

The 2023 Youth Transition Report:
**Outcomes for Youth
and Young Adults
with Disabilities**

Acknowledgments

This report was produced by the Institute for Educational Leadership, Inc. (IEL) to examine the persistent gaps in educational and employment outcomes for youth and young adults with disabilities in the United States. The report focuses on comparative data for youth and young adults with and without disabilities between the ages of 14 and 24, including those opportunity youth that education and workforce systems have failed to support adequately, highlighting this transition-age population's needs. This information can help practitioners, policymakers, and researchers better understand and serve this population. The authors wish to thank Dr. Helen Janc Malone for her quality reviews of the report drafts and support for this work, and Dr. Michelle Lessly Blackburn for her policy analysis that informed portions of this report.

This report was supported by MetLife Foundation. The data analysis, findings, and conclusions presented in this report are those of the authors and the Institute for Educational Leadership alone, and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Foundation.

Table of Contents

Table of Contents.....	1
Introduction.....	2
About the Institute for Educational Leadership (IEL).....	2
Purpose of This Report.....	2
Methods.....	2
2023 Report Highlights	4
Disability Prevalence.....	6
Education and Disability	10
Employment and Disability.....	17
Opportunity Youth with Disabilities	21
Poverty and Disability	23
Discussion.....	26

Introduction

About the Institute for Educational Leadership (IEL)

Institute for Educational Leadership's (IEL) *mission* is to develop and connect adults and youth leaders who strengthen communities and education systems in pursuit of equity. Our *vision* is an equitable society in which shared leadership effectively uses all available resources for the betterment of their communities. We believe in shared leadership, resources, and accountability. When systems are stronger, leadership shared, and community members are able to advocate for their aspirations, young people thrive.

Purpose of This Report

The Annual Youth Transition Report underscores the persistent and pernicious gap between youth and young adults with disabilities and those without disabilities on success in education, employment, opportunity, and poverty. While data and reports exist for the working-age adult population and children with disabilities, IEL recognized a lack of information specific to the youth and young adult population in the 14-24 age group. IEL's Annual Youth Transition Report addresses this need by presenting an annual snapshot of the outcome gaps between youth and young adults with disabilities and those without disabilities, including opportunity youth whom the education and workforce systems have not adequately served and supported. This report consists of the status of the selected population and education, employment, opportunity youth, and poverty indicators.

Methods

Key population, education, employment, opportunity youth indicators, and poverty rates are annually derived from the Public Use Microdata Sample (PUMS) population file (ACS 5-year estimates). IEL conducted a custom analysis of youth and young adults at national and state levels. Therefore, this report's estimates may differ slightly from those presented in the U.S. Census Bureau's pre-made tables. We define youth as ages 14 to 17 and young adults as ages 18 to 24. This annual report explores the descriptive status of education and employment for youth and young adults at national and state levels.

Meanwhile, we estimated the gaps in educational and workforce outcomes for youth and young adults with and without disabilities. All gaps displayed in this report are statistically significant gaps. The information also includes calculated data from the National Center for Education Statistics.

Suggested citation

Cheng, L., & Richardson, K. (2023). *The 2023 youth transition report: Outcomes for youth and young adults with disabilities*. Washington, D.C.: Institute for Educational Leadership.

2023 Report Highlights

This report includes the analysis of critical educational and employment indicators for youth and young adults with and without disabilities at national and state levels. We have noted the age ranges used when data is unavailable or applicable for the under-16 or 18 population.

Disability Rates: While the population of youth and young adults with disabilities varies by state, in those states with the highest rates of disability for 14–24-year-olds, the rates were more than twice that of states with the lowest rates of disability. Disability prevalence in this age group ranged from a high of 12.3 percent in Maine to a low of 4.2 percent in Hawaii. In the past five years, Maine, Vermont, and West Virginia were the states with the highest rates of disabilities, and Hawaii, California, New Jersey, and Illinois were the states with the lowest rates of disabilities. The largest category of disability, which is self-reported through the U.S. Census, was cognitive difficulty (70.6 percent of youth with disabilities nationally).

High School Completion: Educational outcomes and attainment gaps between youth and young adults with and without disabilities varied by state. High school completion for students with disabilities ranged from the highest rate in Delaware (86.8 percent) to the lowest rate in Louisiana (69.8 percent). In addition, there remained a significant gap in high school attainment when comparing students with and without disabilities, with the widest gap being 16.8 percent. States with higher rates of high school diploma attainment for young adults with disabilities are more likely to have a smaller high school attainment gap between young adults with and without disabilities. For instance, as the state with the highest high school completion rate, Delaware was the only state with a close-to-zero high school attainment gap (0.9 percent) in 2021.

College Enrollment: College enrollment rates for adults aged 18-24 with disabilities in the U.S. was 28 percent compared to the national average of 43.1 percent for young adults without disabilities. States varied from the highest college enrollment rate at 44.8 percent in Rhode Island to the lowest at 17.6 percent in Alaska. The average gap in college enrollment between young adults with and without disabilities was about 15 percent nationally; no state has closed this gap.

College Completion: College completion at the bachelor's degree level is another measure of success for young adults with disabilities. Academic success among states varied from the highest completion rate in Washington, DC (20 percent) to the lowest rate of completion in Alaska (0.6 percent). Nationally, the gap between those college students with and without disabilities was 7.5 percent.

Employment: Nationally, a slight trend over the past four years shows increased employment rates for youth with disabilities from 25.9% in 2018 to 28.1% in 2021. Youth and young adults with disabilities (ages 14–24) are about 15 percent less likely to be employed than their peers without disabilities. Of those youth and young adults with disabilities who were employed, the employment patterns are similar, with young people most likely to be employed by a private for-profit company or business. At the state level, North Dakota had the highest employment rates for youth and young adults with disabilities at 44.7 percent, and North Dakota was one of the states with the highest employment rate for youth and young adults with disabilities since 2017.

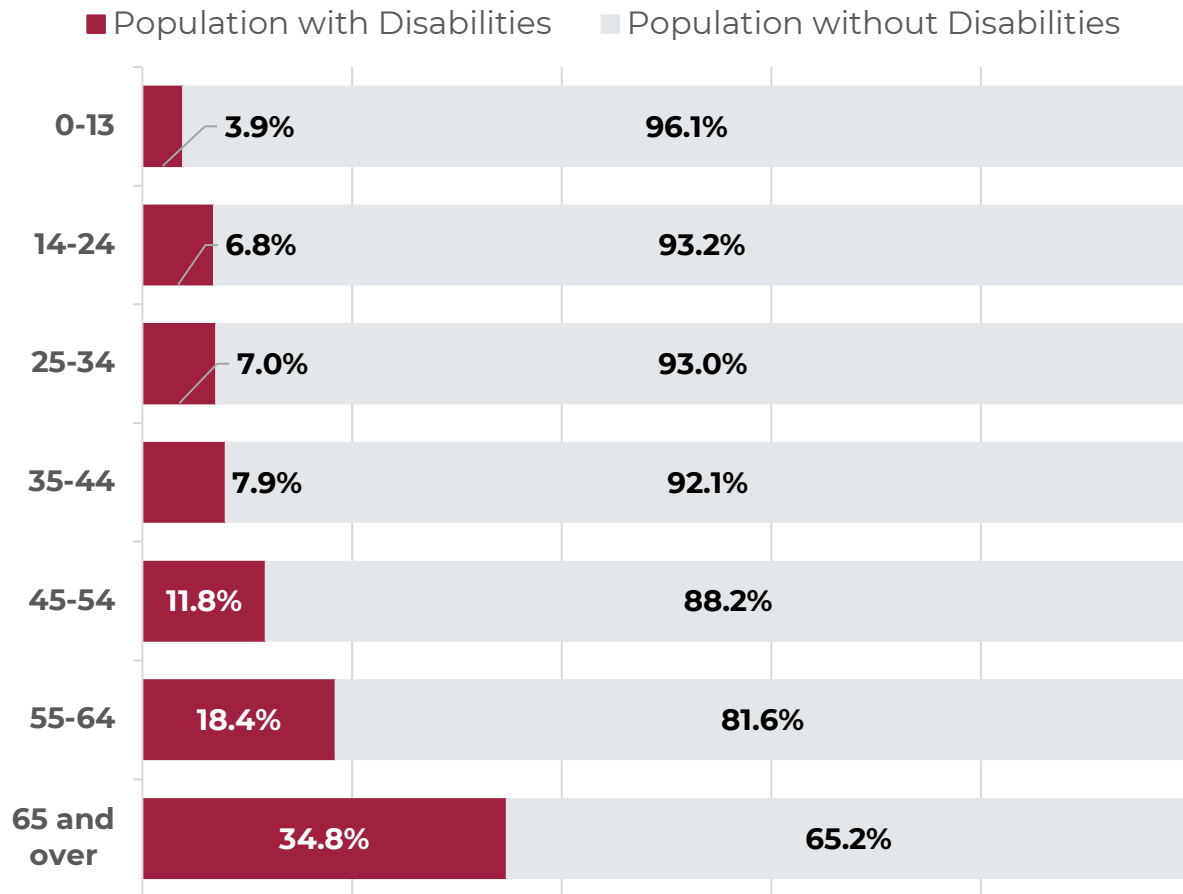
Opportunity Youth: Opportunity youth and young adults are commonly defined as those ages 14-24 who are neither in school nor employed. Our report examines the opportunity for youth not in school and not in the labor force, representing a true disconnection from systems. Opportunity youth with disabilities represented 19.3 percent of the national population compared to only 5.7 percent of opportunity youth without disabilities. Rhode Island was the state with the lowest opportunity youth rate in 2021, and it also had a small opportunity gap between youth and young adults with and without disabilities.

Poverty: Youth and young adults with disabilities are also more likely to live in poverty than their peers without disabilities. Poverty rates in some states, such as Kentucky and New Mexico, were more than 30 percent compared to a national average of 22.8 percent for youth with disabilities. Delaware and North Dakota showed a narrowing gap between youth with and without disabilities living in poverty from 2018 to 2021, and Delaware was the only state that had a close-to-zero poverty rate gap between youth and young adults with and without disabilities.

Disability Prevalence

The rate of disability for youth and young adults ages 14-24 is 6.8 percent (see Table A1 in Appendix A for detailed information). Figure 1 demonstrates that the prevalence of disability increases with age as people acquire disabilities over a lifetime. This data is like patterns of disability rates in the previous years (see the 2019, 2020, 2021, and 2022 Youth Transition Reports). The rate of disability for youth and young adults increased slightly, from 6.1% in 2019 to 6.8% in 2023.

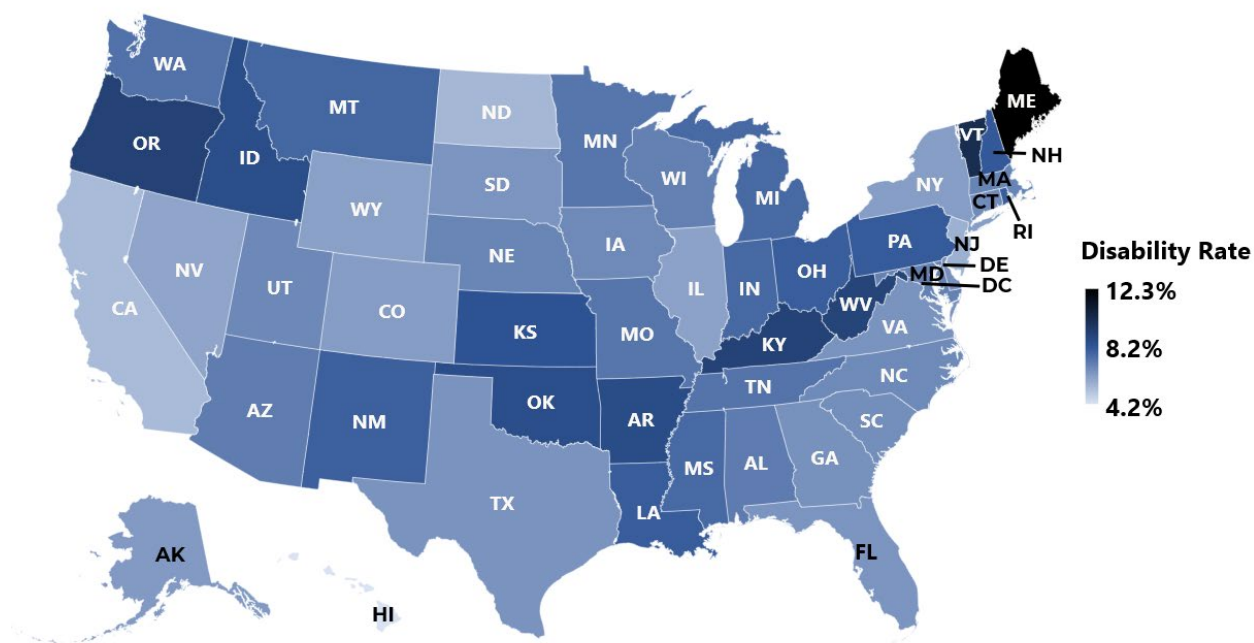
FIGURE 1. Disability Rates by Age in the U.S.: 2021



Data Source: Calculations based on U.S. Census Bureau, 2017-2021 American Community Survey, Public Use Microdata Sample

The prevalence of disability varies by state. The following map (Figure 2) displays the distribution of disability rates for youth and young adults.

FIGURE 2. Disability Rates of Youth and Young Adults (Ages 14-24) by State: 2021



Source: Calculations based on U.S. Census Bureau, 2017-2021 American Community Survey, Public Use Microdata Sample.

For youth and young adults with disabilities, this prevalence rate ranged from 4.2 percent in Hawaii to 12.3 percent in Maine. As shown in Table 1, states with the highest rates of disability for this age group showed about twice the prevalence of those with the lowest rates of disability. In the past five years, Maine, Vermont, and West Virginia were in the top five states with highest rates of disabilities; and Hawaii, California, New Jersey, and Illinois were in the top five states with lowest rates of disabilities.

TABLE 1. Five Highest and Lowest Disability Rates of Youth and Young Adults (Ages 14-24)

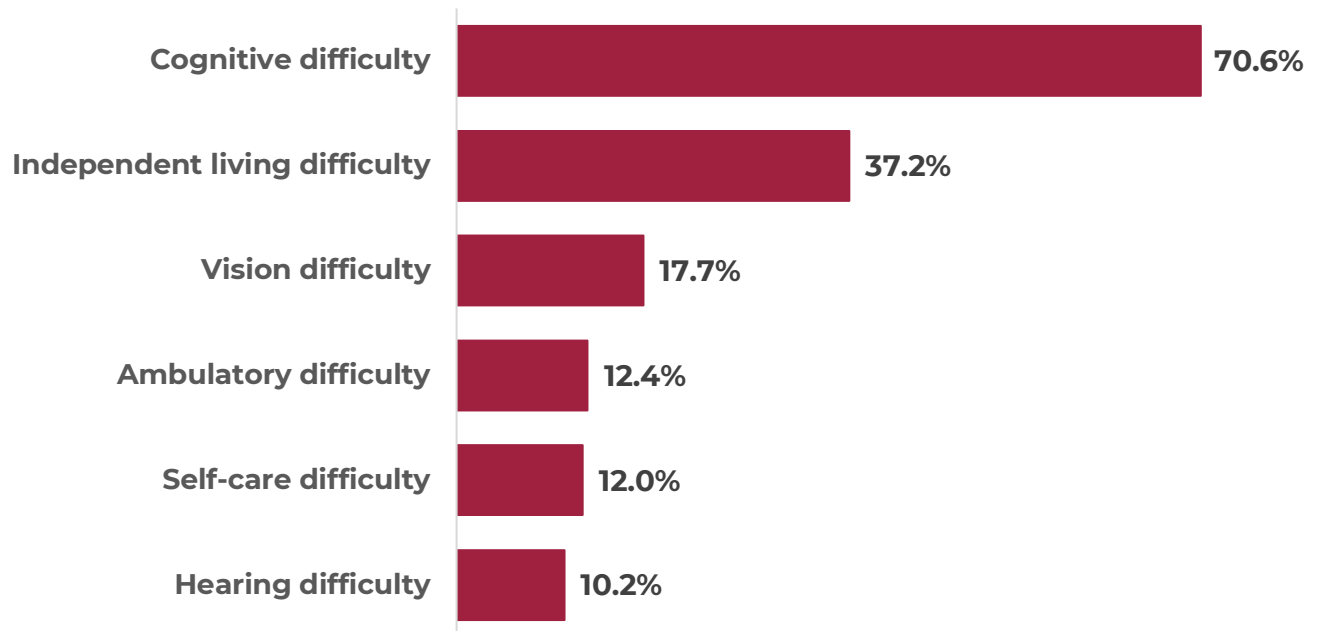
States with Highest Rates of Disability	States with Lowest Rates of Disability
1. Maine, 12.3%	1. Hawaii, 4.2%
2. Vermont, 10.1%	2. California, 5.4%
3. Oregon, 9.1%	3. North Dakota, 5.5%
3. Kentucky, 9.1%	4. New Jersey, 5.6%
5. West Virginia, 9%	5. Nevada, 6%
	5. Illinois, 6%

Source: Calculations based on U.S. Census Bureau, 2017-2021 American Community Survey, Public Use Microdata Sample.

The U.S. Census American Community Survey (ACS) attempted to capture six types of disability, including four basic areas of functioning, hearing difficulty, vision difficulty, ambulatory difficulty, and cognitive difficulty; and two supplement types, independent living difficulty and self-care difficulty, to capture the difficulties in daily living (difficulty bathing, dressing, and performing errands, such as shopping). The highest rates of reported disability were cognitive difficulties (70.6 percent) among youth and young adults with disabilities, which may include youth and young adults with autism, Down Syndrome, traumatic brain injury, dementia, attention deficit disorder, specific learning disability, mental and emotional or other challenges. Among youth and young adults with disabilities, the second highest rates of reported disability were independent living difficulties (37.2%), Meanwhile, 12 percent had a self-care difficulty, 10.2 percent had a hearing difficulty, 17.7 percent had a vision difficulty, and 12.4 percent had an

ambulatory difficulty. Figure 3 demonstrates the types of disabilities among youth and young adults with disabilities.

FIGURE 3. Types of Disability among Youth and Young Adults (14-24) with Disabilities: 2021



Note: People may have more than one type of disability so that the sum of the percentages will be over 100.

Data Source: Calculations based on U.S. Census Bureau, 2017-2021 American Community Survey, Public Use Microdata Sample.

Education and Disability

High School Attainment

On average, individuals with disabilities have lower levels of education than persons who do not have disabilities. Young adults with disabilities ages 18 to 24¹ completed high school and post-secondary education at lower rates than those without disabilities. Among young adults with disabilities in the U.S. in 2021, 77.3 percent attained a high school diploma compared to 88.8 percent of their peers without disabilities. The high school attainment rate of young adults with disabilities ranged among states from a low of 69.8 percent in Louisiana to a high of 86.8 percent in Delaware. Table 2 displays the states with the five highest and five lowest rates of high school attainment for young adults with disabilities in 2021. In the past five years, Washington, D.C. was consistently one of the states with the highest rates of high school diploma attainment for young adults with disabilities. Meanwhile, Washington, D.C. was also one of the states with the lowest high school diploma attainment gap between young adults with and without disabilities.

TABLE 2. States with Highest and Lowest Rates of High School Attainment for Young Adults (Ages 18-24) with Disabilities: 2021

States with Highest Rates of High School Diploma Attainment

1. Delaware, 86.8%
2. Hawaii, 86.3%
3. Vermont, 85.5%
4. Washington D.C., 85.2%
5. Virginia, 83.4%

States with Lowest Rates of High School Diploma Attainment

1. Louisiana, 69.8%
2. Florida, 71.3%
3. South Dakota, 71.5%
4. New Mexico, 72.1%
5. Georgia, 72.3%

Source: Calculations based on U.S. Census Bureau, 2017-2021 American Community Survey, Public Use Microdata Sample.

¹ Since most of youth ages 14 to 17 may not have high school or postsecondary credential, this section focuses on young adults ages 18-24 when describing educational attainment.

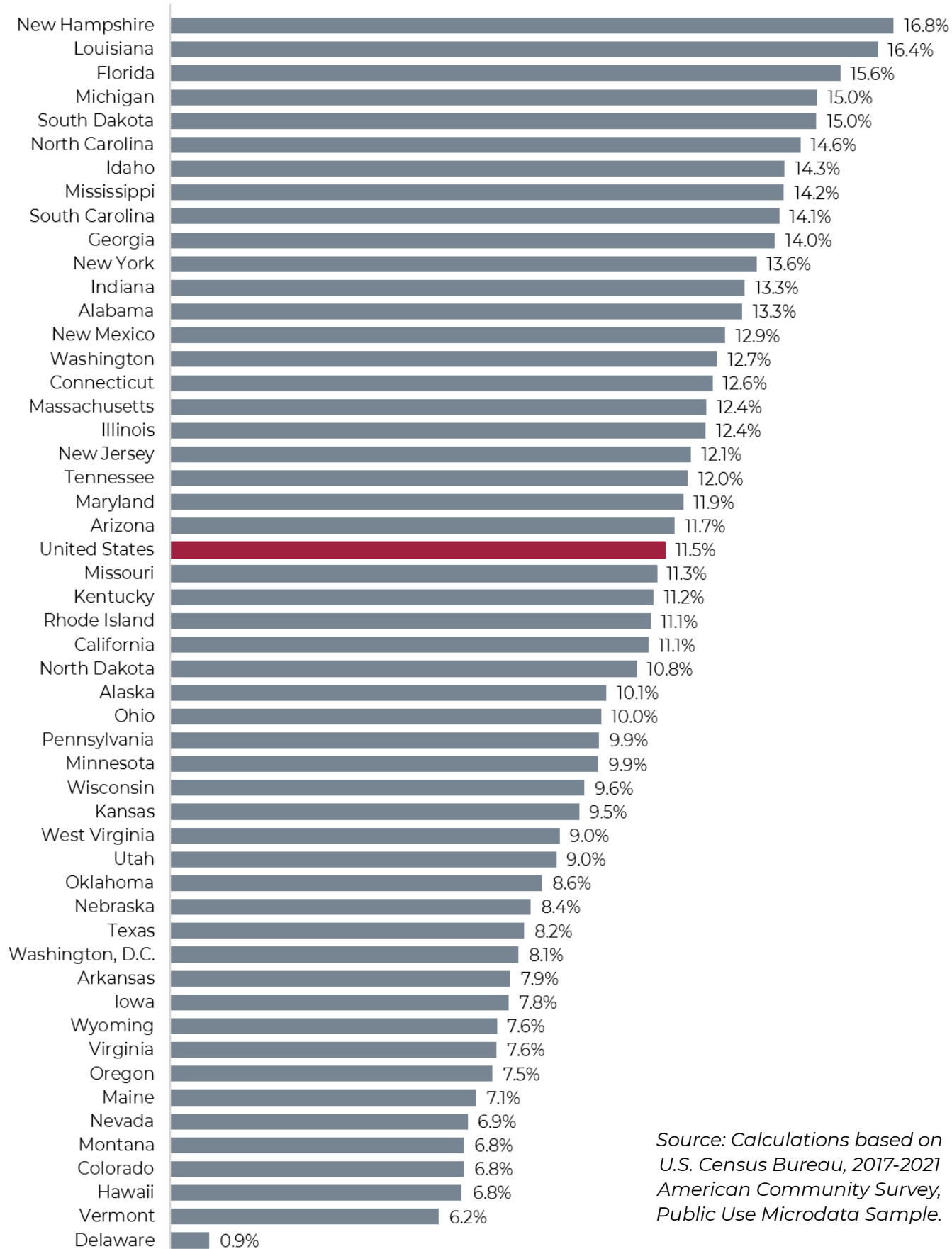
The data also shows a gap in high school attainment between young adults with and without disabilities. The national difference in high school attainment was 11.5 percent² in 2021. Comparing the high school attainment for young adults with and without disabilities, we found an attainment gap ranging from 16.8 percent in New Hampshire to the lowest gap of 0.9 percent in Delaware (see Table B1 in Appendix B for detailed information). States with higher rates of high school diploma attainment for young adults with disabilities are more likely to have smaller high school attainment gap between young adults with and without disabilities. Figure 4 demonstrates the high school attainment gap between young adults with and without disabilities by state.

In addition, students with disabilities are more likely to drop out before completing high school than their non-disabled peers. In 2021, the national dropout rate for students with disabilities was 10.4 percent, which was more than double that for students without disabilities, 4.8 percent³.

² A percentage point or percent point is the unit for the arithmetic difference of two percentages. The gaps displayed in this report are percentage point differences between individuals with and without disabilities. For ease of reading, we are using the term “percent” throughout the report to represent “percentage point” calculation.

³ National Center for Education Statistics. (2023). Status Dropout Rates. Condition of Education. U.S. Department of Education, Institute of Education Sciences. Retrieved [11/14/2023], from <https://nces.ed.gov/programs/coe/indicator/coj/status-dropout-rates>.

FIGURE 4. High School Attainment Gap Between Young Adults (Ages 18-24) with and without Disabilities, by State: 2021



Source: Calculations based on U.S. Census Bureau, 2017-2021 American Community Survey, Public Use Microdata Sample.

College Enrollment

College enrollment is an early indicator of post-secondary attainment. In our analysis of college data for young adults ages 18-24, we found that students with disabilities have lower college enrollment rates than those without disabilities. The national college enrollment rate for young adults with disabilities in 2021 was 28 percent compared to 43.1 percent of their peers without disabilities. Table 3 shows the differences between states with the highest and lowest levels of college enrollment for young adults with disabilities. Rhode Island had the highest rate of college entry at 44.8 percent, and Alaska had the lowest rate at 17.6 percent (see Table B2 in Appendix B for detailed information). The state rates ranking of college enrollment of young adults with disabilities did not change substantially in the past five years, with Rhode Island, Washington, D.C., Massachusetts, and California having the highest rates, and Alaska, West Virginia, Idaho, and Mississippi having the lowest rates.

TABLE 3. States with Highest and Lowest Rates of College Enrollment for Young Adults (Ages 18-24) with Disabilities: 2021

States with Highest Rates of College Enrollment

1. Rhode Island, 44.8%
2. Vermont, 42.5%
3. Washington, D.C., 42.2%
4. Massachusetts, 38.8%
5. California, 37%

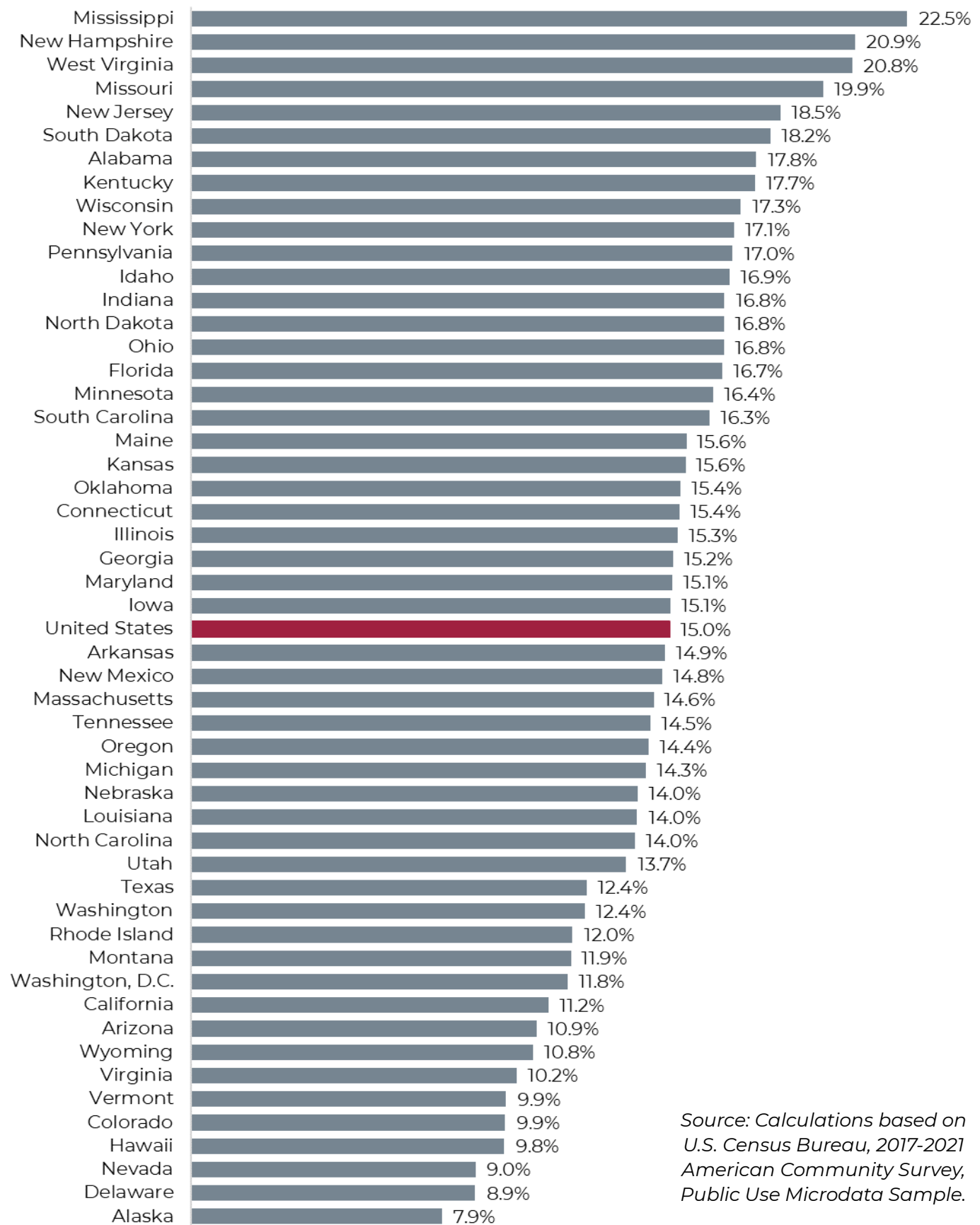
States with Lowest Rates of College Enrollment

1. Alaska, 17.6%
2. West Virginia, 18.6%
3. Idaho, 19.6%
4. New Mexico, 19.7%
5. Mississippi, 20.6%

Source: Calculations based on U.S. Census Bureau, 2017-2021 American Community Survey, Public Use Microdata Sample.

The college enrollment gap between young adults with and without disabilities was 15 percent in 2021. Figure 5 demonstrates the college enrollment gap between young adults with and without disabilities by state. The gap ranged from 7.9 percent in Alaska to 22.5 percent in Mississippi.

FIGURE 5. College Enrollment Gap Between Young Adults (18-24) with and without disabilities, by State: 2021



Source: Calculations based on U.S. Census Bureau, 2017-2021 American Community Survey, Public Use Microdata Sample.

College Degree Attainment

Having a four-year college degree is another key educational indicator for better earnings and career opportunities than not attaining one. The average national rate for college degree attainment remained low for young adults with disabilities at 5.2 percent compared to the rate of their peers without disabilities (12.6 percent). This completion rate for a bachelor's degree ranged across states from 0.6 percent in Wyoming to 20 percent in Washington, D.C. Table 4 shows the top five states with the highest college completion rates for students with disabilities and those with the lowest in 2021 (see Table B3 in Appendix B for detailed information). Washington, D.C. had the highest college degree attainment rates for young adults with disabilities throughout the past five years and increased the rate from 13.6 percent in 2017 to 20 percent in 2021.

TABLE 4. States with Highest and Lowest Rates of College Degree Attainment for Young Adults (Ages 18-24) with Disabilities: 2021

States with Highest Rates of Post-Secondary Degree Attainment

1. Washington, D.C., 20%
2. New York, 8.7%
3. Maryland, 7.1%
3. Illinois, 7.1%
5. Massachusetts, 6.8%

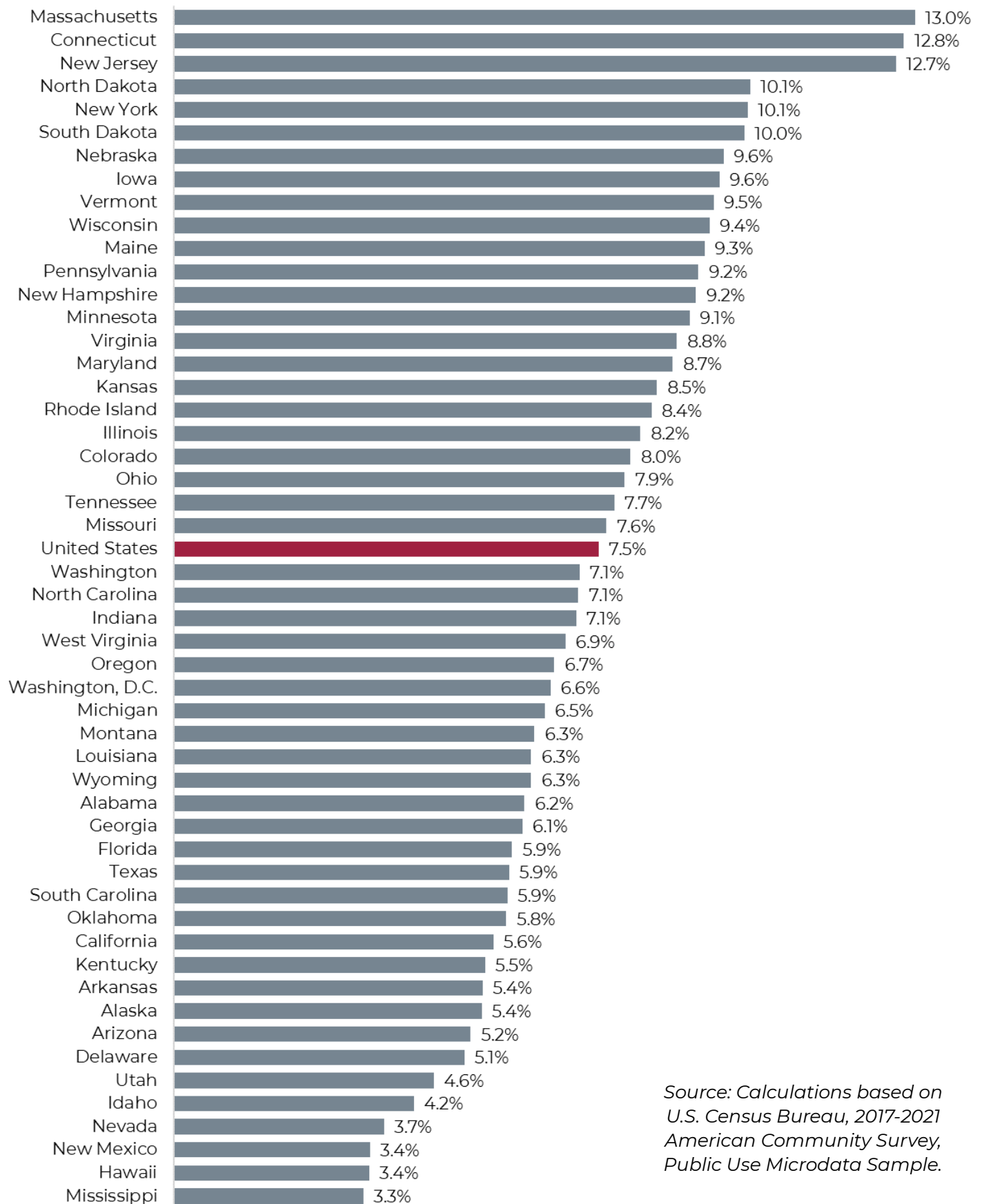
States with Lowest Rates of Post-Secondary Degree Attainment

1. Alaska, 0.6%
2. Wyoming, 1.7%
3. South Dakota, 1.9%
4. Oklahoma, 2.6%
4. Alabama, 2.6%

Source: Calculations based on U.S. Census Bureau, 2017-2021 American Community Survey, Public Use Microdata Sample.

The college degree attainment gap between young adults with and without disabilities in the U.S. was 7.5 percent in 2021. Figure 6 demonstrates the college degree attainment gap between young adults with and without disabilities by state. Massachusetts had the largest attainment gap (13 percent), given that young adults without disabilities had a higher college degree attainment rate. Mississippi had the smallest attainment gap (3.3 percent) since both young adults with and without disabilities had lower college degree attainment rates.

FIGURE 6. Bachelor's Degree Attainment Gap Between Young Adults (Ages 18-24) with and without Disabilities, by State: 2021

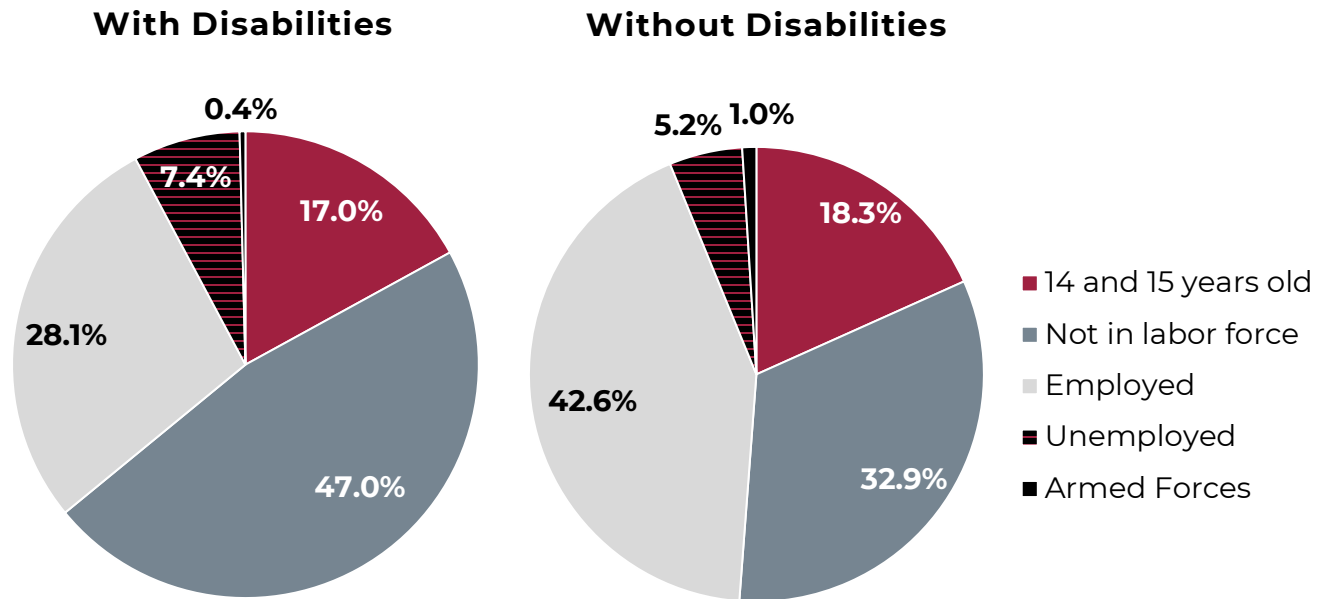


Source: Calculations based on U.S. Census Bureau, 2017-2021 American Community Survey, Public Use Microdata Sample.

Employment and Disability

Having an opportunity to work, such as part- or full-time employment, participation in internships and apprenticeships, and other work-based learning opportunities offer youth and young adults with disabilities an entry into employment and self-sufficiency. Individuals with disabilities have lower employment rates than their peers without disabilities. As Figure 7 shows, youth and young adults with disabilities were employed at 28.1 percent, less than the 42.6 percent of their peers without disabilities. Youth and young adults with disabilities were also less likely to be in the labor force and more likely to be unemployed in 2021. The employment gap between youth and young adults with and without disabilities was 14.5 percent. Note that in Figure 7, the employment status is shown for individuals ages 14-24; however, the U.S. Census Bureau does not capture employment status for youth under age 16.

FIGURE 7. Employment Status for Youth and Young Adults (Ages 14-24) with and without Disabilities in the U.S., 2021



Source: Calculations based on U.S. Census Bureau, 2017-2021 American Community Survey, Public Use Microdata Sample.

Although most youth and young adults with disabilities are not in the workforce, for those ages 14-24 working in 2021, the majority were employed by a private for-profit company or business at 37.8 percent, compared to 47.2 percent of their peers without disabilities. About 4 percent of youth and young adults were employees in a not-for-profit. Less than 3 percent were employed in government or self-employed (see Table 5 for detailed information).

TABLE 5. Class of Worker for Youth and Young Adults (Ages 14-24) with and without Disabilities, 2021

Class of Worker	With Disabilities (%)	Without Disabilities (%)
Not in universe	50.8	40.1
Employee of a private for-profit company or business	37.8	47.2
Employee of a private not-for-profit	3.5	3.8
Local government employee (city, county, etc.)	1.6	2.2
State government employee	1.3	1.7
Federal government employee	1.1	1.6
Self-employed in own not incorporated business	1.1	1.3
Self-employed in own incorporated business	0.5	0.5
Working without pay in a family business or farm	0.3	0.2

Note about “not in universe”: In addition to individuals between 16 and 24 years old and not in the labor force, the denominator includes youth who are 14 and 15 years old. Employment status for youth under 16 years old is not captured by the Census Bureau.

Source: Calculations based on U.S. Census Bureau, 2017-2021 American Community Survey, Public Use Microdata Sample.

The employment-to-population⁴ rate for youth and young adults (ages 14-24) in the U.S. in 2021 was 28.1 percent. The employment rate by state ranged

⁴ The “employment to population rate” is an analysis that considers the people who are not in the labor force.

from a low of 20.9 percent in West Virginia to a high of 44.7 percent in North Dakota. Table 6 displays the states with the highest and lowest employment rates for youth and young adults with disabilities (see Table C1 in Appendix C for detailed information).

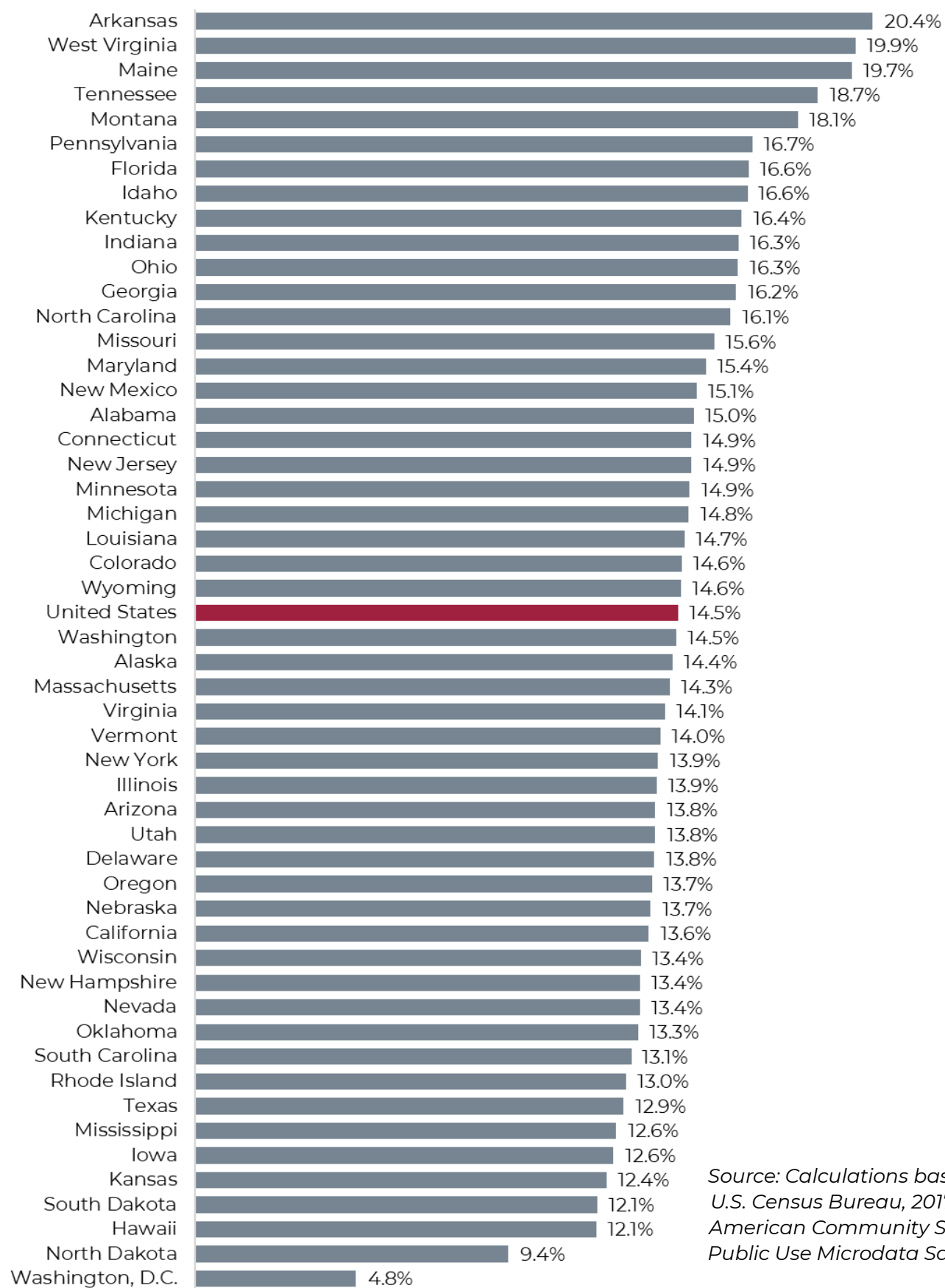
TABLE 6. States with Highest and Lowest Employment Rates for Youth and Young Adults (ages 14-24) with Disabilities: 2021

States with Highest Employment Rates	States with Lowest Employment Rates
1. North Dakota, 44.7%	1. West Virginia, 20.9%
2. Utah, 39.6%	2. Arkansas, 21%
3. Iowa, 39.3%	3. Mississippi, 22%
4. Wisconsin, 38.8%	4. Louisiana, 22.7%
5. Nebraska, 38.3%	5. New York, 23.6%
5. Minnesota, 38.3%	

Source: Calculations based on U.S. Census Bureau, 2017-2021 American Community Survey, Public Use Microdata Sample.

In the U.S. in 2021, the gap between the employment rates for individuals (ages 14-24) with and without disabilities was 14.5 percent. At the state level, the employment rate gap ranged from a low of 4.8 percent in Washington, DC, to a high of 20.4 percent in Arkansas for youth and young adults with and without disabilities. Figure 8 displays the gaps by state.

FIGURE 8. Employment Rate Gap between Youth and Young Adults (Ages 14-24) with and without Disabilities, by State: 2021



Source: Calculations based on U.S. Census Bureau, 2017-2021 American Community Survey, Public Use Microdata Sample.

Opportunity Youth with Disabilities

Opportunity youth and young adults are those ages 14-24 who are neither in school nor employed. Given the significant proportion of youth and young adults who are not in the labor force, we present an analysis of opportunity youth who are neither in school nor in the labor force (not in the labor force means those youth are unemployed and are not currently seeking employment). This analysis offers a view of youth disconnection from the labor market and education system.

In the U.S. in 2021, 19.3 percent of youth and young adults (ages 14-24) with disabilities were neither in school nor the labor force, compared to 5.7 percent of their peers without disabilities (see Table D1 in Appendix D). At the state level, the proportion of opportunity youth and young adults with disabilities ranged from 12 percent in Rhode Island to 26.9 percent in West Virginia. Table 7 displays the highest and lowest disconnected rates for youth and young adults with disabilities.

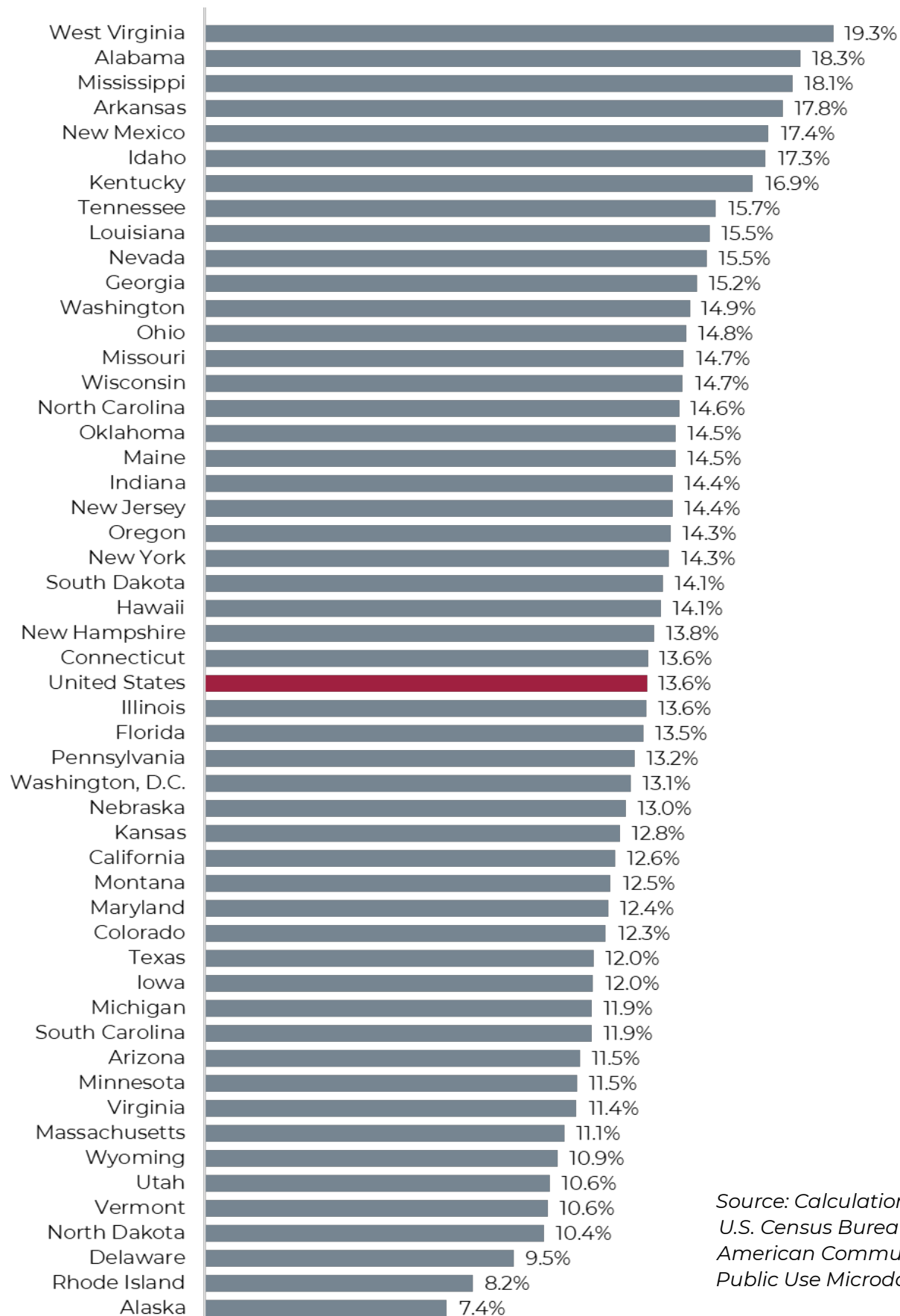
TABLE 7. States with Highest and Lowest Rates of Opportunity Youth and Young Adults (ages 14-24, not in the labor force) with Disabilities: 2021

States with Highest Rates of Opportunity Youth and Young Adults	States with Lowest Rates of Opportunity Youth and Young Adults
1. West Virginia, 26.9%	1. Rhode Island, 12%
2. New Mexico, 26.2%	2. Vermont, 14.3%
3. Mississippi, 26%	3. Massachusetts, 14.4%
4. Alabama, 25.6%	4. Delaware, 14.5%
5. Arkansas, 25.3%	5. Minnesota, 14.7%

Source: Calculations based on U.S. Census Bureau, 2017-2021 American Community Survey, Public Use Microdata Sample.

In a comparison between the opportunity for youth and young adults with and without disabilities in 2021, the national gap was 13.6 percent. At the state level, the gap ranged from 7.4 percent in Alaska to 19.3 percent in West Virginia. Figure 9 displays the gaps by state and the national average. See Table D2 in Appendix D.

FIGURE 9. Opportunity Youth Rates Gap between Youth and Young Adults (Ages 14-24) with and without Disabilities, by State: 2021



Source: Calculations based on U.S. Census Bureau, 2017-2021 American Community Survey, Public Use Microdata Sample.

Poverty and Disability

The data on poverty by household underscore disparities between youth and young adults with and without disabilities. On average, individuals with disabilities are more likely to live in poverty than those who do not have any disabilities. The poverty rate for households of youth and young adults with disabilities (ages 14-24) in the U.S. in 2021 was 22.8 percent compared to 16.3 percent of their peers without disabilities. The poverty rate for youth and young adults with disabilities by state ranges from a low of 15.2 percent in Delaware to a high of 32.7 percent in New Mexico. Table 8 displays the states with the highest and lowest poverty rates for youth and young adults with disabilities (see Table E1 in Appendix E for detailed information). New Jersey and Maryland were the states with the lowest rates of poverty for youth and young adults with disabilities in the past five years, and Mississippi and Kentucky were the states with the highest poverty rates for youth and young adults with disabilities.

TABLE 8. States with Highest and Lowest Rates of Poverty for Youth and Young Adults (ages 14-24) with Disabilities: 2021

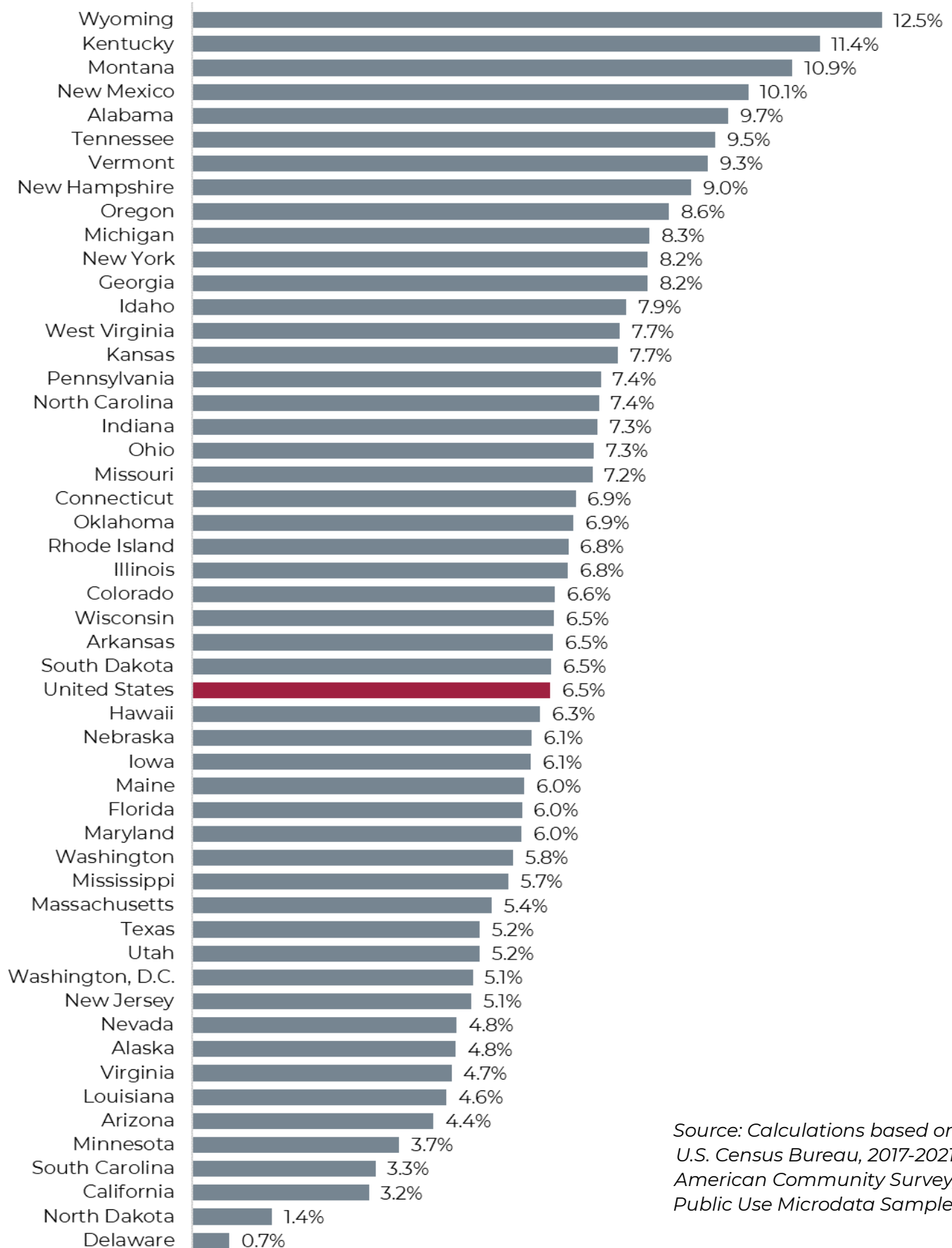
States with Highest Rates of Poverty for Youth and Young Adults	States with Lowest Rates of Poverty for Youth and Young Adults
1. New Mexico, 32.7%	1. Delaware, 15.2%
2. Kentucky, 30.5%	2. New Jersey, 16.3%
3. Montana, 29.5%	3. Maryland, 17.1%
4. Wyoming, 29.4%	4. New Hampshire, 17.2%
4. Mississippi, 29.4%	5. Minnesota, 17.4%
	5. Massachusetts, 17.4%

Source: Calculations based on U.S. Census Bureau, 2017-2021 American Community Survey, Public Use Microdata Sample.

In 2021, the gap in poverty rates between households of individuals (ages 14-24) with and without disabilities was 6.5 percent. At the state level, the poverty rate gap ranged from 0.7 percent in Delaware to a high of 12.5 percent in Wyoming. Figure 10 displays the gaps by state.

Meanwhile, when comparing the poverty rate to the rate of opportunity youth for individuals ages 14 to 24, we discovered that states with a more significant gap rate between opportunity youth with and without disabilities might have more significant poverty gaps between households of youth with disabilities and their peers without disabilities. For instance, New Mexico had a larger gap rate between opportunity youth with and without disabilities (17.4%), and the poverty gap (10.1%) was one of the highest states. This might indicate that states with higher rates of opportunity for youth and young adults with disabilities require additional resources to address poverty issues statewide.

FIGURE 10. Poverty Gap for Youth and Young Adults (14-24) with and without Disabilities, by State: 2021



Source: Calculations based on U.S. Census Bureau, 2017-2021 American Community Survey, Public Use Microdata Sample.

Discussion

In this fifth annual Youth Transition report, the gaps between youth and young adults with and without disabilities (ages 14-24) remain significant in almost every state in the U.S. across education, employment, engagement, and poverty indicators. Continued patterns of low high school and college completion lead to lower rates of employment and earnings, which in turn lead to higher rates of poverty for people with disabilities. Youth with disabilities are more likely to be disengaged from school and the workforce. These patterns continue into adulthood.

Based on the past five years' data, Washington, D.C. was one of the states with the highest educational attainment rate for youth and young adults with disabilities throughout the past five years. In April 2020, the D.C. Council passed a resolution adopting the “District of Columbia Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Unified State Plan⁵, July 2022-June 2024.” This 300-page plan outlines the 4-year strategic plan and funding strategies to strengthen WIOA in DC to better reflect the demographic needs of the increase of over 100,000 residents in the District since 2010 (at that time). Also, the D.C. Council passed a few resolutions to suspend the community service requirement for high school students earning a diploma during the pandemic. Again, this may not be anything to correlate to the increase in graduation rates, but suspending this requirement may have made earning a high school diploma more accessible for students with disabilities (if not already accounted for in their IEP).

Throughout the past five years, North Dakota was one of the states with the highest employment rate for youth and young adults with disabilities. In 2021, North Dakota had an employment rate of 44.7 for youth and young adults with disabilities, which increased significantly since 2020. The success in increasing employment opportunities for youth and young adults with disabilities coincided with the reauthorization of income tax credits for employers in the state who employ individuals with developmental disabilities or severe mental illness (H.B.1045)⁶. Additionally, the superintendent of public instruction shall provide integrated formula payments to postsecondary transitional programs for eligible students

⁵ Workforce Investment Implementation Act of 2020, D.C. Law 13-150 (2020).
<https://code.dccouncil.gov/us/dc/council/laws/13-150>

⁶ North Dakota Century Code, § 57-38-30.3.7 (2021).
<https://ndlegis.gov/cencode/t57c38.pdf#nameddest=57-38-30p3>

enrolled in a postsecondary transitional program within the state at the rate provided under section 15.1-32.21.1. For purposes of this section, "eligible student" means a student with a documented intellectual or developmental disability who is at least eighteen years of age but has not reached the age of 22, who has graduated from a public high school in the state or obtained an equivalent degree, and who enrolls in a postsecondary transitional program⁷.

Evidence-based policies and practices are essential in changing the narrative for youth and young adults with disabilities. The education system must ensure that all teachers are prepared to serve all students with and without disabilities. Districts can provide accessible technology, internet access, and training resources to families of children with disabilities and the school staff who support them. College campuses have begun to recognize the value of a diverse campus that includes students with disabilities—and must address the physical and social barriers that prevent students from entering and succeeding in higher education.

⁷ North Dakota Century Code, § 15.1-32.21.1 (2021). <https://ndlegis.gov/cencode/t15-1c32.pdf#nameddest=15p1-32-21p1>

Appendix A: Table A1

Youth and Young Adults (Ages 14 to 24) for the U.S. and States,
by Disability Status: 2021

State	WITH DISABILITY		WITHOUT DISABILITY		Population (14-24)
	Estimate	Percent	Estimate	Percent	
US	3,243,661	6.8	44,323,355	93.2	47,567,016
AL	51,399	7.1	670,127	92.9	721,526
AK	6,708	6.3	100,280	93.7	106,988
AZ	74,256	7.1	972,076	92.9	1,046,332
AR	38,131	8.6	402,893	91.4	441,024
CA	308,062	5.4	5,441,627	94.6	5,749,689
CO	50,904	6.2	770,754	93.8	821,658
CT	35,514	6.7	495,124	93.3	530,638
DE	8,677	6.5	124,255	93.5	132,932
DC	7,159	7.8	84,173	92.2	91,332
FL	174,575	6.4	2,546,402	93.6	2,720,977
GA	105,344	6.5	1,510,233	93.5	1,615,577
HI	7,830	4.2	178,370	95.8	186,200
ID	23,767	8.6	253,012	91.4	276,779
IL	111,930	6.0	1,739,565	94.0	1,851,495
IN	78,985	7.7	949,010	92.3	1,027,995
IA	32,973	6.7	456,296	93.3	489,269
KS	38,402	8.3	422,408	91.7	460,810
KY	59,184	9.1	592,547	90.9	651,731
LA	53,771	8.0	616,902	92.0	670,673
ME	20,854	12.3	148,814	87.7	169,668
MD	59,215	7.0	792,167	93.0	851,382
MA	71,393	6.9	964,023	93.1	1,035,416
MI	112,884	7.7	1,360,775	92.3	1,473,659

State	WITH DISABILITY		WITHOUT DISABILITY		Population (14-24)
	Estimate	Percent	Estimate	Percent	
MN	58,039	7.3	737,615	92.7	795,654
MS	34,881	7.6	421,133	92.4	456,014
MO	64,448	7.3	816,998	92.7	881,446
MT	11,840	7.7	141,054	92.3	152,894
NE	20,610	6.9	279,534	93.1	300,144
NV	24,388	6.0	384,731	94.0	409,119
NH	15,463	8.1	174,798	91.9	190,261
NJ	71,254	5.6	1,192,142	94.4	1,263,396
NM	24,625	7.9	286,157	92.1	310,782
NY	171,772	6.2	2,616,838	93.8	2,788,610
NC	102,185	6.7	1,417,642	93.3	1,519,827
ND	6,766	5.5	116,930	94.5	123,696
OH	134,444	8.0	1,548,704	92.0	1,683,148
OK	51,039	8.6	544,061	91.4	595,100
OR	51,646	9.1	513,423	90.9	565,069
PA	144,848	8.1	1,647,894	91.9	1,792,742
RI	13,129	8.0	151,201	92.0	164,330
SC	47,570	6.6	672,220	93.4	719,790
SD	8,469	6.4	123,453	93.6	131,922
TN	71,457	7.4	900,472	92.6	971,929
TX	290,367	6.5	4,206,933	93.5	4,497,300
UT	39,141	6.8	539,752	93.2	578,893
VT	9,753	10.1	86,574	89.9	96,327
VA	80,266	6.5	1,160,804	93.5	1,241,070
WA	76,387	7.4	954,540	92.6	1,030,927
WV	21,897	9.0	220,840	91.0	242,737
WI	60,003	7.0	797,202	93.0	857,205
WY	5,057	6.1	77,877	93.9	82,934

Source: Calculations based on U.S. Census Bureau, 2017-2021 American Community Survey, Public Use Microdata Sample

Appendix B: Table B1

Young Adults (Ages 18 to 24) with High School Diploma or Higher Degrees, by Disability Status: 2021

State	WITH DISABILITY			WITHOUT DISABILITY		
	Population	Estimate	Percent	Population	Estimate	Percent
U.S.	2,127,197	1,645,230	77.3	28,201,096	25,048,857	88.8
AL	35,309	26,470	75.0	424,918	374,975	88.2
AK	4,509	3,493	77.5	64,345	56,360	87.6
AZ	49,653	36,983	74.5	621,988	536,070	86.2
AR	23,925	19,366	80.9	255,213	226,724	88.8
CA	202,375	160,942	79.5	3,464,254	3,139,320	90.6
CO	34,401	28,043	81.5	488,946	431,853	88.3
CT	24,239	19,038	78.5	320,176	291,805	91.1
DE	5,376	4,668	86.8	77,876	68,325	87.7
DC	5,566	4,744	85.2	64,834	60,498	93.3
FL	110,307	78,615	71.3	1,617,954	1,404,750	86.8
GA	67,772	49,020	72.3	950,076	820,485	86.4
HI	4,992	4,306	86.3	116,581	108,447	93.0
ID	15,253	11,279	73.9	152,267	134,310	88.2
IL	74,790	57,367	76.7	1,095,070	976,004	89.1
IN	51,425	37,741	73.4	607,184	526,553	86.7
IA	21,567	17,811	82.6	295,852	267,550	90.4
KS	26,238	21,063	80.3	270,662	242,955	89.8
KY	39,930	31,290	78.4	379,527	339,996	89.6
LA	34,117	23,805	69.8	387,552	334,064	86.2
ME	13,709	11,403	83.2	94,156	85,003	90.3
MD	36,991	28,899	78.1	497,194	447,635	90.0
MA	48,037	37,783	78.7	650,105	592,250	91.1
MI	77,608	57,539	74.1	871,028	776,545	89.2
MN	39,609	31,272	79.0	458,494	407,550	88.9

State	WITH DISABILITY			WITHOUT DISABILITY		
	Population	Estimate	Percent	Population	Estimate	Percent
MS	22,065	16,160	73.2	265,524	232,261	87.5
MO	41,921	32,745	78.1	519,415	464,335	89.4
MT	7,911	6,510	82.3	91,694	81,706	89.1
NE	13,609	11,034	81.1	177,453	158,727	89.4
NV	16,228	12,938	79.7	233,176	201,988	86.6
NH	10,520	7,910	75.2	115,062	105,836	92.0
NJ	45,340	35,722	78.8	736,359	669,136	90.9
NM	16,597	11,969	72.1	180,127	153,104	85.0
NY	113,340	86,925	76.7	1,703,165	1,538,161	90.3
NC	66,886	49,714	74.3	911,337	810,696	89.0
ND	4,720	3,777	80.0	80,887	73,491	90.9
OH	87,930	68,991	78.5	975,875	863,242	88.5
OK	33,207	25,735	77.5	344,827	296,975	86.1
OR	34,589	27,747	80.2	327,406	287,119	87.7
PA	93,618	73,812	78.8	1,061,339	942,363	88.8
RI	9,053	7,323	80.9	103,975	95,696	92.0
SC	30,553	22,782	74.6	431,533	382,784	88.7
SD	5,962	4,261	71.5	77,111	66,672	86.5
TN	45,644	35,342	77.4	572,109	511,725	89.4
TX	182,791	143,248	78.4	2,610,146	2,259,748	86.6
UT	25,510	20,697	81.1	337,399	303,960	90.1
VT	7,293	6,232	85.5	60,331	55,313	91.7
VA	51,838	43,212	83.4	754,899	686,417	90.9
WA	52,297	39,291	75.1	605,465	531,700	87.8
WV	14,064	11,308	80.4	142,308	127,289	89.4
WI	42,411	33,991	80.1	507,558	455,593	89.8
WY	3,602	2,914	80.9	48,364	42,793	88.5

Source: Calculations based on U.S. Census Bureau, 2017-2021 American Community Survey, Public Use Microdata Sample

Appendix B: Table B2

Young Adults (Ages 18 to 24) Enroll in College Undergraduate Years, by Disability Status: 2021

State	WITH DISABILITY			WITHOUT DISABILITY		
	Population	Estimate	Percent	Population	Estimate	Percent
U.S.	2,127,197	595,923	28.0	28,201,096	12,142,235	43.1
AL	35,309	8,468	24.0	424,918	177,480	41.8
AK	4,509	794	17.6	64,345	16,415	25.5
AZ	49,653	13,470	27.1	621,988	236,330	38.0
AR	23,925	5,266	22.0	255,213	94,247	36.9
CA	202,375	74,968	37.0	3,464,254	1,672,807	48.3
CO	34,401	10,427	30.3	488,946	196,483	40.2
CT	24,239	8,460	34.9	320,176	160,947	50.3
DE	5,376	1,923	35.8	77,876	34,814	44.7
DC	5,566	2,347	42.2	64,834	35,015	54.0
FL	110,307	28,684	26.0	1,617,954	691,040	42.7
GA	67,772	16,826	24.8	950,076	379,890	40.0
HI	4,992	1,318	26.4	116,581	42,256	36.2
ID	15,253	2,982	19.6	152,267	55,549	36.5
IL	74,790	21,425	28.6	1,095,070	481,225	43.9
IN	51,425	12,463	24.2	607,184	249,065	41.0
IA	21,567	6,471	30.0	295,852	133,386	45.1
KS	26,238	6,884	26.2	270,662	113,113	41.8
KY	39,930	8,499	21.3	379,527	148,075	39.0
LA	34,117	8,428	24.7	387,552	150,112	38.7
ME	13,709	3,793	27.7	94,156	40,728	43.3
MD	36,991	11,001	29.7	497,194	223,127	44.9
MA	48,037	18,627	38.8	650,105	346,724	53.3
MI	77,608	23,440	30.2	871,028	387,607	44.5
MN	39,609	10,551	26.6	458,494	197,471	43.1

State	WITH DISABILITY			WITHOUT DISABILITY		
	Population	Estimate	Percent	Population	Estimate	Percent
MS	22,065	4,540	20.6	265,524	114,461	43.1
MO	41,921	8,763	20.9	519,415	211,880	40.8
MT	7,911	1,987	25.1	91,694	33,985	37.1
NE	13,609	4,296	31.6	177,453	80,935	45.6
NV	16,228	3,515	21.7	233,176	71,397	30.6
NH	10,520	2,646	25.2	115,062	52,985	46.0
NJ	45,340	13,424	29.6	736,359	354,496	48.1
NM	16,597	3,266	19.7	180,127	62,171	34.5
NY	113,340	37,057	32.7	1,703,165	847,725	49.8
NC	66,886	18,177	27.2	911,337	374,824	41.1
ND	4,720	1,343	28.5	80,887	36,580	45.2
OH	87,930	21,859	24.9	975,875	406,153	41.6
OK	33,207	7,452	22.4	344,827	130,452	37.8
OR	34,589	8,985	26.0	327,406	132,137	40.4
PA	93,618	25,834	27.6	1,061,339	473,708	44.6
RI	9,053	4,057	44.8	103,975	59,069	56.8
SC	30,553	7,117	23.3	431,533	170,942	39.6
SD	5,962	1,361	22.8	77,111	31,662	41.1
TN	45,644	10,953	24.0	572,109	219,967	38.4
TX	182,791	46,967	25.7	2,610,146	995,328	38.1
UT	25,510	7,276	28.5	337,399	142,412	42.2
VT	7,293	3,103	42.5	60,331	31,648	52.5
VA	51,838	17,355	33.5	754,899	330,095	43.7
WA	52,297	12,443	23.8	605,465	219,032	36.2
WV	14,064	2,613	18.6	142,308	56,064	39.4
WI	42,411	11,078	26.1	507,558	220,382	43.4
WY	3,602	941	26.1	48,364	17,839	36.9

Source: Calculations based on U.S. Census Bureau, 2017-2021 American Community Survey, Public Use Microdata Sample

Appendix B: Table B3

Young Adults (Ages 18 to 24) with Bachelor or Higher Degrees,
by Disability Status: 2021

State	WITH DISABILITY			WITHOUT DISABILITY		
	Population	Estimate	Percent	Population	Estimate	Percent
U.S.	2,127,197	110,490	5.2	28,201,096	3,566,687	12.6
AL	35,309	909	2.6	424,918	37,073	8.7
AK	4,509	26	0.6	64,345	3,851	6.0
AZ	49,653	2,376	4.8	621,988	62,162	10.0
AR	23,925	924	3.9	255,213	23,682	9.3
CA	202,375	12,923	6.4	3,464,254	415,504	12.0
CO	34,401	2,306	6.7	488,946	71,922	14.7
CT	24,239	1,279	5.3	320,176	57,864	18.1
DE	5,376	284	5.3	77,876	8,084	10.4
DC	5,566	1,113	20.0	64,834	17,248	26.6
FL	110,307	5,613	5.1	1,617,954	178,377	11.0
GA	67,772	3,068	4.5	950,076	101,093	10.6
HI	4,992	321	6.4	116,581	11,501	9.9
ID	15,253	512	3.4	152,267	11,537	7.6
IL	74,790	5,300	7.1	1,095,070	167,207	15.3
IN	51,425	2,101	4.1	607,184	67,708	11.2
IA	21,567	682	3.2	295,852	37,667	12.7
KS	26,238	1,052	4.0	270,662	33,791	12.5
KY	39,930	1,973	4.9	379,527	39,500	10.4
LA	34,117	985	2.9	387,552	35,490	9.2
ME	13,709	418	3.0	94,156	11,636	12.4
MD	36,991	2,635	7.1	497,194	78,917	15.9
MA	48,037	3,275	6.8	650,105	128,818	19.8
MI	77,608	4,492	5.8	871,028	107,087	12.3
MN	39,609	2,505	6.3	458,494	70,492	15.4

State	WITH DISABILITY			WITHOUT DISABILITY		
	Population	Estimate	Percent	Population	Estimate	Percent
MS	22,065	1,028	4.7	265,524	21,219	8.0
MO	41,921	1,856	4.4	519,415	62,418	12.0
MT	7,911	440	5.6	91,694	10,897	11.9
NE	13,609	591	4.3	177,453	24,830	14.0
NV	16,228	589	3.6	233,176	17,078	7.3
NH	10,520	453	4.3	115,062	15,487	13.5
NJ	45,340	2,857	6.3	736,359	139,654	19.0
NM	16,597	678	4.1	180,127	13,562	7.5
NY	113,340	9,884	8.7	1,703,165	320,057	18.8
NC	66,886	3,020	4.5	911,337	105,812	11.6
ND	4,720	156	3.3	80,887	10,854	13.4
OH	87,930	3,481	4.0	975,875	115,766	11.9
OK	33,207	847	2.6	344,827	28,908	8.4
OR	34,589	1,581	4.6	327,406	36,824	11.2
PA	93,618	4,535	4.8	1,061,339	149,093	14.0
RI	9,053	536	5.9	103,975	14,865	14.3
SC	30,553	1,483	4.9	431,533	46,215	10.7
SD	5,962	114	1.9	77,111	9,190	11.9
TN	45,644	1,792	3.9	572,109	66,653	11.7
TX	182,791	8,234	4.5	2,610,146	271,060	10.4
UT	25,510	762	3.0	337,399	25,464	7.5
VT	7,293	321	4.4	60,331	8,369	13.9
VA	51,838	3,068	5.9	754,899	111,270	14.7
WA	52,297	2,916	5.6	605,465	76,829	12.7
WV	14,064	409	2.9	142,308	13,912	9.8
WI	42,411	1,724	4.1	507,558	68,312	13.5
WY	3,602	63	1.7	48,364	3,878	8.0

Source: Calculations based on U.S. Census Bureau, 2017-2021 American Community Survey, Public Use Microdata Sample

Appendix C: Table C1

Employment Rate for Youth and Young Adults (Ages 14 to 24) in U.S.,
by Disability Status: 2021

State	WITH DISABILITY			WITHOUT DISABILITY		
	Estimate	Population	Percent	Estimate	Population	Percent
US	913,055	3,243,661	28.1	18,868,497	44,323,355	42.6
AL	12,993	49,047	25.3	269,790	655,622	40.3
AK	1,682	6,277	25.1	39,538	101,632	39.4
AZ	22,302	70,147	30.0	426,288	990,643	43.9
AR	8,008	36,965	21.0	166,642	403,096	41.4
CA	73,864	295,949	24.0	2,046,113	5,462,530	37.6
CO	16,931	46,938	33.3	368,983	769,790	47.9
CT	9,931	32,553	28.0	212,299	495,186	42.9
DE	2,470	9,041	28.5	52,508	122,334	42.3
DC	2,435	7,061	34.0	32,676	87,933	38.8
FL	43,150	169,570	24.7	1,053,136	2,547,492	41.4
GA	24,985	100,273	23.7	603,538	1,496,010	40.0
HI	2,036	7,762	26.0	67,888	174,182	38.1
ID	7,638	21,762	32.1	123,292	245,060	48.7
IL	32,233	103,886	28.8	741,975	1,735,572	42.7
IN	23,979	76,326	30.4	443,040	942,528	46.7
IA	12,972	30,885	39.3	236,850	450,216	51.9
KS	14,292	35,737	37.2	209,419	420,310	49.6
KY	17,481	58,970	29.5	272,299	588,140	46.0
LA	12,193	52,052	22.7	230,631	619,536	37.4
ME	6,522	19,108	31.3	75,889	148,774	51.0
MD	15,328	53,909	25.9	326,723	783,097	41.2
MA	22,110	68,581	31.0	436,076	954,312	45.2
MI	35,479	111,503	31.4	629,237	1,358,222	46.2
MN	22,207	53,252	38.3	391,770	732,668	53.1

State	WITH DISABILITY			WITHOUT DISABILITY		
	Population	Estimate	Percent	Population	Estimate	Percent
MS	7,674	31,872	22.0	145,904	424,182	34.6
MO	20,279	62,726	31.5	384,472	819,969	47.1
MT	3,822	10,791	32.3	71,070	140,895	50.4
NE	7,894	19,219	38.3	145,310	274,405	52.0
NV	7,176	23,818	29.4	164,652	380,843	42.8
NH	5,907	14,583	38.2	90,149	173,726	51.6
NJ	17,085	67,303	24.0	463,643	1,150,123	38.9
NM	6,149	22,815	25.0	114,557	286,117	40.0
NY	40,471	160,599	23.6	980,507	2,563,660	37.5
NC	25,214	99,526	24.7	577,774	1,424,931	40.8
ND	3,022	6,309	44.7	63,212	112,640	54.1
OH	41,587	130,731	30.9	731,595	1,538,281	47.2
OK	15,457	47,454	30.3	237,169	545,533	43.6
OR	16,111	47,258	31.2	230,669	515,593	44.9
PA	39,975	137,977	27.6	730,519	1,635,712	44.3
RI	4,234	11,399	32.2	68,353	148,921	45.2
SC	13,493	47,684	28.4	278,755	675,053	41.5
SD	3,239	7,737	38.2	62,147	123,629	50.3
TN	18,774	68,326	26.3	404,879	892,012	45.0
TX	79,123	277,802	27.2	1,687,789	4,187,805	40.1
UT	15,487	35,956	39.6	288,100	525,779	53.4
VT	3,387	8,819	34.7	42,173	84,598	48.7
VA	22,411	76,716	27.9	488,170	1,153,530	42.1
WA	22,317	71,177	29.2	416,845	949,034	43.7
WV	4,566	20,872	20.9	89,907	221,742	40.7
WI	23,280	56,660	38.8	416,032	789,192	52.2
WY	1,700	5,767	33.6	37,545	77,082	48.2

Source: Calculations based on U.S. Census Bureau, 2017-2021 American Community Survey, Public Use Microdata Sample

Appendix D: Table D1

Employment Rates of Opportunity for Youth and Young Adults (Ages 14 to 24) for the U.S. and States, by Disability Status: 2021

State	WITH DISABILITY			WITHOUT DISABILITY		
	Opportunity youth and young adults	Population	Percent	Opportunity youth and young adults	Population	Percent
US	625,379	3,243,661	19.3	2,510,565	44,323,355	5.7
AL	13,157	49,047	25.6	48,676	655,622	7.3
AK	1,103	6,277	16.4	9,022	101,632	9.0
AZ	13,549	70,147	18.2	65,157	990,643	6.7
AR	9,639	36,965	25.3	30,142	403,096	7.5
CA	57,003	295,949	18.5	319,393	5,462,530	5.9
CO	8,577	46,938	16.8	34,728	769,790	4.5
CT	6,236	32,553	17.6	19,372	495,186	3.9
DE	1,258	9,041	14.5	6,185	122,334	5.0
DC	1,297	7,061	18.1	4,215	87,933	5.0
FL	34,003	169,570	19.5	151,906	2,547,492	6.0
GA	22,937	100,273	21.8	99,982	1,496,010	6.6
HI	1,561	7,762	19.9	10,490	174,182	5.9
ID	5,298	21,762	22.3	12,709	245,060	5.0
IL	20,885	103,886	18.7	88,123	1,735,572	5.1
IN	15,618	76,326	19.8	50,964	942,528	5.4
IA	5,255	30,885	15.9	18,165	450,216	4.0
KS	6,642	35,737	17.3	19,000	420,310	4.5
KY	13,981	58,970	23.6	39,962	588,140	6.7
LA	12,789	52,052	23.8	50,900	619,536	8.3
ME	3,900	19,108	18.7	6,272	148,774	4.2
MD	10,302	53,909	17.4	39,358	783,097	5.0
MA	10,310	68,581	14.4	32,475	954,312	3.4
MI	19,273	111,503	17.1	70,071	1,358,222	5.1
MN	8,503	53,252	14.7	23,546	732,668	3.2

State	WITH DISABILITY			WITHOUT DISABILITY		
	Opportunity youth and young adults	Population	Percent	Opportunity youth and young adults	Population	Percent
MS	9,065	31,872	26.0	33,259	424,182	7.9
MO	12,828	62,726	19.9	42,140	819,969	5.2
MT	2,133	10,791	18.0	7,788	140,895	5.5
NE	3,421	19,219	16.6	10,194	274,405	3.6
NV	5,574	23,818	22.9	28,449	380,843	7.4
NH	2,594	14,583	16.8	5,129	173,726	2.9
NJ	13,615	67,303	19.1	56,190	1,150,123	4.7
NM	6,445	22,815	26.2	25,237	286,117	8.8
NY	34,642	160,599	20.2	153,604	2,563,660	5.9
NC	20,714	99,526	20.3	80,333	1,424,931	5.7
ND	1,012	6,309	15.0	5,284	112,640	4.5
OH	26,438	130,731	19.7	74,772	1,538,281	4.8
OK	10,918	47,454	21.4	37,532	545,533	6.9
OR	10,220	47,258	19.8	27,928	515,593	5.4
PA	26,409	137,977	18.2	82,453	1,635,712	5.0
RI	1,581	11,399	12.0	5,736	148,921	3.8
SC	8,682	47,684	18.3	42,595	675,053	6.3
SD	1,566	7,737	18.5	5,433	123,629	4.4
TN	15,675	68,326	21.9	55,832	892,012	6.2
TX	55,198	277,802	19.0	295,822	4,187,805	7.0
UT	5,948	35,956	15.2	24,696	525,779	4.6
VT	1,398	8,819	14.3	3,266	84,598	3.8
VA	12,782	76,716	15.9	51,955	1,153,530	4.5
WA	15,290	71,177	20.0	48,502	949,034	5.1
WV	5,881	20,872	26.9	16,582	221,742	7.5
WI	11,481	56,660	19.1	35,297	789,192	4.4
WY	793	5,767	15.7	3,744	77,082	4.8

Source: Calculations based on U.S. Census Bureau, 2017-2021 American Community Survey, Public Use Microdata Sample

Appendix D: Table D2

Rates for Youth and Young Adults (Ages 14 to 24) in the Labor Force (Unemployed) and Not in School for the U.S. and States, by Disability Status: 2021

State	WITH DISABILITY			WITHOUT DISABILITY		
	Opportunity youth and young adults	Population	Percent	Opportunity youth and young adults	Population	Percent
US	148,616	3,243,661	4.6	1,220,201	44,323,355	2.8
AL	2,620	49,047	5.1	20,298	655,622	3.0
AK	199	6,277	3.0	4,420	101,632	4.4
AZ	3,430	70,147	4.6	25,800	990,643	2.7
AR	1,696	36,965	4.4	12,542	403,096	3.1
CA	12,167	295,949	3.9	150,107	5,462,530	2.8
CO	2,736	46,938	5.4	17,499	769,790	2.3
CT	1,922	32,553	5.4	15,065	495,186	3.0
DE	153	9,041	1.8	3,612	122,334	2.9
DC	420	7,061	5.9	4,003	87,933	4.8
FL	8,078	169,570	4.6	64,241	2,547,492	2.5
GA	4,307	100,273	4.1	43,293	1,496,010	2.9
HI	297	7,762	3.8	5,056	174,182	2.8
ID	1,194	21,762	5.0	5,754	245,060	2.3
IL	5,744	103,886	5.1	56,332	1,735,572	3.2
IN	3,647	76,326	4.6	27,589	942,528	2.9
IA	1,118	30,885	3.4	8,284	450,216	1.8
KS	1,861	35,737	4.8	9,080	420,310	2.1
KY	3,066	58,970	5.2	17,966	588,140	3.0
LA	2,362	52,052	4.4	22,993	619,536	3.7
ME	1,190	19,108	5.7	3,291	148,774	2.2
MD	3,065	53,909	5.2	22,064	783,097	2.8
MA	3,368	68,581	4.7	22,738	954,312	2.4
MI	5,653	111,503	5.0	42,032	1,358,222	3.1
MN	2,585	53,252	4.5	13,220	732,668	1.8

State	WITH DISABILITY			WITHOUT DISABILITY		
	Opportunity youth and young adults	Population	Percent	Opportunity youth and young adults	Population	Percent
MS	1,338	31,872	3.8	15,295	424,182	3.6
MO	2,886	62,726	4.5	20,690	819,969	2.5
MT	835	10,791	7.1	3,010	140,895	2.1
NE	793	19,219	3.8	5,283	274,405	1.9
NV	1,206	23,818	4.9	14,963	380,843	3.9
NH	971	14,583	6.3	3,821	173,726	2.2
NJ	2,808	67,303	3.9	35,426	1,150,123	3.0
NM	1,670	22,815	6.8	8,882	286,117	3.1
NY	8,159	160,599	4.7	76,702	2,563,660	2.9
NC	4,963	99,526	4.9	40,541	1,424,931	2.9
ND	156	6,309	2.3	1,482	112,640	1.3
OH	6,105	130,731	4.5	41,503	1,538,281	2.7
OK	2,093	47,454	4.1	13,395	545,533	2.5
OR	2,422	47,258	4.7	16,933	515,593	3.3
PA	7,008	137,977	4.8	47,146	1,635,712	2.9
RI	774	11,399	5.9	4,087	148,921	2.7
SC	2,842	47,684	6.0	20,355	675,053	3.0
SD	297	7,737	3.5	2,975	123,629	2.4
TN	3,191	68,326	4.5	28,242	892,012	3.1
TX	11,910	277,802	4.1	110,572	4,187,805	2.6
UT	1,118	35,956	2.9	9,505	525,779	1.8
VT	556	8,819	5.7	2,088	84,598	2.4
VA	3,306	76,716	4.1	26,672	1,153,530	2.3
WA	3,839	71,177	5.0	27,622	949,034	2.9
WV	1,524	20,872	7.0	7,638	221,742	3.5
WI	2,637	56,660	4.4	16,192	789,192	2.0
WY	331	5,767	6.5	1,902	77,082	2.4

Source: Calculations based on U.S. Census Bureau, 2017-2021 American Community Survey, Public Use Microdata Sample

Appendix E: Table E1

Rates for Youth and Young Adults (Ages 14 to 24) in Poverty for the U.S. and States, by Disability Status: 2021

State	WITH DISABILITY			WITHOUT DISABILITY		
	Poverty	Population	Percent	Poverty	Population	Percent
US	738,945	3,243,661	22.8	7,229,475	44,323,355	16.3
AL	14,868	51,399	28.9	128,898	670,127	19.2
AK	1,206	6,708	18.0	13,258	100,280	13.2
AZ	16,328	74,256	22.0	171,352	972,076	17.6
AR	9,827	38,131	25.8	77,540	402,893	19.2
CA	59,589	308,062	19.3	878,852	5,441,627	16.2
CO	10,835	50,904	21.3	113,437	770,754	14.7
CT	6,534	35,514	18.4	56,709	495,124	11.5
DE	1,318	8,677	15.2	18,038	124,255	14.5
DC	1,897	7,159	26.5	18,031	84,173	21.4
FL	39,060	174,575	22.4	417,888	2,546,402	16.4
GA	26,467	105,344	25.1	255,027	1,510,233	16.9
HI	1,376	7,830	17.6	20,121	178,370	11.3
ID	5,844	23,767	24.6	42,337	253,012	16.7
IL	24,979	111,930	22.3	269,976	1,739,565	15.5
IN	19,029	78,985	24.1	159,046	949,010	16.8
IA	7,468	32,973	22.6	75,397	456,296	16.5
KS	9,594	38,402	25.0	72,982	422,408	17.3
KY	18,045	59,184	30.5	113,302	592,547	19.1
LA	15,064	53,771	28.0	144,489	616,902	23.4
ME	4,020	20,854	19.3	19,749	148,814	13.3
MD	10,129	59,215	17.1	88,282	792,167	11.1
MA	12,432	71,393	17.4	115,570	964,023	12.0
MI	29,470	112,884	26.1	242,671	1,360,775	17.8
MN	10,086	58,039	17.4	100,593	737,615	13.6

State	WITH DISABILITY			WITHOUT DISABILITY		
	Poverty	Population	Percent	Poverty	Population	Percent
MS	10,248	34,881	29.4	99,615	421,133	23.7
MO	15,487	64,448	24.0	137,149	816,998	16.8
MT	3,487	11,840	29.5	26,216	141,054	18.6
NE	4,426	20,610	21.5	42,855	279,534	15.3
NV	5,119	24,388	21.0	62,373	384,731	16.2
NH	2,665	15,463	17.2	14,345	174,798	8.2
NJ	11,619	71,254	16.3	134,171	1,192,142	11.3
NM	8,047	24,625	32.7	64,717	286,157	22.6
NY	42,091	171,772	24.5	425,562	2,616,838	16.3
NC	24,911	102,185	24.4	241,277	1,417,642	17.0
ND	1,301	6,766	19.2	20,794	116,930	17.8
OH	32,210	134,444	24.0	258,462	1,548,704	16.7
OK	13,547	51,039	26.5	106,859	544,061	19.6
OR	13,522	51,646	26.2	90,139	513,423	17.6
PA	32,130	144,848	22.2	243,712	1,647,894	14.8
RI	2,603	13,129	19.8	19,683	151,201	13.0
SC	10,173	47,570	21.4	121,497	672,220	18.1
SD	2,145	8,469	25.3	23,259	123,453	18.8
TN	18,958	71,457	26.5	153,606	900,472	17.1
TX	67,536	290,367	23.3	759,588	4,206,933	18.1
UT	7,199	39,141	18.4	71,204	539,752	13.2
VT	2,440	9,753	25.0	13,579	86,574	15.7
VA	14,894	80,266	18.6	160,960	1,160,804	13.9
WA	15,188	76,387	19.9	134,418	954,540	14.1
WV	6,372	21,897	29.1	47,175	220,840	21.4
WI	13,676	60,003	22.8	129,557	797,202	16.3
WY	1,486	5,057	29.4	13,158	77,877	16.9

Source: Calculations based on U.S. Census Bureau, 2017-2021 American Community Survey, Public Use Microdata Sample



www.iel.org | Fax: 202-872-4050

4301 Connecticut Ave. N.W. | Suite 100 | Washington, DC 20008

Copyright © 2023 The Institute for Educational Leadership, Inc.