



Disability Statistics

[www.DisabilityStatistics.org](http://www.DisabilityStatistics.org)

# Introduction to DisabilityStatistics.org

2023 ACS disability statistics and new features

## Presenters

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# Presenters



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# Explore the ADA

The **Americans with Disabilities Act** (ADA) protects the civil rights of Americans with disabilities.



The aim of the ADA is to ensure that all people with disabilities can fully and equally participate in all aspects of American society.

[View ADA Overview](#)

[View Related Laws Overview](#)

# Disclaimer

Information, materials, and/or technical assistance are intended solely as informal guidance and are neither a determination of your legal rights or responsibilities under the ADA, nor binding on any agency with enforcement responsibility under the ADA.

The Northeast ADA Center is authorized by the National Institute on Disability, Independent Living, and Rehabilitation Research (NIDILRR) to provide information, materials, and technical assistance to individuals and entities that are covered by the ADA. The contents of this presentation were developed under a grant from NIDILRR, grant number 90DPAD0003. NIDILRR is a Center within the Administration for Community Living (ACL), Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). The contents of this presentation do not necessarily represent the policy of NIDILRR, ACL, HHS, and you should not assume endorsement by the Federal Government.



# Today's webinar will cover...

1. Introduction to DisabilityStatistics.org
2. American Community Survey
3. Demonstration
4. Next Steps
5. Q&A





# DisabilityStatistics.org



- Since 2005
- Custom American Community Survey (ACS) estimates calculated by Bill Erickson
- Annual Disability Status Reports



# Questions 1 and 2

## 1. Are you a ...?

- Person with a disability/Family member
- Student
- Researcher/Educator
- Policymaker
- Service provider
- Other

## 2. How do you use disability statistics?



# Site Introduction

- Home
- Stats
- Help
- News
- Account

## Disability stats your way

Easily create and save maps, charts, and tables  
of national, state and local disability statistics

[GO TO STATS!](#)

[View Trailer](#)







Disability Statistics

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# American Community Survey (ACS)



# Question #3

## 3. What geographic level(s) are you most interested in?

- National
- State
- Congressional district
- County
- Municipality
- Other



# About the ACS

- Annual U.S. Census Bureau Survey
- Sent to a sample of about 3.5 million addresses in the 50 states, District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico
- High response rate
- Designed to provide current information to communities each year



# Why the ACS?

- Includes six disability questions
- Covers a wide variety of topics:
  - Employment
  - Poverty
  - Occupation
  - Housing
- Consistent disability measures over time (2008-2023)
- Supports local level estimates





# Disability in the ACS

**“Any disability”**: Reporting **one or more** of the six disability types:

- Visual (all ages)
- Hearing (all ages)
- Ambulatory (ages 5+)
- Cognitive (ages 5+)
- Self-Care (ages 5+)
- Independent living (ages 15+)



# ACS Census Estimates (5-year)

## Description

ACS Census 5-Year Estimates are based on estimates from tables generated by the Census Bureau. These estimates are based on data compiled over a 5-year period; that is, the 2023 5-year Estimates use data collected from 2018 to 2023.

## Benefits

- Best for estimates for small, substate areas (e.g., counties)
- Topics are more limited
- Combines 5 years of data



# ACS Custom Estimates (1-year)

## Description

ACS Custom 1-Year Estimates are generated by the Yang-Tan Institute on Employment and Disability at Cornell University using the 1-year ACS Public Use Microdata Sample (PUMS) data.

## Benefits

- Best for national and state level estimates
- Based on the most current data available
- More topics and demographic breakdowns than Census Bureau Estimates



# Why 5-year Census Estimates?

## Provides Local Data

- Census Bureau 1-year estimates are limited to areas with a minimum total population of 65,000
- Only 680 of the 3,145 counties in the U.S. meet that criteria
- Missing nearly 80% of counties
- 5-year Census Bureau tables allow us to provide estimates for ALL counties (and eventually other geographic entities).

## Limitations

- Not as timely/current





# *Custom 1-Year vs. Census 5-Year Estimates*

## U.S. Employment Rate Example:

- 2023 ACS Census Bureau 5-year Estimate (2019-2023 data):

**41.8% Employment Rate**

*(non-institutionalized civilians with disabilities ages 18-64)*

- 2023 ACS Custom 1-Year Estimate:

**46.5% Employment Rate**

*(non-institutionalized with disabilities ages 18-64)*



# Demonstration

## Let's explore some data on disability statistics!



### Disability Statistics

#### Build Your Map or Chart

Content updates as selections are made.

#### 1. SELECT TOPIC

PREVALENCE

#### 2. SELECT MAP OR CHART

CHART: By Disability Type

#### 3. SELECT GEOGRAPHY

United States

#### 4. MODIFY FILTERS

RESET FILTERS

#### YEAR

2023

#### SEX

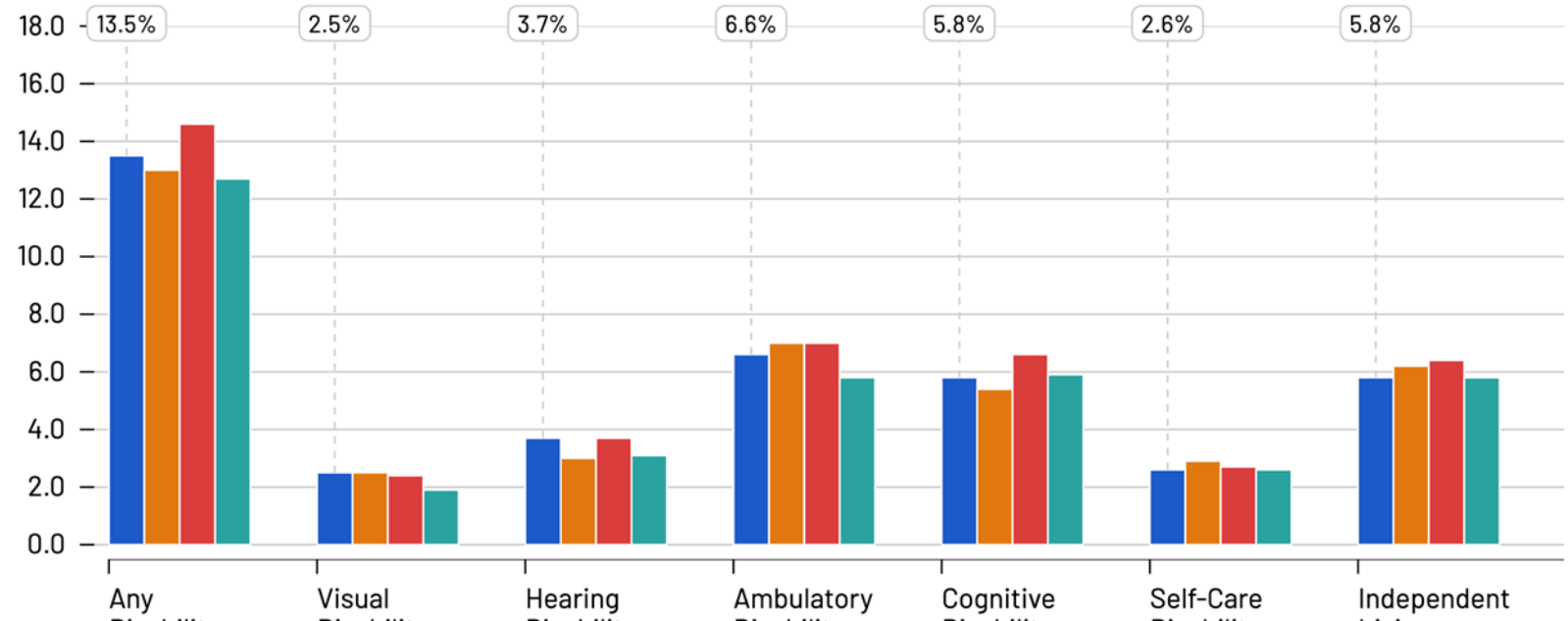
Male or Female

#### CHART

### Disability Prevalence by Disability Type in the United States

The percentage of non-institutionalized males or females with specified disability, all ages, all races, regardless of ethnicity, across all levels of education in the United States in 2023.

PERCENTAGE



# Question #4

**4. Are there topic(s) you are interested in getting more data about?**

- Health
- Economics (e.g., income, earnings)
- Education
- Veterans
- Technology (e.g., internet usage)
- Other



# Register For an Account

## Email List

- Opt-in to mailing list to get email updates

## Account Features

- Manage account profile
- Ask Bill a Question
- Submit support tickets, suggestions, and feedback

**New features will be added regularly!**





# Next Steps

## Next Steps

- Improve accessibility and usability
- Municipal data

## User Testing

- Opt-in to participate in user testing

## Help Us Decide

- Future features, data, and enhancements
- Accessibility enhancements



# Question #5

## 5. Out of the following, which features would you like to see developed next on DisabilityStatistics.org?

- Additional ACS topics
- Municipal data
- Other datasets (e.g., BRFSS, CPS, etc.)
- Additional visualization features (e.g., annotation, custom colors, etc.)
- Additional download features (e.g., charts packaged with data tables in Word or PowerPoint templates)
- Saving queries and maps/charts to Account Center
- Other?



# Activity: Ask it Basket

When I think about  
disability statistics, one  
question or concern I have  
is...





Disability Statistics

[www.DisabilityStatistics.org](http://www.DisabilityStatistics.org)

# THANK YOU!



# Keep in touch!

- **Facebook:** @northeastada
- **LinkedIn:** @Northeast ADA Center
- **X:** @NortheastADA
- **Instagram:** @northeast.ada
- **BlueSky:** @northeastada.adata.org



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