Disability Statistics from the U.S. Census Bureau in 2017/2018

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This presentation is released to inform interested parties of ongoing research and to encourage discussion of work in progress. The views expressed are those of the author and not necessarily those of the U.S. Census Bureau.
Overview

Surveys

- American Community Survey (ACS)
- American Housing Survey (AHS)
  - Sponsor: Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)
- Survey of Income and Program Participation (SIPP)
- Social Security Administration Supplement to the 2014 SIPP (SSA)
- Current Population Survey (CPS)
  - Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS)

Research

- Health Conditions and the Core Disability Question Set
American Community Survey (ACS): Six Disability Questions

17. a. Is this person deaf or does he/she have serious difficulty hearing?
   - [ ] Yes
   - [ ] No

   b. Is this person blind or does he/she have serious difficulty seeing even when wearing glasses?
   - [ ] Yes
   - [ ] No

18. a. Because of a physical, mental, or emotional condition, does this person have serious difficulty concentrating, remembering, or making decisions?
   - [ ] Yes
   - [ ] No

   b. Does this person have serious difficulty walking or climbing stairs?
   - [ ] Yes
   - [ ] No

   c. Does this person have difficulty dressing or bathing?
   - [ ] Yes
   - [ ] No

Answer question 18a – c if this person is 5 years old or over. Otherwise, SKIP to the questions for Person 2 on page 12.

19. 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?
   - [ ] Yes
   - [ ] No

Answer question 19 if this person is 15 years old or over. Otherwise, SKIP to the questions for Person 2 on page 12.
American Community Survey (ACS)

1-Year Data:
Produces estimates for areas with a population of 65,000+

1-Year Supplemental Estimates:
Provides selected estimates for areas with a population of 20,000+

5-Year Data:
All counties, places, and census tracts
### Recent Releases in American FactFinder (AFF):

- **2016 1-year estimates** (Sept. 2017)
- **2016 Supplemental Estimates** (Oct. 2017)
- **2012-2016 5-year estimates** (Dec. 2017)
How Common Are Specific Disabilities by Age?

Percentage of civilian noninstitutionalized population

With a HEARING difficulty

With a VISION difficulty

With an AMBULATORY difficulty

With a COGNITIVE difficulty

With an INDEPENDENT LIVING difficulty

With a SELF-CARE difficulty

Source: 2013 American Community Survey
www.census.gov/programs-surveys/acs/
American Housing Survey (AHS)

Statistics from the 2015 American Housing Survey

- Conducted every 2 years
- Summary National Statistics, plus selected Metropolitan Areas
- Available through the AHS Table Creator
- Statistics on Disability Status alongside a variety of Household Characteristics, such as:
  - Recent home improvements
  - Neighborhood characteristics
  - Housing quality measures
Aging-Accessible Homes

How many of the 21.5 million homes with an adult age 65 and over have accessible features?

Kitchen features
- Wheelchair-accessible countertops 66%
- Wheelchair-accessible cabinets 29%

Bedroom feature
- Both a bedroom and bathroom on the first floor 66%

Bathroom features
- Handrails and grab bars 39%
- Built-in shower seat 15%
- Elevated toilet 14%

Access features
- Extra-wide doorways and hallways 12%
- Step-free entryway 47%
- Access ramps 2%

1 in 3 adults age 65 and over have trouble using some feature of their home.

Older adults with a disability (Ages 65 and over)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Difficulty</th>
<th>Women</th>
<th>Men</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bathing or dressing</td>
<td>1.9%</td>
<td>7.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Walking</td>
<td>2.6%</td>
<td>1.9%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Disabled older adults without accessibility features in their homes (Ages 65 and over)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Difficulty using the bathroom</th>
<th>Older adults with difficulty using the bathroom</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Live in a home without accessible bathroom features</td>
<td>79%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Live in a home with accessible bathroom features</td>
<td>21%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Older adults with difficulty walking or climbing stairs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Live in a home without bedroom and bathroom on first floor | 26.6%
| Live in a home with bedroom and bathroom on first floor | 74% |

Sources: U.S. Census Bureau
American Community Survey 2018-2020
National Institute on Aging (NIH)
Survey of Income and Program Participation (SIPP) 2014 Panel

- Redesigned SIPP Survey
- Administered once a year
- Contains questions on:
  - health status, medical utilization, adult and child well-being, and many other topics
- Wave 1 was collected in 2014 and wave 4 was collected in 2017
- An online code book allows for interactive variable look-up
Survey of Income and Program Participation (SIPP) 2014 Panel

- Disability questions asked each year
  - 6 ACS questions
  - Additional questions
    - Developmental delays (age <5)
    - Difficulty playing with other children and limitations with school work (age 5-14)
    - Employment difficulties (age 15+)
- The 2014 panel will allow for longitudinal analyses of disability along with other topics (such as outcomes of wellbeing)
SIPP Social Security Administration (SSA) Supplement

- Social Security Administration Sponsored
- Includes:
  - Personal retirement account contributions and withdrawals
  - Pensions and retirement plan participation
  - Marital history
  - Disability

- Collected in 2014
SSA Supplement: Disability

- Has an extensive disability section that includes:
  - Work disability history
  - Adult and child functional limitations
  - Limitations in Activities of Daily Living (ADL)/Instrumental Activities of Daily Living (IADL)
  - Mental conditions and symptoms
  - Health conditions

- Can be merged with the 2014 SIPP panel to measure disability across time
Research: Health Conditions and the Core Disability Question Set

- Core set of six disability questions has become a standard across surveys - used both nationally and locally to inform policy

- Important to understand who is captured by these estimates, in terms of disability type, health conditions, and demographic composition
Prevalence of Disability Types across Age Groups, Among People with a Core Disability

Cognitive difficulty is present for 4/5th of people age 18-24 with disability

Ambulatory difficulty increases with age, between ages 18-64

Cognitive difficulty declines with age, then increases again after age 65-74

Source: 2008 Survey of Income and Program Participation, waves 6 and 7
Among People with **Cognitive Difficulty**: Prevalence of Select Conditions by Age Groups

- **Learning disability**
- **Mental/emotional**
- **Intellectual disability**
- **Senility/Dementia**

Source: 2008 Survey of Income and Program Participation, waves 6 and 7

- Learning Disability is one of the most reported conditions among age 18-24*.
- Mental/Emotional problems are common for those under age 65.

*Not significantly different from Mental/Emotional Condition
Online Resources

Disability Webpage at Census.gov
https://www.census.gov/topics/health/disability.html

American Community Survey (ACS) Statistics
- American FactFinder (AFF)
  http://factfinder2.census.gov/
- Data at Census.gov
  https://data.census.gov/
- My Congressional District
  https://www.census.gov/mycd/

American Housing Survey (AHS) Statistics
- 2016 Statistics for Selected Metropolitan Areas

Survey of Income and Program Participation (SIPP)
- 2014 Wave 1 Data
  https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/sipp/data/2014-panel/wave-1.html

SSA Supplement
- 2014 Data
  https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/sipp/data/2014-panel/ssa.html
Online Resources (Cont.)

Infographics

- How Common Are Specific Disabilities by Age?
- Aging Accessible Homes

Research

- Health Conditions and the Core Disability Question Set
Thank You

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