



Poverty & Disability: By The Numbers (2011)



Nationally

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, 12.1 percent of the U.S. population reported having at least one disability. The 2011 median household income was \$59,411 with 15.0 percent of citizens, representing 46.2 million people, living in poverty. Among households that include someone with a disability, median income dropped by more than half, to \$25,420, and the poverty rate was nearly twice, 28.8 percent.

As reflected by data, nationwide poverty levels for 2011, by numbers of residents per household were:

- 1 person household - \$11,702
- 2 people household - \$14,657
- 3 people household - \$17,916
- 4 people household - \$23,021

Children under the age of 18 fared worse than adults, with 22.5 percent living in poverty. The national unemployment rate was 8.9 percent in 2011.

In Arizona

Poverty Rates

Arizona posted its highest poverty rate in history in 2011, at 19 percent, four percentage points higher than the national average, with 27.2 percent of children 18 and younger living in poverty. The median household income, \$46,709, is nearly \$13,000 below the national average, and the unemployment rate is higher, at 9.4 percent.



Disability Rates

732,730 (11.5 percent) of Arizonans reported having at least one disability, slightly lower than the national average of 12.1 percent. Nearly one in ten (9.8 percent) are between the ages of 18-64. Among working age adults with and without disabilities in Arizona, disparities are significant.

Economic Characteristics of Workers with and without Disabilities, 2011

	With Disability	No Disability	Difference
Employment Rate	20.3%	59.9%	↓ 39.6%
Not in Labor Force	74.4%	33.1%	↑ 41.3%
Median Earnings	\$19,073	\$28,725	↓ \$9,652
Poverty Rate	20.6%	15.8%	↑ 4.8%

Source: American Community Survey, 3 year estimates, 2009-2011. S1811: Selected Economic Characteristics for the Civilian Noninstitutionalized Population by Disability Status.