



POVERTY & DISABILITY: BY THE NUMBERS (2017)

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National Poverty

According to the 2016 U.S. Census, 44.3 million people in the United States (14 percent) were living in poverty, and 12.8 percent of the population reported having at least one disability. The median U.S. household income in 2016 was \$57,617. However, among households that included someone with a disability, the median income was more than 25 percent lower - \$41,600. The federal poverty guidelines have increased slightly between 2015 and 2017, but still remain low:

Household Size	2015	2016	2017
1-person household	\$11,770	\$11,880	\$12,060
2-people household	\$15,930	\$16,020	\$16,240
3-people household	\$20,090	\$20,160	\$20,160
4-people household	\$24,250	\$24,300	\$24,300

The following table indicates that workers with a disability are more likely to be living in poverty than individuals that do not have a disability.

Economic Characteristics of Workers with and without Disabilities Nationwide, 2016

	With Disability	No Disability	Difference
Employment Rate	21.1%	62.9%	41.8%
Not in Labor Force	75.6%	33.1%	42.5%
Annual Earnings	\$40,100	\$45,100	\$5,000
Poverty Rate	19.1%	14%	5.1%

Comparing working-age adults with and without disabilities, disparities are significant. As of 2015, 75.6 percent of individuals with a disability are disconnected from the labor force entirely. Of those who are in the labor force, only 21.1 percent are employed full-time. However, even when employed full-time, individuals with a disability make 10 percent less than individuals without a disability, a difference in annual earnings of \$5,000 in 2015.

Poverty in Arizona

In 2016, the poverty rate in Arizona was 2.4 percentage points higher than the national average; 16.4 percent of Arizona households were living in poverty. In addition, the median income among Arizona households, \$53,558, was \$4,059 below the national average, and more than one in five of families with children 18 and younger (21percent) were living in poverty.

A growing percentage, 13.1 percent, or 887,203 Arizonans, reported having at least one disability in 2016. One in ten (10.7 percent) are between the ages of 18-64. Comparing working age adults with and without disabilities at the state level, disparities remain significant. As of 2015, the majority (59.5 percent) of individuals with a disability are disconnected from the labor force entirely. Of those who are in the labor force, only 35.1 percent are employed full-time. However, even when employed full-time, individuals with a disability make 10 percent less than individuals without a disability, a difference in annual earnings of \$4,400 in Arizona in 2015.

Economic Characteristics of Workers with and without Disabilities in Arizona, 2016

	With Disability	No Disability	Difference
Employment Rate	35.1%	55.3%	20.2%
Not in Labor Force	59.5%	40.6%	18.9%
Annual Earnings	\$40,400	\$36,000	\$4,400
Poverty Rate	20.4%	16.4%	4%

Source: American Community Survey. 1-year estimates. 2016. S1701: Poverty Status in the past 12 months

Source: American Community Survey. 1-year estimates. 2016. DP02: Select Social Characteristics in the United States

Source: American Community Survey. 1-year estimates. 2016. DP03: Selected Economic Characteristics

Source: American Community Survey, 1-year estimates, 2016. S1811: Selected Economic Characteristics for the Civilian Noninstitutionalized Population by Disability Status.

Source: American Community Survey. 1-year estimates. 2016. S0201: Selected Population Profile in the United States

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