

Cornell University

2017

PR

Puerto Rico

# 2017 Disability Status Report Puerto Rico

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

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

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# The 2017 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 2017 Puerto Rico Community Survey (PRCS), is available again this year in English as well as Spanish. However, please note that the Puerto Rico sample is not included in any U.S. population estimates included in these reports.

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

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

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

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

# Puerto Rico Summary

These statistics indicate the social and economic status of non-institutionalized people with disabilities in Puerto Rico, using data from the 2017 American Community Survey (ACS).

**Age:** In 2017, the prevalence of disability in PR was:

- 21.6 percent for persons of all ages
- 1.1 percent for persons ages 4 and under
- 10.2 percent for persons ages 5 to 15
- 8.7 percent for persons ages 16 to 20
- 17.9 percent for persons ages 21 to 64
- 38.4 percent for persons ages 65 to 74
- 62.1 percent for persons ages 75+

**Disability Type:** In 2017, the prevalence of the six disability types among persons of all ages in PR was:

- 6.6% reported a Visual Disability
- 4.7% reported a Hearing Disability
- 12.3% reported an Ambulatory Disability
- 9.9% reported a Cognitive Disability
- 5.9% reported a Self-Care Disability
- 11.6% reported an Independent Living Disability

**Gender:** In 2017, 21.7 percent of females of all ages and 21.5 percent of males of all ages in PR reported a disability.

**Hispanic/Latino:** In 2017, the prevalence of disability among persons of all ages of Hispanic or Latino origin in PR was 21.7 percent.

**Race:** In PR in 2017, the prevalence of disability for working-age people (ages 21 to 64) was:

- 18.2 percent among Whites
- 15.1 percent among Black / African Americans
- 10.9 percent among Asians
- 19.7 percent among Native Americans
- 18.8 percent among persons of some other race(s)

**Employment:** In 2017, the employment rate of working-age people (ages 21 to 64) with disabilities in PR was 23.7 percent.

**Looking for Work:** In PR in 2017, the percentage actively looking for work among people with disabilities who were not working was 8.3 percent.

**Full-Time/Full-Year Employment:** In PR in 2017, the percentage of working-age people with disabilities working full-time/full-year was 15.2 percent.

**Annual Earnings:** In 2017, the median annual earnings of working-age people with disabilities working full-time/full-year in PR was \$22,200.

**Annual Household Income:** In PR in 2017, the median annual income of households with working-age people with disabilities was \$17,800.

**Poverty:** In PR in 2017, the poverty rate of working-age people with disabilities was 53.3 percent.

**Supplemental Security Income:** 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.

**Educational Attainment:** In 2017, the percentage of working-age people with disabilities in PR:

- with only a high school diploma or equivalent was 31.2 percent
- with only some college or an associate degree was 22.2 percent
- with a bachelor's degree or more was 18.7 percent.

**Veterans Service-Connected Disability:** In 2017, the percentage of working-age civilian veterans with a VA determined Service-Connected Disability was 33.1 percent in PR.

**Health Insurance Coverage:** In 2017 in PR, 94.0 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 2017 American Community Survey (ACS). The US disability prevalence rate for this population was 10.6%

<b>Location</b>	<b>2017 (%)</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>2017 (%)</b>
Alabama	<b>14.9</b>	Montana	<b>11.2</b>
Alaska	<b>12.4</b>	Nebraska	<b>10.4</b>
Arizona	<b>10.7</b>	Nevada	<b>10.5</b>
Arkansas	<b>16.5</b>	New Hampshire	<b>10.0</b>
California	<b>8.3</b>	New Jersey	<b>7.9</b>
Colorado	<b>9.0</b>	New Mexico	<b>14.7</b>
Connecticut	<b>8.4</b>	New York	<b>9.1</b>
Delaware	<b>8.8</b>	North Carolina	<b>11.3</b>
District of Columbia	<b>11.3</b>	North Dakota	<b>7.7</b>
Florida	<b>10.5</b>	Ohio	<b>12.3</b>
Georgia	<b>10.7</b>	Oklahoma	<b>15.3</b>
Hawaii	<b>7.4</b>	Oregon	<b>11.6</b>
Idaho	<b>13.0</b>	Pennsylvania	<b>11.8</b>
Illinois	<b>9.0</b>	Puerto Rico	<b>17.9</b>
Indiana	<b>12.1</b>	Rhode Island	<b>11.8</b>
Iowa	<b>9.0</b>	South Carolina	<b>13.0</b>
Kansas	<b>11.5</b>	South Dakota	<b>9.0</b>
Kentucky	<b>16.7</b>	Tennessee	<b>13.7</b>
Louisiana	<b>13.3</b>	Texas	<b>9.7</b>
Maine	<b>14.1</b>	Utah	<b>8.7</b>
Maryland	<b>9.0</b>	Vermont	<b>12.0</b>
Massachusetts	<b>9.4</b>	Virginia	<b>9.7</b>
Michigan	<b>12.3</b>	Washington	<b>10.6</b>
Minnesota	<b>9.2</b>	West Virginia	<b>19.0</b>
Mississippi	<b>15.7</b>	Wisconsin	<b>9.6</b>
Missouri	<b>13.1</b>	Wyoming	<b>12.3</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 2017 American Community Survey (ACS). The employment rate in the US for this population was 37.3% for people with disabilities and 79.4% for people without disabilities.

Location	People with Disabilities 2017	People without Disabilities 2017	Location	People with Disabilities 2017	People without Disabilities 2017
Alabama	27.0	74.9	Montana	43.8	81.8
Alaska	40.3	79.5	Nebraska	51.8	86.4
Arizona	36.9	77.2	Nevada	41.1	78.6
Arkansas	31.8	78.3	New Hampshire	45.0	85.1
California	36.8	77.3	New Jersey	39.2	80.9
Colorado	45.7	82.4	New Mexico	33.1	73.6
Connecticut	40.4	80.4	New York	34.9	78.8
Delaware	37.0	76.5	North Carolina	34.6	79.2
District of Columbia	44.8	81.9	North Dakota	56.1	85.3
Florida	34.2	77.6	Ohio	37.0	80.7
Georgia	34.9	78.4	Oklahoma	36.6	78.3
Hawaii	41.3	81.4	Oregon	37.0	79.8
Idaho	43.5	78.7	Pennsylvania	37.1	80.4
Illinois	38.8	79.7	Puerto Rico	23.7	57.1
Indiana	38.3	80.6	Rhode Island	42.1	81.8
Iowa	46.0	85.0	South Carolina	33.0	78.5
Kansas	46.1	82.7	South Dakota	53.2	85.1
Kentucky	30.9	78.0	Tennessee	34.5	79.4
Louisiana	34.3	75.2	Texas	40.2	78.3
Maine	32.9	81.9	Utah	49.4	81.1
Maryland	42.6	82.4	Vermont	45.9	81.5
Massachusetts	37.6	82.7	Virginia	41.3	81.8
Michigan	33.5	78.5	Washington	41.7	80.2
Minnesota	49.0	85.7	West Virginia	25.0	73.1
Mississippi	28.8	75.3	Wisconsin	40.5	84.3
Missouri	35.9	81.7	Wyoming	51.3	82.3

# Prevalence

## All Ages

### Introduction

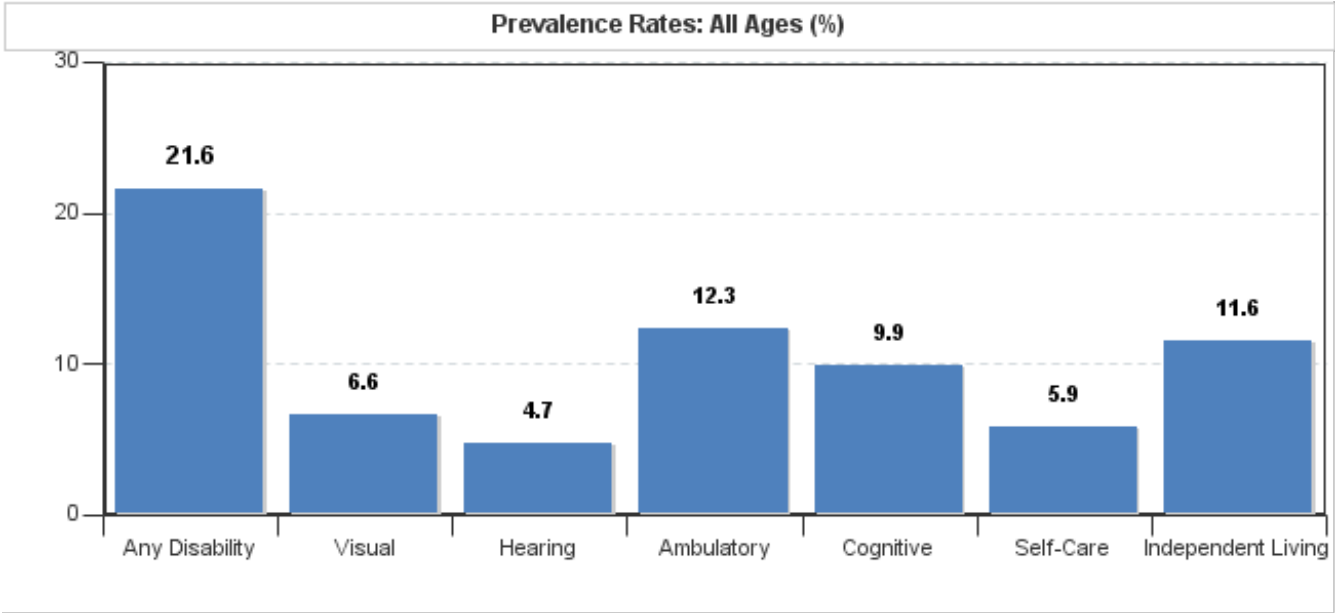
This section addresses the prevalence of disability among non-institutionalized people of all ages in Puerto Rico, using data from the 2017 American Community Survey (ACS). For definitions of terms, see Glossary.

### Quick Statistics

Prevalence:  
All Ages  
**21.6%**

- In 2017, the overall percentage (prevalence rate) of people with a disability of all ages in PR was 21.6 percent.
- In other words, in 2017, 716,000 of the 3,312,000 individuals of all ages in PR reported one or more disabilities.
- In PR in 2017, among the six types of disabilities identified in the ACS, the highest prevalence rate was for "Ambulatory Disability," 12.3 percent. The lowest prevalence rate was for "Hearing Disability," 4.7 percent.

# Prevalence of disability among non-institutionalized people of all ages in Puerto Rico in 2017\*



Disability Type	%	MOE	Number	MOE	Base Pop.	Sample Size
Any Disability	21.6	0.48	716,000	15,960	3,312,000	20,400
Visual	6.6	0.29	217,700	9,600	3,312,000	20,400
Hearing	4.7	0.25	154,800	8,170	3,312,000	20,400
Ambulatory	12.3	0.39	388,100	12,460	3,165,300	19,711
Cognitive	9.9	0.36	314,200	11,350	3,165,300	19,711
Self-Care	5.9	0.28	187,300	8,950	3,165,300	19,711
Independent Living	11.6	0.41	324,100	11,510	2,787,000	17,736

\* **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 Puerto Rico, using data from the 2017 American Community Survey (ACS). Only the two sensory disability questions were asked of this population. For definitions of terms, see Glossary.

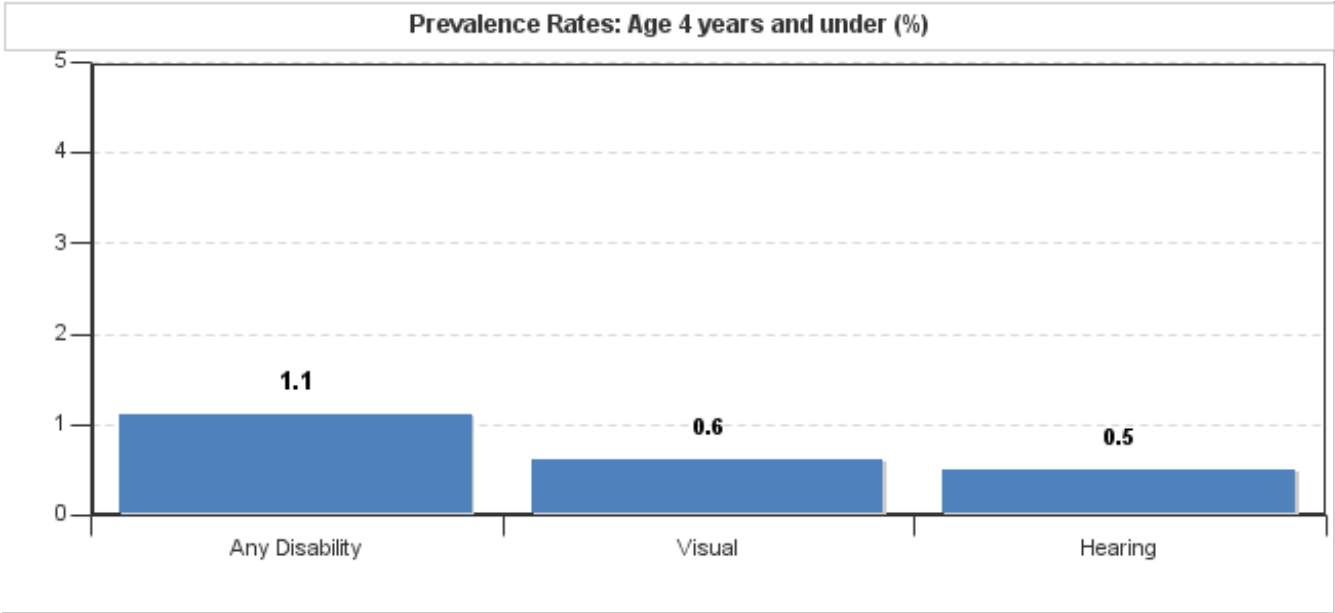
### Quick Statistics

Prevalence:  
Ages 4 and  
under

**1.1%**

- In 2017, the overall percentage (prevalence rate) of children with a visual and/or hearing disability ages 0 to 4 in PR was 1.1 percent.
- In other words, in 2017, 1,700 of the 146,700 children ages 0 to 4 in PR reported one or more disabilities.
- In PR in 2017, 0.6 percent reported a "Visual Disability"
- In PR in 2017, 0.5 percent reported a "Hearing Disability"

# Prevalence of disability among non-institutionalized people ages 4 and under in Puerto Rico in 2017



Disability Type	%	MOE	Number	MOE	Base Pop.	Sample Size
Any Disability	1.1	3.29	1,700	870	146,700	689
Visual	0.6	3.29	900	640	146,700	689
Hearing	0.5	3.29	800	600	146,700	689

# Prevalence

## Ages 5 to 15 years

### Introduction

This section focuses on the prevalence of disability among non-institutionalized children ages 5 to 15 in Puerto Rico, using data from the 2017 American Community Survey (ACS)\*. For definitions of terms, see Glossary.

### Quick Statistics

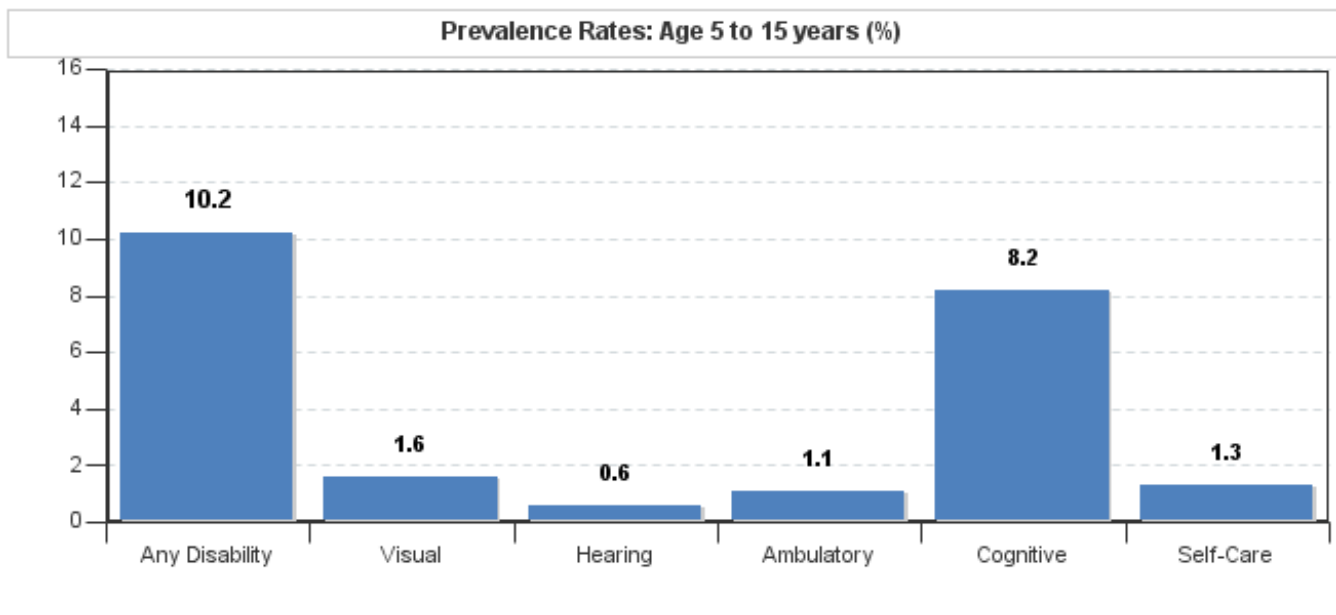
Prevalence:  
Ages 5 to 15  
years

**10.2%**

- In 2017, the overall percentage (prevalence rate) of children with a disability ages 5 to 15 in PR was 10.2 percent.
- In other words, in 2017, 42,500 of the 418,100 individuals ages 5 to 15 in PR reported one or more disabilities.
- In PR in 2017, among the five types of disabilities\* identified in the ACS, the highest prevalence rate was for "Cognitive Disability," 8.2 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 Puerto Rico in 2017



Disability Type	%	MOE	Number	MOE	Base Pop.	Sample Size
Any Disability	10.2	0.99	42,500	4,360	418,100	2,192
Visual	1.6	3.29	6,900	1,760	418,100	2,192
Hearing	0.6	3.29	2,400	1,040	418,100	2,192
Ambulatory	1.1	3.29	4,600	1,450	418,100	2,192
Cognitive	8.2	0.90	34,300	3,920	418,100	2,192
Self-Care	1.3	3.29	5,500	1,580	418,100	2,192

\* **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 Puerto Rico, using data from the 2017 American Community Survey (ACS). For definitions of terms, see Glossary.

### Quick Statistics

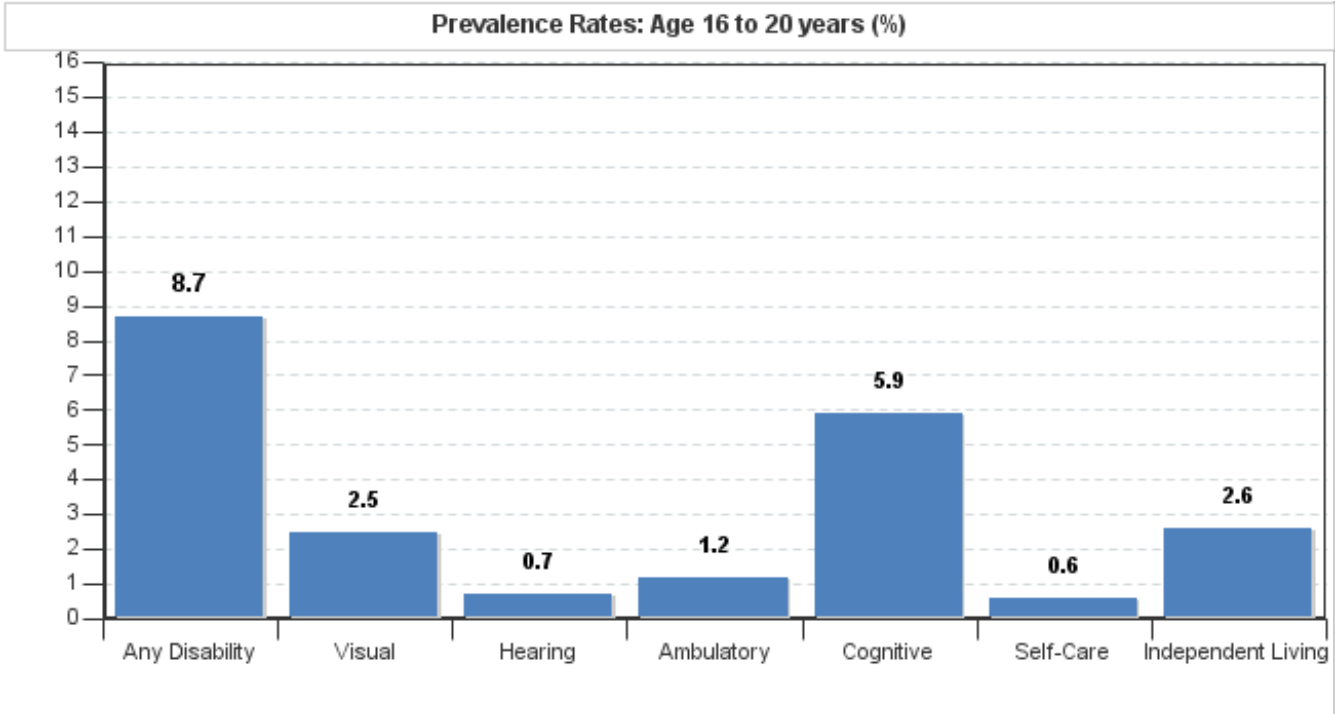
Prevalence:  
Ages 16 to  
20 years

**8.7%**

- In 2017, the overall percentage (prevalence rate) of people with a disability ages 16 to 20 in PR was 8.7 percent.
- In other words, in 2017, 20,700 of the 238,500 individuals ages 16 to 20 in PR reported one or more disabilities.
- In PR in 2017, among the six types of disabilities identified in the ACS, the highest prevalence rate was for "Cognitive Disability," 5.9 percent. The lowest prevalence rate was for "Self-Care Disability," 0.6 percent.



# Prevalence of disability among non-institutionalized people ages 16 to 20 in Puerto Rico in 2017



Disability Type	%	MOE	Number	MOE	Base Pop.	Sample Size
Any Disability	8.7	1.23	20,700	3,050	238,500	1,366
Visual	2.5	0.68	6,000	1,650	238,500	1,366
Hearing	0.7	3.29	1,600	850	238,500	1,366
Ambulatory	1.2	3.29	2,900	1,150	238,500	1,366
Cognitive	5.9	1.02	14,000	2,510	238,500	1,366
Self-Care	0.6	3.29	1,500	810	238,500	1,366
Independent Living	2.6	0.69	6,100	1,670	238,500	1,366

# 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 Puerto Rico, using data from the 2017 American Community Survey (ACS). For definitions of terms, see Glossary.

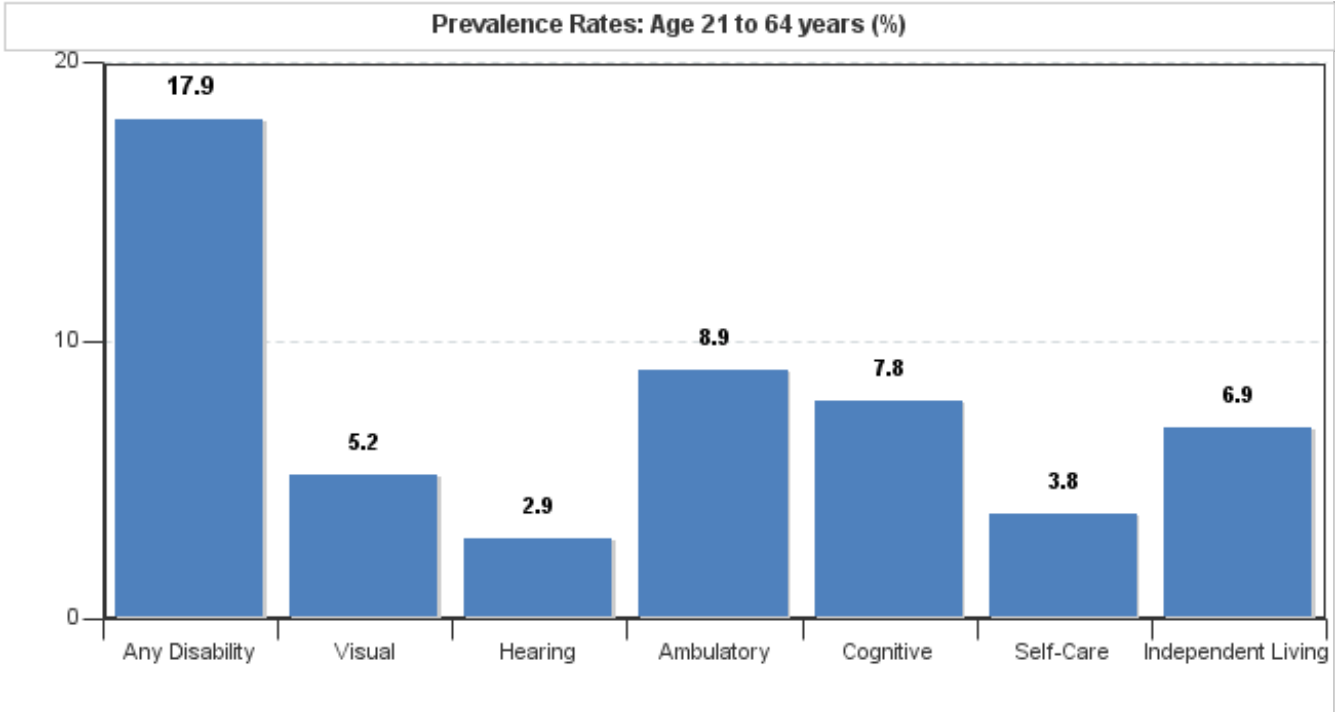
### Quick Statistics

Prevalence:  
Ages 21 to 64  
years

**17.9%**

- In 2017, the overall percentage (prevalence rate) of working age people (ages 21 to 64) with a disability in PR was 17.9 percent.
- In other words, in 2017, 332,600 of the 1,855,400 individuals ages 21 to 64 in PR reported one or more disabilities.
- In PR in 2017, among the six types of disabilities identified in the ACS, the highest prevalence rate was for "Ambulatory Disability," 8.9 percent. The lowest prevalence rate was "Hearing Disability," 2.9 percent.

# Prevalence of disability among non-institutionalized people ages 21 to 64 in Puerto Rico in 2017



Disability Type	%	MOE	Number	MOE	Base Pop.	Sample Size
Any Disability	17.9	0.60	332,600	11,640	1,855,400	10,950
Visual	5.2	0.35	97,200	6,540	1,855,400	10,950
Hearing	2.9	0.26	53,500	4,880	1,855,400	10,950
Ambulatory	8.9	0.44	164,900	8,420	1,855,400	10,950
Cognitive	7.8	0.42	145,200	7,930	1,855,400	10,950
Self-Care	3.8	0.30	71,000	5,610	1,855,400	10,950
Independent Living	6.9	0.40	128,400	7,480	1,855,400	10,950

# Prevalence

## Ages 65 to 74 years

### Introduction

This section explores the prevalence of disability among non-institutionalized people ages 65 to 74 in Puerto Rico, using data from the 2017 American Community Survey (ACS). For definitions of terms, see Glossary.

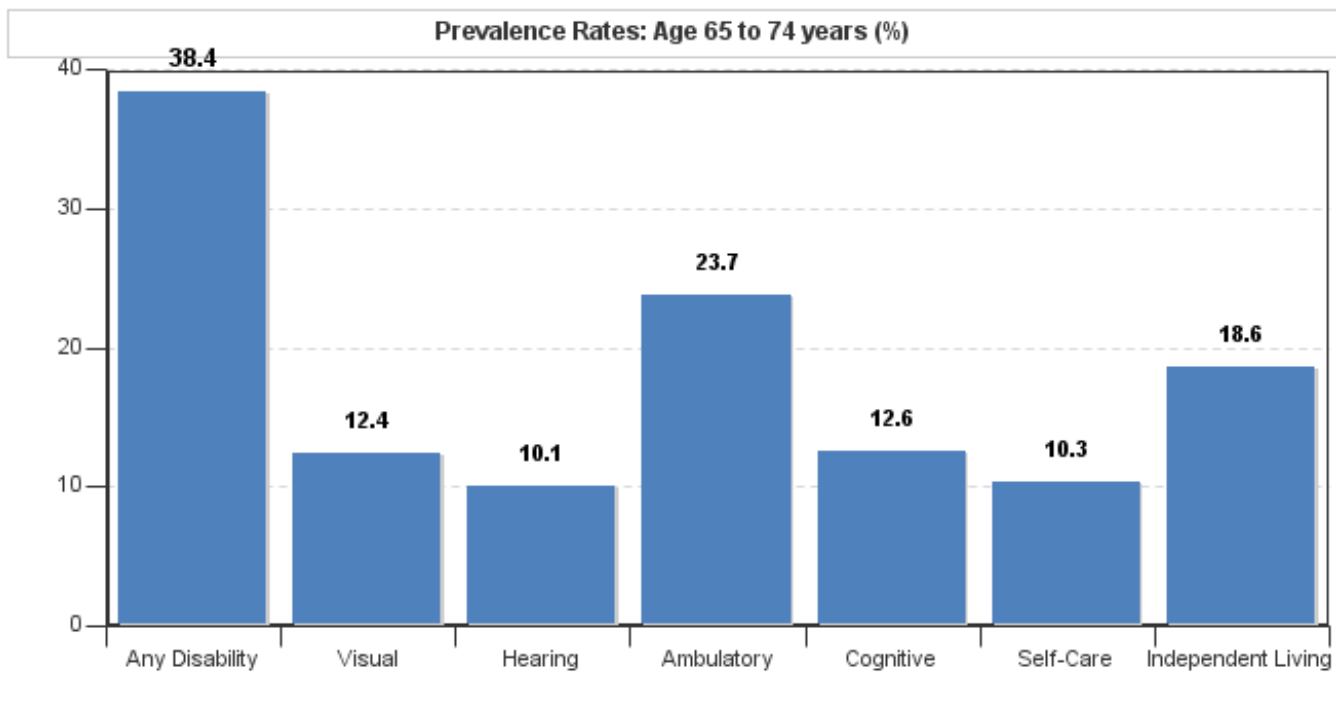
### Quick Statistics

Prevalence:  
Ages 65 to 74  
years

**38.4%**

- In 2017, the overall percentage (prevalence rate) of people with a disability ages 65 to 74 in PR was 38.4 percent.
- In other words, in 2017, 140,900 of the 366,800 individuals ages 65 to 74 in PR reported one or more disabilities.
- In PR in 2017, among the six types of disabilities identified in the ACS, the highest prevalence rate was for "Ambulatory Disability," 23.7 percent. The lowest prevalence rate was for "Hearing Disability," 10.1 percent.

## Prevalence of disability among non-institutionalized people ages 65 to 74 in Puerto Rico in 2017



Disability Type	%	MOE	Number	MOE	Base Pop.	Sample Size
Any Disability	38.4	1.71	140,900	7,820	366,800	2,910
Visual	12.4	1.16	45,600	4,510	366,800	2,910
Hearing	10.1	1.06	37,100	4,070	366,800	2,910
Ambulatory	23.7	1.49	86,900	6,190	366,800	2,910
Cognitive	12.6	1.17	46,300	4,550	366,800	2,910
Self-Care	10.3	1.07	37,800	4,110	366,800	2,910
Independent Living	18.6	1.37	68,400	5,510	366,800	2,910

# Prevalence

## Ages 75 and Older

### Introduction

This section focuses on the prevalence of disability among non-institutionalized people ages 75 and older in Puerto Rico, using data from the 2017 American Community Survey (ACS). For definitions of terms, see Glossary.

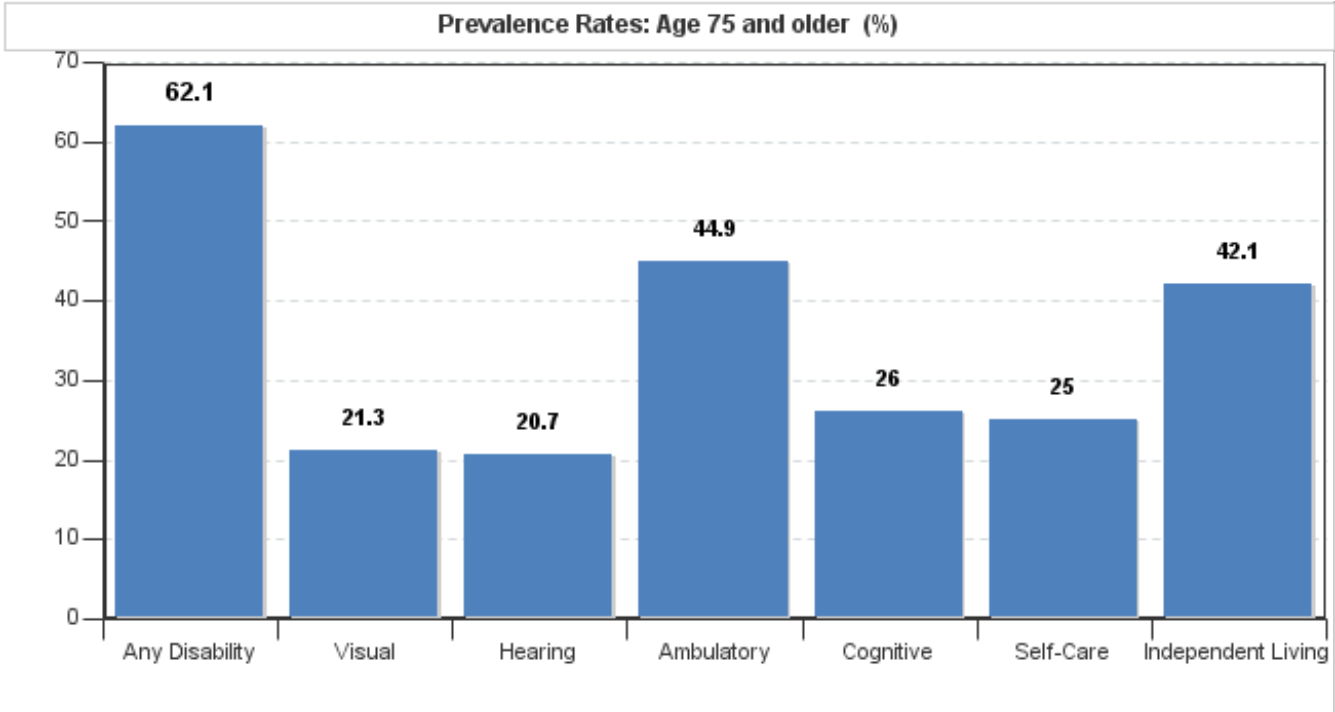
### Quick Statistics

Prevalence:  
Ages 75 and  
Older

**62.1%**

- In 2017, the overall percentage (prevalence rate) of people with a disability ages 75 and older in PR was 62.1 percent.
- In other words, in 2017, 177,700 of the 286,400 individuals ages 75 and older in PR reported one or more disabilities.
- In PR in 2017, among the six types of disabilities identified in the ACS, the highest prevalence rate was for "Ambulatory Disability," 44.9 percent. The lowest prevalence rate was for "Hearing Disability," 20.7 percent.

# Prevalence of disability among non-institutionalized people ages 75 and older in Puerto Rico in 2017



Disability Type	%	MOE	Number	MOE	Base Pop.	Sample Size
Any Disability	62.1	1.93	177,700	8,730	286,400	2,293
Visual	21.3	1.63	61,100	5,210	286,400	2,293
Hearing	20.7	1.61	59,400	5,140	286,400	2,293
Ambulatory	44.9	1.98	128,700	7,490	286,400	2,293
Cognitive	26.0	1.74	74,500	5,740	286,400	2,293
Self-Care	25.0	1.72	71,500	5,630	286,400	2,293
Independent Living	42.1	1.96	120,500	7,250	286,400	2,293

# Prevalence

## Gender and Age

### Introduction

This section examines the prevalence of disability among people by gender and age group in Puerto Rico, using data from the 2017 American Community Survey (ACS)\*. For definitions of terms, see Glossary.

### Quick Statistics

Prevalence:  
Males All  
Ages

**21.5%**

Prevalence:  
Female All  
Ages

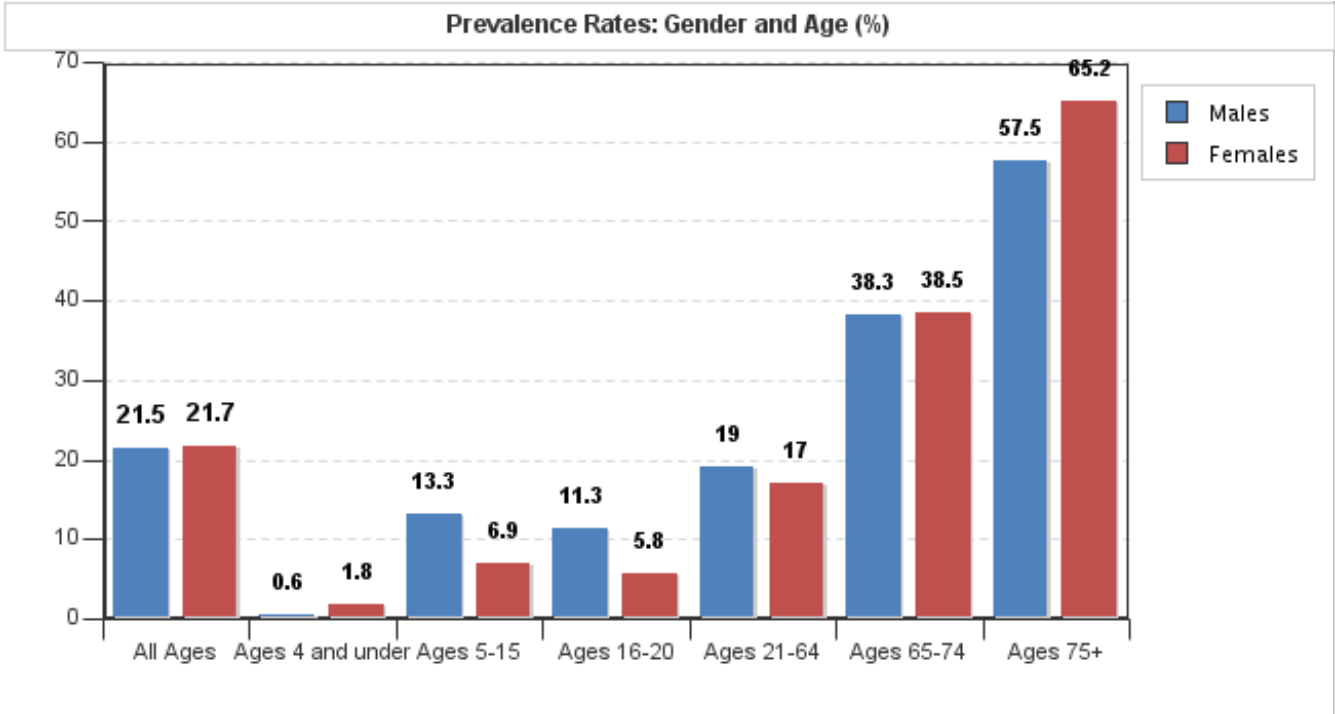
**21.7%**

- In PR in 2017, the overall percentage (prevalence rate) of males with a disability of all ages was 21.5 percent.
- In other words, in 2017, 338,600 of the 1,572,600 males of all ages in PR reported one or more disabilities.
- In PR in 2017, the overall percentage (prevalence rate) of females with a disability of all ages was 21.7 percent.
- In other words, in 2017, 377,400 of the 1,739,400 females of all ages in PR 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 Puerto Rico in 2017



Gender & Age	%	MOE	Number	MOE	Base Pop.	Sample Size
<b>Males</b>						
Males: All Ages	21.5	0.70	338,600	11,740	1,572,600	9,436
Males: Ages 4 and under	0.6	3.29	500	490	83,400	388
Males: Ages 5-15	13.3	1.56	28,300	3,570	213,300	1,111
Males: Ages 16-20	11.3	1.92	14,000	2,510	123,600	658
Males: Ages 21-64	19.0	0.89	164,900	8,420	869,600	5,057
Males: Ages 65-74	38.3	2.55	63,200	5,300	165,100	1,257
Males: Ages 75+	57.5	3.07	67,700	5,480	117,700	965
<b>Females</b>						
Females: All Ages	21.7	0.67	377,400	12,310	1,739,400	10,964
Females: Ages 4 and under	1.8	3.29	1,200	720	63,300	301
Females: Ages 5-15	6.9	1.19	14,100	2,520	204,800	1,081
Females: Ages 16-20	5.8	1.47	6,700	1,740	114,900	708
Females: Ages 21-64	17.0	0.81	167,700	8,490	985,800	5,893
Females: Ages 65-74	38.5	2.30	77,700	5,860	201,800	1,653
Females: Ages 75+	65.2	2.47	110,100	6,940	168,700	1,328

\* **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 Puerto Rico, using data from the 2017 American Community Survey (ACS)\*. For definitions of terms, see Glossary.

### Quick Statistics

Prevalence:  
Hispanic All  
Ages

**21.7%**

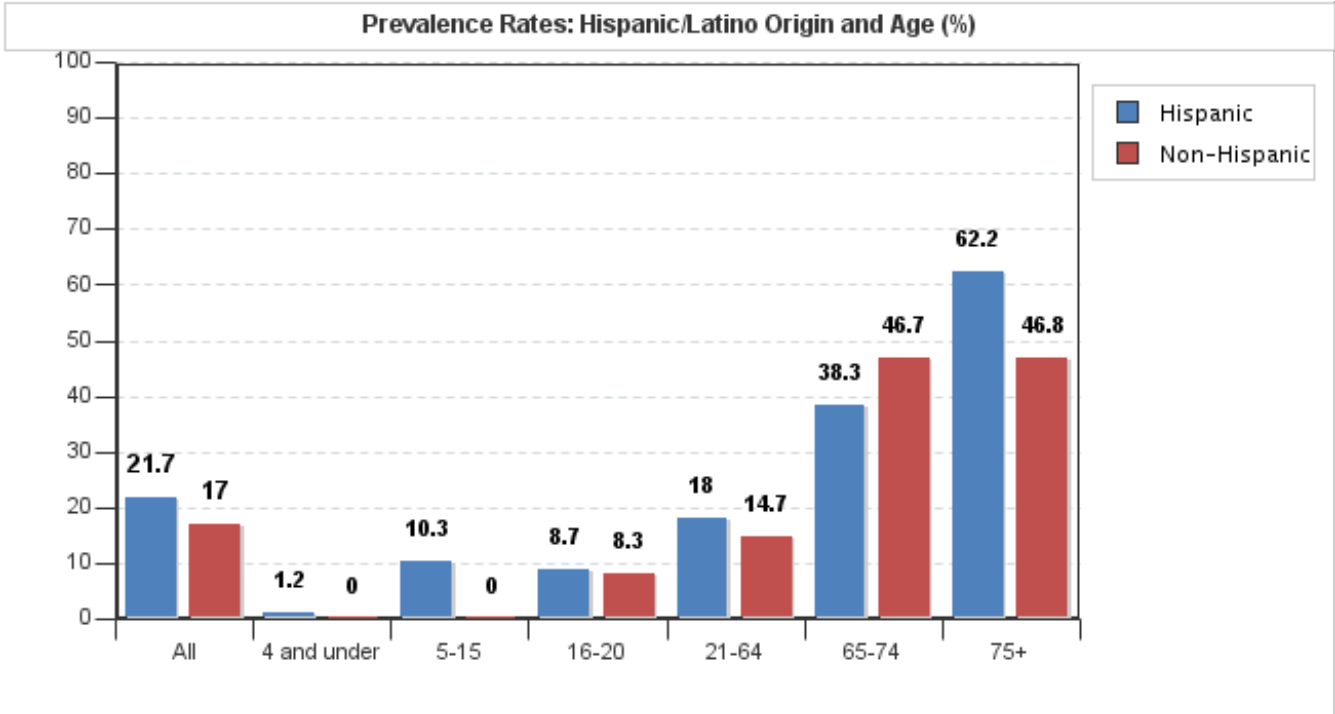
Prevalence:  
Non-Hispanic  
All Ages

**17.0%**

- In PR in 2017, the overall percentage (prevalence rate) of disability among people of Hispanic/Latino origin of all ages was 21.7 percent.
- In other words, in 2017, 710,600 of the 3,280,400 people of Hispanic/Latino origin of all ages in PR reported one or more disabilities.
- In PR in 2017, the overall percentage (prevalence rate) of disability among people of non-Hispanic/Latino origin of all ages was 17.0 percent.
- In other words, in 2017, 5,400 of the 31,600 people of non-Hispanic/Latino origin of all ages in PR 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 Puerto Rico in 2017



Hispanic/Latino Origin & Age	%	MOE	Number	MOE	Base Pop.	Sample Size
<b>Hispanic</b>						
Hispanic - All Ages	21.7	0.48	710,600	15,910	3,280,400	20,189
Hispanic - Ages 4 and under	1.2	3.29	1,700	870	145,800	686
Hispanic - Ages 5-15	10.3	1.01	42,500	4,360	412,900	2,173
Hispanic - Ages 16-20	8.7	1.23	20,500	3,040	236,900	1,352
Hispanic - Ages 21-64	18.0	0.60	329,800	11,600	1,836,900	10,821
Hispanic - Ages 65-74	38.3	1.72	139,400	7,780	363,700	2,884
Hispanic - Ages 75+	62.2	1.94	176,700	8,700	284,200	2,273
<b>Non-Hispanic</b>						
Non-Hispanic - All Ages	17.0	4.50	5,400	1,560	31,600	211
Non-Hispanic - Ages 4 and under	0.0 <sup>†</sup>	3.29	0	400	900	3
Non-Hispanic - Ages 5-15	0.0 <sup>†</sup>	3.29	0	400	5,200	19
Non-Hispanic - Ages 16-20	8.3 <sup>†</sup>	14.80	100	400	1,600	14
Non-Hispanic - Ages 21-64	14.7	5.53	2,700	1,110	18,600	129
Non-Hispanic - Ages 65-74	46.7 <sup>†</sup>	18.84	1,500	820	3,200	26
Non-Hispanic - Ages 75+	46.8 <sup>†</sup>	22.62	1,000	680	2,200	20

\* **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.

† **Caution:** Estimate based on small sample size (less than 40 individuals).

# Prevalence

## Race

### Introduction

This section presents the disability prevalence rate among non-institutionalized working-age people (ages 21 to 64) by race category in PR, using data from the 2017 American Community Survey (ACS). For definitions of terms, see Glossary.

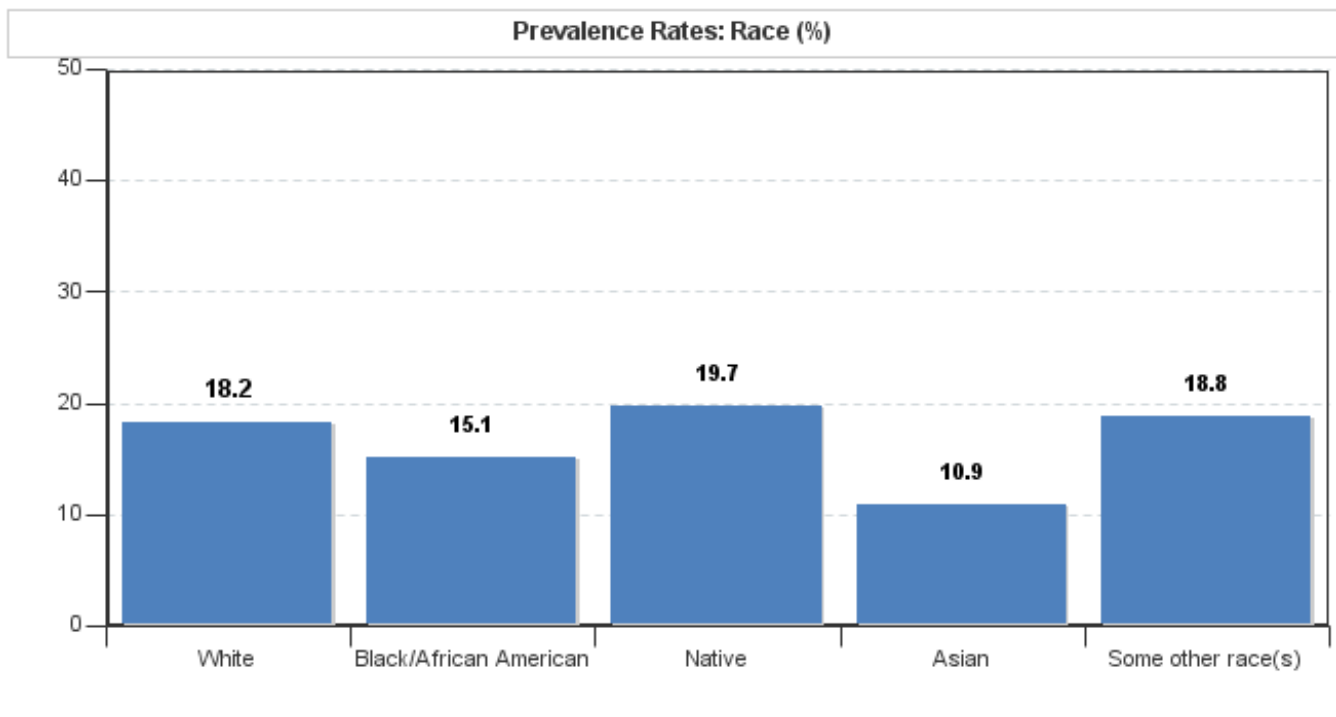
### Quick Statistics

In 2017, among working-age people in PR:

- 18.2 percent of persons who were White reported a disability.
- 15.1 percent of persons who were Black/African American reported a disability.
- 19.7<sup>†</sup> percent of persons who were Native American reported a disability.
- 10.9<sup>†</sup> percent of persons who were Asian reported a disability.
- 18.8 percent of persons who were some other race(s) reported a disability.

<sup>†</sup> **Caution:** Estimate based on small sample size (less than 40 individuals).

## Prevalence of disability among non-institutionalized working-age people (ages 21 to 64) by race in Puerto Rico in 2017



Race	%	MOE	Number	MOE	Base Pop.	Sample Size
White	18.2	0.74	221,100	9,670	1,215,600	7,319
Black/African American	15.1	1.58	34,900	3,950	231,600	1,405
Native American or Alaska Native	19.7 <sup>†</sup>	11.56	1,100	690	5,400	39
Asian	10.9 <sup>†</sup>	12.29	300	400	2,900	19
Some other race(s)	18.8	1.31	75,100	5,770	399,900	2,168

<sup>†</sup> **Caution:** Estimate based on small sample size (less than 40 individuals).

# Employment

## Introduction

This section examines the employment rates of non-institutionalized working-age people (ages 21 to 64) with disabilities in Puerto Rico, using data from the 2017 American Community Survey (ACS). For definitions of terms, see Glossary.

## Quick Statistics

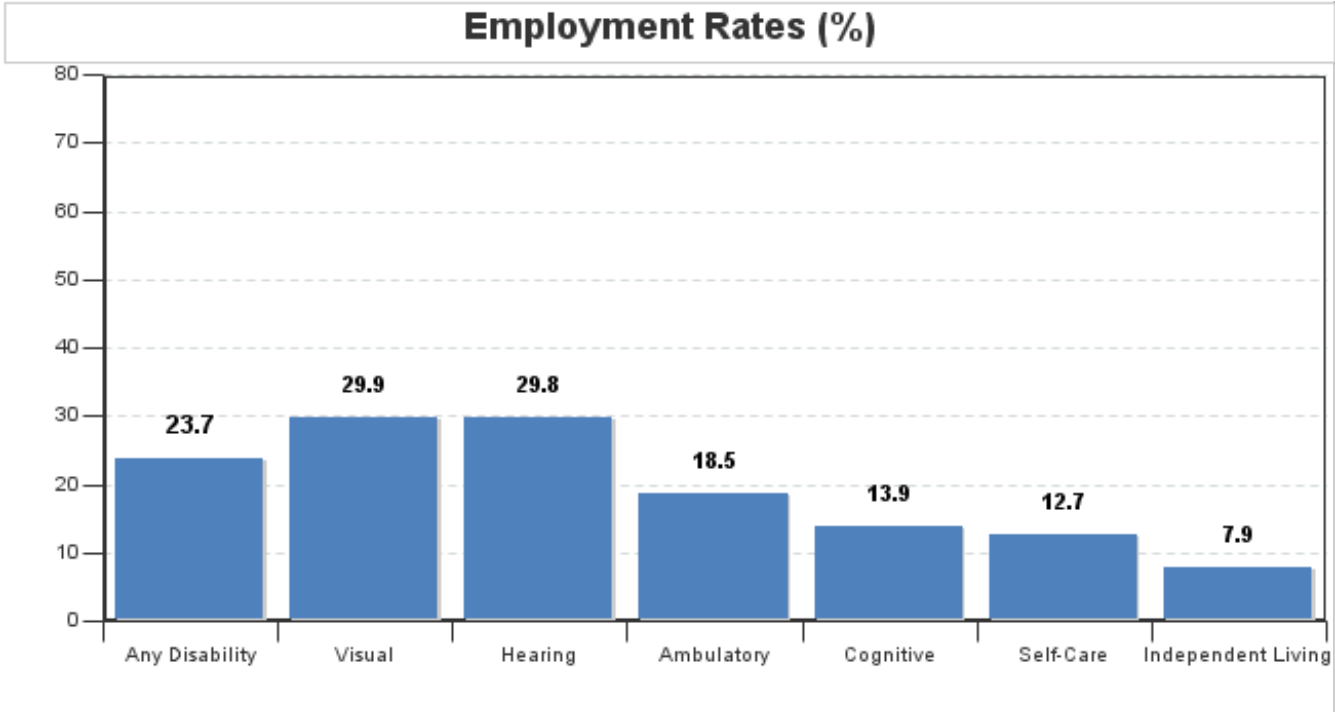
Employment:  
with disability  
**23.7%**

Employment:  
without  
disability  
**57.1%**

- In 2017, the employment rate of working-age people with disabilities in PR was 23.7 percent.
- In 2017, the employment rate of working-age people without disabilities in PR was 57.1 percent.
- The gap between the employment rates of working-age people with and without disabilities was 33.4 percentage points.
- Among the six types of disabilities identified in the ACS, the highest employment rate was for people with a "Visual Disability," 29.9 percent. The lowest employment rate was for people with a "Independent Living Disability," 7.9 percent.



# Employment of non-institutionalized working-age people (ages 21 to 64) by disability status in Puerto Rico in 2017



Disability Type	%	MOE	Number	MOE	Base Pop.	Sample Size
No Disability	57.1	0.85	868,900	17,030	1,522,900	8,869
Any Disability	23.7	1.57	78,800	5,900	332,600	2,081
Visual	29.9	3.12	29,100	3,610	97,200	612
Hearing	29.8	4.21	15,900	2,680	53,500	337
Ambulatory	18.5	2.03	30,400	3,690	164,900	1,083
Cognitive	13.9	1.93	20,200	3,010	145,200	884
Self-Care	12.7	2.66	9,000	2,020	71,000	442
Independent Living	7.9	1.60	10,100	2,130	128,400	781

# 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 Puerto Rico who are not working but actively looking for work, using data from the 2017 American Community Survey (ACS). For definitions of terms, see Glossary.

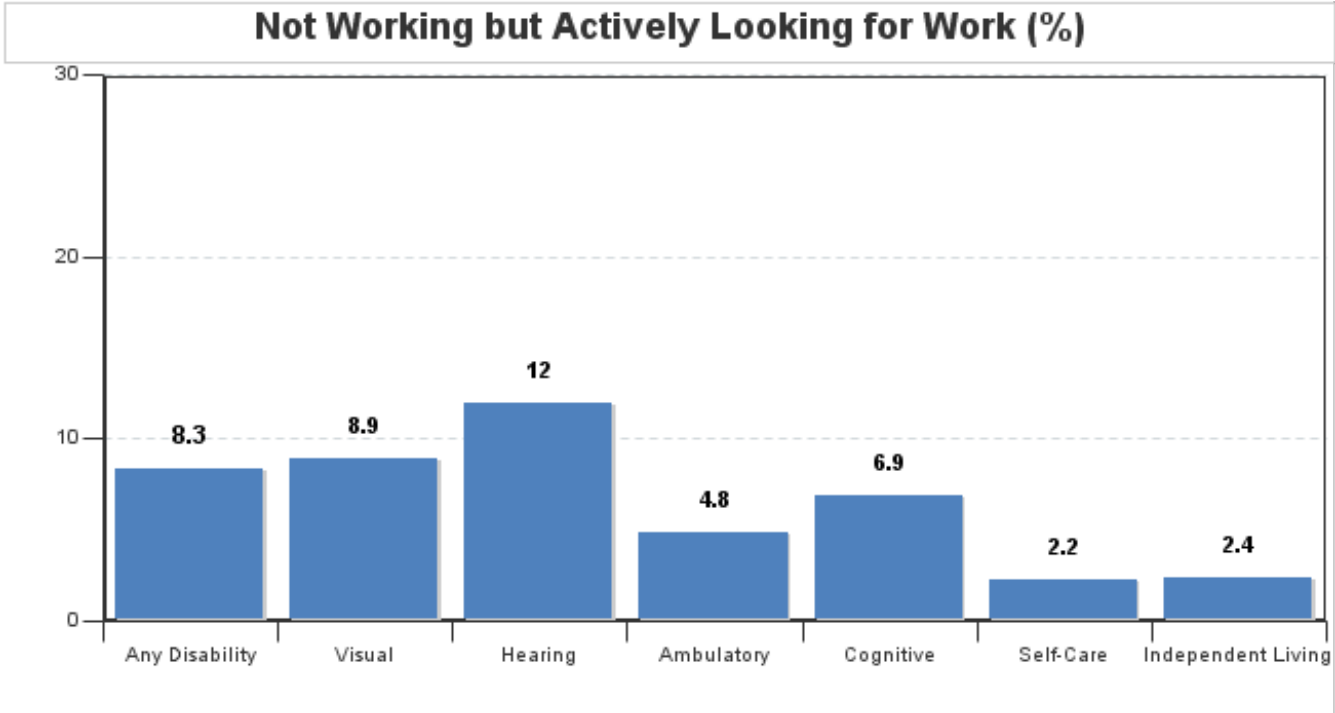
## Quick Statistics

Actively  
Looking: with  
disability  
**8.3%**

Actively  
Looking:  
without  
disability  
**22.7%**

- In 2017 in PR, the percentage of working-age people with disabilities who were not working but actively looking for work was 8.3 percent.
- In 2017 in PR, the percentage of working-age people without disabilities who were not working but actively looking for work was 22.7 percent.
- The difference in the percentage of not working but actively looking for work between working-age people with and without disabilities was 14.4 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," 12.0 percent. The lowest percentage was for people with a "Self-Care Disability," 2.2 percent.

# Percentage who are not working but actively looking for work among non-institutionalized working-age people (ages 21 to 64) in Puerto Rico in 2017



Disability Type	%	MOE	Number	MOE	Base Pop.	Sample Size
No Disability	22.7	1.10	148,600	8,020	653,900	3,775
Any Disability	8.3	1.17	21,000	3,070	253,800	1,596
Visual	8.9	2.32	6,100	1,660	68,100	432
Hearing	12.0	3.57	4,500	1,430	37,600	246
Ambulatory	4.8	1.24	6,400	1,710	134,400	887
Cognitive	6.9	1.53	8,600	1,970	125,000	759
Self-Care	2.2	1.25	1,400	790	62,000	389
Independent Living	2.4	0.95	2,900	1,140	118,300	725

# 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 Puerto Rico, using data from the 2017 American Community Survey (ACS). For definitions of terms, see Glossary.

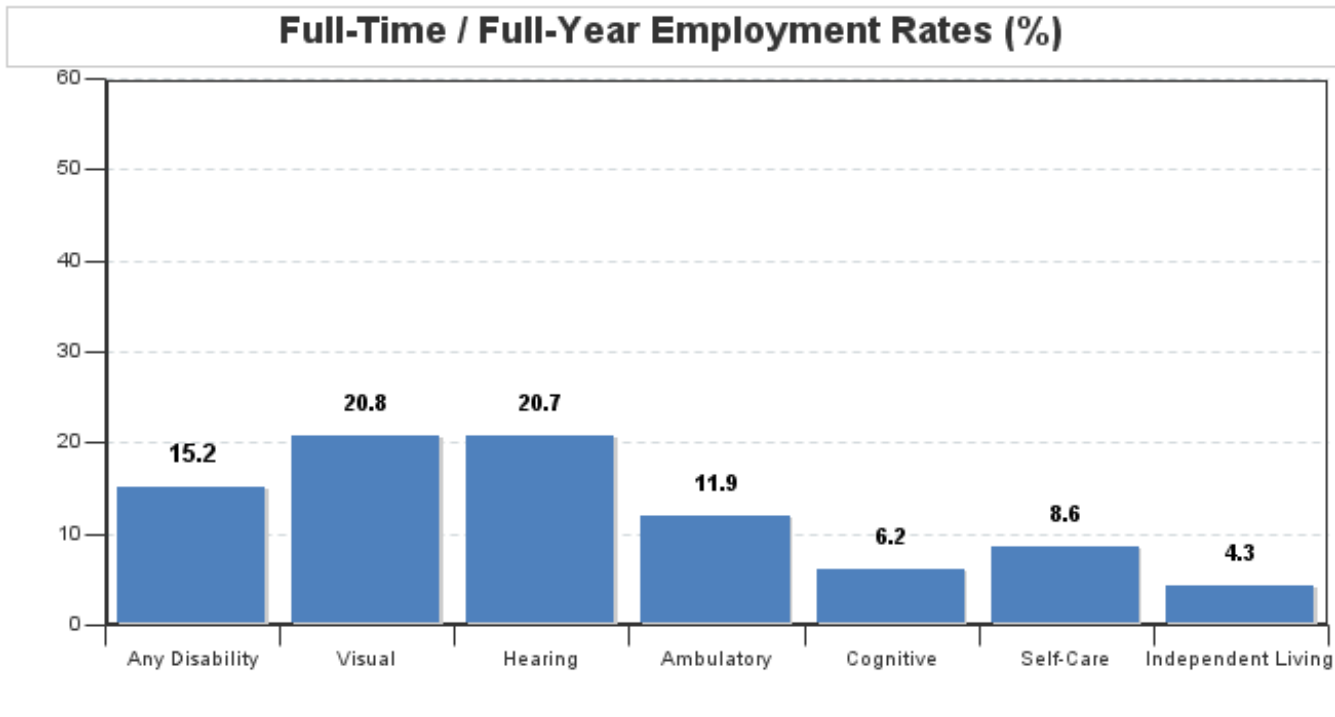
## Quick Statistics

FT / FY  
Employment:  
with disability  
**15.2%**

FT / FY  
Employment:  
without  
disability  
**39.7%**

- In 2017, the percentage of working-age people with disabilities working full-time/full-year in PR was 15.2 percent.
- In 2017, the percentage of working-age people without disabilities working full-time/full-year in PR was 39.7 percent.
- The difference in the percentage working full-time/full-year between working-age people with and without disabilities was 24.5 percentage points.
- Among the six types of disabilities identified in the ACS, the highest full-time/full-year employment rate was for people with "Visual Disability," 20.8 percent. The lowest full-time/full-year employment rate was for people with "Independent Living Disability," 4.3 percent.

## Full-Time/Full-Year employment of non-institutionalized working-age people (ages 21 to 64) by disability status in Puerto Rico in 2017



Disability Type	%	MOE	Number	MOE	Base Pop.	Sample Size
No Disability	39.7	0.84	603,800	14,960	1,522,900	8,869
Any Disability	15.2	1.32	50,500	4,740	332,600	2,081
Visual	20.8	2.77	20,200	3,020	97,200	612
Hearing	20.7	3.73	11,100	2,230	53,500	337
Ambulatory	11.9	1.70	19,500	2,970	164,900	1,083
Cognitive	6.2	1.35	9,000	2,020	145,200	884
Self-Care	8.6	2.24	6,100	1,660	71,000	442
Independent Living	4.3	1.20	5,600	1,590	128,400	781

# 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 Puerto Rico, using data from the 2017 American Community Survey (ACS). For definitions of terms, see Glossary.

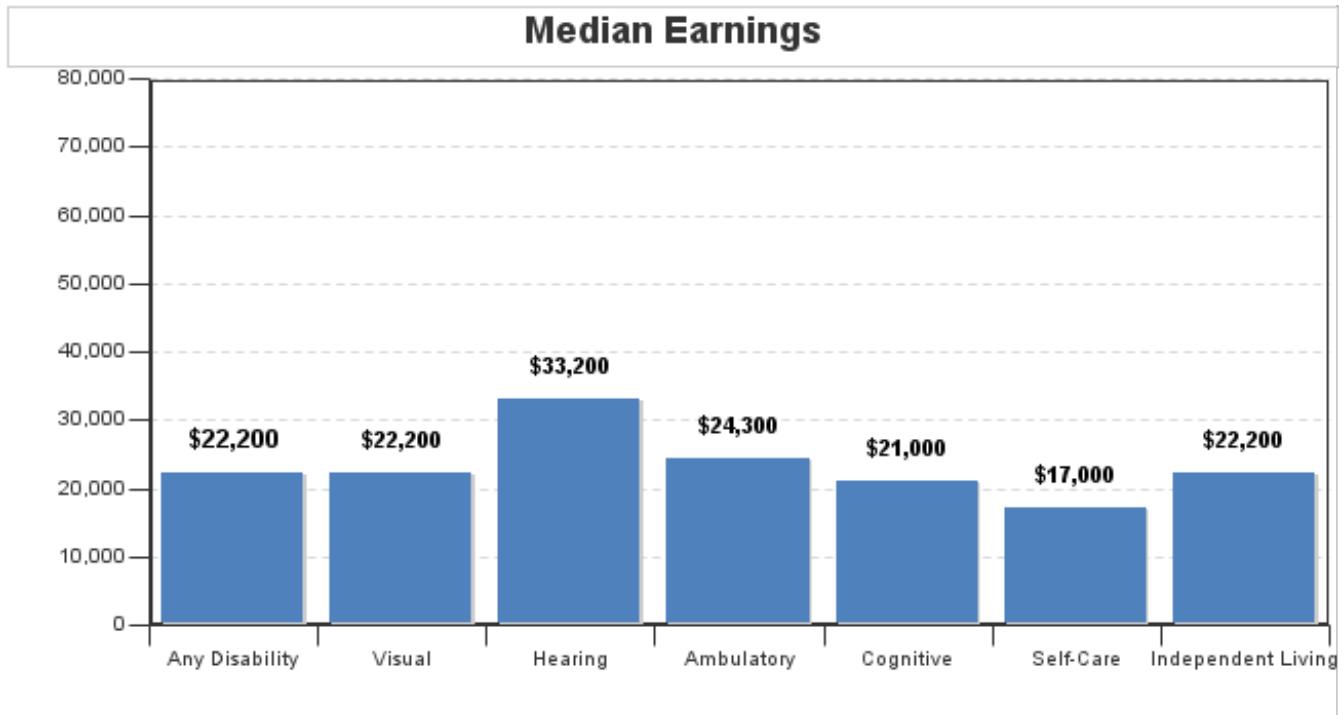
## Quick Statistics



- In 2017, the median earnings of working-age people with disabilities who worked full-time/full-year in PR was \$22,200.
- In 2017, the median earnings of working-age people without disabilities who worked full-time/full-year in PR was \$23,300.
- The difference in the median earnings between working-age people with and without disabilities who worked full-time/full-year was \$1,100.
- Among the six types of disabilities identified in the ACS, the highest annual earnings was for people with "Hearing Disability," \$33,200. The lowest annual earnings was for people with "Self-Care Disability," \$17,000<sup>†</sup>.

<sup>†</sup> **Caution:** Estimate based on small sample size (less than 40 individuals).

## Median annual earnings of non-institutionalized working-age people (ages 21 to 64) who work full-time/full-year by disability status in Puerto Rico in 2017



Disability Type	Median Earnings	MOE	Base Pop.	Sample Size
No Disability	\$23,300	\$620	604,000	3,567
Any Disability	\$22,200	\$2,200	50,000	307
Visual	\$22,200	\$2,860	20,000	119
Hearing	\$33,200	\$8,690	11,000	61
Ambulatory	\$24,300	\$3,640	20,000	121
Cognitive	\$21,000	\$4,940	9,000	60
Self-Care	\$17,000 <sup>†</sup>	\$4,770	6,000	35
Independent Living	\$22,200 <sup>†</sup>	\$4,660	6,000	33

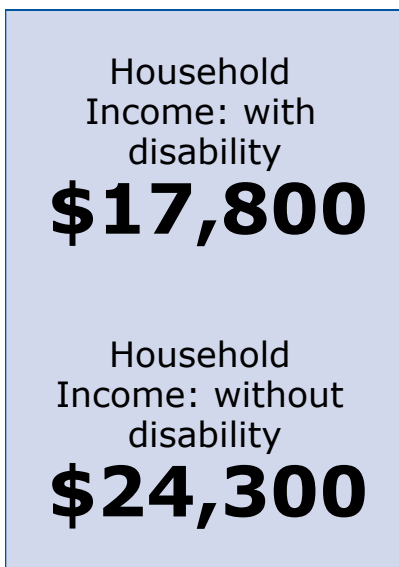
<sup>†</sup> **Caution:** Estimate based on small sample size (less than 40 individuals).

# 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 Puerto Rico, using data from the 2017 American Community Survey (ACS). For definitions of terms, see Glossary.

## Quick Statistics

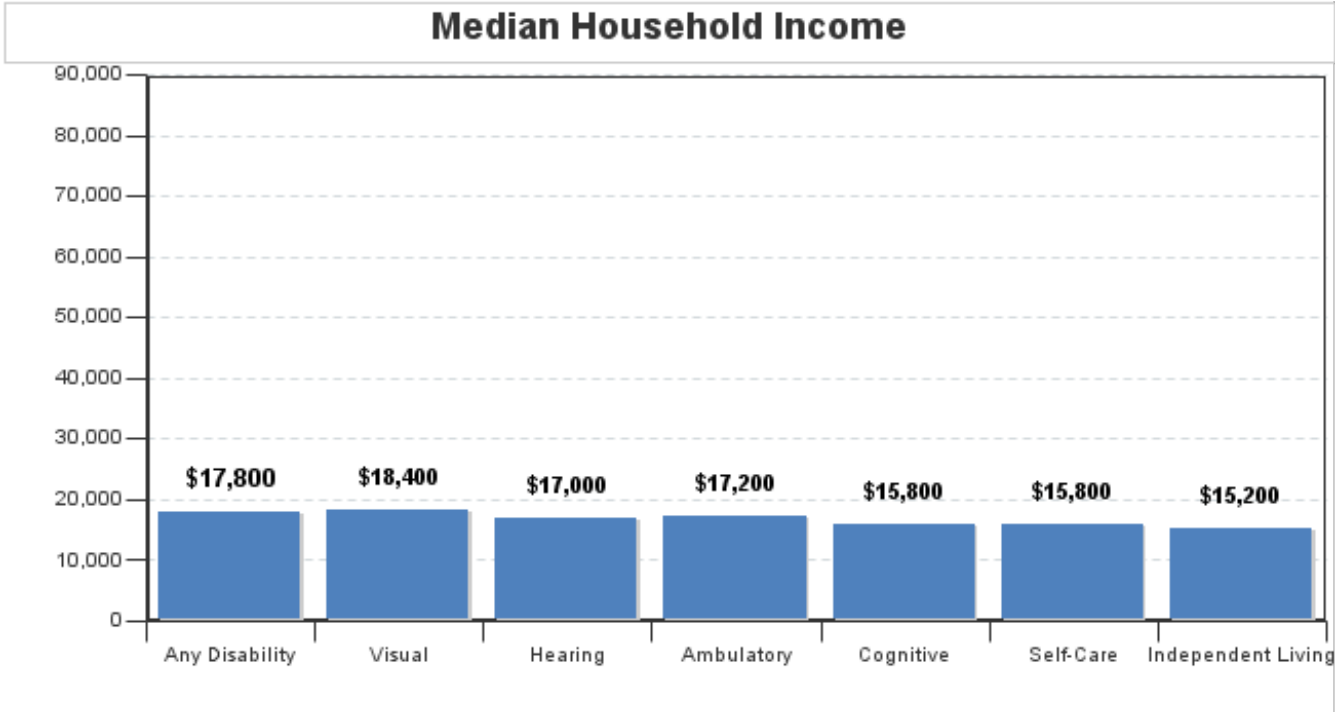


- In 2017, the median income of households that include any working-age people with disabilities in PR was \$17,800.
- In 2017, the median income of households that do not include any working-age people with disabilities in PR was \$24,300.
- The difference in the median income between households including and not including working-age people with disabilities was \$6,500.
- Among the six types of disabilities identified in the ACS, the highest median income was for households including persons with a "Visual Disability," \$18,400. The lowest median income was for households containing persons with a "Independent Living Disability" \$15,200.

\* **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 Puerto Rico in 2017



Disability Type	Median H.H. Income	MOE	Base Pop.	Sample Size
No Disability	\$24,300	\$1,250	682,000	4,612
Any Disability	\$17,800	1,600	238,000	1,738
Visual	\$18,400	2,840	78,000	542
Hearing	\$17,000	4,300	41,000	292
Ambulatory	\$17,200	2,110	131,000	959
Cognitive	\$15,800	2,290	106,000	779
Self-Care	\$15,800	3,260	55,000	410
Independent Living	\$15,200	2,250	95,000	707

\* **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 Puerto Rico, using data from the 2017 American Community Survey (ACS). For definitions of terms, see Glossary.

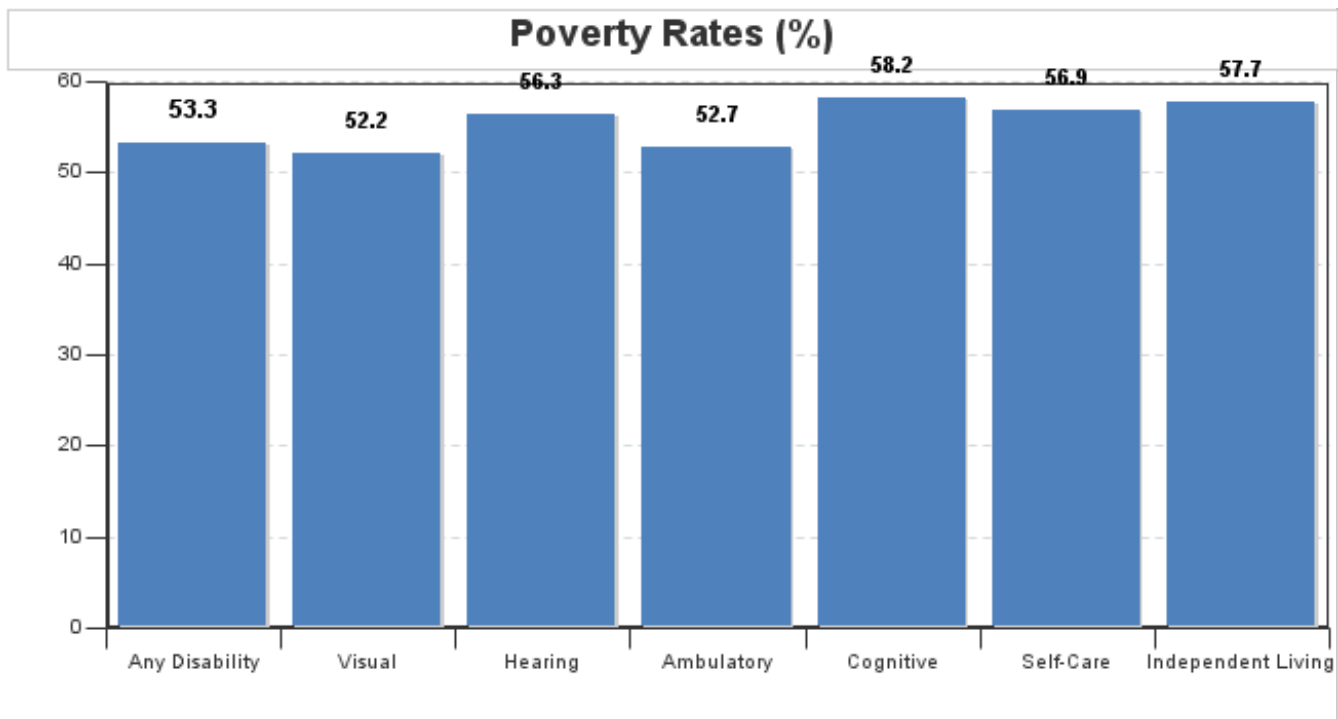
## Quick Statistics



- In 2017, the poverty rate of working-age people with disabilities in PR was 53.3 percent.
- In 2017, the poverty rate of working-age people without disabilities in PR was 38.6 percent.
- The difference in the poverty rate between working-age people with and without disabilities was 14.7 percentage points.
- Among the six types of disabilities identified in the ACS, the highest poverty rate was for people with "Cognitive Disability," 58.2 percent. The lowest poverty rate was for people with "Visual Disability," 52.2 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 Puerto Rico in 2017



Disability Type	%	MOE	Number	MOE	Base Pop.	Sample Size
No Disability	38.6	1.10	587,500	19,360	1,522,400	8,838
Any Disability	53.3	2.41	177,200	11,400	332,300	2,075
Visual	52.2	4.46	50,700	6,220	97,200	612
Hearing	56.3	5.97	30,100	4,810	53,500	337
Ambulatory	52.7	3.42	86,700	8,090	164,600	1,077
Cognitive	58.2	3.60	84,500	7,980	145,200	884
Self-Care	56.9	5.17	40,400	5,560	71,000	442
Independent Living	57.7	3.84	74,100	7,490	128,400	781

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

# Supplemental Security Income (SSI)

## **Note**

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.

# 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 Puerto Rico, using data from the 2017 American Community Survey (ACS). For definitions of terms, see Glossary.

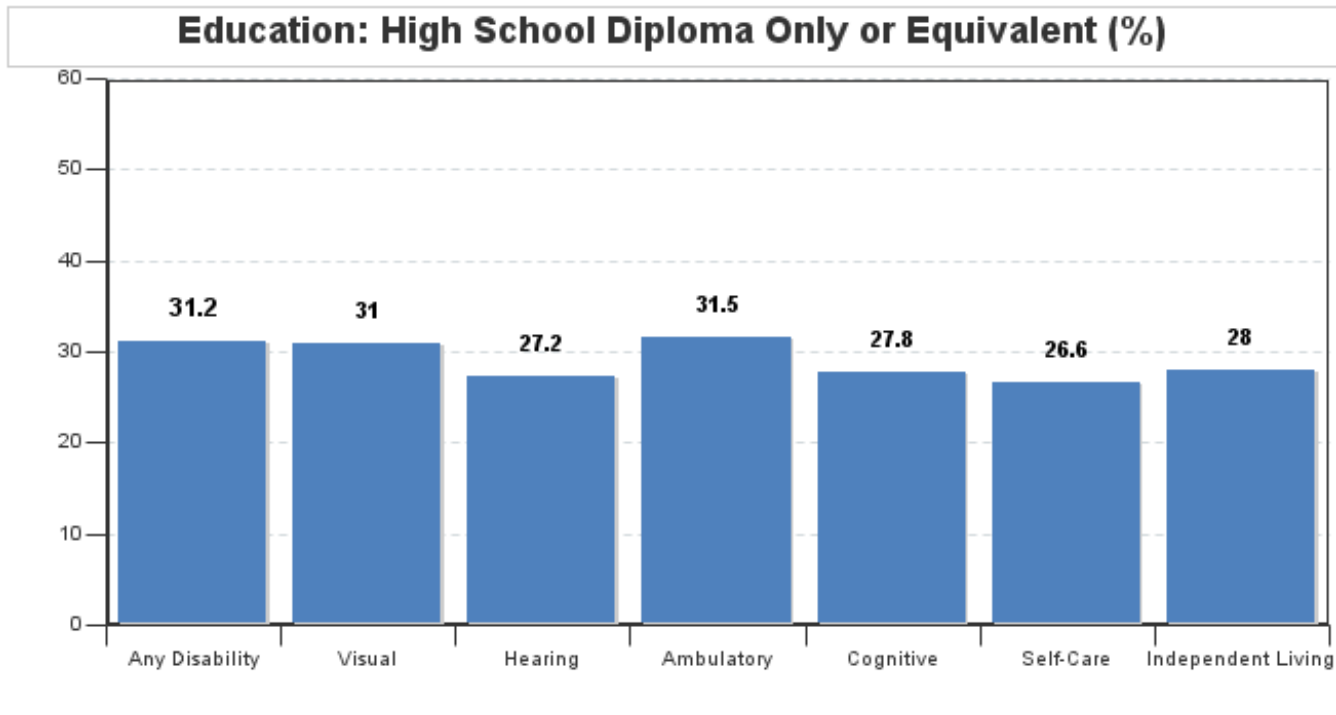
### Quick Statistics

High School  
Only: with  
disability  
**31.2%**

High School  
Only: without  
disability  
**27.8%**

- In 2017, the percentage of working-age people with disabilities with only a high school diploma or equivalent in PR was 31.2 percent.
- In 2017, the percentage of working-age people without disabilities with only a high school diploma or equivalent in PR was 27.8 percent.
- The difference in the percentage with only a high school diploma or equivalent between working-age people with and without disabilities was 3.4 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 "Ambulatory Disability," 31.5 percent. The lowest percentage with only a high school diploma or equivalent was for people with "Self-Care Disability," 26.6 percent.

## Percentage of non-institutionalized working-age people (ages 21 to 64) with only a high school diploma or equivalent by disability status in PR in 2017



Disability Type	%	MOE	Number	MOE	Base Pop.	Sample Size
No Disability	27.8	0.83	424,100	13,940	1,522,900	8,869
Any Disability	31.2	1.84	103,600	7,260	332,600	2,081
Visual	31.0	3.40	30,100	3,960	97,200	612
Hearing	27.2	4.41	14,500	2,760	53,500	337
Ambulatory	31.5	2.62	51,900	5,180	164,900	1,083
Cognitive	27.8	2.69	40,400	4,580	145,200	884
Self-Care	26.6	3.80	18,900	3,140	71,000	442
Independent Living	28.0	2.87	35,900	4,320	128,400	781

# 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 Puerto Rico, using data from the 2017 American Community Survey (ACS). For definitions of terms, see Glossary.

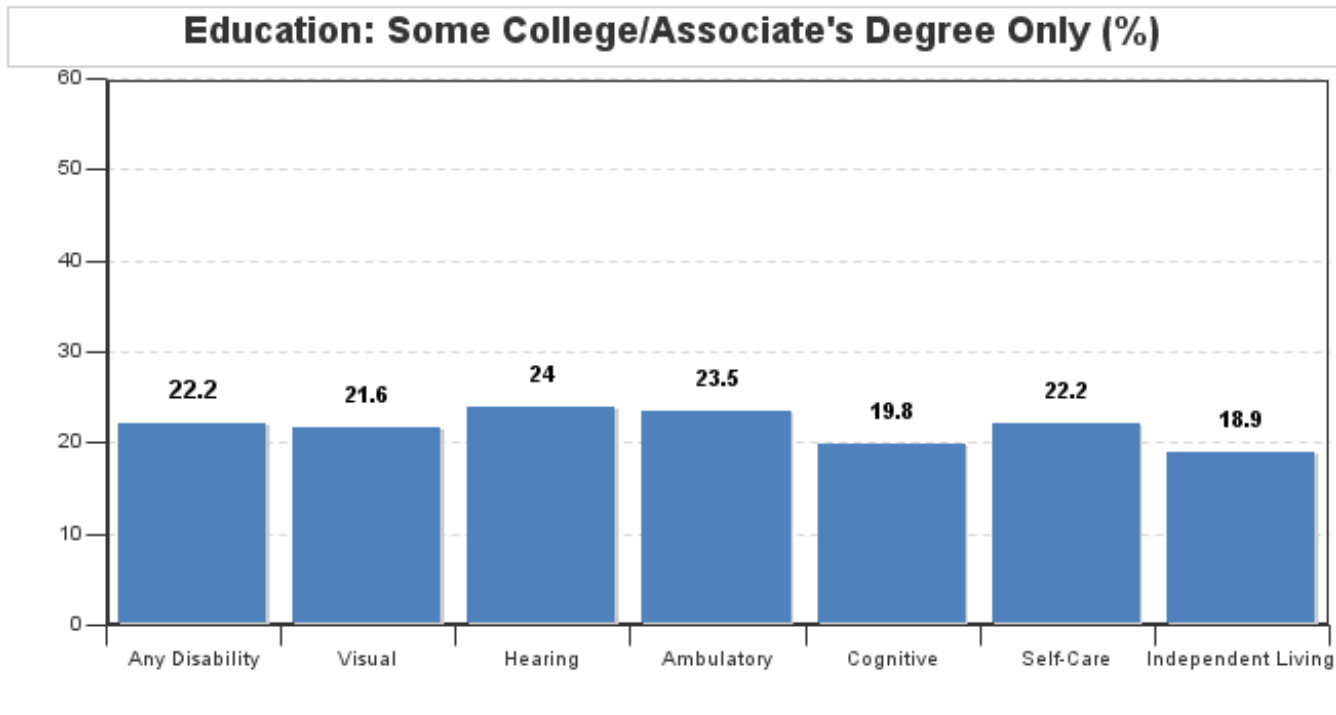
### Quick Statistics

Some  
College: with  
disability  
**22.2%**

Some  
College:  
without  
disability  
**30.8%**

- In 2017, the percentage of working-age people with disabilities with only some college or an Associate's degree in PR was 22.2 percent.
- In 2017, the percentage of working-age people without disabilities with only some college or an Associate's degree in PR was 30.8 percent.
- The difference in the percentage with only some college or an Associate's degree between working-age people with and without disabilities was 8.6 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," 24.0 percent. The lowest percentage with only some college or Associate's degree was for people with "Independent Living Disability," 18.9 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 Puerto Rico in 2017



Disability Type	%	MOE	Number	MOE	Base Pop.	Sample Size
No Disability	30.8	0.86	468,700	14,540	1,522,900	8,869
Any Disability	22.2	1.65	73,800	6,160	332,600	2,081
Visual	21.6	3.02	21,000	3,310	97,200	612
Hearing	24.0	4.23	12,800	2,590	53,500	337
Ambulatory	23.5	2.39	38,700	4,480	164,900	1,083
Cognitive	19.8	2.40	28,800	3,870	145,200	884
Self-Care	22.2	3.57	15,800	2,870	71,000	442
Independent Living	18.9	2.50	24,300	3,560	128,400	781



# 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 Puerto Rico, using data from the 2017 American Community Survey (ACS). For definitions of terms, see Glossary.

### Quick Statistics

Bachelor's  
Degree or  
More: with  
disability

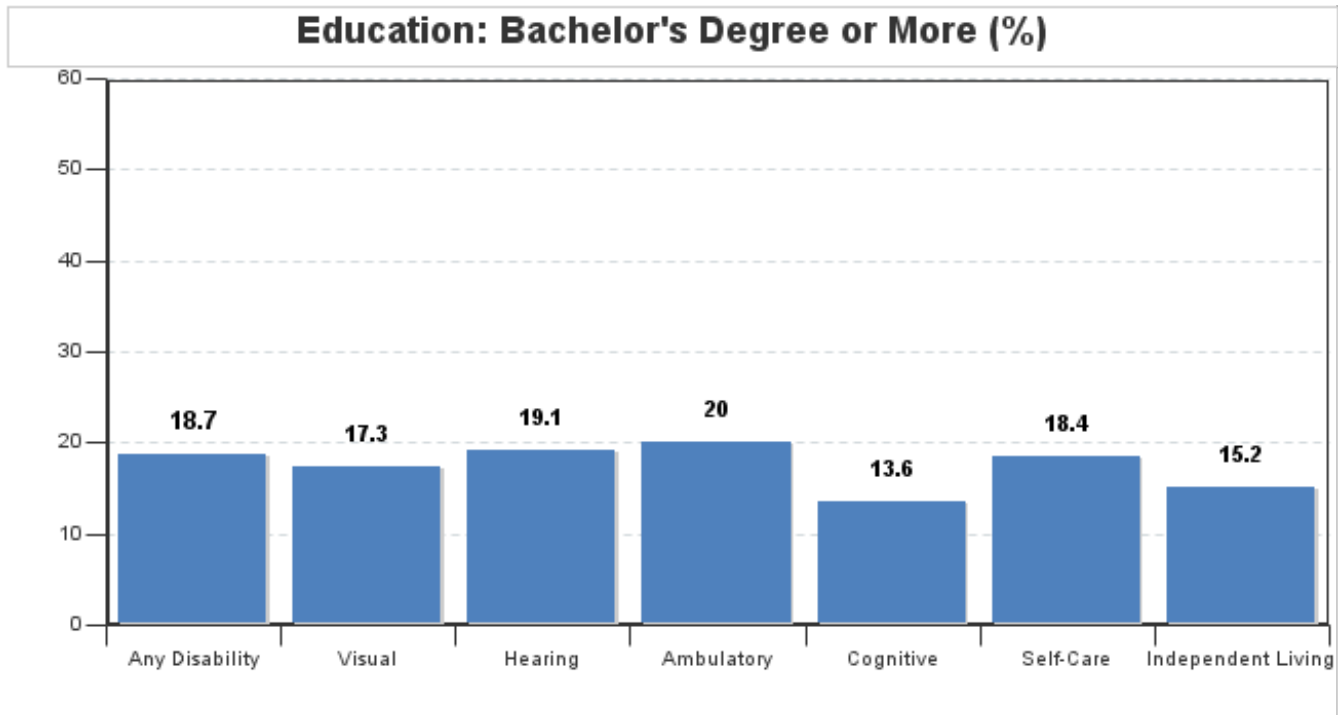
**18.7%**

Bachelor's  
Degree or  
More: without  
disability

**30.4%**

- In 2017, the percentage of working-age people with disabilities with a Bachelor's degree or more in PR was 18.7 percent.
- In 2017, the percentage of working-age people without disabilities with a Bachelor's degree or more in PR was 30.4 percent.
- The difference in the percentage with a Bachelor's degree or more between working-age people with and without disabilities was 11.7 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 "Ambulatory Disability," 20.0 percent. The lowest percentage with a Bachelor's degree or more was for people with "Cognitive Disability," 13.6 percent.

## Percentage of non-institutionalized working-age people (ages 21 to 64) with a Bachelor's degree or more by disability status in Puerto Rico in 2017



Disability Type	%	MOE	Number	MOE	Base Pop.	Sample Size
No Disability	30.4	0.85	463,100	14,470	1,522,900	8,869
Any Disability	18.7	1.55	62,100	5,660	332,600	2,081
Visual	17.3	2.78	16,800	2,960	97,200	612
Hearing	19.1	3.89	10,200	2,310	53,500	337
Ambulatory	20.0	2.26	32,900	4,140	164,900	1,083
Cognitive	13.6	2.06	19,700	3,210	145,200	884
Self-Care	18.4	3.33	13,100	2,620	71,000	442
Independent Living	15.2	2.30	19,500	3,190	128,400	781

# Veterans Service-Connected Disability Rating

## Introduction

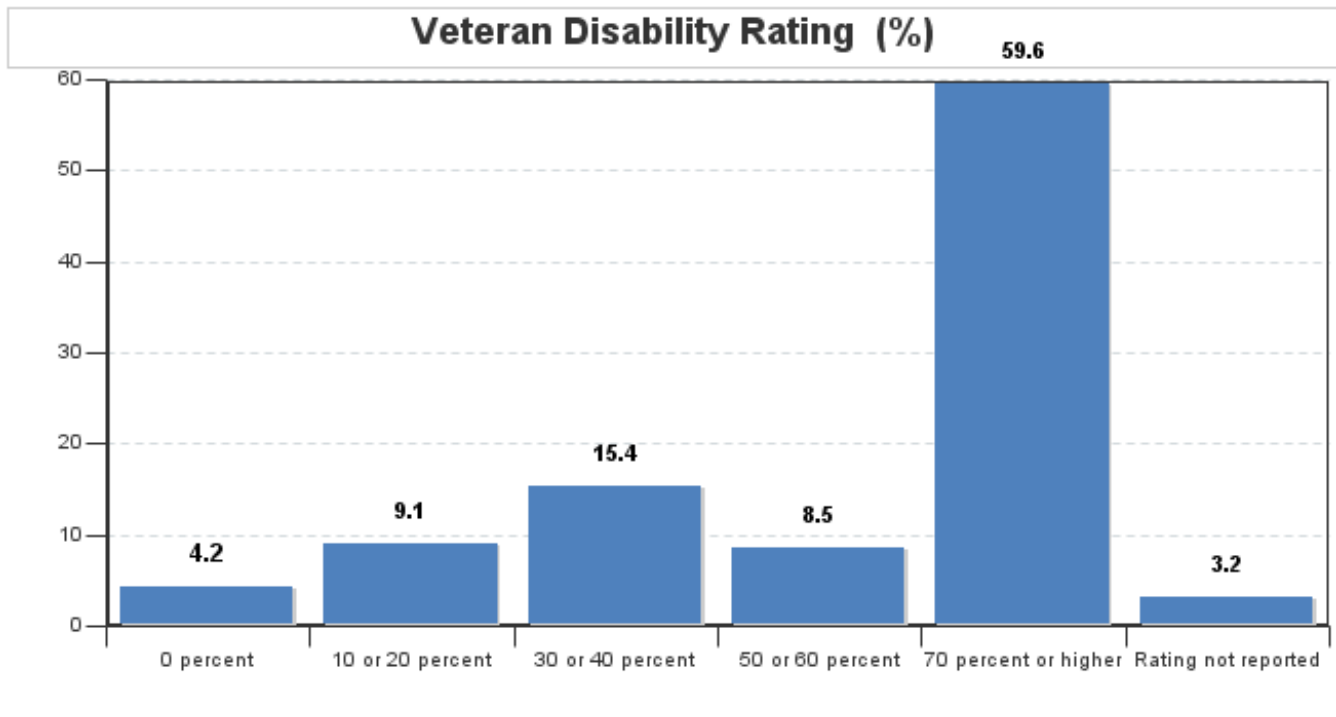
This section presents the percentage of non-institutionalized working-age (ages 21 to 64) civilian veterans reporting a service-connected disability rating in Puerto Rico. The 2017 American Community Survey (ACS) asks if the veteran has a service-connected disability, and if so, what their rating is (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  
**33.1%**

- In 2017, there were 26,200 working-age civilian veterans in PR, of whom 8,700 had a VA service-connected disability.
- In 2017, the percentage of working-age civilian veterans in PR with a VA service-connected disability was 33.1 percent.
- In 2017, 5,200 working-age civilian veterans in PR had the most severe service-connected disability rating (70 percent or above).
- In 2017, 59.6 percent of the working-age civilian veterans in PR 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 Puerto Rico in 2017



Service-Connected Disability	%	MOE	Number	MOE	Base Pop.	Sample Size
Has a service-connected disability rating (0-100%)	33.1	6.19	8,700	1,980	26,200	184
<b>Disability rating of veterans with a service connected-disability</b>						
0 percent	4.2	4.59	400	400	8,700	64
10 or 20 percent	9.1	6.58	800	600	8,700	64
30 or 40 percent	15.4	8.26	1,300	780	8,700	64
50 or 60 percent	8.5	6.38	700	580	8,700	64
70 percent or higher	59.6	11.23	5,200	1,530	8,700	64
Rating not reported	3.2	4.03	300	400	8,700	64

# Health Insurance Coverage

## Introduction

This section examines the health insurance coverage of non-institutionalized working-age people (ages 21 to 64) with disabilities in Puerto Rico, using data from the 2017 American Community Survey (ACS). For definitions of terms, see Glossary.

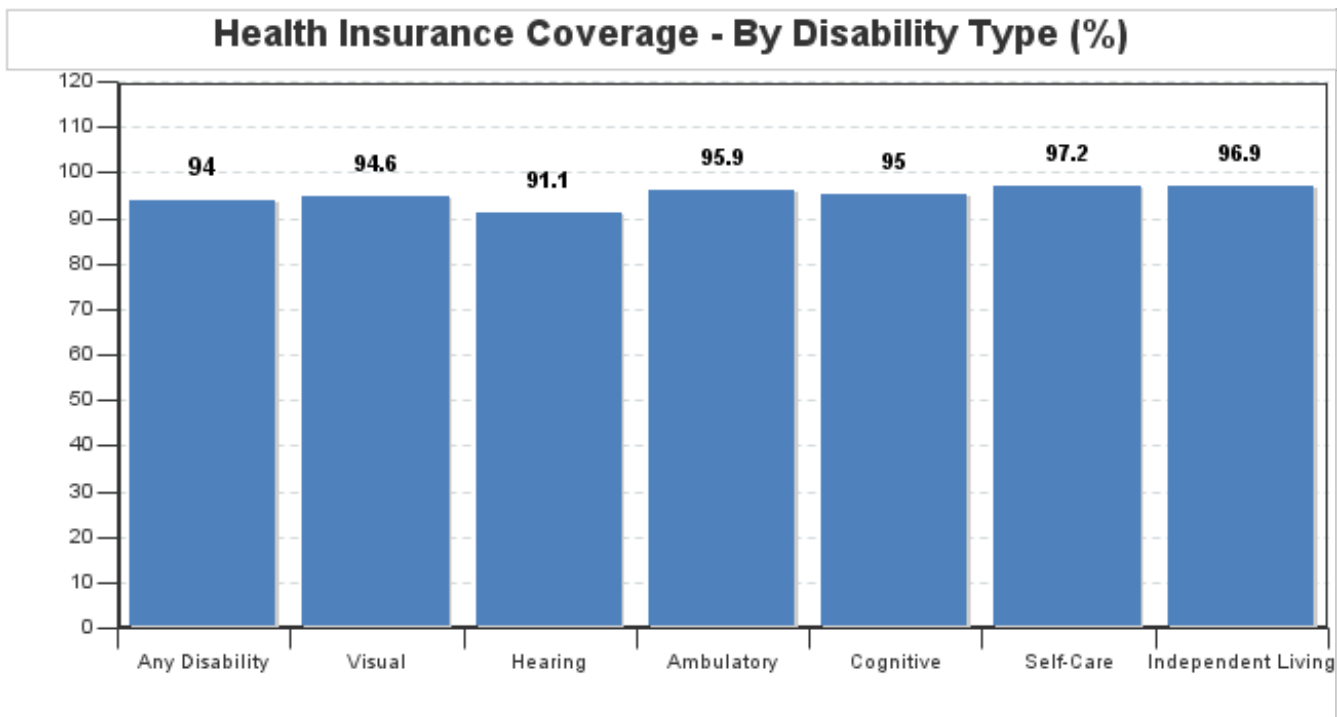
## Quick Statistics

Health  
Coverage:  
with Disability  
**94.0%**

Health  
Coverage:  
without  
Disability  
**89.0%**

- In 2017, 94.0 percent of working-age people with disabilities in PR had some type of health insurance coverage.
- In 2017, 89.0 percent of working-age people without disabilities in PR had some type of health insurance coverage.
- The difference in the health insurance coverage rate between working-age people with and without disabilities was 5 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," 97.2 percent. The lowest health insurance coverage rate was for people with "Hearing Disability," 91.1 percent.

## Health insurance coverage of non-institutionalized working-age people (ages 21 to 64) by disability status in Puerto Rico in 2017



Disability Type	%	MOE	Number	MOE	Base Pop.	Sample Size
No Disability	89.0	0.75	1,355,300	26,430	1,522,900	8,869
Any Disability	94.0	1.21	312,700	15,680	332,600	2,081
Visual	94.6	2.14	91,900	8,810	97,200	612
Hearing	91.1	3.63	48,800	6,460	53,500	337
Ambulatory	95.9	1.44	158,100	11,430	164,900	1,083
Cognitive	95.0	1.69	137,900	10,710	145,200	884
Self-Care	97.2	1.82	69,000	7,660	71,000	442
Independent Living	96.9	1.43	124,400	10,200	128,400	781

# 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 Puerto Rico, using data from the 2017 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

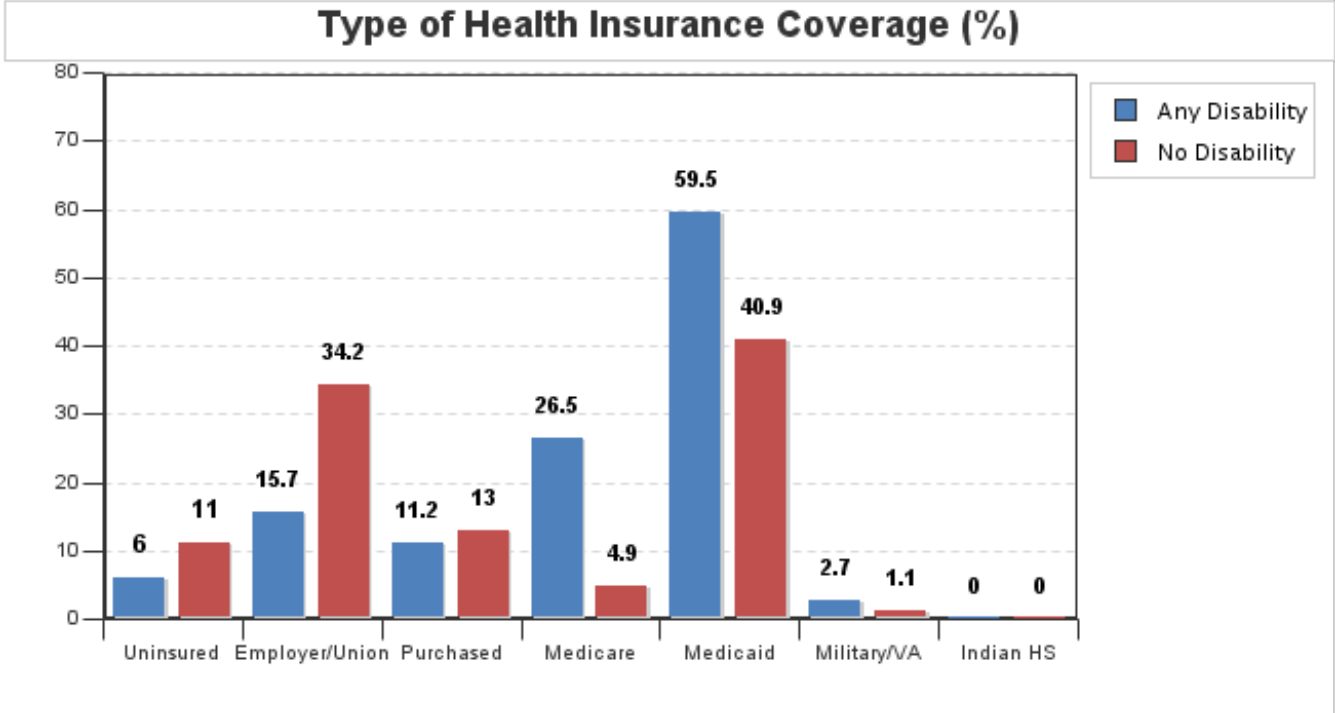
**15.7%**

Coverage  
through  
Employer/Union:  
without  
Disability

**34.2%**

- In 2017, 15.7 percent of working-age people with disabilities in PR reported health insurance coverage through a current or former employer or union (theirs or another family member).
- In 2017, 34.2 percent of working-age people without disabilities in PR reported health insurance coverage through a current or former employer or union (theirs or another family member).
- In 2017, 11.2 percent of working-age people with disabilities in PR reported purchasing health insurance coverage directly from an insurance company (by themselves or another family member).
- In 2017, 26.5 percent of working-age people with disabilities in PR reported Medicare coverage and 59.5 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 Puerto Rico in 2017





Disability Status/ Insurance Type	%	MOE	Number	MOE	Base Pop.	Sample Size
<b>Any Disability</b>						
Uninsured	6.0	1.21	19,800	4,140	332,600	2,081
Employer/Union	15.7	1.86	52,300	6,690	332,600	2,081
Purchased	11.2	1.61	37,100	5,640	332,600	2,081
Medicare	26.5	2.25	88,000	8,620	332,600	2,081
Medicaid	59.5	2.51	197,800	12,710	332,600	2,081
Military/VA	2.7	0.83	9,100	2,810	332,600	2,081
Indian Health Service	0.0	3.29	0	400	332,600	2,081
<b>No Disability</b>						
Uninsured	11.0	0.75	167,600	11,750	1,522,900	8,869
Employer/Union	34.2	1.13	520,900	19,530	1,522,900	8,869
Purchased	13.0	0.80	197,400	12,700	1,522,900	8,869
Medicare	4.9	0.52	74,400	7,950	1,522,900	8,869
Medicaid	40.9	1.17	622,700	20,970	1,522,900	8,869
Military/VA	1.1	3.29	16,600	3,780	1,522,900	8,869
Indian Health Service	0.0	3.29	600	750	1,522,900	8,869

# 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. "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.

## Employment Rate

The employment rate is calculated by dividing the number of persons employed by the number of persons in that population.

\*\* Note that the unemployment rate cannot be calculated using the employment rate:

- The employment rate is the percentage of all persons who have a job.
- The unemployment rate is the percentage of persons in the labor force who do not have a job but are actively looking for work. The labor force includes people who have a job, are on layoff, or who actively searched for work in the last four weeks.

Please see <http://www.disabilitystatistics.org/faq.cfm#Q6> for more information on unemployment rate calculation and its implications.

## 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/2008\\_ACS\\_GQ\\_Definitions.pdf](http://www.census.gov/acs/www/Downloads/2008_ACS_GQ_Definitions.pdf).

## 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

The Cornell University Disability Status Reports is produced and funded by the Yang-Tan Institute at the Cornell University ILR School. This effort originated as a product of the Rehabilitation Research and Training Center on Disability Demographics and Statistics (StatsRRTC) funded to the Yang-Tan Institute in the ILR School at Cornell University by the U.S. Department of Education, National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research (grant No. H133B031111).

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