

# Americans With Disabilities: 2010

## Household Economic Studies

### Current Population Reports

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### INTRODUCTION

The population of people with disabilities inhabit a distinct position in the U.S. economy, both for their contributions to the marketplace and roles in government policies and programs. People with disabilities bring unique sets of skills to the workplace, enhancing the strength and diversity of the U.S. labor market.<sup>1</sup> In addition, they make up a significant market of consumers, representing more than \$200 billion in discretionary spending and spurring technological innovation and entrepreneurship.<sup>2</sup> People with disabilities also often rely on various government interventions to maintain their participation in the community. Federal programs like Social Security and Medicare and more than 60 smaller federal and state programs provide a wide array of income, health care, and other support services to individuals with disabilities across the United States. In 2008, the federal government spent an estimated \$357 billion dollars on programs for working-age people with disabilities, representing 12 percent of total federal outlays.<sup>3</sup> While there is little doubt about the large economic impact of people with disabilities, estimates of the size and characteristics of this population depend much on the definitions used to classify what it means to be disabled.

Because health professionals, advocates, and other individuals use the same term in different contexts, disability does not often refer to a single definition. Medical models view disability as an extension of a physiological condition requiring treatment or therapy. In contrast, social

models view disability as the result of societal forces on impairment, and suggest that changes to social norms and practices would reduce restrictions.<sup>4</sup> As a demographic category, disability is an attribute with which individuals may broadly identify, similar to race or gender. In contrast, certain federal programs narrowly define disability as the impairment or limitation that leads to the need for the program's benefit—such as the Social Security Disability Insurance program's income support for individuals who are not able "to engage in any substantial gainful activity."<sup>5</sup> The agencies and organizations that provide benefits to, advocate for, or study these populations, each refer to their targeted group as people with disabilities; but because of the differences in definitions, an individual may be considered to have a disability under one set of criteria but not by another.

The *International Classification of Functioning, Disability, and Health* (ICF) attempts to bridge many of these definitions by considering disability as an umbrella term for impairments, activity limitations, and participation restrictions.<sup>6</sup> Rather than a dichotomous concept, disability is a gradient on which every person functions at different levels due to personal and environmental factors. While the ICF provides a common language for discussion of the concepts associated with disability, operationalizing this framework for survey questionnaires is not a simple task. Surveys must contain questions about a finite set of activities and set thresholds for demarking levels of functioning. While the U.S. Census Bureau is always looking towards ways to improve on how it measures topics like disability, having a consistent definition allows for comparisons of the

<sup>1</sup> U.S. Department of Labor, "Building an Inclusive Workforce: A Four-Step Reference Guide to Recruiting, Hiring, & Retaining Employees With Disabilities."

<sup>2</sup> U.S. Department of Labor, "Diverse Perspectives: People With Disabilities Fulfilling Your Business Goals."

<sup>3</sup> See Livermore, Stapleton, and O'Toole (2011).

<sup>4</sup> See Altman (2001).

<sup>5</sup> Definition of disability from the Social Security Act, 42 U.S.C. §423(d)(1).

<sup>6</sup> See WHO (2001).

## **Definition of Disability in the Communicative, Mental, and Physical Domains**

This report categorizes types of disabilities into communicative, physical, and mental domains according to a set of criteria described here. While the characteristics of individuals with disabilities in a domain may be heterogeneous, the domains may group individuals with some common experiences. Because people can have more than one type of disability, they too may be identified as having disabilities in multiple domains.

For the purpose of this report, disability among children aged less than 15 years are not categorized into one of the three domains. Furthermore, it is possible for adults to have a disability for which the domain is not identified.

People who have disability in the communicative domain reported one or more of the following:

1. Was blind or had difficulty seeing.
2. Was deaf or had difficulty hearing.
3. Had difficulty having their speech understood.

People who have disability in the mental domain reported one or more of the following:

1. Had a learning disability, an intellectual disability, developmental disability or Alzheimer's disease, senility, or dementia.
2. Had some other mental or emotional condition that seriously interfered with everyday activities.

People who have disability in the physical domain reported one or more of the following:

1. Used a wheelchair, cane, crutches, or walker.
2. Had difficulty walking a quarter of a mile, climbing a flight of stairs, lifting something as heavy as a 10-pound bag of groceries, grasping objects, or getting in or out of bed.
3. Listed arthritis or rheumatism, back or spine problem, broken bone or fracture, cancer, cerebral palsy, diabetes, epilepsy, head or spinal cord injury, heart trouble or atherosclerosis, hernia or rupture, high blood pressure, kidney problems, lung or respiratory problem, missing limbs, paralysis, stiffness or deformity of limbs, stomach/digestive problems, stroke, thyroid problem, or tumor/cyst/growth as a condition contributing to a reported activity limitation.

population over time. This report is an update of "Americans With Disabilities: 2005," which presented similar estimates of disability status and type as the ones presented here.<sup>7</sup> Readers should take care when comparing the estimates from this report to other disability estimates from other data sources because of differences in the criteria used to define disability.

In its supplemental questionnaires on adult and child functional limitations, the Survey of Income and Program Participation (SIPP) contains questions about whether respondents had difficulty performing a specific set of functional and participatory activities. For many activities, if a respondent reported difficulty, a follow-up question was asked to determine the severity of the limitation. Using these responses and others to questions about specific conditions and symptoms, this report presents disability as severe and nonsevere, defined in Figure 1. These two measures combine to provide an overall estimate of disability prevalence.

The data used in this report were collected from May through August 2010 during the sixth interview of the 2008 SIPP. The estimates in this report are representative of the civilian noninstitutionalized population living in the United States. The population living in institutional group quarters, such as correctional facilities and nursing homes, and those living in military barracks are not included in the estimates presented here because the SIPP does not survey these populations. Estimates from the American Community Survey suggest that over half of the population living in institutional group

<sup>7</sup> See Brault (2008).

Figure 1.  
**Definition of Disability by Severity**

Types of disabilities (applicable age group)	Severity	
	Nonsevere	Severe
Had difficulty seeing words in ordinary newsprint, hearing a normal conversation, or having speech understood (aged 6 and older).	X	
Was deaf, blind, or was unable to see, hear, or have speech understood (aged 6 and older).		X
Had difficulty moving arms or legs (under 3 years).	X	
Had difficulty walking, running, or playing/taking part in sports (aged 3 to 14).	X	
Had difficulty performing one or more functional activities: walking, using stairs, lifting/carrying, or grasping small objects (aged 15 and older).	X	
Unable to perform one or more of the functional activities (aged 15 and older).		X
Used a wheelchair, cane, crutches, or walker (aged 6 and older).		X
Had difficulty with one or more activities of daily living (ADLs): getting around inside the home, getting in or out of bed or a chair, bathing, dressing, eating, or toileting (aged 6 and older).	X	
Needed assistance of another person to perform one or more ADLs (aged 6 and older).		X
Had difficulty with one or more instrumental activities of daily living (IADLs): going outside the home, managing money and bills, preparing meals, doing light housework, taking prescription medicines, or using the telephone (aged 15 and older).	X	
Needed assistance of another person to perform one or more IADLs (aged 15 and older).		X
Had difficulty with schoolwork (aged 6 to 19).	X	
Was limited in the kind or amount of housework (aged 16 and older).	X	
Had difficulty finding a job or remaining employed (aged 16 to 72).		X
Had a learning disability such as dyslexia (aged 6 and older).	X	
Had Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (aged 6 to 14).	X	
Had Alzheimer's disease, dementia, or senility (aged 15 and older).		X
Had a developmental delay (under 6 years).		X
Had an intellectual disability or a developmental disability, such as autism or cerebral palsy (aged 6 and older).		X
Had some other developmental condition for which received therapy or diagnostic services (aged 6 to 14).		X
Had difficulty getting along with other children of the same age (aged 6 to 14).	X	
Had one or more selected symptoms that interfered with everyday activities: was frequently depressed or anxious, had trouble getting along with others, had trouble concentrating, or had trouble coping with stress (aged 15 and older).		X
Had some other type of mental or emotional condition (aged 15 and older).	X	

Note: The definition of disability shown here is consistent with the definition used in the prior report, "Americans With Disabilities: 2005," (P70-117). The definition of ADLs and IADLs is consistent with other national surveys like the Medicare Current Beneficiary Survey and the National Health Interview Survey.

quarters had a disability in 2010.<sup>8</sup> Were this population included in the SIPP, the magnitude of the disability estimates presented in this report would likely be larger.

## HIGHLIGHTS

- Approximately 56.7 million people (18.7 percent) of the

<sup>8</sup> S2601A. Characteristics of the Group Quarters Population in the United States, <factfinder2.census.gov/bkmk/table/1.0/en/ACS/10\_1YR/S2601A>.

303.9 million in the civilian non-institutionalized population had a disability in 2010.<sup>9</sup> About 38.3 million people (12.6 percent)

<sup>9</sup> The estimates in this report (which may be shown in text, figures, and tables) are based on responses from a sample of the population and may differ from actual values because of sampling variability or other factors. As a result, apparent differences between the estimates for two or more groups may not be statistically significant. All comparative statements have undergone statistical testing and are significant at the 90 percent confidence level unless otherwise noted.

had a severe disability (Table 1). About 12.3 million people aged 6 years and older (4.4 percent) needed assistance with one or more activities of daily living (ADLs) or instrumental activities of daily living (IADLs).<sup>10</sup>

<sup>10</sup> For the definition of activities of daily living (ADLs) and instrumental activities of daily living (IADLs), see Figure 1 or the section ADLs, IADLs, and Need for Assistance on page 9.

Table 1.  
**Prevalence of Disability for Selected Age Groups: 2005 and 2010**  
(Numbers in thousands)

Category	2005 <sup>1</sup>				2010				Difference	
	Number	Margin of error (±) <sup>2</sup>	Percent	Margin of error (±) <sup>2</sup>	Number	Margin of error (±) <sup>2</sup>	Percent	Margin of error (±) <sup>2</sup>	Number	Percent
<b>All ages</b> . . . . .	<b>291,099</b>	<b>****</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>(X)</b>	<b>303,858</b>	<b>****</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>(X)</b>	<b>**12,760</b>	<b>(X)</b>
With a disability . . . . .	54,425	894	18.7	0.3	56,672	905	18.7	0.3	*2,247	–
Severe disability . . . . .	34,947	601	12.0	0.2	38,284	654	12.6	0.2	*3,337	*0.6
<b>Aged 6 and older</b> . . . . .	<b>266,752</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>(X)</b>	<b>278,222</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>(X)</b>	<b>*11,469</b>	<b>(X)</b>
Needed personal assistance . . . . .	10,996	336	4.1	0.1	12,349	386	4.4	0.1	*1,353	*0.3
<b>Aged 15 and older</b> . . . . .	<b>230,391</b>	<b>****</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>(X)</b>	<b>241,682</b>	<b>****</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>(X)</b>	<b>**11,291</b>	<b>(X)</b>
With a disability . . . . .	49,069	794	21.3	0.3	51,454	838	21.3	0.3	*2,385	–
Severe disability . . . . .	32,771	567	14.2	0.2	35,683	631	14.8	0.3	*2,912	*0.5
Difficulty seeing . . . . .	7,793	350	3.4	0.2	8,077	354	3.3	0.1	284	–
Severe . . . . .	1,783	129	0.8	0.1	2,010	139	0.8	0.1	*228	0.1
Difficulty hearing . . . . .	7,809	325	3.4	0.1	7,572	320	3.1	0.1	–237	*–0.3
Severe . . . . .	993	103	0.4	–	1,096	122	0.5	0.1	103	–
<b>Aged 21 to 64</b> . . . . .	<b>170,349</b>	<b>185</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>(X)</b>	<b>177,295</b>	<b>193</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>(X)</b>	<b>*6,945</b>	<b>(X)</b>
With a disability . . . . .	28,141	622	16.5	0.4	29,479	705	16.6	0.4	*1,338	0.1
Employed . . . . .	12,838	495	45.6	1.2	12,115	432	41.1	1.0	*–723	*–4.5
Severe disability . . . . .	18,705	469	11.0	0.3	20,286	566	11.4	0.3	*1,581	*0.5
Employed . . . . .	5,738	277	30.7	1.2	5,570	261	27.5	1.0	–167	*–3.2
Nonsevere disability . . . . .	9,436	403	5.5	0.2	9,193	374	5.2	0.2	–243	*–0.4
Employed . . . . .	7,100	356	75.2	1.6	6,544	311	71.2	1.6	*–556	*–4.1
No disability . . . . .	142,208	636	83.5	0.4	147,816	733	83.4	0.4	*5,607	–0.1
Employed . . . . .	118,707	678	83.5	0.3	116,881	862	79.1	0.4	*–1,826	*–4.4
<b>Aged 65 and older</b> . . . . .	<b>35,028</b>	<b>****</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>(X)</b>	<b>38,599</b>	<b>****</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>(X)</b>	<b>**3,571</b>	<b>(X)</b>
With a disability . . . . .	18,132	324	51.8	0.9	19,234	327	49.8	0.8	*1,102	*–1.9
Severe disability . . . . .	12,942	273	36.9	0.8	14,138	276	36.6	0.7	*1,196	–0.3

– Represents or rounds to zero.

(X) Not applicable.

\* Denotes a statistically significant difference at the 90 percent confidence level.

\*\* Denotes a difference between two controlled estimates. By definition, this difference is statistically significant.

\*\*\*\* Indicates (in margin of error column) that the estimate is controlled to independent population estimates. A statistical test for sampling variability is not appropriate.

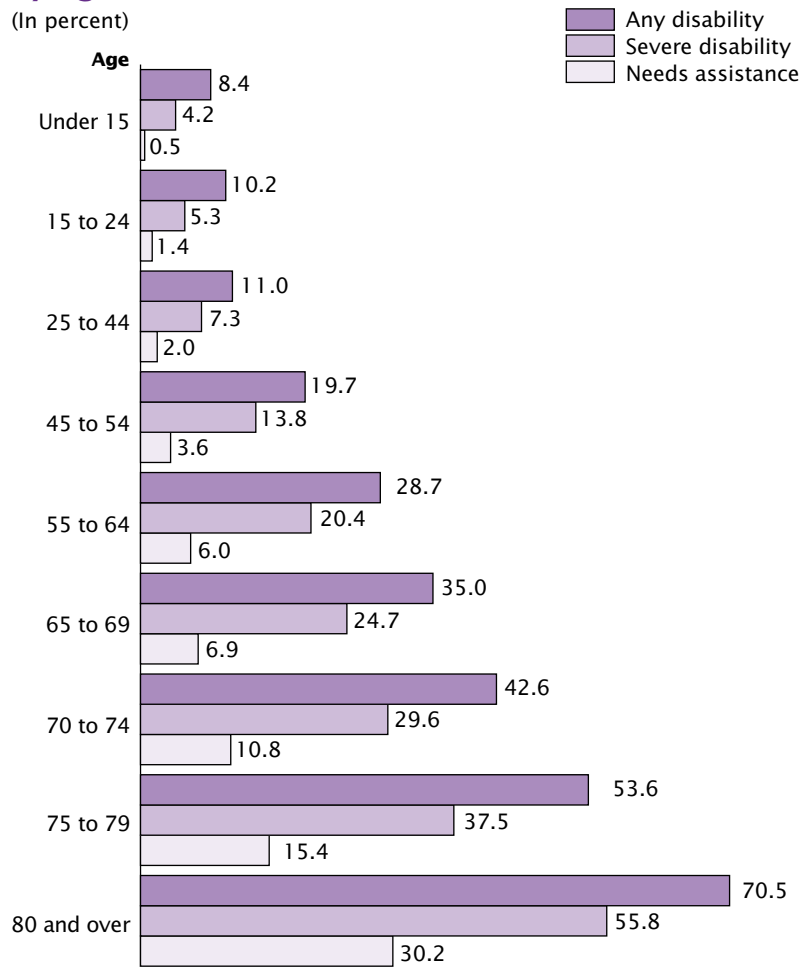
<sup>1</sup> Estimates of disability prevalence for 2005 may differ from the estimates presented in “Americans With Disabilities: 2005, P70-117” due to changes in the survey weighting since the report’s publication. Furthermore, the margins of error in the 2005 report were calculated using the generalized variance formula method. The estimates of variance shown here use the successive differences replication method.

<sup>2</sup> A margin of error is a measure of an estimate’s variability. The larger the margin of error in relation to the size of the estimate, the less reliable the estimate. The margins of error shown in this table are for the 90 percent confidence level. For more information about the source and accuracy of the estimates, including margins of error, standard errors, and confidence intervals, see the Source and Accuracy Statement at <[http://www.census.gov/sipp/sourceac/S&A08\\_W1toW6\(S&A-13\).pdf](http://www.census.gov/sipp/sourceac/S&A08_W1toW6(S&A-13).pdf)>.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Survey of Income and Program Participation, June–September 2005 and May–August 2010.

Figure 2.  
**Disability Prevalence and the Need for Assistance  
by Age: 2010**

(In percent)



Note: The need for assistance with activities of daily living was not asked of children under 6 years.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Survey of Income and Program Participation, May–August 2010.

- The percentage of people with a disability was statistically unchanged from 2005. However, when adjusted for the aging of the population, the disability rate dropped from 18.6 percent to 18.1 percent (Table 2).
- Four in 10 individuals aged 21 to 64 with a disability were employed (41.1 percent), as shown in Table A-2, compared with 8 in 10 adults without disabilities (79.1 percent).
- At 10.8 percent, adults aged 15 to 64 with severe disabilities were more likely to experience persistent poverty (continuous poverty over a 24-month period) than adults with nonsevere disabilities (4.9 percent) and those with no disability (3.8 percent), as shown in Figure 5b.

## DISABILITY PREVALENCE

Approximately 56.7 million people living in the United States had some kind of disability in 2010 (Table 1). This accounted for 18.7 percent of the 303.9 million people in the civilian noninstitutionalized population that year. About 12.6 percent or 38.3 million people had a severe disability. The total number of people with a disability increased by 2.2 million from 54.4 million people in 2005, when disability was last measured in the SIPP, while the percentage remained statistically unchanged. Both the number and percentage with a severe disability increased over that time period. Of people aged 6 years and older, 12.3 million or 4.4 percent needed assistance with one or more ADLs or IADLs, an increase from both the number and percentage that needed assistance in 2005.

As a generally accepted understanding of prevalence, the risk of having a disability increased with successively older age groups (Figure 2). At 70.5 percent, people in the oldest age group (people 80 years and older) were about 8 times as likely to have a disability as people in the youngest age group (children less than 15 years old), at 8.4 percent. Between 2005 and 2010, disability rates decreased for people 55 to 64 years old and for people 65 to 69 years old while the change in disability rate was not statistically significant for each of the other age groups.

Severe disability and the need for personal assistance also increased with age. The probability of severe disability was 1-in-20 for people aged 15 to 24, while 1-in-4 for those aged 65 to 69. Among the

Table 2.

## Age-Adjusted and Unadjusted Disability Rates by Gender, Race, Hispanic Origin: 2005 and 2010

Category	Age-adjusted disability rate <sup>1</sup>					Unadjusted disability rate				
	2005		2010		Difference	2005		2010		Difference
	Estimate	Margin of error (±) <sup>2</sup>	Estimate	Margin of error (±) <sup>2</sup>		Estimate	Margin of error (±) <sup>2</sup>	Estimate	Margin of error (±) <sup>2</sup>	
<b>All people</b> . . . . .	<b>18.6</b>	<b>0.3</b>	<b>18.1</b>	<b>0.3</b>	<b>*-0.5</b>	<b>18.7</b>	<b>0.3</b>	<b>18.7</b>	<b>0.3</b>	<b>-</b>
Male. . . . .	17.9	0.4	17.6	0.4	-0.3	17.3	0.4	17.4	0.4	0.2
Female. . . . .	19.0	0.3	18.3	0.4	*-0.7	20.1	0.3	19.8	0.4	-0.2
White alone . . . . .	17.9	0.3	17.4	0.3	*-0.5	18.6	0.3	18.5	0.3	-
Not Hispanic. . . . .	18.1	0.4	17.6	0.4	-0.4	19.7	0.4	19.8	0.4	0.1
Black alone . . . . .	23.2	0.7	22.2	0.7	-1.0	20.4	0.7	20.3	0.7	-0.2
Not Hispanic. . . . .	23.3	0.7	22.3	0.7	*-1.0	20.7	0.7	20.7	0.7	-
Asian Alone . . . . .	14.5	1.3	14.5	1.1	-	12.4	1.2	13.0	1.0	0.6
Not Hispanic. . . . .	14.6	1.3	14.4	1.1	-0.2	12.5	1.2	13.0	1.1	0.5
Hispanic or Latino . . . . .	18.4	0.9	17.8	0.7	-0.6	13.1	0.7	13.2	0.6	0.1

- Represents or rounds to zero.

\* Denotes a statistically significant difference at the 90 percent confidence level.

<sup>1</sup> Age-adjustments followed the methodology described in Anderson and Rosenberg (1998) using the year 2000 standard population by 5-year age groups from Day (1996).

<sup>2</sup> A margin of error is a measure of an estimate's variability. The larger the margin of error in relation to the size of the estimate, the less reliable the estimate. The margins of error shown in this table are for the 90 percent confidence level. For more information about the source and accuracy of the estimates, including margins of error, standard errors, and confidence intervals, see the Source and Accuracy Statement at <[http://www.census.gov/sipp/sourceac/S&A08\\_W1toW6\(S&A-13\).pdf](http://www.census.gov/sipp/sourceac/S&A08_W1toW6(S&A-13).pdf)>.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Survey of Income and Program Participation, June–September 2005 and May–August 2010.

oldest group, more than half (55.8 percent) had a severe disability. Of individuals 55 to 64 years old and nearing retirement, about 6.0 percent needed assistance with one or more ADLs or IADLs. The percentage needing assistance for those aged 80 and older was about 5 times as large (30.2 percent).

Groups with high disability rates, like older populations, are likely to be underrepresented in surveys like the SIPP. For individuals with greater assistance needs, their disability is often associated with relocation out of the noninstitutionalized population and into nursing homes or other assisted living facilities.<sup>11</sup> Approximately 1.3 million of the 40.4 million people aged 65 and older were living in nursing facilities in 2010.<sup>12</sup> Were this population included, the disability

rates for older age groups, and for people overall, would likely be higher.

Because age plays such an important factor in health and disability measurement, comparisons across other demographic groups and across time should take into account differences in groups' age distributions. One way to account for age differences is to adjust estimates to a standard age distribution using a common methodology in the presentation of health statistics.<sup>13</sup> Age-adjustment effectively revises estimates to what they would have been if all groups had the same age distribution.<sup>14</sup> Table 2 shows both age-adjusted and unadjusted (crude) disability rates for 2010 and 2005, for males

and females, and for different race and Hispanic origin groups.

At 18.7 percent, the unadjusted disability rate in 2010 was statistically unchanged from the rate in 2005, however, the aging of the population was a contributing factor in holding the disability rate at this level. Figure 3 shows the age distributions for the 2005 and 2010 populations behind these rates. The 2010 population (light purple line) appears "shifted" to the right of the 2005 population (dark purple line), illuminating the aging of the baby-boom cohort. Consequently, a greater proportion of the population had aged into older groups with higher risks of disability. By standardizing to the *year 2000 standard population* (gray line), the adjusted rates showed that disability decreased from 18.6 percent to 18.1 percent, when controlled for age. The opposing forces of decreased disability and a greater proportion in high-risk

<sup>11</sup> See Greene and Ondrich (1990).

<sup>12</sup> S2601B. Characteristics of the Group Quarters Population by Group Quarters Type, available at <[factfinder2.census.gov/bkmk/table/1.0/en/ACS/10\\_1YR/S2601B](http://factfinder2.census.gov/bkmk/table/1.0/en/ACS/10_1YR/S2601B)>.

<sup>13</sup> The age-adjustments presented here follow the methodology described in Anderson and Rosenberg (1998) using the year 2000 standard population in 5-year age groups from Day (1996).

<sup>14</sup> For more information on age adjustment in disability and health statistics, see page 475 of NCHS (2011).



groups suggest why the unadjusted disability rate remained statistically unchanged from 2005 to 2010.

The same adjustment methods were used for comparisons of gender, race, and Hispanic origin groups. About 17.4 percent of males and 19.8 percent of females had a disability in 2010, a 2.4 percentage point difference in the unadjusted disability rates. This difference can largely be explained by the proportionally larger number of older women compared with older men. The 2010 Census showed that there were 5.5 million more women than men aged 65 and older.<sup>15</sup> When accounting for their age distributions, the difference in disability rates between males and females fell to 0.7 percentage points.

<sup>15</sup> See Werner (2011).

Between 2005 and 2010, the age-adjusted disability rate for females decreased 0.7 percentage points, whereas the change in unadjusted rates was not statistically significant. Males did not experience a statistically significant change in either the adjusted or unadjusted disability rates between 2005 and 2010.

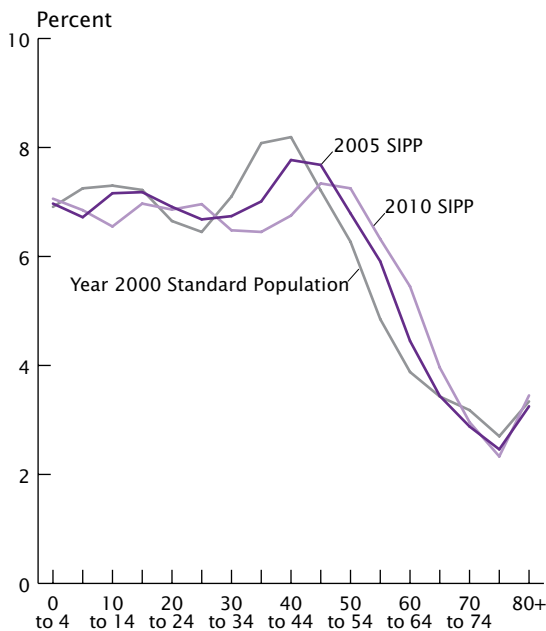
The unadjusted disability rate for the non-Hispanic White alone population was 19.8 percent while the age-adjusted disability rate was 17.6 percent.<sup>16</sup> Conceptually,

<sup>16</sup> Federal surveys, including the SIPP, give respondents the option of reporting more than one race. These data can be shown in two ways: (1) as mutually exclusive with other race groups, which may be denoted by “alone” or (2) as not mutually exclusive with other race groups, denoted by “alone or in combination with other race groups.” The estimates presented here show race using the first method. Hispanic origin is not mutually exclusive with race.

Figure 4 helps to explain why age-standardization is important in comparing disability estimates across race and Hispanic Origin because each group has an age distribution that appears different from the others. The adjusted disability rate for non-Hispanic Whites was lower than the unadjusted rate because the population (dark purple line) had proportionally fewer younger people and more older people than appear in the *year 2000 standard population* (gray line).<sup>17</sup> Conversely, age-standardization raised the disability rate from 20.3 percent to 22.2 percent for the Black alone

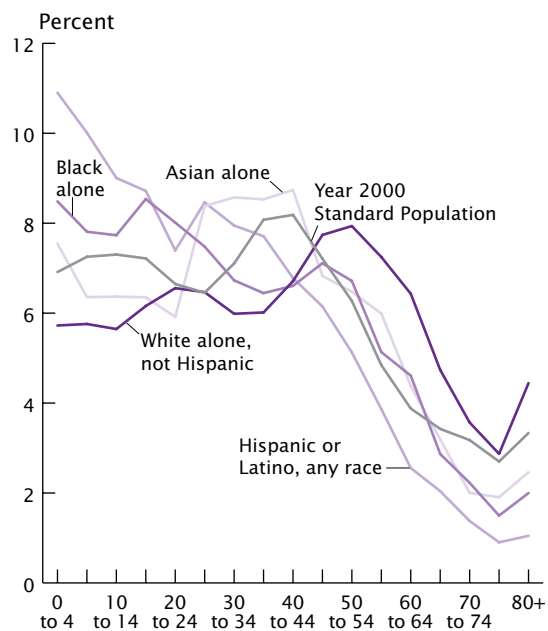
<sup>17</sup> This statement is not meant to imply that non-Hispanic Whites in 2010 had an age distribution that was statistically different from that of the total population in 2000. By having proportions numerically greater than or less than the standard distribution, disability rates were inflated or deflated accordingly. No statistical tests were performed in making this determination.

**Figure 3. Age Distributions for the 2005 and 2010 Civilian Noninstitutionalized Populations and the Year 2000 Standard Population**



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Survey of Income and Program Participation, June–September 2005 and May–August 2010, Day, Jennifer Cheeseman, “Population Projections of the United States by Age, Sex, Race, and Hispanic Origin: 1995 to 2050,” *Current Population Reports*, P25-1130, 1996, available at <[www.census.gov/prod/1/pop/p25-1130/](http://www.census.gov/prod/1/pop/p25-1130/)>.

**Figure 4. Age Distributions for the 2010 Civilian Noninstitutionalized Population by Race and Hispanic Origin and the Year 2000 Standard Population**



population; from 13.0 percent to 14.5 percent for the Asian alone population; and from 13.2 percent to 17.8 percent for the Hispanic or Latino population.

Before age adjusting, the rates for the non-Hispanic White alone population and Black alone population were not statistically different. Similarly, the rates for the Asian alone population and Hispanic or Latino population were not statistically different. After standardization, the Asian alone population had the lowest rate; the Black alone population had the highest rate; and the Hispanic or Latino population had a rate that was not statistically different from the rate for the non-Hispanic White alone population.

## **SPECIFIC MEASURES OF DISABILITY FOR ADULTS<sup>18</sup>**

### **Seeing, hearing, and speaking limitations**

Of the 241.7 million adults aged 15 and older, about 14.9 million or 6.2 percent of adults aged 15 and older experienced some level of difficulty with seeing, hearing, or having their speech understood (Table A-1). Approximately 3.3 million people (1.4 percent) had a severe disability with seeing, hearing, or speaking. Among the population 65 years and older, 6.9 million people (17.9 percent) experienced difficulty with seeing, hearing, or speaking, of which 1.7 million had severe difficulty.

Difficulty seeing was defined as experiencing blindness or having difficulty seeing words and letters in ordinary newsprint, even when wearing glasses or contact lenses (if normally worn). Those who were

blind or unable to see the words and letters at all were described as having severe difficulty seeing. About 8.1 million people (3.3 percent) had difficulty seeing, including 2.0 million people who were blind or unable to see (Table 1). Among the population 65 years and older, 3.8 million people or 9.8 percent had difficulty seeing (Table A-1).

Difficulty hearing was defined as experiencing deafness or having difficulty hearing a normal conversation, even when wearing a hearing aid. Those who were deaf or unable to hear a normal conversation were described as having a severe difficulty. About 7.6 million people (3.1 percent) experienced a hearing difficulty, including 1.1 million people who had a severe difficulty hearing (Table 1). About 5.6 million people (2.3 percent) used a hearing aid, of which 2.2 million reported some difficulty hearing (Table A-1). For people aged 65 and older, 4.2 million or 10.8 percent had difficulty hearing. About 4.2 million people aged 65 and older reported hearing aid use, of which 1.7 million had difficulty hearing.

Respondents were also asked whether they had difficulty having their speech understood and whether it could be understood at all (severe). About 2.8 million people (1.2 percent) reported difficulty with speech, of which 523,000 had severe difficulty (Table A-1).

### **Upper and lower body limitations**

Roughly 30.6 million individuals aged 15 years and older (12.6 percent) had limitations associated with ambulatory activities of the lower body including difficulty

walking, climbing stairs, or using a wheelchair, cane, crutches, or walker (Table A-1). About 23.9 million people (9.9 percent) had difficulty walking a quarter of a mile, including 13.1 million who could not perform this activity. Approximately 22.3 million (9.2 percent) had difficulty climbing a flight of stairs, including 7.7 million who were unable to perform this activity. Among individuals aged 65 and older, about 15.2 million people (39.4 percent) had difficulty with ambulatory activities, of which 11.2 million had severe difficulty.

Ambulatory difficulty is often associated with the use of certain assistive aids. About 3.6 million people (1.5 percent) used a wheelchair and 11.6 million (4.8 percent) used a cane, crutches, or walker to assist with mobility (Table A-1). Among those aged 65 and older, roughly 2.0 million people used a wheelchair and 7.0 million used a cane, crutches, or walker.

Approximately 19.9 million people 15 years and older (8.2 percent) had difficulty with physical tasks relating to upper body functioning, including difficulty lifting and grasping (Table A-1). About 7.1 percent (17.2 million people) reported difficulty lifting a 10-pound object like a bag of groceries, while 2.8 percent (6.7 million people) reported difficulty grasping objects like a glass or pencil. Of the 17.2 million people who had difficulty lifting 10 pounds, roughly 8.1 million were unable to do so. About 893,000 people were unable to grasp objects. About 23.8 percent of the population aged 65 and older reported difficulty with lifting or grasping.

While not included in the definition of disability used in this report,

<sup>18</sup> Estimates of specific disability types presented here have not been age-adjusted.



the survey also asked adults aged 15 and older about difficulty with a number of other physical tasks. About 9.6 percent of adults had difficulty pushing or pulling a large object like a chair; 10.0 percent had difficulty standing for an hour or longer; 4.2 percent had difficulty sitting for an hour or longer; 11.3 percent had difficulty crouching; and 5.0 percent had difficulty reaching for objects overhead (Table A-1).

### **ADLs, IADLs, and Need for Assistance**

Assessing difficulty and the need for assistance with self-care and independent living activities, at a population level, provides important information for long-term care planning and support. The activities of daily living (ADL) and instrumental activities of daily living (IADL) scales were developed as clinical tools for evaluating individual patients' long-term care needs—however, they have proven useful as tools adapted for population surveys.<sup>19</sup> The ADLs captured in the SIPP include difficulty getting around inside the home, getting into/out of bed, bathing, dressing, eating, or toileting. The IADLs include difficulty going outside the home, managing money, preparing meals, doing housework, taking prescription medication, and using the phone.

Table A-1 shows that 9.4 million noninstitutionalized adults (3.9 percent) had difficulty with at least one ADL. About 5.0 million (2.1 percent) needed the assistance of another person to perform an ADL. Approximately 15.5 million adults (6.4 percent) had difficulty with one or more IADLs, of which

11.6 million needed the assistance of another person. Together, 12.0 million adults needed assistance with one or more ADLs or IADLs. About 4.3 million adults needed assistance with one ADL or IADL; 2.1 million needed assistance with two ADLs or IADLs; and 5.6 million needed assistance with three or more ADLs or IADLs. Approximately 15.7 percent of the noninstitutionalized population aged 65 and older needed the assistance of another person to perform one or more ADLs or IADLs.

### **Cognitive, Mental, and Emotional Functioning**

Cognitive, mental, and emotional difficulties can manifest in the kinds of activity limitations described in the preceding sections, however, it is also useful to look at mental functioning separately. As shown in Table A-1, approximately 15.2 million adults (6.3 percent) experienced difficulty with some kind of cognitive, mental, or emotional functioning. About 10.6 million adults (4.4 percent) had a condition that limited mental or cognitive functioning, such as a learning disability (3.9 million or 1.6 percent), or Alzheimer's disease, senility, or dementia (2.4 million or 1.0 percent). Roughly 1.2 million adults (0.5 percent) had an intellectual disability and 944,000 (0.4 percent) had other developmental disabilities, like cerebral palsy or autism.<sup>20</sup> Roughly 4.7 million adults (1.9 percent) had some other mental or emotional condition.

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<sup>20</sup> While this report uses the term "intellectual disability," the survey question asked if respondents had "mental retardation." Other definitions of intellectual disability may include types of conditions not captured in this measure.

Another way of looking at mental functioning is to examine whether the symptoms of psychological illness interfered with the respondent's ability to manage everyday activities. About 7.0 million adults (2.9 percent) reported being frequently depressed or anxious; 2.7 million adults (1.1 percent) had trouble getting along with others; 5.1 million adults (2.1 percent) had trouble concentrating; and 5.9 million adults (2.5 percent) had trouble coping with stress. Overall, 8.9 million adults (3.7 percent) reported one or more of these symptoms.

### **Domains of Disability**

The types of functional and activity limitations described in this report have been classified into three domains: communicative, mental, or physical. The definitions for each domain are described in the text box, "Definition of Disability in the Communicative, Mental, and Physical Domains."

Of the 51.5 million adults with a disability, 30.3 million had a disability or disabilities in only one domain; 15.8 million had disabilities in two domains; and 4.0 million had a disability in all three domains (Table A-1). Roughly 1.3 million adults had a disability or disabilities for which a domain was not identified. About 15.7 million adults had disabilities in the communicative domain (alone or in combination with other domains); 16.8 million adults had disabilities in the mental domain; and 41.5 million adults had disabilities in the physical domain.

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<sup>19</sup> See Guralnik and Simonsick (1993).

## ECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS

Improving the economic conditions for people with disabilities has been a focus of federal disability policy for several decades.<sup>21</sup> Efforts have traditionally taken a two-prong approach: (1) to assist in reducing or eliminating the barriers to participation in the workforce, and (2) to provide cash and in-kind benefits to those who experience material hardship as a consequence of remaining barriers.

### Employment Status and Work Limitations

Less than one-half of individuals aged 21 to 64 with a disability were employed during the interview month (41.1 percent), as shown in Table A-2.<sup>22</sup> Comparably, 79.1 percent of people in this age group without disabilities were employed. By severity, 27.5 percent of adults with severe disabilities were employed compared with 71.2 percent of adults with nonsevere disabilities. About 9.0 percent of people with severe disabilities receiving Medicare, Social Security, or Supplemental Security Income reported employment.

People with disabilities in only the communicative domain were more likely to be employed (73.4 percent) than people with disabilities in any other domain or combination thereof (Table A-2).

About 40.8 percent of people with disabilities in only the physical domain were employed, as were 51.9 percent of people with disabilities in only the mental domain. The combination of disabilities in the physical and mental domains was associated with a decrease in the likelihood of employment. About 25.4 percent of people with disabilities in the two domains and 24.0 percent of people with disabilities in all three domains were employed.<sup>23</sup>

The employment estimates mentioned in the preceding paragraph comprise a “snapshot” of the employment situation for people with disabilities during the interview month. Another way of presenting employment is to show individuals’ situations over a period such as the 2 years prior to the interview.<sup>24</sup> Figure 5a shows that 21- to 64-year-olds with severe disability were less likely to remain employed consistently over a 24-month period of time (19.9 percent) compared with people with nonsevere disabilities (54.8 percent) and people with no disability (61.1 percent). Conversely, people with severe disabilities were more likely to experience longer spells of not being employed. About half (49.9 percent) of people with severe disabilities were not employed for all 24 months, compared with 14.1 percent of those

with a nonsevere disability, and 9.2 percent of people with no disability.

For many, difficulty with the activity of performing work is a separate disability type, much in the same way difficulty with other activities are differentiated. Among adults aged 16 to 64, about 14.4 million or 7.2 percent had difficulty finding a job or remaining employed due to a physical or mental condition (Table A-1). Separate from the definition of disability used in this report, the Census Bureau also categorizes employment difficulty as limitations in the kind or amount of work.<sup>25</sup> About 23.5 million adults reported being limited in this way. Of this group, 14.6 million (7.3 percent of 16- to 64-year-olds) were prevented from working.<sup>26</sup>

Among 16- to 64-year-olds with severe disabilities, 55.5 percent reported that their disability prevented them from working (Table A-3). Another 18.7 percent were limited, but not prevented, in the kind or amount of work they could do. Among those with nonsevere disabilities, 24.1 percent had limitations in the kind or amount of work they could do and 7.8 percent were prevented from working. A nonsevere disability, as defined in this report, may still present a barrier to employment such that the limitation prevents an individual from working. Alternatively, the limitation that restricts participation in work may not be captured in this survey.

<sup>21</sup> See the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (Pub.L. 93-112), Civil Service Reform Act of 1978 (Pub.L. 95-454), Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (Pub.L. 101-336), and the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 (Pub.L. 105-220).

<sup>22</sup> Estimates of employment presented in this report are for the 21- to 64-year-old population and are consistent with previous “Americans With Disabilities” reports of employment among the population of people with disabilities.

<sup>23</sup> The employment rate for people with disabilities in the physical and mental domains was not statistically different from the rate for people with disabilities in the physical, mental, and communicative domains.

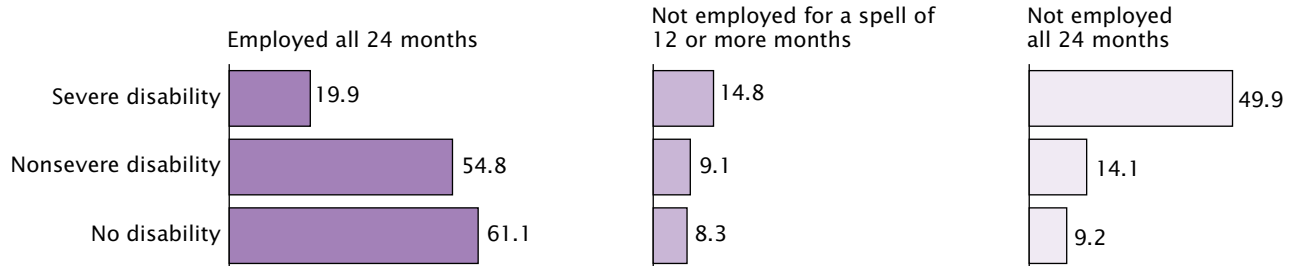
<sup>24</sup> Roughly 92 percent of survey respondents had information about their employment status, poverty status, and health insurance coverage status over the previous 2 years. Individuals with less than 24 months of information were omitted from this analysis.

<sup>25</sup> Individuals who only report being limited in the kind or amount of work they could do and no other disability type are not considered as having a disability. Approximately 5.2 million adults aged 16 to 64 reported only this limitation and no other disability type.

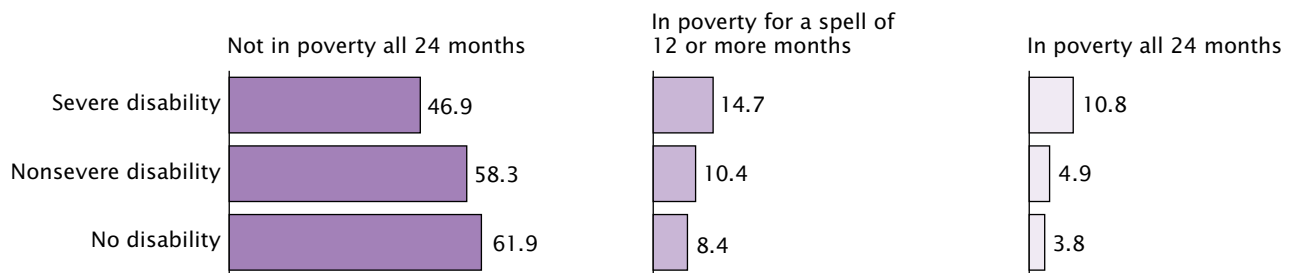
<sup>26</sup> The number and percentage of individuals prevented from working were not statistically different from the number and percentage of individuals with difficulty finding a job or remaining employed.

Figure 5.  
**Economic Well-Being Over the Previous 24 Months**  
(In percent)

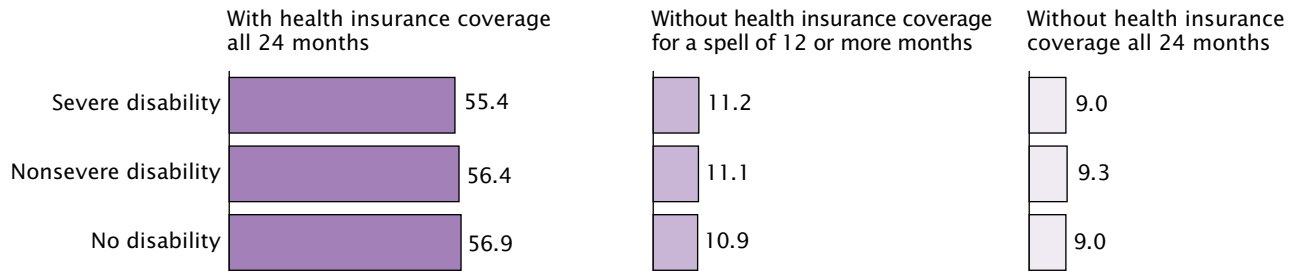
**A. Employment status for adults 21 to 64 years old**



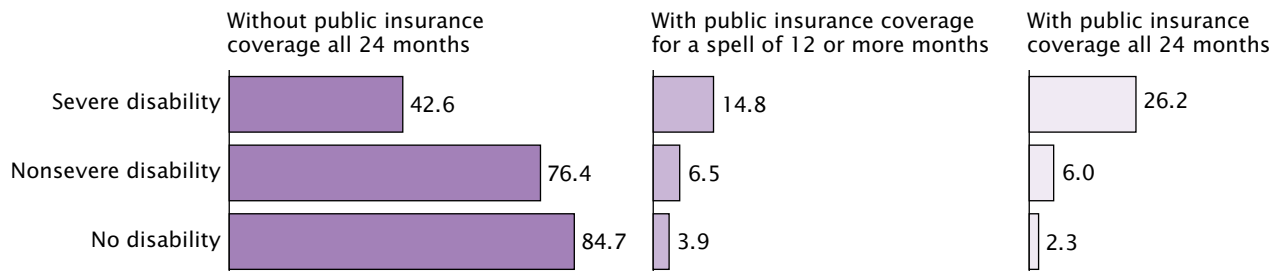
**B. Poverty status for adults 15 to 64 years old**



**C. Health insurance status for adults 15 to 64 years old**



**D. Public insurance status for adults 15 to 64 years old**



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Survey of Income and Program Participation, September 2008–August 2010.

## Earnings/Income

Adults aged 21 to 64 with disabilities typically earned less than those without disabilities. The median monthly earnings for people with any kind of disability was \$1,961 compared with \$2,724 for those with no disability (Table A-2). People with severe disabilities had median monthly earnings of \$1,577, while those with nonsevere disabilities had median monthly earnings of \$2,402. Those with disabilities in only the communicative domain had median earnings of \$2,838, not statistically different from the median earnings for those with no disability. Those with disabilities in only the physical domain had median earnings of \$1,998, and those with disabilities in only the mental domain had median earnings of \$1,619. Adults with disabilities in all three domains had median monthly earnings of \$1,051.

Examining family income allows for a picture of the shared resources on which individuals may draw. Shown in Table A-2, people with disabilities had a median monthly family income of \$2,856, about 60 percent of the median monthly family income for people with no disability (\$4,771). For people with severe disabilities, the median monthly family income was \$2,376. Those with nonsevere disabilities had a median monthly family income of \$3,959. Those with disabilities in only the communicative domain had the highest median monthly family income of any domain combination at \$4,360, while people with disabilities in all three domains were among the lowest at \$2,042.<sup>27</sup>

<sup>27</sup> The median monthly family income for people with disabilities in three domains was not statistically different from the medians for people with disabilities in the communicative and mental domains or for people with disabilities in the physical and mental domains.

## Poverty Status

Just as earnings and income were lower for people with disabilities, poverty rates were higher. Approximately 28.6 percent of people aged 15 to 64 with severe disabilities were in poverty while 17.9 percent of adults with nonsevere disabilities, and 14.3 percent of people with no disability were in poverty (Table A-3). Among those aged 65 and older, 11.7 percent of those with severe disabilities were in poverty compared with 6.7 percent for those with nonsevere disabilities and 5.0 percent for those with no disability.

Because income fluctuates over time, individuals may fall into or rise out of poverty while others may remain below the poverty level for longer periods. People aged 15 to 64 with severe disabilities were more likely to experience persistent poverty over a 24-month period (10.8 percent) than adults with nonsevere disabilities (4.9 percent) and those with no disability (3.8 percent), as shown in Figure 5b. Those with severe disabilities were also more likely to experience a temporary spell of poverty lasting at least 12 months than those with nonsevere disabilities or no disability. More than half of adults with severe disabilities (53.1 percent) experienced poverty at some point over the 2-year period, while 41.7 percent of those with nonsevere disabilities and 38.1 percent of those with no disability experienced a bout of poverty during the previous 24 months.

## Program Participation

The states and federal government provide an array of cash and in-kind benefits to alleviate the poverty and material hardship experienced by people with and without disabilities. These benefits include Supplemental Security

Income (SSI), Social Security (retirement, survivor, and disability benefits), other forms of cash assistance like Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits (formerly called food stamps), and public or subsidized housing.

More than half of adults aged 15 to 64 with severe disabilities received some form of public assistance (59.0 percent), shown in Table A-3. About 32.9 percent received Social Security benefits, compared with 8.8 percent of those with nonsevere disabilities and 2.6 percent of those with no disability. Another 10.2 percent of adults with severe disabilities had applied for Social Security benefits within the past 12 months.

Adults with severe disabilities were also more likely to receive SSI benefits (19.5 percent) and other forms of cash assistance (3.4 percent) than adults with nonsevere or no disabilities. Adults with severe disabilities were more than 3 times as likely to receive SNAP benefits as those with no disabilities (28.1 percent compared with 8.3 percent). About 10.5 percent of adults aged 15 to 64 with severe disabilities received public housing assistance compared with 2.6 percent of those with no disability. Among those aged 65 and older, 8.5 percent of those with severe disabilities received housing assistance compared to 2.3 percent of those with no disability.

## Health Insurance Coverage

In addition to income support, the federal government and the states provide health insurance to eligible individuals with disabilities. Medicare, traditionally viewed as a benefit for the 65 and older population, is available to nonelderly adults with disabilities who receive

Social Security Disability Income. Many state medical assistance/Medicaid programs also provide benefits to adults with disabilities who might not otherwise qualify. Until certain provisions of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act of 2010 take effect, disabling conditions continue to make nongroup health insurance very expensive to obtain directly from insurance companies because of limitations in coverage for pre-existing conditions.

Overall, the uninsured rates for adults aged 15 to 64 were not statistically different by disability status—21.0 percent for people with severe disabilities, 21.3 percent for people with nonsevere disabilities, and 21.9 percent for people with no disability (Table A-3). When broken down into type of health insurance coverage, however, the rates for people with and without disabilities began to diverge. About 40.2 percent of adults with severe disabilities had private health insurance coverage, while rates for those with nonsevere disabilities and those with no disability were 65.2 percent and 71.1 percent, respectively. Those with severe disabilities were more likely to receive Medicare coverage than those with no disability (22.7 percent compared with 0.7 percent) and more likely to receive Medicaid (34.6 percent compared with 7.8 percent). Those with severe disabilities were also more likely to have dual-eligible coverage (receiving both Medicare and Medicaid benefits) at 9.3 percent than people with nonsevere disabilities (1.1 percent) or no disability (0.1 percent). Overall, almost half (48.0 percent) of adults with severe disabilities received government health coverage. Comparably, 1-in-6 adults with nonsevere disabilities received government health coverage and 1-in-12 adults without

disabilities received government health benefits.

Looking back over the previous 24-months of coverage, those with severe disabilities were less likely to stay insured for the entire period at 55.4 percent, compared with 56.9 percent for those with no disability (Figure 5c). There were no statistically significant differences by disability status in the percentages that remained uninsured throughout the period. Adults with severe disabilities were more likely to receive and stay on public coverage for the entire time (26.2 percent), compared with 6.0 percent of those with nonsevere disabilities and 2.3 percent of those with no disability (Figure 5d). Another 14.8 percent of adults with severe disabilities had public coverage for a spell of at least 12 months but less than the full 24-month period.

## CHILDREN

The experience of disability for children is quite different from that of adults. Children participate in different types of activities, particularly those related to schooling. Similarly, many of the activities on which disability is assessed for adults are not applicable for children, such as difficulty managing money or working at a job or business.

Of the 62.2 million children under the age of 15, about 5.2 million or 8.4 percent had some kind of disability (Table A-4). Half of children with a disability were classified with severe disabilities (2.6 million children). Among the youngest—those less than 3 years old—disability was defined as having either a developmental delay, or having difficulty moving their arms or legs. About 2.3 percent of children under 3 years of age had one or both of these disabilities. For children aged 3 to 5, disability was defined as having a developmental

delay or having difficulty walking, running, or playing. About 3.6 percent of children in this age group had one or both of these disabilities.

Among children aged 6 to 14, disability was defined on a wider range of activities and impairments. About 4.5 million children (12.2 percent) in this age group had a disability (Table A-4). Roughly 5.3 percent of children had a severe disability and 0.8 percent needed assistance with one or more ADLs. About 2.3 million children had difficulty doing regular schoolwork (6.2 percent), including 1.6 million who reported receiving special education services. Approximately 3.4 million children (9.3 percent) had one or more selected mental, emotional, or developmental conditions. About 692,000 had a learning disability, 1.9 million had Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), and 1.7 million had an intellectual or developmental disability or condition.<sup>28</sup>

## RELATED MATERIALS

This report updates estimates shown in the Census Bureau report, “Americans With Disabilities: 2005” (P70-117), and prior reports in the P70 series. These reports and other information on the collection of disability information in Census Bureau surveys can be found at <[www.census.gov/hhes/www/disability/disability.html](http://www.census.gov/hhes/www/disability/disability.html)>. The definition of disability used in this report differs from definitions used in other surveys. Caution should be used when making comparisons across different sources.

The estimates presented in this report are at the national level. The American Community Survey (ACS), which uses a set of six “core” questions to measure disability, is capable of estimating the prevalence

<sup>28</sup> The number with ADHD was not statistically different from the number with an intellectual or developmental disability.



of disabilities for subnational geographies like states, counties, places, and metropolitan statistical areas. The ACS estimates can be found in American Fact Finder, at <[http://factfinder2.census.gov/bkmk/navigation/1.0/en/d\\_people\\_disability:DISABILITY/d\\_program:ACS](http://factfinder2.census.gov/bkmk/navigation/1.0/en/d_people_disability:DISABILITY/d_program:ACS)>. When making comparisons of disability estimates across different geographic levels (such as comparing state prevalence rates to the national rate), one should attempt to use the same survey and definition of disability. Therefore, ACS estimates of disability should not be compared directly with the estimates of disability contained in this report.

## SOURCE AND ACCURACY

### Source of the Data

The population represented (population universe) in the 2008 SIPP is the civilian noninstitutionalized population living in the United States. The SIPP is a longitudinal survey conducted in 4-month intervals. The data in this report were collected from May through August 2010 in the sixth wave (interview) of the 2008 SIPP. The 2008 SIPP Panel began with a sample of about 65,500 housing units, of which about 13,500 were found to be ineligible for interview. Of those eligible, interviews were obtained from 42,032 housing units. Roughly 34,900 housing units were interviewed in the sixth wave. All persons aged 15 and older within the housing unit were eligible to be interviewed, with proxy response permitted for household members

not available at the time of interview. Information about children in the household was collected from a designated parent or guardian. The institutionalized population, which is excluded from the population universe, is composed primarily of the population in correctional institutions and nursing homes (91 percent of the 4.1 million institutionalized people in Census 2000).

### Accuracy of the Estimates

Statistics from surveys are subject to sampling and nonsampling error. All comparisons presented in this report have taken sampling error into account and are significant at the 90 percent confidence level unless otherwise noted. This means that the 90 percent confidence interval for the difference between estimates being compared does not include zero. Nonsampling error in surveys may be attributed to a variety of sources, such as how the survey was designed, how respondents interpret questions, how able and willing respondents are to provide correct answers, and how accurately the answers are coded and classified. To minimize these errors, the Census Bureau employs quality control procedures throughout the production process, including the overall design of surveys, the wording of questions, review of the work of interviewers and coders, and statistical review of reports.

The SIPP weighting procedure uses ratio estimation, whereby sample estimates are adjusted to independent estimates of the national

population by age, race, sex and Hispanic origin. This weighting partially corrects for bias due to undercoverage, but biases may still be present when people, who are missed by the survey, differ from those interviewed in ways other than age, race, sex, and Hispanic origin. How this weighting procedure affects other variables in this survey is not precisely known. All of these considerations affect comparisons across different surveys or data sources.

For further information on the source of the data and accuracy of the estimates, including standard errors and confidence intervals, go to <[www.census.gov/sipp/source.html](http://www.census.gov/sipp/source.html)> or contact Jamie Choi of the Demographic Statistical Methods Division at 301-763-4554 or via e-mail at <[jamie.choi@census.gov](mailto:jamie.choi@census.gov)>. Additional information on the SIPP can be found at <[www.census.gov/SIPP](http://www.census.gov/SIPP)>.

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Table A-1.

## Prevalence of Specific Measures of Disability Among Individuals 15 Years and Older: 2010

(Numbers in thousands)

Category	Aged 15 years and older				Aged 65 years and older			
	Number	Margin of error ( $\pm$ ) <sup>1</sup>	Percent	Margin of error ( $\pm$ ) <sup>1</sup>	Number	Margin of error ( $\pm$ ) <sup>1</sup>	Percent	Margin of error ( $\pm$ ) <sup>1</sup>
<b>Total</b> .....	<b>241,682</b>	<b>*****</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>(X)</b>	<b>38,599</b>	<b>*****</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>(X)</b>
<b>DISABILITY STATUS</b>								
With a disability .....	51,454	838	21.3	0.3	19,234	327	49.8	0.8
Severe .....	35,683	631	14.8	0.3	14,138	276	36.6	0.7
Not severe .....	15,770	506	6.5	0.2	5,096	221	13.2	0.6
No disability .....	190,228	838	78.7	0.3	19,365	327	50.2	0.8
<b>SEEING/HEARING/SPEAKING</b>								
With a disability .....	14,924	475	6.2	0.2	6,909	245	17.9	0.6
Severe .....	3,288	189	1.4	0.1	1,705	122	4.4	0.3
Not severe .....	11,636	450	4.8	0.2	5,203	230	13.5	0.6
Difficulty seeing .....	8,077	354	3.3	0.1	3,782	184	9.8	0.5
Severe .....	2,010	139	0.8	0.1	1,050	85	2.7	0.2
Not severe .....	6,067	334	2.5	0.1	2,731	177	7.1	0.5
Difficulty hearing .....	7,572	320	3.1	0.1	4,152	202	10.8	0.5
Severe .....	1,096	122	0.5	0.1	666	87	1.7	0.2
Not severe .....	6,475	301	2.7	0.1	3,485	182	9.0	0.5
Difficulty with speech .....	2,818	207	1.2	0.1	843	90	2.2	0.2
Severe .....	523	82	0.2	—	158	35	0.4	0.1
Not severe .....	2,295	179	0.9	0.1	685	82	1.8	0.2
Used a hearing aid <sup>2</sup> .....	5,559	249	2.3	0.1	4,156	195	10.8	0.5
Had difficulty hearing .....	2,180	161	0.9	0.1	1,665	132	4.3	0.3
No difficulty hearing .....	3,379	193	1.4	0.1	2,491	155	6.5	0.4
<b>WALKING/USING STAIRS</b>								
With a disability .....	30,550	515	12.6	0.2	15,201	335	39.4	0.9
Severe .....	20,132	402	8.3	0.2	11,191	292	29.0	0.8
Not severe .....	10,418	344	4.3	0.1	4,010	204	10.4	0.5
Difficulty walking .....	23,879	470	9.9	0.2	11,883	321	30.8	0.8
Severe .....	13,118	357	5.4	0.1	7,186	237	18.6	0.6
Not severe .....	10,761	333	4.5	0.1	4,697	200	12.2	0.5
Difficulty using stairs .....	22,262	496	9.2	0.2	11,043	339	28.6	0.9
Severe .....	7,698	294	3.2	0.1	4,530	227	11.7	0.6
Not severe .....	14,564	400	6.0	0.2	6,513	258	16.9	0.7
Used a wheelchair .....	3,637	194	1.5	0.1	2,014	125	5.2	0.3
Used a cane/crutches/walker .....	11,584	320	4.8	0.1	7,012	238	18.2	0.6
(Used) for 6 months or longer .....	9,385	283	3.9	0.1	5,803	233	15.0	0.6
<b>SELECTED PHYSICAL TASKS</b>								
With a disability .....	19,890	481	8.2	0.2	9,205	269	23.8	0.7
Severe .....	8,617	330	3.6	0.1	4,486	197	11.6	0.5
Not severe .....	11,273	341	4.7	0.1	4,719	191	12.2	0.5
Difficulty lifting .....	17,186	424	7.1	0.2	8,171	253	21.2	0.7
Severe .....	8,076	318	3.3	0.1	4,270	200	11.1	0.5
Not severe .....	9,110	277	3.8	0.1	3,901	167	10.1	0.4
Difficulty grasping .....	6,712	267	2.8	0.1	2,875	156	7.4	0.4
Severe .....	893	113	0.4	—	334	59	0.9	0.2
Not severe .....	5,819	261	2.4	0.1	2,541	151	6.6	0.4
Difficulty pushing/pulling <sup>2</sup> .....	23,319	476	9.6	0.2	11,045	297	28.6	0.8
Severe .....	13,603	366	5.6	0.2	6,822	239	17.7	0.6
Not severe .....	9,717	338	4.0	0.1	4,224	193	10.9	0.5
Difficulty standing <sup>2</sup> .....	24,170	529	10.0	0.2	11,526	298	29.9	0.8
Difficulty sitting <sup>2</sup> .....	10,120	355	4.2	0.1	3,528	163	9.1	0.4
Difficulty crouching <sup>2</sup> .....	27,367	581	11.3	0.2	12,897	326	33.4	0.8
Difficulty reaching <sup>2</sup> .....	12,185	360	5.0	0.1	5,763	206	14.9	0.5
<b>ACTIVITIES OF DAILY LIVING</b>								
With an ADL limitation .....	9,442	303	3.9	0.1	4,639	190	12.0	0.5
Needed assistance .....	4,994	231	2.1	0.1	2,668	149	6.9	0.4
Did not need assistance .....	4,449	196	1.8	0.1	1,971	132	5.1	0.3

See footnotes at end of table.

Table A-1.

**Prevalence of Specific Measures of Disability Among Individuals 15 Years and Older:  
2010—Con.**

(Numbers in thousands)

Category	Aged 15 years and older				Aged 65 years and older			
	Number	Margin of error ( $\pm$ ) <sup>1</sup>	Percent	Margin of error ( $\pm$ ) <sup>1</sup>	Number	Margin of error ( $\pm$ ) <sup>1</sup>	Percent	Margin of error ( $\pm$ ) <sup>1</sup>
<b>ACTIVITIES OF DAILY LIVING—Con.</b>								
Difficulty getting around . . . . .	4,552	207	1.9	0.1	2,345	140	6.1	0.4
Needed assistance . . . . .	2,452	154	1.0	0.1	1,391	101	3.6	0.3
Did not need assistance . . . . .	2,100	137	0.9	0.1	954	89	2.5	0.2
Difficulty getting into bed . . . . .	6,151	251	2.5	0.1	3,011	160	7.8	0.4
Needed assistance . . . . .	3,008	182	1.2	0.1	1,578	119	4.1	0.3
Did not need assistance . . . . .	3,142	177	1.3	0.1	1,433	117	3.7	0.3
Difficulty bathing . . . . .	5,499	259	2.3	0.1	2,916	155	7.6	0.4
Needed assistance . . . . .	3,475	191	1.4	0.1	2,039	130	5.3	0.3
Did not need assistance . . . . .	2,024	147	0.8	0.1	877	87	2.3	0.2
Difficulty dressing . . . . .	4,264	205	1.8	0.1	2,142	135	5.5	0.4
Needed assistance . . . . .	2,806	167	1.2	0.1	1,523	111	3.9	0.3
Did not need assistance . . . . .	1,458	114	0.6	—	619	81	1.6	0.2
Difficulty eating . . . . .	1,845	139	0.8	0.1	927	86	2.4	0.2
Needed assistance . . . . .	1,031	111	0.4	—	578	69	1.5	0.2
Did not need assistance . . . . .	813	88	0.3	—	349	55	0.9	0.1
Difficulty toileting . . . . .	2,846	172	1.2	0.1	1,468	111	3.8	0.3
Needed assistance . . . . .	1,880	133	0.8	0.1	1,058	89	2.7	0.2
Did not need assistance . . . . .	966	108	0.4	—	411	65	1.1	0.2
<b>INSTRUMENTAL ACTIVITIES OF DAILY LIVING</b>								
With an IADL limitation . . . . .	15,513	417	6.4	0.2	7,449	249	19.3	0.6
Needed assistance . . . . .	11,566	360	4.8	0.1	5,869	226	15.2	0.6
Did not need assistance . . . . .	3,947	207	1.6	0.1	1,580	138	4.1	0.4
Difficulty going out . . . . .	10,094	304	4.2	0.1	5,365	205	13.9	0.5
Needed assistance . . . . .	7,983	284	3.3	0.1	4,497	189	11.7	0.5
Did not need assistance . . . . .	2,110	138	0.9	0.1	867	101	2.2	0.3
Difficulty managing money . . . . .	5,901	275	2.4	0.1	2,881	161	7.5	0.4
Needed assistance . . . . .	4,996	252	2.1	0.1	2,550	159	6.6	0.4
Did not need assistance . . . . .	905	97	0.4	—	331	56	0.9	0.1
Difficulty preparing meals . . . . .	5,817	247	2.4	0.1	3,035	152	7.9	0.4
Needed assistance . . . . .	4,718	218	2.0	0.1	2,528	141	6.6	0.4
Did not need assistance . . . . .	1,098	103	0.5	—	506	70	1.3	0.2
Difficulty doing housework . . . . .	7,708	291	3.2	0.1	3,804	188	9.9	0.5
Needed assistance . . . . .	5,892	262	2.4	0.1	3,101	176	8.0	0.5
Did not need assistance . . . . .	1,817	128	0.8	0.1	703	81	1.8	0.2
Difficulty taking medication . . . . .	4,994	241	2.1	0.1	2,485	143	6.4	0.4
Needed assistance . . . . .	3,928	218	1.6	0.1	2,108	135	5.5	0.4
Did not need assistance . . . . .	1,066	109	0.4	—	377	64	1.0	0.2
Difficulty using the phone . . . . .	2,886	171	1.2	0.1	1,771	120	4.6	0.3
Needed assistance . . . . .	1,039	111	0.4	—	592	76	1.5	0.2
Did not need assistance . . . . .	1,847	141	0.8	0.1	1,180	98	3.1	0.3
<b>NEED FOR ASSISTANCE</b>								
<b>Number of ADLs or IADLs for which assistance was needed</b>								
One or more . . . . .	12,049	374	5.0	0.2	6,051	235	15.7	0.6
One . . . . .	4,333	219	1.8	0.1	2,049	139	5.3	0.4
Two . . . . .	2,139	154	0.9	0.1	993	99	2.6	0.3
Three or more . . . . .	5,577	235	2.3	0.1	3,009	148	7.8	0.4
<b>Number of ADLs for which assistance was needed</b>								
One or more . . . . .	4,994	231	2.1	0.1	2,668	149	6.9	0.4
One . . . . .	1,709	137	0.7	0.1	859	98	2.2	0.3
Two . . . . .	844	94	0.3	—	429	62	1.1	0.2
Three or more . . . . .	2,441	158	1.0	0.1	1,380	105	3.6	0.3

See footnotes at end of table.

Table A-1.

## Prevalence of Specific Measures of Disability Among Individuals 15 Years and Older: 2010—Con.

(Numbers in thousands)

Category	Aged 15 years and older				Aged 65 years and older			
	Number	Margin of error ( $\pm$ ) <sup>1</sup>	Percent	Margin of error ( $\pm$ ) <sup>1</sup>	Number	Margin of error ( $\pm$ ) <sup>1</sup>	Percent	Margin of error ( $\pm$ ) <sup>1</sup>
<b>Number of IADLs for which assistance was needed</b>								
One or more . . . . .	11,566	360	4.8	0.1	5,869	226	15.2	0.6
One . . . . .	4,717	225	2.0	0.1	2,311	151	6.0	0.4
Two . . . . .	2,201	157	0.9	0.1	951	99	2.5	0.3
Three or more . . . . .	4,648	225	1.9	0.1	2,607	140	6.8	0.4
<b>MENTAL</b>								
With a disability . . . . .	15,155	495	6.3	0.2	3,024	163	7.8	0.4
With one or more selected conditions . .	10,614	405	4.4	0.2	2,184	142	5.7	0.4
A learning disability . . . . .	3,896	265	1.6	0.1	286	52	0.7	0.1
Alzheimer's, senility, or dementia . . .	2,427	149	1.0	0.1	1,661	118	4.3	0.3
Intellectual disability <sup>3</sup> . . . . .	1,239	137	0.5	0.1	76	27	0.2	0.1
Other developmental disability . . . . .	944	140	0.4	0.1	63	26	0.2	0.1
Other mental/emotional condition . . .	4,707	266	1.9	0.1	395	62	1.0	0.2
With one or more selected symptoms . .	8,916	381	3.7	0.2	1,729	133	4.5	0.3
Depressed or anxious . . . . .	7,012	358	2.9	0.1	1,098	105	2.8	0.3
Trouble getting along with others . . . .	2,684	194	1.1	0.1	309	52	0.8	0.1
Trouble concentrating . . . . .	5,140	275	2.1	0.1	1,047	95	2.7	0.2
Trouble coping with stress . . . . .	5,936	300	2.5	0.1	910	94	2.4	0.2
<b>WORKING AT A JOB</b>								
<b>Age 16 to 64 years . . . . .</b>	<b>199,036</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>(X)</b>	<b>(X)</b>	<b>(X)</b>	<b>(X)</b>	<b>(X)</b>
With disability related problems <sup>2</sup> . . . .	25,333	592	12.7	0.3	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Has difficulty remaining employed . . . .	14,371	468	7.2	0.2	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Limited in kind or amount of work <sup>2</sup> . . .	23,535	566	11.8	0.3	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Prevented . . . . .	14,558	440	7.3	0.2	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Not prevented . . . . .	8,977	340	4.5	0.2	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
<b>WORKING AROUND THE HOME</b>								
<b>Age 16 years and older . . . . .</b>	<b>237,635</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>(X)</b>	<b>38,599</b>	<b>*****</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>(X)</b>
Limited in kind or amount of								
housework . . . . .	19,328	468	8.1	0.2	7,450	272	19.3	0.7
Prevented . . . . .	5,715	259	2.4	0.1	2,537	146	6.6	0.4
Not prevented . . . . .	13,613	426	5.7	0.2	4,913	235	12.7	0.6
<b>DISABILITY DOMAINS</b>								
With a disability in 1 domain . . . . .	30,343	572	12.6	0.2	11,096	302	28.7	0.8
Communicative . . . . .	2,841	192	1.2	0.1	768	90	2.0	0.2
Physical . . . . .	22,444	454	9.3	0.2	10,044	304	26.0	0.8
Mental . . . . .	5,058	256	2.1	0.1	284	53	0.7	0.1
With a disability in 2 domains . . . . .	15,799	482	6.5	0.2	6,328	230	16.4	0.6
Communicative + physical . . . . .	8,061	318	3.3	0.1	4,729	200	12.3	0.5
Communicative + mental . . . . .	791	97	0.3	—	111	33	0.3	0.1
Physical + mental . . . . .	6,947	340	2.9	0.1	1,488	122	3.9	0.3
With a disability in 3 domains . . . . .	4,028	212	1.7	0.1	1,677	125	4.3	0.3
Domain(s) not identified . . . . .	1,284	121	0.5	—	132	32	0.3	0.1

— Represents or rounds to zero.

(X) Not applicable.

\*\*\*\*\* Indicates (in the margin of error column) that the estimate is controlled. A statistical test for sampling variability is not appropriate.

<sup>1</sup> A margin of error is a measure of an estimate's variability. The larger the margin of error is in relation to the size of the estimate, the less reliable the estimate. For further information on the source of the data and accuracy of the estimates, including standard errors, margins of error, and confidence intervals, go to <[http://www.census.gov/sipp/sourceac/S&A08\\_W1toW6\(S&A-13\).pdf](http://www.census.gov/sipp/sourceac/S&A08_W1toW6(S&A-13).pdf)>.

<sup>2</sup> Not part of the disability definition.

<sup>3</sup> While this report uses the term "intellectual disability," the survey question asked if respondents had "mental retardation." Other definitions of intellectual disability may include types of conditions not captured in this measure.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Survey of Income and Program Participation, May–August 2010.

Table A-2.

## Employment, Monthly Earnings, and Monthly Family Income Among Individuals 21 to 64 Years Old by Specific Measures of Disability: 2010

(Numbers in thousands. Earnings and income in dollars)

Characteristic	Total	Margin of error (±) <sup>1</sup>	Employed						Median monthly family income	Margin of error (±) <sup>1</sup>
			Number	Margin of error (±) <sup>1</sup>	Percent	Margin of error (±) <sup>1</sup>	Median monthly earnings	Margin of error (±) <sup>1</sup>		
<b>Total</b> .....	<b>177,295</b>	<b>193</b>	<b>128,996</b>	<b>811</b>	<b>72.8</b>	<b>0.4</b>	<b>2,627</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>4,432</b>	<b>68</b>
<b>DISABILITY STATUS</b>										
With a disability .....	29,479	705	12,115	432	41.1	1.0	1,961	77	2,856	73
Severe .....	20,286	566	5,570	261	27.5	1.0	1,577	84	2,376	83
Covered by Medicare or received Social Security or Supplemental Security Income .....	9,596	344	862	95	9.0	0.9	496	71	2,022	119
Covered by Medicare .....	4,896	211	365	55	7.5	1.1	428	126	2,200	142
Received Social Security .....	6,929	251	610	82	8.8	1.1	548	63	2,345	124
Received Supplemental Security Income .....	3,928	240	329	67	8.4	1.6	386	127	1,478	112
Not covered by Medicare and not receiving Social Security or Supplemental Security Income .....	10,690	369	4,708	247	44.0	1.7	1,802	106	2,761	110
Not severe .....	9,193	374	6,544	311	71.2	1.6	2,402	187	3,959	175
No disability .....	147,816	733	116,881	862	79.1	0.4	2,724	34	4,771	69
<b>SEEING/HEARING/SPEAKING</b>										
Difficulty seeing .....	4,112	259	1,714	171	41.7	2.8	2,281	256	2,635	188
Severe .....	905	108	307	58	34.0	4.9	2,564	358	2,525	495
Not severe .....	3,207	239	1,407	160	43.9	3.1	2,207	308	2,671	274
Difficulty hearing .....	3,310	209	1,837	163	55.5	2.9	2,484	179	3,472	212
Severe .....	417	64	172	43	41.4	8.0	1,943	1,035	3,591	941
Not severe .....	2,893	204	1,664	154	57.5	3.0	2,495	193	3,451	207
Difficulty with speech .....	1,753	165	596	86	34.0	4.0	1,489	244	2,508	334
Severe .....	318	71	82	34	25.7	9.0	1,282	240	2,883	1,462
Not severe .....	1,435	150	514	78	35.8	4.5	1,579	312	2,473	376
<b>WALKING/USING STAIRS</b>										
Difficulty walking .....	11,759	381	3,375	202	28.7	1.4	1,734	106	2,411	117
Severe .....	5,832	271	1,096	104	18.8	1.6	1,488	157	2,108	122
Not severe .....	5,927	267	2,279	168	38.4	2.1	1,892	160	2,780	120
Difficulty using stairs .....	11,046	358	3,177	188	28.8	1.3	1,752	116	2,424	125
Severe .....	3,127	174	562	74	18.0	2.1	1,598	161	2,019	134
Not severe .....	7,918	307	2,616	181	33.0	1.7	1,815	150	2,590	111
Used a wheelchair .....	1,566	136	287	69	18.3	3.8	2,404	875	2,506	339
Used a cane/crutches/walker .....	4,524	243	898	107	19.8	2.0	2,077	486	2,399	227
<b>SELECTED PHYSICAL TASKS</b>										
Difficulty lifting .....	8,797	329	2,403	172	27.3	1.6	1,748	181	2,393	110
Severe .....	3,732	218	743	101	19.9	2.3	1,779	316	2,199	157
Not severe .....	5,064	229	1,660	142	32.8	2.3	1,735	218	2,544	171
Difficulty grasping .....	3,813	219	1,068	111	28.0	2.3	1,712	204	2,524	204
Severe .....	557	88	135	39	24.3	5.7	1,784	525	2,737	719
Not severe .....	3,256	204	933	108	28.6	2.5	1,685	222	2,497	213
Difficulty moving chair <sup>2</sup> .....	11,998	374	3,803	215	31.7	1.4	1,860	123	2,561	109
Severe .....	6,651	255	1,632	134	24.5	1.8	1,892	148	2,411	138
Not severe .....	5,347	260	2,171	168	40.6	2.2	1,833	180	2,798	130
Difficulty standing <sup>2</sup> .....	12,446	418	3,719	219	29.9	1.5	1,881	127	2,529	111
Difficulty sitting <sup>2</sup> .....	6,495	322	1,978	156	30.4	2.0	1,950	161	2,404	152
Difficulty crouching <sup>2</sup> .....	14,264	463	5,328	255	37.4	1.2	2,069	91	2,767	78
Difficulty reaching <sup>2</sup> .....	6,371	282	1,857	147	29.2	1.8	1,884	225	2,417	145
<b>ADLs AND IADLs</b>										
With an ADL limitation .....	4,700	246	936	107	19.9	1.9	1,553	211	2,224	203
Needed assistance .....	2,270	172	341	64	15.0	2.5	1,309	530	2,180	225
Did not need assistance .....	2,430	165	595	80	24.5	2.7	1,648	378	2,293	259
With an IADL limitation .....	7,653	340	1,574	148	20.6	1.6	1,203	232	2,286	128
Needed assistance .....	5,363	272	867	101	16.2	1.6	832	226	2,286	152
Did not need assistance .....	2,290	169	707	90	30.9	3.1	1,592	186	2,286	275

See footnotes at end of table.



Table A-2.

## Employment, Monthly Earnings, and Monthly Family Income Among Individuals 21 to 64 Years Old by Specific Measures of Disability: 2010—Con.

(Numbers in thousands. Earnings and income in dollars)

Characteristic	Total	Margin of error (±) <sup>1</sup>	Employed					Median monthly family income	Margin of error (±) <sup>1</sup>	
			Number	Margin of error (±) <sup>1</sup>	Percent	Margin of error (±) <sup>1</sup>	Median monthly earnings			
<b>MENTAL</b>										
With a disability . . . . .	10,661	430	3,634	224	34.1	1.6	1,512	114	2,407	157
With one or more selected conditions . . . . .	7,140	350	2,565	181	35.9	2.0	1,456	166	2,470	198
A learning disability . . . . .	2,922	234	1,384	140	47.4	3.3	1,901	324	2,582	337
Alzheimer's, senility, or dementia . . . . .	740	88	137	36	18.6	4.1	1,413	686	2,180	333
Intellectual disability <sup>3</sup> . . . . .	984	130	257	59	26.1	5.3	480	193	2,064	594
Other developmental disability . . . . .	633	127	195	48	30.8	6.9	832	411	2,661	1,026
Other mental/emotional condition . . . . .	3,811	229	1,002	97	26.3	2.5	1,159	190	2,152	161
With one or more selected symptoms . . . . .	6,530	323	1,622	142	24.8	1.9	1,355	175	2,118	136
Depressed or anxious . . . . .	5,494	299	1,358	142	24.7	2.2	1,393	198	2,080	117
Trouble getting along with others . . . . .	2,068	181	414	70	20.0	2.9	1,439	335	1,984	300
Trouble concentrating . . . . .	3,583	238	696	80	19.4	2.1	1,129	185	2,004	153
Trouble coping with stress . . . . .	4,553	263	1,002	115	22.0	2.2	1,281	151	2,038	129
<b>WORKING AT A JOB</b>										
With disability related problems <sup>2</sup> . . . . .	24,003	560	6,871	294	28.6	1.0	1,359	84	2,427	81
Has difficulty remaining employed . . . . .	13,706	452	1,988	132	14.5	0.9	795	111	2,047	100
Limited in kind/amount of work <sup>2</sup> . . . . .	22,397	538	6,387	284	28.5	1.1	1,342	81	2,411	84
Prevented . . . . .	13,958	426	230	50	1.6	0.4	1,244	388	1,950	72
Not prevented . . . . .	8,439	321	6,157	277	73.0	1.6	1,348	83	3,294	126
<b>DISABILITY DOMAINS</b>										
With a disability in 1 domain . . . . .	17,667	445	8,237	322	46.6	1.3	2,033	90	3,221	84
Communicative . . . . .	1,944	168	1,426	156	73.4	3.6	2,838	332	4,360	259
Physical . . . . .	12,119	337	4,940	232	40.8	1.6	1,998	101	3,000	136
Mental . . . . .	3,604	209	1,871	170	51.9	3.1	1,619	226	3,186	218
With a disability in 2 domains . . . . .	9,047	424	3,097	210	34.2	1.7	1,915	154	2,500	151
Communicative + physical . . . . .	3,250	218	1,532	151	47.1	2.9	2,268	313	3,082	212
Communicative + mental . . . . .	550	83	231	45	41.9	7.1	1,548	244	3,017	984
Physical + mental . . . . .	5,247	309	1,334	115	25.4	2.0	1,570	162	2,091	164
With a disability in 3 domains . . . . .	2,246	170	539	80	24.0	3.0	1,051	257	2,042	202
Domain(s) not identified . . . . .	519	74	242	50	46.6	6.9	1,953	944	3,008	676
<b>SELECTED CONDITIONS REPORTED AS THE CAUSE OF ACTIVITY LIMITATIONS OR FAIR/POOR HEALTH<sup>2</sup></b>										
Arthritis or rheumatism . . . . .	6,003	263	2,111	158	35.2	2.1	1,891	170	2,604	161
Back or spine problem . . . . .	8,099	342	2,613	188	32.3	1.9	1,928	151	2,608	168
Diabetes . . . . .	2,914	215	790	103	27.1	2.7	2,057	273	2,475	179
Heart trouble or hardening of the arteries . . . . .	2,160	142	570	78	26.4	2.9	1,774	297	2,531	230
High blood pressure . . . . .	2,736	211	896	106	32.8	2.8	1,928	236	2,381	176
Lung or respiratory problem . . . . .	1,941	150	570	80	29.4	3.2	1,922	414	2,438	258
Mental or emotional problem . . . . .	3,223	235	687	81	21.3	2.4	949	158	1,941	173
Stiffness or deformity of legs, arms, feet, or hands . . . . .	1,679	139	657	83	39.1	4.0	1,967	225	2,856	317

<sup>1</sup> A margin of error is a measure of an estimate's variability. The larger the margin of error is in relation to the size of the estimate, the less reliable the estimate. For further information on the source of the data and accuracy of the estimates, including standard errors, margins of error, and confidence intervals, go to [http://www.census.gov/sipp/sourceac/S&A08\\_W1toW6\(S&A-13\).pdf](http://www.census.gov/sipp/sourceac/S&A08_W1toW6(S&A-13).pdf).

<sup>2</sup> Not part of the disability definition.

<sup>3</sup> While this report uses the term "intellectual disability," the survey question asked if respondents had "mental retardation." Other definitions of intellectual disability may include types of conditions not captured in this measure.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Survey of Income and Program Participation, May–August 2010.

Table A-3.

### Distribution of Selected Characteristics for Individuals 15 Years and Older by Disability Status: 2010

Category	Aged 15 to 64 years						Aged 65 years and older					
	Severe	Margin of error (±) <sup>1</sup>	Not severe	Margin of error (±) <sup>1</sup>	No disability	Margin of error (±) <sup>1</sup>	Severe	Margin of error (±) <sup>1</sup>	Not severe	Margin of error (±) <sup>1</sup>	No disability	Margin of error (±) <sup>1</sup>
<b>Total (thousands)</b> . . . . .	<b>21,545</b>	<b>606</b>	<b>10,674</b>	<b>419</b>	<b>170,863</b>	<b>783</b>	<b>14,138</b>	<b>276</b>	<b>5,096</b>	<b>221</b>	<b>19,365</b>	<b>327</b>
Percentage distribution . . . . .	100.0	(X)	100.0	(X)	100.0	(X)	100.0	(X)	100.0	(X)	100.0	(X)
<b>PROGRAM PARTICIPATION</b>												
Any form of public assistance . . . . .	59.0	1.0	22.9	1.5	12.0	0.3	95.6	0.6	94.1	1.0	90.9	0.8
Cash assistance . . . . .	47.1	1.1	11.8	1.1	3.8	0.2	95.0	0.7	93.9	1.0	90.6	0.8
Supplemental Security Income . . . . .	19.5	1.0	3.5	0.6	0.7	0.1	8.3	0.7	2.8	0.7	1.6	0.3
Social Security . . . . .	32.9	0.9	8.8	0.9	2.6	0.1	92.5	0.8	93.3	1.1	90.1	0.8
Other cash assistance . . . . .	3.4	0.4	1.3	0.3	0.7	0.1	0.7	0.2	0.6	0.3	0.1	0.1
Food stamps . . . . .	28.1	1.0	12.9	1.1	8.3	0.3	10.3	0.8	5.1	1.0	2.5	0.4
Public/subsidized housing . . . . .	10.5	0.6	5.2	0.8	2.6	0.2	8.5	0.7	4.1	1.0	2.3	0.4
Had applied for Social Security disability benefits . . . . .	10.2	0.7	1.2	0.3	0.3	0.1	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
<b>HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE</b>												
With health insurance . . . . .	79.0	0.9	78.7	1.3	78.1	0.4	99.2	0.3	99.3	0.4	99.1	0.2
Private or military . . . . .	40.2	1.1	65.2	1.6	71.1	0.5	61.8	1.3	74.4	1.8	76.3	1.1
Government (Medicare/Medicaid) . . . . .	48.0	1.2	16.3	1.2	8.4	0.3	98.7	0.4	97.7	0.8	96.4	0.5
Medicare . . . . .	22.7	0.9	3.2	0.6	0.7	0.1	98.1	0.4	97.6	0.8	96.3	0.5
Both Medicare and private military . . . . .	6.4	0.5	1.0	0.3	0.3	–	61.2	1.3	72.8	1.8	73.6	1.0
Medicaid . . . . .	34.6	1.2	14.2	1.2	7.8	0.2	14.8	0.9	6.1	1.0	3.5	0.5
Both Medicare and Medicaid . . . . .	9.3	0.6	1.1	0.3	0.1	–	14.3	0.9	5.9	1.0	3.4	0.5
No health insurance . . . . .	21.0	0.9	21.3	1.3	21.9	0.4	0.8	0.3	0.7	0.4	0.9	0.2
<b>PERSONAL INCOME</b>												
Less than \$5,000 . . . . .	28.0	1.0	25.9	1.3	25.0	0.3	5.7	0.6	3.9	0.8	4.1	0.6
\$5,000 to \$14,999 . . . . .	37.3	1.1	21.5	1.3	16.8	0.3	42.3	1.2	32.1	2.1	27.4	1.0
\$15,000 to \$24,999 . . . . .	16.4	0.8	14.6	1.1	14.8	0.3	25.9	1.2	24.8	2.0	23.3	1.0
\$25,000 to \$49,999 . . . . .	12.5	0.8	22.7	1.5	23.3	0.4	19.8	0.9	27.4	1.9	28.3	1.0
\$50,000 to \$74,999 . . . . .	3.8	0.4	9.1	0.9	10.8	0.3	4.2	0.5	7.0	1.1	9.0	0.7
\$75,000 to \$99,999 . . . . .	1.3	0.3	3.3	0.6	4.6	0.2	1.1	0.2	2.1	0.6	3.7	0.4
\$100,000 or more . . . . .	0.8	0.2	2.8	0.5	4.8	0.2	1.0	0.3	2.6	0.7	4.2	0.5
<b>FAMILY INCOME</b>												
Less than \$25,000 . . . . .	45.6	1.2	27.8	1.6	22.2	0.4	44.0	1.3	32.2	2.2	23.0	1.1
\$25,000 to \$49,999 . . . . .	25.0	1.1	26.2	1.5	23.5	0.5	31.1	1.2	35.8	2.2	32.6	1.2
\$50,000 to \$74,999 . . . . .	14.2	1.0	18.8	1.3	18.7	0.4	13.2	1.0	17.0	1.9	20.5	1.1
\$75,000 to \$99,999 . . . . .	7.3	0.6	11.8	1.2	13.6	0.4	6.1	0.7	6.8	1.1	11.0	0.9
\$100,000 or more . . . . .	7.9	0.7	15.3	1.2	22.0	0.6	5.6	0.6	8.3	1.4	12.9	1.0
<b>POVERTY STATUS</b>												
In poverty . . . . .	28.6	1.1	17.9	1.3	14.3	0.4	11.7	0.9	6.7	1.1	5.0	0.5
Not in poverty . . . . .	71.4	1.1	82.1	1.3	85.7	0.4	88.3	0.9	93.3	1.1	95.0	0.5
<b>EMPLOYMENT DIFFICULTY</b>												
<b>Aged 16 to 64</b> . . . . .	<b>21,378</b>	<b>610</b>	<b>10,350</b>	<b>408</b>	<b>167,308</b>	<b>793</b>	<b>(X)</b>	<b>(X)</b>	<b>(X)</b>	<b>(X)</b>	<b>(X)</b>	<b>(X)</b>
Limited in the kind or amount . . . . .	74.2	1.0	24.1	1.5	3.1	0.1	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Prevented from working . . . . .	55.5	1.0	7.8	1.0	1.1	0.1	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Not prevented from working . . . . .	18.7	0.9	16.3	1.2	2.0	0.1	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
<b>EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT</b>												
<b>Aged 25 and older</b> . . . . .	<b>19,328</b>	<b>524</b>	<b>8,593</b>	<b>365</b>	<b>133,135</b>	<b>665</b>	<b>14,138</b>	<b>276</b>	<b>5,096</b>	<b>221</b>	<b>19,365</b>	<b>327</b>
Less than high school diploma . . . . .	18.4	0.9	11.7	1.1	8.8	0.4	25.6	1.2	18.2	1.6	11.6	0.8
High school diploma . . . . .	32.1	1.2	26.3	1.6	22.9	0.5	32.4	1.3	30.9	2.0	30.3	1.2
Some college or associate's degree . . . . .	35.9	1.2	38.5	1.8	34.2	0.5	26.2	1.2	31.0	2.1	29.1	1.1
Bachelor's degree or higher . . . . .	13.5	0.9	23.6	1.6	34.1	0.6	15.9	1.0	19.9	1.7	29.0	1.1

– Represents or rounds to zero.

(X) Not applicable.

<sup>1</sup> A margin of error is a measure of an estimate's variability. The larger the margin of error is in relation to the size of the estimate, the less reliable the estimate. For further information on the source of the data and accuracy of the estimates, including standard errors, margins of error, and confidence intervals, go to <[http://www.census.gov/sipp/sourceac/S&A08\\_W1toW6\(S&A-13\).pdf](http://www.census.gov/sipp/sourceac/S&A08_W1toW6(S&A-13).pdf)>.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Survey of Income and Program Participation, May–August 2010.

Table A-4.

**Prevalence of Specific Measures of Disability Among Children Under 15 Years: 2010**

(Numbers in thousands)

Category	Number		Percentage	
	Estimate	Margin of error ( $\pm$ ) <sup>1</sup>	Estimate	Margin of error ( $\pm$ ) <sup>1</sup>
<b>Under 15 years</b> . . . . .	<b>62,176</b>	<b>*****</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>(X)</b>
With a disability . . . . .	5,218	271	8.4	0.4
Severe disability . . . . .	2,601	172	4.2	0.3
<b>Under 3 years</b> . . . . .	<b>12,676</b>	<b>118</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>(X)</b>
With a disability . . . . .	289	77	2.3	0.6
With a developmental delay . . . . .	258	64	2.0	0.5
Difficulty moving arms or legs . . . . .	92	63	0.7	0.5
No disability . . . . .	12,387	137	97.7	0.6
<b>3 to 5 years</b> . . . . .	<b>12,961</b>	<b>154</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>(X)</b>
With a disability . . . . .	465	76	3.6	0.6
With a developmental delay . . . . .	398	70	3.1	0.5
Difficulty walking, running, or playing . . . . .	194	50	1.5	0.4
No disability . . . . .	12,496	158	96.4	0.6
<b>6 to 14 years</b> . . . . .	<b>36,540</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>(X)</b>
With a disability . . . . .	4,464	221	12.2	0.6
Severe disability . . . . .	1,945	146	5.3	0.4
Not severe disability . . . . .	2,519	182	6.9	0.5
No disability . . . . .	32,076	237	87.8	0.6
Difficulty doing regular schoolwork . . . . .	2,274	165	6.2	0.5
Used special education services . . . . .	1,606	137	4.4	0.4
Difficulty getting along with others . . . . .	721	91	2.0	0.2
With one or more selected conditions . . . . .	3,416	207	9.3	0.6
A learning disability . . . . .	692	90	1.9	0.2
Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) . . . . .	1,867	167	5.1	0.5
Intellectual disability <sup>2</sup> . . . . .	154	43	0.4	0.1
Other developmental disability . . . . .	540	82	1.5	0.2
Other developmental condition . . . . .	1,208	110	3.3	0.3
With a developmental disability or condition . . . . .	1,654	137	4.5	0.4
Difficulty seeing words or letters . . . . .	321	67	0.9	0.2
Severe . . . . .	118	45	0.3	0.1
Not severe . . . . .	203	51	0.6	0.1
Difficulty hearing conversation . . . . .	212	46	0.6	0.1
Severe . . . . .	35	19	0.1	0.1
Not severe . . . . .	177	44	0.5	0.1
Difficulty having speech understood . . . . .	735	89	2.0	0.2
Severe . . . . .	145	39	0.4	0.1
Not severe . . . . .	590	86	1.6	0.2
Difficulty walking or running . . . . .	580	78	1.6	0.2
Used a wheelchair or similar device . . . . .	67	24	0.2	0.1
Used a cane, crutches, or walker . . . . .	47	22	0.1	0.1
With an ADL limitation . . . . .	370	64	1.0	0.2
Needed personal assistance . . . . .	300	59	0.8	0.2
Did not need personal assistance . . . . .	70	26	0.2	0.1

(X) Not applicable.

\*\*\*\*\* Indicates (in the margin of error column) that the estimate is controlled. A statistical test for sampling variability is not appropriate.

<sup>1</sup> A margin of error is a measure of an estimate's variability. The larger the margin of error in relation to the size of the estimate, the less reliable the estimate. The margins of error shown in this table are for the 90 percent confidence level. For more information about the source and accuracy of the estimates, including margins of error, standard errors, and confidence intervals, go to <[http://www.census.gov/sipp/sourceac/S&A08\\_W1toW6\(S&A-13\).pdf](http://www.census.gov/sipp/sourceac/S&A08_W1toW6(S&A-13).pdf)>.

<sup>2</sup> While this report uses the term "intellectual disability," the survey question asked if respondents had "mental retardation." Other definitions of intellectual disability may include types of conditions not captured in this measure.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Survey of Income and Program Participation, May–August 2010.

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