

Cornell University

2015

NC

North Carolina

# 2015 Disability Status Report North Carolina



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

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

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## Glossary

## About the Disability Status Report

# The 2015 Annual Disability Status Report

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

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

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

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

## Suggested Citation

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# ACS Disability Questions

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

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

## **Hearing Disability** (asked of all ages):

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

## **Visual Disability** (asked of all ages):

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

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

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

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

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

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

- Does this person have difficulty dressing or bathing?

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

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

## **Note:**

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

# Notes

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

**Puerto Rico:** A Puerto Rico Disability Status Report, based on the parallel 2015 Puerto Rico Community Survey (PRCS), is available again this year in English as well as Spanish. However, please note that the Puerto Rico sample is not included in any U.S. population estimates included in these reports.

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

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

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

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

# North Carolina Summary

These statistics indicate the social and economic status of non-institutionalized people with disabilities in North Carolina, using data from the 2015 American Community Survey (ACS).

**Age:** In 2015, the prevalence of disability in NC was:

- 13.9 percent for persons of all ages
- 0.6 percent for persons ages 4 and under
- 5.6 percent for persons ages 5 to 15
- 6.7 percent for persons ages 16 to 20
- 12.4 percent for persons ages 21 to 64
- 27.2 percent for persons ages 65 to 74
- 51.2 percent for persons ages 75+

**Disability Type:** In 2015, the prevalence of the six disability types among persons of all ages in NC was:

- 2.7% reported a Visual Disability
- 3.7% reported a Hearing Disability
- 7.9% reported an Ambulatory Disability
- 5.7% reported a Cognitive Disability
- 3.0% reported a Self-Care Disability
- 6.1% reported an Independent Living Disability

**Gender:** In 2015, 14.2 percent of females of all ages and 13.6 percent of males of all ages in NC reported a disability.

**Hispanic/Latino:** In 2015, the prevalence of disability among persons of all ages of Hispanic or Latino origin in NC was 6.6 percent.

**Race:** In NC in 2015, the prevalence of disability for working-age people (ages 21 to 64) was:

- 11.9 percent among Whites
- 15.0 percent among Black / African Americans
- 3.9 percent among Asians
- 20.1 percent among Native Americans
- 9.5 percent among persons of some other race(s)

**Employment:** In 2015, the employment rate of working-age people (ages 21 to 64) with disabilities in NC was 33.3 percent.

**Looking for Work:** In NC in 2015, the percentage actively looking for work among people with disabilities who were not working was 7.9 percent.

**Full-Time/Full-Year Employment:** In NC in 2015, the percentage of working-age people with disabilities working full-time/full-year was 21.4 percent.

**Annual Earnings:** In 2015, the median annual earnings of working-age people with disabilities working full-time/full-year in NC was \$36,000.

**Annual Household Income:** In NC in 2015, the median annual income of households with working-age people with disabilities was \$36,100.

**Poverty:** In NC in 2015, the poverty rate of working-age people with disabilities was 28.3 percent.

**Supplemental Security Income:** In 2015, the percentage of working-age people with disabilities receiving SSI payments in NC was 17.7 percent.

**Educational Attainment:** In 2015, the percentage of working-age people with disabilities in NC:

- with only a high school diploma or equivalent was 32.8 percent
- with only some college or an associate degree was 33.2 percent
- with a bachelor's degree or more was 12.7 percent.

**Veterans Service-Connected Disability:** In 2015, the percentage of working-age civilian veterans with a VA determined Service-Connected Disability was 27.0 percent in NC.

**Health Insurance Coverage:** In 2015 in NC, 85.7 percent of working-age people with disabilities had health insurance.

# Prevalence: Ages 21 - 64

This summary lists percentages by state of non-institutionalized working-age (ages 21 to 64) people with disabilities using data from the 2015 American Community Survey (ACS). The US disability prevalence rate for this population was 10.7%

<b>Location</b>	<b>2015 (%)</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>2015 (%)</b>
Alabama	<b>15.5</b>	Montana	<b>12.5</b>
Alaska	<b>10.8</b>	Nebraska	<b>9.8</b>
Arizona	<b>10.7</b>	Nevada	<b>11.6</b>
Arkansas	<b>15.9</b>	New Hampshire	<b>11.3</b>
California	<b>8.4</b>	New Jersey	<b>7.7</b>
Colorado	<b>8.6</b>	New Mexico	<b>13.0</b>
Connecticut	<b>8.7</b>	New York	<b>9.0</b>
Delaware	<b>9.4</b>	North Carolina	<b>12.4</b>
District of Columbia	<b>9.2</b>	North Dakota	<b>7.8</b>
Florida	<b>10.2</b>	Ohio	<b>12.6</b>
Georgia	<b>10.8</b>	Oklahoma	<b>14.2</b>
Hawaii	<b>8.2</b>	Oregon	<b>13.0</b>
Idaho	<b>12.4</b>	Pennsylvania	<b>11.9</b>
Illinois	<b>8.7</b>	Puerto Rico	<b>18.3</b>
Indiana	<b>12.5</b>	Rhode Island	<b>11.6</b>
Iowa	<b>10.0</b>	South Carolina	<b>13.0</b>
Kansas	<b>10.5</b>	South Dakota	<b>11.2</b>
Kentucky	<b>16.1</b>	Tennessee	<b>14.3</b>
Louisiana	<b>13.3</b>	Texas	<b>10.0</b>
Maine	<b>14.8</b>	Utah	<b>9.3</b>
Maryland	<b>8.6</b>	Vermont	<b>12.4</b>
Massachusetts	<b>9.4</b>	Virginia	<b>9.5</b>
Michigan	<b>13.0</b>	Washington	<b>11.2</b>
Minnesota	<b>9.0</b>	West Virginia	<b>17.8</b>
Mississippi	<b>15.3</b>	Wisconsin	<b>10.1</b>
Missouri	<b>13.1</b>	Wyoming	<b>11.2</b>



# Employment: Ages 21 - 64

This summary lists employment rates by state of non-institutionalized working-age (ages 21 to 64) people with disabilities using data from the 2015 American Community Survey (ACS). The employment rate in the US for this population was 35.2% for people with disabilities and 78.3% for people without disabilities.

Location	People with Disabilities 2015	People without Disabilities 2015	Location	People with Disabilities 2015	People without Disabilities 2015
Alabama	28.9	74.3	Montana	37.8	80.6
Alaska	41.4	78.3	Nebraska	47.7	85.3
Arizona	35.4	75.1	Nevada	40.7	75.9
Arkansas	30.1	76.2	New Hampshire	42.4	85.1
California	33.9	75.7	New Jersey	38.2	78.9
Colorado	42.1	81.2	New Mexico	30.2	73.7
Connecticut	34.8	81.2	New York	33.4	77.6
Delaware	33.3	79.5	North Carolina	33.3	78.1
District of Columbia	32.8	81.4	North Dakota	44.5	85.2
Florida	31.0	76.4	Ohio	35.6	79.5
Georgia	32.0	76.9	Oklahoma	35.4	77.8
Hawaii	43.2	80.5	Oregon	37.1	78.1
Idaho	41.0	79.1	Pennsylvania	35.9	79.4
Illinois	35.4	78.5	Puerto Rico	21.4	56.4
Indiana	35.9	79.6	Rhode Island	35.4	81.2
Iowa	45.2	84.3	South Carolina	29.4	76.6
Kansas	44.3	82.1	South Dakota	51.3	83.9
Kentucky	26.7	76.7	Tennessee	30.7	78.0
Louisiana	33.1	75.3	Texas	38.8	77.7
Maine	27.5	82.5	Utah	46.5	79.6
Maryland	42.4	81.2	Vermont	41.0	84.5
Massachusetts	34.7	81.6	Virginia	36.9	80.8
Michigan	31.3	77.1	Washington	37.4	78.5
Minnesota	48.9	84.8	West Virginia	25.8	72.5
Mississippi	28.1	73.5	Wisconsin	42.3	83.9
Missouri	34.5	81.0	Wyoming	59.9	80.3

# Prevalence

## All Ages

### Introduction

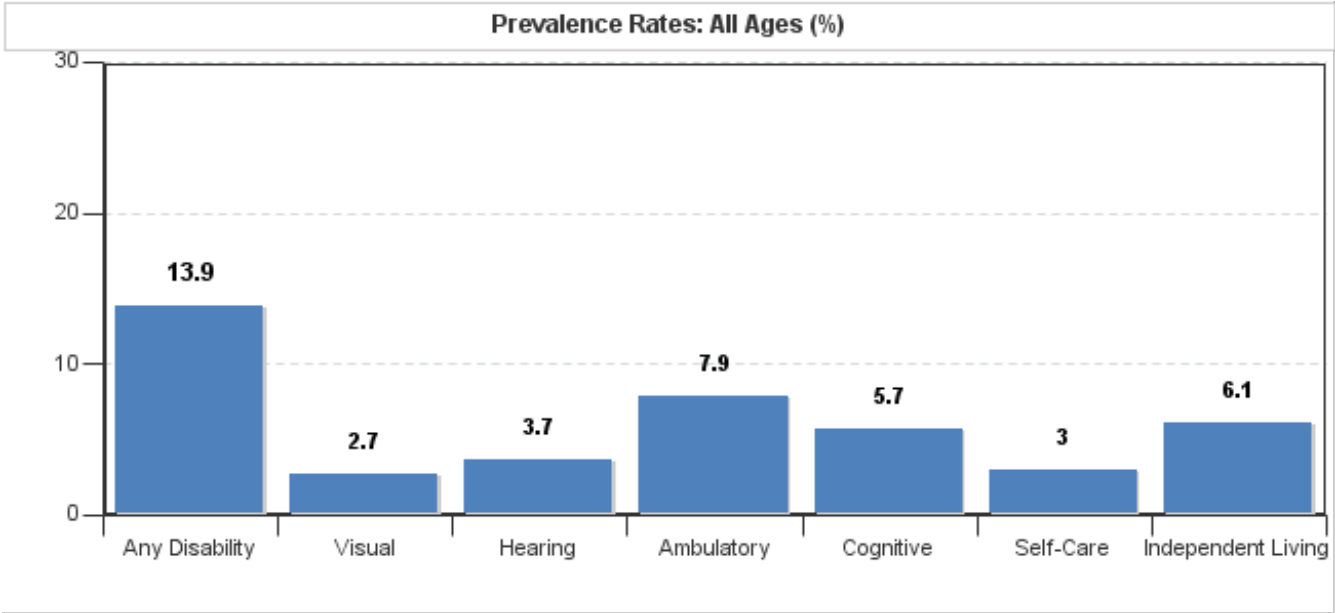
This section addresses the prevalence of disability among non-institutionalized people of all ages in North Carolina, using data from the 2015 American Community Survey (ACS). For definitions of terms, see Glossary.

### Quick Statistics

Prevalence:  
All Ages  
**13.9%**

- In 2015, the overall percentage (prevalence rate) of people with a disability of all ages in NC was 13.9 percent.
- In other words, in 2015, 1,380,600 of the 9,930,800 individuals of all ages in NC reported one or more disabilities.
- In NC in 2015, among the six types of disabilities identified in the ACS, the highest prevalence rate was for "Ambulatory Disability," 7.9 percent. The lowest prevalence rate was for "Visual Disability," 2.7 percent.

# Prevalence of disability among non-institutionalized people of all ages in North Carolina in 2015\*



Disability Type	%	MOE	Number	MOE	Base Pop.	Sample Size
Any Disability	13.9	0.25	1,380,600	25,010	9,930,800	96,122
Visual	2.7	0.12	269,600	11,740	9,930,800	96,122
Hearing	3.7	0.14	367,500	13,630	9,930,800	96,122
Ambulatory	7.9	0.20	741,100	18,980	9,336,000	91,247
Cognitive	5.7	0.17	527,700	16,200	9,336,000	91,247
Self-Care	3.0	0.13	282,800	12,010	9,336,000	91,247
Independent Living	6.1	0.19	494,100	15,710	8,035,300	79,999

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

# Prevalence

## Ages 4 years and under

### Introduction

This section focuses on the prevalence of disability among non-institutionalized children ages 4 and under in North Carolina, using data from the 2015 American Community Survey (ACS). Only the two sensory disability questions were asked of this population. For definitions of terms, see Glossary.

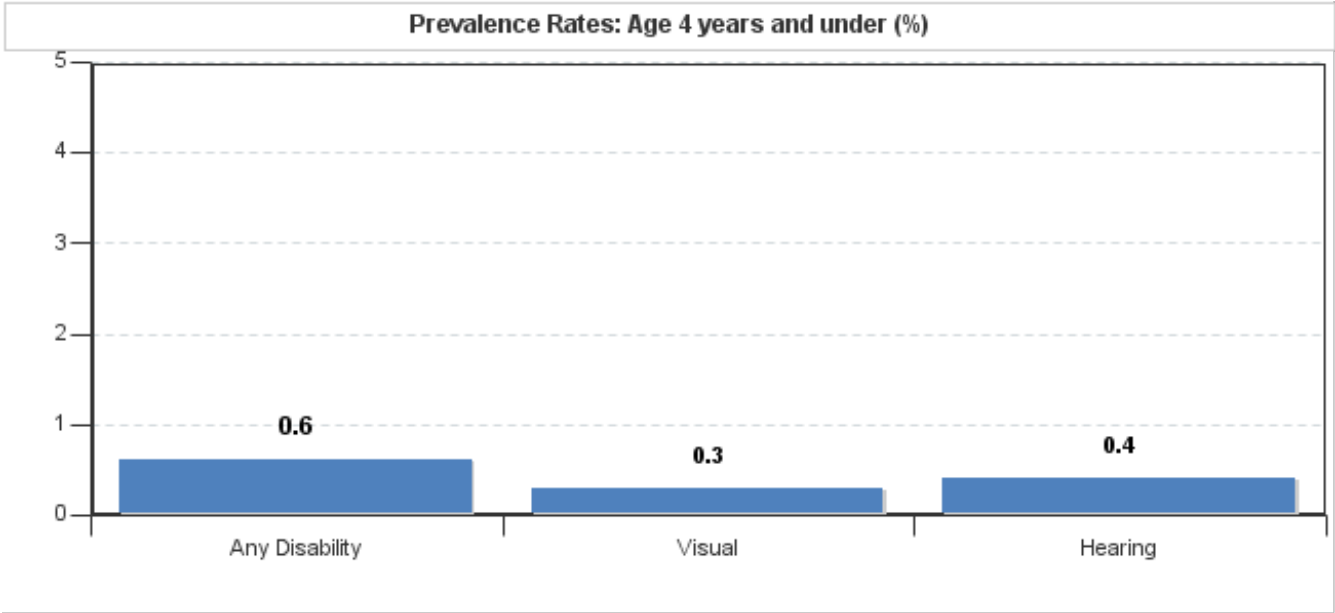
### Quick Statistics

Prevalence:  
Ages 4 and  
under

**0.6%**

- In 2015, the overall percentage (prevalence rate) of children with a visual and/or hearing disability ages 0 to 4 in NC was 0.6 percent.
- In other words, in 2015, 3,900 of the 594,800 children ages 0 to 4 in NC reported one or more disabilities.
- In NC in 2015, 0.3 percent reported a visual disability
- In NC in 2015, 0.4 percent reported a hearing disability

# Prevalence of disability among non-institutionalized people ages 4 and under in North Carolina in 2015



Disability Type	%	MOE	Number	MOE	Base Pop.	Sample Size
Any Disability	0.6	3.29	3,900	1,420	594,800	4,875
Visual	0.3	3.29	1,900	1,010	594,800	4,875
Hearing	0.4	3.29	2,400	1,130	594,800	4,875

# Prevalence

## Ages 5 to 15 years

### Introduction

This section focuses on the prevalence of disability among non-institutionalized children ages 5 to 15 in North Carolina, using data from the 2015 American Community Survey (ACS)\*. For definitions of terms, see Glossary.

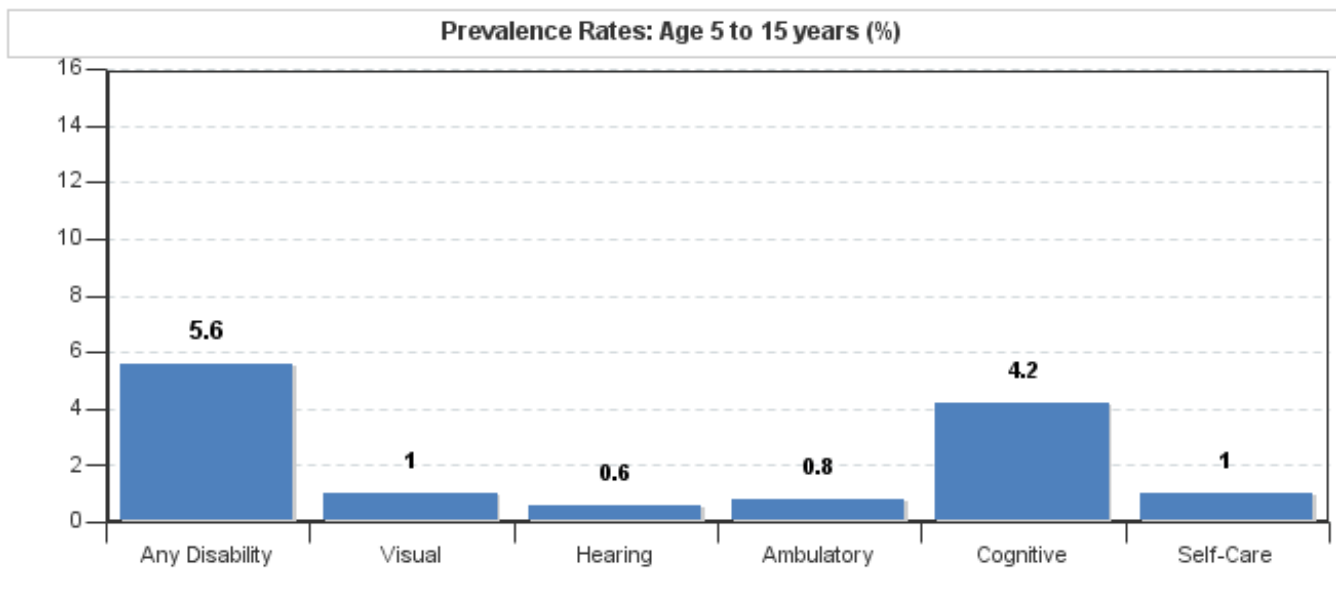
### Quick Statistics

Prevalence:  
Ages 5 to  
15 years  
**5.6%**

- In 2015, the overall percentage (prevalence rate) of children with a disability ages 5 to 15 in NC was 5.6 percent.
- In other words, in 2015, 81,000 of the 1,435,700 individuals ages 5 to 15 in NC reported one or more disabilities.
- In NC in 2015, among the five types of disabilities\* identified in the ACS, the highest prevalence rate was for "Cognitive Disability," 4.2 percent. The lowest prevalence rate was for "Hearing Disability," 0.6 percent.

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

## Prevalence of disability\* among non-institutionalized people ages 5 to 15 in North Carolina in 2015



Disability Type	%	MOE	Number	MOE	Base Pop.	Sample Size
Any Disability	5.6	0.44	81,000	6,500	1,435,700	12,536
Visual	1.0	3.29	14,800	2,790	1,435,700	12,536
Hearing	0.6	3.29	8,700	2,140	1,435,700	12,536
Ambulatory	0.8	3.29	10,900	2,390	1,435,700	12,536
Cognitive	4.2	0.38	60,400	5,620	1,435,700	12,536
Self-Care	1.0	3.29	15,000	2,800	1,435,700	12,536

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

# Prevalence

## Ages 16 to 20 years

### Introduction

This section focuses on the prevalence of disability among non-institutionalized people ages 16 to 20 in North Carolina, using data from the 2015 American Community Survey (ACS). For definitions of terms, see Glossary.

### Quick Statistics

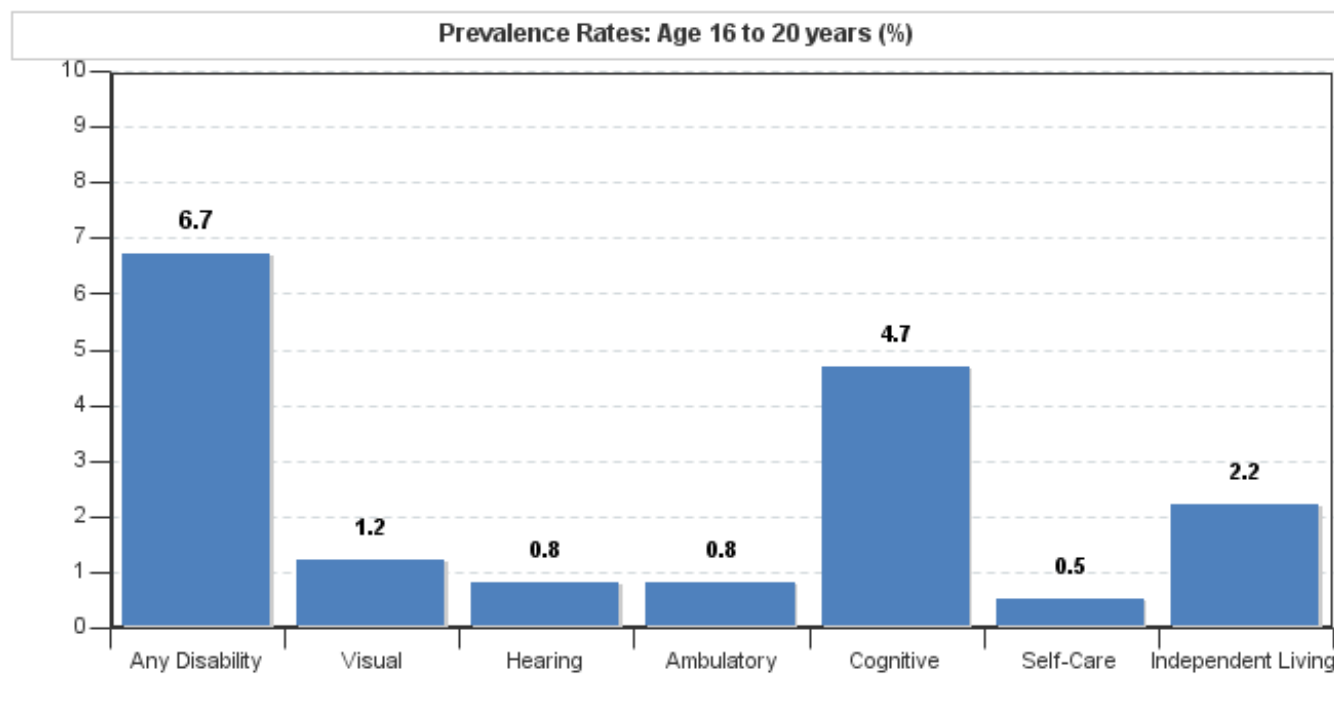
Prevalence:  
Ages 16 to  
20 years

**6.7%**

- In 2015, the overall percentage (prevalence rate) of people with a disability ages 16 to 20 in NC was 6.7 percent.
- In other words, in 2015, 45,400 of the 672,700 individuals ages 16 to 20 in NC reported one or more disabilities.
- In NC in 2015, among the six types of disabilities identified in the ACS, the highest prevalence rate was for "Cognitive Disability," 4.7 percent. The lowest prevalence rate was for "Self-Care Disability," 0.5 percent.



## Prevalence of disability among non-institutionalized people ages 16 to 20 in North Carolina in 2015



Disability Type	%	MOE	Number	MOE	Base Pop.	Sample Size
Any Disability	6.7	0.70	45,400	4,870	672,700	6,340
Visual	1.2	3.29	8,000	2,050	672,700	6,340
Hearing	0.8	3.29	5,700	1,730	672,700	6,340
Ambulatory	0.8	3.29	5,500	1,710	672,700	6,340
Cognitive	4.7	0.59	31,300	4,050	672,700	6,340
Self-Care	0.5	3.29	3,400	1,340	672,700	6,340
Independent Living	2.2	0.41	15,000	2,810	672,700	6,340

# Prevalence

## Ages 21 to 64 years

### Introduction

This section focuses on the prevalence of disability among non-institutionalized working-age people (ages 21 to 64) in North Carolina, using data from the 2015 American Community Survey (ACS). For definitions of terms, see Glossary.

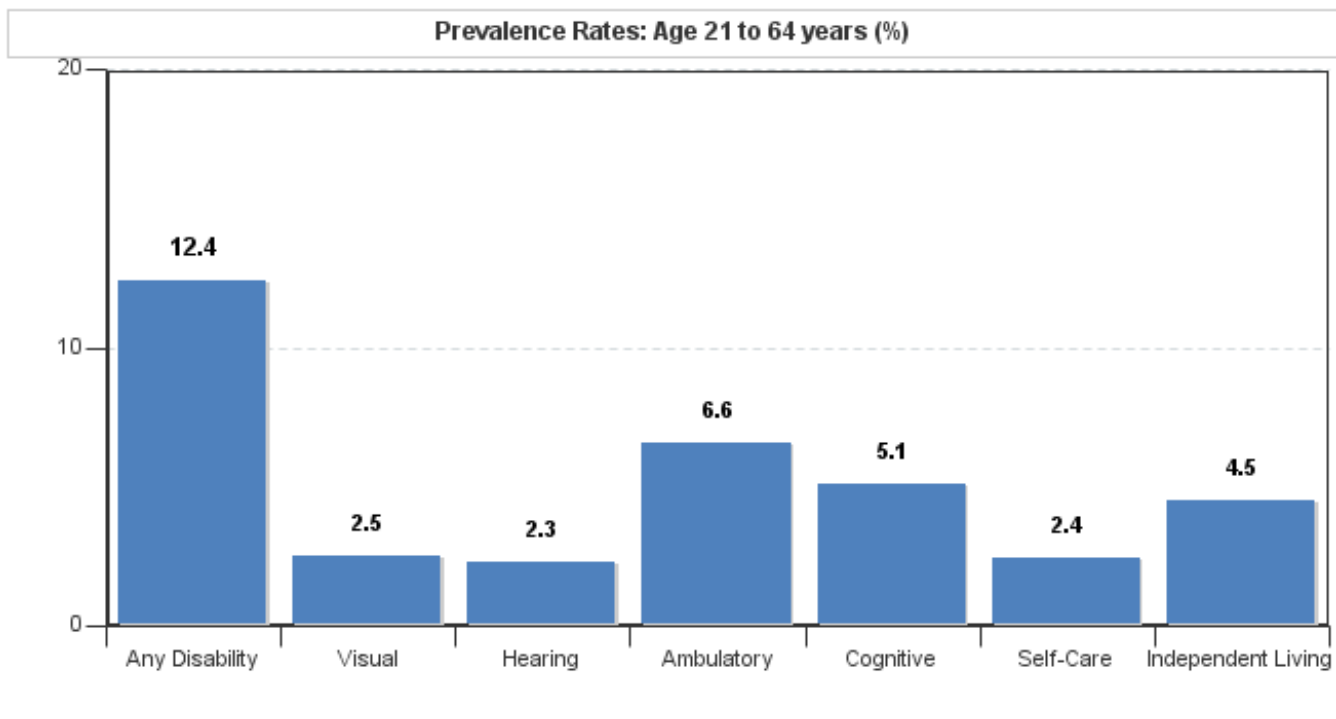
### Quick Statistics

Prevalence:  
Ages 21 to 64  
years

**12.4%**

- In 2015, the overall percentage (prevalence rate) of working age people (ages 21 to 64) with a disability in NC was 12.4 percent.
- In other words, in 2015, 711,200 of the 5,754,800 individuals ages 21 to 64 in NC reported one or more disabilities.
- In NC in 2015, among the six types of disabilities identified in the ACS, the highest prevalence rate was for "Ambulatory Disability," 6.6 percent. The lowest prevalence rate was "Hearing Disability," 2.3 percent.

## Prevalence of disability among non-institutionalized people ages 21 to 64 in North Carolina in 2015



Disability Type	%	MOE	Number	MOE	Base Pop.	Sample Size
Any Disability	12.4	0.31	711,200	18,630	5,754,800	54,016
Visual	2.5	0.15	146,100	8,690	5,754,800	54,016
Hearing	2.3	0.14	134,700	8,350	5,754,800	54,016
Ambulatory	6.6	0.24	379,300	13,840	5,754,800	54,016
Cognitive	5.1	0.21	294,000	12,240	5,754,800	54,016
Self-Care	2.4	0.15	139,400	8,500	5,754,800	54,016
Independent Living	4.5	0.20	258,000	11,490	5,754,800	54,016

# Prevalence

## Ages 65 to 74 years

### Introduction

This section explores the prevalence of disability among non-institutionalized people ages 65 to 74 in North Carolina, using data from the 2015 American Community Survey (ACS). For definitions of terms, see Glossary.

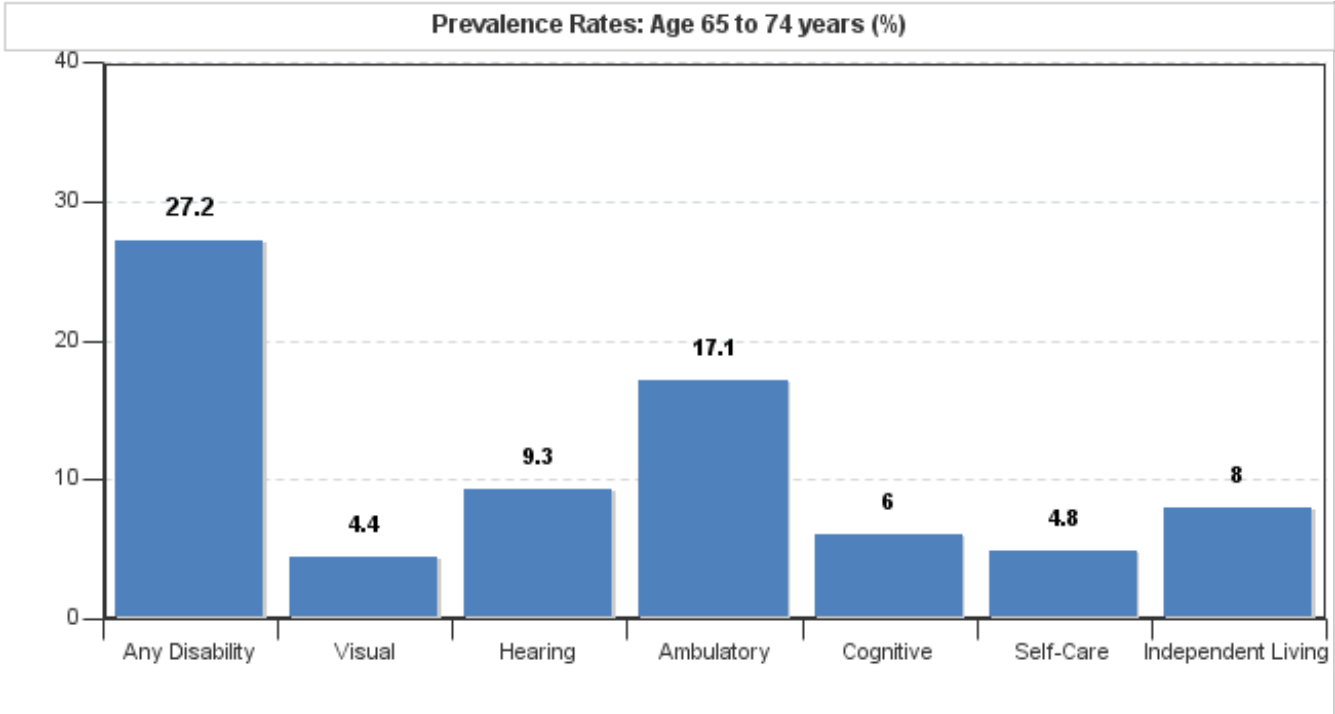
### Quick Statistics

Prevalence:  
Ages 65 to 74  
years

**27.2%**

- In 2015, the overall percentage (prevalence rate) of people with a disability ages 65 to 74 in NC was 27.2 percent.
- In other words, in 2015, 244,500 of the 897,600 individuals ages 65 to 74 in NC reported one or more disabilities.
- In NC in 2015, among the six types of disabilities identified in the ACS, the highest prevalence rate was for "Ambulatory Disability," 17.1 percent. The lowest prevalence rate was for "Visual Disability," 4.4 percent.

# Prevalence of disability among non-institutionalized people ages 65 to 74 in North Carolina in 2015



Disability Type	%	MOE	Number	MOE	Base Pop.	Sample Size
Any Disability	27.2	1.08	244,500	11,190	897,600	11,088
Visual	4.4	0.50	39,800	4,560	897,600	11,088
Hearing	9.3	0.70	83,000	6,580	897,600	11,088
Ambulatory	17.1	0.91	153,400	8,900	897,600	11,088
Cognitive	6.0	0.58	54,300	5,320	897,600	11,088
Self-Care	4.8	0.52	43,000	4,740	897,600	11,088
Independent Living	8.0	0.65	71,400	6,100	897,600	11,088

# Prevalence

## Ages 75 and Older

### Introduction

This section focuses on the prevalence of disability among non-institutionalized people ages 75 and older in North Carolina, using data from the 2015 American Community Survey (ACS). For definitions of terms, see Glossary.

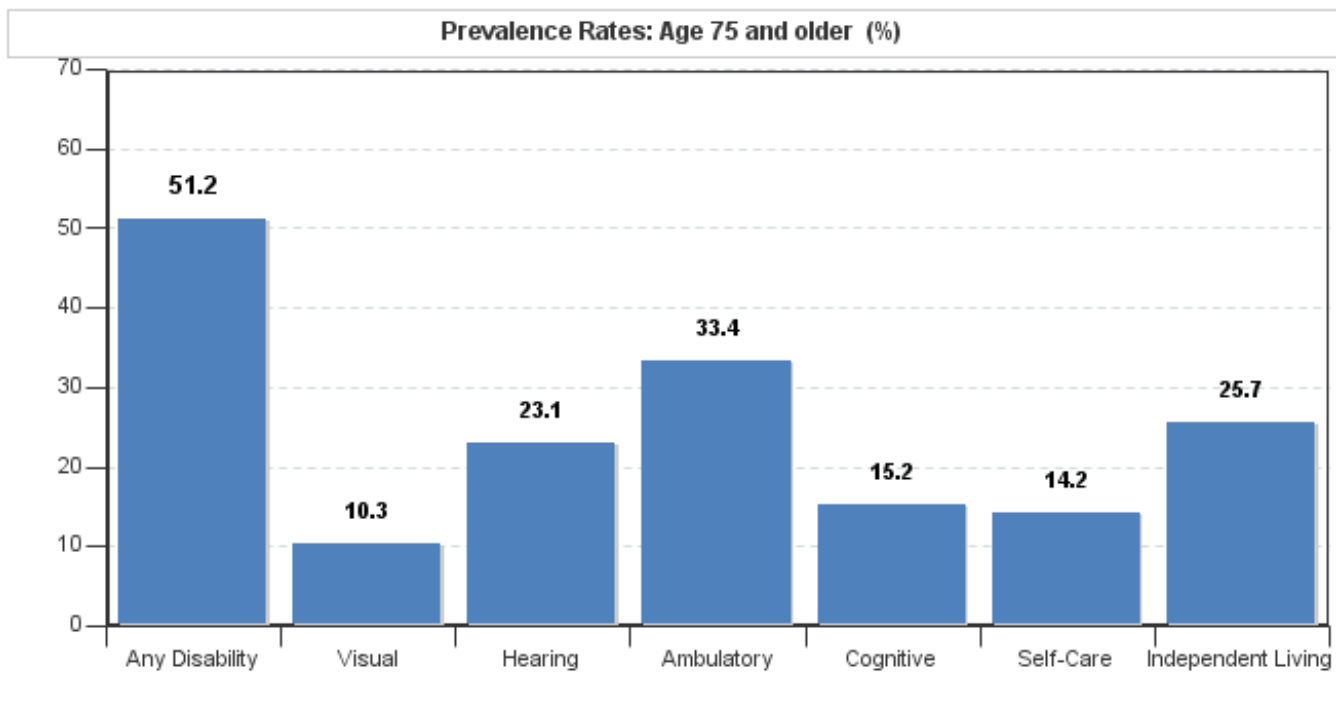
### Quick Statistics

Prevalence:  
Ages 75 and  
Older

**51.2%**

- In 2015, the overall percentage (prevalence rate) of people with a disability ages 75 and older in NC was 51.2 percent.
- In other words, in 2015, 294,600 of the 575,100 individuals ages 75 and older in NC reported one or more disabilities.
- In NC in 2015, among the six types of disabilities identified in the ACS, the highest prevalence rate was for "Ambulatory Disability," 33.4 percent. The lowest prevalence rate was for "Visual Disability," 10.3 percent.

## Prevalence of disability among non-institutionalized people ages 75 and older in North Carolina in 2015



Disability Type	%	MOE	Number	MOE	Base Pop.	Sample Size
Any Disability	51.2	1.51	294,600	12,250	575,100	7,267
Visual	10.3	0.92	59,000	5,550	575,100	7,267
Hearing	23.1	1.27	132,900	8,300	575,100	7,267
Ambulatory	33.4	1.43	192,000	9,950	575,100	7,267
Cognitive	15.2	1.09	87,700	6,760	575,100	7,267
Self-Care	14.2	1.06	81,900	6,530	575,100	7,267
Independent Living	25.7	1.32	147,500	8,740	575,100	7,267

# Prevalence

## Gender and Age

### Introduction

This section examines the prevalence of disability among people by gender and age group in North Carolina, using data from the 2015 American Community Survey (ACS)\*. For definitions of terms, see Glossary.

### Quick Statistics

Prevalence:  
Males All  
Ages

**13.6%**

Prevalence:  
Female All  
Ages

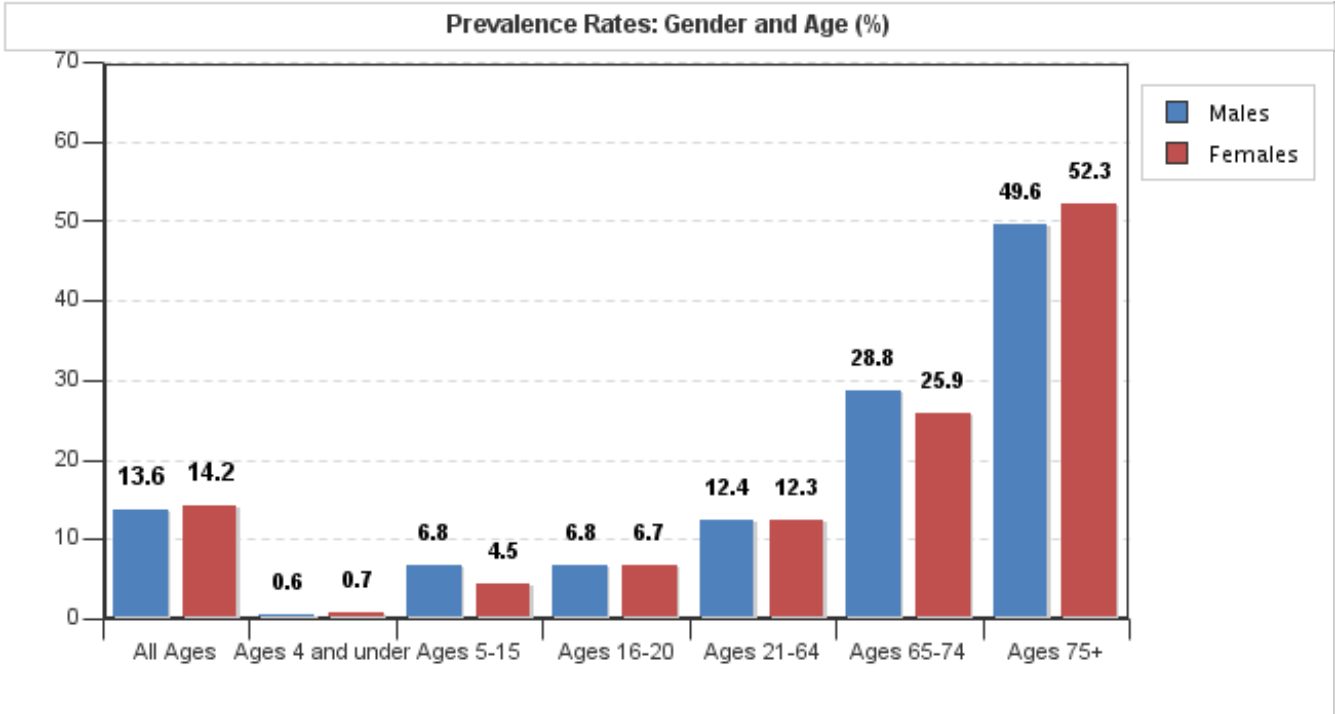
**14.2%**

- In NC in 2015, the overall percentage (prevalence rate) of males with a disability of all ages was 13.6 percent.
- In other words, in 2015, 654,100 of the 4,819,900 males of all ages in NC reported one or more disabilities.
- In NC in 2015, the overall percentage (prevalence rate) of females with a disability of all ages was 14.2 percent.
- In other words, in 2015, 726,400 of the 5,110,900 females of all ages in NC reported one or more disabilities.

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



# Prevalence of disability among non-institutionalized people by gender and age group in North Carolina in 2015



Gender & Age	%	MOE	Number	MOE	Base Pop.	Sample Size
<b>Males</b>						
Males: All Ages	13.6	0.36	654,100	17,920	4,819,900	46,064
Males: Ages 4 and under	0.6	3.29	1,700	950	308,100	2,512
Males: Ages 5-15	6.8	0.67	49,800	5,100	733,200	6,446
Males: Ages 16-20	6.8	0.98	23,700	3,520	346,300	3,281
Males: Ages 21-64	12.4	0.45	345,200	13,230	2,787,000	25,836
Males: Ages 65-74	28.8	1.61	119,500	7,870	415,000	5,063
Males: Ages 75+	49.6	2.39	114,300	7,700	230,300	2,926
<b>Females</b>						
Females: All Ages	14.2	0.35	726,400	18,810	5,110,900	50,058
Females: Ages 4 and under	0.7	3.29	2,100	1,050	286,700	2,363
Females: Ages 5-15	4.5	0.56	31,300	4,050	702,500	6,090
Females: Ages 16-20	6.7	1.00	21,700	3,370	326,300	3,059
Females: Ages 21-64	12.3	0.44	366,000	13,610	2,967,900	28,180
Females: Ages 65-74	25.9	1.44	125,000	8,050	482,600	6,025
Females: Ages 75+	52.3	1.95	180,300	9,640	344,800	4,341

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

# Prevalence

## Hispanic/Latino Origin and Age

### Introduction

This section examines the prevalence of disability among people by Hispanic/Latino origin and age group in North Carolina, using data from the 2015 American Community Survey (ACS)\*. For definitions of terms, see Glossary.

### Quick Statistics

Prevalence:  
Hispanic All  
Ages

**6.6%**

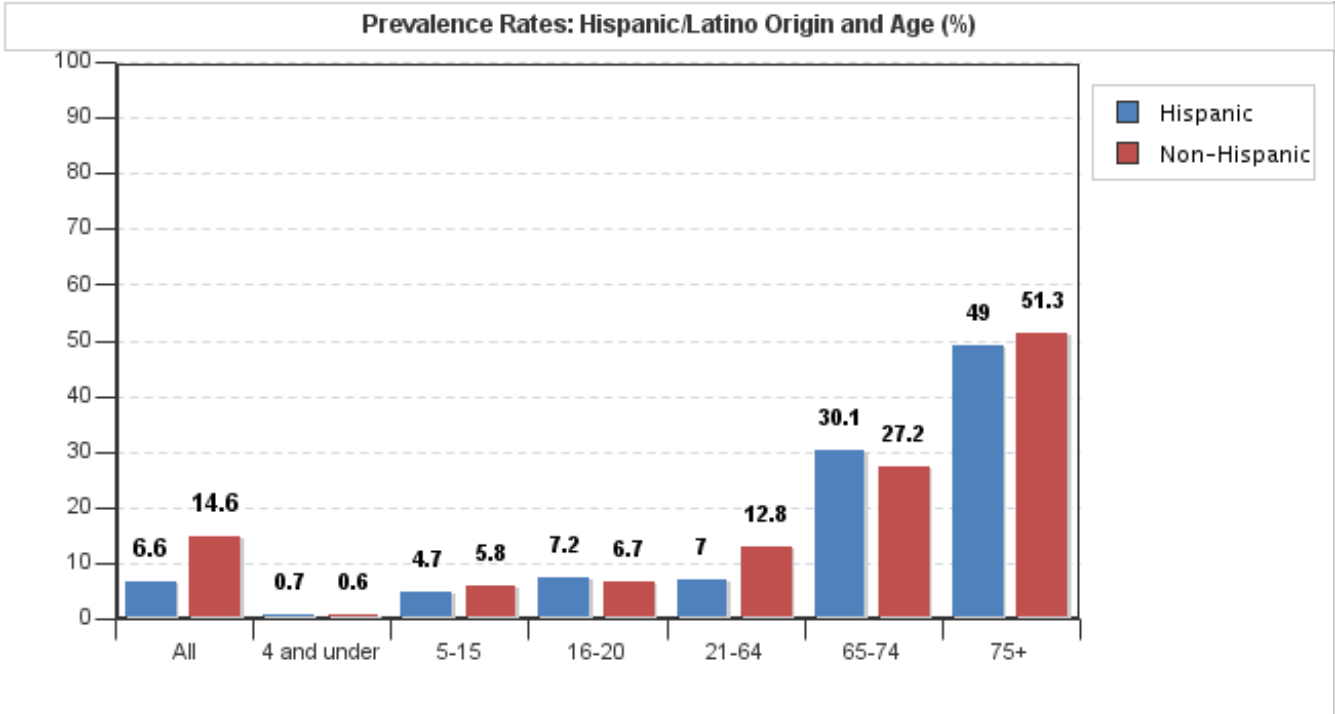
Prevalence:  
Non-Hispanic  
All Ages

**14.6%**

- In NC in 2015, the overall percentage (prevalence rate) of disability among people of Hispanic/Latino origin of all ages was 6.6 percent.
- In other words, in 2015, 59,900 of the 907,700 people of Hispanic/Latino origin of all ages in NC reported one or more disabilities.
- In NC in 2015, the overall percentage (prevalence rate) of disability among people of non-Hispanic/Latino origin of all ages was 14.6 percent.
- In other words, in 2015, 1,320,600 of the 9,023,000 people of non-Hispanic/Latino origin of all ages in NC reported one or more disabilities.

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

# Prevalence of disability among non-institutionalized people by Hispanic / Latino origin and age group in North Carolina in 2015



Hispanic/Latino Origin & Age	%	MOE	Number	MOE	Base Pop.	Sample Size
<b>Hispanic</b>						
Hispanic - All Ages	6.6	0.60	59,900	5,590	907,700	6,464
Hispanic - Ages 4 and under	0.7	3.29	700	620	99,500	632
Hispanic - Ages 5-15	4.7	1.03	10,400	2,330	222,200	1,544
Hispanic - Ages 16-20	7.2	2.14	5,500	1,700	76,400	572
Hispanic - Ages 21-64	7.0	0.84	34,100	4,220	483,900	3,474
Hispanic - Ages 65-74	30.1	7.93	5,300	1,660	17,500	162
Hispanic - Ages 75+	49.0	12.62	4,000	1,460	8,200	80
<b>Non-Hispanic</b>						
Non-Hispanic - All Ages	14.6	0.27	1,320,600	24,540	9,023,000	89,658
Non-Hispanic - Ages 4 and under	0.6	3.29	3,100	1,280	495,300	4,243
Non-Hispanic - Ages 5-15	5.8	0.49	70,700	6,070	1,213,600	10,992
Non-Hispanic - Ages 16-20	6.7	0.74	39,900	4,570	596,300	5,768
Non-Hispanic - Ages 21-64	12.8	0.33	677,200	18,210	5,270,900	50,542
Non-Hispanic - Ages 65-74	27.2	1.09	239,200	11,070	880,100	10,926
Non-Hispanic - Ages 75+	51.3	1.52	290,500	12,170	566,900	7,187

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

# Prevalence

## Race

### Introduction

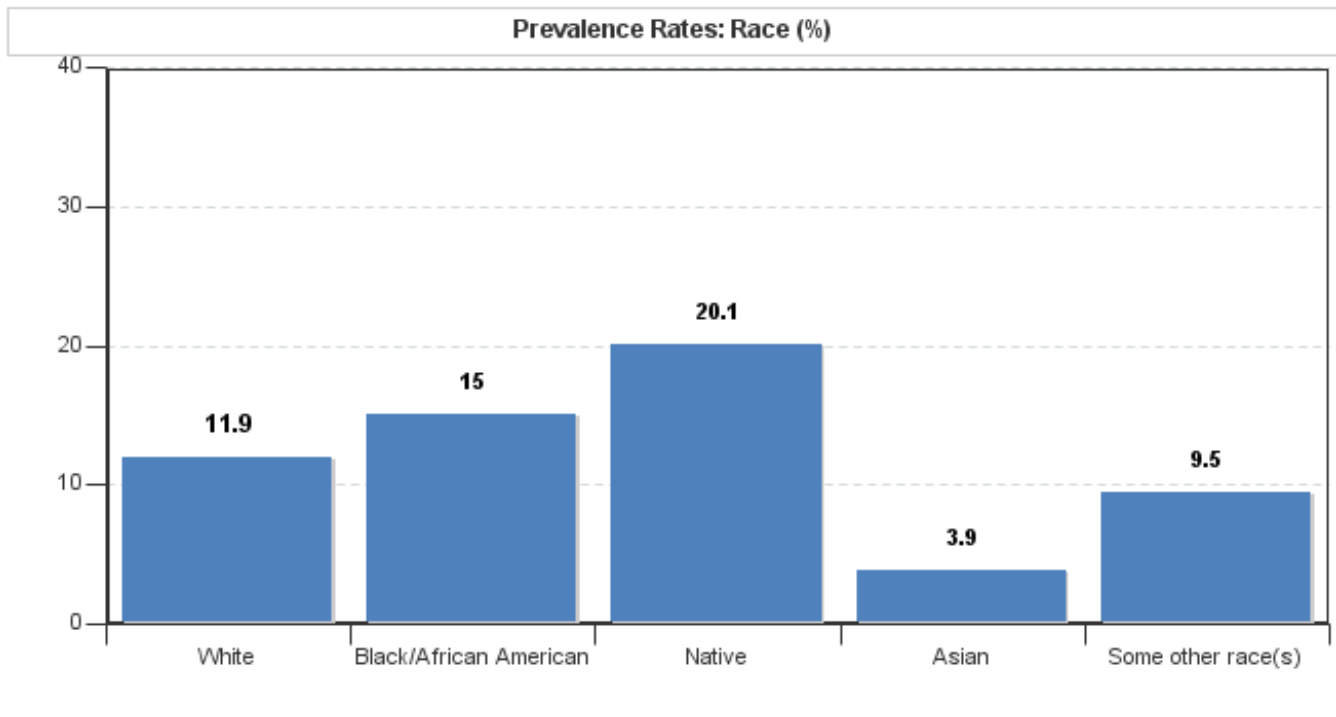
This section presents the disability prevalence rate among non-institutionalized working-age people (ages 21 to 64) by race category in NC, using data from the 2015 American Community Survey (ACS). For definitions of terms, see Glossary.

### Quick Statistics

In 2015, among working-age people in NC:

- 11.9 percent of persons who were White reported a disability.
- 15.0 percent of persons who were Black/African American reported a disability.
- 20.1 percent of persons who were Native American reported a disability.
- 3.9 percent of persons who were Asian reported a disability.
- 9.5 percent of persons who were some other race(s) reported a disability.

## Prevalence of disability among non-institutionalized working-age people (ages 21 to 64) by race in North Carolina in 2015



Race	%	MOE	Number	MOE	Base Pop.	Sample Size
White	11.9	0.37	477,700	15,460	3,999,400	39,656
Black/African American	15.0	0.73	187,500	9,830	1,248,200	9,988
Native American or Alaska Native	20.1	3.46	14,100	2,720	70,300	787
Asian	3.9	1.07	6,700	1,870	170,900	1,506
Some other race(s)	9.5	1.30	25,300	3,640	266,000	2,079

# Employment

## Introduction

This section examines the employment rates of non-institutionalized working-age people (ages 21 to 64) with disabilities in North Carolina, using data from the 2015 American Community Survey (ACS). For definitions of terms, see Glossary.

## Quick Statistics

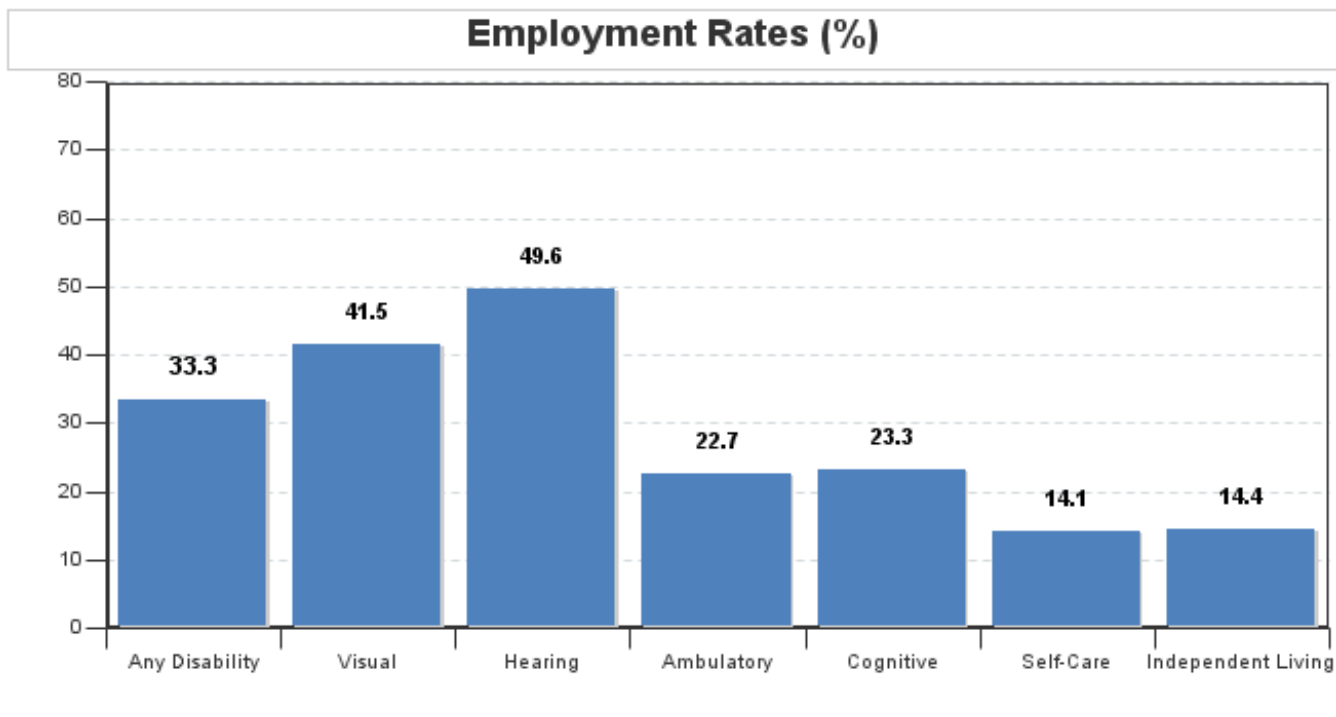
Employment:  
with disability  
**33.3%**

Employment:  
without  
disability  
**78.1%**

- In 2015, the employment rate of working-age people with disabilities in NC was 33.3 percent.
- In 2015, the employment rate of working-age people without disabilities in NC was 78.1 percent.
- The gap between the employment rates of working-age people with and without disabilities was 44.8 percentage points.
- Among the six types of disabilities identified in the ACS, the highest employment rate was for people with a "Hearing Disability," 49.6 percent. The lowest employment rate was for people with a "Self-Care Disability," 14.1 percent.



## Employment of non-institutionalized working-age people (ages 21 to 64) by disability status in North Carolina in 2015



Disability Type	%	MOE	Number	MOE	Base Pop.	Sample Size
No Disability	78.1	0.42	3,937,700	35,320	5,043,600	47,025
Any Disability	33.3	1.28	236,700	11,010	711,200	6,991
Visual	41.5	2.95	60,700	5,630	146,100	1,337
Hearing	49.6	3.12	66,900	5,910	134,700	1,285
Ambulatory	22.7	1.56	86,200	6,700	379,300	3,728
Cognitive	23.3	1.79	68,500	5,980	294,000	2,863
Self-Care	14.1	2.13	19,600	3,210	139,400	1,414
Independent Living	14.4	1.58	37,200	4,410	258,000	2,632

# Not Working but Actively Looking for Work

## Introduction

This section focuses on the percentage of non-institutionalized working-age people (ages 21 to 64) with disabilities in North Carolina who are not working but actively looking for work, using data from the 2015 American Community Survey (ACS). For definitions of terms, see Glossary.

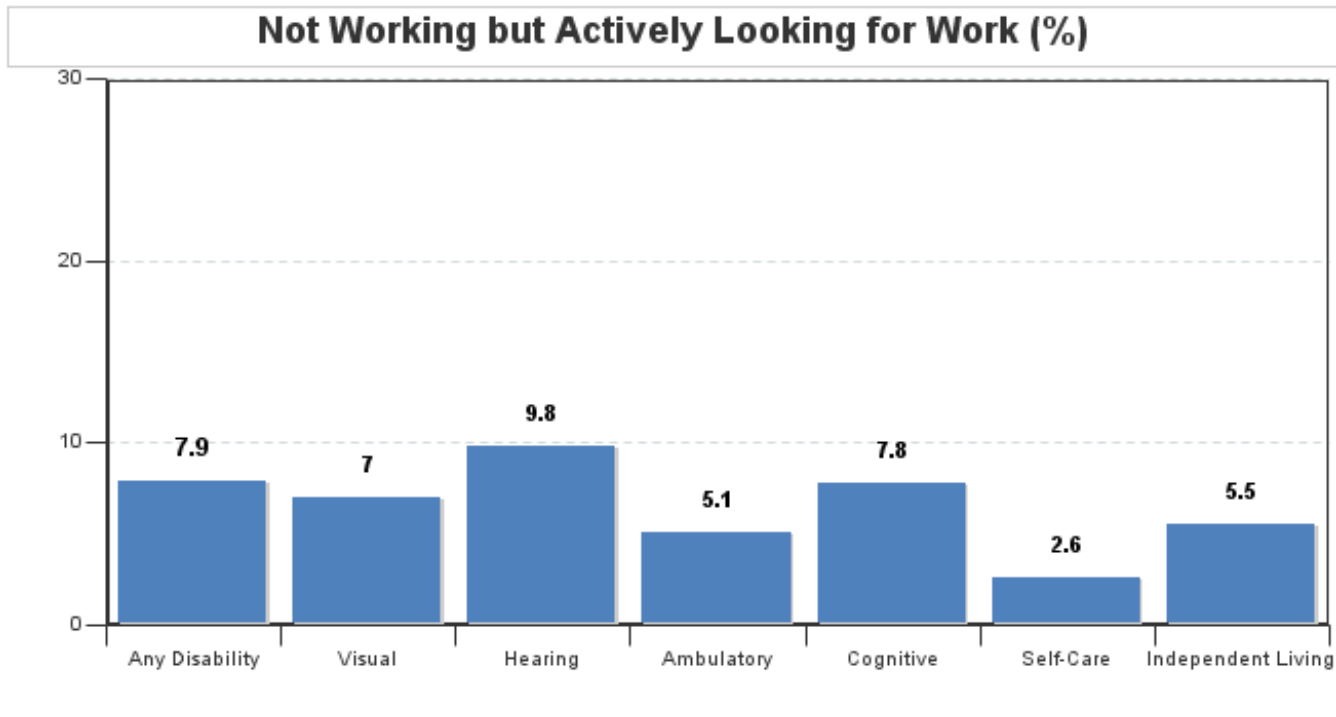
## Quick Statistics

Actively  
Looking: with  
disability  
**7.9%**

Actively  
Looking:  
without  
disability  
**20.3%**

- In 2015 in NC, the percentage of working-age people with disabilities who were not working but actively looking for work was 7.9 percent.
- In 2015 in NC, the percentage of working-age people without disabilities who were not working but actively looking for work was 20.3 percent.
- The difference in the percentage of not working but actively looking for work between working-age people with and without disabilities was 12.4 percentage points.
- Among the six types of disabilities identified in the ACS, the highest percentage of not working but actively looking for work was for people with a "Hearing Disability," 9.8 percent. The lowest percentage was for people with a "Self-Care Disability," 2.6 percent.

## Percentage who are not working but actively looking for work among non-institutionalized working-age people (ages 21 to 64) in North Carolina in 2015



Disability Type	%	MOE	Number	MOE	Base Pop.	Sample Size
No Disability	20.3	0.88	224,800	10,740	1,105,900	10,404
Any Disability	7.9	0.90	37,500	4,430	474,500	4,715
Visual	7.0	2.00	6,000	1,770	85,400	812
Hearing	9.8	2.62	6,600	1,870	67,900	644
Ambulatory	5.1	0.93	14,900	2,790	293,100	2,891
Cognitive	7.8	1.29	17,700	3,040	225,400	2,226
Self-Care	2.6	1.05	3,100	1,280	119,800	1,231
Independent Living	5.5	1.11	12,100	2,520	220,800	2,269

# Full-Time / Full-Year Employment

## Introduction

This section presents the percentage of non-institutionalized working-age people (ages 21 to 64) with disabilities working full-time/full-year in North Carolina, using data from the 2015 American Community Survey (ACS). For definitions of terms, see Glossary.

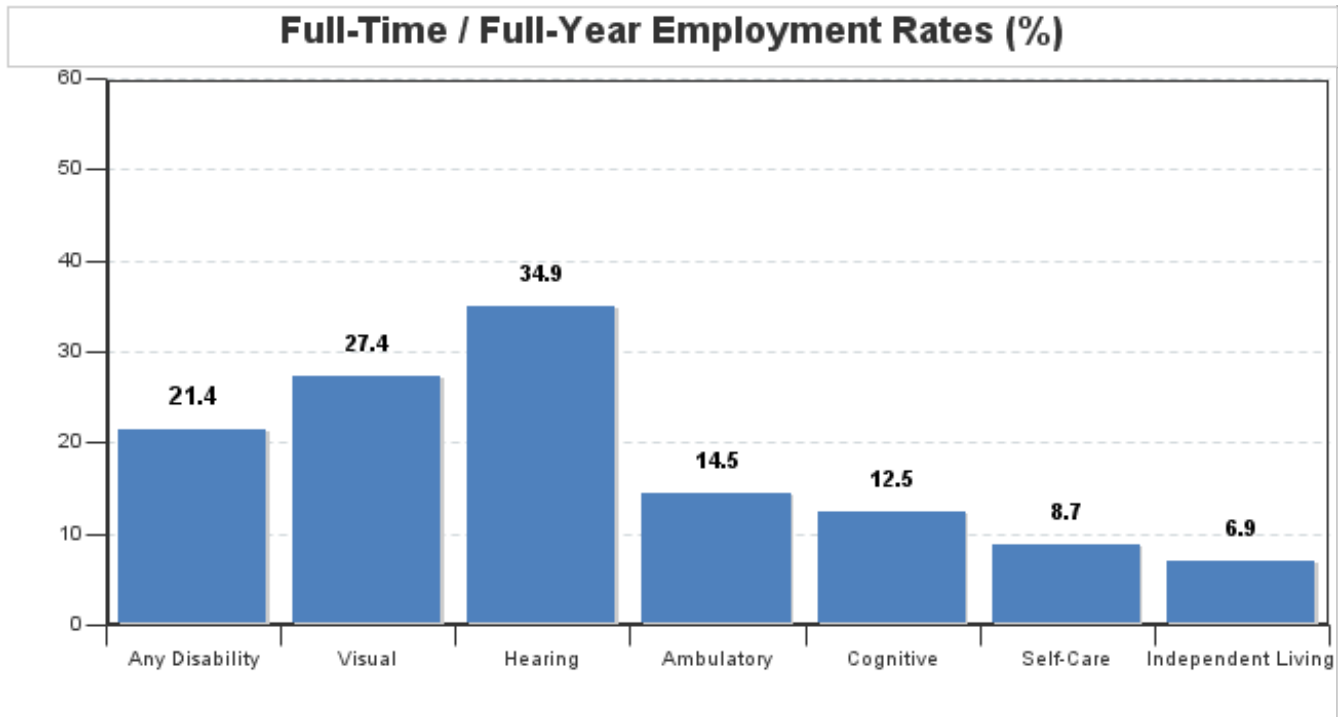
## Quick Statistics

FT / FY  
Employment:  
with disability  
**21.4%**

FT / FY  
Employment:  
without  
disability  
**59.2%**

- In 2015, the percentage of working-age people with disabilities working full-time/full-year in NC was 21.4 percent.
- In 2015, the percentage of working-age people without disabilities working full-time/full-year in NC was 59.2 percent.
- The difference in the percentage working full-time/full-year between working-age people with and without disabilities was 37.8 percentage points.
- Among the six types of disabilities identified in the ACS, the highest full-time/full-year employment rate was for people with "Hearing Disability," 34.9 percent. The lowest full-time/full-year employment rate was for people with "Independent Living Disability," 6.9 percent.

## Full-Time/Full-Year employment of non-institutionalized working-age people (ages 21 to 64) by disability status in North Carolina in 2015



Disability Type	%	MOE	Number	MOE	Base Pop.	Sample Size
No Disability	59.2	0.50	2,984,100	33,190	5,043,600	47,025
Any Disability	21.4	1.11	152,000	8,870	711,200	6,991
Visual	27.4	2.67	40,000	4,580	146,100	1,337
Hearing	34.9	2.98	47,000	4,960	134,700	1,285
Ambulatory	14.5	1.31	54,900	5,360	379,300	3,728
Cognitive	12.5	1.40	36,600	4,380	294,000	2,863
Self-Care	8.7	1.73	12,100	2,520	139,400	1,414
Independent Living	6.9	1.14	17,700	3,050	258,000	2,632

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

## Introduction

This section examines the median annual earnings of non-institutionalized working-age people (ages 21 to 64) with disabilities who work full-time/full-year in North Carolina, using data from the 2015 American Community Survey (ACS). For definitions of terms, see Glossary.

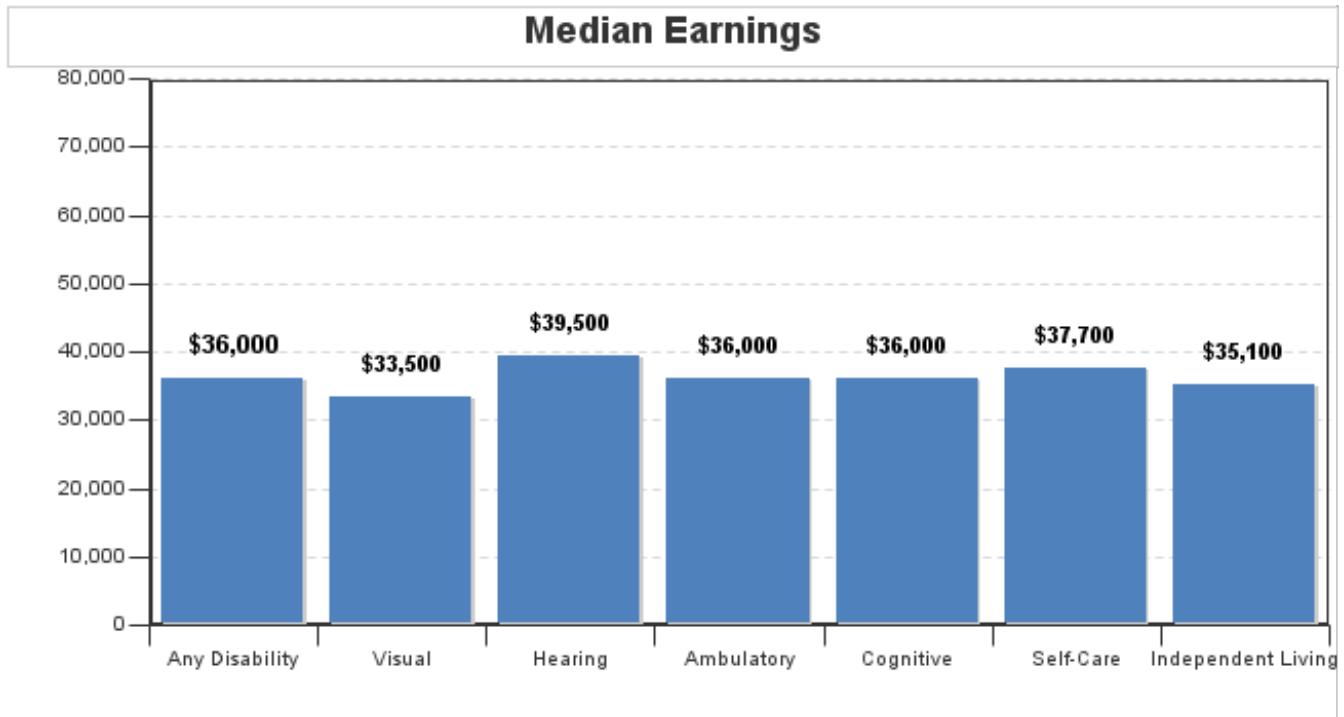
## Quick Statistics

Earnings: with disability  
**\$36,000**

Earnings: without disability  
**\$40,100**

- In 2015, the median earnings of working-age people with disabilities who worked full-time/full-year in NC was \$36,000.
- In 2015, the median earnings of working-age people without disabilities who worked full-time/full-year in NC was \$40,100.
- The difference in the median earnings between working-age people with and without disabilities who worked full-time/full-year was \$4,100.
- Among the six types of disabilities identified in the ACS, the highest annual earnings was for people with "Hearing Disability," \$39,500. The lowest annual earnings was for people with "Visual Disability," \$33,500.

## Median annual earnings of non-institutionalized working-age people (ages 21 to 64) who work full-time/full-year by disability status in North Carolina in 2015



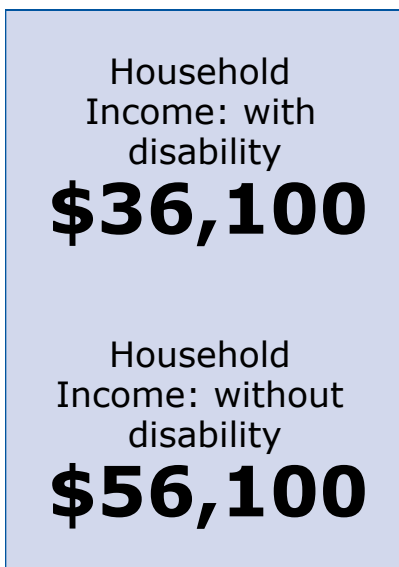
Disability Type	Median Earnings	MOE	Base Pop.	Sample Size
No Disability	\$40,100	\$490	2,984,000	27,697
Any Disability	\$36,000	\$2,010	152,000	1,466
Visual	\$33,500	\$3,810	40,000	360
Hearing	\$39,500	\$3,970	47,000	459
Ambulatory	\$36,000	\$3,150	55,000	542
Cognitive	\$36,000	\$3,340	37,000	345
Self-Care	\$37,700	\$7,830	12,000	110
Independent Living	\$35,100	\$4,060	18,000	155

# Annual Household Income

## Introduction

This section illustrates the median annual income\* of households that include any working-age people (ages 21 to 64) with disabilities in North Carolina, using data from the 2015 American Community Survey (ACS). For definitions of terms, see Glossary.

## Quick Statistics

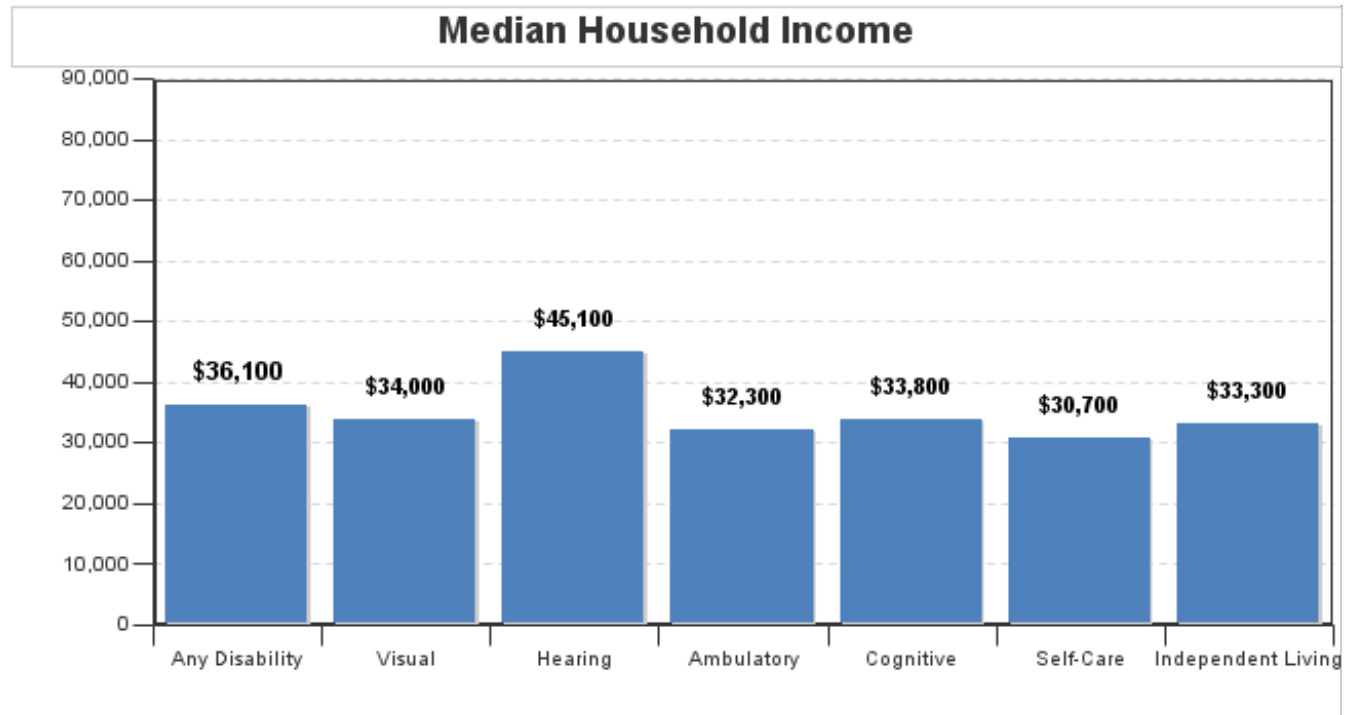


- In 2015, the median income of households that include any working-age people with disabilities in NC was \$36,100.
- In 2015, the median income of households that do not include any working-age people with disabilities in NC was \$56,100.
- The difference in the median income between households including and not including working-age people with disabilities was \$20,000.
- Among the six types of disabilities identified in the ACS, the highest median income was for households including persons with a "Hearing Disability," \$45,100. The lowest median income was for households containing persons with a "Self-Care Disability" \$30,700 .

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



## Median annual income\* of households including any working-age people (ages 21 to 64) by disability status in North Carolina in 2015



Disability Type	Median H.H. Income	MOE	Base Pop.	Sample Size
No Disability	\$56,100	\$1,030	2,544,000	24,841
Any Disability	\$36,100	1,620	558,000	5,766
Visual	\$34,000	3,140	122,000	1,180
Hearing	\$45,100	4,090	119,000	1,212
Ambulatory	\$32,300	1,920	318,000	3,307
Cognitive	\$33,800	2,370	227,000	2,385
Self-Care	\$30,700	3,300	116,000	1,210
Independent Living	\$33,300	2,420	203,000	2,171

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

# Poverty

## Introduction

This section examines the poverty rates\* of non-institutionalized working-age people (ages 21 to 64) with disabilities in North Carolina, using data from the 2015 American Community Survey (ACS). For definitions of terms, see Glossary.

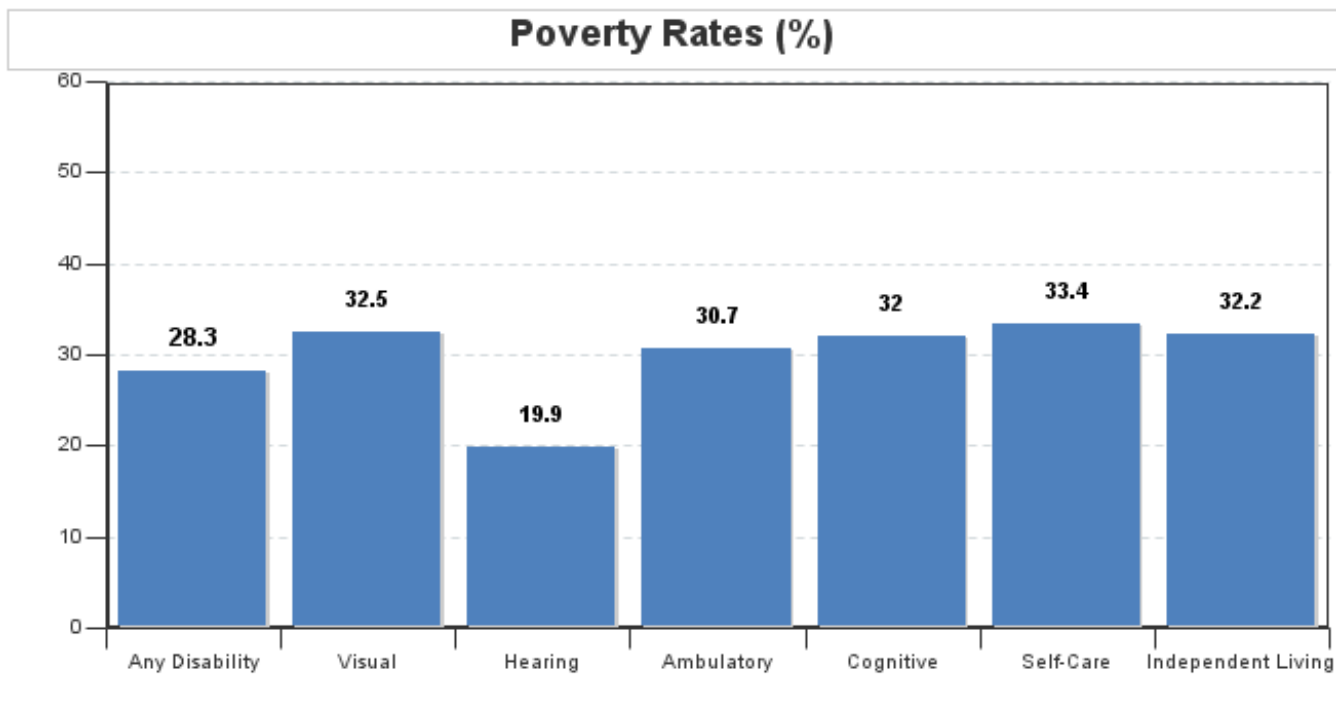
## Quick Statistics



- In 2015, the poverty rate of working-age people with disabilities in NC was 28.3 percent.
- In 2015, the poverty rate of working-age people without disabilities in NC was 13.2 percent.
- The difference in the poverty rate between working-age people with and without disabilities was 15.1 percentage points.
- Among the six types of disabilities identified in the ACS, the highest poverty rate was for people with "Self-Care Disability," 33.4 percent. The lowest poverty rate was for people with "Hearing Disability," 19.9 percent.

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

## Poverty rates\* of non-institutionalized working-age people (ages 21 to 64) by disability status in North Carolina in 2015



Disability Type	%	MOE	Number	MOE	Base Pop.	Sample Size
No Disability	13.2	0.47	662,500	24,460	5,014,800	46,486
Any Disability	28.3	1.66	200,700	13,790	709,300	6,955
Visual	32.5	3.82	47,400	6,750	145,700	1,332
Hearing	19.9	3.39	26,600	5,070	134,100	1,273
Ambulatory	30.7	2.33	116,500	10,550	379,000	3,722
Cognitive	32.0	2.68	93,900	9,480	293,200	2,848
Self-Care	33.4	3.93	46,500	6,690	139,300	1,412
Independent Living	32.2	2.86	83,000	8,920	257,800	2,628

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

# Supplemental Security Income (SSI)

## Introduction

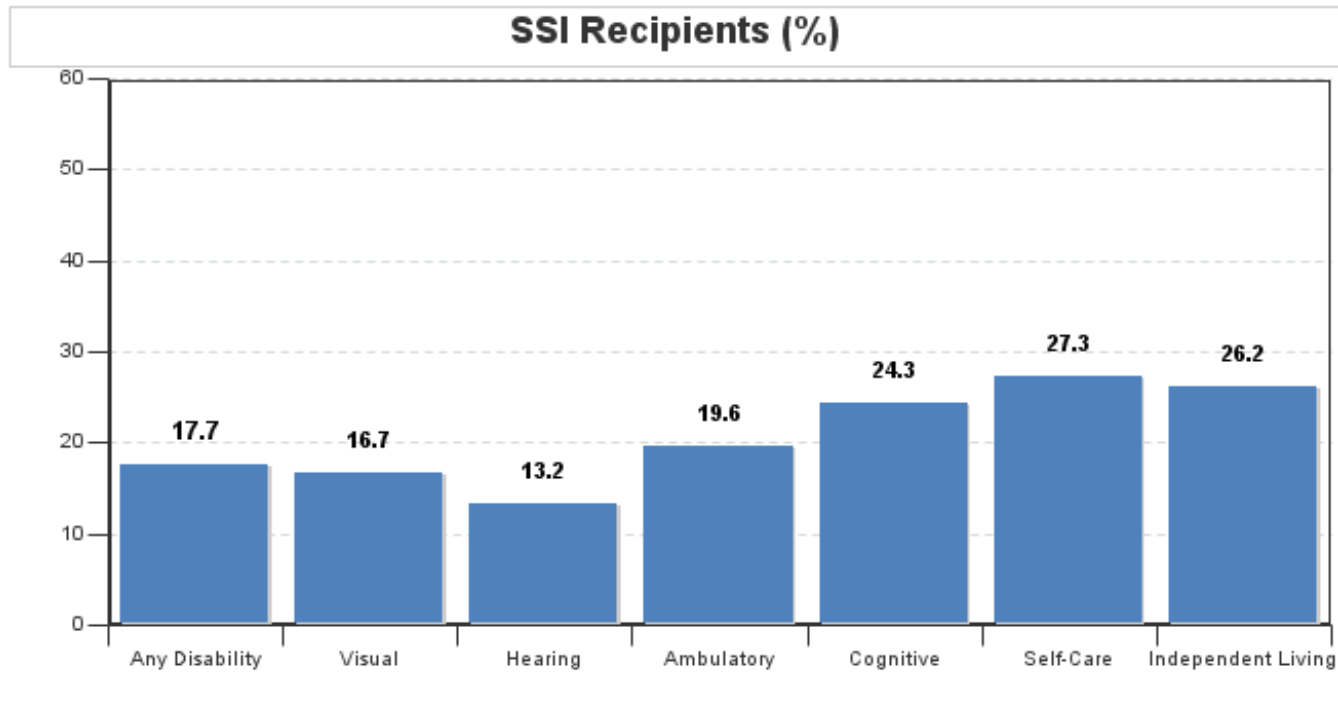
This section focuses on the percentage of non-institutionalized working-age people (ages 21 to 64) with disabilities who receive Supplemental Security Income (SSI) payments in North Carolina, using data from the 2015 American Community Survey (ACS). For definitions of terms, see Glossary. Please note that these results will differ from official Social Security Administration reports for several reasons. For additional information, please email [DisabilityStatistics@cornell.edu](mailto:DisabilityStatistics@cornell.edu).

## Quick Statistics

SSI  
Recipients:  
with disability  
**17.7%**

- In 2015, the percentage of working-age people with disabilities receiving Supplemental Security Income payments in NC was 17.7 percent.
- In 2015, the number of working-age people with disabilities receiving Supplemental Security Income payments in NC was 125,800.
- Among the six types of disabilities identified in the ACS, the highest percentage that received SSI was people with "Self-Care Disability," 27.3 percent. The lowest percentage that received SSI was people with "Hearing Disability," 13.2 percent.

## Percentage of non-institutionalized working-age people (ages 21 to 64) with disabilities who receive Supplemental Security Income (SSI) payments in North Carolina in 2015



Disability Type	%	MOE	Number	MOE	Base Pop.	Sample Size
Any Disability	17.7	1.04	125,800	8,080	711,200	6,991
Visual	16.7	2.24	24,300	3,570	146,100	1,337
Hearing	13.2	2.11	17,700	3,050	134,700	1,285
Ambulatory	19.6	1.48	74,300	6,220	379,300	3,728
Cognitive	24.3	1.81	71,600	6,110	294,000	2,863
Self-Care	27.3	2.73	38,100	4,460	139,400	1,414
Independent Living	26.2	1.98	67,500	5,930	258,000	2,632

# Education

## High School Diploma/Equivalent

### Introduction

This section explores the percentage of non-institutionalized working-age people (ages 21 to 64) with disabilities with only a high school diploma or equivalent in North Carolina, using data from the 2015 American Community Survey (ACS). For definitions of terms, see Glossary.

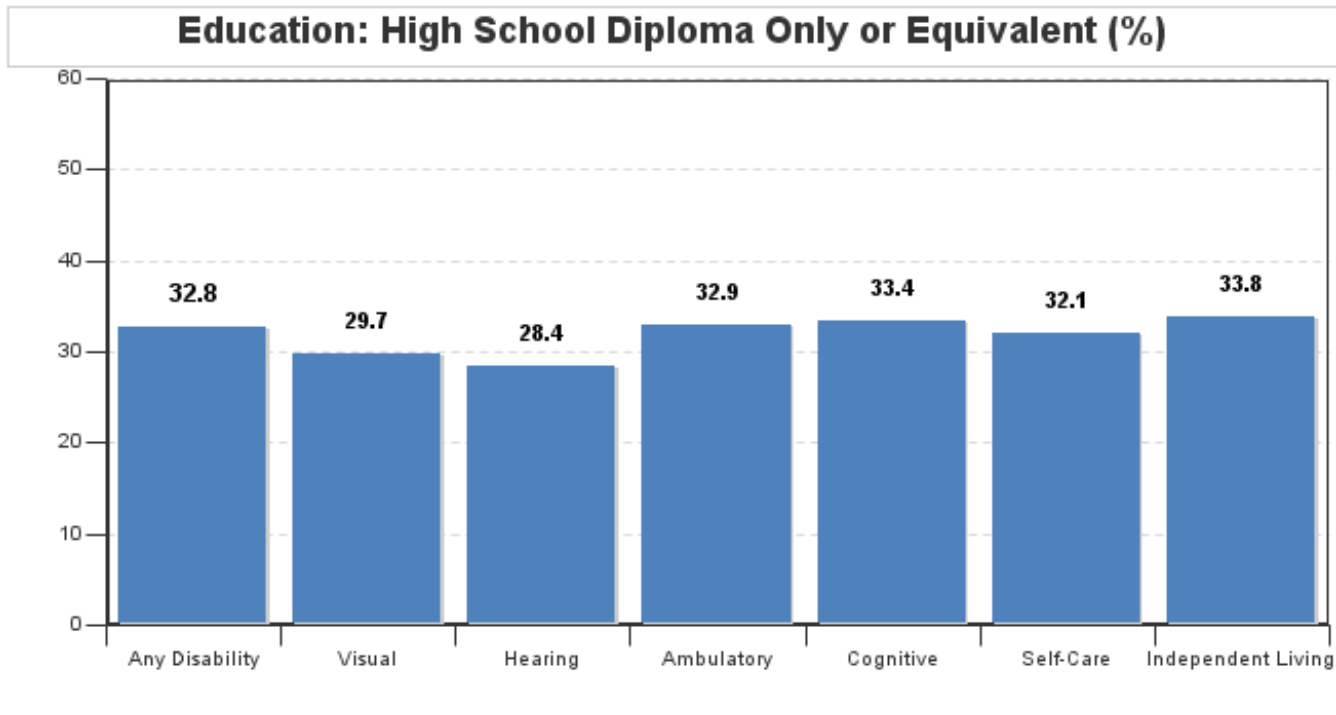
### Quick Statistics

High School  
Only: with  
disability  
**32.8%**

High School  
Only: without  
disability  
**23.8%**

- In 2015, the percentage of working-age people with disabilities with only a high school diploma or equivalent in NC was 32.8 percent.
- In 2015, the percentage of working-age people without disabilities with only a high school diploma or equivalent in NC was 23.8 percent.
- The difference in the percentage with only a high school diploma or equivalent between working-age people with and without disabilities was 9 percentage points.
- Among the six types of disabilities identified in the ACS, the highest percentage with only a high school diploma or equivalent was for people with "Independent Living Disability," 33.8 percent. The lowest percentage with only a high school diploma or equivalent was for people with "Hearing Disability," 28.4 percent.

## Percentage of non-institutionalized working-age people (ages 21 to 64) with only a high school diploma or equivalent by disability status in NC in 2015



Disability Type	%	MOE	Number	MOE	Base Pop.	Sample Size
No Disability	23.8	0.43	1,199,300	23,550	5,043,600	47,025
Any Disability	32.8	1.28	233,400	10,940	711,200	6,991
Visual	29.7	2.74	43,300	4,760	146,100	1,337
Hearing	28.4	2.81	38,300	4,470	134,700	1,285
Ambulatory	32.9	1.75	124,900	8,050	379,300	3,728
Cognitive	33.4	1.99	98,200	7,150	294,000	2,863
Self-Care	32.1	2.87	44,800	4,840	139,400	1,414
Independent Living	33.8	2.13	87,300	6,740	258,000	2,632

# Education

## Some College/Associate's Degree

### Introduction

This section examines the percentage of non-institutionalized working-age people (ages 21 to 64) with disabilities with only some college or an Associate's degree in North Carolina, using data from the 2015 American Community Survey (ACS). For definitions of terms, see Glossary.

### Quick Statistics

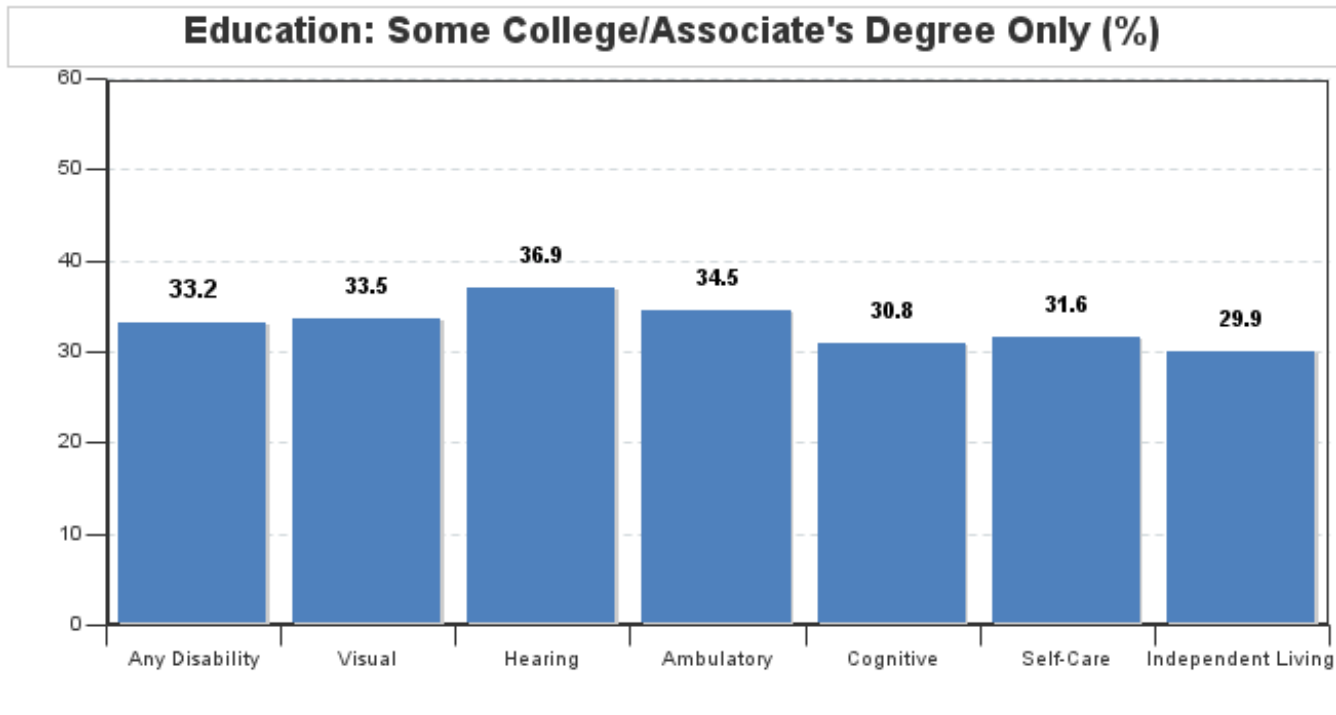
Some  
College: with  
disability  
**33.2%**

Some  
College:  
without  
disability  
**33.9%**

- In 2015, the percentage of working-age people with disabilities with only some college or an Associate's degree in NC was 33.2 percent.
- In 2015, the percentage of working-age people without disabilities with only some college or an Associate's degree in NC was 33.9 percent.
- The difference in the percentage with only some college or an Associate's degree between working-age people with and without disabilities was 0.7 percentage points.
- Among the six types of disabilities identified in the ACS, the highest percentage with only some college or an Associate's degree was for people with "Hearing Disability," 36.9 percent. The lowest percentage with only some college or Associate's degree was for people with "Independent Living Disability," 29.9 percent.



## Percentage of non-institutionalized working-age people (ages 21 to 64) with only some college or an Associate's degree by disability status in North Carolina in 2015



Disability Type	%	MOE	Number	MOE	Base Pop.	Sample Size
No Disability	33.9	0.48	1,708,100	27,280	5,043,600	47,025
Any Disability	33.2	1.28	236,400	11,010	711,200	6,991
Visual	33.5	2.83	48,900	5,060	146,100	1,337
Hearing	36.9	3.01	49,700	5,100	134,700	1,285
Ambulatory	34.5	1.77	130,700	8,230	379,300	3,728
Cognitive	30.8	1.95	90,600	6,870	294,000	2,863
Self-Care	31.6	2.85	44,000	4,800	139,400	1,414
Independent Living	29.9	2.07	77,200	6,340	258,000	2,632

# Education

## Bachelor's Degree or More

### Introduction

This section presents the percentage of non-institutionalized working-age people (ages 21 to 64) with disabilities with a Bachelor's degree or more in North Carolina, using data from the 2015 American Community Survey (ACS). For definitions of terms, see Glossary.

### Quick Statistics

Bachelor's  
Degree or  
More: with  
disability

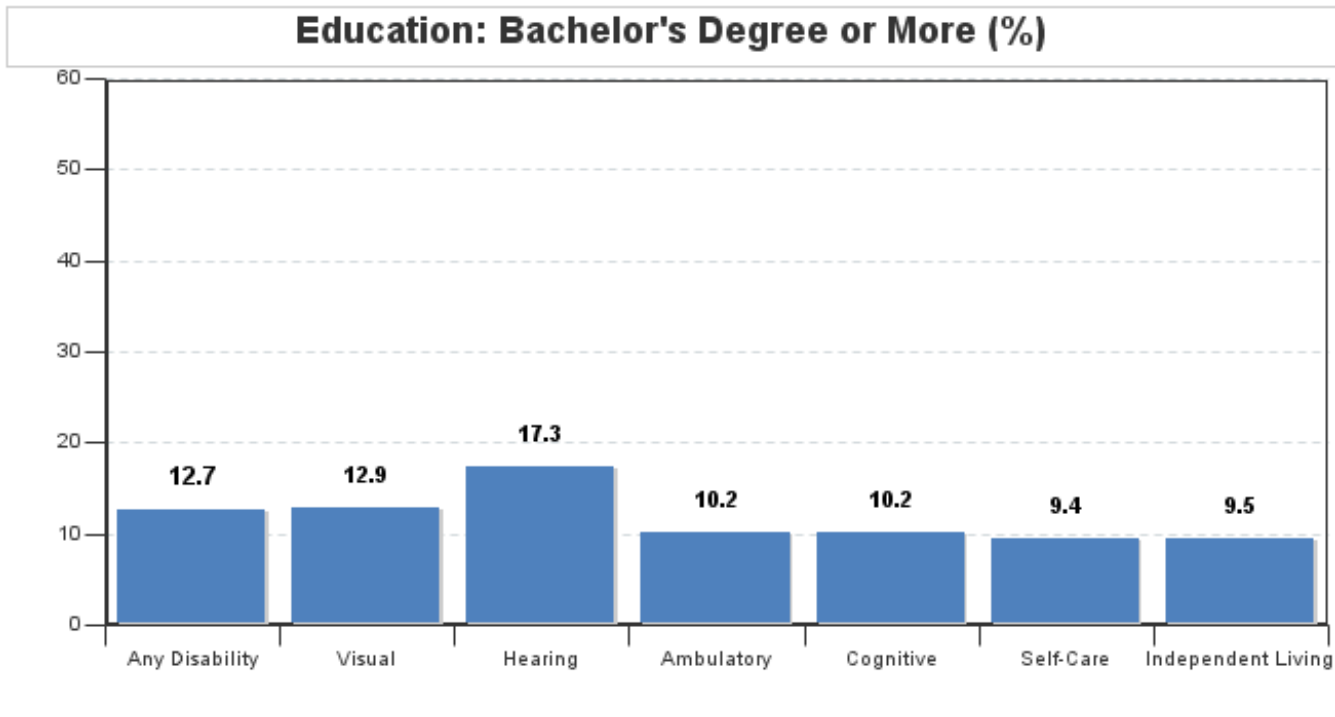
**12.7%**

Bachelor's  
Degree or  
More: without  
disability

**32.3%**

- In 2015, the percentage of working-age people with disabilities with a Bachelor's degree or more in NC was 12.7 percent.
- In 2015, the percentage of working-age people without disabilities with a Bachelor's degree or more in NC was 32.3 percent.
- The difference in the percentage with a Bachelor's degree or more between working-age people with and without disabilities was 19.6 percentage points.
- Among the six types of disabilities identified in the ACS, the highest percentage with a Bachelor's degree or more was for people with "Hearing Disability," 17.3 percent. The lowest percentage with a Bachelor's degree or more was for people with "Self-Care Disability," 9.4 percent.

## Percentage of non-institutionalized working-age people (ages 21 to 64) with a Bachelor's degree or more by disability status in North Carolina in 2015



Disability Type	%	MOE	Number	MOE	Base Pop.	Sample Size
No Disability	32.3	0.48	1,627,700	26,760	5,043,600	47,025
Any Disability	12.7	0.90	90,200	6,850	711,200	6,991
Visual	12.9	2.01	18,800	3,140	146,100	1,337
Hearing	17.3	2.36	23,300	3,500	134,700	1,285
Ambulatory	10.2	1.13	38,700	4,500	379,300	3,728
Cognitive	10.2	1.28	29,800	3,950	294,000	2,863
Self-Care	9.4	1.79	13,000	2,620	139,400	1,414
Independent Living	9.5	1.32	24,400	3,570	258,000	2,632

# Veterans Service-Connected Disability Rating

## Introduction

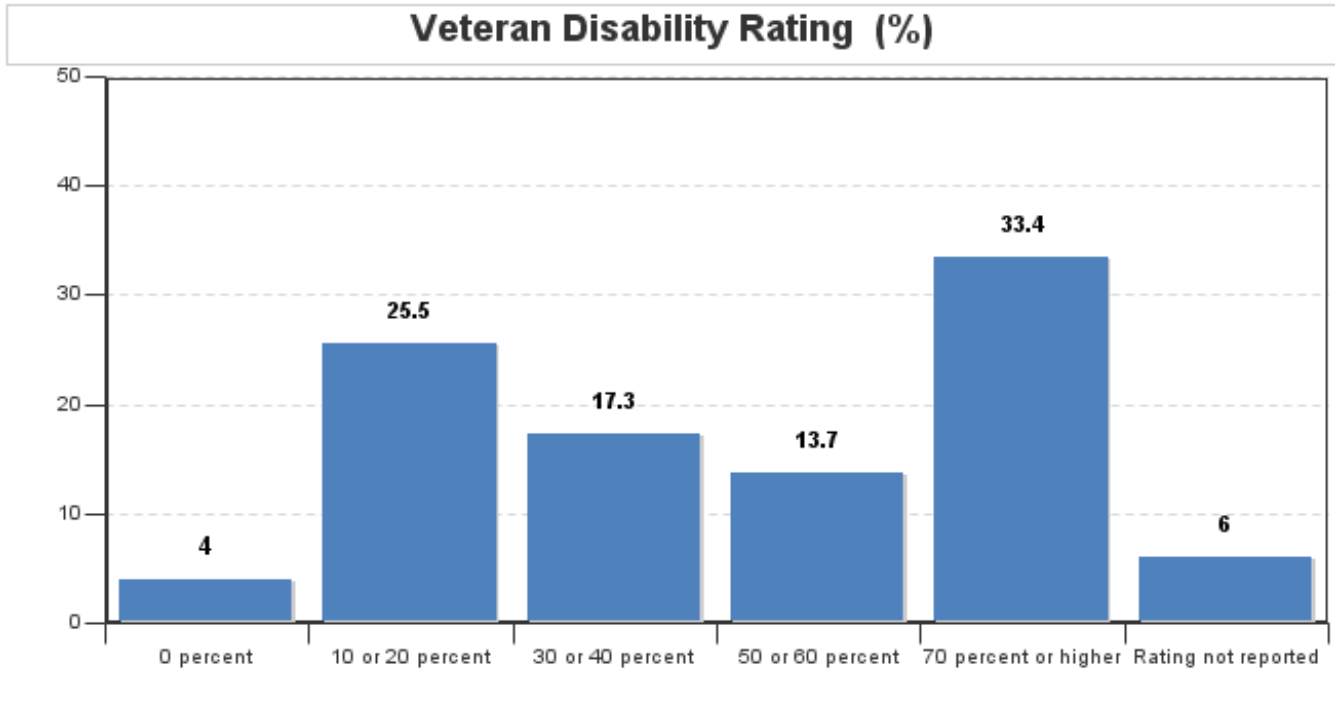
This section presents the percentage of non-institutionalized working-age (ages 21 to 64) civilian veterans reporting a service-connected disability rating in North Carolina. The 2015 American Community Survey (ACS) asks if the veteran has a service-connected disability, and if so, what their rating is (0-100%). A "service-connected" disability is one that has been determined by the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) as being a result of disease or injury incurred or aggravated during military service. Note that a veteran can receive disability compensation for a wide range of conditions, and a veteran with a service-connected disability may not report having one of the six ACS functional or activity limitation disabilities. For definitions of terms, see Glossary.

## Quick Statistics

Veterans with a  
Service-Connected  
Disability  
**27.0%**

- In 2015, there were 361,300 working-age civilian veterans in NC, of whom 97,400 had a VA service-connected disability.
- In 2015, the percentage of working-age civilian veterans in NC with a VA service-connected disability was 27.0 percent.
- In 2015, 32,600 working-age civilian veterans in NC had the most severe service-connected disability rating (70 percent or above).
- In 2015, 33.4 percent of the working-age civilian veterans in NC who had a service connected disability had a service-connected disability rating of 70 percent or above.

## Disability rating of working-age civilian veterans (ages 21 to 64) with a service-connected disability in North Carolina in 2015



Service-Connected Disability	%	MOE	Number	MOE	Base Pop.	Sample Size
Has a service-connected disability rating (0-100%)	27.0	1.69	97,400	7,120	361,300	3,577
<b>Disability rating of veterans with a service connected-disability</b>						
0 percent	4.0	1.44	3,900	1,430	97,400	993
10 or 20 percent	25.5	3.20	24,800	3,610	97,400	993
30 or 40 percent	17.3	2.78	16,900	2,970	97,400	993
50 or 60 percent	13.7	2.52	13,400	2,650	97,400	993
70 percent or higher	33.4	3.46	32,600	4,130	97,400	993
Rating not reported	6.0	1.74	5,900	1,750	97,400	993

# Health Insurance Coverage

## Introduction

This section examines the health insurance coverage of non-institutionalized working-age people (ages 21 to 64) with disabilities in North Carolina, using data from the 2015 American Community Survey (ACS). For definitions of terms, see Glossary.

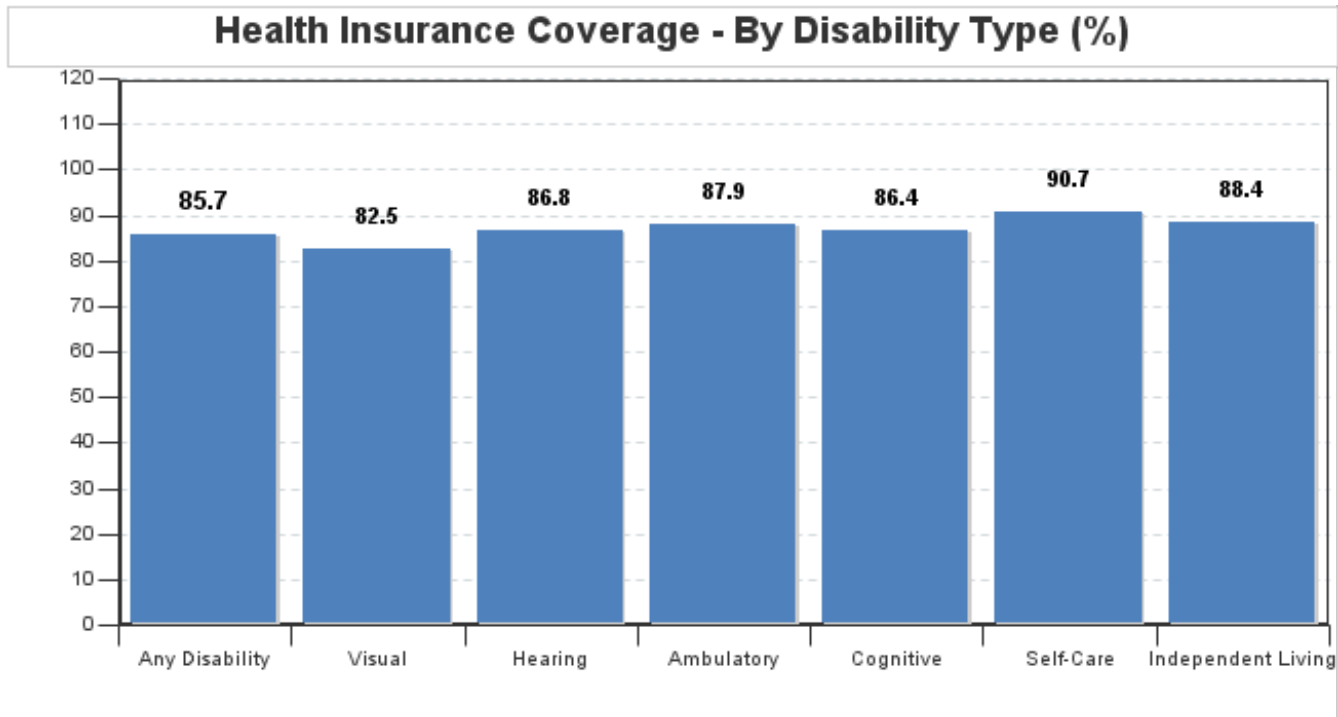
## Quick Statistics

Health  
Coverage:  
with Disability  
**85.7%**

Health  
Coverage:  
without  
Disability  
**83.4%**

- In 2015, 85.7 percent of working-age people with disabilities in NC had some type of health insurance coverage.
- In 2015, 83.4 percent of working-age people without disabilities in NC had some type of health insurance coverage.
- The difference in the health insurance coverage rate between working-age people with and without disabilities was 2.3 percentage points.
- Among the six types of disabilities identified in the ACS, the highest health insurance coverage rate was for people with "Self-Care Disability," 90.7 percent. The lowest health insurance coverage rate was for people with "Visual Disability," 82.5 percent.

## Health Insurance Coverage of non-institutionalized working-age people (ages 21 to 64) by disability status in North Carolina in 2015



Disability Type	%	MOE	Number	MOE	Base Pop.	Sample Size
No Disability	83.4	0.38	4,206,800	35,830	5,043,600	47,025
Any Disability	85.7	0.95	609,700	17,340	711,200	6,991
Visual	82.5	2.28	120,600	7,910	146,100	1,337
Hearing	86.8	2.11	117,000	7,790	134,700	1,285
Ambulatory	87.9	1.21	333,400	13,010	379,300	3,728
Cognitive	86.4	1.45	254,000	11,400	294,000	2,863
Self-Care	90.7	1.78	126,400	8,100	139,400	1,414
Independent Living	88.4	1.44	228,100	10,820	258,000	2,632

# Type of Health Insurance Coverage

## Introduction

This section examines the type of health insurance coverage for non-institutionalized working-age people (ages 21 to 64) with disabilities in North Carolina, using data from the 2015 American Community Survey (ACS). Note that people can report more than one type of insurance coverage. For definitions of terms, see Glossary.

## Quick Statistics

Coverage  
through  
Employer/Union:  
with Disability

**30.3%**

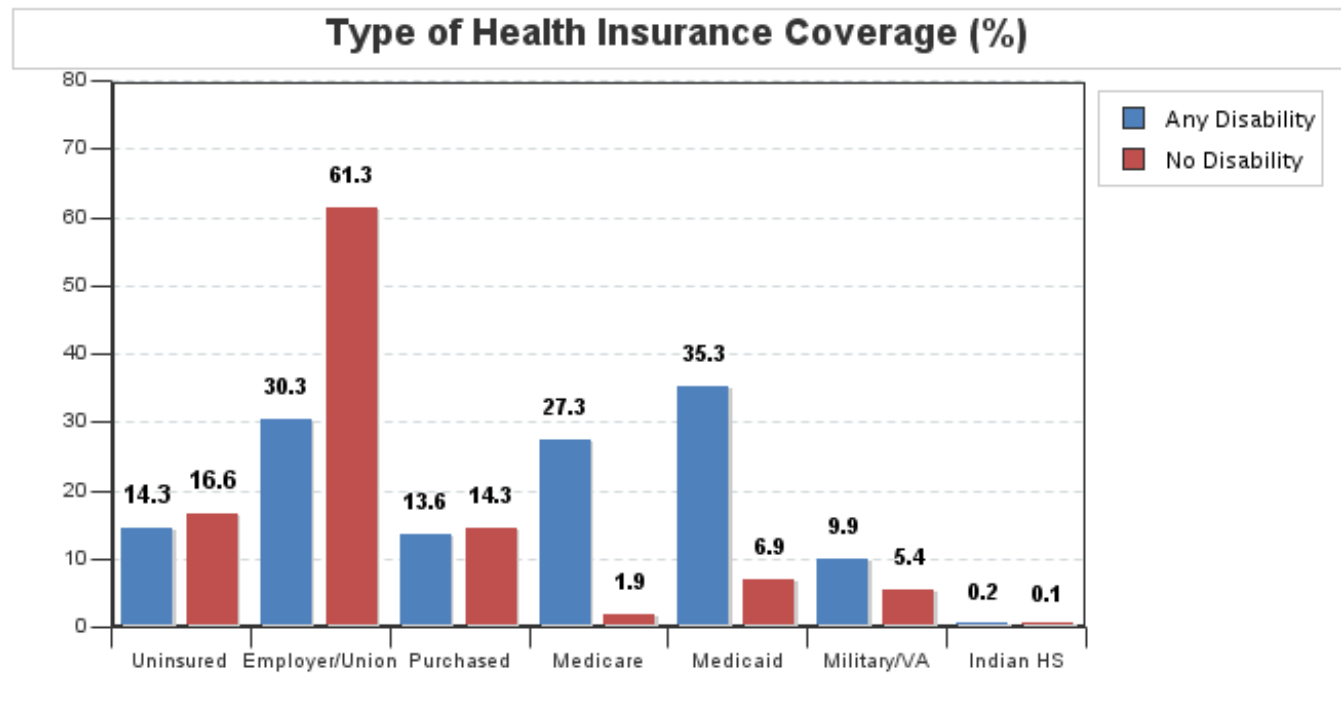
Coverage  
through  
Employer/Union:  
without  
Disability

**61.3%**

- In 2015, 30.3 percent of working-age people with disabilities in NC reported health insurance coverage through a current or former employer or union (theirs or another family member).
- In 2015, 61.3 percent of working-age people without disabilities in NC reported health insurance coverage through a current or former employer or union (theirs or another family member).
- In 2015, 13.6 percent of working-age people with disabilities in NC reported purchasing health insurance coverage directly from an insurance company (by themselves or another family member).
- In 2015, 27.3 percent of working-age people with disabilities in NC reported Medicare coverage and 35.3 percent reported Medicaid coverage (or other government-assistance plan for those with low incomes or a disability).



## Type of Health Insurance Coverage of non-institutionalized working-age people (ages 21 to 64) by disability status in North Carolina in 2015



Disability Status/ Insurance Type	%	MOE	Number	MOE	Base Pop.	Sample Size
<b>Any Disability</b>						
Uninsured	14.3	0.95	101,500	7,260	711,200	6,991
Employer/Union	30.3	1.25	215,300	10,520	711,200	6,991
Purchased	13.6	0.93	96,800	7,090	711,200	6,991
Medicare	27.3	1.21	193,900	9,990	711,200	6,991
Medicaid	35.3	1.30	251,400	11,340	711,200	6,991
Military/VA	9.9	0.81	70,700	6,070	711,200	6,991
Indian Health Service	0.2	3.29	1,300	820	711,200	6,991
<b>No Disability</b>						
Uninsured	16.6	0.38	836,800	20,070	5,043,600	47,025
Employer/Union	61.3	0.50	3,093,900	33,530	5,043,600	47,025
Purchased	14.3	0.36	722,000	18,760	5,043,600	47,025
Medicare	1.9	3.29	97,900	7,130	5,043,600	47,025
Medicaid	6.9	0.26	345,800	13,240	5,043,600	47,025
Military/VA	5.4	0.23	274,300	11,840	5,043,600	47,025
Indian Health Service	0.1	3.29	7,100	1,920	5,043,600	47,025

# Glossary

## Actively Looking for Work

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

## Ambulatory Disability

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

## Base Population (Base Pop.)

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

## Cognitive Disability

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

## Disability and Disability Types

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

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

## Earnings

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

## Education

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

## Employment

A person is considered employed if he or she is either

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

## Full-Time/Full-Year Employment

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

## Group Quarters (GQ)

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

## Health Insurance Coverage

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

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

## Hearing Disability

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

## Hispanic or Latino Origin

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

## Household Income

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

## **Independent Living Disability**

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

## **Institutional Group Quarters (GQs)**

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

## **Margin of Error (MOE)**

Data, such as data from the American Community Survey, is based on a sample, and therefore statistics derived from this data are subject to sampling variability. The margin of error (MOE) is a measure of the degree of sampling variability. In a random sample, the degree of sampling variation is determined by the underlying variability of the phenomena being estimated (e.g., income) and the size of the sample (i.e., the number of survey participants used to calculate the statistic). The smaller the margin of error, the lower the sampling variability and the more "precise" the estimate. A margin of error is the difference between an estimate and its upper or lower confidence bounds. Confidence bounds are calculated by adding the MOE to the estimate (upper bound) and subtracting the MOE from the estimate (lower bound). All margins of error in this report are based on a 90 percent confidence level. This means that there is a 90% certainty that the actual value lies somewhere between the upper and lower confidence bounds.

## **Non-Institutional Group Quarters (GQs)**

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

## **Not Working but Actively Looking for Work**

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

## **Number**

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

## Poverty

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

## Race

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

## Sample Size

The number of survey participants used to calculate the statistic.

## Self-care Disability

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

## Supplemental Security Income (SSI)

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

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

## Veteran Service-Connected Disability

A disease or injury determined to have occurred in or to have been aggravated by military service. A disability is evaluated according to the VA Schedule for Rating Disabilities in Title 38, CFR, and Part 4. Extent of disability is expressed as a

percentage from 0% (for conditions that exist but are not disabling to a compensable degree) to 100%, in increments of 10%. This information was determined by the following two part question:

a. **Does this person have a VA service-connected disability rating?**

Yes (such as 0%, 10%, 20%, ... , 100%)

No *SKIP* to question 28a

b. **What is this person's service-connected disability rating?"**

Responses included: 0 percent; 10 or 20 percent; 30 or 40 percent; 50 or 60 percent; 70 percent or higher

## Visual Disability

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



# About the Disability Status Reports

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