

# 2014 DISABILITY STATISTICS ANNUAL REPORT

A Publication of the *Disability Statistics & Demographics Rehabilitation Research & Training Center*



**University of New Hampshire**  
Institute on Disability / UCED

## Acknowledgements

Special thanks to the following individuals who have contributed to the success of this effort:

Anna Brennan-Curry, Debra L. Brucker, PhD, Penny Gould, Andrew Houtenville, PhD, Lewis E. Kraus, MCP, MPH, Eric Lauer, MPH, David Linnard, PhD, and Matthew Gianino.

Funding for this publication made possible by:

The StatsRRTC is funded by the U.S. Department of Education, National Institute for Disability and Rehabilitation Research under cooperative agreement H133B130015, from 2013 - 2018. The information developed by the StatsRRTC does not necessarily represent the policy of the Department of Education, and you should not assume endorsement by the Federal Government (Edgar, 75.620 (b)).


Suggested Citation:

Stoddard, Susan. (2014). 2014 Disability Statistics Annual Report. Durham, NH: University of New Hampshire.

10 West Edge Drive, Suite 101  
Durham, NH 03824  
603.862.4320 | relay: 711 | [contact.iod@unh.edu](mailto:contact.iod@unh.edu)

**[www.iod.unh.edu](http://www.iod.unh.edu)**

**Stay Connected:**

 [facebook.com/instituteondisability](https://facebook.com/instituteondisability)

 [twitter.com/unhiod](https://twitter.com/unhiod)

 [youtube.com/unhiod](https://youtube.com/unhiod)

Copyright 2014. Institute on Disability. University of New Hampshire.

# 2014 DISABILITY STATISTICS ANNUAL REPORT

**Rehabilitation Research and Training Center on Disability Statistics and Demographics**

**A NIDRR-Funded Center**



# Table of Contents

Introduction . . . . .	1
Table of Figures . . . . .	2
Quick Facts . . . . .	3
Disability in the United States . . . . .	4
State Prevalence of Disability in the US Across the Life Span . . . . .	5
Prevalence of Types of Disabilities, ages 18-64 . . . . .	9
Employment . . . . .	13
Earnings . . . . .	20
Poverty . . . . .	22
Health . . . . .	24
About the StatsRRTC . . . . .	30
Appendix A: The Six Disability Questions in the American Community Survey . . . . .	31
Appendix B: Defining Disability in the SIPP . . . . .	32
Appendix C: Source Data . . . . .	33
Appendix D: Glossary of Terms . . . . .	36

# Introduction

The 2014 Disability Statistics Annual Report is a companion volume to the 2014 Annual Disability Statistics Compendium. The Compendium presents many tables of data, including state and national values and trends over time. The Annual Report presents statistics from the 2014 Annual Disability Statistics Compendium tables to address the following types of questions:

- How many people with disabilities live in the United States?
- What is the disability rate in different age groups?
- What is the disability rate for different types of disability?
- To what extent are people with disabilities employed?
- What are the earnings for people with and without disabilities?
- What is the poverty rate for people with and without disability?
- Is disability status associated with rates of smoking, obesity, and binge drinking?

The Annual Report highlights state and trend data, and complements the rich, detailed tables available in the Compendium. There is a great deal of variability in disability by state and the Annual Report includes maps to highlight this information; each map is related to a specific table from the 2014 compendium. A specific listing of source data for each figure is included in Appendix C. A glossary of terms is included in Appendix D.

# Table of Figures

- FIG 1 Civilians with Disabilities Living in the Community as a Percentage of the US Population, by State, 2013
- FIG 2 Age Distribution of Disability in the US Population, 2013
- FIG 3 Age Distribution in the US Population of Civilians with Disabilities, ACS, 2013
- FIG 4 Civilians with Disabilities Ages under 5 Years Living in the Community, by State, 2013
- FIG 5 Civilians with Disabilities Ages 5-17 Years Living in the Community, by State, 2013
- FIG 6 Civilians with Disabilities Ages 18-64 Years Living in the Community, by State, 2013
- FIG 7 Civilians with Disabilities Ages 65 and Over Living in the Community, by State, 2013
- FIG 8 Prevalence of Types of Disabilities Ages 18-64, by State, 2013
- FIG 9 Civilians with Hearing Disabilities Ages 18-64, by State, 2013
- FIG 10 Civilians with Vision Disabilities Ages 18-64, by State, 2013
- FIG 11 Civilians with Cognitive Disabilities Ages 18-64, by State, 2013
- FIG 12 Civilians with Ambulatory Disabilities Ages 18-64, by State, 2013
- FIG 13 Civilians with Self-Care Disabilities Ages 18-64, by State, 2013
- FIG 14 Civilians with Independent Living Disabilities Ages 18-64, by State, 2013
- FIG 15 Employment Percentages of People with and without Disabilities, 2013
- FIG 16 Employment of Civilians with Disabilities, State Variation, 2013
- FIG 17 Employment of Civilians without Disabilities, State Variation, 2013
- FIG 18 Employment Percentage by Type of Disability Ages 18-64, by State, 2013
- FIG 19 Range in State Disability Employment Percentages, 2013
- FIG 20 Hearing Disability Employment Percentage Ages 18-64, by State, 2013
- FIG 21 Vision Disability Employment Percentage Ages 18-64, by State, 2013
- FIG 22 Cognitive Disability Employment Percentage Ages 18-64, by State, 2013
- FIG 23 Ambulatory Disability Employment Percentage Ages 18-64, by State, 2013
- FIG 24 Self-Care Disability Employment Percentage Ages 18-64, by State, 2013
- FIG 25 Independent Living Disability Employment Percentage, Ages 18-64, by State, 2013
- FIG 26 Employment Percentage, with and without Disability, 2008-2013
- FIG 27 State Median Earnings, Past 12 Months, Ages 16 and Over with Disability, 2013
- FIG 28 State Median Earnings, Past 12 Months, Ages 16 and Over without Disability, 2013
- FIG 29 Median Earnings, Civilians with and without Disabilities 16 and Over, 2008-2013
- FIG 30 Poverty Percentage, Civilians with Disabilities Ages 18-64, 2013
- FIG 31 Poverty Percentage, Civilians without Disabilities Ages 18-64, 2013
- FIG 32 Poverty Percentage, People with and without Disabilities, 2008-2013
- FIG 33 Smoking Among Persons Ages 18 and Over with Disabilities, 2013
- FIG 34 Smoking Among Persons Ages 18 and Over without Disabilities, 2013
- FIG 35 Smoking Percentages with and without Disabilities, 2009-2013
- FIG 36 Obesity Among Persons Ages 18 and Over with Disabilities, 2013
- FIG 37 Obesity Among Persons Ages 18 and Over without Disabilities, 2013
- FIG 38 Obesity Percentages with and without Disabilities, 2009-2013
- FIG 39 Binge Drinking Among Persons Ages 18 and Over with Disabilities, 2013
- FIG 40 Binge Drinking Among Persons Ages 18 and Over without Disabilities, 2013
- FIG 41 Binge Drinking Percentages with and without Disabilities, 2009-2013

# Quick Facts

- 56,672,000 individuals, about 18.7% of civilians living in the community, reported at least one disabling condition in 2010. This estimate is based on the Survey of Income and Program Participation.
- Estimates from the American Community Survey (ACS) are lower: according to the ACS, the overall rate of disability in the US population in 2013 was 12.7%.
- The percent of persons with disability as well as employment and poverty rates and earnings and health measures of people with disabilities vary greatly by state.
- In 2013, of the US population with disabilities, over half (51.9%) were people ages 18-64. Forty percent (40.3%) of people with disabilities were 65 and older, while children and youth with disabilities accounted for only 7.4% (ages 5-17) and 0.4% (under 5 years old).
- Rates of disability increase with age. In 2013, in the population under 5 years old, less than 1.0% of the population had a disability. For the population ages 5-17, the rate was 5.4%. For ages 18-64, the rate was 10.5%. For people age 65 and older, 36.6% had a disability.
- Disability rates vary for different types of disability. For people ages 18-64, the rates varied from 1.9% for self-care disability to 5.3% for ambulatory disability.
- In 2013, 33.9% of US civilians with disabilities ages 18-64 living in the community were employed, compared to 74.2% for people without disabilities. There is state variation in the rates of employment for persons with disabilities, from a high of 52.8% to a low of 25.3%. The overall employment rate was much higher for people without disabilities at 74.2%. The employment rates ranged from 83.0% to 69.4%.
- Employment rates vary by type of disability. Employment rates are highest for people with hearing disabilities (50.2%) and vision disabilities (39.6%) and lowest for people with self-care (15.2%) and independent living (15.3%) limitations.
- According to 2013 data, the median earnings of US civilians with disabilities ages 16 and over was \$20,785, about two-thirds of the median earnings of people without disabilities (\$30,728).
- Almost thirty percent (28.7%) of US civilians with disabilities of working-age in 2013 were living in poverty. For US civilians of working-age without disabilities, the national poverty rate was 13.6%.
- The US rate for smoking for people with disabilities was 25.4% in 2013, much higher than the rate of 16.2% for people without disabilities.
- In 2013, the US obesity rate for people with disabilities was 40.1%. For people without disabilities, the obesity rate was 24.9%.
- The 2013 state rates for binge drinking among people 18 and over with disabilities ranged from 5.6% to 15.8%. Among people 18 and over without disabilities, the binge drinking rates were higher, varying from 11.1% to 26.0%.

# Disability in the United States

## *How many people with disabilities live in the United States?*

The Survey of Income and Program Participation (SIPP) asks many questions related to disability. According to the SIPP, 56,672,000 individuals, about 18.7% of civilians living in the community, reported at least one disability condition in 2010. For 12.6% of the US population, or about two-thirds of those with disabilities, this disability condition was severe. For the definition of disability used in these estimates, see Appendix D: Glossary of Terms.

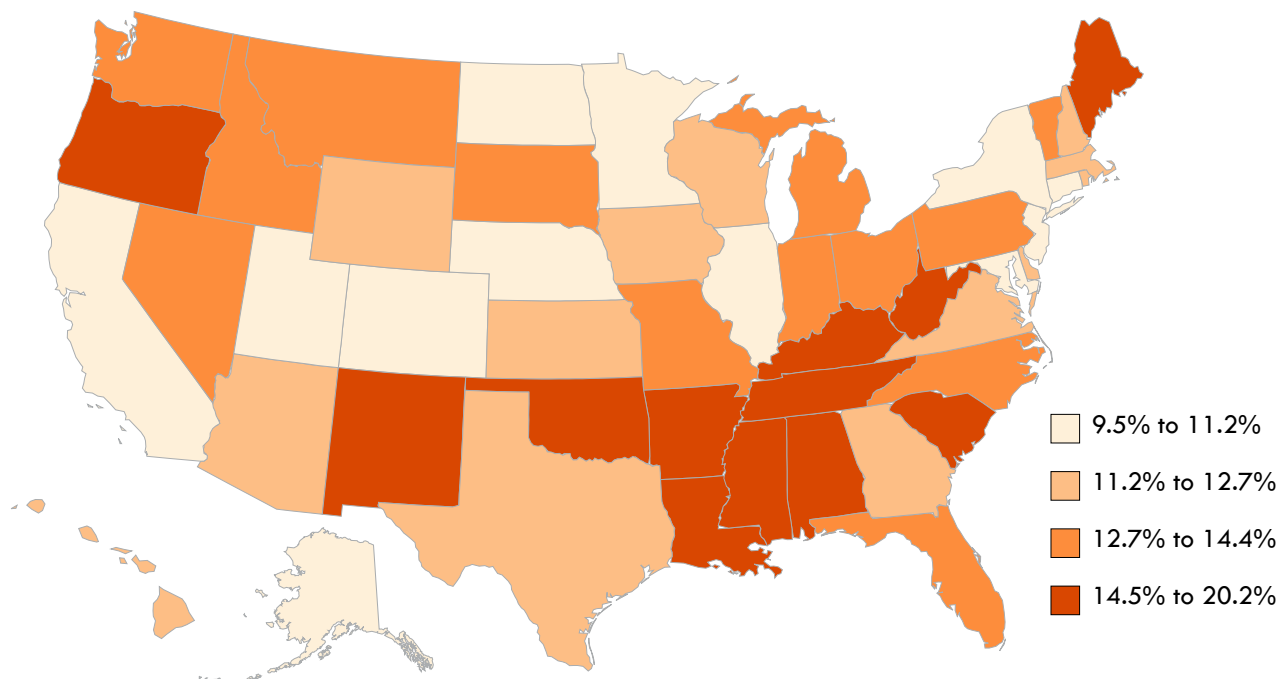
The American Community Survey (ACS) is an annual survey conducted by the US Census Bureau. The ACS provides estimates of disability in all states. According to the ACS, the overall percentage of disability in the US in 2013 was 12.7%.

This ACS-based percentage is lower than the percentage in the SIPP. Differences in the numbers result from the use of different questions for estimating disability in each survey, a different way of sampling the US population, and also different survey years. Appendices A

and B provide more detail on the definitions used in the SIPP and ACS estimates.

Figures 1 thru 7 divide the states into four “quartiles” to show different percentages of persons with disabilities in states. In 2013, the state with the lowest percentage of the US population having a disability was Utah (9.5%). The state with the highest percentage of disability, West Virginia, was over twice as high with a percentage of 20.2%. For the most part, higher percentages of disability were clustered in the southern US, around the lower Mississippi, with concentrations also high in the states of Maine, Oregon and New Mexico.

**FIG 1. Civilians with Disabilities Living in the Community as a Percentage of the US Population, by State, 2013**





# State Prevalence of Disability in the US Across the Life Span

*What is the disability percentage in different age groups?*

As the US population ages, the percentage of people with disabilities grows. Figure 2 shows that in the population under 5 years old, less than 1.0% had a disability. For the population ages 5-17, the percentage was 5.4%. For ages 18-64 the rate was 10.5%, while people ages 65 and over had a percentage of 36.6%.

Figure 3 shows the composition of the population of persons with disabilities in the US, by age. Of the US population in 2013 with disabilities, over half (51.9%) were people in the working-ages of 18-64. Forty percent (40.3%) of people with disabilities were 65 and older. Disability in children and youth accounted for only 7.4% (ages 5-17) and 0.4% (under 5 years old).

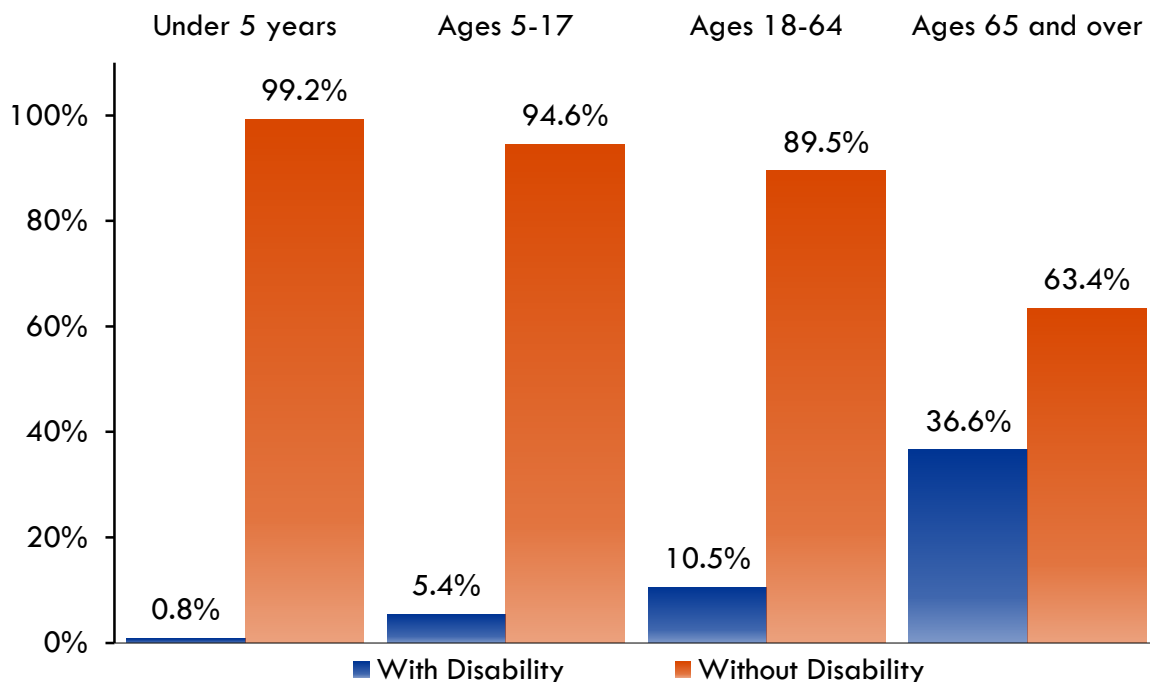
Figures 4 thru 7 show state variation in the disability percentages by age, demonstrating how disability percentages increase with age. The

percentage of disability in children under age 5 was very low, about 0.8% nationally, 1.7% or less in any state. The states with the highest percentages were Oregon, New Mexico, and West Virginia. Seven states and the District of Columbia had percentages equal to or less than 0.5%.

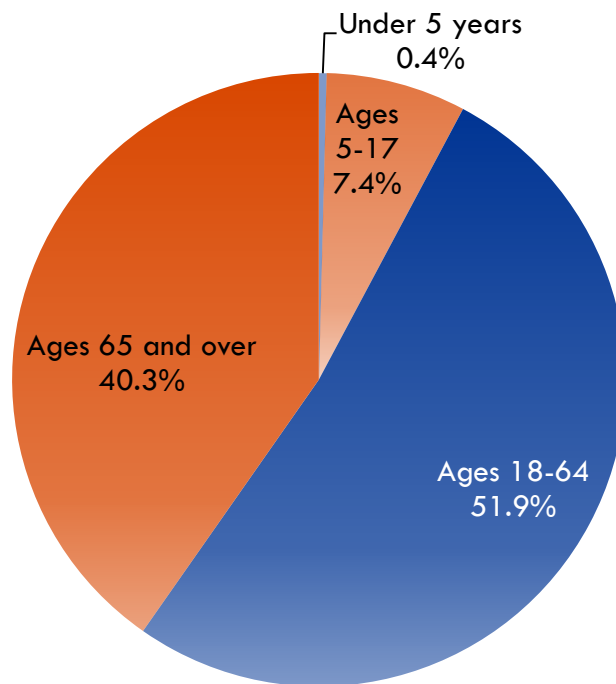
For children ages 5-17, the percentages ranged from 3.7% (North Dakota) to more than twice that percentage in Maine (7.9%). In general, percentages for this age group were lower in the Western US, Hawaii and Alaska, and more concentrated in the Eastern US.

For adults ages 18-64, the highest percentages were in many states in the Southern US from New Mexico to West Virginia, and also in Maine. The percentage was lowest in Hawaii (7.9%) and more than twice as high in West Virginia (18.1%).

**FIG 2. Age Distribution of Disability in the US Population, 2013**



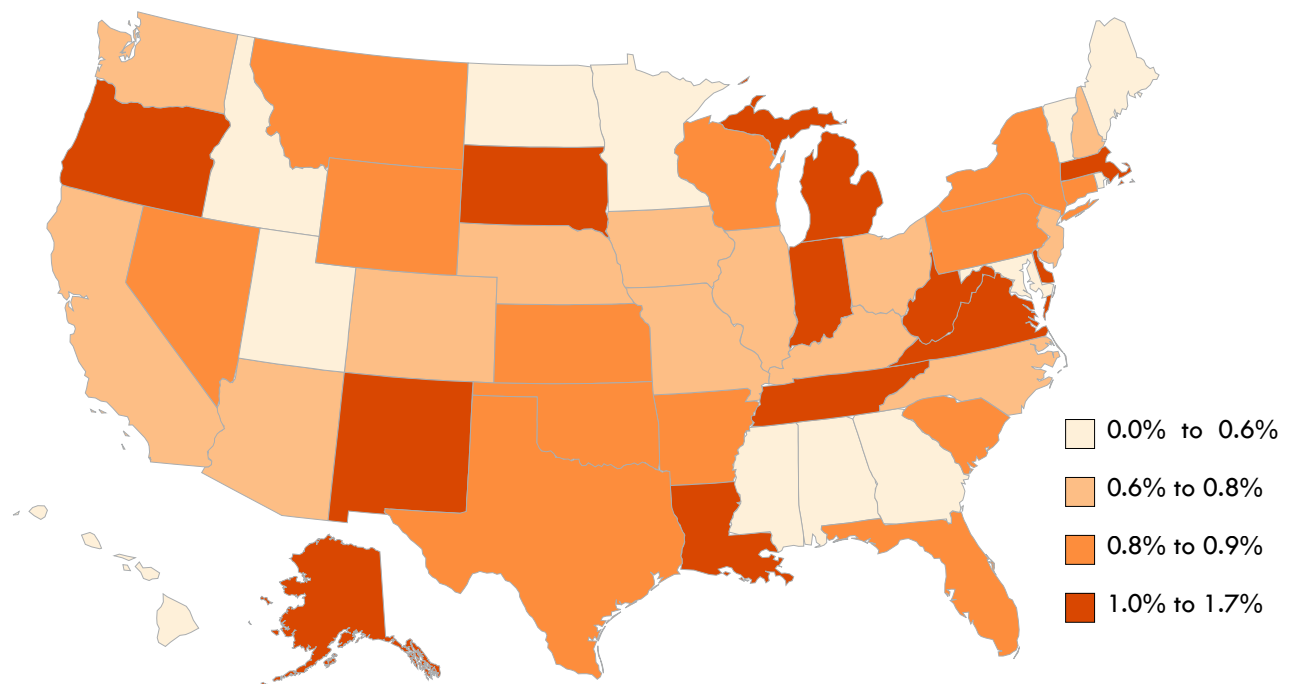
**FIG 3. Age Distribution in the US Population of Citizens with Disabilities, ACS, 2013**



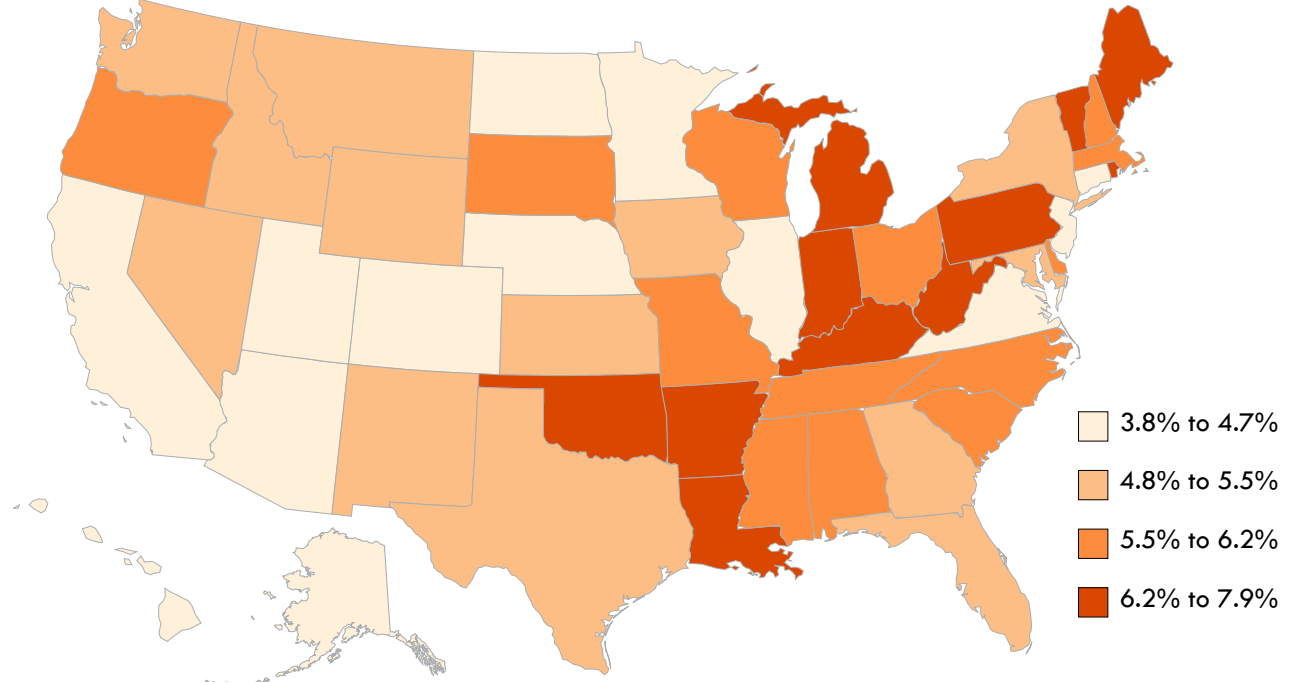
The highest percentages of disability were in the US population 65 and over; more than one third of the civilian population 65 and over (36.6%) had a disability. In nine states, mainly in the South, the percentage was over 40%, or more than two in every five people: West Virginia, Mississippi, Oklahoma, Arkansas,

Kentucky, New Mexico, Louisiana, Alabama, and Tennessee. Disability percentages were generally lowest in the Midwest and Northeast; six states had disability percentages of less than one third (33.3%): Minnesota, Delaware, Connecticut, Iowa, Maryland, and Wisconsin.

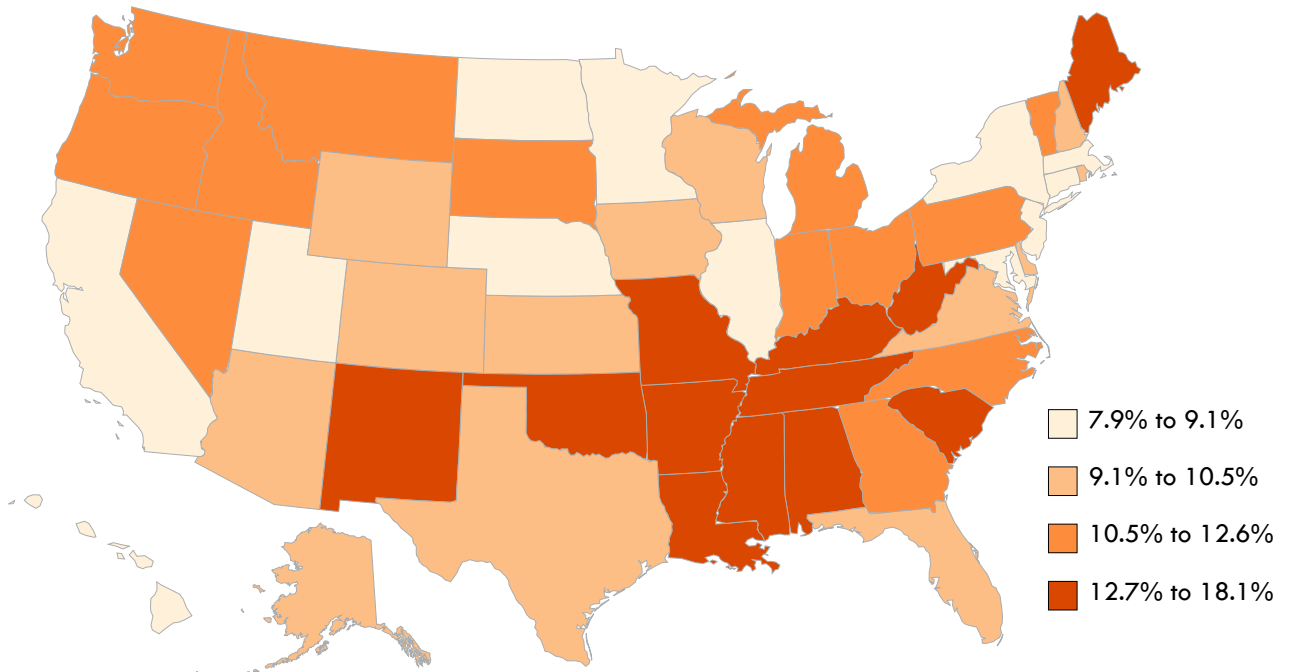
**FIG 4. Civilians with Disabilities Ages Under 5 Years Living in the Community, by State, 2013**



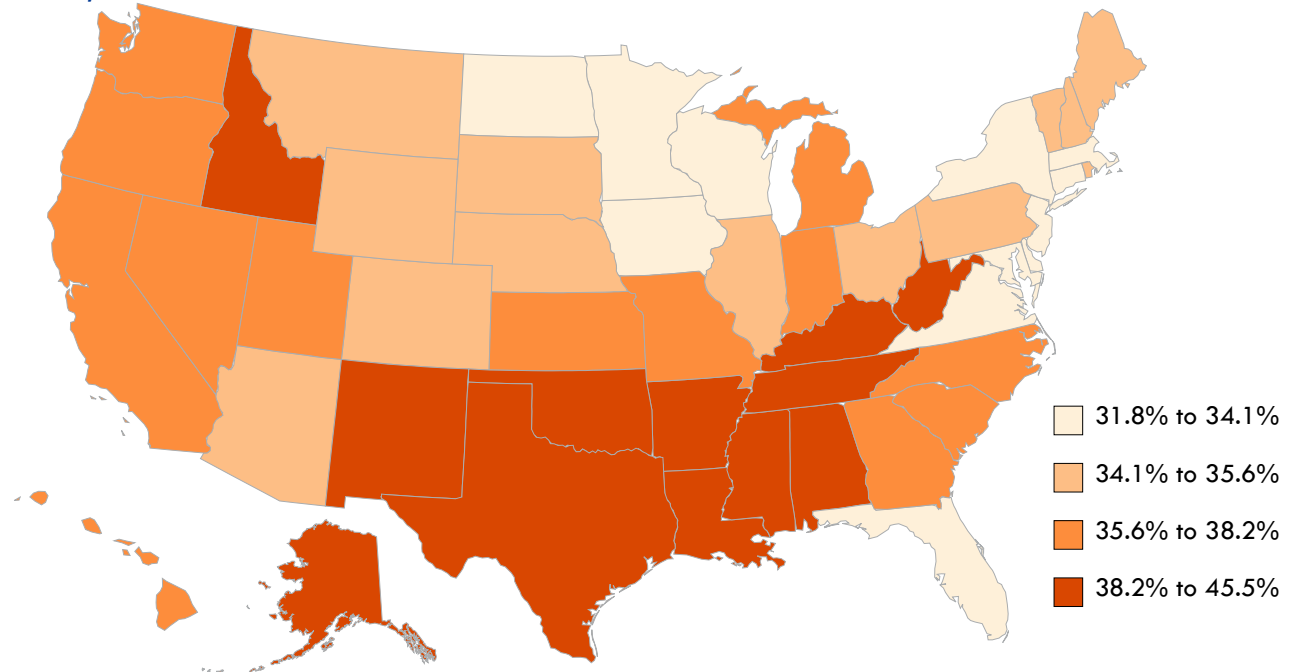
**FIG 5. Civilians with Disabilities Ages 5-17 Years Living in the Community, by State, 2013**



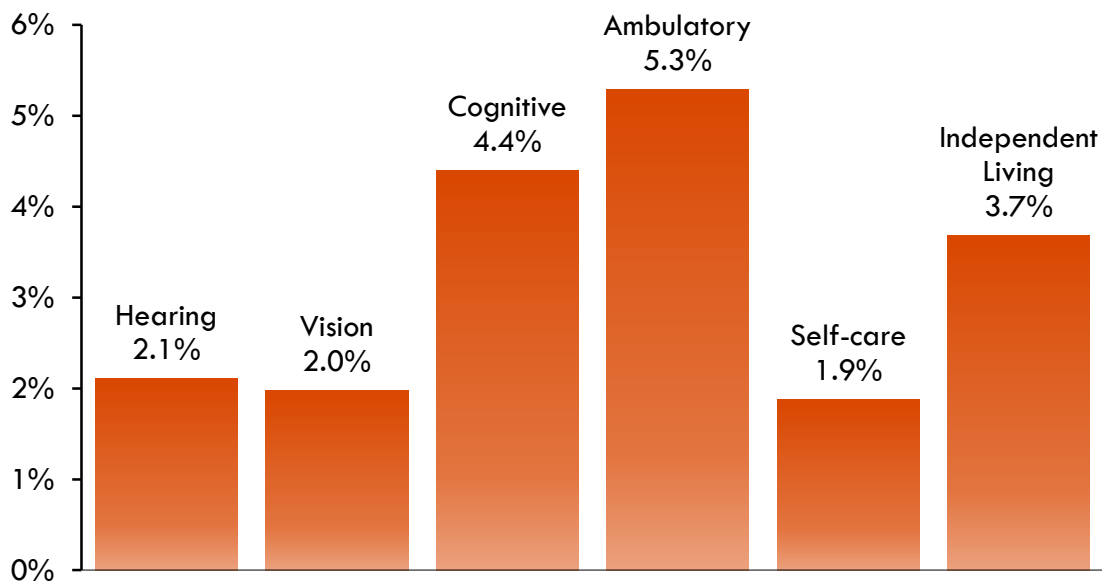
**FIG 6. Civilians with Disabilities Ages 18-64 Years Living in the Community, by State, 2013**



**FIG 7. Civilians with Disabilities Ages 65 and Over Living in the Community, by State, 2013**



**FIG 8. Prevalence of Types of Disabilities Ages 18-64, 2013**



# Prevalence of Types of Disabilities, Ages 18-64

*What is the disability percentage for different types of disability for people ages 18-64?*

The American Community Survey (ACS) asks about six types of disability: vision, hearing, cognitive, ambulatory, self-care, and independent living. For the US working-age population, ages 18-64, these types of disabilities were prevalent in the population at different levels. Figure 8 shows the relative prevalence of disabilities in US working-age population in 2013. The percentages vary from 1.9% for self-care disabilities to 5.3% for ambulatory disabilities.

These disability types were distributed unevenly across the 50 states; some states had prevalence percentages two or three times that of other states. Figures 9 through 14 depict this variation in more detail.

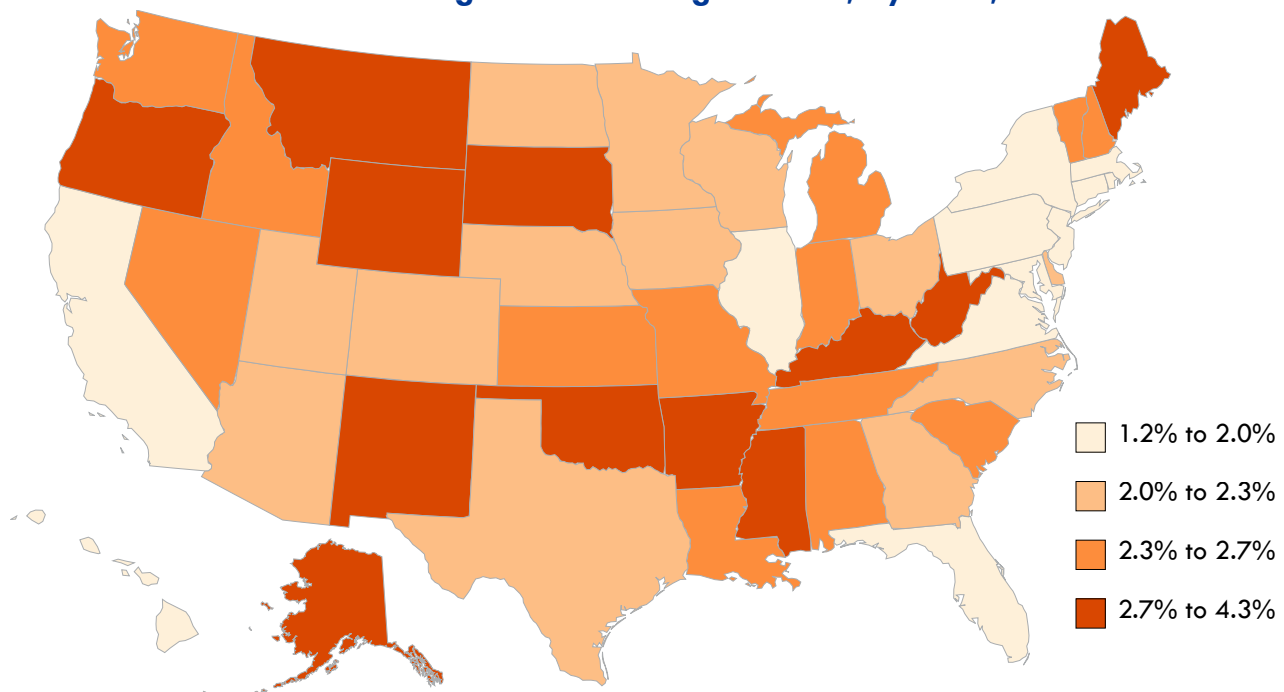
## Hearing Disability (FIG. 9)

In the US in 2013, about 2.1% of the US working-age population had a hearing disability. The percentages ranged from 1.2% (District of Columbia) to 4.3% (West Virginia). Thirteen states and the District of Columbia reported hearing disability percentages of less than 2%, while six states' percentages exceeded 3%. High-percentage states include Maine, Oregon, and Alaska as well as states in the upper Midwest and Southern US.

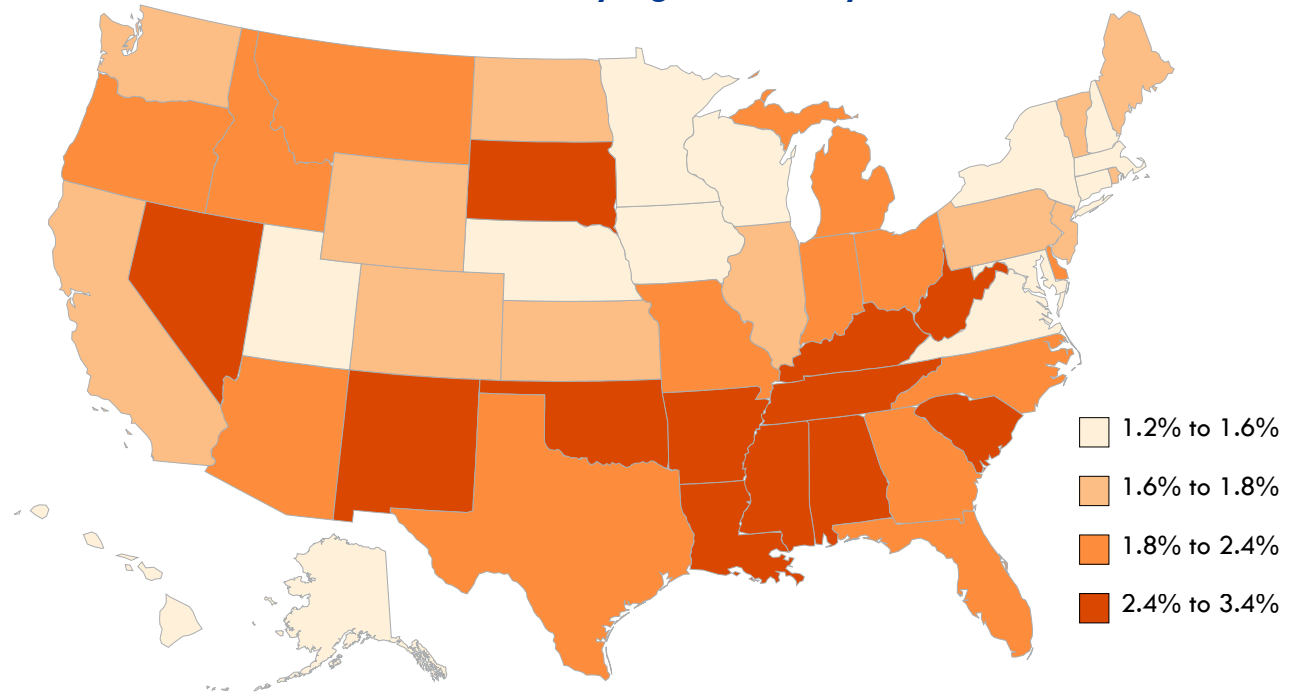
## Vision Disability (FIG. 10)

Vision disability also had a relatively low prevalence in this age group, with an overall

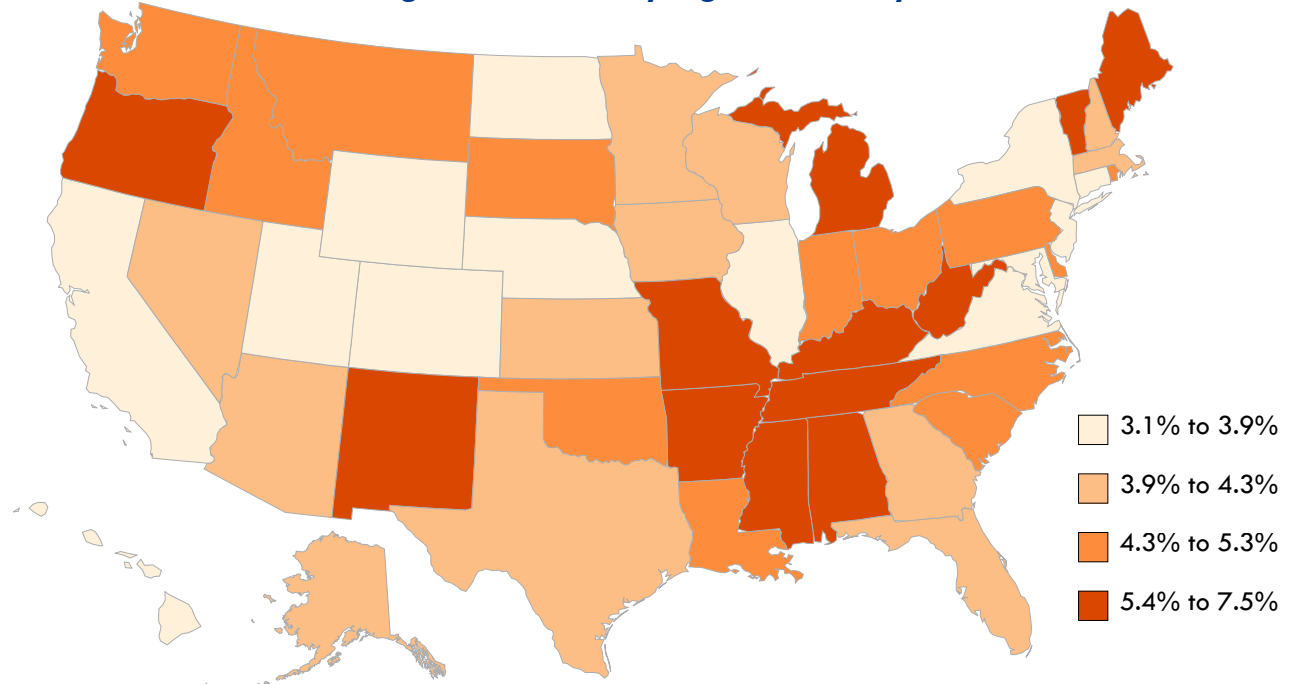
**FIG 9. Civilians with Hearing Disabilities Ages 18-64, by State, 2013**



**FIG 10. Civilians with Vision Disability Ages 18-64, by State, 2013**



**FIG 11. Civilians with Cognitive Disability Ages 18-64, by State, 2013**



percentage of 2.0% for the US in 2013. Percentages ranged from 1.2% (Minnesota) to 3.4% (West Virginia). Vision disability was more clustered in the southern states around the lower Mississippi, and also South Dakota, New Mexico, Oklahoma, South Carolina and Nevada. In twenty-eight states, the percentage of vision disability was less than 2.0% for people ages 18-64.

**Cognitive Disability (FIG. 11)**

The national prevalence percentage for civilians ages 18-64 with cognitive disabilities was 4.4% in 2013. State percentages ranged from 3.1% (New Jersey) to 7.5% (West Virginia). In seventeen states, the percentage was higher than 5.0%. In fourteen (14) states and the District of Columbia, the percentage was less than 4.0%. There was some concentration of higher percentages (over 4.3%) in states around the lower Mississippi, and also in Oregon, New Mexico, Michigan, Vermont and Maine.

**Ambulatory Disability (FIG. 12)**

In 2013, the percentage of ambulatory disability

in the US working-age population was 5.3%. Percentages varied from 3.3% (Hawaii) to over three times that percentage in West Virginia (10.3%). States in the lower Mississippi area had the highest percentages (4.4% and over), along with Michigan, Oklahoma, South Carolina and New Mexico.

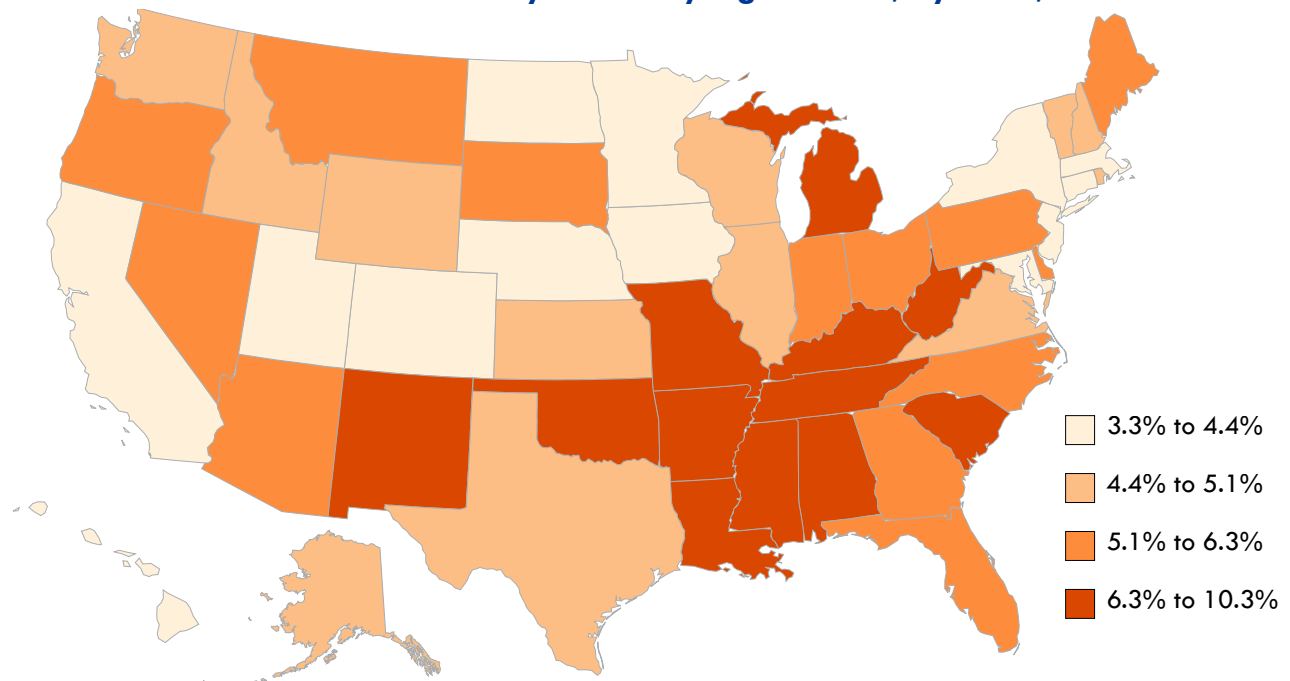
**Self-Care Disability (FIG. 13)**

The national percentage for self-care disability for civilians ages 18-64 was 1.9%. In the states, this percentage ranged from 1.3% (Nebraska) to 3.2% (West Virginia). In general, the percentages were higher in the South, and also Michigan and New Mexico.

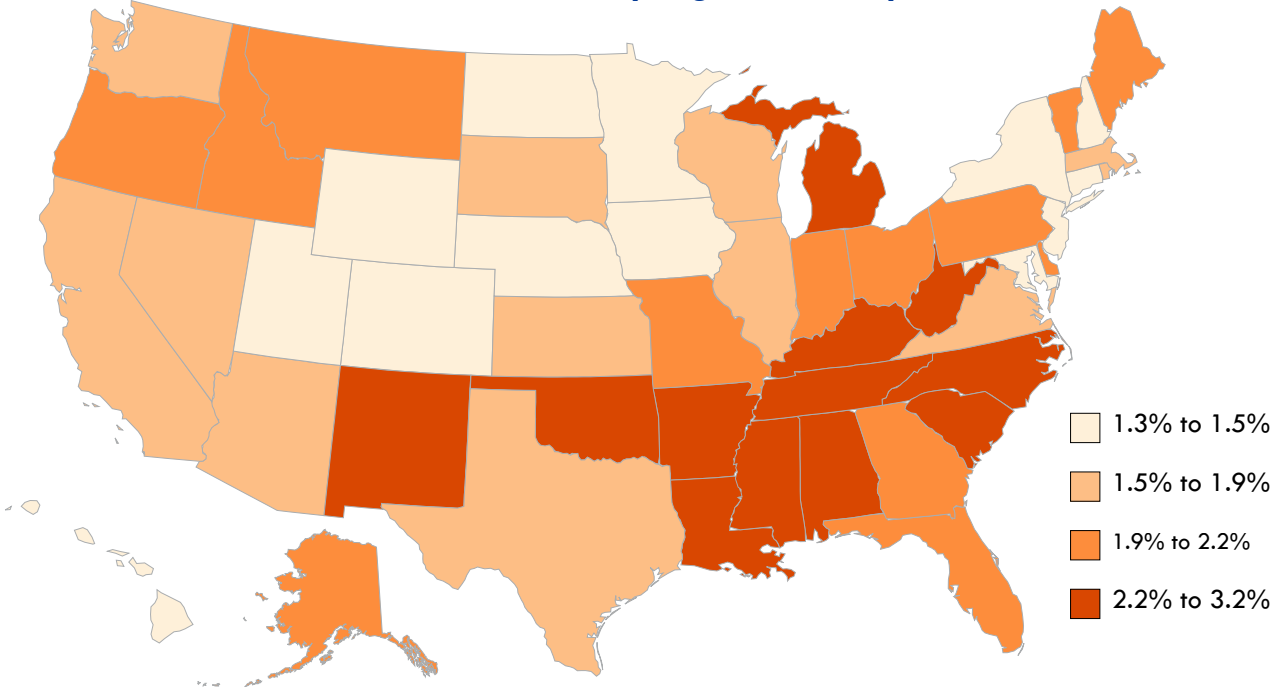
**Independent Living Disability (FIG. 14)**

The national percentage for independent living disability for civilians ages 18-64 was 3.7%. In the states, this percentage ranged from 2.5% (Nebraska) to 6.6% (West Virginia). In general, the percentages were higher in the region centered on the lower Mississippi, and also in Maine, Michigan, Oklahoma and New Mexico.

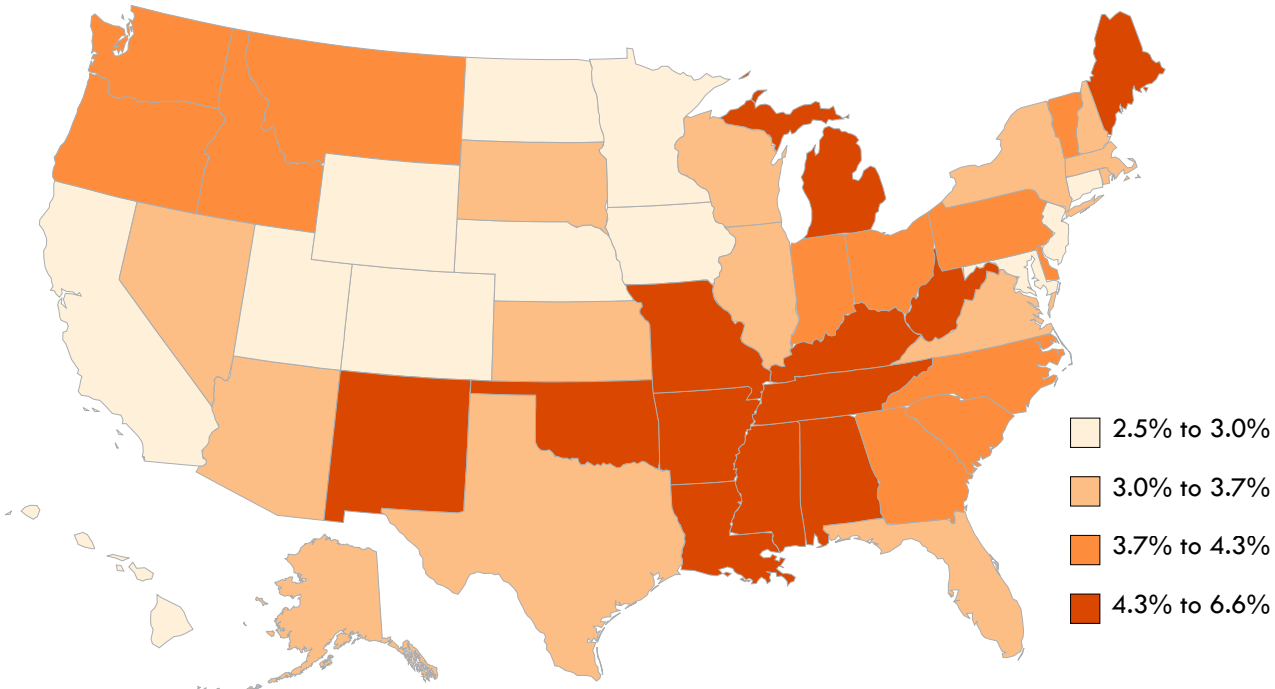
**FIG 12. Civilians with Ambulatory Disability Ages 18-64, by State, 2013**



**FIG 13. Civilians with Self-Care Disability, Ages 18-64, by State, 2013**



**FIG 14. Civilians with Independent Living Disability, Ages 18-64, by State, 2013**





# Employment Rate, Ages 18-64

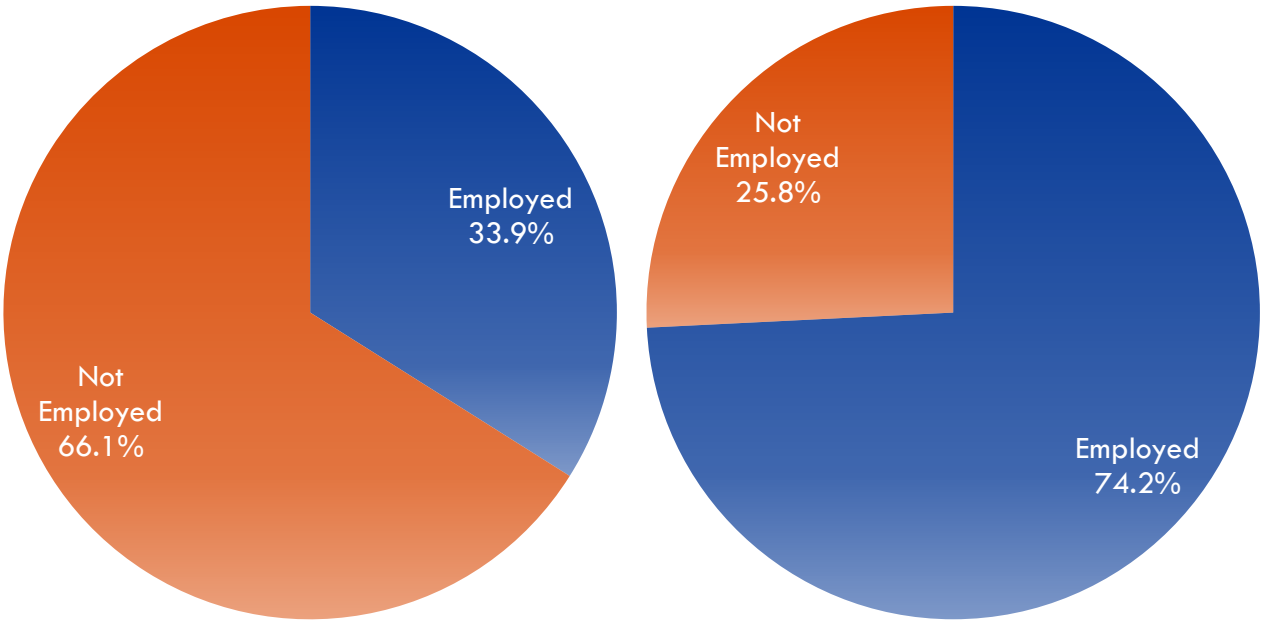
*To what extent are people with disabilities employed?*

As Figure 15 shows, in the US in 2013, 33.9% of civilians with disabilities ages 18-64 living in the community were employed. The employment percentage was much higher for people without disabilities, 74.2%.

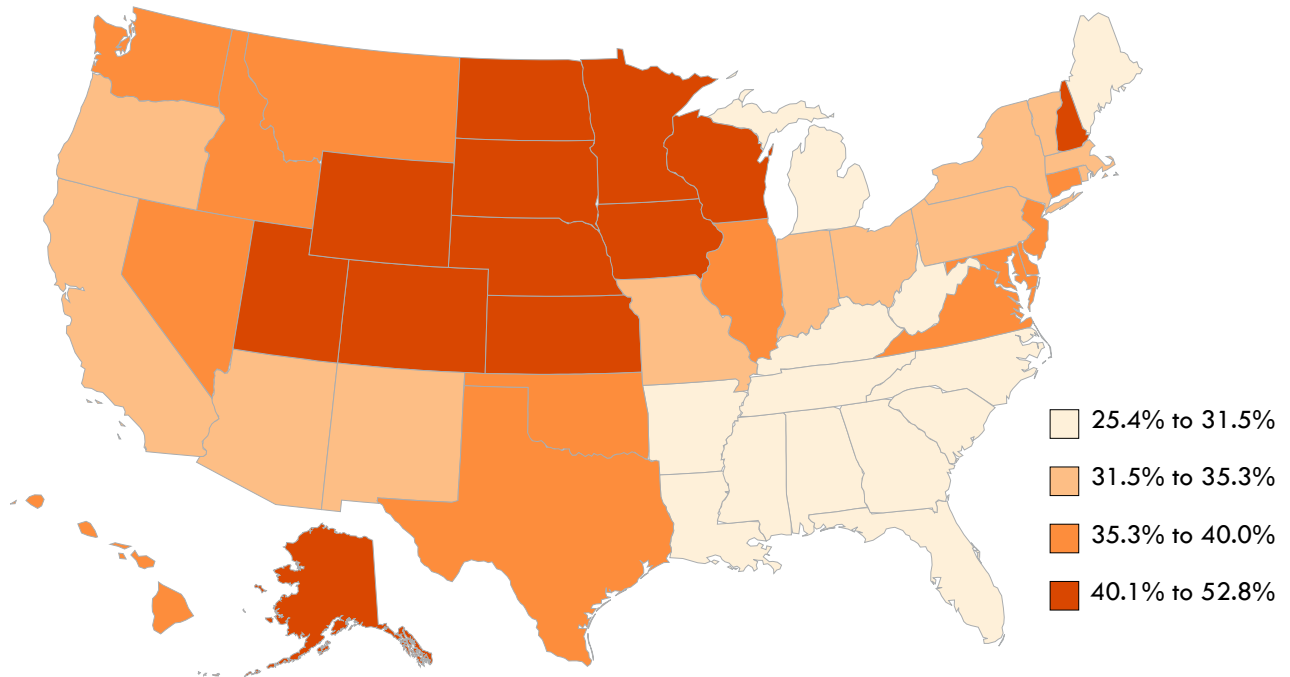
Figures 16 and 17 depict how rates of employment varied by state. For persons with disabilities, rates ranged from a high of 52.8% (North Dakota) to a low of 25.3% (West Virginia). The employment percentages ranged from 69.4% (Mississippi) to 83.0% (North Dakota).

The employment gap is the difference between the respective employment percentages of people with and without disabilities. In the US in 2013, the difference between the employment percentage for people with disabilities (33.9%) and people without disabilities (74.2%) was 40.3%. In twenty-one states, the employment percentage gap was greater than 40.0%, highest in Maine, Kentucky, Vermont, and West Virginia. In two states, this gap was less than 30.0%: Alaska (27.4%) and Wyoming (28.7%).

**FIG 15. Employment Percentages of People with and without Disabilities, 2013**



**FIG 16. Employment of Civilians with Disabilities, State Variation, 2013**



**FIG 17. Employment of Civilians without Disabilities, State Variation, 2013**

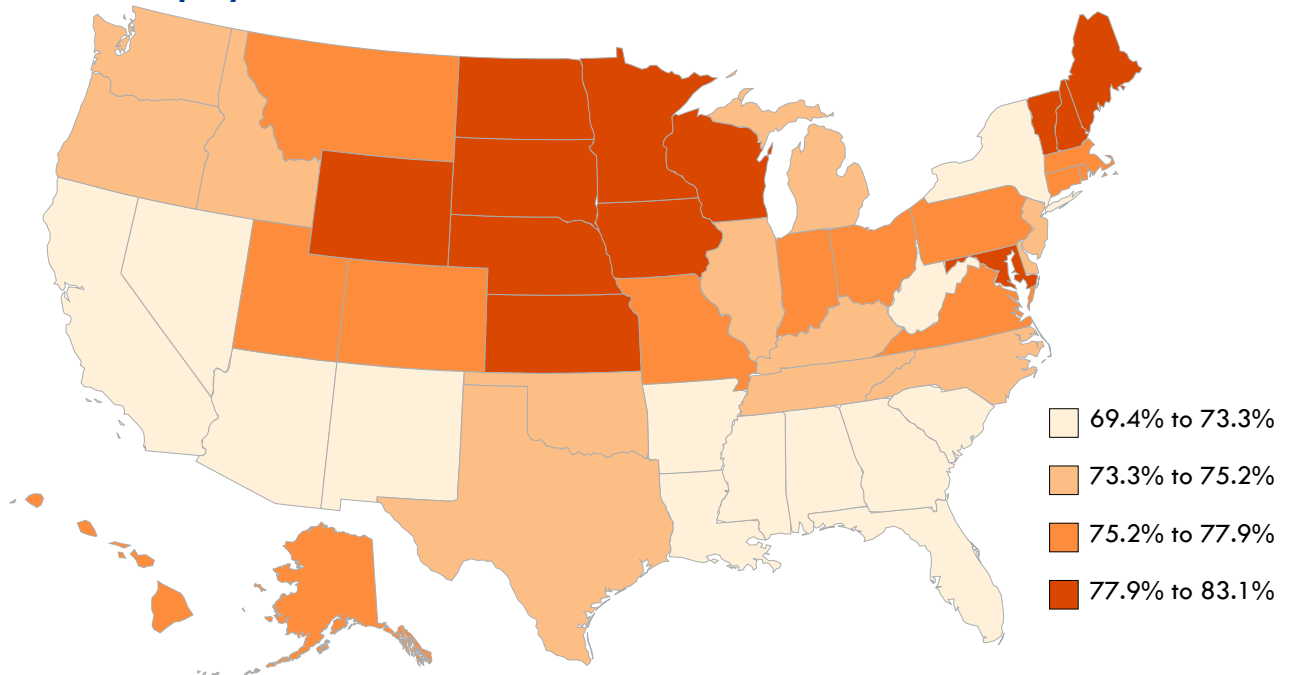
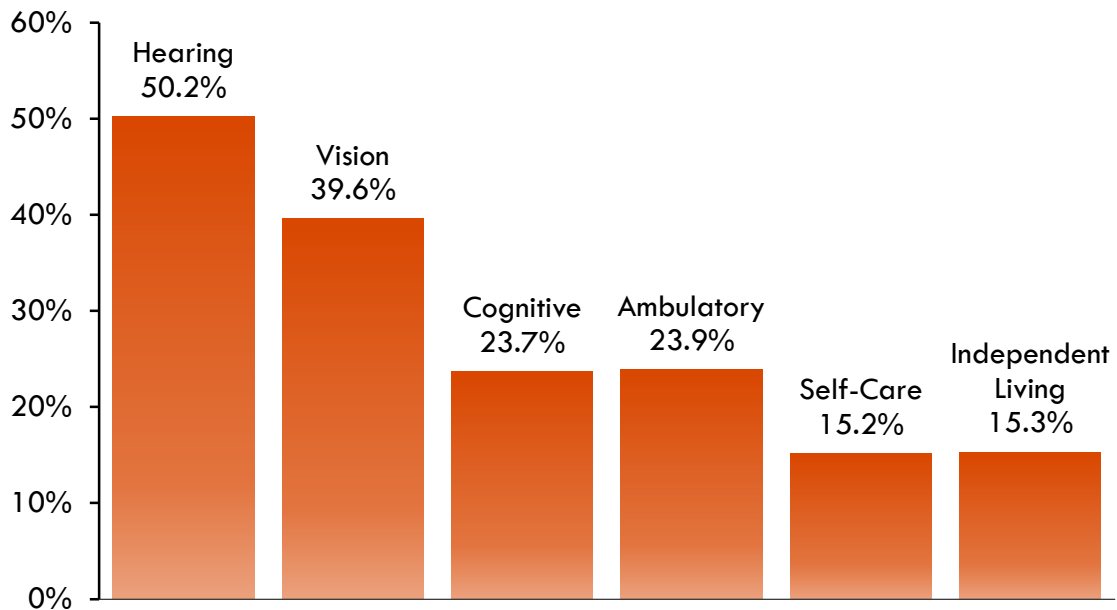


Figure 18 shows how employment percentages varied by type of disability. Employment percentages were highest for people with hearing disabilities (50.2%) and vision disabilities (39.6%) and lowest for self-care (15.2%) and independent living (15.3%) impairments.

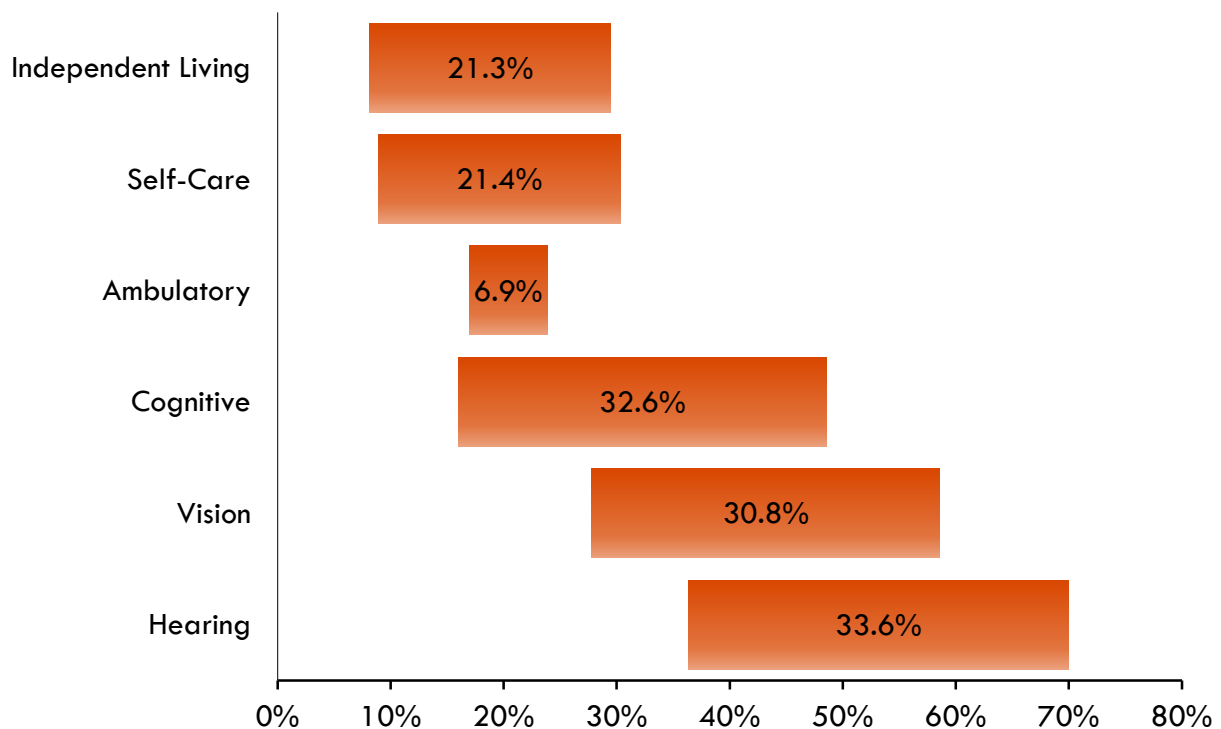
**State variation in disability employment percentages**

Figure 19 shows the range of employment among states for each of the six ACS disability types.

**FIG 18. Employment Percentage by Type of Disability, Ages 18-64, by State, 2013**



**FIG 19. Range in State Disability Employment Percentages, 2013**



Figures 20 thru 25 show the employment percentages by state for each of these six ACS disabilities. The maps show the variation in the state employment percentages for these six groups, in general, with the highest percentages concentrated in the upper Midwest, and lowest employment percentages in the South.

**Changes in disability employment percentage over time**

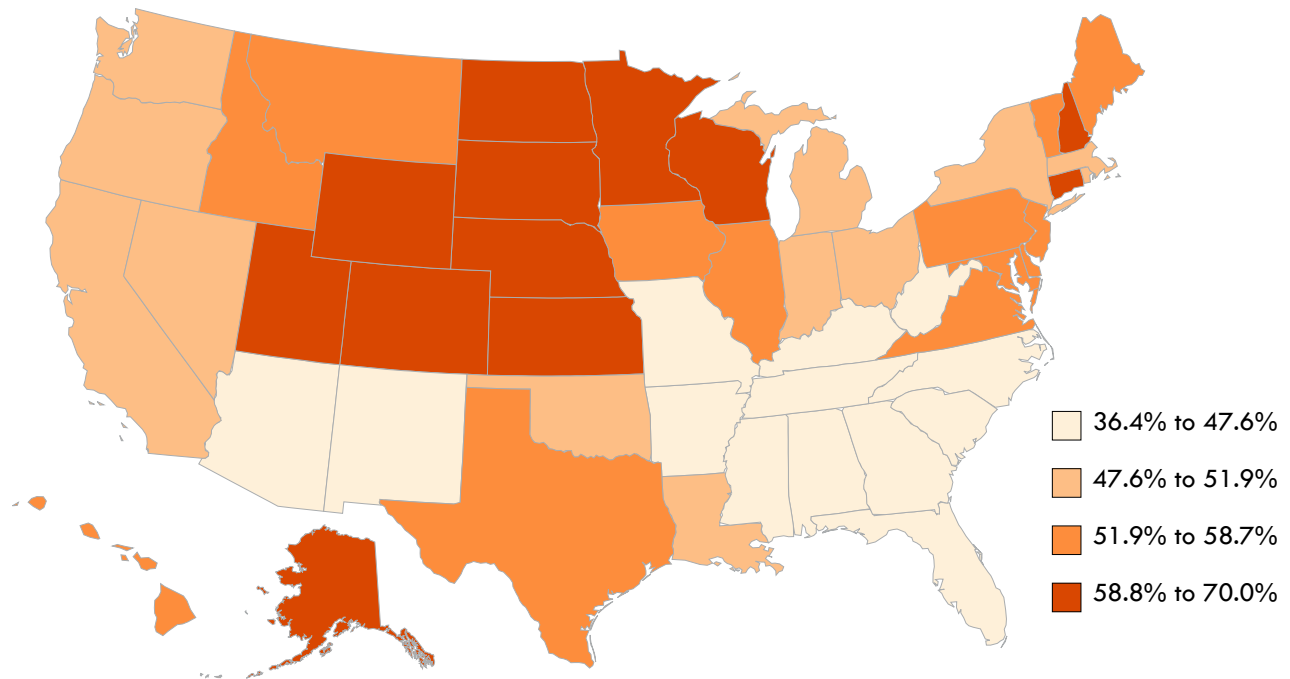
As Figure 26 shows, in the six years from 2008 to 2013, the US employment percentage for people with disabilities declined from a high of 39.1% in 2008 to 33.9% in 2013, which

was still a slight increase in value after lower percentages from 2010 to 2012.

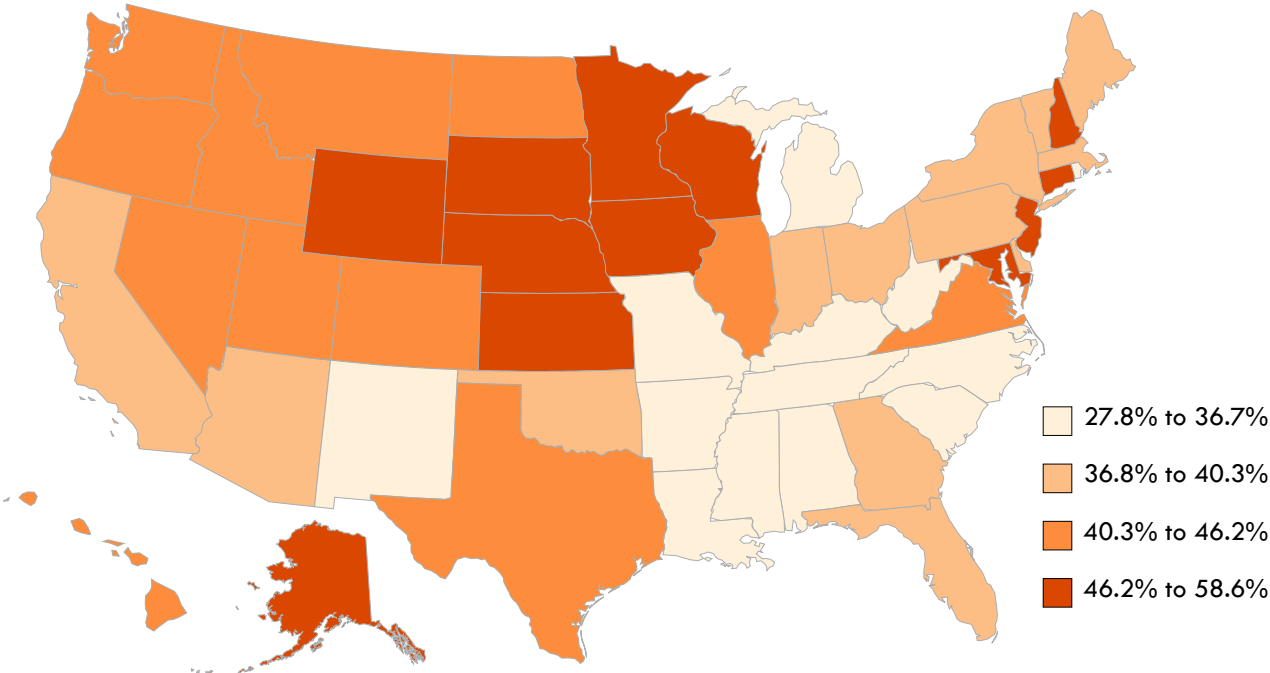
The US employment percentage for people without disabilities in this same period also declined from 77.7% in 2009. After a low of 72.8% in 2010 and 2011, the percentage increased to 75.6% in 2012 and 74.2% in 2013.

While percentages for both groups have increased, the gap between percentages for people with and without disabilities has increased also. In 2008, the gap was 38.6%; it has been higher than 40.0% for the last three years.

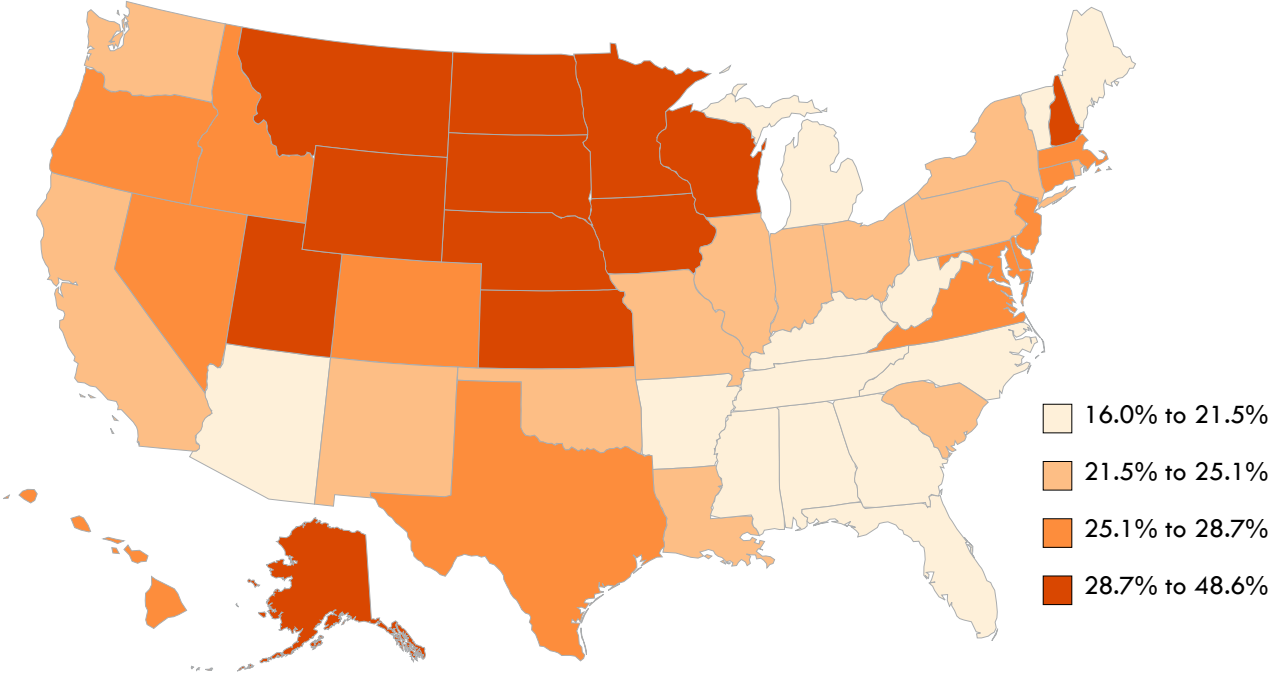
**FIG 20. Hearing Disability Employment Percentage, Ages 18-64, by State, 2013**



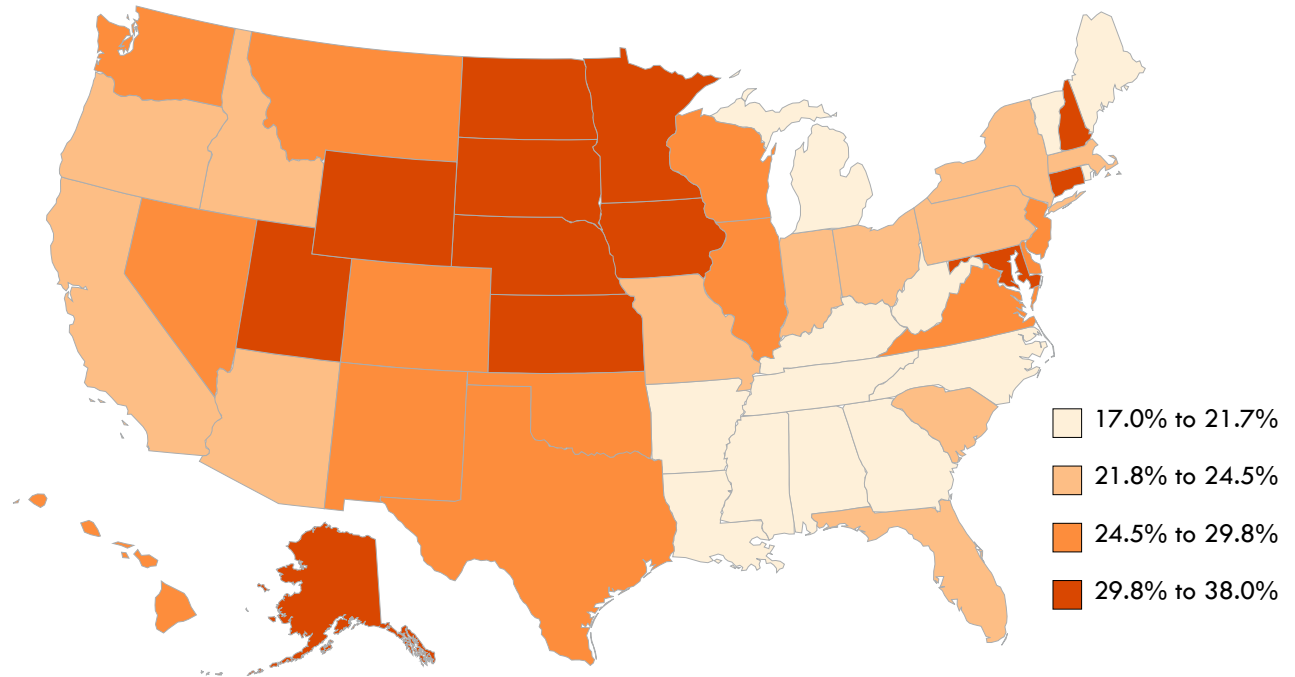
**FIG 21. Vision Disability Employment Percentage, Ages 18-64, by State, 2013**



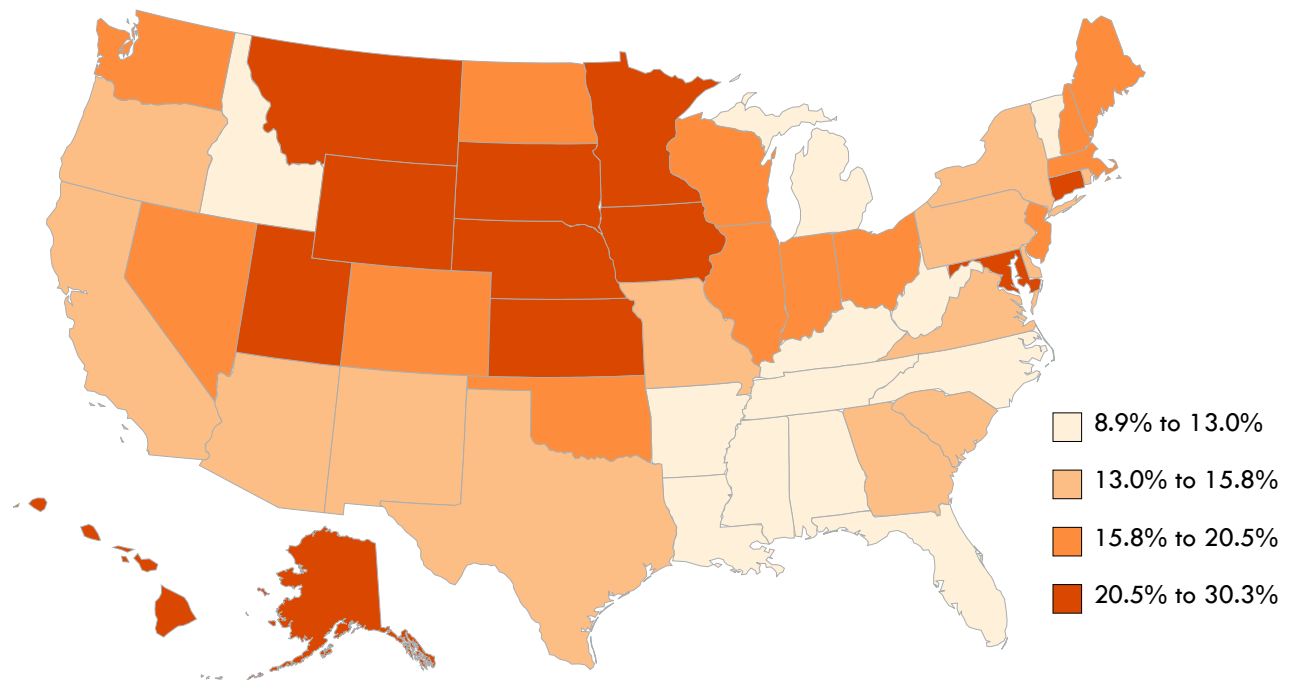
**FIG 22. Cognitive Disability Employment Percentage, Ages 18-64, by State, 2013**



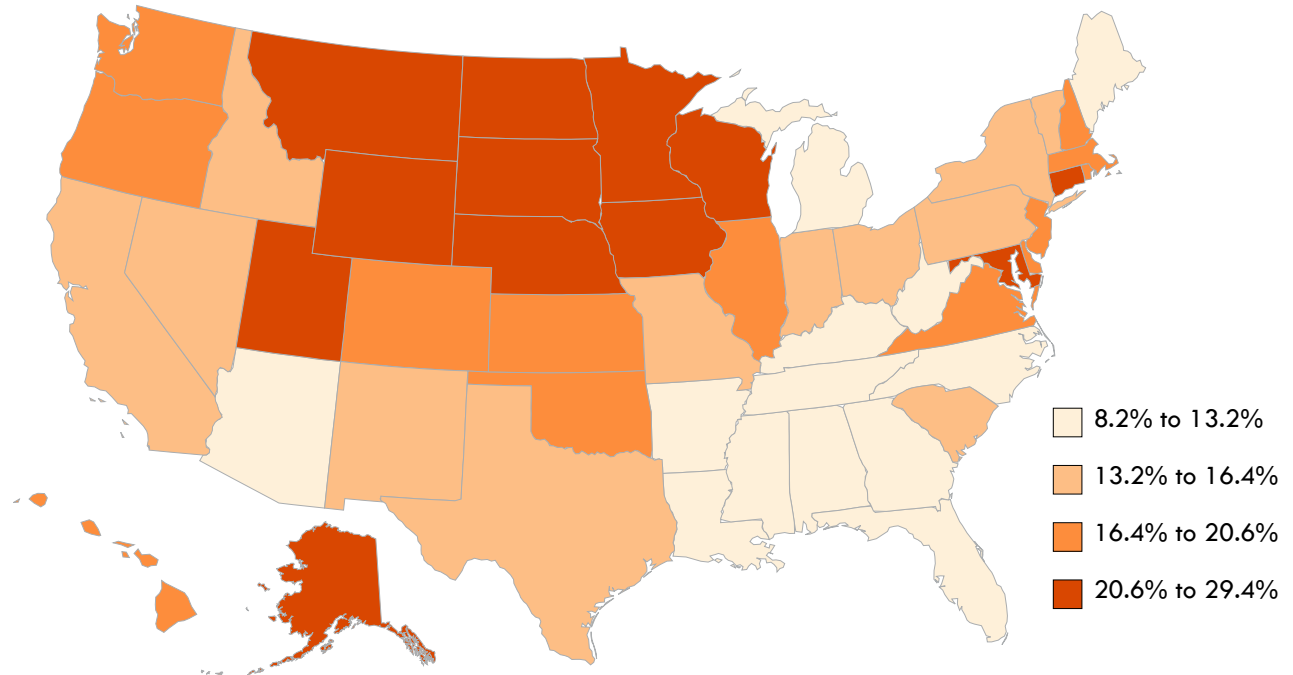
**FIG 23. Ambulatory Disability Employment Percentage, Ages 18-64, by State, 2013**



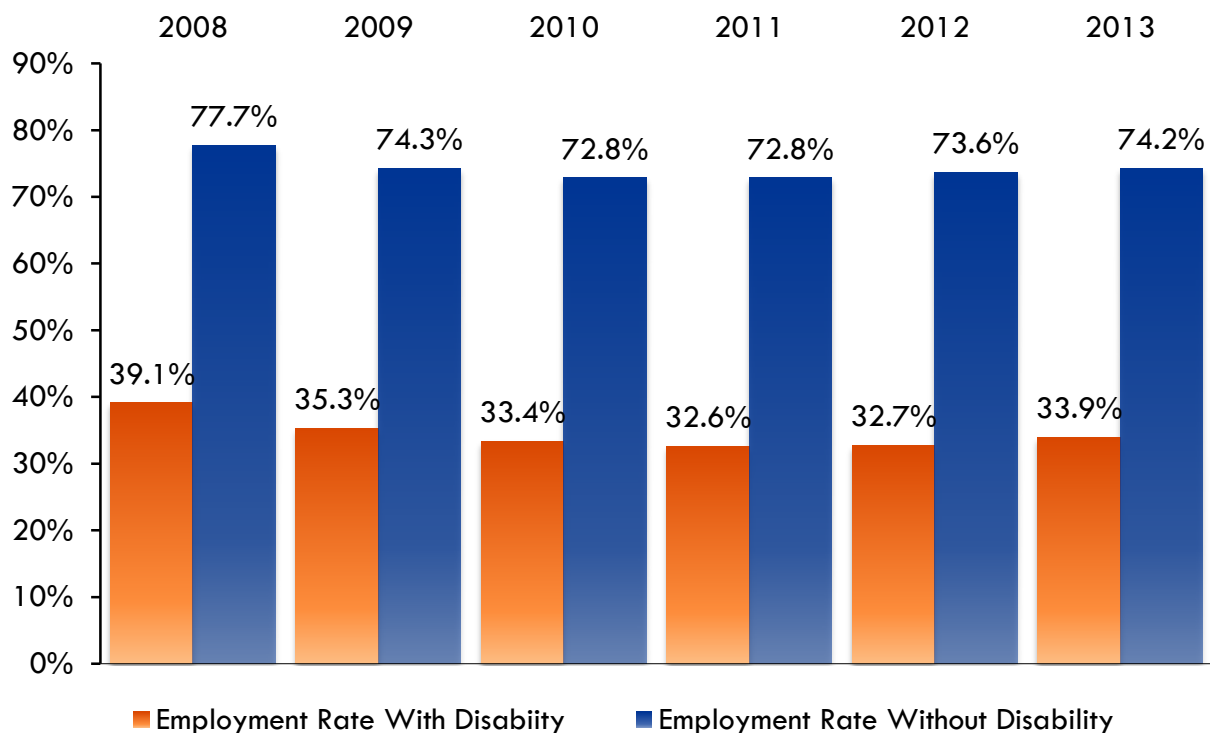
**FIG 24. Self-Care Disability Employment Percentage, Ages 18-64, by State, 2013**



**FIG 25. Independent Living Disability Employment Percentage, Ages 18-64, by State, 2013**



**FIG 26. Employment Percentage, with and without Disability, 2008-2013**



# Earnings

## *What are the earnings for people with and without disabilities?*

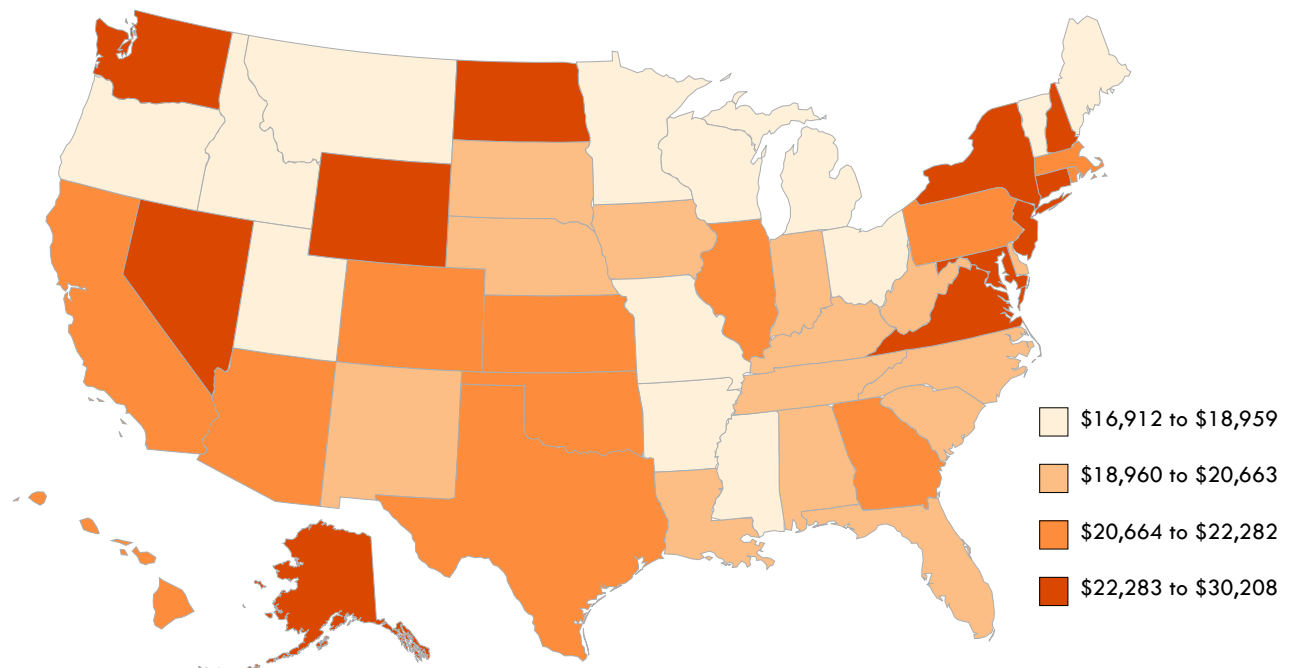
In 2013, the median earnings of civilians with disabilities ages 16 and over in the US was \$20,785, about two-thirds of the median earnings of people without disabilities, \$30,728. Figures 27 and 28 show variations in earnings for persons with and without disabilities, by state. In three states (Alaska, Maryland, and New Jersey), the median earnings for people with disabilities was over \$25,000, while nineteen states had median disability earnings lower than \$20,000.

The median earnings for civilians without disabilities in the states ranged from \$25,700 in Montana to \$48,273 in the District of Columbia.

Nationally, from 2008 to 2013, the earnings percentages for both people with and without disabilities showed a slight downward trend from 2008 to 2009, until increasing in 2011.

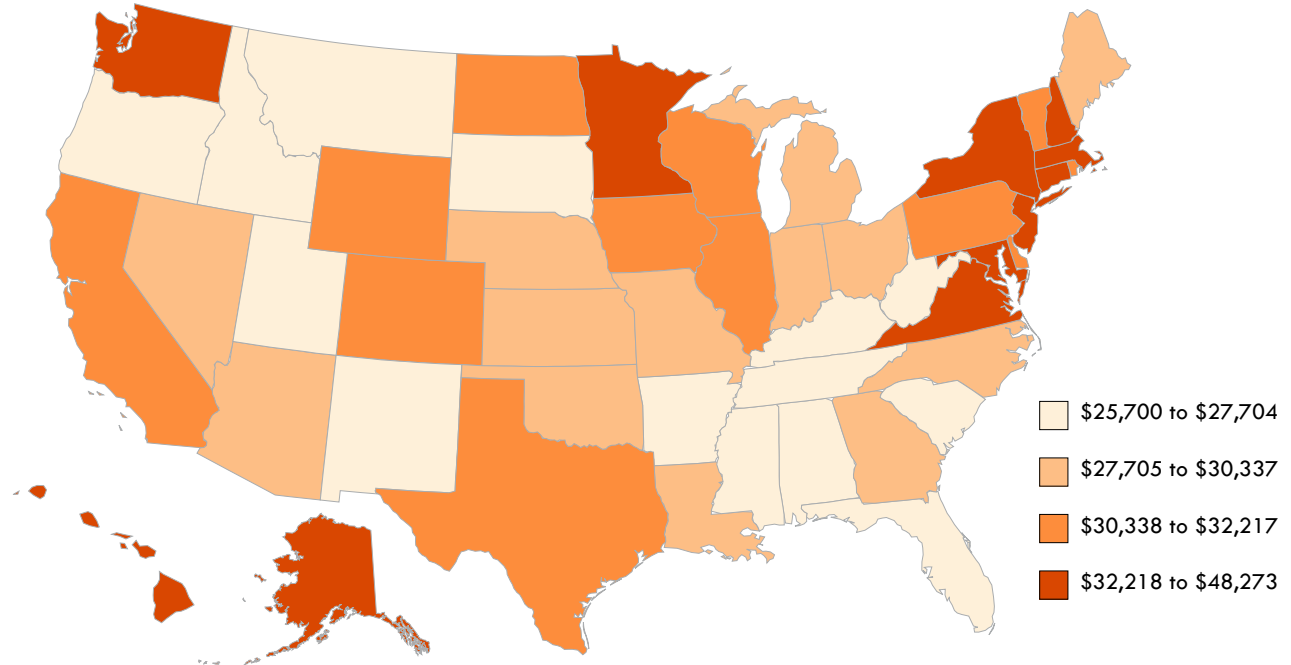
The earnings gap ranged from \$10,550 in 2011 to \$9,943 in 2013.

**FIG 27. State Median Earnings, Past 12 Months, Ages 16 and Over with Disability, 2013**

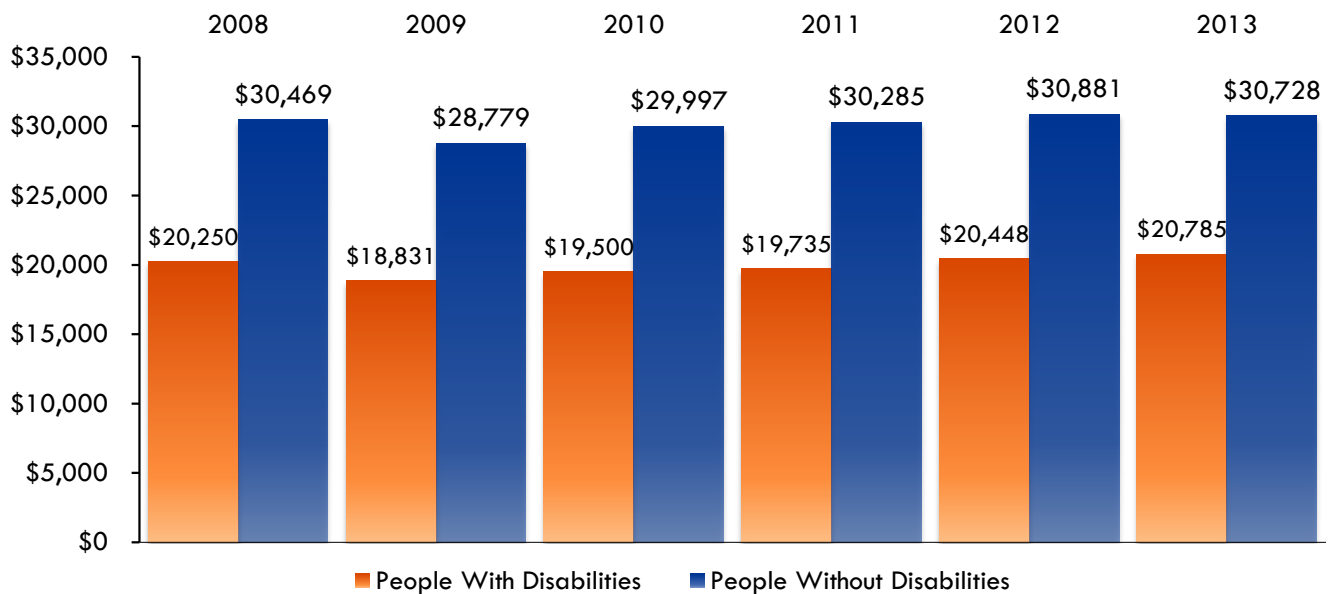




**FIG 28. State Median Earnings, Past 12 Months, Ages 16 and Over without Disability, 2013**



**FIG 29. Median Earnings, Civilians with and without Disabilities, Ages 16 and Over, 2008-2013**



# Poverty

## *What percentage of people with and without disabilities are in poverty?*

Figure 30 shows variation in poverty by state. Almost thirty percent (28.7%) of US civilians with disabilities of working-age in 2013 were living in poverty. The percentages ranged from 16.7% (Wyoming) to 36.9% (District of Columbia).

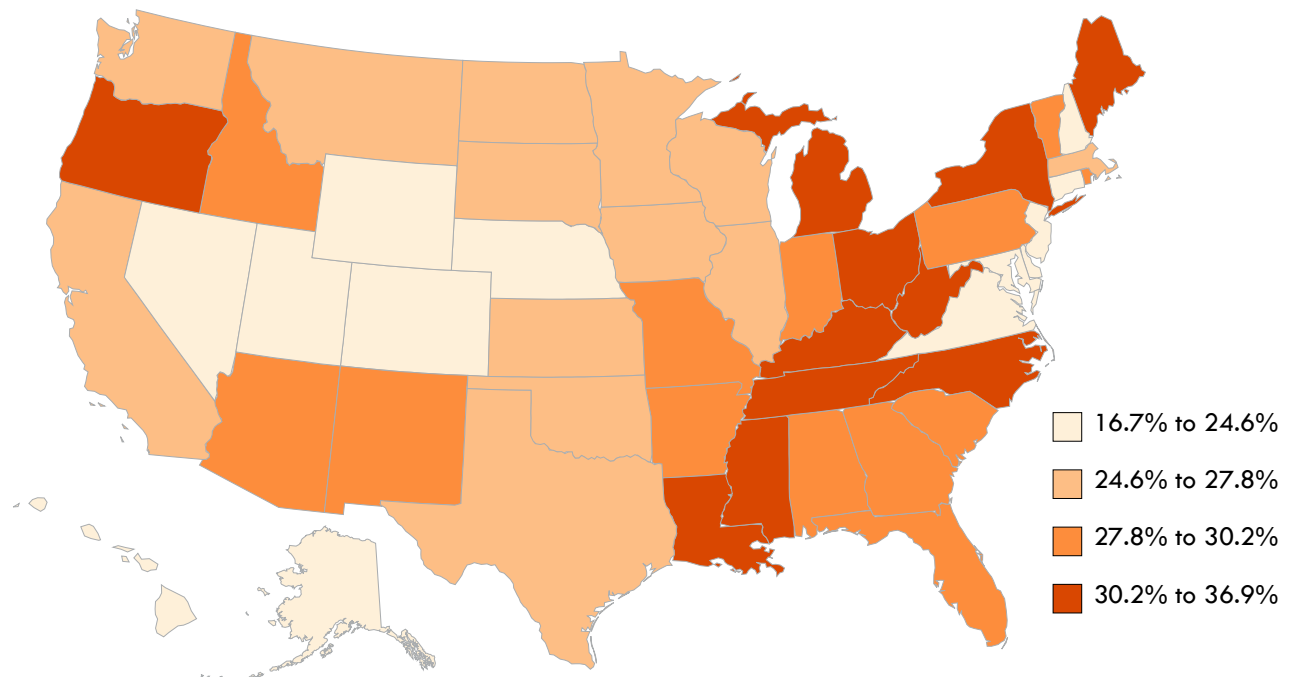
The disability poverty percentage was less than 25.0% in fourteen states, lowest in Wyoming (16.7%) and Alaska 17.3%.

For US civilians of working-age without disabilities, the national poverty percentage was 13.6%. State poverty percentages ranged from 7.5% in New Hampshire to 20.1% in Mississippi.

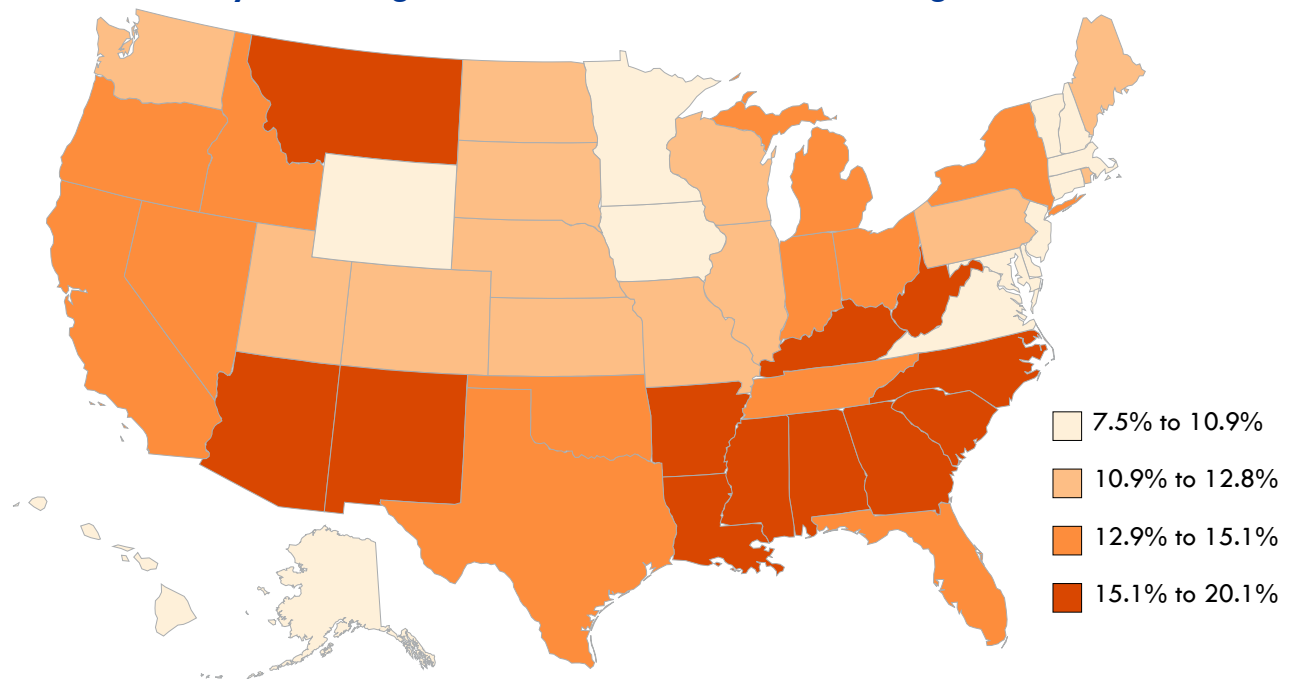
From 2008 and 2013, poverty rose among people with and without disabilities. For people with disabilities, the percentage increased from 25.5% in 2008 to 28.7% in 2013, after a high of 29.2% in 2012. For people without disabilities, the percentage increased from 10.4% in 2008 to 13.6% in 2013, also seeing a high in 2012 of 15.6%.

The poverty percentage gap, or the difference between the percentages of these two groups, was about 15.0%. For these six years, the gap was highest (15.8%) in 2012, lowest in the years 2009-2011, and in 2008 and 2013, the gap was 15.1%.

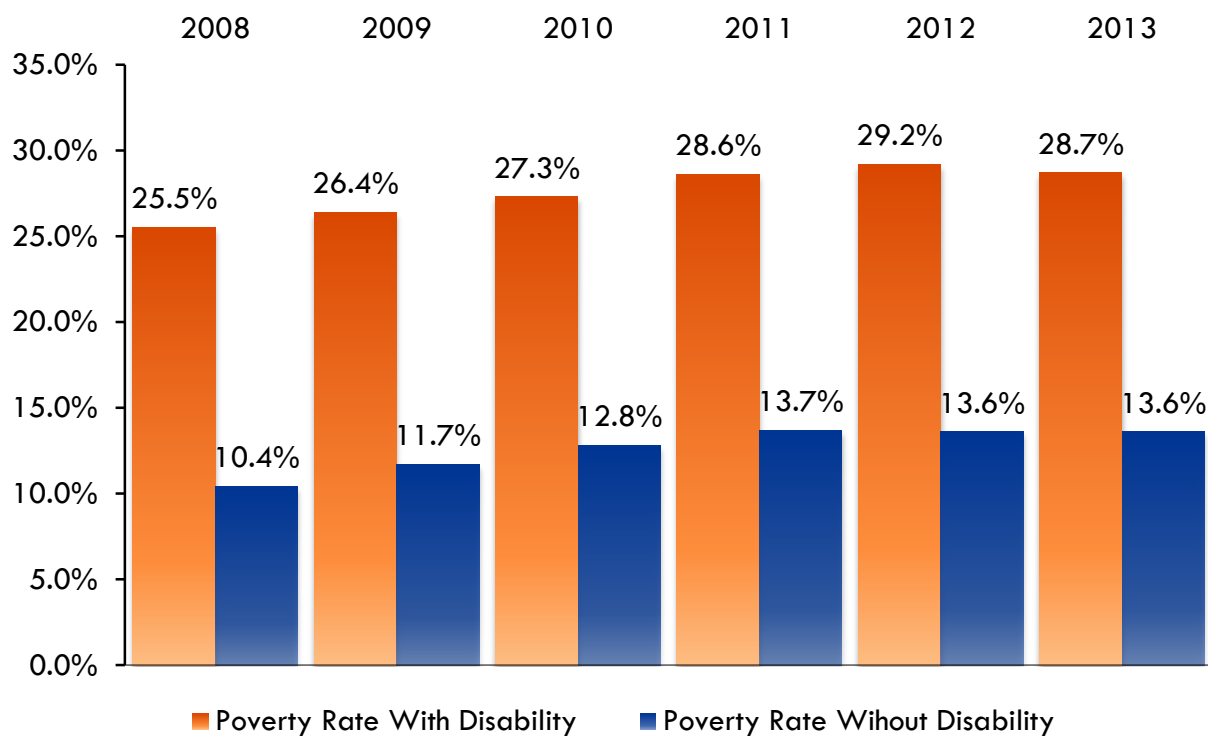
**FIG 30. Poverty Percentage, Civilians with Disabilities Ages 18-64, 2013**



**FIG 31. Poverty Percentage, Civilians without Disabilities Ages 18-64, 2013**



**FIG 32. Poverty Percentage, People with and without Disabilities, 2008-2013**



# Health

## *Is disability status associated with percentages of smoking, obesity, and binge drinking?*

### Smoking

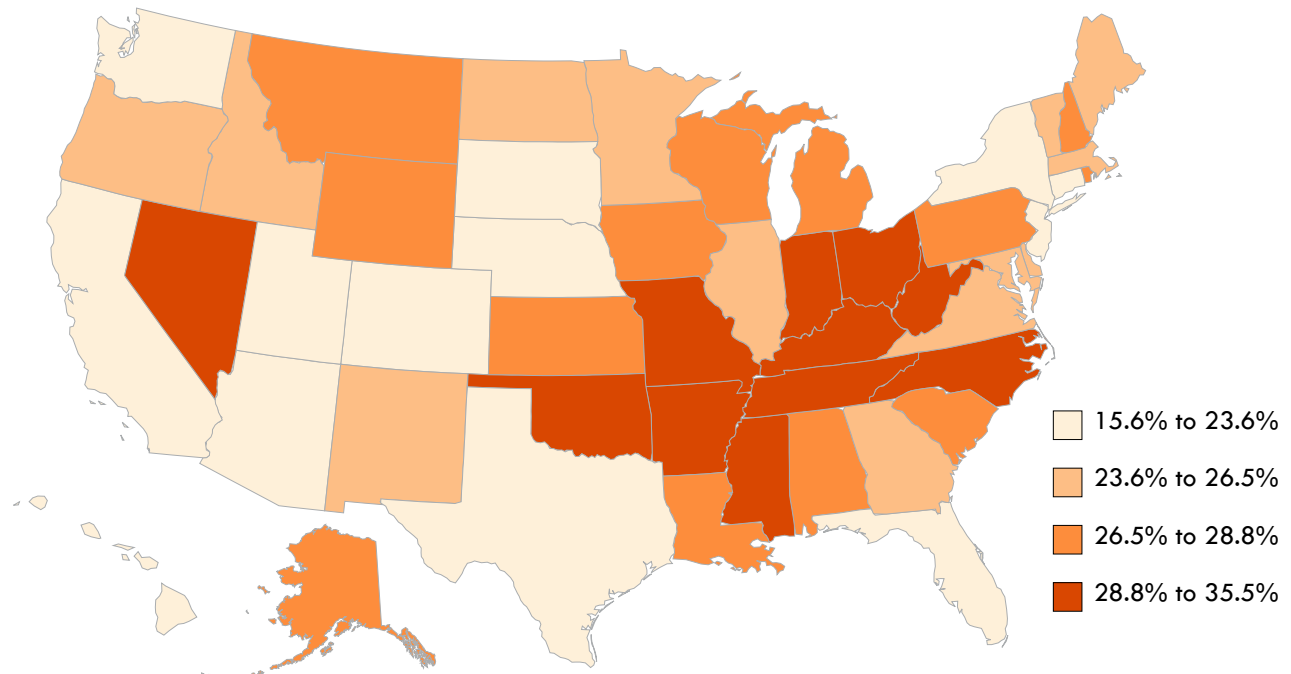
In the US, the percentage of smoking for people with disabilities was 25.4%, much higher than the percentage of 16.2% for people without disabilities. Percentages ranged from 15.6% to 35.5% among states 2013. For people without disabilities, the state percentages ranged from 9.1% to 24.8% in 2013.

The difference between the percentages of people with and without disabilities was over 15.0% in

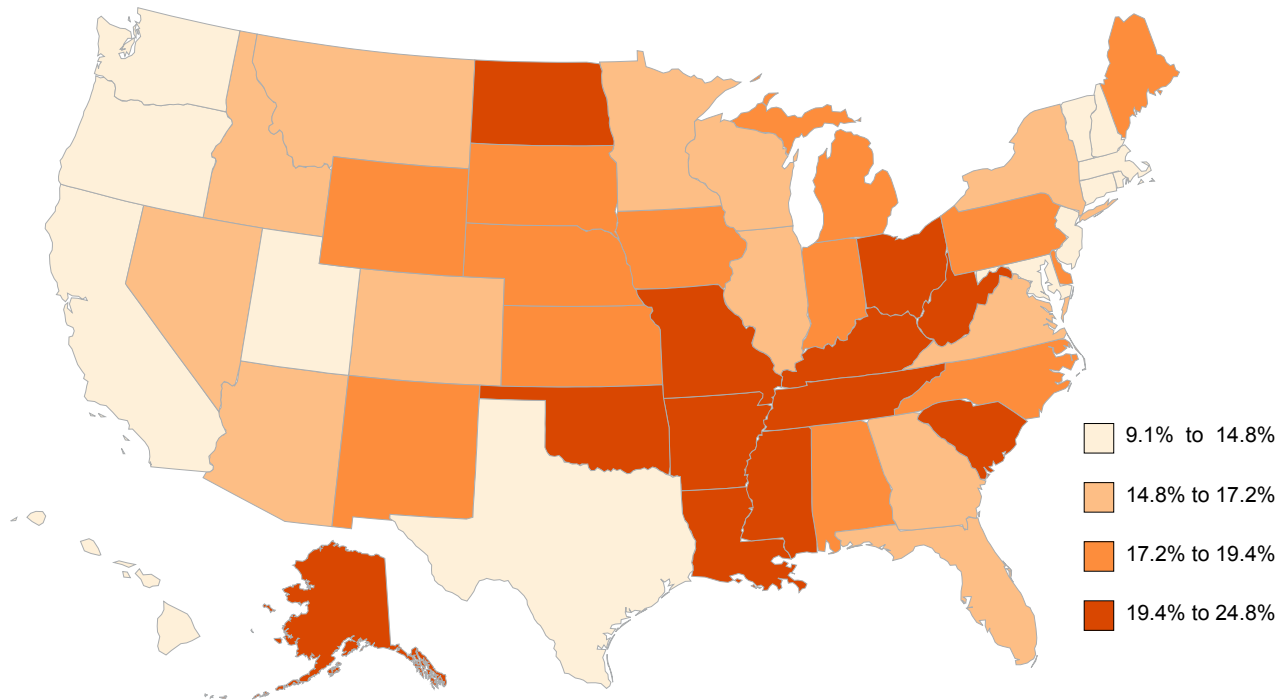
Tennessee, where this difference in percentages was the greatest. The gap was smallest, less than 5.0%, in Hawaii, South Dakota and Arizona.

Since 2009, the percentage of people with disabilities who smoke has varied from 27.0% in 2009 to 23.0% in 2010. The gap between the percentages for smokers with disabilities and people without disabilities was 9.2% in 2013, lower than in 2009 (10.3%) but higher than the other years.

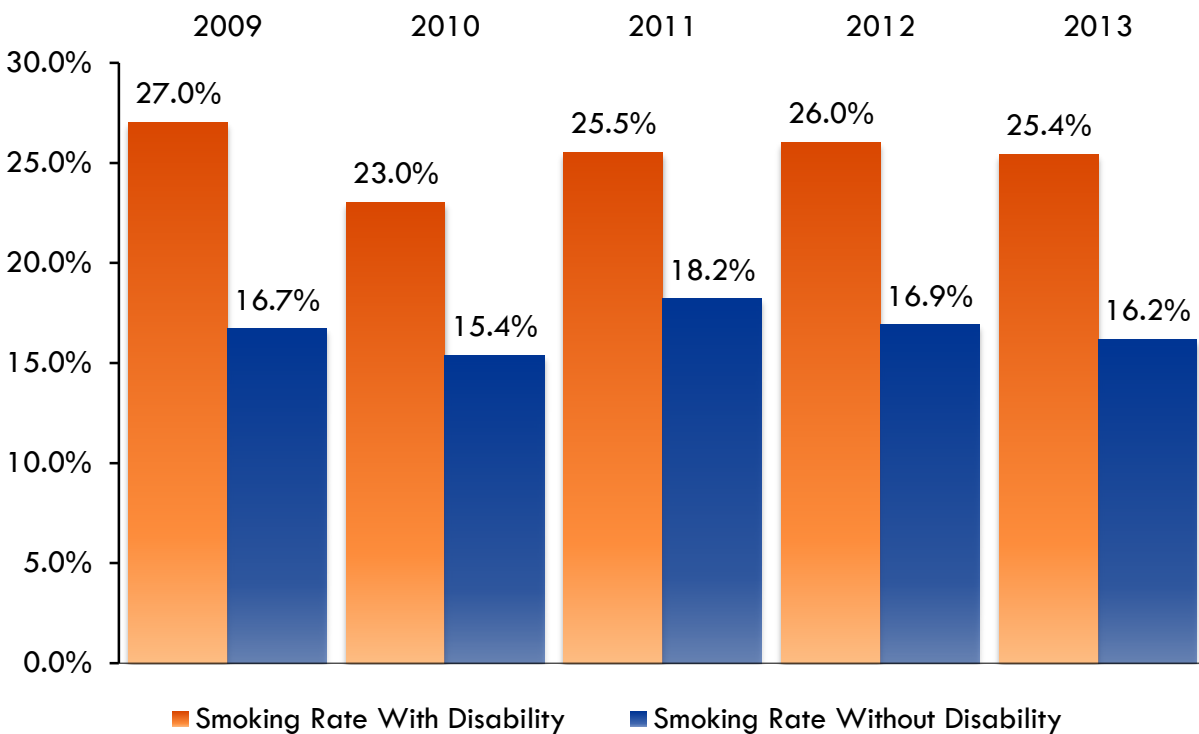
**FIG 33. Smoking Among Persons Ages 18 and Over with Disabilities, 2013**



**FIG 34. Smoking Among Persons Ages 18 and Over without Disabilities, 2013**



**FIG 35. Smoking Percentages with and without Disabilities, 2009-2013**



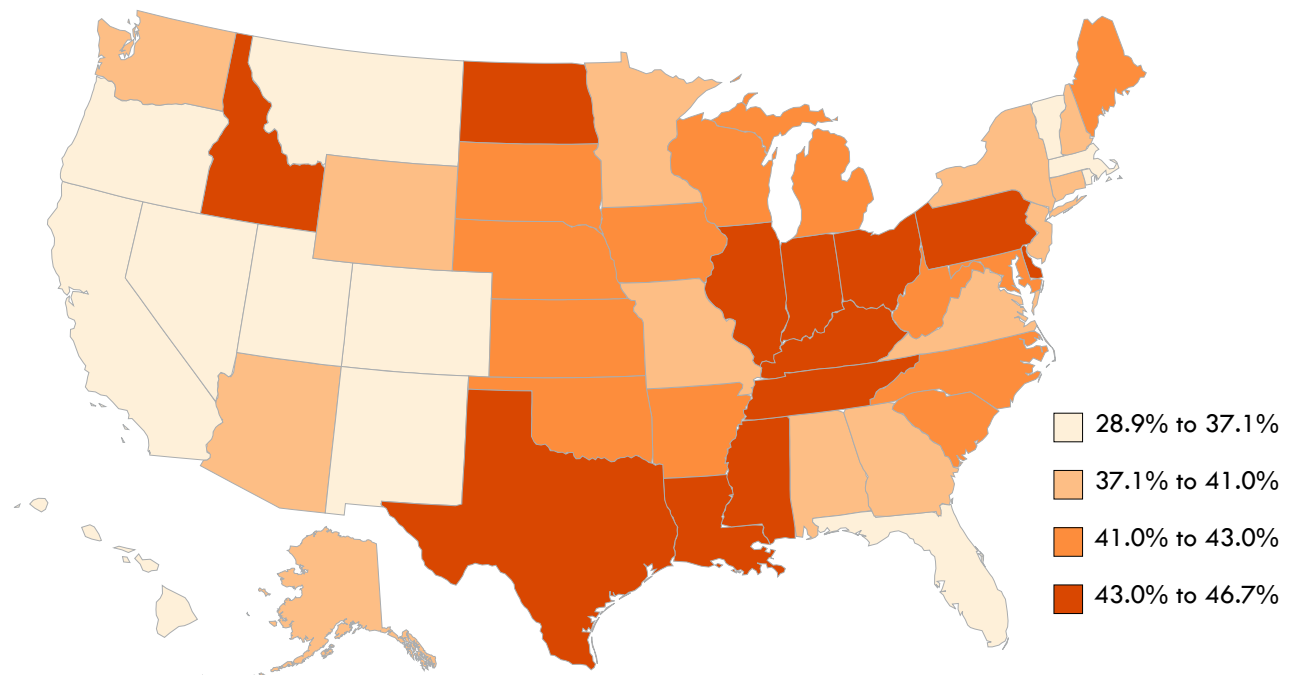
## Obesity

In 2013, 40.1% of adults with disabilities were obese. For people without disabilities, the obesity percentage was 24.9%.

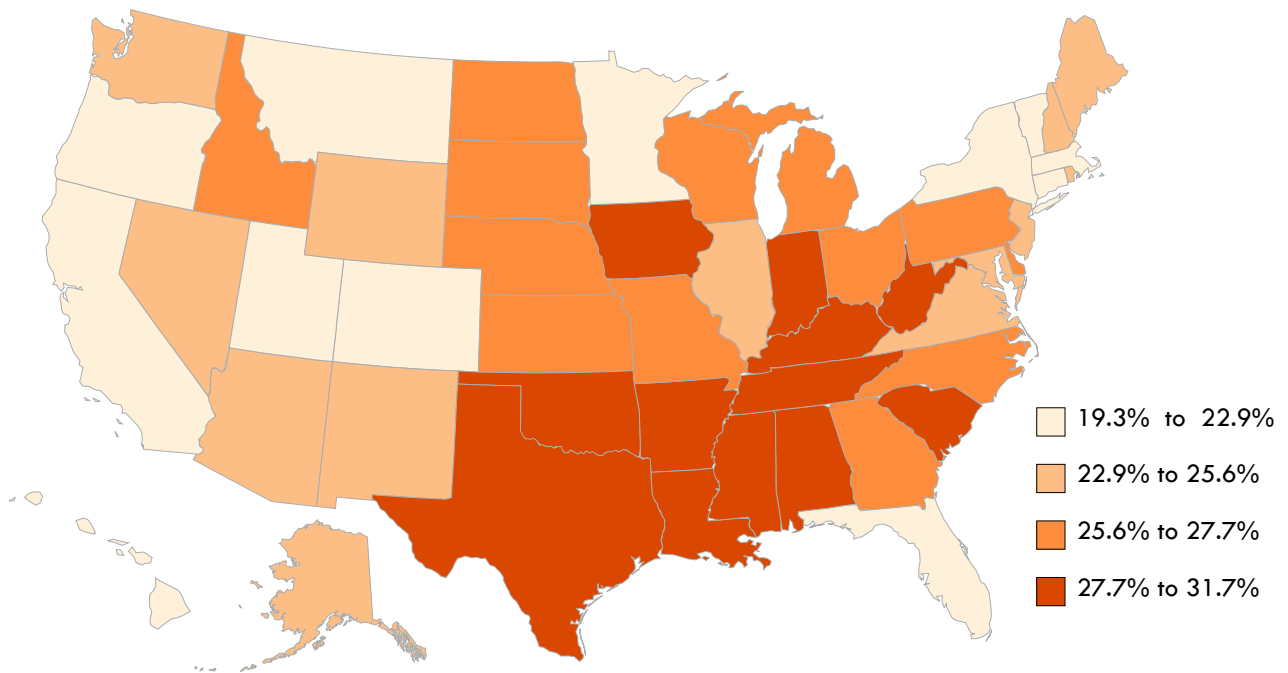
State obesity percentages for people with disabilities ranged from 28.9% to 46.6%. State obesity percentages for people without disabilities ranged from 19.3% to 31.7%.

Since 2009, the obesity percentage increased for both people with disabilities (from 36.9% in 2009 to 40.1% in 2013) and people without disabilities (from 23.5% in 2009 to 25.0% in 2013). In 2013, the gap between the percentages of obesity for people with and without disabilities increased from 13.4% in 2009 to 15.1%, the largest difference in this period.

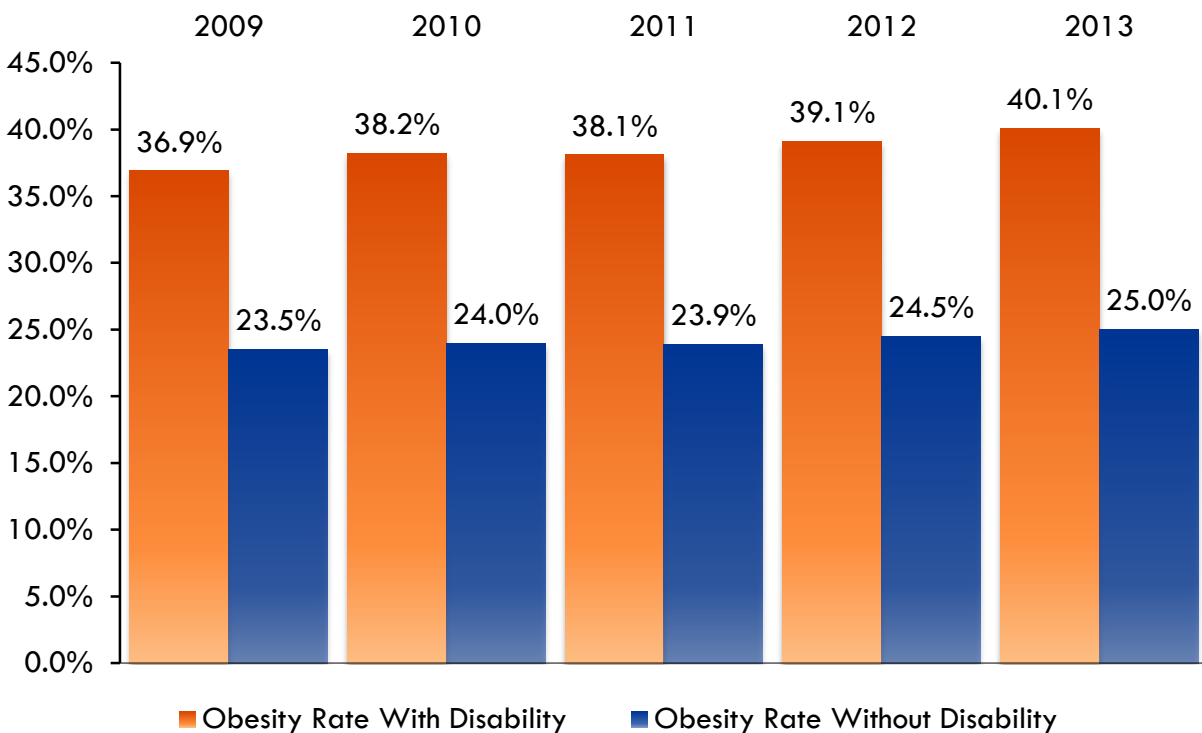
**FIG 36. Obesity Among Persons Ages 18 and Over with Disabilities, 2013**



**FIG 37. Obesity Among Persons Ages 18 and Over without Disabilities, 2013**



**FIG 38. Obesity Percentages with and without Disabilities, 2009-2013**



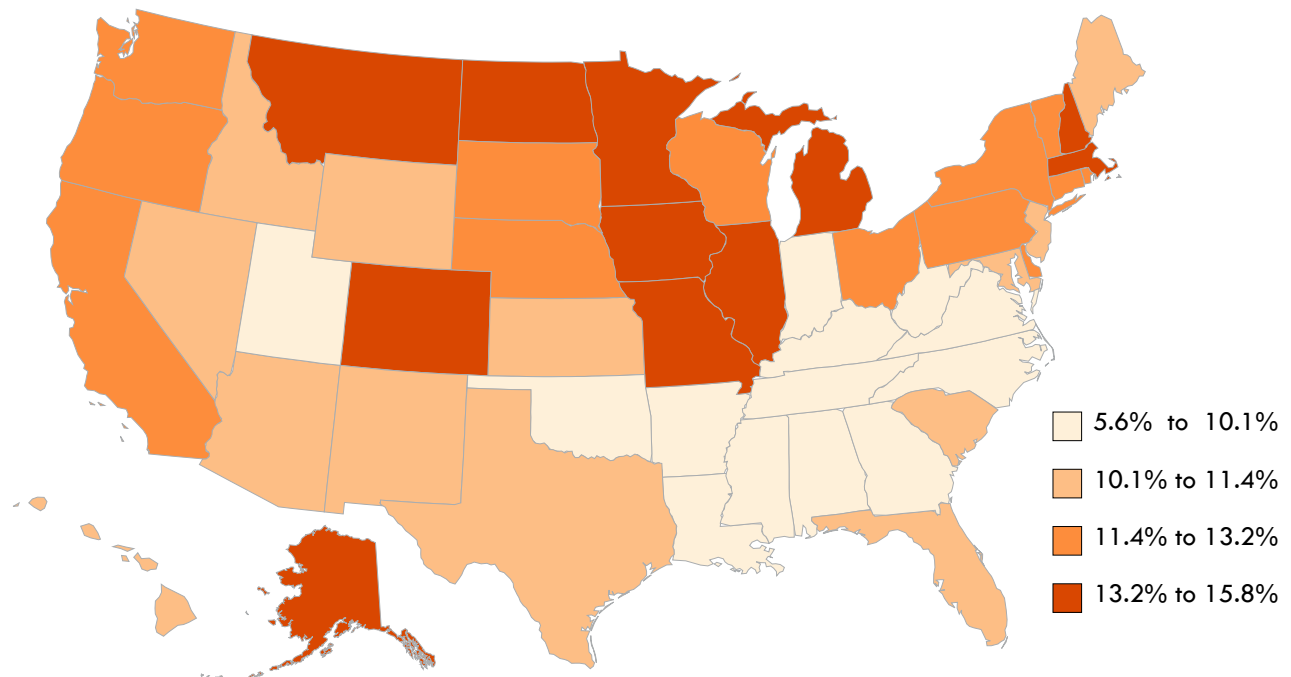
## Binge Drinking

Figures 39 and 40 show variations in binge drinking for persons with and without disabilities, by state. The 2013 state percentages for binge drinking among people with disabilities, ages 18 and over ranged from 5.6% in Tennessee to 15.8% in Massachusetts.

In the years 2009 through 2013, the binge drinking percentage for people with disabilities

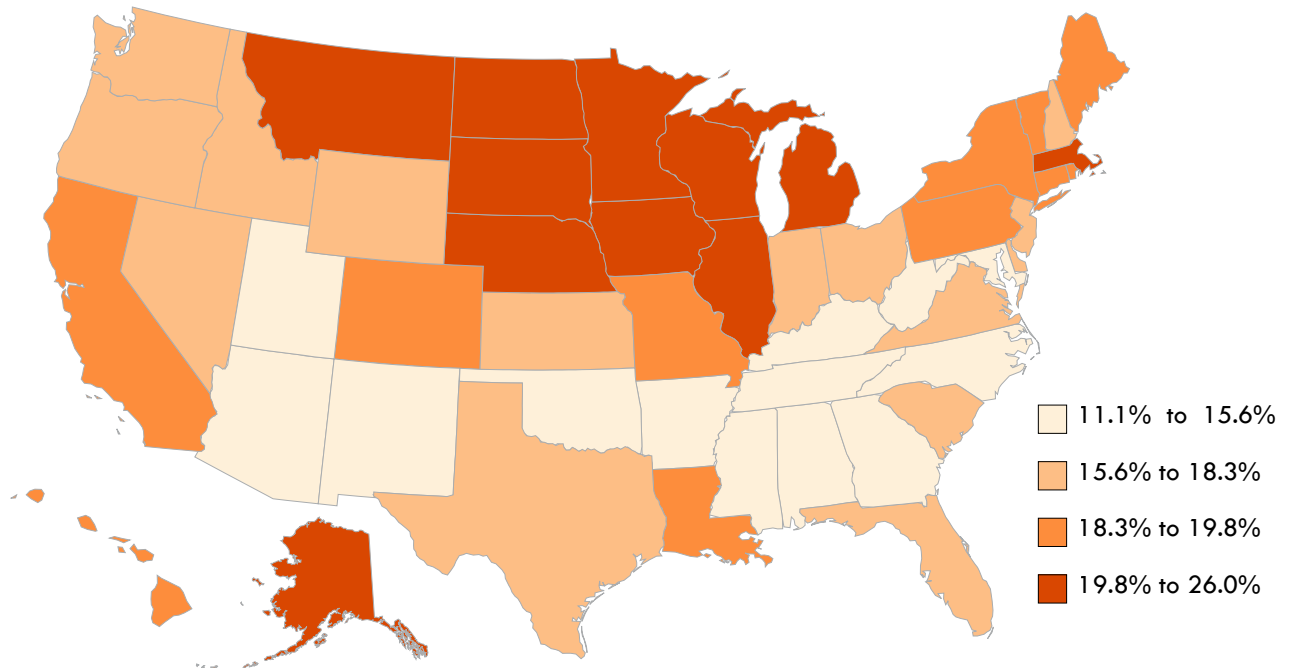
varied from a high of 13.2% in 2009 to a low of 10.2% in 2010. For people without disabilities the percentages were higher, varying from 16.0% in 2009 to 20.4% in 2011. The binge drinking gap measures the degree to which people with disabilities have less binge drinking; the gap was 6.5% in 2013, lower in 2009 (2.8%) and 2010 (5.9%), and higher in 2011 (7.8%) and 2012 (6.7%).

**FIG 39. Binge Drinking Among Persons Ages 18 and Over with Disabilities, 2013**

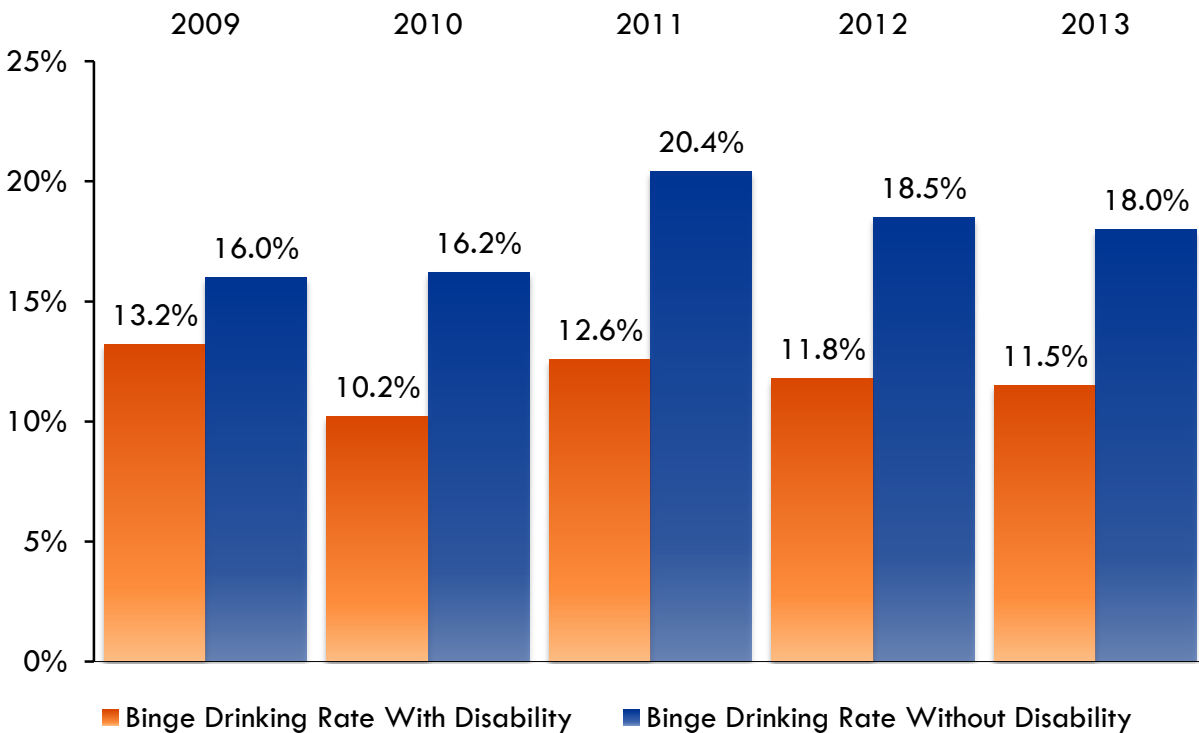




**FIG 40. Binge Drinking Among Persons Ages 18 and Over without Disabilities, 2013**



**FIG 41. Binge Drinking Percentages with and without Disabilities, 2009-2013**



# About the StatsRRTC

The mission of the Rehabilitation Research and Training Center on Disability Statistics and Demographics (StatsRRTC) is to narrow and actively bridge the divide between the producers and end users of disability statistics, thereby supporting better data collection, more accurate information, better decision-making, more effective programs, and better lives for people with disabilities.

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

## About the Compendium

The Annual Disability Statistics Compendium is a web-based tool that pools disability statistics published by various federal agencies together in one place. When working on legislative and other matters relating to persons with disabilities, the Compendium will make finding and using disability statistics easier.

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

## Center Collaborators

- University of New Hampshire–Institute on Disability, a University Center of Excellence on Disability,
- Mathematica Policy Research, a world-class employee-owned survey and research firm,
- Kessler Foundation, a leading medical rehabilitation research organization,
- Center on Disability at the Public Health Institute, a long-standing organization in the field of disability statistics,
- American Association of People with Disabilities (AAPD), the country’s largest cross-disability membership association, and
- Council of State Administrators of Vocational Rehabilitation (CSAVR), a nationally-recognized association of disability services administrators

## Funding

The StatsRRTC is funded by the U.S. Department of Education, National Institute for Disability and Rehabilitation Research under cooperative agreement H133B130015, from 2013 - 2018. The information developed by the StatsRRTC does not necessarily represent the policy of the Department of Education, and you should not assume endorsement by the Federal Government (Edgar, 75.620 (b)).

## Contact Information

Research on Disability  
Institute on Disability at the University of New Hampshire  
10 West Edge Drive, Suite 101  
Durham, NH 03824  
[Disability.Statistics@unh.edu](mailto:Disability.Statistics@unh.edu)  
866.538.9521

[www.DisabilityCompendium.org](http://www.DisabilityCompendium.org) | 866.538.9521

# Appendix A: The Six Disability Questions in the American Community Survey

1. Is this person deaf or does he/she have serious difficulty hearing?
2. Is this person blind or does he/she have serious difficulty seeing even when wearing glasses?
3. Because of a physical, mental, or emotional condition, does this person have serious difficulty concentrating, remembering, or making decisions?
4. Does this person have serious difficulty walking or climbing stairs?
5. Does this person have difficulty dressing or bathing?
6. 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?

# Appendix B: Defining Disability in the SIPP

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

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

Source: Brault, Matthew W., "Americans With Disabilities: 2010," Current Population Reports, P70-131, U.S. Census Bureau, Washington, D.C., 2012 Estimates based on the Survey of Income and Program Participation

[www.DisabilityCompendium.org](http://www.DisabilityCompendium.org) | 866.538.9521

# Appendix C: Source Data

FIG 1. U.S. Census Bureau, 2013 American Community Survey, American FactFinder, Table B18101; <http://factfinder2.census.gov>; 2014 Annual Disability Statistics Compendium, Table 1.3

FIG 2. U.S. Census Bureau, 2013 American Community Survey, American FactFinder, Table B18101; <http://factfinder2.census.gov>; 2014 Annual Disability Statistics Compendium, Table 1.4.

FIG 3. U.S. Census Bureau, 2013 American Community Survey, American FactFinder, Table B18101; <http://factfinder2.census.gov>; 2014 Annual Disability Statistics Compendium, Table 1.4.

FIG 4. U.S. Census Bureau, 2013 American Community Survey, American FactFinder, Table B18101; <http://factfinder2.census.gov>; 2014 Annual Disability Statistics Compendium, Table 1.4.

FIG 5. U.S. Census Bureau, 2013 American Community Survey, American FactFinder, Table B18101; <http://factfinder2.census.gov>; 2014 Annual Disability Statistics Compendium, Table 1.5.

FIG 6. U.S. Census Bureau, 2013 American Community Survey, American FactFinder, Table B18101; <http://factfinder2.census.gov>; 2014 Annual Disability Statistics Compendium, Table 1.6.

FIG 7. U.S. Census Bureau, 2013 American Community Survey, American FactFinder, Table B18101; <http://factfinder2.census.gov>; 2014 Annual Disability Statistics Compendium, Table 1.7.

FIG 8. U.S. Census Bureau, 2013 American Community Survey, American FactFinder, Table B18120; <http://factfinder2.census.gov>; 2014 Annual Disability Statistics Compendium, Tables 1.8-1.13.

FIG 9. U.S. Census Bureau, 2013 American Community Survey, American FactFinder, Table B18120; <http://factfinder2.census.gov>; 2014 Annual Disability Statistics Compendium, Table 1.8.

FIG 10. U.S. Census Bureau, 2013 American Community Survey, American FactFinder, Table B18120; <http://factfinder2.census.gov>; 2014 Annual Disability Statistics Compendium, Table 1.9.

FIG 11. U.S. Census Bureau, 2013 American Community Survey, American FactFinder, Table B18120; <http://factfinder2.census.gov>; 2014 Annual Disability Statistics Compendium, Table 1.10.

FIG 12. U.S. Census Bureau, 2013 American Community Survey, American FactFinder, Table B18120; <http://factfinder2.census.gov>; 2014 Annual Disability Statistics Compendium, Table 1.11.

FIG 13. U.S. Census Bureau, 2013 American Community Survey, American FactFinder, Table B18120; <http://factfinder2.census.gov>; 2014 Annual Disability Statistics Compendium, Table 1.12.

FIG 14. U.S. Census Bureau, 2013 American Community Survey, American FactFinder, Table B18120; <http://factfinder2.census.gov>; 2014 Annual Disability Statistics Compendium, Table 1.13.

FIG 15. U.S. Census Bureau, 2013 American Community Survey, American FactFinder, Table B18120; <http://factfinder2.census.gov>; 2014 Annual Disability Statistics Compendium, Table 2.1.

FIG 16. U.S. Census Bureau, 2013 American Community Survey, American FactFinder, Table B18120; <http://factfinder2.census.gov>; 2014 Annual Disability Statistics Compendium, Table 2.1.

FIG 17. Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2013 American Community Survey, American FactFinder, Table B18120; <http://factfinder2.census.gov>; 2014 Annual Disability Statistics Compendium, Table 2.1.

FIG 18. U.S. Census Bureau, 2013 American Community Survey, American FactFinder, Table B18120; <http://factfinder2.census.gov>; 2014 Annual Disability Statistics Compendium, Tables 2.3-2.8.

FIG 19. Source: U.S. Census Bureau, 2013 American Community Survey, American FactFinder, Table B18120; <http://factfinder2.census.gov>; 2014 Annual Disability Statistics Compendium, Tables 2.3-2.8.

FIG 20. U.S. Census Bureau, 2013 American Community Survey, American FactFinder, Table B18120. <http://factfinder2.census.gov>; 2014 Annual Disability Statistics Compendium, Table 2.3.

FIG 21. U.S. Census Bureau, 2013 American Community Survey, American FactFinder, Table B18120. <http://factfinder2.census.gov>; 2014 Annual Disability Statistics Compendium, Table 2.4.

FIG 22. U.S. Census Bureau, 2013 American Community Survey, American FactFinder, Table B18120. <http://factfinder2.census.gov>; 2014 Annual Disability Statistics Compendium, Table 2.5.

FIG 23. U.S. Census Bureau, 2013 American Community Survey, American FactFinder, Table B18120; <http://factfinder2.census.gov>; 2014 Annual Disability Statistics Compendium, Table 2.6.

FIG 24. U.S. Census Bureau, 2013 American Community Survey, American FactFinder, Table B18120; <http://factfinder2.census.gov>; 2014 Annual Disability Statistics Compendium, Table 2.7.

FIG 25. U.S. Census Bureau, 2013 American Community Survey, American FactFinder, Table B18120; <http://factfinder2.census.gov>; 2014 Annual Disability Statistics Compendium, Table 2.8.

FIG 26. U.S. Census Bureau, 2013 American Community Survey, American FactFinder, Table B18120; <http://factfinder2.census.gov>; 2014 Annual Disability Statistics Compendium, Table 2.1.

FIG 27. U.S. Census Bureau, 2013 American Community Survey, American FactFinder, Table B18140; <http://factfinder2.census.gov>; 2014 Annual Disability Statistics Compendium, Table 5.1.

FIG 28. U.S. Census Bureau, 2013 American Community Survey, American FactFinder, Table B18140; <http://factfinder2.census.gov>; 2014 Annual Disability Statistics Compendium, Table 5.1.

FIG 29. U.S. Census Bureau, 2013 American Community Survey, American FactFinder, Table B18140; <http://factfinder2.census.gov>; 2014 Annual Disability Statistics Compendium, Table 5.1., and prior years.

FIG 30. U.S. Census Bureau, 2013 American Community Survey, American FactFinder, Table B18130; <http://factfinder2.census.gov>; 2014 Annual Disability Statistics Compendium, Table 4.1.

FIG 31. U.S. Census Bureau, 2013 American Community Survey, American FactFinder, Table B18130; <http://factfinder2.census.gov>; 2014 Annual Disability Statistics Compendium, Table 4.2.

FIG 32. U.S. Census Bureau, 2013 American Community Survey, American FactFinder, Table B18130; <http://factfinder2.census.gov>; 2014 Annual Disability Statistics Compendium, Table 4.2.

FIG 33. Authors' calculations using data from the 2013 Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance Survey BRFSS. 2014 Annual Disability Statistics Compendium, Table 8.3.

FIG 34. Authors' calculations using data from the 2013 Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance Survey BRFSS. 2014 Annual Disability Statistics Compendium, Table 8.3.

FIG 35. Authors' calculations using data from the 2013 Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance Survey BRFSS. 2014 Annual Disability Statistics Compendium, Table 8.3.

FIG 36. Authors' calculations using data from the 2013 Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance Survey BRFSS. 2014 Annual Disability Statistics Compendium, Table 8.4.

FIG 37. Authors' calculations using data from the 2013 Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance Survey BRFSS. 2014 Annual Disability Statistics Compendium, Table 8.4.

FIG 38. Authors' calculations using data from the 2013 Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance Survey BRFSS. 2014 Annual Disability Statistics Compendium, Table 8.4.

FIG 39. Authors' calculations using data from the 2013 Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance Survey BRFSS. 2014 Annual Disability Statistics Compendium, Table 8.5.

FIG 40. Authors' calculations using data from the 2013 Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance Survey BRFSS. 2014 Annual Disability Statistics Compendium, Table 8.5.

FIG 41. Authors' calculations using data from the 2013 Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance Survey BRFSS. 2014 Annual Disability Statistics Compendium, Table 8.5.

# Appendix D: Glossary of Terms

## A

**Ambulatory Disability (ACS):** In the ACS, individuals five or more years old who responded "yes" when asked if they had "serious difficulty walking or climbing stairs."

**American Community Survey (ACS):** The American Community Survey is a large, continuous demographic survey conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau that will provide accurate and up-to-date profiles of America's communities every year. Annual and multi-year estimates of population and housing data are generated for small areas, including tracts and population subgroups. This information is collected by mailing questionnaires to a sample of addresses.

## B

**Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance Survey (BRFSS):** The Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System is a state-based system of health surveys that collects information on health risk behaviors, preventive health practices, and health care access primarily related to chronic disease and injury. BRFSS was established in 1984 by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC); currently data are collected monthly in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and Guam. More than 350,000 adults are interviewed each year, making the BRFSS the largest telephone health survey in the world. States use BRFSS data to identify emerging health problems, establish and track health objectives, and develop and evaluate public health policies and programs. Many states also use BRFSS data to support health-related legislative efforts.

**Binge Drinking (BRFSS):** Respondents were asked "[c]onsidering all types of alcoholic beverages, how many times during the past 30

days did you have [5, if male respondent] [4, if female respondents] or more drinks on an occasion?" Respondents who reported doing so at least one time were considered to have engaged in binge drinking.

## C

**Civilian:** A person not in active-duty military.

**Cognitive Disability (ACS):** In the ACS, individuals who indicated "yes" when asked if due to a physical, mental, or emotional condition, they had "serious difficulty concentrating, remembering, or making decisions."

## D

**Disability Status (ACS):** The U.S. Census Bureau used six questions to identify persons with disabilities. A response of "yes" to any one of the questions indicates that the person in question has a disability—vision, hearing, cognitive, ambulatory, self-care, and independent living. However, the questions related to cognitive, ambulatory, self-care, and independent living are not used to identify disability in individuals less than five years old, and the question related to independent living is not used to identify disability in individuals less than 18 years old.

**Disability Status (BRFSS):** An individual is classified as having a disability based on answers to the following questions: (1) Are you limited in any way in any activities because of physical, mental, or emotional problems? and (2) Do you now have any health problem that requires you to use special equipment, such as a cane, a wheelchair, a special bed, or a special telephone (include occasional use or use in certain circumstances)?



**Disability Status (SIPP):** The SIPP categorizes types of disabilities into communicative, physical, and mental domains according to a set of criteria described below. People who have a disability in the communicative domain reported one or more of the following:

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

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

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

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

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

## E

**Earnings (ACS):** Regularly received income

from salaries/wages, self-employment or both, for people ages 16 or older before deductions for personal income taxes, Social Security, bond purchases, union dues, Medicare deductions, etc.

**Employment Status (ACS):** In the ACS, individuals were asked a series of questions designed to identify their status. Based on the answers, individuals were classified into one of five groups: (1) people who worked at anytime during the reference week; (2) people on temporary layoff who were available for work; (3) people who did not work during the reference week but who had jobs or businesses from which they were temporarily absent (excluding layoff); (4) people who did not work during the reference week, but who were looking for work during the last four weeks and were available for work during the reference week; and (5) people not in the labor force. The employment status data shown in American Community Survey tabulations relate to people ages 16 or older.

## G

**Go-Outside-Home Disability (ACS):** An individual with difficulty going outside the home alone to shop or visit a doctor's office because of a physical, mental, or emotional condition lasting at least six months.

## H

**Hearing Disability (ACS):** In the ACS, individuals who indicated "yes" when asked if they were "deaf or ... [had] serious difficulty hearing."

## I

**Independent Living Disability (ACS):** In the ACS, individuals who indicated "yes" when

asked if due to a physical, mental, or emotional condition, they had difficulty "doing errands alone such as visiting a doctor's office or shopping."

## O

**Obese (BRFSS):** The condition where a person has a body mass index greater than 30.

## P

**Poverty Rate:** Percent of the population who are determined to be in poverty. The Office of Management and Budget in Statistical Policy Directive 14 sets the standards for which poverty is calculated. The U.S. Census Bureau uses a set of dollar value thresholds that vary by family size and composition to determine who is in poverty. If a family's total income is less than the dollar value of the appropriate threshold, then that family and every individual in it are considered to be in poverty.

## S

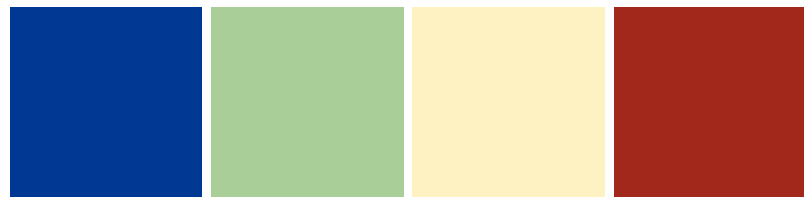
**Smoking (BRFSS):** Respondents were asked about smoking: "Have you smoked at least 100 cigarettes in your entire life?" and "Do you now smoke cigarettes every day, some days, or not at all?" Respondents who reported smoking at least 100 cigarettes in their lifetime and who, at the time of survey, smoked either every day or some days were defined as current smoker.

**Survey of Income and Program Participation (SIPP):** The SIPP is a nationally representative household level panel survey that is administered by the U.S. Census Bureau. Detailed information about income and public program participation is collected.

## V

**Vision Disability:** In the ACS, individuals who indicated "yes" when asked if they were "blind or ... [had] serious difficulty seeing even when wearing glasses."





Institute on Disability / UCED  
10 West Edge Drive, Suite 101  
Durham, NH 03824  
603.862.4320 | relay: 711  
contact.iod@unh.edu

[www.iod.unh.edu](http://www.iod.unh.edu)

Stay Connected:

 [facebook.com/instituteondisability](https://facebook.com/instituteondisability)

 [twitter.com/unhiod](https://twitter.com/unhiod)

 [youtube.com/unhiod](https://youtube.com/unhiod)