About the Current Population Survey (CPS)

- The Current Population Survey (CPS) is a monthly survey of around 60,000 households.
- The CPS collects employment and unemployment data with significant demographic detail (age, sex, race, educational attainment, etc.)
- The CPS can append additional questions (supplements) that are useful for collecting information not measured elsewhere.
Portion of the population 55 years and over

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Percent of those 16 years and over</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1992</td>
<td>26.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1994</td>
<td>26.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1996</td>
<td>26.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1998</td>
<td>26.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2000</td>
<td>27.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2002</td>
<td>27.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>27.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>27.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>27.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>32.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Employment rates decline after age 55

Disability rates increase with age

![Bar chart showing disability rates by age group for 2011.](chart)

- 16 to 24 years: 3.4%
- 25 to 54 years: 6.5%
- 55 to 64 years: 15.3%
- 65 years and over: 31.0%

A greater portion of those with disabilities are age 65 and over.

Labor force participation rates by age and disability status, 2011

Labor force participation rates have remained low for people with disabilities.

**No disability**
- June 2008: 72.6%
- November 2008: 72.6%
- April 2009: 72.6%
- September 2009: 72.6%
- February 2010: 72.6%
- July 2010: 72.6%
- December 2010: 72.6%
- May 2011: 72.6%
- October 2011: 72.6%
- March 2012: 72.6%
- August 2012: 72.6%

**With a disability**
- June 2008: 21.7%
- November 2008: 21.7%
- April 2009: 21.7%
- September 2009: 21.7%
- February 2010: 21.7%
- July 2010: 21.7%
- December 2010: 21.7%
- May 2011: 21.7%
- October 2011: 21.7%
- March 2012: 21.7%
- August 2012: 21.7%

The unemployment rate has remained relatively high for people with disabilities.
People with disabilities are less likely to be in the labor force

Portion of those not in the labor force who want a job

**2011**

- Total, 16 and over:
  - With a disability: 3.1%
  - No disability: 9.0%
- 16 to 64 years:
  - With a disability: 4.7%
  - No disability: 12.1%
- 65 years and over:
  - With a disability: 1.6%
  - No disability: 2.6%

Labor force participation rates by educational attainment

Percent

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Level of Education</th>
<th>With a disability</th>
<th>With no disability</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Less than a high school diploma</td>
<td>10.2</td>
<td>57.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High school, no college</td>
<td>17.6</td>
<td>68.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Some college or associate degree</td>
<td>26.2</td>
<td>75.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bachelor's degree or higher</td>
<td>32.5</td>
<td>79.6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Percent distribution by educational attainment and disability status, 25 years and older

With a disability

Bachelor's degree or higher: 15.6%
Some college or associate degree: 24.2%
High School, no college: 36.8%
Less than a HS diploma: 23.3%

No disability

Bachelor's degree or higher: 32.6%
Some college or associate degree: 26.7%
High School, no college: 29.8%
Less than a HS diploma: 10.9%

2011

Percent distribution by occupation and disability status, 2011

With no disability  With a disability

Management
Professional
Service
Sales and office
Natural resources and construction
Production

Percent

Employed persons by class of worker and disability status

**Private wage and salary**
- With a disability: 73%
- With no disability: 79%

**Government**
- With a disability: 16%
- With no disability: 15%

**Self employed (unincorporated)**
- With a disability: 12%
- With no disability: 7%

Employed persons with a disability are more likely to work part time

Employed persons who usually work part time but want to work full time

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percent of employed</th>
<th>With a disability</th>
<th>With no disability</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6.3</td>
<td>4.9</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

CPS supplements follow the regular CPS questions and can draw upon the responses to the earlier questions.

The large portion of those with a disability who were not in the labor force brought up several questions that could not be addressed using existing CPS questions.

Extensive outreach was conducted to ensure the supplement questions addressed the most pressing issues.
May 2012 CPS Supplement: Employment-related questions

- Learn more about the low labor force participation rates for people with disabilities
- Learn more about the work history of people with disabilities
- Commuting methods used by those with and without disabilities
- Flexibility in work hours and location
May 2012 CPS Supplement: Assistance-related questions

- Use of employment assistance programs by people with disabilities
- Barriers to employment experienced by people with disabilities
- Workplace accommodations that assist people with disabilities
- Types of financial assistance programs that assist those with disabilities and their effect on the likelihood of working
Contact Information

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