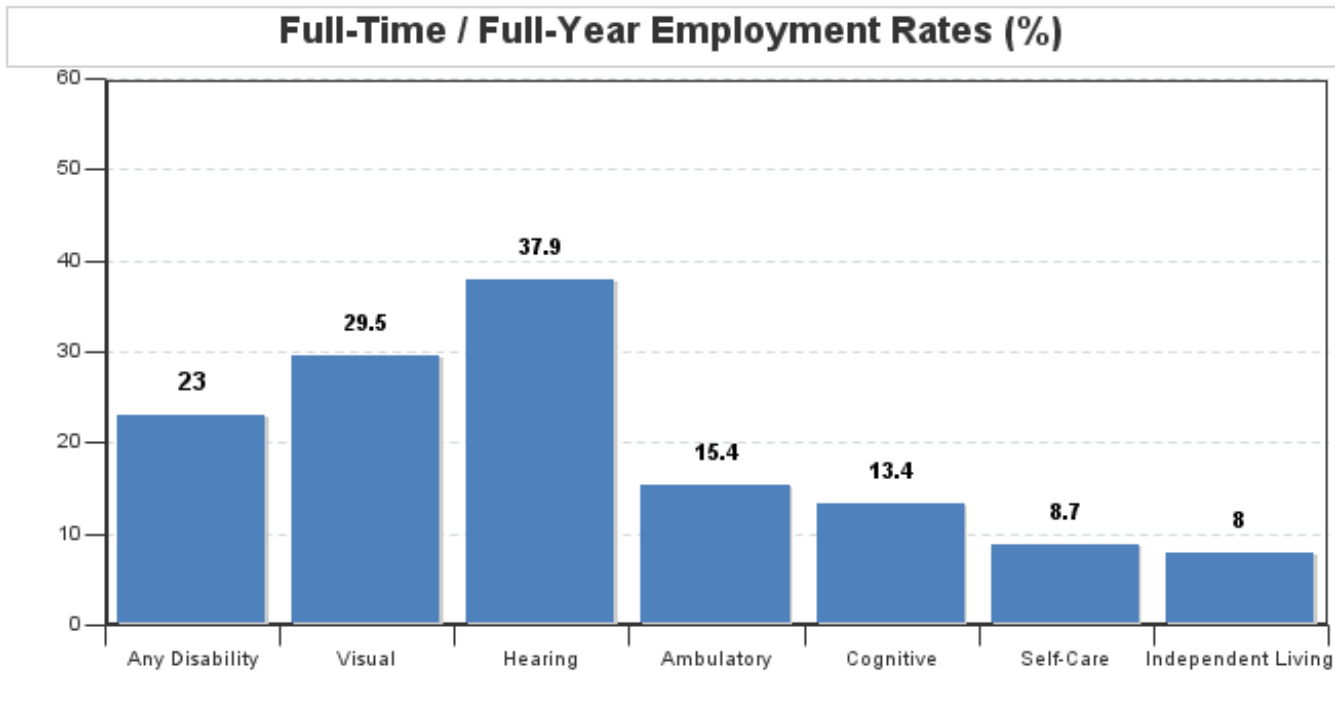
## Quick Statistics

FT / FY  
Employment:  
with disability  
**23.0%**

FT / FY  
Employment:  
without  
disability  
**59.4%**

- In 2016, the percentage of working-age people with disabilities working full-time/full-year in the US was 23.0 percent.
- In 2016, the percentage of working-age people without disabilities working full-time/full-year in the US was 59.4 percent.
- The difference in the percentage working full-time/full-year between working-age people with and without disabilities was 36.4 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," 37.9 percent. The lowest full-time/full-year employment rate was for people with "Independent Living Disability," 8.0 percent.

## Full-Time/Full-Year employment of non-institutionalized working-age people (ages 21 to 64) by disability status in the United States in 2016



Disability Type	%	MOE	Number	MOE	Base Pop.	Sample Size
No Disability	59.4	0.10	97,694,900	216,200	164,520,200	1,536,835
Any Disability	23.0	0.25	4,607,300	55,810	20,062,500	198,696
Visual	29.5	0.61	1,120,700	27,680	3,798,200	36,727
Hearing	37.9	0.64	1,491,200	31,910	3,934,300	39,416
Ambulatory	15.4	0.30	1,548,500	32,510	10,027,900	99,215
Cognitive	13.4	0.31	1,127,900	27,760	8,408,200	81,954
Self-Care	8.7	0.39	309,800	14,570	3,575,900	35,973
Independent Living	8.0	0.27	570,100	19,760	7,156,600	71,736

# Annual Earnings (Full-Time / Full-Year Workers)

## Introduction

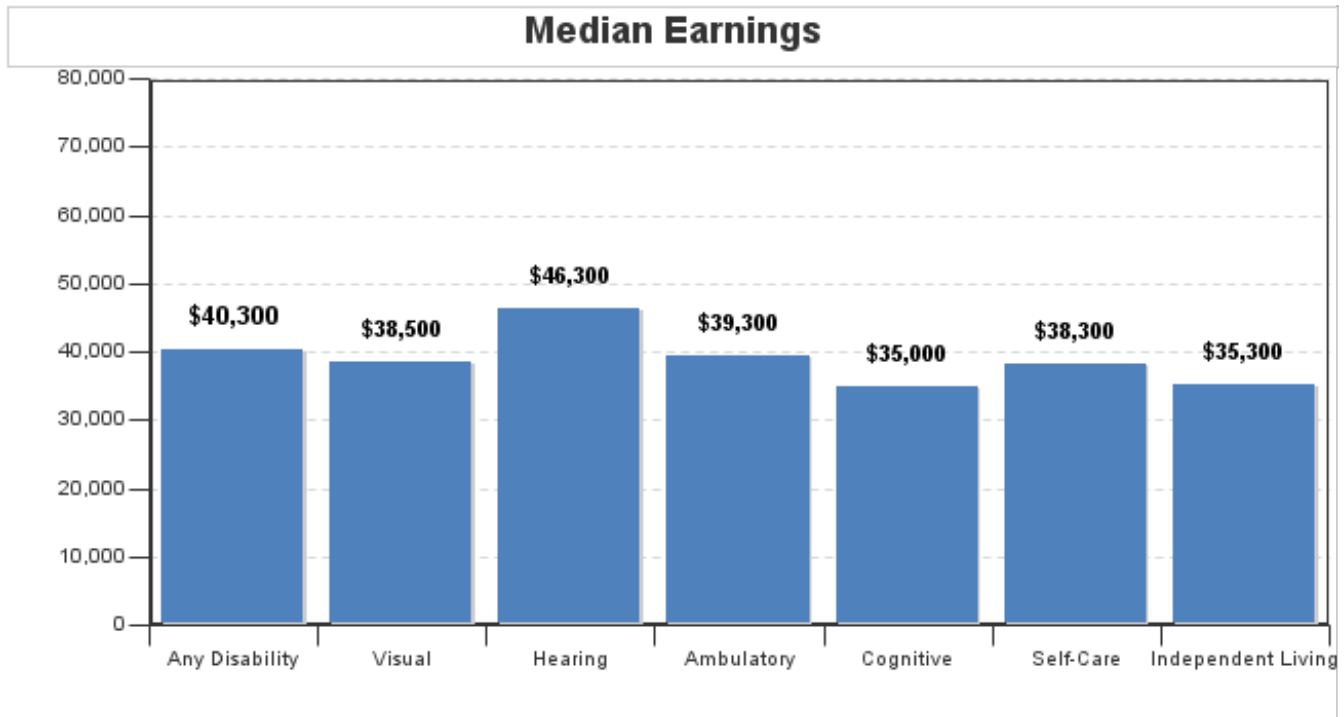
This section examines the median annual earnings of non-institutionalized working-age people (ages 21 to 64) with disabilities who work full-time/full-year in the United States, using data from the 2016 American Community Survey (ACS). For definitions of terms, see Glossary.

## Quick Statistics



- In 2016, the median earnings of working-age people with disabilities who worked full-time/full-year in the US was \$40,300.
- In 2016, the median earnings of working-age people without disabilities who worked full-time/full-year in the US was \$45,300.
- The difference in the median earnings between working-age people with and without disabilities who worked full-time/full-year was \$5,000.
- Among the six types of disabilities identified in the ACS, the highest annual earnings was for people with "Hearing Disability," \$46,300. The lowest annual earnings was for people with "Cognitive Disability," \$35,000.

## 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 2016



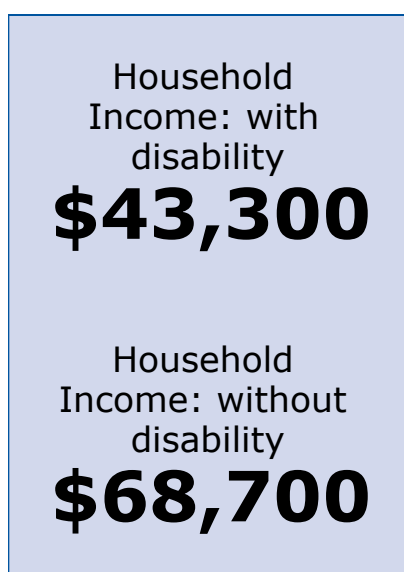
Disability Type	Median Earnings	MOE	Base Pop.	Sample Size
No Disability	\$45,300	\$110	97,695,000	910,394
Any Disability	\$40,300	\$450	4,607,000	45,879
Visual	\$38,500	\$870	1,121,000	11,081
Hearing	\$46,300	\$890	1,491,000	15,171
Ambulatory	\$39,300	\$740	1,549,000	15,104
Cognitive	\$35,000	\$800	1,128,000	10,490
Self-Care	\$38,300	\$1,660	310,000	2,927
Independent Living	\$35,300	\$1,120	570,000	5,452

# 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 2016 American Community Survey (ACS). For definitions of terms, see Glossary.

## Quick Statistics

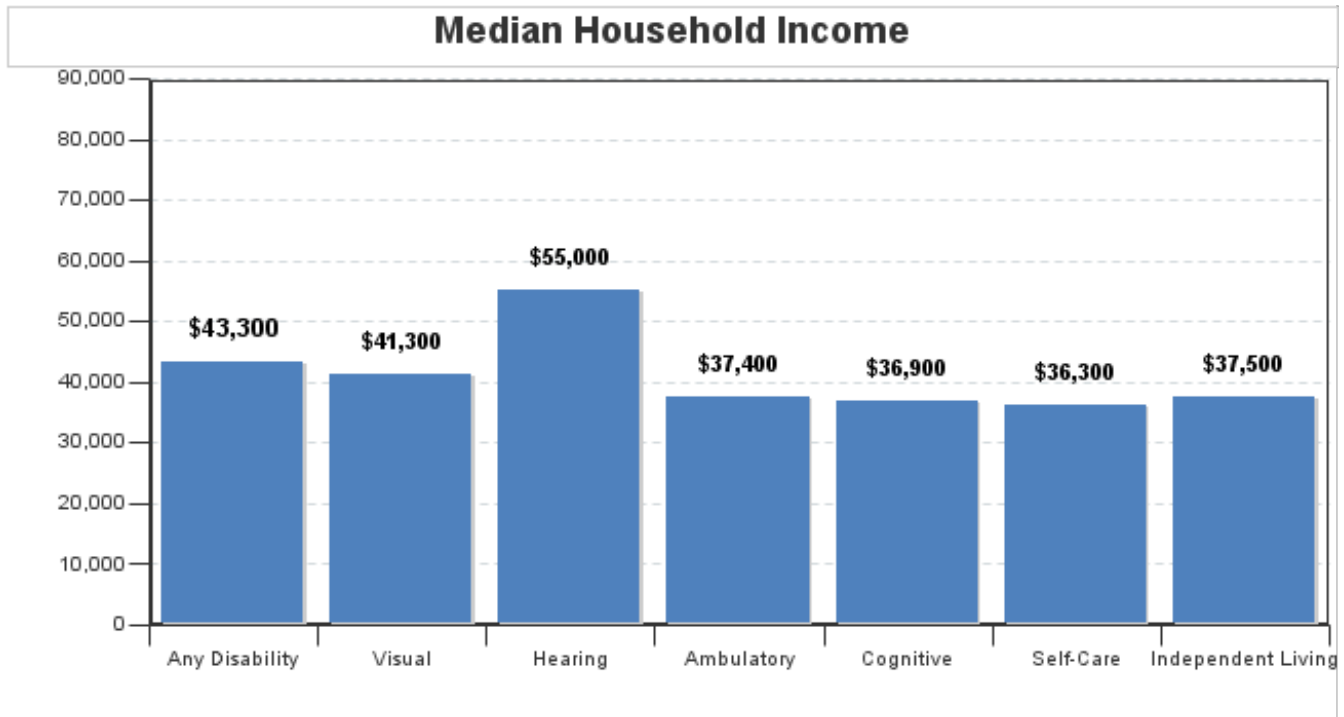


- In 2016, the median income of households that include any working-age people with disabilities in the US was \$43,300.
- In 2016, the median income of households that do not include any working-age people with disabilities in the US was \$68,700.
- The difference in the median income between households including and not including working-age people with disabilities was \$25,400.
- Among the six types of disabilities identified in the ACS, the highest median income was for households including persons with a "Hearing Disability," \$55,000. The lowest median income was for households containing persons with a "Self-Care Disability" \$36,300.

\* **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 2016



Disability Type	Median H.H. Income	MOE	Base Pop.	Sample Size
No Disability	\$68,700	\$230	79,907,000	785,456
Any Disability	\$43,300	410	15,681,000	163,672
Visual	\$41,300	880	3,179,000	32,458
Hearing	\$55,000	1,020	3,479,000	36,584
Ambulatory	\$37,400	500	8,417,000	87,078
Cognitive	\$36,900	580	6,502,000	67,105
Self-Care	\$36,300	840	2,931,000	30,560
Independent Living	\$37,500	610	5,654,000	60,191

\* **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 2016 American Community Survey (ACS). For definitions of terms, see Glossary.

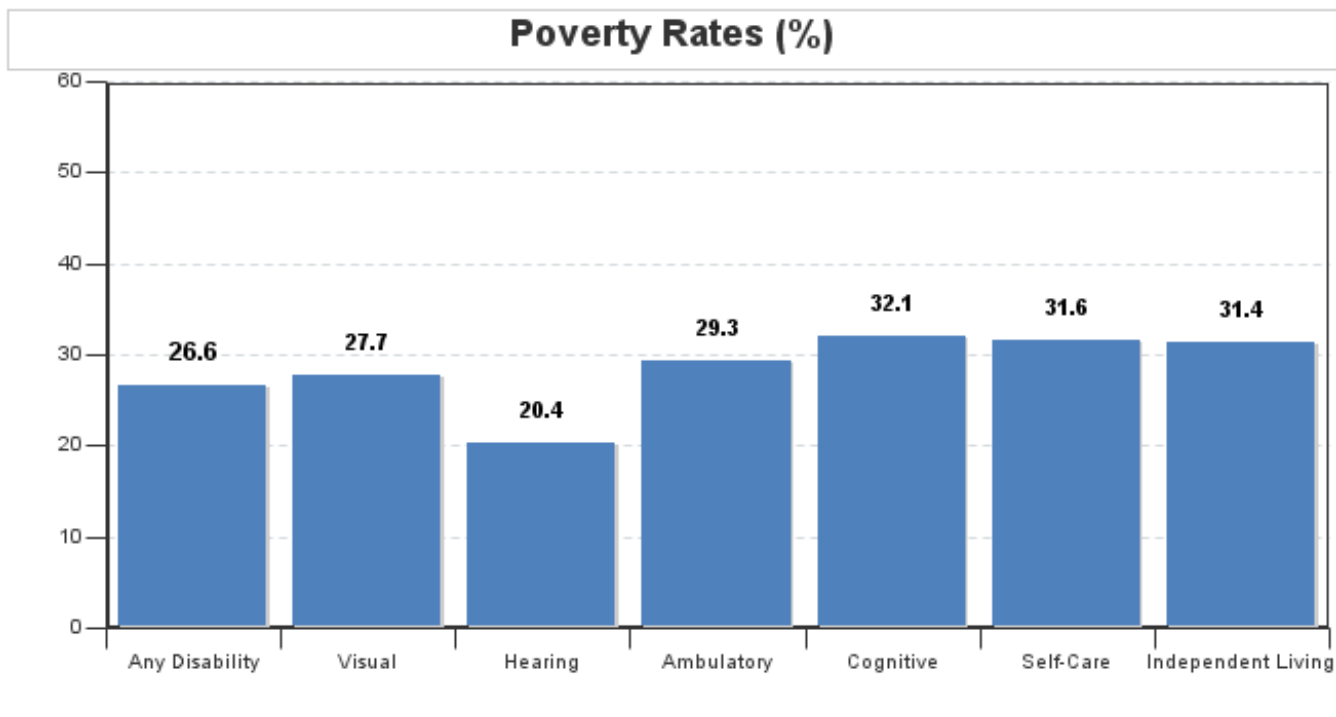
## Quick Statistics



- In 2016, the poverty rate of working-age people with disabilities in the US was 26.6 percent.
- In 2016, the poverty rate of working-age people without disabilities in the US was 10.9 percent.
- The difference in the poverty rate between working-age people with and without disabilities was 15.7 percentage points.
- Among the six types of disabilities identified in the ACS, the highest poverty rate was for people with "Cognitive Disability," 32.1 percent. The lowest poverty rate was for people with "Hearing Disability," 20.4 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 2016



Disability Type	%	MOE	Number	MOE	Base Pop.	Sample Size
No Disability	10.9	0.08	17,924,800	127,960	163,771,100	1,524,358
Any Disability	26.6	0.31	5,323,500	71,160	20,024,300	198,038
Visual	27.7	0.71	1,048,600	31,790	3,791,700	36,617
Hearing	20.4	0.63	802,600	27,830	3,929,500	39,325
Ambulatory	29.3	0.45	2,932,400	53,010	10,022,400	99,121
Cognitive	32.1	0.50	2,694,900	50,840	8,382,400	81,514
Self-Care	31.6	0.76	1,128,100	32,970	3,574,400	35,946
Independent Living	31.4	0.54	2,248,000	46,460	7,151,200	71,643

\* **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

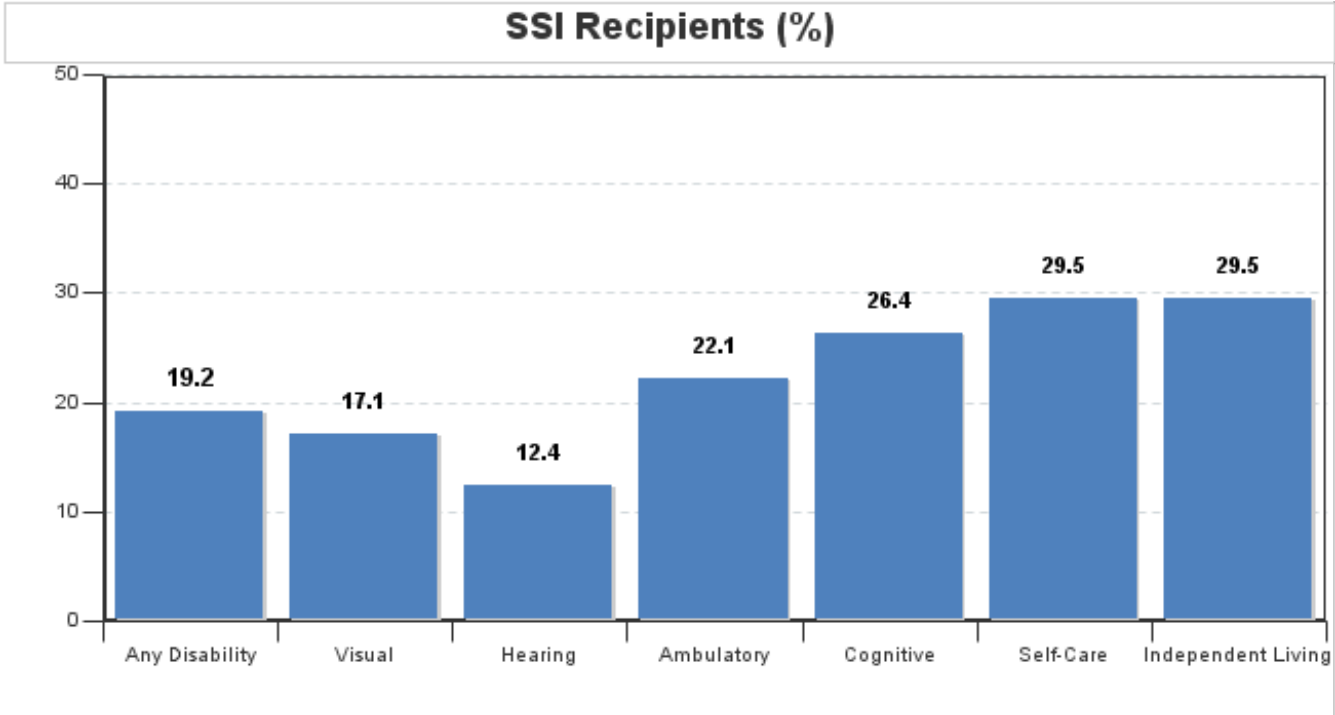
This section focuses on the percentage of non-institutionalized working-age people (ages 21 to 64) with disabilities who receive Supplemental Security Income (SSI) payments in the United States, using data from the 2016 American Community Survey (ACS). For definitions of terms, see Glossary. Please note that these results will differ from official Social Security Administration reports for several reasons. For additional information, please email [DisabilityStatistics@cornell.edu](mailto:DisabilityStatistics@cornell.edu).

## Quick Statistics

SSI  
Recipients:  
with disability  
**19.2%**

- In 2016, the percentage of working-age people with disabilities receiving Supplemental Security Income payments in the US was 19.2 percent.
- In 2016, the number of working-age people with disabilities receiving Supplemental Security Income payments in the US was 3,858,100.
- Among the six types of disabilities identified in the ACS, the highest percentage that received SSI was people with "Self-Care Disability," 29.5 percent. The lowest percentage that received SSI was people with "Hearing Disability," 12.4 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 2016



Disability Type	%	MOE	Number	MOE	Base Pop.	Sample Size
Any Disability	19.2	0.23	3,858,100	51,130	20,062,500	198,696
Visual	17.1	0.51	649,900	21,090	3,798,200	36,727
Hearing	12.4	0.44	488,100	18,280	3,934,300	39,416
Ambulatory	22.1	0.34	2,219,100	38,880	10,027,900	99,215
Cognitive	26.4	0.40	2,220,200	38,890	8,408,200	81,954
Self-Care	29.5	0.63	1,053,300	26,830	3,575,900	35,973
Independent Living	29.5	0.45	2,114,700	37,960	7,156,600	71,736

# 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 2016 American Community Survey (ACS). For definitions of terms, see Glossary.

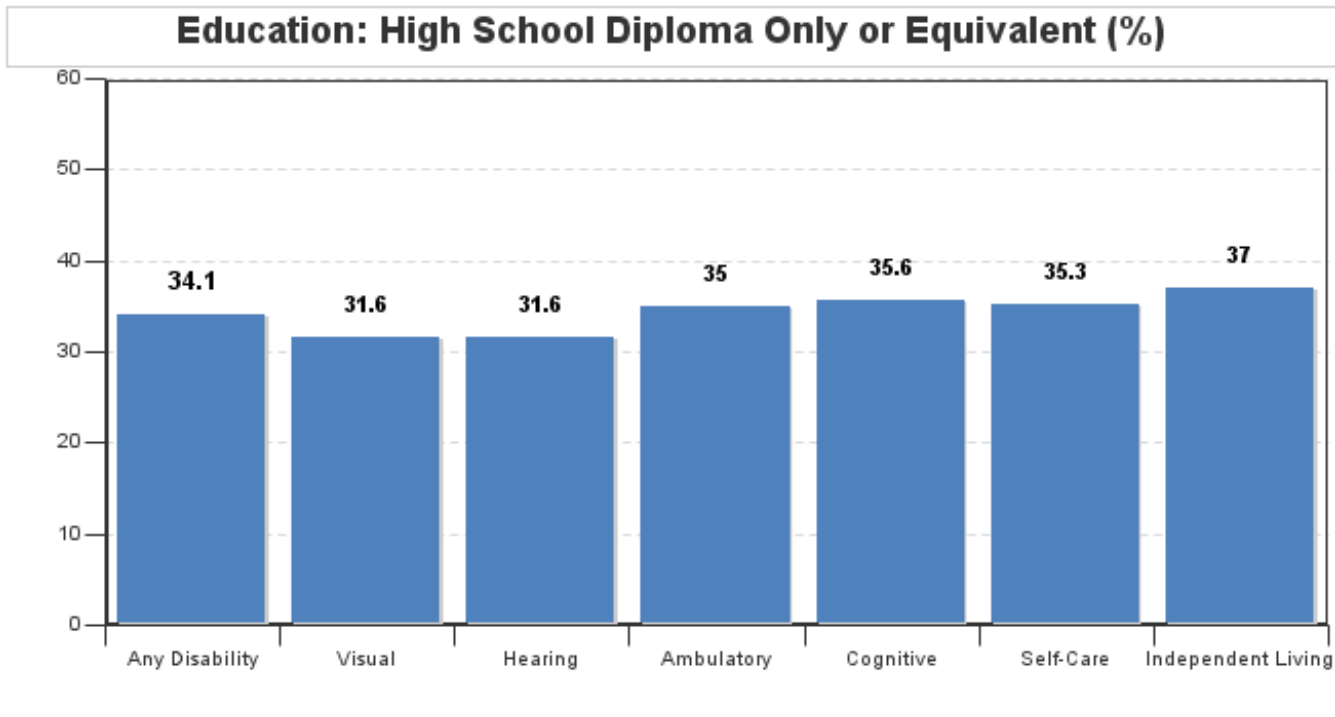
### Quick Statistics

High School  
Only: with  
disability  
**34.1%**

High School  
Only: without  
disability  
**24.9%**

- In 2016, the percentage of working-age people with disabilities with only a high school diploma or equivalent in the US was 34.1 percent.
- In 2016, the percentage of working-age people without disabilities with only a high school diploma or equivalent in the US was 24.9 percent.
- The difference in the percentage with only a high school diploma or equivalent between working-age people with and without disabilities was 9.2 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 Disability," 37.0 percent. The lowest percentage with only a high school diploma or equivalent was for people with "Visual Disability," 31.6 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 2016



Disability Type	%	MOE	Number	MOE	Base Pop.	Sample Size
No Disability	24.9	0.09	41,024,600	156,730	164,520,200	1,536,835
Any Disability	34.1	0.28	6,849,800	67,810	20,062,500	198,696
Visual	31.6	0.62	1,201,600	28,650	3,798,200	36,727
Hearing	31.6	0.61	1,241,400	29,120	3,934,300	39,416
Ambulatory	35.0	0.39	3,508,700	48,790	10,027,900	99,215
Cognitive	35.6	0.43	2,996,700	45,120	8,408,200	81,954
Self-Care	35.3	0.66	1,261,300	29,350	3,575,900	35,973
Independent Living	37.0	0.47	2,651,400	42,470	7,156,600	71,736

# 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 2016 American Community Survey (ACS). For definitions of terms, see Glossary.

### Quick Statistics

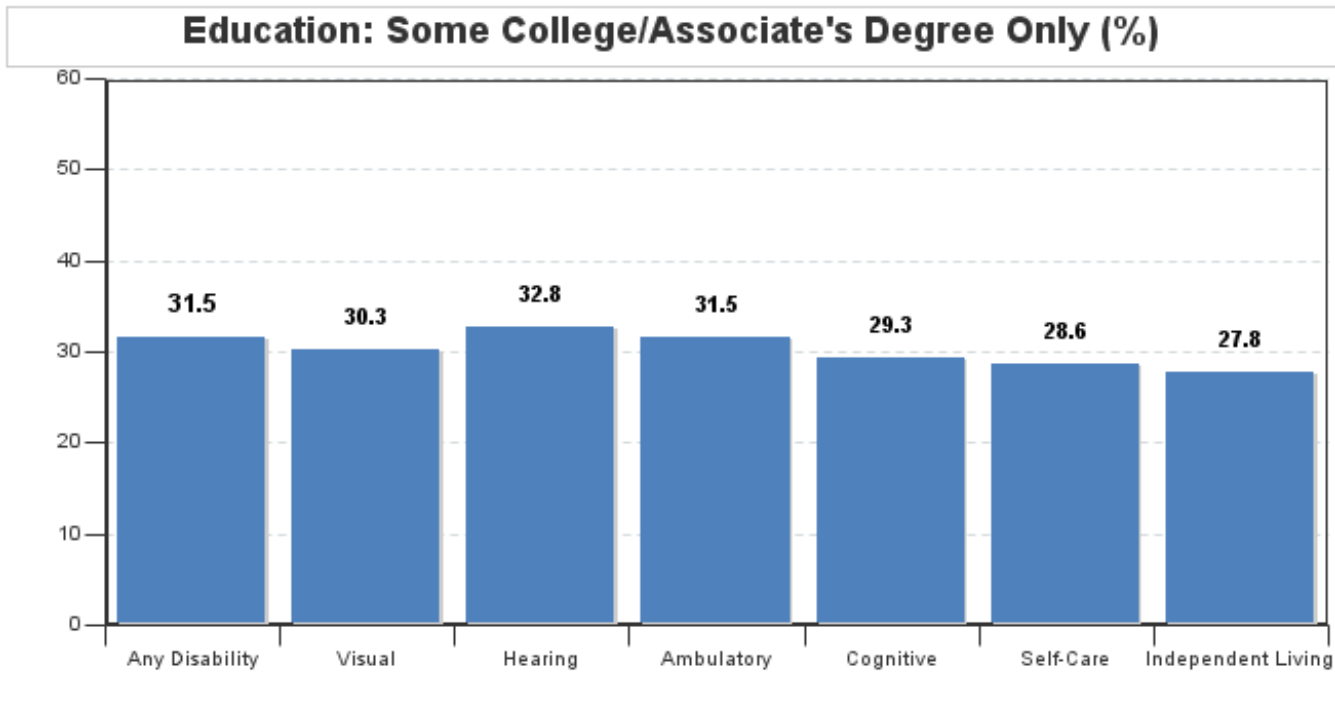
Some  
College: with  
disability  
**31.5%**

Some  
College:  
without  
disability  
**31.5%**

- In 2016, the percentage of working-age people with disabilities with only some college or an Associate's degree in the US was 31.5 percent.
- In 2016, the percentage of working-age people without disabilities with only some college or an Associate's degree in the US was 31.5 percent.
- The difference in the percentage with only some college or an Associate's degree between working-age people with and without disabilities was 0 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 Disability," 32.8 percent. The lowest percentage with only some college or Associate's degree was for people with "Independent Living Disability," 27.8 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 2016



Disability Type	%	MOE	Number	MOE	Base Pop.	Sample Size
No Disability	31.5	0.09	51,804,400	172,720	164,520,200	1,536,835
Any Disability	31.5	0.27	6,313,900	65,160	20,062,500	198,696
Visual	30.3	0.62	1,151,500	28,050	3,798,200	36,727
Hearing	32.8	0.62	1,289,400	29,680	3,934,300	39,416
Ambulatory	31.5	0.38	3,159,200	46,320	10,027,900	99,215
Cognitive	29.3	0.41	2,462,200	40,940	8,408,200	81,954
Self-Care	28.6	0.63	1,024,100	26,460	3,575,900	35,973
Independent Living	27.8	0.44	1,992,100	36,850	7,156,600	71,736

# 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 2016 American Community Survey (ACS). For definitions of terms, see Glossary.

### Quick Statistics

Bachelor's  
Degree or  
More: with  
disability

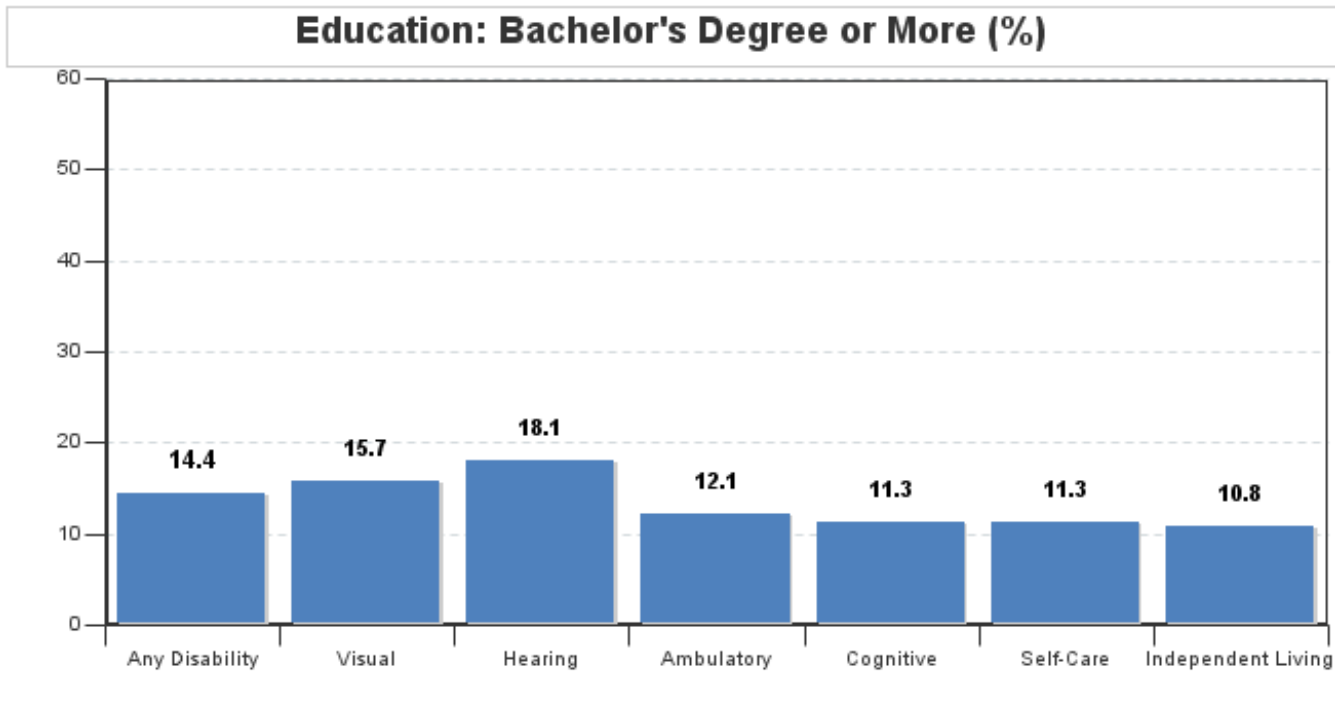
**14.4%**

Bachelor's  
Degree or  
More: without  
disability

**33.8%**

- In 2016, the percentage of working-age people with disabilities with a Bachelor's degree or more in the US was 14.4 percent.
- In 2016, the percentage of working-age people without disabilities with a Bachelor's degree or more in the US was 33.8 percent.
- The difference in the percentage with a Bachelor's degree or more between working-age people with and without disabilities was 19.4 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 Disability," 18.1 percent. The lowest percentage with a Bachelor's degree or more was for people with "Independent Living Disability," 10.8 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 2016



Disability Type	%	MOE	Number	MOE	Base Pop.	Sample Size
No Disability	33.8	0.10	55,661,700	177,760	164,520,200	1,536,835
Any Disability	14.4	0.21	2,890,200	44,320	20,062,500	198,696
Visual	15.7	0.49	598,000	20,230	3,798,200	36,727
Hearing	18.1	0.51	710,200	22,050	3,934,300	39,416
Ambulatory	12.1	0.27	1,210,400	28,760	10,027,900	99,215
Cognitive	11.3	0.29	948,200	25,460	8,408,200	81,954
Self-Care	11.3	0.44	402,500	16,600	3,575,900	35,973
Independent Living	10.8	0.30	771,100	22,970	7,156,600	71,736

# Veterans Service-Connected Disability Rating

## Introduction

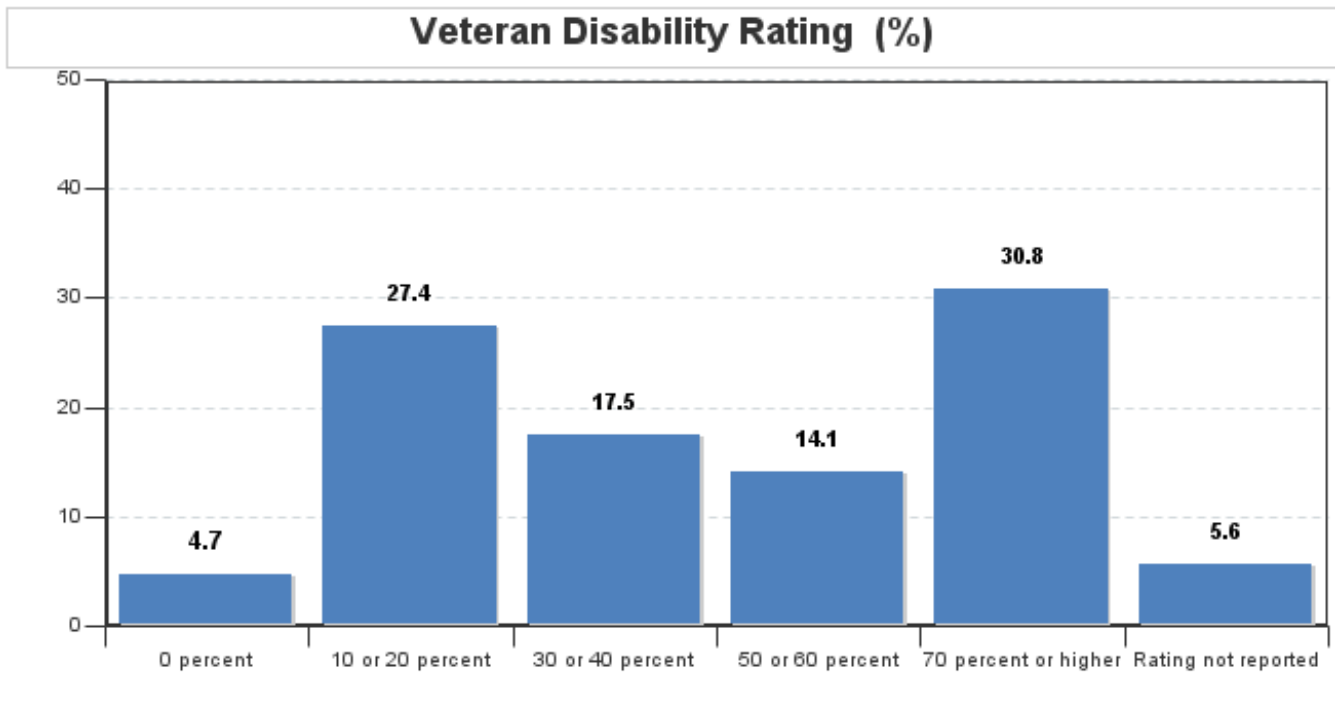
This section presents the percentage of non-institutionalized working-age (ages 21 to 64) civilian veterans reporting a service-connected disability rating in the United States. The 2016 American Community Survey (ACS) asks if the veteran has a service-connected disability, and if so, what their rating 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  
**25.1%**

- In 2016, there were 9,127,900 working-age civilian veterans in the US, of whom 2,287,800 had a VA service-connected disability.
- In 2016, the percentage of working-age civilian veterans in the US with a VA service-connected disability was 25.1 percent.
- In 2016, 704,300 working-age civilian veterans in the US had the most severe service-connected disability rating (70 percent or above).
- In 2016, 30.8 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 2016



Service-Connected Disability	%	MOE	Number	MOE	Base Pop.	Sample Size
Has a service-connected disability rating (0-100%)	25.1	0.38	2,287,800	39,470	9,127,900	90,868
<b>Disability rating of veterans with a service connected-disability</b>						
0 percent	4.7	0.37	106,500	8,540	2,287,800	22,745
10 or 20 percent	27.4	0.77	627,400	20,720	2,287,800	22,745
30 or 40 percent	17.5	0.66	399,900	16,550	2,287,800	22,745
50 or 60 percent	14.1	0.60	321,600	14,840	2,287,800	22,745
70 percent or higher	30.8	0.80	704,300	21,950	2,287,800	22,745
Rating not reported	5.6	0.40	128,200	9,370	2,287,800	22,745

# 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 2016 American Community Survey (ACS). For definitions of terms, see Glossary.

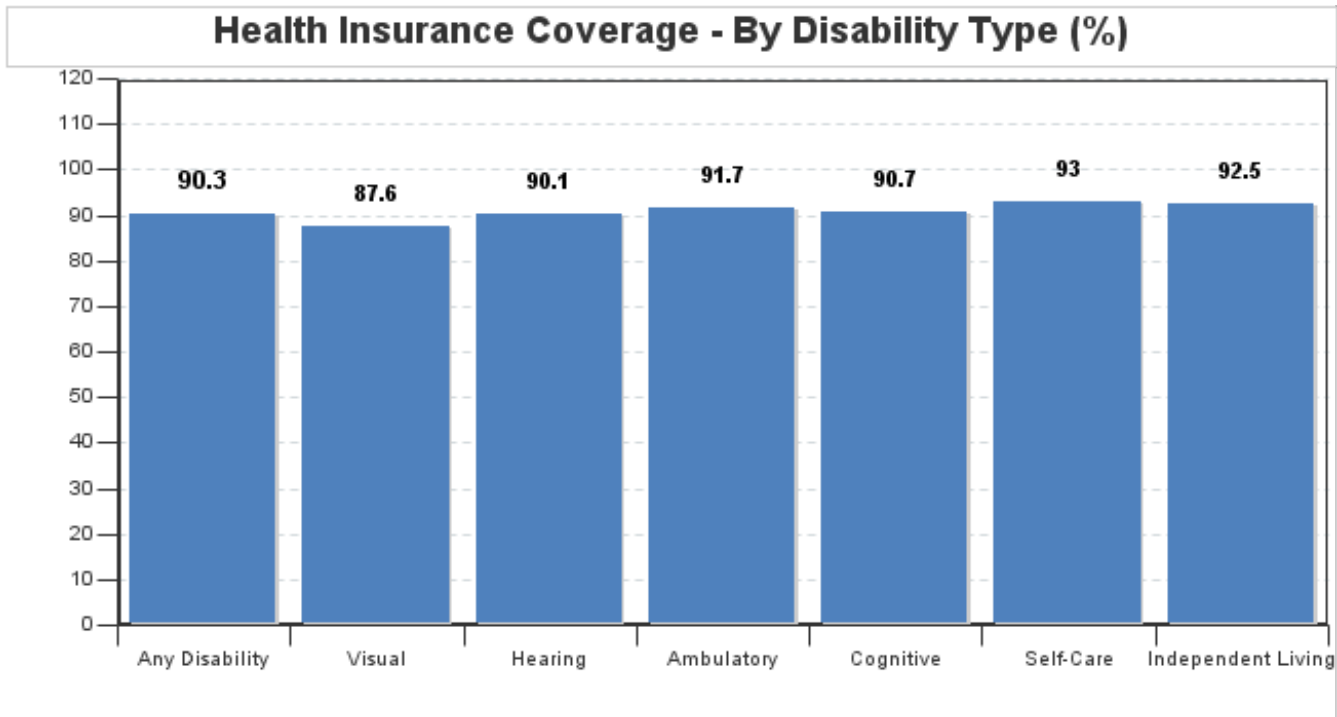
## Quick Statistics

Health  
Coverage:  
with Disability  
**90.3%**

Health  
Coverage:  
without  
Disability  
**87.7%**

- In 2016, 90.3 percent of working-age people with disabilities in the US had some type of health insurance coverage.
- In 2016, 87.7 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 2.6 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," 93.0 percent. The lowest health insurance coverage rate was for people with "Visual Disability," 87.6 percent.

## Health insurance coverage of non-institutionalized working-age people (ages 21 to 64) by disability status in the United States in 2016



Disability Type	%	MOE	Number	MOE	Base Pop.	Sample Size
No Disability	87.7	0.07	144,363,400	234,040	164,520,200	1,536,835
Any Disability	90.3	0.17	18,112,700	108,290	20,062,500	198,696
Visual	87.6	0.44	3,326,300	47,520	3,798,200	36,727
Hearing	90.1	0.39	3,544,600	49,030	3,934,300	39,416
Ambulatory	91.7	0.23	9,197,700	78,280	10,027,900	99,215
Cognitive	90.7	0.26	7,622,800	71,450	8,408,200	81,954
Self-Care	93.0	0.35	3,326,000	47,510	3,575,900	35,973
Independent Living	92.5	0.26	6,619,200	66,680	7,156,600	71,736

# 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 2016 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

**34.3%**

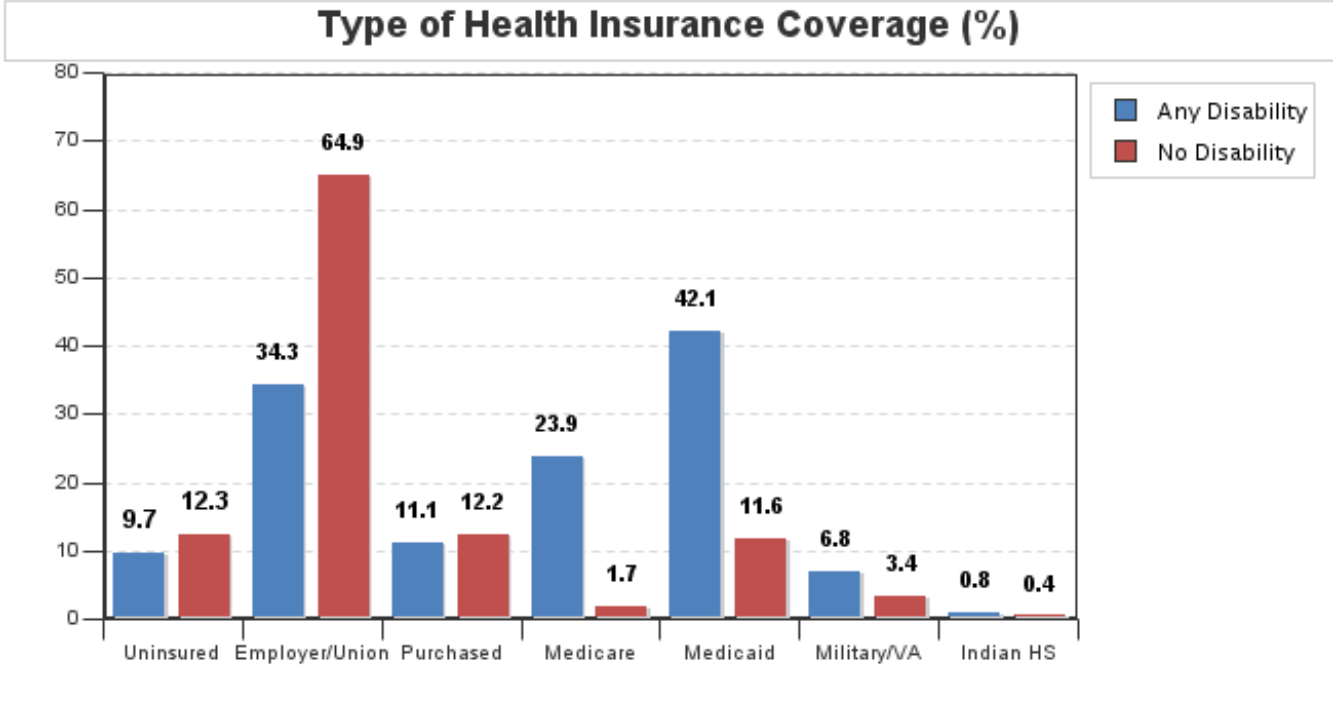
Coverage  
through  
Employer/Union:  
without  
Disability

**64.9%**

- In 2016, 34.3 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 2016, 64.9 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 2016, 11.1 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 2016, 23.9 percent of working-age people with disabilities in the US reported Medicare coverage and 42.1 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 2016



Disability Status/ Insurance Type	%	MOE	Number	MOE	Base Pop.	Sample Size
<b>Any Disability</b>						
Uninsured	9.7	0.17	1,949,800	36,460	20,062,500	198,696
Employer/Union	34.3	0.28	6,890,100	68,000	20,062,500	198,696
Purchased	11.1	0.18	2,233,800	39,010	20,062,500	198,696
Medicare	23.9	0.25	4,799,700	56,950	20,062,500	198,696
Medicaid	42.1	0.29	8,441,200	75,090	20,062,500	198,696
Military/VA	6.8	0.15	1,364,800	30,530	20,062,500	198,696
Indian Health Service	0.8	3.29	158,500	10,420	20,062,500	198,696
<b>No Disability</b>						
Uninsured	12.3	0.07	20,156,800	113,850	164,520,200	1,536,835
Employer/Union	64.9	0.10	106,827,200	221,460	164,520,200	1,536,835
Purchased	12.2	0.07	20,021,200	113,490	164,520,200	1,536,835
Medicare	1.7	3.29	2,747,400	43,220	164,520,200	1,536,835
Medicaid	11.6	0.07	19,139,500	111,120	164,520,200	1,536,835
Military/VA	3.4	0.04	5,565,000	61,240	164,520,200	1,536,835
Indian Health Service	0.4	3.29	719,200	22,180	164,520,200	1,536,835

# 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. were "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.

## 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/](http://www.census.gov/acs/www/Downloads/)

## 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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