

The 2021 Youth Transition Report:
**Outcomes for Youth
and Young Adults
with Disabilities**

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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 adequately support, to highlight the needs of this transition age population. This information can support practitioners, policymakers, and researchers to better understand and serve this population. The authors wish to thank Helen Janc Malone for her quality reviews of the report drafts and support for this work.

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Introduction

About the Institute for Educational Leadership (IEL)

The Institute for Educational Leadership (IEL) is a national expert in community-driven leadership development in the intersecting areas of education, employment, and health. The common thread in our work is supporting community and institutional leaders as they build systems around racial, disability inclusion, and economic equity goals. Since 1964, our journey and experiences have resulted in approaches, tools, and practices that reflect the needs of leaders no matter where they sit in communities. The authentic relationships that we build in the process shape the way we engage community leaders, do our work, and provide the foundation for deeper impact as we continue to address systemic challenges in the 400 plus communities that trust us as partners.

Purpose of This Report

The 2021 Youth Transition Report underscores the persistent and pernicious gap between youth and young adults with disabilities and those without disabilities on measures of 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 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 those opportunity youth whom the education and workforce systems have not adequately served and supported. This report consists of the status of the selected population, education, employment, opportunity youth, and poverty indicators. IEL has also produced a supplemental Change Analysis report that can be found on our website: <https://iel.org/iel-youth-transition-reports-outcomes-for-youth-and-young-adults-with-disabilities/>.

Methods

Key population, education, employment, and opportunity youth indicators are derived from the Public Use Microdata Sample (PUMS) population file (2015-2019 ACS 5-year estimates). IEL conducted a custom analysis of youth and young adults at both national and state levels. Therefore, the estimates in this report may be slightly different from the estimates presented in the US Census Bureau's pre-made tables. We define youth as ages 14 to 17 years old and young adults as ages 18 to 24 years old. This report explores 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 report also includes calculated data from the National Center for Education Statistics. The structure of the 2021 Youth Transition Report is similar to previous reports. In addition, we created a separate Change Analysis report that looks at the 3-year trends in state youth disability rates, high school achievement, college enrollment, and employment for the 2017–2019 period for youth and young adults with disabilities.

Suggested Citation

Cheng, L., & Shaewitz, D. (2021). *The 2021 youth transition report: Outcomes for youth and young adults with disabilities*. Washington, DC: Institute for Educational Leadership

2021 Report Highlights

This report includes the analysis of key educational and employment indicators for youth and young adults with and without disabilities at both national and state levels. In cases where data is not available or applicable for the under 16 or under 18 population, we have noted the age ranges used.

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 are more than twice that of states with the lowest rates of disability. Disability prevalence for this age group ranges from a high of 10.8 percent in Maine to a low of 4.1 percent in Hawaii. The largest category of disability, which is self-reported through the U.S. Census, is cognitive difficulty (68.8 percent of youth with disabilities nationally). Cognitive difficulty is a broad category that includes youth and young adults with autism, Down Syndrome, traumatic brain injury, dementia, attention deficit disorder, specific learning disability, mental and emotional challenges.

High School Completion: Educational outcomes and attainment gaps between youth/young adults with and without disabilities vary by state. The difference in high school completion for students with disabilities vary from the highest rate of completion in Washington, DC (85.0 percent) to the lowest rate in South Dakota (65.9 percent). In addition, there remains a significant gap in high school attainment when comparing students with and without disabilities, with the widest gap at more than 21 percent. There is no state in which the high school attainment gap between students with and without disabilities is close to zero.

College Enrollment: College enrollment rates for young adults aged 18-24 with disabilities in the U.S. is 27.3 percent compared to the national average of 43.4 percent for young adults without disabilities. States vary from the highest rate of college enrollment at 39.2 percent in Rhode Island to the lowest rate of enrollment at 10.2 percent in Alaska for young adults with disabilities. The average gap for college enrollment between

young adults with and without disabilities was about 16 percent nationally; no state has closed the gap in college enrollment.

College Completion: College completion at the bachelor's degree level is another measure of success for young adults with disabilities. Academic success varies among states from the highest rate of completion in Washington, DC (15 percent) to the lowest rate of completion in Wyoming (0.6 percent). The gap between those college students with and without disabilities was 7.4 percent. The narrowest gap in bachelor's degree attainment at 1.2 percent is in Alaska, yet the state also has the lowest enrollment rate of college students with disabilities at 10.2 percent.

Employment: Nationally, youth and young adults with disabilities (ages 14–24) are about 16 percent less likely to be employed than their peers without disabilities. North Dakota has the highest employment rates for youth and young adults with disabilities at 41.5 percent compared to the lowest rates of employment in West Virginia at 19.3 percent. Of those youth and young adults with disabilities who are employed, the patterns of employment are similar, with young people most likely to be employed by a private for-profit company or business.

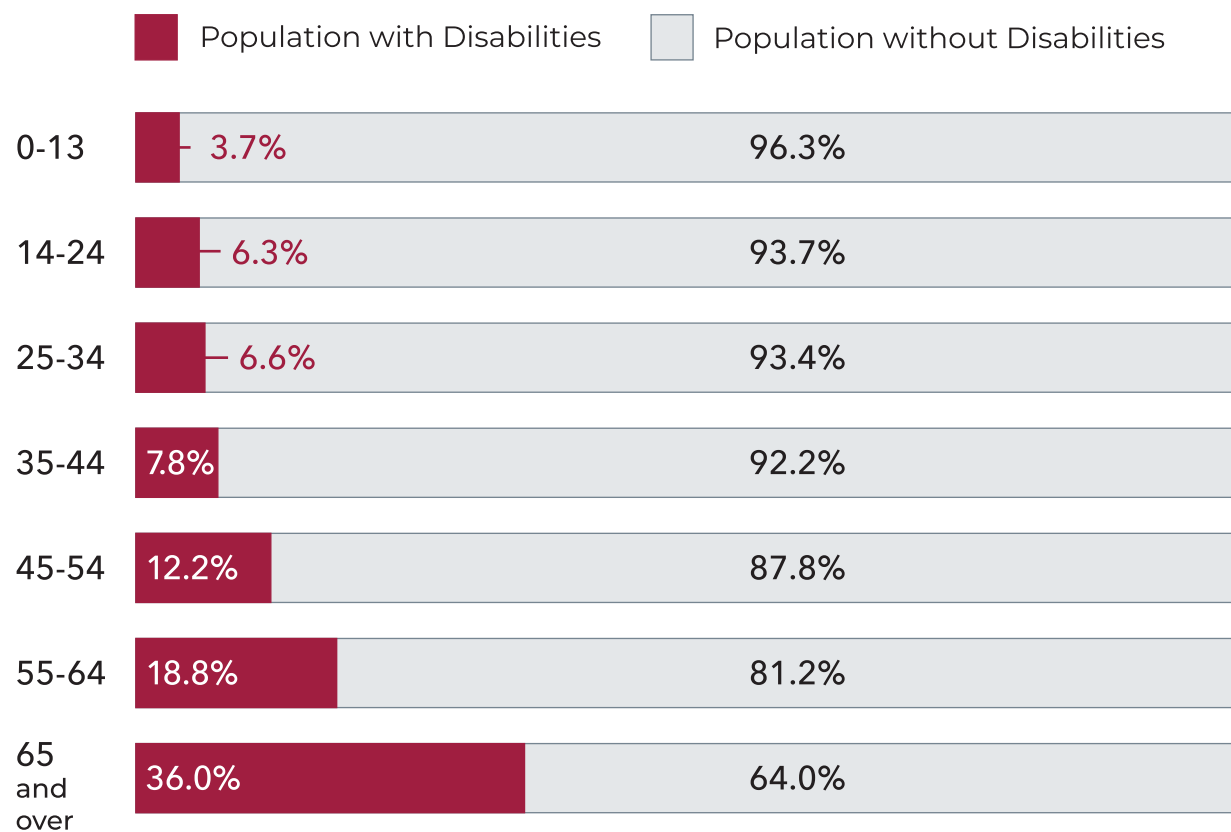
Opportunity Youth: Opportunity youth and young adults are commonly defined as those ages 14-24 who are neither in school nor employed. Our report examines the opportunity youth who are not in school and *not in the labor force*, which represents a true disconnection from systems. Opportunity youth with disabilities represent 19.7 percent of the national population compared to only 5.6 percent of opportunity youth 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 West Virginia, Kentucky, New Mexico, and Mississippi are more than 30 percent compared to a national average of 24.2 percent for youth with disabilities; those rates are also higher than the national average poverty rate for youth without disabilities at 17.8 percent.

Disability Prevalence

The rate of disability for youth and young adults ages 14-24 is 6.3 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. These data are similar to patterns of disability rates in the previous year (see [2020 Youth Transition Report](#)).

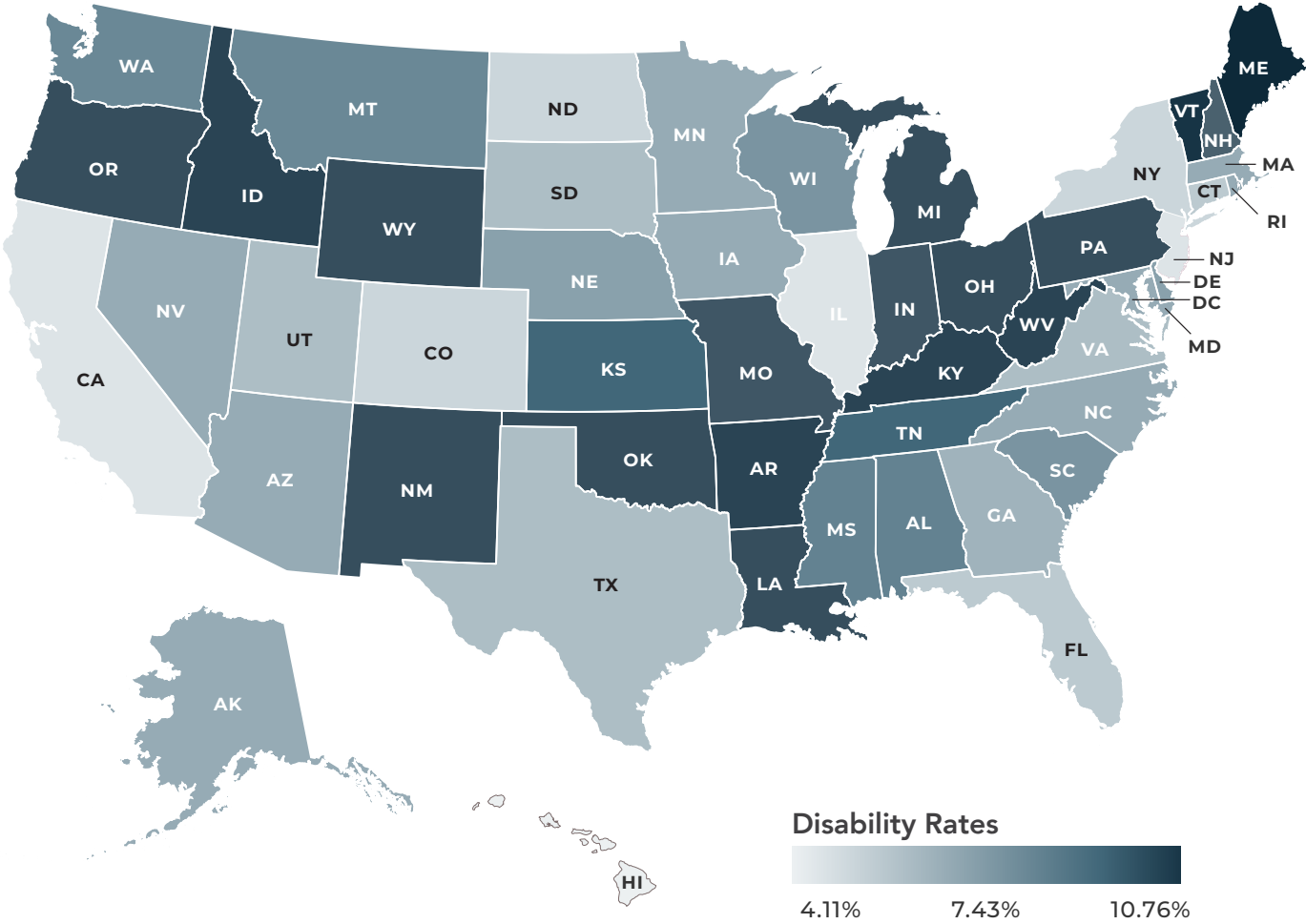
FIGURE 1. Disability Rates by Age in the U.S.: 2019



Data Source: Calculations based on U.S. Census Bureau, 2015-2019 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: 2019



For youth and young adults with disabilities, this prevalence rate ranges from 4.1 percent in Hawaii to 10.8 percent in Maine. As shown in Table 1, states with the highest rates of disability for this age group show about twice the prevalence as those states with the lowest rates of disabilities.

TABLE 1. Five Highest and Lowest Disability Rates of Youth and Young Adults (Ages 14-24) by State: 2019

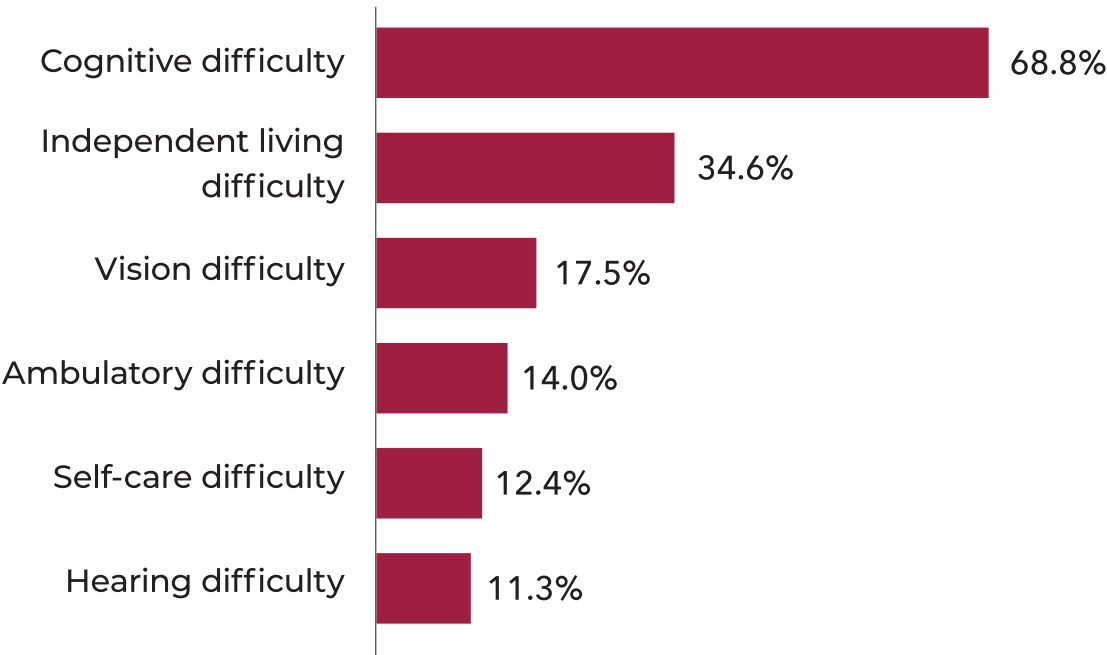
States with Highest Rates of Disability	States with Lowest Rates of Disability
1. Maine, 10.8%	1. Hawaii, 4.1%
2. Vermont, 8.8%	2. California, 5.0%
3. West Virginia, 8.7%	3. New Jersey, 5.2%
4. Idaho, 8.6%	4. Illinois, 5.3%
5. Kentucky, 8.5%	5. Colorado, 5.5%

Source: Calculations based on U.S. Census Bureau, 2015-2019 American Community Survey, Public Use Microdata Sample.

The U.S. Census defines six types of disability including self-care difficulty, hearing difficulty, vision difficulty, independent living difficulty, ambulatory difficulty, and cognitive difficulty. The highest rates of reported disability are cognitive difficulties (68.8 percent), 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, 12.4 percent have a self-care difficulty, 11.3 percent have a hearing difficulty, 17.5 percent have a vision difficulty, 34.6 percent have an independent living difficulty, 14 percent have an ambulatory difficulty, and 68.8 percent have a cognitive difficulty. Figure 3 demonstrates the types of disability among youth and young adults with disabilities.

FIGURE 3. Types of Disability among Youth and Young Adults (14-24) with Disabilities: 2019



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, 2015-2019 American Community Survey, Public Use Microdata Sample.

Education and Disability

High School Attainment

Young adults with disabilities ages 18 to 24¹ complete high school and postsecondary education at lower rates than those without disabilities. Among young adults with disabilities in the U.S. in 2019, 75.7 percent attained a high school diploma compared to 88.2 percent of their peers without disabilities. The high school attainment rate of young adults with disabilities ranges among states from a low of 65.9 percent in South Dakota to a high of 85 percent in Washington D.C. Table 2 displays the states with the five highest and five lowest rates of high school attainment for young adults with disabilities.

TABLE 2. States with Highest and Lowest Rates of High School Attainment for Young Adults (Ages 18-24) with Disabilities: 2019

States with Highest Rates of High School Diploma Attainment

1. Washington, D.C. 85.0%
2. North Dakota, 83.2%
3. Hawaii, 82.5%
4. Nebraska, 82.1%
5. Virginia, 81.9%

States with Lowest Rates of High School Diploma Attainment

1. South Dakota, 65.9%
2. Louisiana, 66.4%
3. Indiana, 69.6%
4. Georgia, 70.1%
5. Florida, 70.4%

Source: Calculations based on U.S. Census Bureau, 2015-2019 American Community Survey, Public Use Microdata Sample.

1. Since most youth (ages 14-17) may not have high school or post-secondary credential, this section focuses on young adults (ages 18-24) when addressing issues in educational attainment.

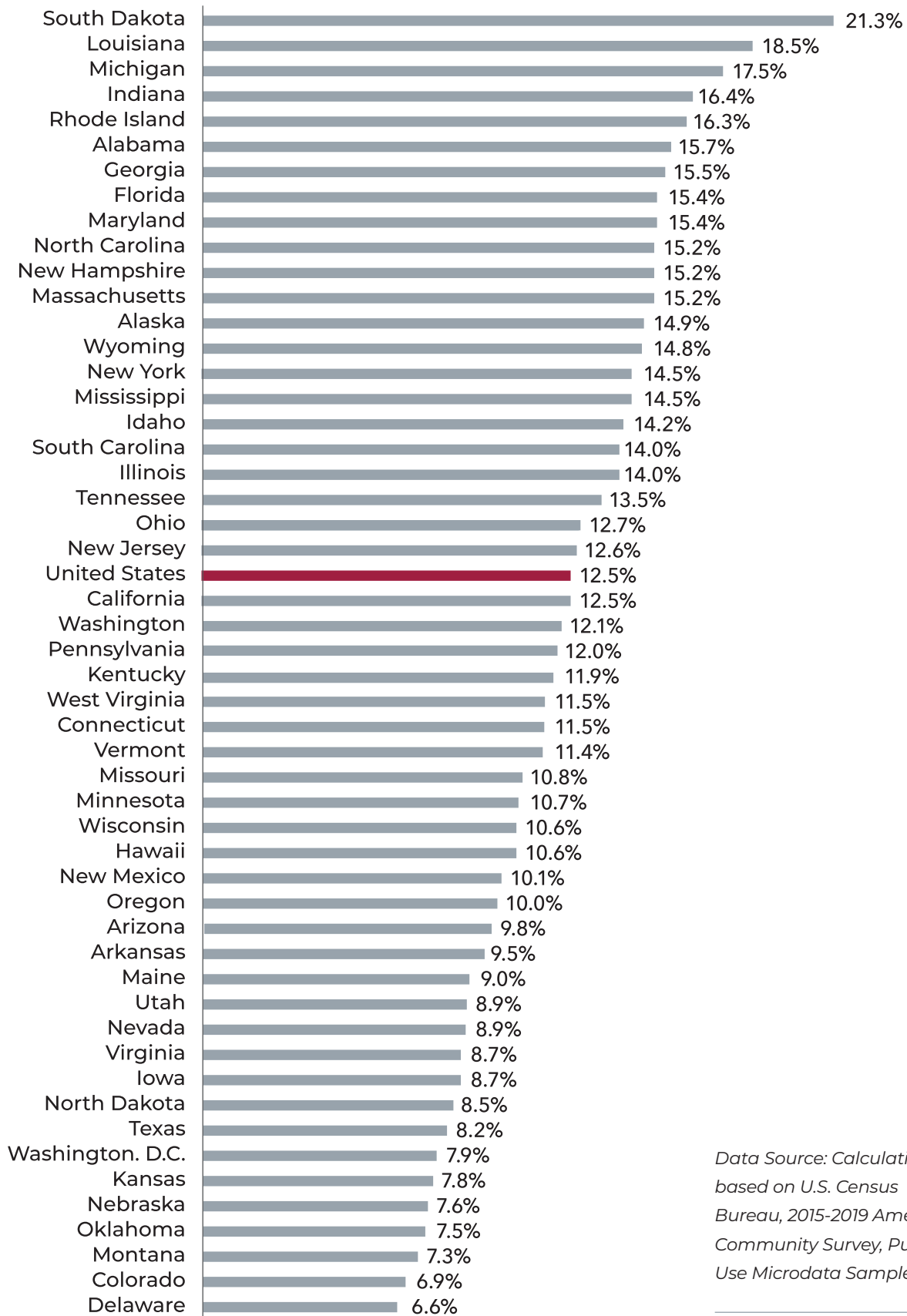
The data also show a gap in high school attainment between young adults with and without disabilities. The national difference in high school attainment was 12.5 percent² in 2019. Comparing the high school attainment for young adults with and without disabilities, we find an attainment gap that ranges from the highest gap of 21.3 percent in South Dakota to the lowest gap of 6.6 percent in Delaware (see Table B1 in Appendix B for detailed information). 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. The national dropout rate for students with disabilities was more than double the rate for students without disabilities, 12.1 and 5.0 percent³, respectively.

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 difference 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. McFarland, J., Cui, J., Holmes, J., and Ww). U.S. Department of Education. Washington, DC: National Center for Education Statistics. Retrieved [date] from <https://nces.ed.gov/pubsearch>.

FIGURE 4. High School Attainment Gap Between Young Adults (18-24) with and without Disabilities, by State: 2019



Data Source: Calculations based on U.S. Census Bureau, 2015-2019 American Community Survey, Public Use Microdata Sample.

College Enrollment and Attainment

College enrollment is an early indicator to show whether youth and young adults are moving toward postsecondary attainment. In our analysis of college data for young adults ages 18-24, we found that students with disabilities have lower rates of entry into college than those without disabilities. National college entry rates for young adults with disabilities in 2019 was 27.3 percent compared to 43.4 percent of their peers without disabilities. Table 3 shows the differences between states with the highest and lowest levels of college entry. Rhode Island shows the highest rate of college entry at 39.2 percent and Alaska shows the lowest rate of college entry at 10.2 percent (see Table B2 in Appendix B for detailed information).

TABLE 3. States with Highest and Lowest Rates of College Enrollment for Young Adults (Ages 18-24) with Disabilities: 2019

States with Highest Rates of College Enrollment

1. Rhode Island, 39.2%
2. Washington, D.C. 36.6%
3. Massachusetts, 36.2%
4. California, 35.0%
5. Connecticut, 34.2%

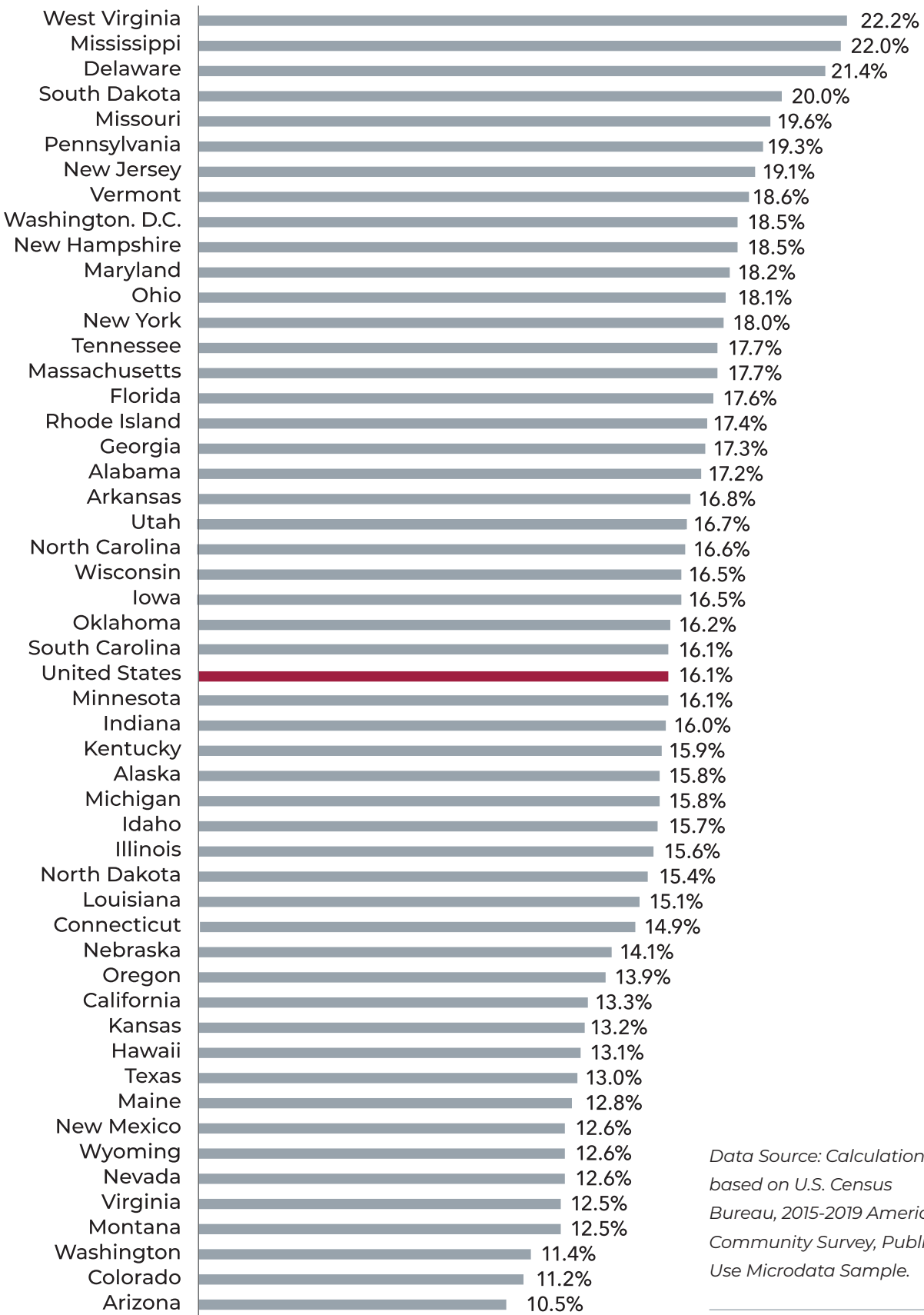
States with Lowest Rates of College Enrollment

1. Alaska, 10.2%
2. West Virginia, 18.4%
3. Nevada, 19.1%
4. Tennessee, 21.2%
5. Mississippi, 21.2%

Source: Calculations based on U.S. Census Bureau, 2015-2019 American Community Survey, Public Use Microdata Sample.

The college enrollment gap between young adults with and without disabilities was 16.1 percent in 2019. Figure 5 demonstrates the college enrollment gap between young adults with and without disabilities by state. The gap ranges from 10.5 percent in Arizona to 22.2 percent in West Virginia.

FIGURE 5. College Enrollment Gap Between Young Adults (Ages 18-24) with and without Disabilities, by State: 2019



Data Source: Calculations based on U.S. Census Bureau, 2015-2019 American Community Survey, Public Use Microdata Sample.

In addition to college enrollment, another key educational indicator for earnings and career opportunities is attaining a four-year college degree. The average national rate for college degree attainment remains low for young adults with disabilities at 4.3 percent compared to the rate of their peers without disabilities (11.7 percent). This completion rate for a bachelor’s degree ranges across states from 0.6 percent in Wyoming to 15 percent in Washington, DC. Table 4 shows the top five states with the highest rates of college completion for students with disabilities and the five states with the lowest rates of college completion (see Table B3 in Appendix B for detailed information).

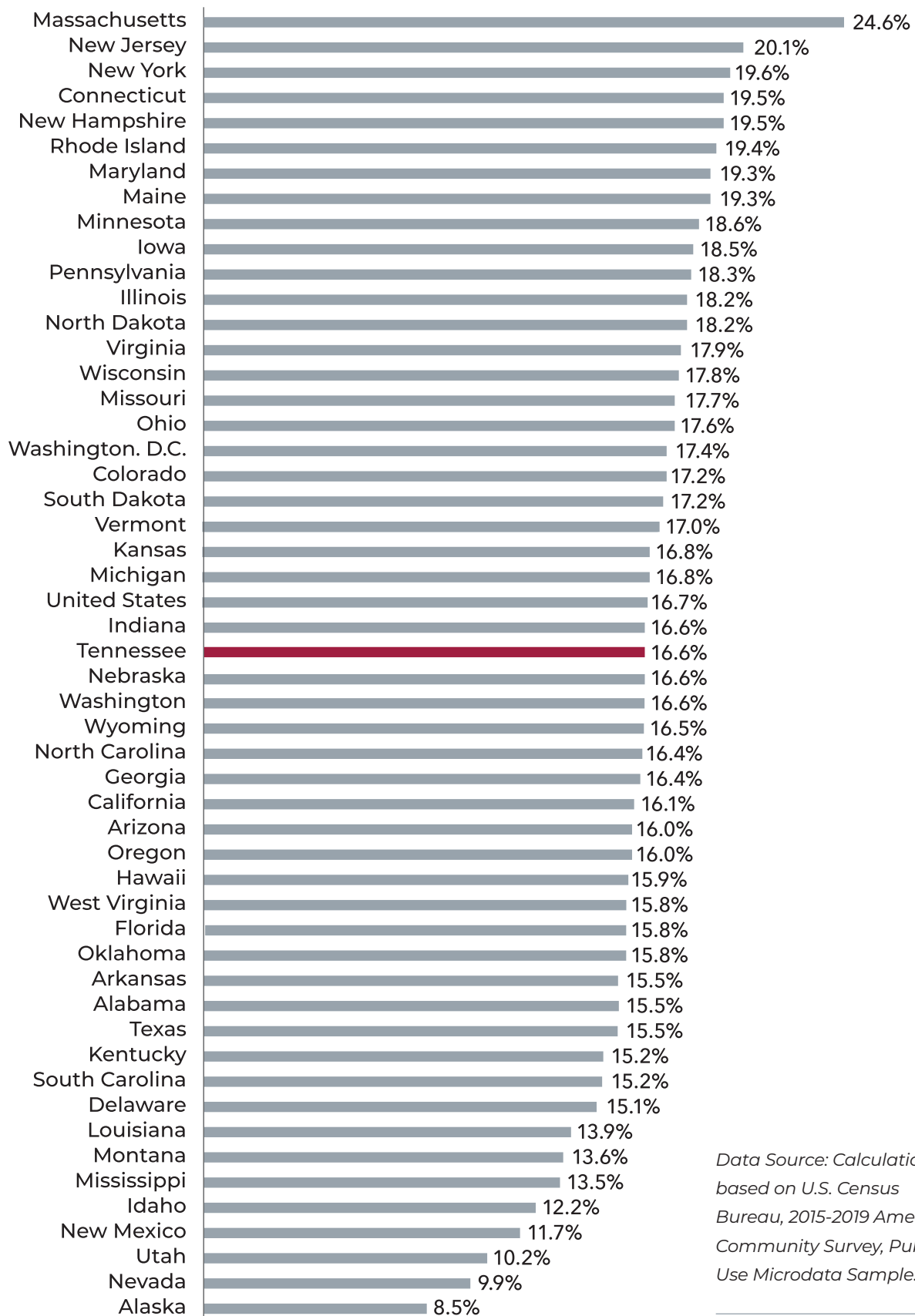
TABLE 4. States with Highest and Lowest Rates of College Degree Attainment for Young Adults (Ages 18-24) with Disabilities: 2019

States with Highest Rates of Post-Secondary Degree Attainment	States with Lowest Rates of Post-Secondary Degree Attainment
1. Washington, D.C., 15%	1. Wyoming, 0.6%
2. New York, 6%	2. Oklahoma, 2.4%
3. Illinois, 5.9%	2. New Mexico, 2.4%
4. Connecticut, 5.8%	2. Maine, 2.4%
4. Nebraska, 5.8%	5. Nevada, 2.5%

Source: Calculations based on U.S. Census Bureau, 2015-2019 American Community Survey, Public Use Microdata Sample

The college degree attainment gap between young adults with and without disabilities in the U.S. was 7.4 percent in 2019. Figure 6 demonstrates the college degree attainment gap between young adults with and without disabilities by state. Massachusetts has the largest attainment gap (13.4 percent) and Alaska has the smallest attainment gap (1.2 percent).

FIGURE 6. College Degree Attainment Gap Between Young Adults (Ages 18-24) with and without Disabilities, by State: 2019

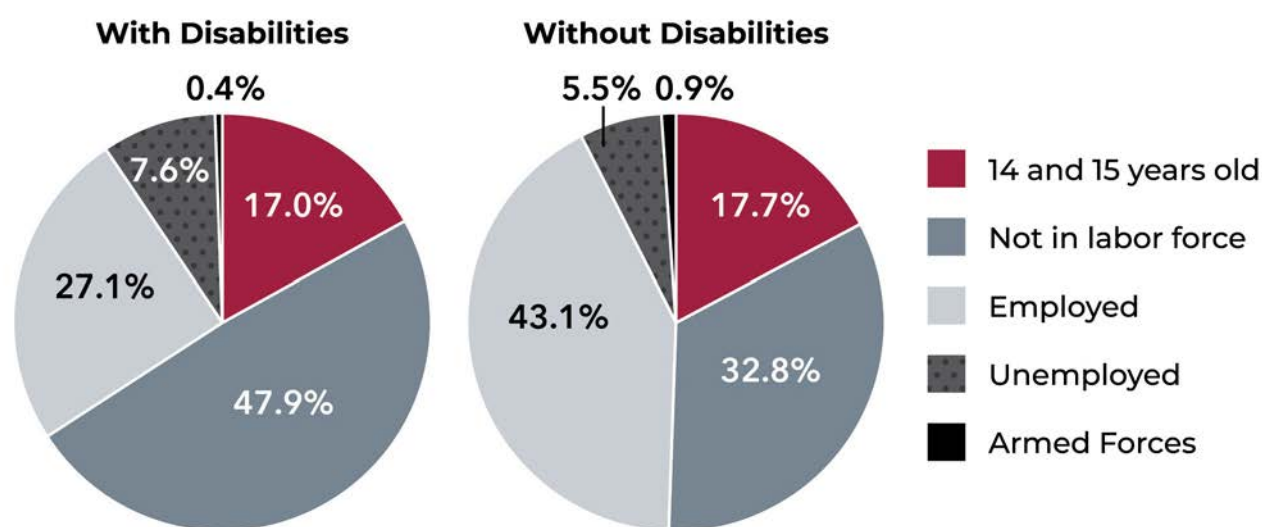


Data Source: Calculations based on U.S. Census Bureau, 2015-2019 American Community Survey, Public Use Microdata Sample.

Employment and Disability

Since 2014, federal and state policies have increased their focus on improving employment outcomes for youth and young adults with disabilities. 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. As Figure 7 shows, youth and young adults with disabilities were employed at 27.1 percent, which is less than the 43.1 percent of their peers without disabilities. Youth and young adults with disabilities were also less likely to be in the labor force (47.9 percent) and more likely to be unemployed (7.6 percent) in 2019. The employment gap between youth and young adults with and without disabilities was 16 percent. Note that in Figure 7, the employment status is shown for individuals ages 14-24; however, for youth under age 16, employment status is not captured by the U.S. Census Bureau.

FIGURE 7. Employment Status for Youth and Young Adults (Ages 14-24) with and without Disabilities, 2019



Source: Calculations based on the U.S. Census Bureau, 2015-2019 American Community Survey, Public Use Microdata Sample

Although most youth and young adults with and without disabilities are not in the workforce, for those ages 14-24 who were working in 2019, the majority were employed by a private for-profit company or business at 36.9 percent compared to 47.8 percent of their peers without disabilities. Employment other than for-profit companies and nonprofit organizations was 5.3 percent (see Table 5 for detailed information).

TABLE 5. Class of Worker for Youth and Young Adults (Ages 14-24) with and without Disabilities, 2019

Class of Worker	With Disabilities (%)	Without Disabilities (%)
Not in universe	52.1	39.7
Employee of a private for-profit company or business	36.9	47.8
Employee of a private not-for-profit	3.4	3.7
Local government employee (city, county, etc.)	1.6	2.2
State government employee	1.2	1.7
Federal government employee	0.9	1.5
Self-employed in own not incorporated business	1.0	1.2
Self-employed in own incorporated business	0.3	0.3
Working without pay in family business or farm	0.3	0.2

Note about “not in universe”: In addition to individuals who are 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, 2015-2019 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 2019 was 27.1 percent. The employment rate by state ranges from a low of 19.3 percent in West Virginia to a high of 41.5 percent in North Dakota. Table 6 displays the states with 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: 2019

States with Highest Employment Rates

- 1.** North Dakota, 41.5%
- 2.** South Dakota, 40.5%
- 3.** Minnesota, 39.8%
- 4.** Wyoming, 38.5%
- 5.** Utah, 38.2%

States with Lowest Employment Rates

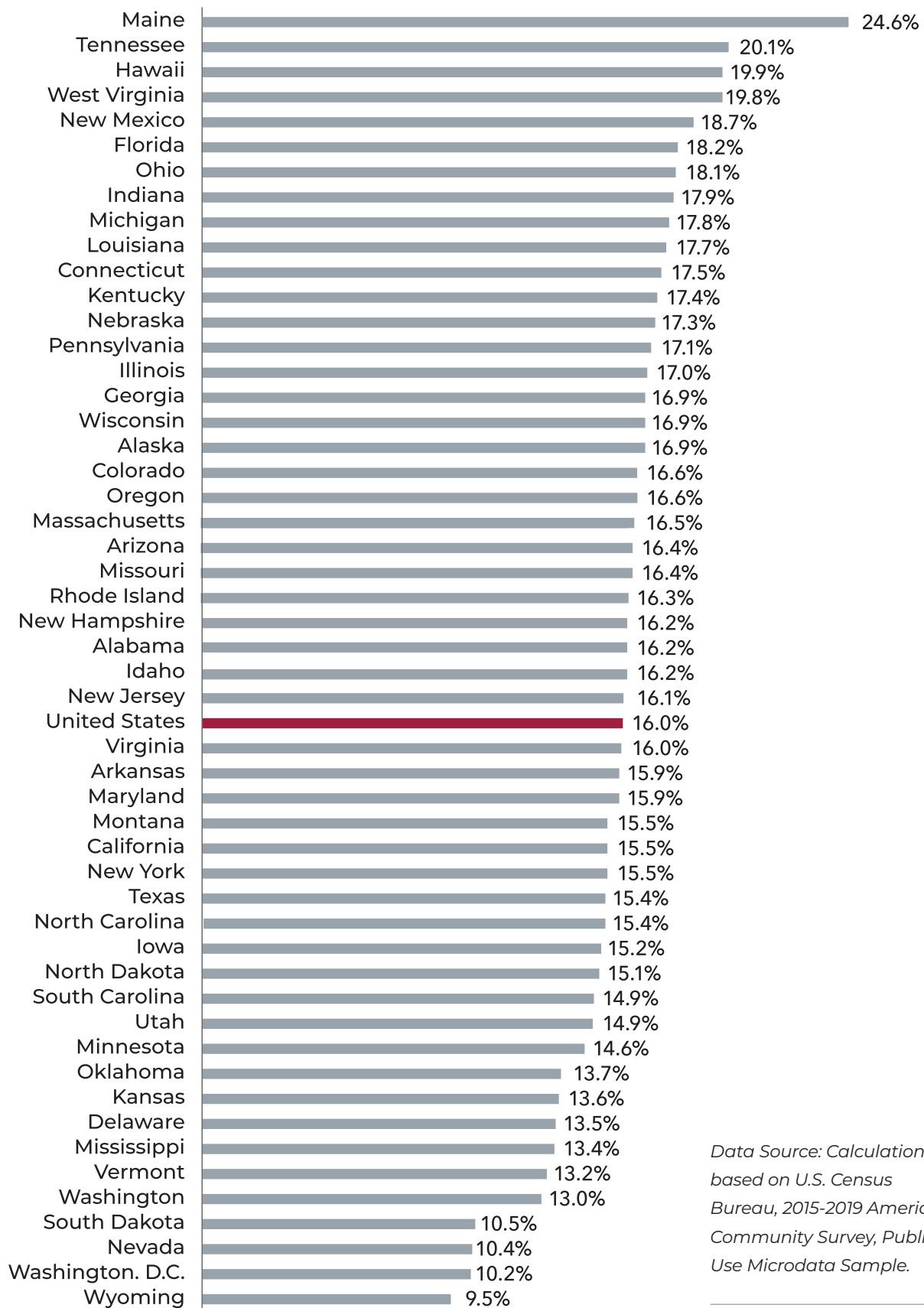
- 1.** West Virginia, 19.3%
- 2.** Mississippi, 20.8%
- 3.** Hawaii, 21.3%
- 3.** Louisiana, 21.3%
- 5.** New Mexico, 22.6%

Source: Calculations based on U.S. Census Bureau, 2015-2019 American Community Survey, Public Use Microdata Sample.

In the U.S. in 2019, the gap between the employment rates for individuals (ages 14-24) with and without disabilities was 16 percent. At the state level, the employment rate gap ranges from a low of 9.5 percent in Wyoming to a high of 24.6 percent in Maine for youth and young adults with and without disabilities. Figure 8 displays the gaps by states.

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

FIGURE 8. Employment Rate Gap Between Youth and Young Adults (Ages 14-24) with and without Disabilities, by State: 2019



Data Source: Calculations based on U.S. Census Bureau, 2015-2019 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 the current state of youth disconnection from the labor market and education system.

Opportunity Youth and Young Adults

In the U.S. in 2019, 19.7 percent of youth and young adults (ages 14-24) with disabilities were neither in school nor in the labor force, compared to 5.6 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 ranges from 11 percent in Vermont to as high as 29.2 percent in West Virginia. Table 7 displays the highest and lowest disconnected rate 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: 2019

States with Highest Rates of Opportunity Youth and Young Adults

- 1.** West Virginia, 29.2%
- 2.** Mississippi, 26.3%
- 3.** New Mexico, 25.8%
- 4.** Alabama, 24.5%
- 4.** Arkansas, 24.5%

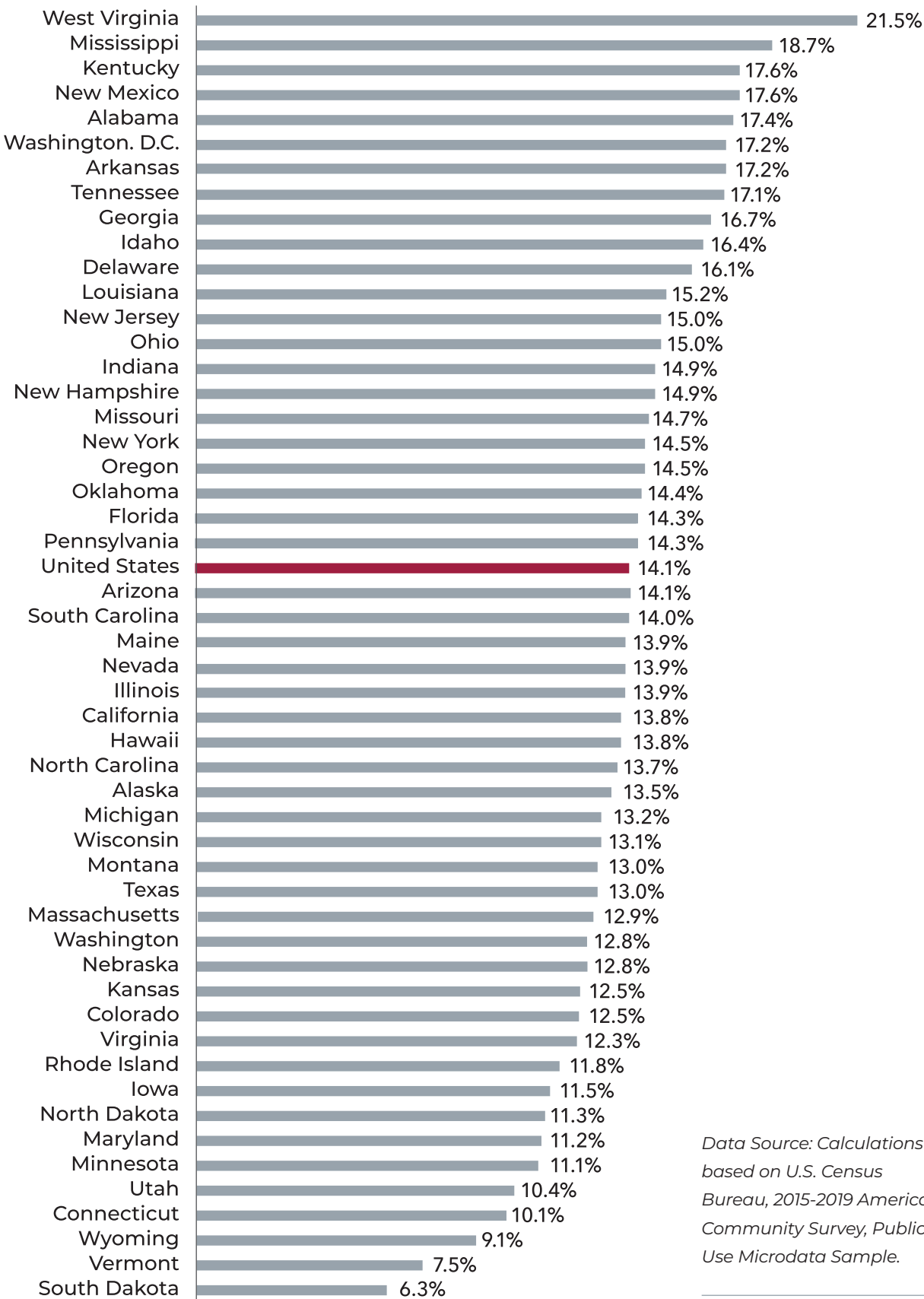
States with Lowest Rates of Opportunity Youth and Young Adults

- 1.** Vermont, 11%
- 2.** South Dakota, 11.2%
- 3.** Connecticut, 14.1%
- 3.** Minnesota, 14.1%
- 5.** Utah, 15.0%

Source: Calculations based on U.S. Census Bureau, 2015-2019 American Community Survey, Public Use Microdata Sample.

In a comparison between the opportunity youth and young adults with and without disabilities in 2019, the national gap is 14.1 percent. At the state level, the gap ranges from 6.3 percent in South Dakota to 21.5 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: 2019



Data Source: Calculations based on U.S. Census Bureau, 2015-2019 American Community Survey, Public Use Microdata Sample.

Poverty and Disability

As with the education and employment outcomes, the data on poverty by household underscore disparities between youth and young adults with and without disabilities. The poverty rate for households of youth and young adults with disabilities (ages 14-24) in the U.S. in 2019 was 24.2 percent compared to 17.8 percent of their peers without disabilities. The poverty rate for youth and young adults with disabilities by state ranges from a low of 13.4 percent in Alaska to a high of 32.3 percent in West Virginia. Table 8 displays the states with highest and lowest rates of poverty for youth and young adults with disabilities (see Table E1 in Appendix D for detailed information).

TABLE 8. States with Highest and Lowest Rates of Poverty for Youth and Young Adults (ages 14-24) with Disabilities: 2019

States with Highest Rates of Poverty for Youth and Young Adults

1. West Virginia, 32.3%
2. Kentucky, 31.9%
3. New Mexico, 31.8%
4. Mississippi 30.5%
5. Alabama, 29.5%

States with Lowest Rates of Poverty for Youth and Young Adults

1. Alaska, 13.4%
2. New Jersey, 16.6%
3. Maryland, 17.2%
4. Utah, 18.5%
5. Massachusetts, 19.1%

Source: Calculations based on U.S. Census Bureau, 2015-2019 American Community Survey, Public Use Microdata Sample.

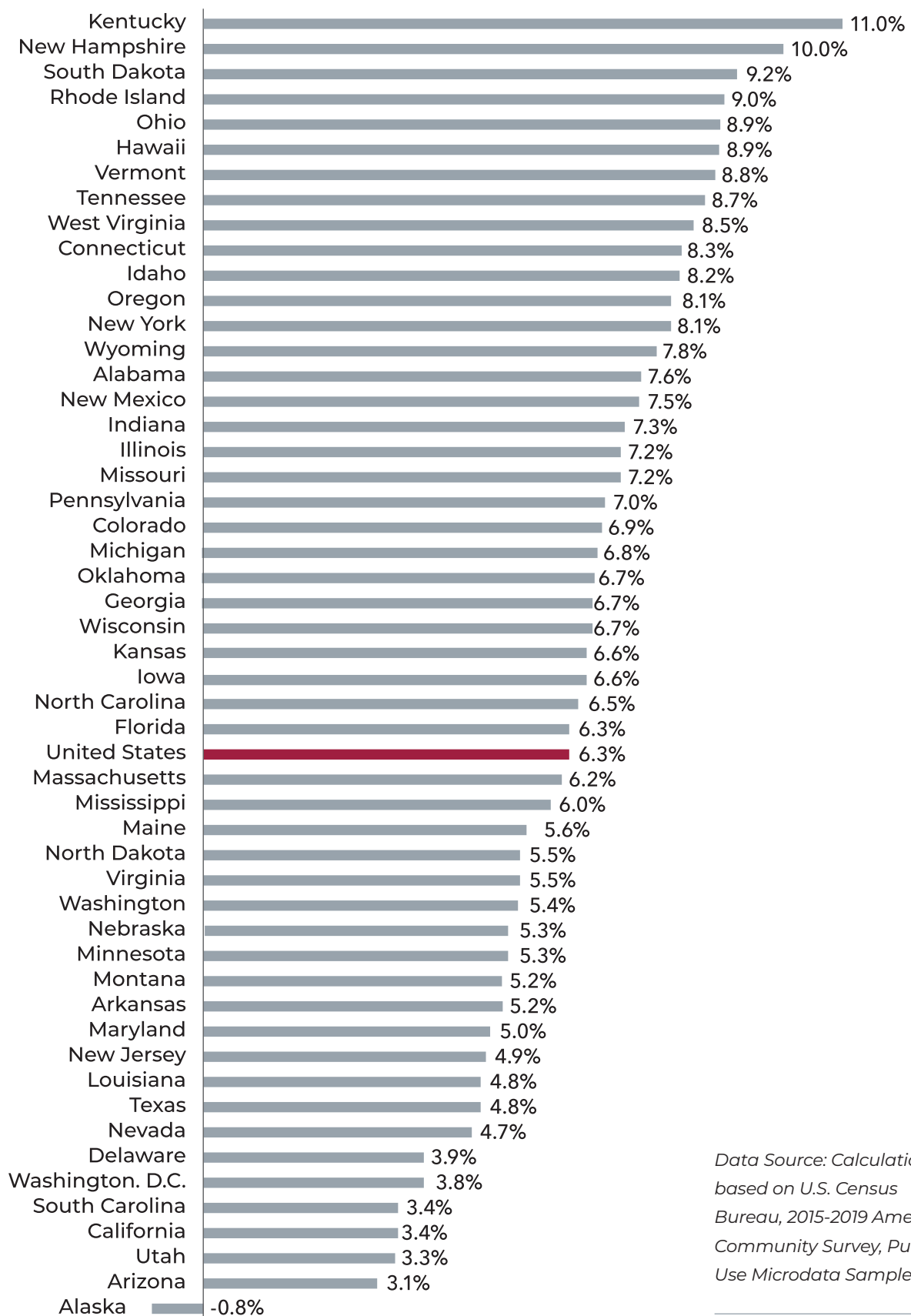
In the U.S. in 2019, the gap in poverty rates between households of individuals (ages 14-24) with and without disabilities was 6.3 percent. At the state level, the poverty rate gap ranges from a reverse gap of -0.8 percent in Alaska to a high of 11 percent in Kentucky. Figure 10 displays the gaps by states. In Alaska, the poverty rate gap between

households of youth with and without disabilities (-0.8 percent) indicates that individuals without disabilities have slightly higher poverty rate than their peers with disabilities.

Meanwhile, when compare the poverty gap ranking to the disability population ranking, we discovered that states with higher rates of youth and young adults with disabilities might have larger poverty gaps between households of youth with disabilities and their peers without disabilities⁵. For instance, Kentucky had a high rate of poverty in households of youth and young adults with disabilities (8.5%) and the poverty gap (11%) was the highest among all states. This might indicate that states with higher rates in disabilities will need additional support and resources to address poverty issues statewide.

5. Pearson's Correlation was applied to test if the disability rates of youth and young adults with disabilities correlate with the poverty gaps between youth with and without disabilities. The Pearson correlation coefficient, r , is .03110, which indicates a moderate correlation. The level of statistical significance (p-value) of the correlation coefficient in this test is .0264, which means the correlation is statistically significant of .05 level.

FIGURE 10. Poverty Gap for Youth and Young Adults (Ages 14-24) with and without Disabilities, by State: 2019



Data Source: Calculations based on U.S. Census Bureau, 2015-2019 American Community Survey, Public Use Microdata Sample.

Discussion

In the third annual Youth Transition Report, data continue to show a significant gap between youth and young adults (ages 14-24) with and without disabilities. Among all youth and young adults, 6.3 percent have disabilities. They are less likely than their peers without disabilities to complete high school, enter and complete college, enter the workforce, and attain financial success. Patterns of youth and young adults with disabilities that are unemployed or not in the labor force mirror those for working age adults with disabilities (ages 25-64) and point to the need for a greater focus on transition age youth to prepare them for career success and civic engagement.

A clear line can be drawn from low educational outcomes to low employment outcomes, including low wages and disengagement from the workforce. What begins as a 12.5 percent gap in high school attainment between youth with and without disabilities results in a poverty rate among people with disabilities that is more than twice the rate of those without disabilities⁶. States with larger disability populations require more resources dedicated to supporting financial independence for their residents.

The COVID-19 pandemic in 2020-2021 impacted students with disabilities by changing the way they engage in school and challenging their support systems, particularly those students who lack access to technology, broadband, and digital skills. Employment also fell for people with and without disabilities. In some cases, people with disabilities found that the new flexibility in working from home benefited them, while others lost jobs and wages. During this pandemic recovery period, our nation faces a recession, massive changes in the workforce, and significant social change. History has shown that while people with disabilities eventually recover jobs,

6. National Council on Disability. (2017). National Disability Policy: A Progress Report. NCD: Washington, DC.

outcomes remain low and the gap between those with and without disabilities remains disheartening.

These continued gaps between young people with and without disabilities result from inequities in the education and workforce systems. In 2019, NCLD reported that only 17 percent of general education teachers felt highly prepared to teach children with learning disabilities, even though more than 63 percent of students with disabilities were in general education classrooms more than 80 percent of the time⁷. All educators and leaders from the K-12, college, and career pathways systems must be prepared to engage and include learners with disabilities. Systemic change is needed to achieve this shared national goal. That includes policies that fully fund the implementation of the Individuals with Disabilities Act (IDEA), increased training for all teachers, inclusion practices embedded into preparation of youth service providers, and supports for youth in out-of-school and recreational programming.

Despite national debates about the value of a postsecondary education, the data are clear—a college degree, even some college, will lead to higher wages⁸. Yet, colleges and universities are often unprepared to help students with disabilities to succeed⁹ by relying heavily if not solely on disability support services on campus rather than addressing disability inclusion as a campus wide equity opportunity.

In addition, disability stigma and misperceptions about workers with disabilities among employers prevents young people from finding jobs. Low employment and labor force participation outcomes

7. Horowitz, S. H., Rawe, J., & Whittaker, M. C. (2017). *The State of Learning Disabilities: Understanding the 1 in 5*. New York: National Center for Learning Disabilities.

8. Carnevale, A. P., Cheah, B., & Strohl, J. (2012, January). *Hard Times: College Majors, Unemployment, and Earnings*. Georgetown University Center on Education and the Workforce. Washington, DC: Georgetown University.

9. Hill, E., Shaewitz, D., and Queener, J. (2020.) *Higher Education's Next Great Challenge: Ensuring Full Inclusion for Students with Disabilities*. Washington, DC: Institute for Educational Leadership.

culminate in a lifetime of lost wages and lost tax benefits for state and local communities. In turn, these potential workers rely on national and state support services and social safety nets. More importantly, the national workforce loses out on the creativity and contributions of people with disabilities.

A key factor in supporting and sustaining an educated workforce inclusive of people with disabilities is the vocational rehabilitation (VR) system, a state and federally funded system that is required to focus a significant portion of its funds (15 percent) on transition age youth. During program years 2017–2020¹⁰ the national VR system served an increasing proportion of youth services with some states such as Delaware serving 11 percent more youth over this timeframe. These data do not include the growing number of students with disabilities who receive pre-employment and training services from VR agencies. Policies and funding must address the need for VR services, particularly as the country learns about the needs of newly disabled individuals with long-COVID. Unfortunately, the general public remains unaware of the services available to them through VR and other workforce services.

The Youth Transition Report highlights the value of examining data to recognize whether we are accomplishing our goals as a nation to close achievement gaps and increase opportunities for youth and young adults with disabilities. The data shine a spotlight on how well states are meeting the challenge of addressing gaps between youth and young adults with and without disabilities to examine more closely the differences that national averages may obscure. States with the lowest gaps may offer ideas on policies and practices for all states to consider; however, no state has entirely achieved full equity for youth and young adults with disabilities. Achieving equity requires engagement

10. Direct communications with US Department of Education, Rehabilitation Services Administration, on November 9, 2021.

of youth and young adults with disabilities in not only informing the challenges, but also in problem-solving, to ensure full inclusion across the country.

The United States has a history of leading disability rights movements through the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, the Americans with Disabilities Act (and Amendments Act), and the recent Workforce Investment and Opportunity Act. Some states have shown leadership through policies to improve employment outcomes for residents with disabilities. Our national, collective approach must raise awareness of disability as a natural part of the human condition and promote people with disabilities who already serve as workers, leaders, creators, and inventors.

APPENDIX A: TABLE A1

Youth and Young Adults (Ages 14 to 24) for the U.S. and States, by Disability Status: 2019

State	WITH DISABILITY		WITHOUT DISABILITY		Population (14-24)
	Estimate	Percent	Estimate	Percent	
US	2,998,859	6.3	44,426,761	93.7	47,892,486
AL	49,286	6.9	660,831	93.1	710,117
AK	6,935	6.2	104,582	93.8	111,517
AZ	67,227	6.4	984,484	93.6	1,051,711
AR	35,952	8.1	405,704	91.9	441,656
CA	290,717	5.0	5,537,341	95.0	5,828,058
CO	44,934	5.5	766,108	94.5	811,042
CT	31,435	5.9	501,540	94.1	532,975
DE	8,510	6.5	123,143	93.5	131,653
DC	6,555	6.8	89,476	93.2	96,031
FL	159,828	5.9	2,559,371	94.1	2,719,199
GA	95,464	6.0	1,494,322	94.0	1,589,786
HI	7,657	4.1	178,774	95.9	186,431
ID	22,487	8.6	239,390	91.4	261,877
IL	98,973	5.3	1,765,215	94.7	1,864,188
IN	73,402	7.2	951,896	92.8	1,025,298
IA	30,283	6.3	451,288	93.7	481,571
KS	34,195	7.5	424,341	92.5	458,536
KY	55,415	8.5	595,277	91.5	650,692
LA	52,617	7.7	626,972	92.3	679,589
ME	18,404	10.8	152,680	89.2	171,084
MD	52,612	6.2	792,335	93.8	844,947
MA	66,321	6.5	960,855	93.5	1,027,176
MI	112,925	7.6	1,379,461	92.4	1,492,386
MN	49,404	6.3	735,713	93.7	785,117
MS	31,535	6.8	429,659	93.2	461,194

State	WITH DISABILITY		WITHOUT DISABILITY		Population (14-24)
	Estimate	Percent	Estimate	Percent	
MO	63,272	7.1	826,069	92.9	889,341
MT	10,786	7.1	140,532	92.9	151,318
NE	18,897	6.5	274,073	93.5	292,970
NV	24,653	6.2	375,740	93.8	400,393
NH	13,794	7.2	176,997	92.8	190,791
NJ	64,244	5.2	1,163,119	94.8	1,227,363
NM	22,580	7.2	289,717	92.8	312,297
NY	156,796	5.7	2,613,026	94.3	2,769,822
NC	97,413	6.4	1,420,736	93.6	1,518,149
ND	6,752	5.6	114,268	94.4	121,020
OH	126,559	7.5	1,558,545	92.5	1,685,104
OK	43,830	7.3	552,547	92.7	596,377
OR	45,930	8.2	515,259	91.8	561,189
PA	134,568	7.5	1,665,751	92.5	1,800,319
RI	11,055	6.8	151,225	93.2	162,280
SC	47,537	6.6	677,542	93.4	725,079
SD	7,490	5.8	121,610	94.2	129,100
TN	67,248	7.0	895,504	93.0	962,752
TX	266,556	6.0	4,172,078	94.0	4,438,634
UT	32,601	5.9	520,335	94.1	552,936
VT	8,411	8.8	86,687	91.2	95,098
VA	73,935	6.0	1,158,603	94.0	1,232,538
WA	67,869	6.7	951,072	93.3	1,018,941
WV	21,319	8.7	223,572	91.3	244,891
WI	55,374	6.5	794,196	93.5	849,570
WY	6,317	7.6	77,200	92.4	83,517

Source: Calculations based on U.S. Census Bureau, 2015-2019 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: 2019

State	WITH DISABILITY			WITHOUT DISABILITY		
	Population	Estimate	Percent	Population	Estimate	Percent
US	1,964,891	1,486,903	75.7	28,691,816	25,307,538	88.2
AL	33,926	24,373	71.8	423,808	371,072	87.6
AK	4,321	3,111	72.0	67,865	58,956	86.9
AZ	44,985	33,817	75.2	637,046	541,373	85.0
AR	23,512	18,522	78.8	259,404	228,974	88.3
CA	192,228	148,402	77.2	3,598,504	3,227,779	89.7
CO	29,395	23,855	81.2	494,193	435,092	88.0
CT	20,414	16,182	79.3	327,410	297,139	90.8
DE	5,350	4,311	80.6	78,613	68,509	87.1
DC	5,233	4,449	85.0	69,719	64,779	92.9
FL	101,359	71,364	70.4	1,652,734	1,417,988	85.8
GA	61,338	42,996	70.1	949,184	812,752	85.6
HI	4,870	4,020	82.5	119,161	110,987	93.1
ID	14,823	10,996	74.2	146,553	129,455	88.3
IL	64,553	48,283	74.8	1,128,435	1,002,241	88.8
IN	46,876	32,637	69.6	615,516	529,684	86.1
IA	19,744	16,129	81.7	298,840	270,132	90.4
KS	22,667	18,390	81.1	276,529	245,899	88.9
KY	37,844	29,037	76.7	384,000	340,352	88.6
LA	32,993	21,923	66.4	403,633	343,070	85.0
ME	11,285	9,114	80.8	98,353	88,271	89.7
MD	33,126	24,793	74.8	505,100	455,637	90.2
MA	44,621	33,711	75.5	651,187	590,783	90.7
MI	76,363	54,582	71.5	895,683	797,276	89.0
MN	33,704	26,190	77.7	465,750	411,709	88.4
MS	20,357	14,713	72.3	274,788	238,407	86.8

State	WITH DISABILITY			WITHOUT DISABILITY		
	Population	Estimate	Percent	Population	Estimate	Percent
MO	41,769	32,436	77.7	531,906	470,479	88.5
MT	7,210	5,824	80.8	92,733	81,681	88.1
NE	12,810	10,517	82.1	177,326	159,099	89.7
NV	16,393	12,473	76.1	230,696	195,990	85.0
NH	9,480	7,199	75.9	117,531	107,111	91.1
NJ	40,439	31,357	77.5	729,182	657,083	90.1
NM	15,031	11,164	74.3	185,492	156,462	84.3
NY	104,224	78,244	75.1	1,728,141	1,547,955	89.6
NC	63,389	46,017	72.6	921,914	809,457	87.8
ND	4,839	4,028	83.2	81,611	74,837	91.7
OH	81,787	61,655	75.4	993,769	875,762	88.1
OK	28,749	22,202	77.2	356,009	301,662	84.7
OR	31,131	24,101	77.4	333,299	291,234	87.4
PA	88,729	68,329	77.0	1,087,143	967,111	89.0
RI	7,406	5,595	75.5	105,415	96,852	91.9
SC	30,184	22,403	74.2	443,016	391,005	88.3
SD	5,031	3,313	65.9	78,490	68,394	87.1
TN	44,050	33,438	75.9	574,962	513,874	89.4
TX	169,132	131,191	77.6	2,623,164	2,250,882	85.8
UT	21,212	17,076	80.5	329,670	294,670	89.4
VT	5,673	4,573	80.6	60,589	55,769	92.0
VA	47,942	39,251	81.9	765,454	693,451	90.6
WA	46,283	34,665	74.9	611,411	532,064	87.0
WV	14,057	10,936	77.8	145,241	129,688	89.3
WI	37,768	29,883	79.1	516,038	463,051	89.7
WY	4,286	3,133	73.1	49,606	43,599	87.9

Source: Calculations based on U.S. Census Bureau, 2015-2019 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: 2019

State	WITH DISABILITY			WITHOUT DISABILITY		
	Population	Estimate	Percent	Population	Estimate	Percent
US	1,964,891	535,988	27.3	28,691,816	12,447,855	43.4
AL	33,926	8,443	24.9	423,808	178,401	42.1
AK	4,321	439	10.2	67,865	17,628	26.0
AZ	44,985	12,632	28.1	637,046	245,718	38.6
AR	23,512	5,285	22.5	259,404	101,978	39.3
CA	192,228	67,375	35.0	3,598,504	1,740,213	48.4
CO	29,395	8,698	29.6	494,193	201,509	40.8
CT	20,414	6,975	34.2	327,410	160,759	49.1
DE	5,350	1,382	25.8	78,613	37,155	47.3
DC	5,233	1,915	36.6	69,719	38,425	55.1
FL	101,359	25,659	25.3	1,652,734	709,111	42.9
GA	61,338	13,836	22.6	949,184	378,700	39.9
HI	4,870	1,091	22.4	119,161	42,301	35.5
ID	14,823	3,245	21.9	146,553	55,122	37.6
IL	64,553	18,601	28.8	1,128,435	501,471	44.4
IN	46,876	12,120	25.9	615,516	257,779	41.9
IA	19,744	5,758	29.2	298,840	136,549	45.7
KS	22,667	6,483	28.6	276,529	115,646	41.8
KY	37,844	8,761	23.2	384,000	149,856	39.0
LA	32,993	7,728	23.4	403,633	155,415	38.5
ME	11,285	3,289	29.1	98,353	41,268	42.0
MD	33,126	9,239	27.9	505,100	232,892	46.1
MA	44,621	16,159	36.2	651,187	350,893	53.9
MI	76,363	22,750	29.8	895,683	408,107	45.6
MN	33,704	9,183	27.2	465,750	201,869	43.3
MS	20,357	4,317	21.2	274,788	118,783	43.2

State	WITH DISABILITY			WITHOUT DISABILITY		
	Population	Estimate	Percent	Population	Estimate	Percent
MO	41,769	8,934	21.4	531,906	217,810	40.9
MT	7,210	1,743	24.2	92,733	34,006	36.7
NE	12,810	3,933	30.7	177,326	79,497	44.8
NV	16,393	3,134	19.1	230,696	73,070	31.7
NH	9,480	2,642	27.9	117,531	54,455	46.3
NJ	40,439	11,404	28.2	729,182	344,668	47.3
NM	15,031	3,514	23.4	185,492	66,674	35.9
NY	104,224	33,072	31.7	1,728,141	859,316	49.7
NC	63,389	15,664	24.7	921,914	381,029	41.3
ND	4,839	1,431	29.6	81,611	36,700	45.0
OH	81,787	19,789	24.2	993,769	420,728	42.3
OK	28,749	6,455	22.5	356,009	137,473	38.6
OR	31,131	8,149	26.2	333,299	133,636	40.1
PA	88,729	23,126	26.1	1,087,143	493,561	45.4
RI	7,406	2,905	39.2	105,415	59,644	56.6
SC	30,184	7,143	23.7	443,016	176,220	39.8
SD	5,031	1,072	21.3	78,490	32,392	41.3
TN	44,050	9,329	21.2	574,962	223,819	38.9
TX	169,132	43,185	25.5	2,623,164	1,010,040	38.5
UT	21,212	5,453	25.7	329,670	139,764	42.4
VT	5,673	1,778	31.3	60,589	30,240	49.9
VA	47,942	15,096	31.5	765,454	337,035	44.0
WA	46,283	11,469	24.8	611,411	221,411	36.2
WV	14,057	2,581	18.4	145,241	58,944	40.6
WI	37,768	10,537	27.9	516,038	229,363	44.4
WY	4,286	1,087	25.4	49,606	18,812	37.9

Data Source: Calculations based on U.S. Census Bureau, 2014-2018 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: 2019

State	WITH DISABILITY			WITHOUT DISABILITY		
	Population	Estimate	Percent	Population	Estimate	Percent
US	1,964,891	83,848	4.3	28,691,816	3,343,076	11.7
AL	33,926	913	2.7	423,808	33,218	7.8
AK	4,321	214	5.0	67,865	4,209	6.2
AZ	44,985	1,255	2.8	637,046	56,327	8.8
AR	23,512	785	3.3	259,404	22,151	8.5
CA	192,228	9,059	4.7	3,598,504	394,779	11.0
CO	29,395	1,540	5.2	494,193	65,587	13.3
CT	20,414	1,181	5.8	327,410	54,900	16.8
DE	5,350	293	5.5	78,613	7,831	10.0
DC	5,233	785	15.0	69,719	16,126	23.1
FL	101,359	4,451	4.4	1,652,734	161,853	9.8
GA	61,338	2,034	3.3	949,184	92,905	9.8
HI	4,870	190	3.9	119,161	11,365	9.5
ID	14,823	384	2.6	146,553	9,822	6.7
IL	64,553	3,794	5.9	1,128,435	162,968	14.4
IN	46,876	1,499	3.2	615,516	65,014	10.6
IA	19,744	598	3.0	298,840	35,493	11.9
KS	22,667	909	4.0	276,529	31,637	11.4
KY	37,844	1,623	4.3	384,000	34,714	9.0
LA	32,993	1,290	3.9	403,633	33,625	8.3
ME	11,285	276	2.4	98,353	11,798	12.0
MD	33,126	1,725	5.2	505,100	75,443	14.9
MA	44,621	2,525	5.7	651,187	124,259	19.1
MI	76,363	2,862	3.7	895,683	99,784	11.1
MN	33,704	1,759	5.2	465,750	68,318	14.7
MS	20,357	628	3.1	274,788	20,004	7.3

State	WITH DISABILITY			WITHOUT DISABILITY		
	Population	Estimate	Percent	Population	Estimate	Percent
MO	41,769	1,175	2.8	531,906	58,735	11.0
MT	7,210	367	5.1	92,733	8,774	9.5
NE	12,810	738	5.8	177,326	22,840	12.9
NV	16,393	408	2.5	230,696	13,697	5.9
NH	9,480	340	3.6	117,531	16,944	14.4
NJ	40,439	2,155	5.3	729,182	129,138	17.7
NM	15,031	364	2.4	185,492	12,006	6.5
NY	104,224	6,238	6.0	1,728,141	304,650	17.6
NC	63,389	2,696	4.3	921,914	99,508	10.8
ND	4,839	210	4.3	81,611	10,439	12.8
OH	81,787	2,221	2.7	993,769	108,743	10.9
OK	28,749	690	2.4	356,009	27,568	7.7
OR	31,131	1,488	4.8	333,299	35,819	10.7
PA	88,729	4,112	4.6	1,087,143	144,642	13.3
RI	7,406	296	4.0	105,415	14,473	13.7
SC	30,184	1,445	4.8	443,016	41,348	9.3
SD	5,031	155	3.1	78,490	8,708	11.1
TN	44,050	1,545	3.5	574,962	62,238	10.8
TX	169,132	6,675	3.9	2,623,164	238,200	9.1
UT	21,212	735	3.5	329,670	23,888	7.2
VT	5,673	296	5.2	60,589	7,719	12.7
VA	47,942	2,647	5.5	765,454	106,393	13.9
WA	46,283	2,317	5.0	611,411	72,955	11.9
WV	14,057	468	3.3	145,241	12,936	8.9
WI	37,768	1,470	3.9	516,038	62,979	12.2
WY	4,286	25	0.6	49,606	3,606	7.3

Source: Calculations based on U.S. Census Bureau, 2015-2019 American Community Survey, Public Use Microdata Sample.

APPENDIX C: TABLE C1

Employment Rate for Youth and Young Adults
(Ages 16 to 24) in U.S., by Disability Status: 2019

State	WITH DISABILITY			WITHOUT DISABILITY		
	Estimate	Population	Percent	Estimate	Population	Percent
US	813,688	2,998,859	27.1	19,158,989	44,426,761	43.1
AL	11,731	49,286	23.8	264,442	660,831	40.0
AK	1,718	6,935	24.8	43,536	104,582	41.6
AZ	18,278	67,227	27.2	429,337	984,484	43.6
AR	9,206	35,952	25.6	168,511	405,704	41.5
CA	67,309	290,717	23.2	2,140,893	5,537,341	38.7
CO	14,185	44,934	31.6	368,987	766,108	48.2
CT	8,329	31,435	26.5	220,683	501,540	44.0
DE	2,298	8,510	27.0	49,859	123,143	40.5
DC	1,881	6,555	28.7	34,841	89,476	38.9
FL	36,888	159,828	23.1	1,055,507	2,559,371	41.2
GA	21,628	95,464	22.7	591,027	1,494,322	39.6
HI	1,630	7,657	21.3	73,600	178,774	41.2
ID	7,103	22,487	31.6	114,412	239,390	47.8
IL	26,202	98,973	26.5	767,053	1,765,215	43.5
IN	21,297	73,402	29.0	447,009	951,896	47.0
IA	11,408	30,283	37.7	238,601	451,288	52.9
KS	12,277	34,195	35.9	209,968	424,341	49.5
KY	15,873	55,415	28.6	273,909	595,277	46.0
LA	11,223	52,617	21.3	244,857	626,972	39.1
ME	4,943	18,404	26.9	78,613	152,680	51.5
MD	13,824	52,612	26.3	334,299	792,335	42.2
MA	20,230	66,321	30.5	451,643	960,855	47.0
MI	33,194	112,925	29.4	650,973	1,379,461	47.2
MN	19,646	49,404	39.8	399,894	735,713	54.4
MS	6,569	31,535	20.8	147,162	429,659	34.3

State	WITH DISABILITY			WITHOUT DISABILITY		
	Estimate	Population	Percent	Estimate	Population	Percent
MO	19,696	63,272	31.1	392,490	826,069	47.5
MT	3,659	10,786	33.9	69,511	140,532	49.5
NE	6,781	18,897	35.9	145,804	274,073	53.2
NV	8,121	24,653	32.9	162,853	375,740	43.3
NH	5,028	13,794	36.5	93,227	176,997	52.7
NJ	15,069	64,244	23.5	460,049	1,163,119	39.6
NM	5,103	22,580	22.6	119,725	289,717	41.3
NY	36,663	156,796	23.4	1,014,732	2,613,026	38.8
NC	24,760	97,413	25.4	579,940	1,420,736	40.8
ND	2,802	6,752	41.5	64,727	114,268	56.6
OH	37,327	126,559	29.5	741,604	1,558,545	47.6
OK	13,264	43,830	30.3	242,743	552,547	43.9
OR	13,487	45,930	29.4	236,808	515,259	46.0
PA	36,916	134,568	27.4	741,256	1,665,751	44.5
RI	3,266	11,055	29.5	69,293	151,225	45.8
SC	12,542	47,537	26.4	279,758	677,542	41.3
SD	3,034	7,490	40.5	61,990	121,610	51.0
TN	16,920	67,248	25.2	405,211	895,504	45.2
TX	67,274	266,556	25.2	1,696,738	4,172,078	40.7
UT	12,453	32,601	38.2	276,053	520,335	53.1
VT	3,142	8,411	37.4	43,827	86,687	50.6
VA	19,655	73,935	26.6	493,288	1,158,603	42.6
WA	21,181	67,869	31.2	420,500	951,072	44.2
WV	4,112	21,319	19.3	87,450	223,572	39.1
WI	20,131	55,374	36.4	422,747	794,196	53.2
WY	2,432	6,317	38.5	37,049	77,200	48.0

Source: Calculations based on U.S. Census Bureau, 2015-2019 American Community Survey, Public Use Microdata Sample.

APPENDIX D: TABLE D1

Rates of Opportunity Youth and Young Adults (Ages 14 to 24)
for the U.S. and States, by Disability Status: 2019

State	WITH DISABILITY			WITHOUT DISABILITY		
	Opportunity youth and young adults	Population	Percent	Opportunity youth and young adults	Population	Percent
US	589,491	2,998,859	19.7	2,467,194	44,426,761	5.6
AL	12,099	49,286	24.5	46,918	660,831	7.1
AK	1,444	6,935	20.8	7,678	104,582	7.3
AZ	14,134	67,227	21.0	68,611	984,484	7.0
AR	8,810	35,952	24.5	29,788	405,704	7.3
CA	56,859	290,717	19.6	317,068	5,537,341	5.7
CO	7,630	44,934	17.0	34,548	766,108	4.5
CT	4,428	31,435	14.1	20,066	501,540	4.0
DE	1,859	8,510	21.8	7,045	123,143	5.7
DC	1,518	6,555	23.2	5,352	89,476	6.0
FL	32,512	159,828	20.3	153,754	2,559,371	6.0
GA	22,296	95,464	23.4	99,741	1,494,322	6.7
HI	1,480	7,657	19.3	9,917	178,774	5.5
ID	4,812	22,487	21.4	11,934	239,390	5.0
IL	18,532	98,973	18.7	86,016	1,765,215	4.9
IN	14,642	73,402	19.9	47,680	951,896	5.0
IA	4,608	30,283	15.2	16,817	451,288	3.7
KS	5,814	34,195	17.0	19,010	424,341	4.5
KY	13,414	55,415	24.2	39,215	595,277	6.6
LA	12,393	52,617	23.6	52,362	626,972	8.4
ME	3,281	18,404	17.8	5,953	152,680	3.9
MD	8,478	52,612	16.1	38,695	792,335	4.9
MA	10,653	66,321	16.1	30,213	960,855	3.1
MI	20,290	112,925	18.0	65,869	1,379,461	4.8
MN	6,984	49,404	14.1	21,996	735,713	3.0

State	WITH DISABILITY			WITHOUT DISABILITY		
	Opportunity youth and young adults	Population	Percent	Opportunity youth and young adults	Population	Percent
MS	8,299	31,535	26.3	32,860	429,659	7.6
MO	12,441	63,272	19.7	41,291	826,069	5.0
MT	2,038	10,786	18.9	8,250	140,532	5.9
NE	3,064	18,897	16.2	9,300	274,073	3.4
NV	5,065	24,653	20.5	24,863	375,740	6.6
NH	2,477	13,794	18.0	5,450	176,997	3.1
NJ	12,746	64,244	19.8	55,726	1,163,119	4.8
NM	5,817	22,580	25.8	23,761	289,717	8.2
NY	31,760	156,796	20.3	149,499	2,613,026	5.7
NC	18,745	97,413	19.2	78,736	1,420,736	5.5
ND	1,025	6,752	15.2	4,389	114,268	3.8
OH	24,750	126,559	19.6	70,569	1,558,545	4.5
OK	9,418	43,830	21.5	39,116	552,547	7.1
OR	9,009	45,930	19.6	26,604	515,259	5.2
PA	25,731	134,568	19.1	80,473	1,665,751	4.8
RI	1,718	11,055	15.5	5,632	151,225	3.7
SC	9,542	47,537	20.1	40,986	677,542	6.0
SD	836	7,490	11.2	5,877	121,610	4.8
TN	15,497	67,248	23.0	53,231	895,504	5.9
TX	53,248	266,556	20.0	290,216	4,172,078	7.0
UT	4,878	32,601	15.0	23,887	520,335	4.6
VT	927	8,411	11.0	3,088	86,687	3.6
VA	12,372	73,935	16.7	51,049	1,158,603	4.4
WA	12,343	67,869	18.2	50,934	951,072	5.4
WV	6,226	21,319	29.2	17,326	223,572	7.7
WI	9,588	55,374	17.3	33,151	794,196	4.2
WY	961	6,317	15.2	4,684	77,200	6.1

Source: Calculations based on U.S. Census Bureau, 2015-2019 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: 2019

State	WITH DISABILITY			WITHOUT DISABILITY		
	Opportunity youth and young adults	Population	Percent	Opportunity youth and young adults	Population	Percent
US	140,718	2,998,859	4.7	1,258,730	44,426,761	2.8
AL	2,556	49,286	5.2	22,808	660,831	3.5
AK	286	6,935	4.1	4,825	104,582	4.6
AZ	2,608	67,227	3.9	30,013	984,484	3.0
AR	1,902	35,952	5.3	12,685	405,704	3.1
CA	11,484	290,717	4.0	155,199	5,537,341	2.8
CO	2,277	44,934	5.1	16,881	766,108	2.2
CT	1,632	31,435	5.2	15,094	501,540	3.0
DE	320	8,510	3.8	3,663	123,143	3.0
DC	458	6,555	7.0	3,344	89,476	3.7
FL	7,723	159,828	4.8	71,705	2,559,371	2.8
GA	4,382	95,464	4.6	47,307	1,494,322	3.2
HI	502	7,657	6.6	4,572	178,774	2.6
ID	1,117	22,487	5.0	5,953	239,390	2.5
IL	4,483	98,973	4.5	57,310	1,765,215	3.2
IN	3,072	73,402	4.2	28,484	951,896	3.0
IA	1,353	30,283	4.5	8,473	451,288	1.9
KS	1,534	34,195	4.5	10,156	424,341	2.4
KY	2,869	55,415	5.2	18,964	595,277	3.2
LA	2,719	52,617	5.2	23,420	626,972	3.7
ME	683	18,404	3.7	4,399	152,680	2.9
MD	3,116	52,612	5.9	24,286	792,335	3.1
MA	2,832	66,321	4.3	18,911	960,855	2.0
MI	5,588	112,925	4.9	44,954	1,379,461	3.3

State	WITH DISABILITY			WITHOUT DISABILITY		
	Opportunity youth and young adults	Population	Percent	Opportunity youth and young adults	Population	Percent
MN	1,940	49,404	3.9	13,322	735,713	1.8
MS	1,637	31,535	5.2	16,485	429,659	3.8
MO	3,597	63,272	5.7	21,696	826,069	2.6
MT	683	10,786	6.3	3,076	140,532	2.2
NE	966	18,897	5.1	5,691	274,073	2.1
NV	1,447	24,653	5.9	14,171	375,740	3.8
NH	992	13,794	7.2	3,596	176,997	2.0
NJ	2,534	64,244	3.9	32,562	1,163,119	2.8
NM	1,491	22,580	6.6	9,996	289,717	3.5
NY	6,588	156,796	4.2	71,858	2,613,026	2.7
NC	5,314	97,413	5.5	43,662	1,420,736	3.1
ND	113	6,752	1.7	1,477	114,268	1.3
OH	6,137	126,559	4.8	44,562	1,558,545	2.9
OK	2,255	43,830	5.1	13,763	552,547	2.5
OR	2,076	45,930	4.5	16,160	515,259	3.1
PA	7,693	134,568	5.7	48,131	1,665,751	2.9
RI	500	11,055	4.5	4,017	151,225	2.7
SC	2,150	47,537	4.5	24,757	677,542	3.7
SD	392	7,490	5.2	2,941	121,610	2.4
TN	3,168	67,248	4.7	27,978	895,504	3.1
TX	11,313	266,556	4.2	110,524	4,172,078	2.6
UT	793	32,601	2.4	10,121	520,335	1.9
VT	645	8,411	7.7	2,414	86,687	2.8
VA	3,255	73,935	4.4	27,605	1,158,603	2.4
WA	3,187	67,869	4.7	26,705	951,072	2.8
WV	1,503	21,319	7.1	9,208	223,572	4.1
WI	2,637	55,374	4.8	16,566	794,196	2.1
WY	216	6,317	3.4	2,280	77,200	3.0

Source: Calculations based on U.S. Census Bureau, 2015-2019 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: 2019

State	WITH DISABILITY			WITHOUT DISABILITY		
	Poverty	Population	Percent	Poverty	Population	Percent
US	724,715	2,998,859	24.2	7,919,440	44,426,761	17.8
AL	14,546	49,286	29.5	144,967	660,831	21.9
AK	931	6,935	13.4	14,925	104,582	14.3
AZ	15,544	67,227	23.1	197,344	984,484	20.0
AR	9,673	35,952	26.9	87,983	405,704	21.7
CA	62,215	290,717	21.4	999,302	5,537,341	18.0
CO	10,393	44,934	23.1	124,329	766,108	16.2
CT	6,272	31,435	20.0	58,506	501,540	11.7
DE	1,650	8,510	19.4	19,118	123,143	15.5
DC	1,763	6,555	26.9	20,642	89,476	23.1
FL	38,834	159,828	24.3	459,358	2,559,371	17.9
GA	24,124	95,464	25.3	276,901	1,494,322	18.5
HI	1,521	7,657	19.9	19,557	178,774	10.9
ID	6,201	22,487	27.6	46,336	239,390	19.4
IL	23,825	98,973	24.1	297,587	1,765,215	16.9
IN	19,157	73,402	26.1	179,287	951,896	18.8
IA	7,646	30,283	25.2	84,143	451,288	18.6
KS	8,724	34,195	25.5	80,160	424,341	18.9
KY	17,696	55,415	31.9	124,638	595,277	20.9
LA	15,298	52,617	29.1	152,119	626,972	24.3
ME	3,654	18,404	19.9	21,757	152,680	14.3
MD	9,064	52,612	17.2	97,096	792,335	12.3
MA	12,684	66,321	19.1	124,046	960,855	12.9
MI	30,434	112,925	27.0	277,713	1,379,461	20.1
MN	10,049	49,404	20.3	110,990	735,713	15.1
MS	9,625	31,535	30.5	105,322	429,659	24.5

State	WITH DISABILITY			WITHOUT DISABILITY		
	Poverty	Population	Percent	Poverty	Population	Percent
MO	16,143	63,272	25.5	151,639	826,069	18.4
MT	2,805	10,786	26.0	29,188	140,532	20.8
NE	4,294	18,897	22.7	47,828	274,073	17.5
NV	5,306	24,653	21.5	63,335	375,740	16.9
NH	2,703	13,794	19.6	16,951	176,997	9.6
NJ	10,672	64,244	16.6	136,271	1,163,119	11.7
NM	7,170	22,580	31.8	70,178	289,717	24.2
NY	39,664	156,796	25.3	450,585	2,613,026	17.2
NC	25,015	97,413	25.7	272,429	1,420,736	19.2
ND	1,564	6,752	23.2	20,167	114,268	17.6
OH	34,085	126,559	26.9	280,621	1,558,545	18.0
OK	12,094	43,830	27.6	115,218	552,547	20.9
OR	12,648	45,930	27.5	100,256	515,259	19.5
PA	31,765	134,568	23.6	277,295	1,665,751	16.6
RI	2,570	11,055	23.2	21,532	151,225	14.2
SC	10,859	47,537	22.8	132,004	677,542	19.5
SD	2,124	7,490	28.4	23,253	121,610	19.1
TN	18,472	67,248	27.5	168,101	895,504	18.8
TX	63,413	266,556	23.8	791,916	4,172,078	19.0
UT	6,015	32,601	18.5	78,669	520,335	15.1
VT	1,974	8,411	23.5	12,688	86,687	14.6
VA	15,126	73,935	20.5	173,425	1,158,603	15.0
WA	14,719	67,869	21.7	154,463	951,072	16.2
WV	6,890	21,319	32.3	53,280	223,572	23.8
WI	13,460	55,374	24.3	140,010	794,196	17.6
WY	1,642	6,317	26.0	14,012	77,200	18.2

Data Source: Calculations based on U.S. Census Bureau, 2014-2018 American Community Survey, Public Use Microdata Sample.



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