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2004

US

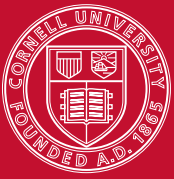
United States



Rehabilitation Research
and Training Center on
Disability Demographics
and Statistics (StatsRRTC)

2004 Disability Status Reports United States





Cornell University

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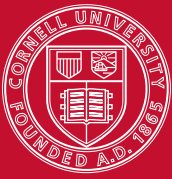
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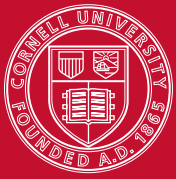
The Annual Disability Status Reports

The *Annual Disability Status Reports* provide policy makers, disability advocates, reporters, and the public with a summary of the most recent demographic and economic statistics on the working-age (ages 21-64) population with disabilities. They contain information on the population size, prevalence, employment, earnings, poverty, household income, home ownership, and activity limitations of working-age people with disabilities, as well as the composition of this population by age, race, gender, and educational attainment. Comparisons are made to working-age people without disabilities, across types of disabilities, and to the previous year. Additional statistics by state are available at www.DisabilityStatistics.org.

The *Status Reports* look at the working-age population (21-64) because the employment gap between people with and without disabilities is a major focus of government programming and advocacy efforts. Furthermore, employment is a key factor in the social integration and economic self-sufficiency of working-age people with disabilities. Future Status Reports will address the school- and retirement-age populations and eventually expand to education and health-related issues.

The estimates in the *2004 Disability Status Reports* are based on American Community Survey (ACS) data—a survey of the U.S. Census Bureau designed to replace the decennial census long form. In future years, we hope to add information derived from other data sources, such as the Current Population Survey (CPS) and National Health Interview Survey (NHIS). See ACS User Guide on our web site, www.DisabilityStatistics.org for additional disability-related information in the ACS. A Census Bureau report, www.census.gov/prod/2004pubs/p60-226.pdf, provides a broader discussion of the ACS.

The estimates in these reports 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. Asterisks (*) indicate that the terms “increased” and “decreased” reflect statistically significant changes at the 90-percent confidence level.



2004 Disability Status Reports: Summary

This is a summary of the statistics that appear in the *2004 Disability Status Reports*. The statistics indicate the social and economic status of working-age people (ages 21-64) with disabilities, using data from the 2003 and 2004 American Community Surveys (ACS). State-level *Status Reports* and more information about the ACS are available at www.DisabilityStatistics.org. Asterisks (*) indicate that the terms "increased" and "decreased" reflect statistically significant changes at the 90-percent confidence level.

Prevalence: The percentage of working age individuals reporting a disability increased from 12.0 percent in 2003 to 12.1 percent in 2004, in the US.

Employment: The employment rate of working age people with disabilities decreased from 37.9 percent in 2003 to 37.5 percent in 2004, in the US.

Full-Time/Full-Year Employment: The percentage of working age people with disabilities working full-time/ full-year decreased* from 23.0 percent in 2003 to 22.4 percent in 2004, in the US.

Annual Labor Earnings: The median annual labor earnings of working age people with disabilities working full-time/full-year was unchanged from \$30,000 in 2003 to \$30,000 in 2004, in the US.

Household Annual Income: The median household annual income of working age people with disabilities increased from \$34,200 in 2003 to \$34,300 in 2004, in the US.

Poverty: The poverty rate of working age people with disabilities increased* from 23.3 percent in 2003 to 24.1 percent in 2004, in the US.

Supplemental Security Income: The percentage of working-age people with disabilities receiving SSI payments decreased from 15.5 percent in 2003 to 15.4 percent in 2004, in the US.

Housing: The percentage of people with disabilities living in owner occupied housing decreased from 63.7 percent in 2003 to 63.4 percent in 2004, in the US.

Activity Limitation—Employment: The percentage of working-age people with sensory, physical and/or mental disabilities that report an employment disability (difficulty working at a job or business) increased* from 53.2 percent in 2003 to 54.2 percent in 2004, in the US.

Age Distribution: Among people with disabilities, the percentage ages 21-29 increased* from 10.3 percent in 2003 to 10.6 percent in 2004, in the US.

Race Distribution: Among people with disabilities, the percentage non-white increased* from 25.4 percent in 2003 to 25.8 percent in 2004, in the US.

Gender Distribution: Among people with disabilities, the percentage that are women increased from 51.2 percent in 2003 to 51.6 percent in 2004, in the US.

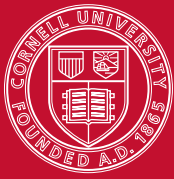
Education Distribution: Among people with disabilities, the percentage with a Bachelor's degree or more increased from 12.5 percent in 2003 to 12.7 percent in 2004, in the US.

Prevalence Across States: Arkansas experienced the largest percentage point rise in the prevalence of disability among its working-age population – from 17.5 percent to 19.9 percent between 2003 and 2004.

Employment Across States: Vermont experienced the largest percentage point gain in the employment rate of working-age people with disabilities – from 46.9 percent to 50.8 percent between 2003 and 2004.

Prevalence Trend: The percentage of working age people with sensory, physical, mental, and/or self-care disabilities increased* from 10.6 percent in 2001 to 10.9 percent in 2004, in the US.

Employment Trend: The employment rate of working-age people with sensory, physical, mental, and/or self-care disabilities decreased* from 40.8 percent in 2001 to 38.3 percent in 2004, in the US.



2004 Disability Status Reports: Comparisons

This is a summary of the comparative statistics that appear in the individual *2004 Disability Status Reports*. The statistics indicate the social and economic status of working-age people (ages 21-64) with disabilities, using data from the 2003 and 2004 American Community Surveys (ACS). State-level *Status Reports* and more information about the ACS are available at www.DisabilityStatistics.org. Asterisks (*) indicate that the terms "increased" and "decreased" reflect statistically significant changes at the 90-percent confidence level.

Employment: The gap between the employment rates of working-age people with and without disabilities increased* from 39.7 percentage points in 2003 to 40.3 percentage points in 2004, in the US.

Full-Time/Full-Year Employment: The difference in the percentage working full-time/full-year between working age people with and without disabilities increased from 33.5 percentage points in 2003 to 33.8 percentage points in 2004, in the US.

Annual Labor Earnings: The difference in the median labor earnings between working age people with and without disabilities who worked full-time/full-year was unchanged from \$5,000 in 2003 to \$5,000 in 2004, in the US.

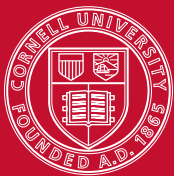
Annual Household Income: The difference in the median household income between working age people with and without disabilities increased* from \$24,200 in 2003 to \$25,700 in 2004, in the US.

Poverty: The difference in the poverty rate between working age people with and without disabilities increased* from 14.4 percentage points in 2003 to 15.0 percentage points in 2004, in the US.

Housing: The difference in the percentage living in owner occupied housing between working age people with and without disabilities increased from 5.7 percentage points in 2003 to 6.5 percentage points in 2004, in the US.

Employment Across States: The largest decline in the gap between the employment rates of working-age people with and without disabilities was in Rhode Island – from 45.0 percentage points in 2003 to 40.4 percentage points in 2004.

Employment Trend: The gap between the employment rates of working-age people with and without sensory, physical, mental, and/or self-care disabilities increased* from 37.3 percentage points in 2001 to 38.9 percentage points in 2004, in the US.



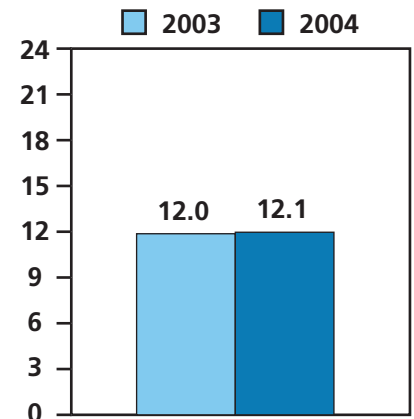
2004 Disability Status Report

Prevalence

This *Status Report* addresses the prevalence of disability among working-age people (ages 21-64) in the United States, using data from the 2003 and 2004 American Community Surveys (ACS). State-level *Status Reports* and more information about the ACS are available at www.DisabilityStatistics.org.

- The percentage of working-age people with a disability (the prevalence rate) increased from 12.0 percent in 2003 to 12.1 percent in 2004, in the US.
- In other words, in 2004, 20,268,000 of the 167,902,000 working-age individuals reported one or more disabilities, as compared to 19,898,000 of the 165,836,000 working-age individuals in 2003, in the US.
- In 2004, among the six types of disabilities identified in the ACS, the largest percentage point change was for people with "Mental disabilities," from 4.0 percent in 2003 to 4.2 percent in 2004, in the US. The smallest percentage point change was for people with "Sensory disabilities," from 2.8 percent in 2003 to 2.8 percent in 2004, in the US.

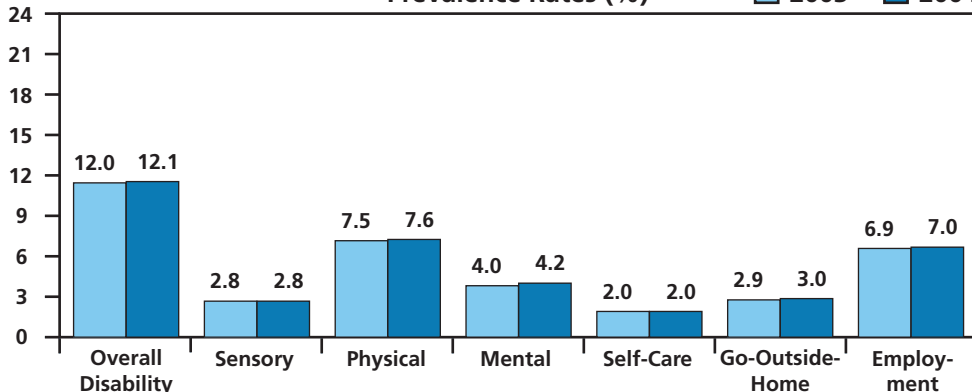
Prevalence Rates (%)



Definition of Disability:

The 2003 and 2004 ACS definition is based on three questions: (1) Does this person have any of the following long-lasting conditions: (a) blindness, deafness, or a severe vision or hearing impairment? and (b) a condition that substantially limits one or more basic physical activities such as walking, climbing stairs, reaching, lifting, or carrying? (2) Because of a physical, mental, or emotional condition lasting 6 months or more, does this person have any difficulty in doing any of the following activities: (a) learning, remembering, or concentrating? and (b) dressing, bathing, or getting around inside the home? (3) Because of a physical, mental, or emotional condition lasting 6 months or more, does this person have any difficulty in doing any of the following activities: (a) going outside the home alone to shop or visit a doctor's office? (b) working at a job or business?

Prevalence Rates (%)



***Note:** Calculations by the Rehabilitation Research and Training Center on Disability Demographics and Statistics (StatsRRTC) using the 2003 and 2004 ACS Public Use Microdata Samples (PUMS). Asterisks (*) indicate that the terms "increased" and "decreased" reflect statistically significant changes at the 90-percent confidence level.

Contact: Ask questions via our technical assistance form at www.DisabilityStatistics.org.

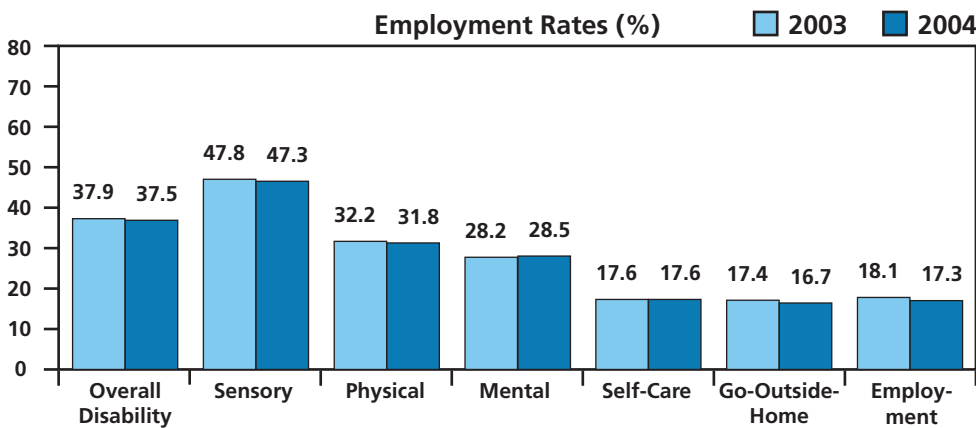
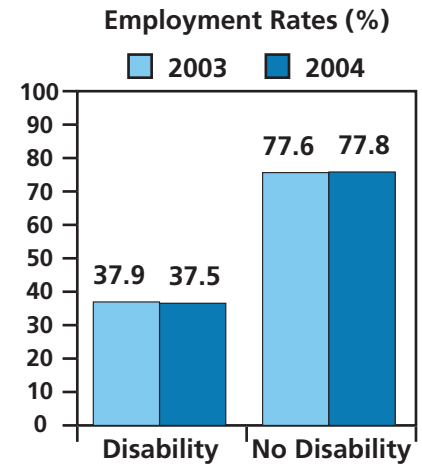


2004 Disability Status Report

Employment

This *Status Report* addresses the employment rates of working-age people (ages 21-64) with disabilities in the United States, using data from the 2003 and 2004 American Community Surveys (ACS). State-level *Status Reports* and more information about the ACS are available at www.DisabilityStatistics.org.

- The employment rate of working-age people with disabilities decreased from 37.9 percent in 2003 to 37.5 percent in 2004, in the US.
- The employment rate of working-age people without disabilities increased* from 77.6 percent in 2003 to 77.8 percent in 2004, in the US.
- The gap between the employment rates of working-age people with and without disabilities increased* from 39.7 percentage points in 2003 to 40.3 percentage points in 2004, in the US.
- In 2004, among the six types of disabilities identified in the ACS, the largest percentage point change was for people with "Employment disabilities," from 18.1 percent in 2003 to 17.3 percent in 2004, in the US. The smallest percentage point change was for people with "Self-Care disabilities," from 17.6 percent in 2003 to 17.6 percent in 2004, in the US.



Definition of Employment:

A person is considered employed if he or she (a) worked as a paid employee, worked in his or her own business or profession, worked on his or her own farm, or worked 15 or more hours as an unpaid worker on a family farm or business, or (b) had a job but temporarily did not work at that job during the reference period due to illness, bad weather, industrial dispute, vacation or other personal reasons. The reference period is defined as the week preceding the date the questionnaire was completed.

Note: Calculations by the Rehabilitation Research and Training Center on Disability Demographics and Statistics (StatsRRTC) using the 2003 and 2004 ACS Public Use Microdata Samples (PUMS). Asterisks () indicate that the terms "increased" and "decreased" reflect statistically significant changes at the 90-percent confidence level.

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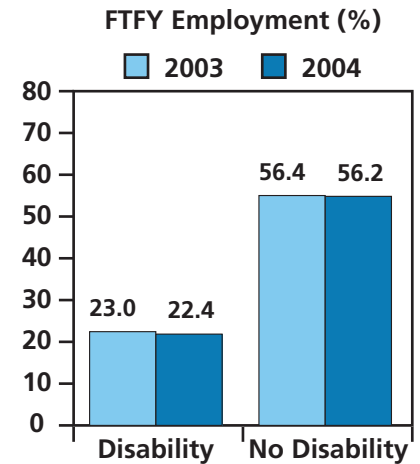


2004 Disability Status Report

Full-Time / Full-Year Employment

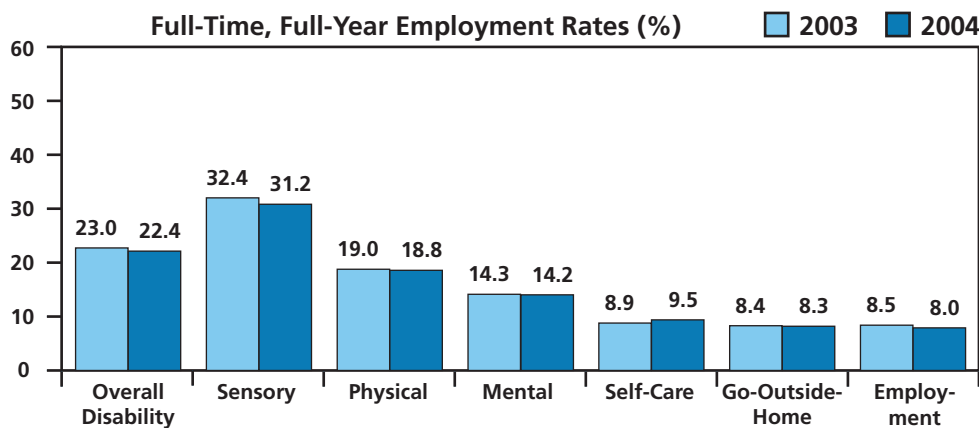
This *Status Report* addresses the percentage of working-age people (ages 21-64) with disabilities working full-time/full-year in the United States, using data from the 2003 and 2004 American Community Surveys (ACS). State-level *Status Reports* and more information about the ACS are available at www.DisabilityStatistics.org.

- The percentage of working-age people with disabilities working full-time/full-year decreased* from 23.0 percent in 2003 to 22.4 percent in 2004, in the US.
- The percentage of working-age people without disabilities working full-time/full-year decreased* from 56.4 percent in 2003 to 56.2 percent in 2004, in the US.
- The difference in the percentage working full-time/full-year between working-age people with and without disabilities increased from 33.5 percentage points in 2003 to 33.8 percentage points in 2004, in the US.
- In 2004, among the six types of disabilities identified in the ACS, the largest percentage point change was for people with "Sensory disabilities," from 32.4 percent in 2003 to 31.2 percent in 2004, in the US. The smallest percentage point change was for people with "Mental disabilities," from 14.3 percent in 2003 to 14.2 percent in 2004, in the US.



Definition of Full-Time/ Full-Year Employment:

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



Note: Calculations by the Rehabilitation Research and Training Center on Disability Demographics and Statistics (StatsRRTC) using the 2003 and 2004 ACS Public Use Microdata Samples (PUMS). Asterisks () indicate that the terms "increased" and "decreased" reflect statistically significant changes at the 90-percent confidence level.

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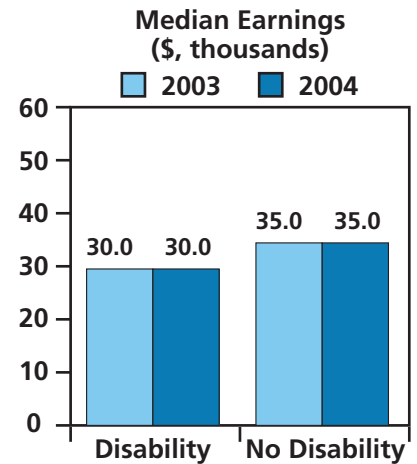


2004 Disability Status Report

Annual Labor Earnings

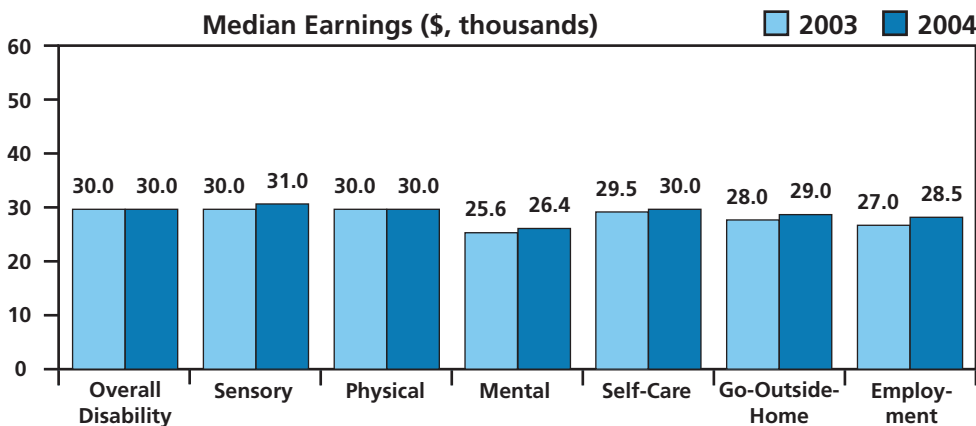
This *Status Report* addresses the median annual labor earnings of working-age people (ages 21-64) with disabilities who work full-time/full-year in the United States, using data from the 2003 and 2004 American Community Surveys (ACS). State-level *Status Reports* and more information about the ACS are available at www.DisabilityStatistics.org. These dollar values are not inflation adjusted.

- The median labor earnings of working-age people with disabilities who worked full-time/full-year was unchanged from \$30,000 in 2003 to \$30,000 in 2004, in the US.
- The median labor earnings of working-age people without disabilities who worked full-time/full-year was unchanged from \$35,000 in 2003 to \$35,000 in 2004, in the US.
- The difference in the median labor earnings between working-age people with and without disabilities who worked full-time/full-year was unchanged from \$5,000 in 2003 to \$5,000 in 2004, in the US.
- In 2004, among the six types of disabilities identified in the ACS, the largest change was for people with "Employment disabilities," from \$27,000 in 2003 to \$28,500 in 2004, in the US. The smallest change was for people with "Physical disabilities," from \$30,000 in 2003 to \$30,000 in 2004, in the US.



Definition of Earnings:

Earnings are defined as wages, salary, commissions, bonuses, or tips from all jobs; not including self-employment income from own non-farm businesses or farm businesses.



Definition of Full-time/full-year Employment:

A person is considered employed full-time/full-year if he or she worked 35 hours or more per week (full-time) and 50 or more weeks per year (full-year). The reference period is defined as the year preceding the date the questionnaire was completed.

***Note:** Calculations by the Rehabilitation Research and Training Center on Disability Demographics and Statistics (StatsRRTC) using the 2003 and 2004 ACS Public Use Microdata Samples (PUMS). Asterisks (*) indicate that the terms "increased" and "decreased" reflect statistically significant changes at the 90-percent confidence level.

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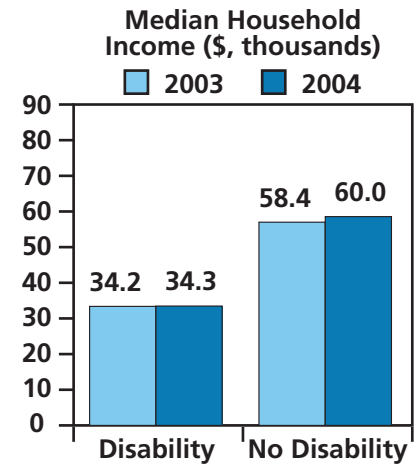


2004 Disability Status Report

Annual Household Income

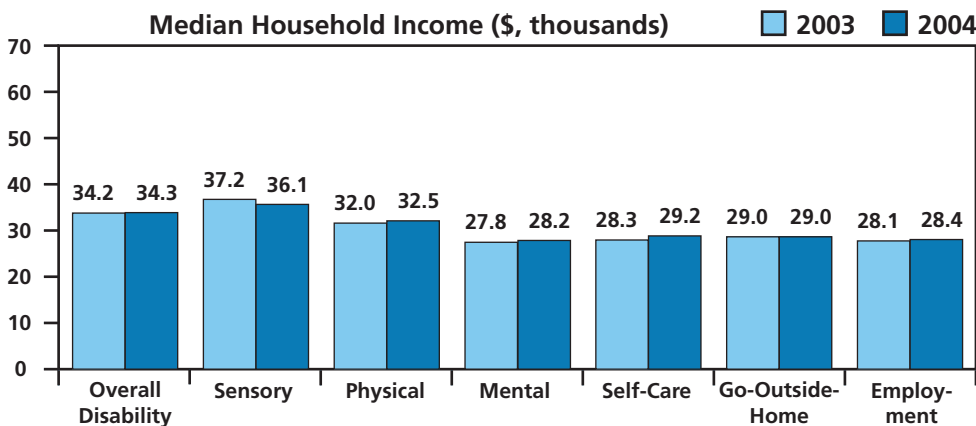
This *Status Report* addresses the median annual household income of working-age people (ages 21-64) with disabilities in the United States, using data from the 2003 and 2004 American Community Surveys (ACS). State-level *Status Reports* and more information about the ACS are available at www.DisabilityStatistics.org. These dollar values are not adjusted for inflation.

- The median household income of working-age people with disabilities increased from \$34,200 in 2003 to \$34,300 in 2004, in the US.
- The median household income of working-age people without disabilities increased* from \$58,400 in 2003 to \$60,000 in 2004, in the US.
- The difference in the median household income between working-age people with and without disabilities increased* from \$24,200 in 2003 to \$25,700 in 2004, in the US.
- In 2004, among the six types of disabilities identified in the ACS, the largest change was for people with "Sensory disabilities," from \$37,200 in 2003 to \$36,100 in 2004, in the US. The smallest change was for people with "Go Outside Home disabilities," from \$29,000 in 2003 to \$29,000 in 2004, in the US.



Definition of Income:

Income is defined as wages, salary, commissions, bonuses, or tips from all jobs; self-employment income from own non-farm businesses or farm businesses, including proprietorships and partnerships; interest, dividends, net rental income, royalty income, or income from real estates and trusts; Social Security or Railroad Retirement; Supplemental Security Income; any public assistance or welfare payments from the state or local welfare office; retirement, survivor or disability pensions; and any other regularly received income (e.g., Veterans' payments, unemployment compensation, child support or alimony).



Note: Calculations by the Rehabilitation Research and Training Center on Disability Demographics and Statistics (StatsRRTC) using the 2003 and 2004 ACS Public Use Microdata Samples (PUMS). Asterisks () indicate that the terms "increased" and "decreased" reflect statistically significant changes at the 90-percent confidence level.

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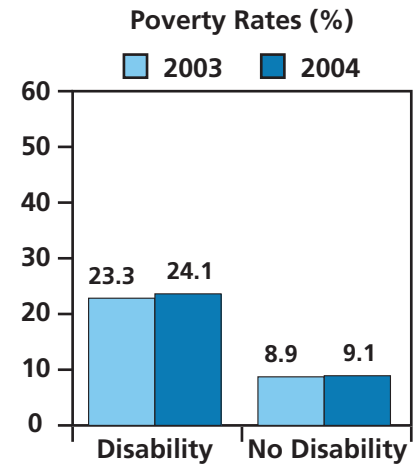


2004 Disability Status Report

Poverty Rate

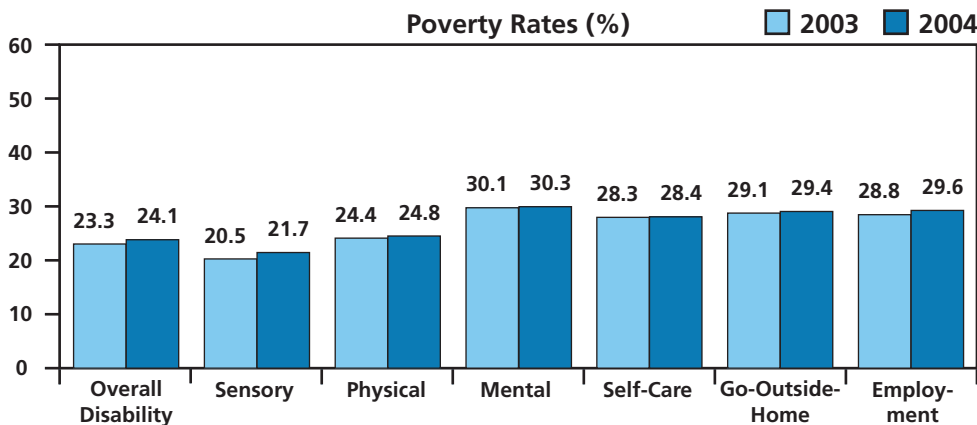
This *Status Report* addresses the poverty rates of working-age people (ages 21-64) with disabilities in the United States, using data from the 2003 and 2004 American Community Surveys (ACS). State-level *Status Reports* and more information about the ACS are available at www.DisabilityStatistics.org.

- The poverty rate of working-age people with disabilities increased* from 23.3 percent in 2003 to 24.1 percent in 2004, in the US.
- The poverty rate of working-age people without disabilities increased* from 8.9 percent in 2003 to 9.1 percent in 2004, in the US.
- The difference in the poverty rate between working-age people with and without disabilities increased* from 14.4 percentage points in 2003 to 15.0 percentage points in 2004, in the US.
- In 2004, among the six types of disabilities identified in the ACS, the largest percentage point change was for people with "Sensory disabilities," from 20.5 percent in 2003 to 21.7 percent in 2004, in the US. The smallest percentage point change was for people with "Self-Care disabilities," from 28.3 percent in 2003 to 28.4 percent in 2004, in the US.



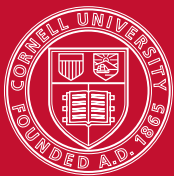
Definition of Poverty:

The poverty measure is computed based upon the standards defined in Directive 14 from the Office of Management and Budget. These standards use poverty thresholds created in 1982 and index these thresholds to 2003 dollars using poverty factors based upon the Consumer Price Index. They use the family as the income sharing unit and family income is the sum of total income from each family member living in the household. The poverty threshold depends upon the size of the family; the age of the householder; and the number of related children under the age of 18.



Note: Calculations by the Rehabilitation Research and Training Center on Disability Demographics and Statistics (StatsRRTC) using the 2003 and 2004 ACS Public Use Microdata Samples (PUMS). Asterisks () indicate that the terms "increased" and "decreased" reflect statistically significant changes at the 90-percent confidence level.

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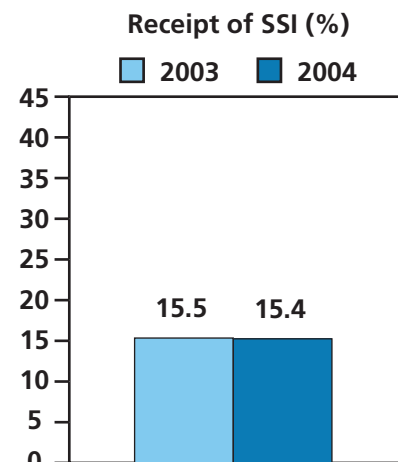
2004 Disability Status Report

Supplemental Security Income

This *Status Report* addresses the percentage of working-age people (ages 21-64) with disabilities who receive Supplemental Security Income (SSI) payments in the United States, using data from the 2003 and 2004 American Community Surveys (ACS). State-level *Status Reports* and more information about the ACS are available at www.DisabilityStatistics.org.

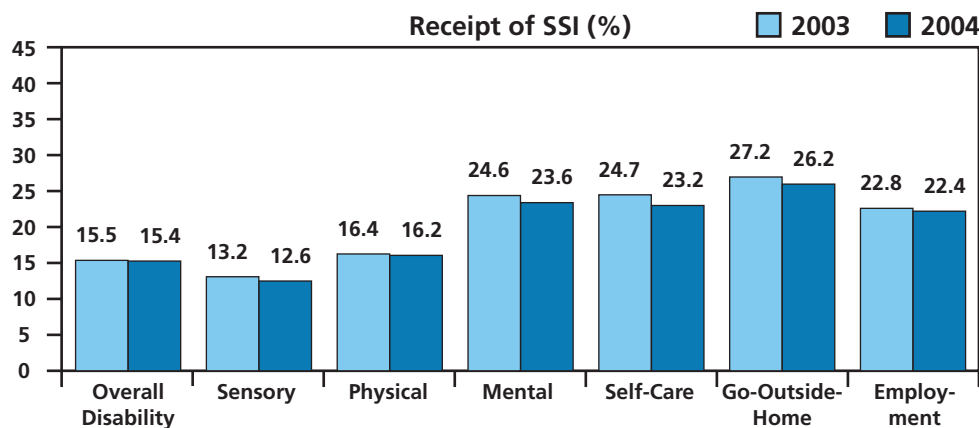
Please note, these results will differ from official Social Security Administration reports for several reasons. For additional information, please email DisabilityStatistics@cornell.edu.

- The percentage of working-age people with disabilities receiving Supplemental Security Income payments decreased from 15.5 percent in 2003 to 15.4 percent in 2004, in the US.
- The number of working-age people with disabilities receiving Supplemental Security Income payments increased from 3,090,052 in 2003 to 3,117,960 in 2004, in the US.
- In 2004, among the six types of disabilities identified in the ACS, the largest percentage point change was for people with "Self-Care disabilities," from 24.7 percent in 2003 to 23.2 percent in 2004, in the US. The smallest percentage point change was for people with "Physical disabilities," from 16.4 percent in 2003 to 16.2 percent in 2004, in the US.



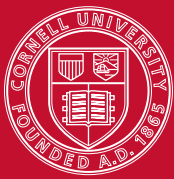
Definition of Receipt of SSI Payments:

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



Note: Calculations by the Rehabilitation Research and Training Center on Disability Demographics and Statistics (StatsRRTC) using the 2003 and 2004 ACS Public Use Microdata Samples (PUMS). Asterisks () indicate that the terms "increased" and "decreased" reflect statistically significant changes at the 90-percent confidence level.

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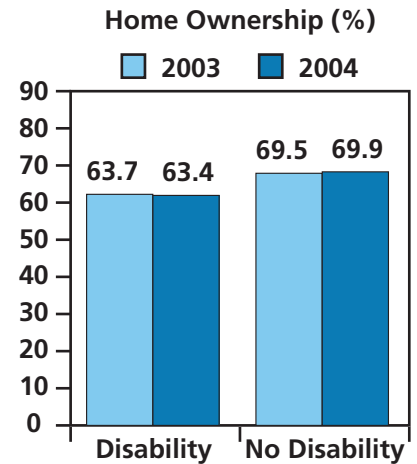


2004 Disability Status Report

Housing

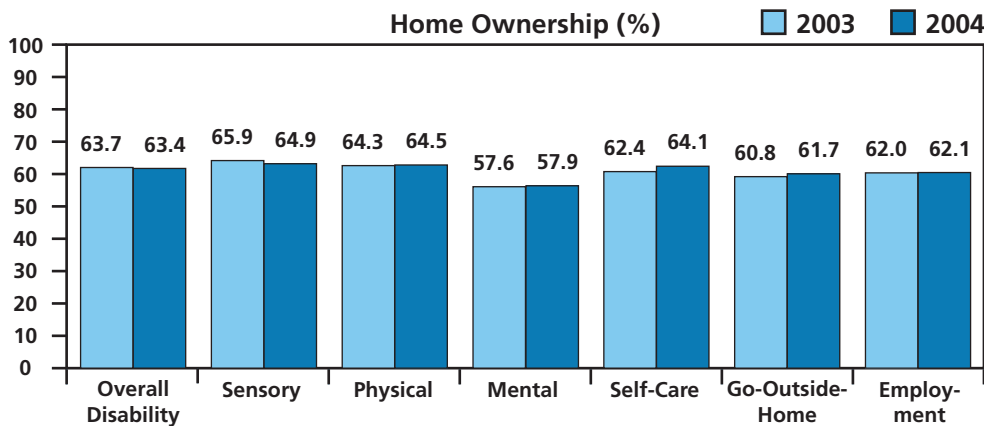
This *Status Report* addresses the percentage of working-age people (ages 21-64) with disabilities in owner occupied housing in the United States, using data from the 2003 and 2004 American Community Surveys (ACS). State-level *Status Reports* and more information about the ACS are available at www.DisabilityStatistics.org.

- The percentage of people with disabilities living in owner occupied housing decreased from 63.7 percent in 2003 to 63.4 percent in 2004, in the US.
- The percentage of working-age people without disabilities living in owner occupied housing increased* from 69.5 percent to 69.9 percent, in the US.
- The difference in the percentage living in owner occupied housing between working-age people with and without disabilities increased from 5.7 percentage points in 2003 to 6.5 percentage points in 2004, in the US.
- In 2004, among the six types of disabilities identified in the ACS, the largest percentage point change was for people with "Self-Care disabilities," from 62.4 percent in 2003 to 64.1 percent in 2004, in the US. The smallest percentage point change was for people with "Employment disabilities," from 62.0 percent in 2003 to 62.1 percent in 2004, in the US.



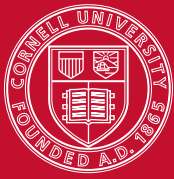
Definition of living in owner occupied housing:

This information is derived from the following question: 7. Is this house, apartment, or mobile home: a) Owned by you or someone in this household with a mortgage or loan? b) Owned by you or someone in this household free and clear (without a mortgage or loan)? c) Rented for cash rent? d) Occupied without payment of cash rent? If a or b then own, if c or d then not owned.



Note: Calculations by the Rehabilitation Research and Training Center on Disability Demographics and Statistics (StatsRRTC) using the 2003 and 2004 ACS Public Use Microdata Samples (PUMS). Asterisks () indicate that the terms "increased" and "decreased" reflect statistically significant changes at the 90-percent confidence level.

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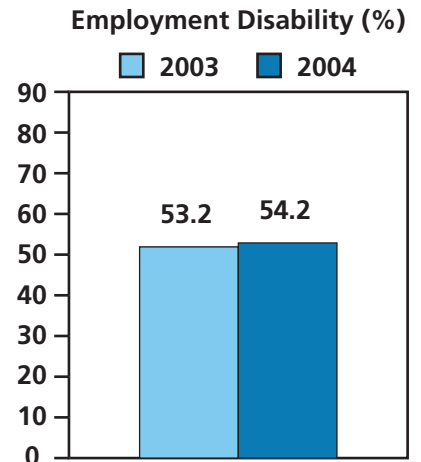


2004 Disability Status Report

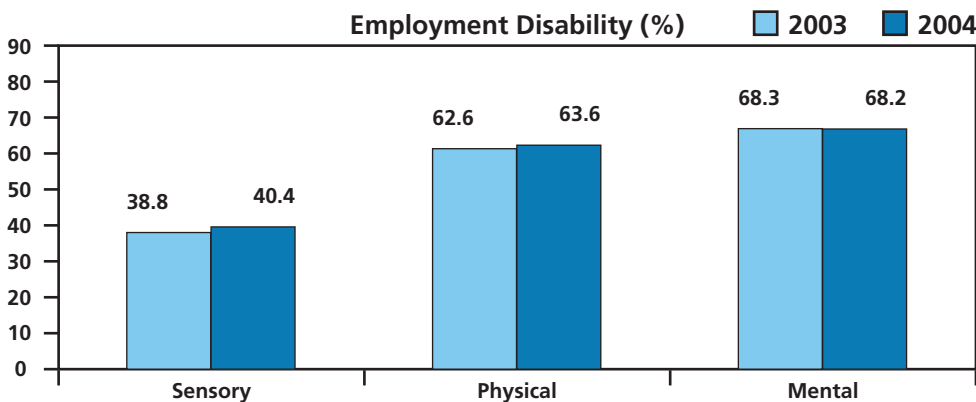
Activity Limitation - Employment

This *Status Report* addresses employment disability (difficulty working at a job or business) among working-age people (ages 21-64) with sensory, physical and/or mental disabilities in the United States, using data from the 2003 and 2004 American Community Surveys (ACS). State-level *Status Reports* and more information about the ACS are available at www.DisabilityStatistics.org.

- The percentage of working-age people with sensory, physical and/or mental disabilities that reported an employment disability (difficulty working at a job or business) increased* from 53.2 percent in 2003 to 54.2 percent in 2004, in the US.
- The percentage of working-age people with a sensory disability that reported an employment disability increased* from 38.8 percent in 2003 to 40.4 percent in 2004, in the US.
- The percentage of working-age people with a physical disability that reported an employment disability increased* from 62.6 percent in 2003 to 63.6 percent in 2004, in the US.
- The percentage of working-age people with a mental disability that reported an employment disability decreased from 68.3 percent in 2003 to 68.2 percent in 2004, in the US.



Definition of Employment Disabilities:
 The 2003 and 2004 ACS employment disability definition is based on one of the six disability-related items: because of a physical, mental, or emotional condition lasting 6 months or more, does this person have any difficulty in doing any of the following activities: (b) working at a job or business?



Note: Calculations by the Rehabilitation Research and Training Center on Disability Demographics and Statistics (StatsRRTC) using the 2003 and 2004 ACS Public Use Microdata Samples (PUMS). Asterisks () indicate that the terms "increased" and "decreased" reflect statistically significant changes at the 90-percent confidence level.

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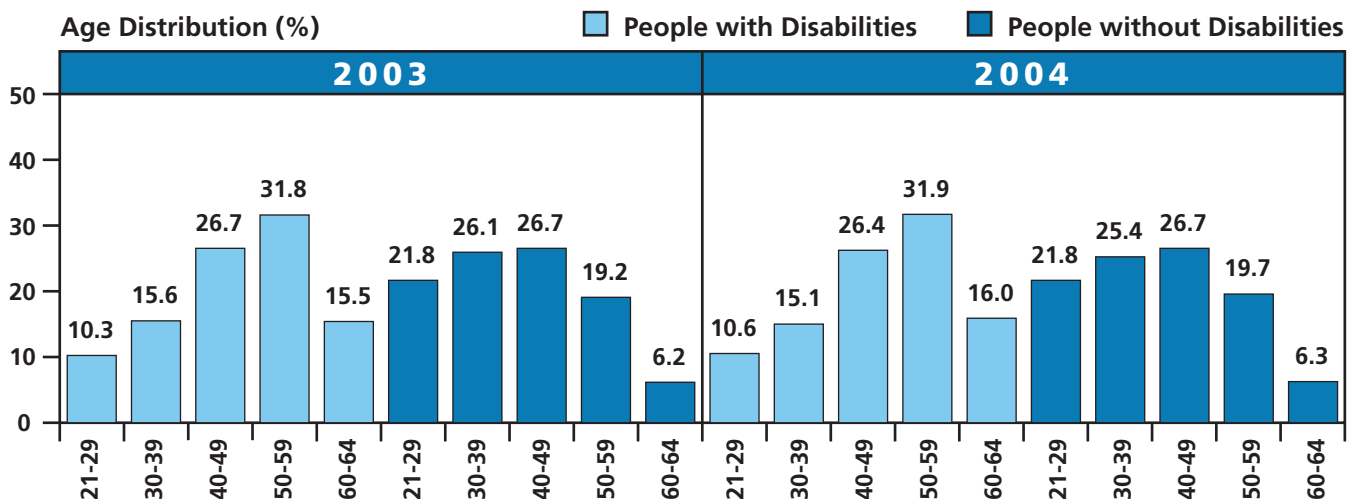


2004 Disability Status Report

Age Distribution

This *Status Report* addresses the age distribution among working-age people (ages 21-64) with disabilities in the United States, using data from the 2003 and 2004 American Community Surveys (ACS). State-level *Status Reports* and more information about the ACS are available at www.DisabilityStatistics.org.

- Among people with disabilities in the US, the percentage
 - ages 21-29 increased from 10.3 percent in 2003 to 10.6 percent in 2004,
 - ages 30-39 decreased* from 15.6 percent in 2003 to 15.1 percent in 2004,
 - ages 40-49 decreased from 26.7 percent in 2003 to 26.4 percent in 2004,
 - ages 50-59 increased from 31.8 percent in 2003 to 31.9 percent in 2004,
 - ages 60-64 increased* from 15.5 percent in 2003 to 16.0 percent in 2004.
- In comparison, among people without disabilities in the US, the percentage
 - ages 21-29 was unchanged from 21.8 percent in 2003 to 21.8 percent in 2004,
 - ages 30-39 decreased* from 26.1 percent in 2003 to 25.4 percent in 2004,
 - ages 40-49 was unchanged from 26.7 percent in 2003 to 26.7 percent in 2004,
 - ages 50-59 increased* from 19.2 percent in 2003 to 19.7 percent in 2004,
 - ages 60-64 increased* from 6.2 percent in 2003 to 6.3 percent in 2004.



***Note:** Calculations by the Rehabilitation Research and Training Center on Disability Demographics and Statistics (StatsRRTC) using the 2003 and 2004 ACS Public Use Microdata Samples (PUMS). Asterisks (*) indicate that the terms "increased" and "decreased" reflect statistically significant changes at the 90-percent confidence level.

Definition of Age: The ACS question on age is as follows: "What is this person's age and what is this person's date of birth?"

Contact: Ask questions via our technical assistance form at www.DisabilityStatistics.org.

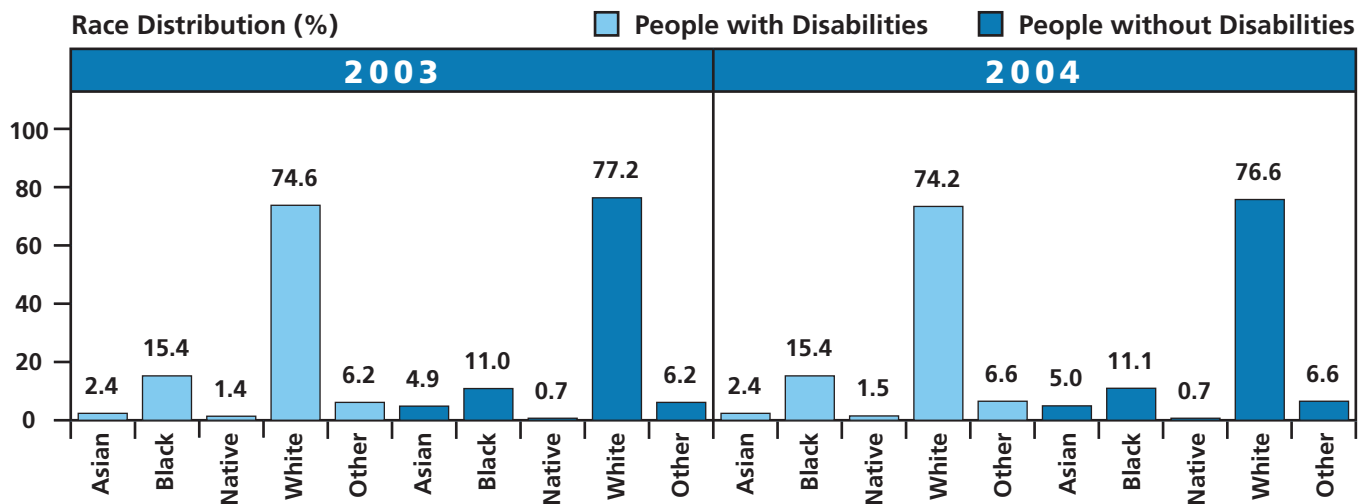


2004 Disability Status Report

Race Distribution

This *Status Report* addresses the race distribution among working-age people (ages 21-64) with disabilities in the United States, using data from the 2003 and 2004 American Community Surveys (ACS). State-level *Status Reports* and more information about the ACS are available at www.DisabilityStatistics.org.

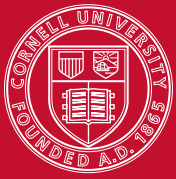
- Among people with disabilities in the US, the percentage
 - Asian was unchanged from 2.4 percent in 2003 to 2.4 percent in 2004,
 - Black/African American was unchanged from 15.4 percent in 2003 to 15.4 percent in 2004,
 - Native American increased from 1.4 percent in 2003 to 1.5 percent in 2004,
 - White decreased from 74.6 percent in 2003 to 74.2 percent in 2004,
 - Some other race increased from 6.2 percent in 2003 to 6.6 percent in 2004.
- In comparison, among people without disabilities in the US, the percentage
 - Asian increased from 4.9 percent in 2003 to 5.0 percent in 2004,
 - Black/African American increased from 11.0 percent in 2003 to 11.1 percent in 2004,
 - Native American was unchanged from 0.7 percent in 2003 to 0.7 percent in 2004,
 - White decreased* from 77.2 percent in 2003 to 76.6 percent in 2004,
 - Some other race increased* from 6.2 percent in 2003 to 6.6 percent in 2004.



***Note:** Calculations by the Rehabilitation Research and Training Center on Disability Demographics and Statistics (StatsRRTC) using the 2003 and 2004 ACS Public Use Microdata Samples (PUMS). Asterisks (*) indicate that the terms "increased" and "decreased" reflect statistically significant changes at the 90-percent confidence level.

Contact: Ask questions via our technical assistance form at www.DisabilityStatistics.org.

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

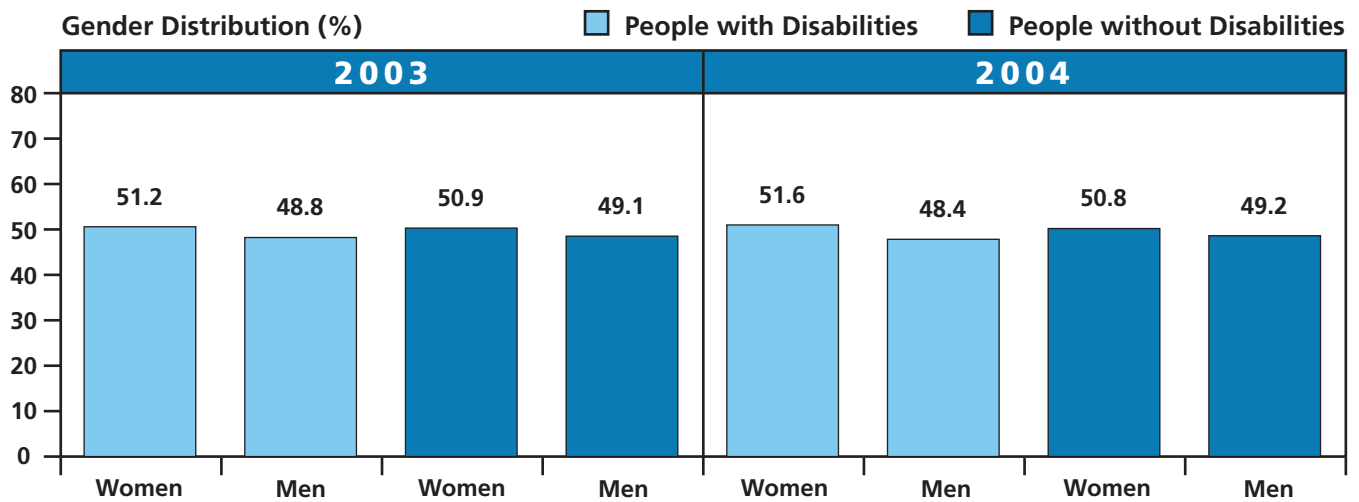


2004 Disability Status Report

Gender Distribution

This *Status Report* addresses the gender distribution among working-age people (ages 21-64) with disabilities in the United States, using data from the 2003 and 2004 American Community Surveys (ACS). State-level *Status Reports* and more information about the ACS are available at www.DisabilityStatistics.org.

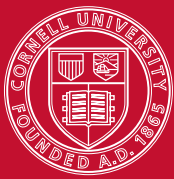
- Among people with disabilities in the US, the percentage that are
 - women increased from 51.2 percent in 2003 to 51.6 percent in 2004,
 - men decreased from 48.8 percent in 2003 to 48.4 percent in 2004.
- In comparison, among people without disabilities in the US, the percentage that are
 - women decreased from 50.9 percent in 2003 to 50.8 percent in 2004,
 - men increased from 49.1 percent in 2003 to 49.2 percent in 2004.



***Note:** Calculations by the Rehabilitation Research and Training Center on Disability Demographics and Statistics (StatsRRTC) using the 2003 and 2004 ACS Public Use Microdata Samples (PUMS). Asterisks (*) indicate that the terms "increased" and "decreased" reflect statistically significant changes at the 90-percent confidence level

Contact: Ask questions via our technical assistance form at www.DisabilityStatistics.org.

Definition of Gender: Gender is based on the question: "What is this person's sex? Responses include male and female.

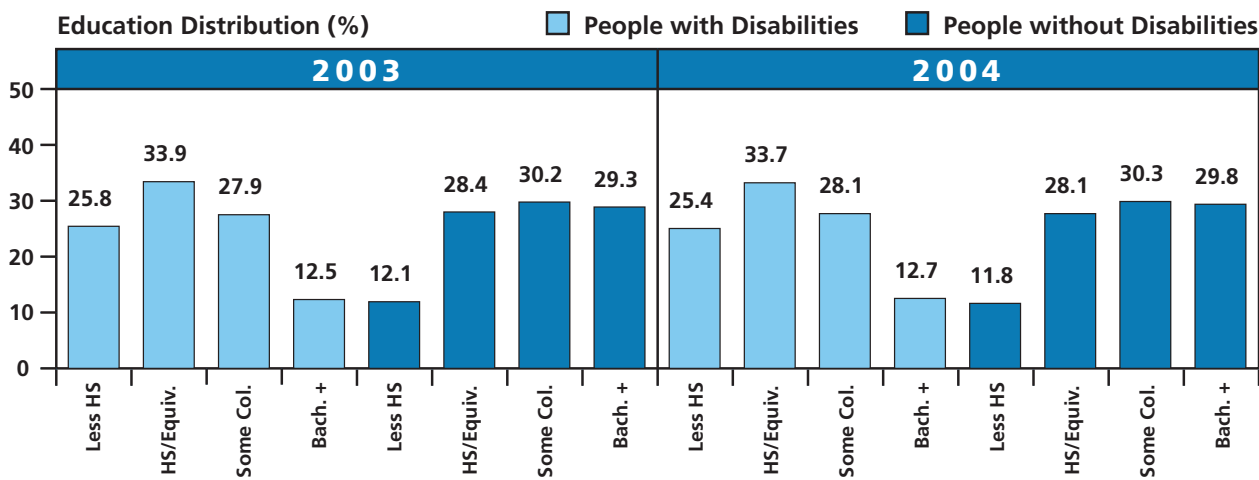


2004 Disability Status Report

Education Distribution

This *Status Report* addresses the education distribution among working-age people (ages 21-64) with disabilities in the United States, using data from the 2003 and 2004 American Community Surveys (ACS). State-level *Status Reports* and more information about the ACS are available at www.DisabilityStatistics.org.

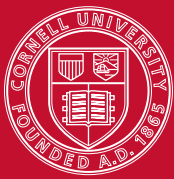
- Among working-age people with disabilities in the US, the percentage with
 - less than a high school degree decreased from 25.8 percent in 2003 to 25.4 percent in 2004,
 - a high school diploma/equivalent decreased from 33.9 percent in 2003 to 33.7 percent in 2004,
 - some college increased from 27.9 percent in 2003 to 28.1 percent in 2004,
 - a Bachelor's degree or more increased from 12.5 percent in 2003 to 12.7 percent in 2004.
- In comparison, among working-age people without disabilities in the US, the percentage with
 - less than a high school degree decreased* from 12.1 percent in 2003 to 11.8 percent in 2004,
 - a high school diploma/equivalent decreased* from 28.4 percent in 2003 to 28.1 percent in 2004,
 - some college increased from 30.2 percent in 2003 to 30.3 percent in 2004,
 - a Bachelor's degree or more increased* from 29.3 percent in 2003 to 29.8 percent in 2004.



***Note:** Calculations by the Rehabilitation Research and Training Center on Disability Demographics and Statistics (StatsRRTC) using the 2003 and 2004 ACS Public Use Micro-data Samples (PUMS). Asterisks (*) indicate that the terms "increased" and "decreased" reflect statistically significant changes at the 90-percent confidence level.

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Definition of Education: Our definition is based on the responses to the question: "What is the highest level of schooling this person has completed? If currently enrolled, mark the previous grade or highest degree received." Our category, less than high school, includes those marking the ACS options: no schooling complete; nursery school to 4th grade; 5th grade or 6th grade; 7th grade or 8th grade; 9th grade; 10th grade; 11th grade; or "12th grade – NO DIPLOMA [emphasis is theirs]." Our category, high school diploma/equivalent, includes those marking the ACS option "HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATE – high school DIPLOMA or the equivalent (for example: GED)." Our category, some college, includes those marking the ACS options: some college credit, but less than 1 year; 1 or more years of college but no degree, or "Associate degree (for example: AA, AS)." Our category, a Bachelor's or more, includes those marking the ACS options: "Bachelor's degree (for example: BA, AB, BS)"; "Master's degree (for example: MA, MS, MEng, Med, MSW, MBA)"; "Professional degree (for example: MD, DDS, DVM, LLB, JD)"; or "Doctorate degree (for example: PhD, EdD)."



2004 Disability Status Report

Prevalence Across States

This *Status Report* addresses patterns across states in the percentage of working-age (ages 21-64) people with disabilities, using data from the 2003 and 2004 American Community Surveys (ACS). State-level *Status Reports* and more information about the ACS are available at www.DisabilityStatistics.org.

Location	2003	2004	Location	2003	2004
United States	12.0	12.1	Missouri	12.5	13.6
Alabama	16.6	16.7	Montana	14.3	13.3
Alaska	14.3	14.0	Nebraska	12.5	11.9
Arizona	11.8	11.8	Nevada	10.5	10.7
Arkansas	17.5	19.9	New Hampshire	10.2	11.3
California	10.7	10.5	New Jersey	9.1	9.1
Colorado	9.1	10.1	New Mexico	14.5	14.9
Connecticut	9.3	9.2	New York	10.9	10.8
Delaware	11.8	12.8	North Carolina	14.4	13.0
DC	11.4	10.8	North Dakota	10.8	10.8
Florida	12.0	11.9	Ohio	13.3	13.0
Georgia	12.1	11.6	Oklahoma	15.3	16.8
Hawaii	10.3	9.8	Oregon	13.2	14.3
Idaho	14.7	13.3	Pennsylvania	12.4	13.2
Illinois	9.3	9.3	Rhode Island	12.3	12.5
Indiana	13.3	12.4	South Carolina	14.6	14.5
Iowa	12.3	10.7	South Dakota	9.2	10.4
Kansas	11.0	11.8	Tennessee	15.1	15.4
Kentucky	18.0	20.0	Texas	10.9	11.2
Louisiana	15.1	14.5	Utah	9.6	10.1
Maine	15.7	15.3	Vermont	13.6	13.0
Maryland	10.7	10.5	Virginia	11.3	11.2
Massachusetts	9.9	10.0	Washington	12.8	13.1
Michigan	12.6	13.0	West Virginia	21.3	21.5
Minnesota	9.1	9.7	Wisconsin	11.3	11.4
Mississippi	19.2	19.1	Wyoming	13.0	13.2

***Note:** Calculations by the Rehabilitation Research and Training Center on Disability Demographics and Statistics (StatsRRTC) using the 2003 and 2004 ACS Public Use Microdata Samples (PUMS). Asterisks (*) indicate that the terms "increased" and "decreased" reflect statistically significant changes at the 90-percent confidence level.

Definition of Disability: The 2003 and 2004 ACS definition of disability is based on three questions: (1) Does this person have any of the following long lasting-conditions: (a) blindness, deafness, or a severe vision or hearing impairment? and (b) a condition that substantially limits one or more basic physical activities such as walking, climbing stairs, reaching, lifting, or carrying? (2) Because of a physical, mental, or emotional condition lasting 6 months or more, does this person have any difficulty in doing any of the following activities: (a) learning, remembering, or concentrating? and (b) dressing, bathing, or getting around inside the home? (3) Because of a physical, mental, or emotional condition lasting 6 months or more, does this person have any difficulty in doing any of the following activities: (a) going outside the home alone to shop or visit a doctor's office? (b) working at a job or business?

Contact: Ask questions via our technical assistance form at www.DisabilityStatistics.org.



2004 Disability Status Report

Employment Across States

This *Status Report* addresses patterns across states in the percentage of working-age (ages 21-64) people with disabilities, using data from the 2003 and 2004 American Community Surveys (ACS). State-level *Status Reports* and more information about the ACS are available at www.DisabilityStatistics.org.

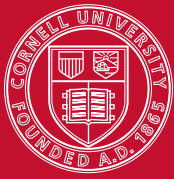
Location	People with Disabilities		People without Disabilities	
	2003	2004	2003	2004
United States	37.9	37.5	77.6	77.8
Alabama	29.5	30.3	76.8	77.5
Alaska	53.9	47.6	77.1	77.9
Arizona	38.6	37.4	75.5	76.1
Arkansas	34.8	35.2	79.6	79.3
California	36.3	38.3	74.8	75.3
Colorado	48.3	44.0	79.7	79.6
Connecticut	42.8	43.6	79.3	80.4
Delaware	43.5	42.6	80.5	80.2
DC	38.1	35.1	75.0	77.5
Florida	37.7	37.0	76.7	77.2
Georgia	34.8	33.7	78.5	78.3
Hawaii	42.2	36.5	78.4	78.9
Idaho	47.6	41.6	79.1	78.6
Illinois	39.5	37.5	76.4	77.0
Indiana	41.9	41.9	78.6	79.2
Iowa	46.0	42.5	83.4	83.1
Kansas	42.3	44.6	81.9	83.2
Kentucky	27.7	29.0	76.3	77.6
Louisiana	32.3	32.3	75.4	75.2
Maine	42.3	35.9	82.3	83.3
Maryland	42.5	42.4	81.0	80.9
Massachusetts	36.3	35.4	79.9	81.2
Michigan	36.4	35.8	76.6	76.1
Minnesota	48.8	50.0	82.5	83.0
Mississippi	32.5	29.4	78.6	76.9

Location	People with Disabilities		People without Disabilities	
	2003	2004	2003	2004
Missouri	38.1	39.5	80.6	80.1
Montana	48.6	40.2	80.9	80.6
Nebraska	48.1	47.8	84.5	84.5
Nevada	40.8	38.2	76.8	77.2
New Hampshire	46.4	41.8	82.6	82.9
New Jersey	39.6	38.7	77.8	77.7
New Mexico	37.7	38.3	75.4	76.4
New York	35.4	34.0	75.5	75.9
North Carolina	35.1	34.0	78.6	78.5
North Dakota	48.7	51.7	84.2	84.0
Ohio	37.7	37.9	78.4	78.3
Oklahoma	40.6	41.3	75.3	76.4
Oregon	39.5	40.6	77.9	77.1
Pennsylvania	35.7	35.3	78.4	78.7
Rhode Island	37.0	39.9	82.0	80.3
South Carolina	33.4	32.7	77.7	78.1
South Dakota	54.7	49.7	83.8	84.6
Tennessee	35.7	33.8	79.0	78.8
Texas	39.4	39.6	75.8	76.1
Utah	49.3	49.2	77.6	77.9
Vermont	46.9	50.8	84.0	84.0
Virginia	40.0	38.8	80.3	80.2
Washington	40.7	42.6	77.5	75.9
West Virginia	24.8	23.9	73.0	75.7
Wisconsin	44.1	44.3	81.4	81.2
Wyoming	52.4	51.8	82.0	82.0

***Note:** Calculations by the Rehabilitation Research and Training Center on Disability Demographics and Statistics (StatsRRTC) using the 2003 and 2004 ACS Public Use Microdata Samples (PUMS). Asterisks (*) indicate that the terms "increased" and "decreased" reflect statistically significant changes at the 90-percent confidence level.

Contact: Ask questions via our technical assistance form at www.DisabilityStatistics.org.

Definition of Employment: A person is considered employed if he or she (a) worked as a paid employee, worked in his or her own business or profession, worked on his or her own farm, or worked 15 or more hours as an unpaid worker on a family farm or business, or (b) had a job but temporarily did not work at that job during the reference period due to illness, bad weather, industrial dispute, vacation or other personal reasons. The reference period is defined as the week preceding the date the questionnaire was completed.

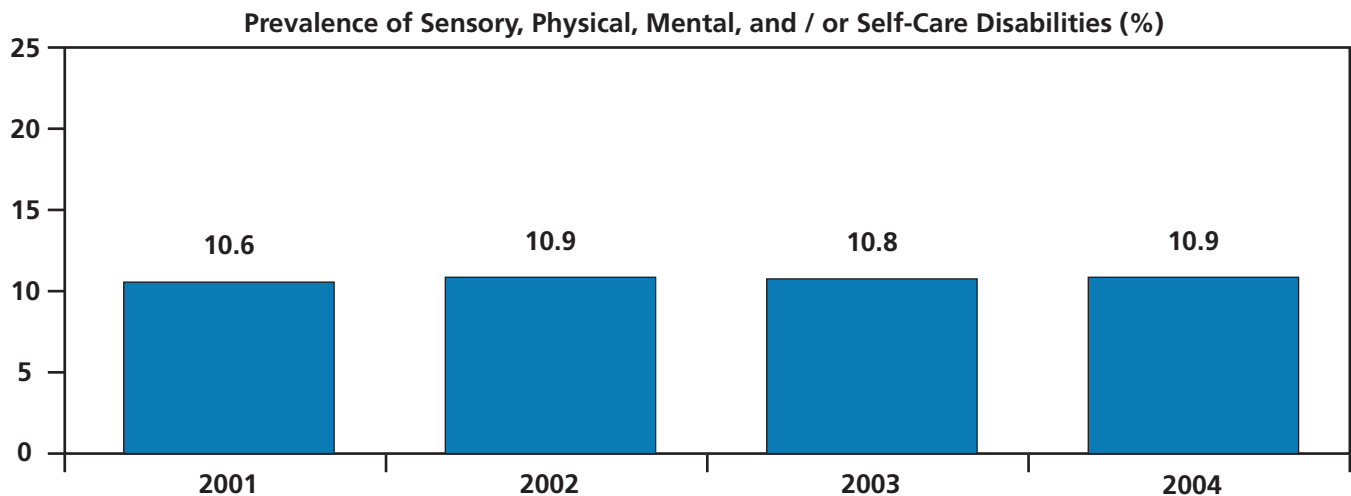


2004 Disability Status Report

Prevalence Time Trends

This *Status Report* addresses the time trend in the percentage of working-age (ages 21-64) people with sensory, physical, mental, and/or self-care disabilities in the United States, using data from the 2001-2004 American Community Surveys (ACS). (We report time trends for this group, and not for overall disability, because substantial respondent error was found in the go-outside-home and employment disabilities data from the 2001-2004 ACS.) State-level *Status Reports* and more information about the ACS are available at www.DisabilityStatistics.org.

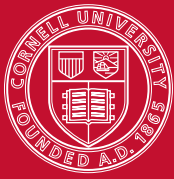
- The percentage of working-age people with sensory, physical, mental, and/or self-care disabilities increased* from 10.6 percent in 2001 to 10.9 percent in 2004, in the US.
- In other words, in 2004, 18,316,000 of the 167,902,000 working-age individuals reported sensory, physical, mental, and/or self-care disabilities, as compared to 17,167,000 of the 161,247,000 working-age individuals in 2001, in the US.



***Note:** Calculations by the Rehabilitation Research and Training Center on Disability Demographics and Statistics (StatsRRTC) using the 2001-2004 ACS Public Use Microdata Samples (PUMS). Asterisks (*) indicate that the terms "increased" and "decreased" reflect statistically significant changes at the 90-percent confidence level.

Contact: Ask questions via our technical assistance form at www.DisabilityStatistics.org.

Definition of Disability: In this status report we utilize four ACS disability types based on the following questions: (1) Does this person have any of the following long-lasting conditions: (a) blindness, deafness, or a severe vision or hearing impairment? and (b) a condition that substantially limits one or more basic physical activities such as walking, climbing stairs, reaching, lifting, or carrying? (2) Because of a physical, mental, or emotional condition lasting 6 months or more, does this person have any difficulty in doing any of the following activities: (a) learning, remembering, or concentrating? and (b) dressing, bathing, or getting around inside the home?

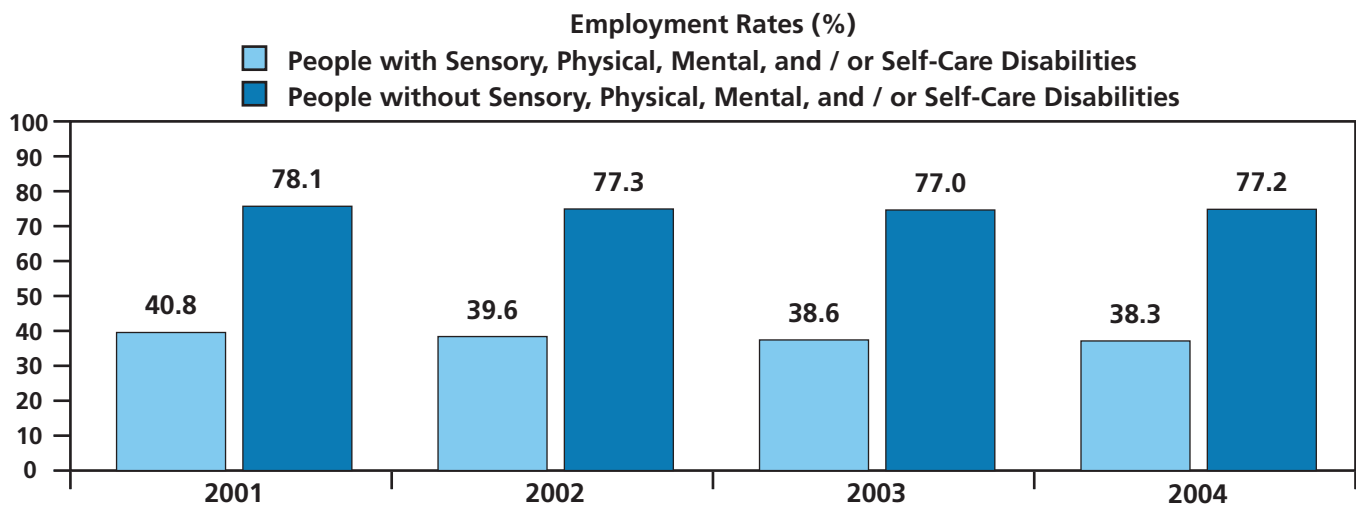


2004 Disability Status Report

Employment Time Trends

This *Status Report* addresses the time trend in the employment rate of working-age (ages 21-64) people with sensory, physical, mental, and/or self-care disabilities in the United States, using data from the 2001-2004 American Community Surveys (ACS). (We report time trends for this group, and not for overall disability, because substantial respondent error was found in the go-outside-home and employment disabilities data from the 2001-2004 ACS.) State-level *Status Reports* and more information about the ACS are available at www.DisabilityStatistics.org.

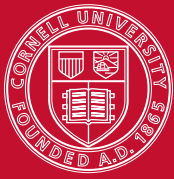
- The employment rate of working-age people with sensory, physical, mental, and/or self-care disabilities decreased* from 40.8 percent in 2001 to 38.3 percent in 2004, in the US.
- The employment rate of working-age people without sensory, physical, mental, and/or self-care disabilities decreased* from 78.1 percent in 2001 to 77.2 percent in 2004, in the US.
- The gap between the employment rates of working-age people with and without sensory, physical, mental, and/or self-care disabilities increased* from 37.3 percent in 2001 to 38.9 percent in 2004, in the US.



***Note:** Calculations by the Rehabilitation Research and Training Center on Disability Demographics and Statistics (StatsRRTC) using the 2001-2004 ACS Public Use Microdata Samples (PUMS). Asterisks (*) indicate that the terms "increased" and "decreased" reflect statistically significant changes at the 90-percent confidence level.

Contact: Ask questions via our technical assistance form at www.DisabilityStatistics.org.

Definition of Employment: A person is considered employed if he or she (a) worked as a paid employee, worked in his or her own business or profession, worked on his or her own farm, or worked 15 or more hours as an unpaid worker on a family farm or business, or (b) had a job but temporarily did not work at that job during the reference period due to illness, bad weather, industrial dispute, vacation or other personal reasons. The reference period is defined as the week preceding the date the questionnaire was completed.



Cornell University

About the Center

The Rehabilitation Research and Training Center on Disability Demographics and Statistics (StatsRRTC) bridges the divide between the sources of disability data and the users of disability statistics. We conduct research exploring the reliability of existing data sources and collection methods, and study the potential to improve current and future data collection efforts.

The StatsRRTC is an interdisciplinary effort of three organizations at Cornell University: the Employment and Disability Institute, the Department of Policy Analysis and Management, and the Institute for Policy Research in Washington, DC. In addition, expertise is drawn from the following collaborating institutions: American Association of People with Disabilities (AAPD), Center for an Accessible Society, InfoUse, Institute for Matching Person and Technology, Mathematica Policy Research, Inc., and The Urban Institute.

Funded by the U.S. Department of Education, National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research.

For more information contact:

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