

Source: 2007 American Community Survey From the United States Census Bureau

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Notes On this Data Summary:

The U.S. Census Bureau conducts the American Community Survey (ACS) annually. The data files are publicly available and can be used to produce estimate statistics for the entire United States Population. In this data summary we focus specifically on the civilian, non-institutionalized working age (16-64) population.

The ACS includes six questions that are used to identify the population with disabilities. If a person says yes to one or more of the six disability questions listed, their status in the Any Disability field is marked as yes.

While the ACS does not collect information on people with Intellectual Disabilities (ID) specifically, it does allow people to self-report a Mental Disability, which is anyone who indicates that because of a physical, mental, or emotional condition lasting six months or more, they have difficulty learning, remembering, and concentrating. Based on the description, it is reasonable to assume that individuals with ID would be represented in this category.

The ACS allows individuals to report on the receipt of three types of benefits Supplemental Security Income (SSI), Social Security, and public assistance income. For this summary, the data file was recoded to indicate whether or not a person received any of these types of benefits. A person who is indicated as receiving benefits could have received income from one or more of these benefit programs in 2007.

The poverty status variable in the ACS indicates whether a person lives in a household that is above or below the poverty threshold.

The employment outcome we use in this data summary is percentage of all working age people who are employed. This figure is calculated by dividing the total number of people who are employed by the total number of people in the population.

The income figure reported in this summary is total income from all sources. Sources of income in the ACS include: Wages and salary, self employment earnings, interest, dividend, and rental income, retirement income, public assistance income, SSI income, Social Security income, and other income.

Table 1. Percentage of all working age individuals who received any of the following types on income in 2007: Public Assistance, SSI, or SSA

	New Mexico			United States		
	Mental Disability	Any Disability	No Disabilities	Mental Disability	Any Disability	No Disabilities
Percentage of persons receiving benefits	49.6%	38.5%	3.8%	47.9%	38.5%	3.2%

Table 2. Poverty Status outcomes for individuals in New Mexico and the United States

	New Mexico			United States		
	Mental Disability	Any Disability	No Disabilities	Mental Disability	Any Disability	No Disabilities
Percentage living in a household that is below the poverty threshold	23.9%	22.0%	11.6%	24.2%	19.8%	7.6%

Table 3. Employment outcomes for individuals in New Mexico and the United States

	New Mexico			United States		
	Mental Disability	Any Disability	No Disabilities	Mental Disability	Any Disability	No Disabilities
Percentage of all individuals who worked	27.0%	37.6%	72.3%	27.5%	36.2%	75.1%
Percentage of all persons receiving benefits who worked	10.0%	10.1%	31.4%	10.1%	9.5%	32.1%

Table 4. Average Annual income for individuals who are employed and do not receive benefits, employed and do receive benefits, and not employed and receive benefits

	New Mexico			United States		
	Mental Disability	Any Disability	No Disabilities	Mental Disability	Any Disability	No Disabilities
Average annual income for a person receiving no benefits who is employed	\$29,644	\$33,331	\$37,132	\$27,395	\$35,429	\$45,787
Average annual income for a person on benefits who is employed	\$19,693	\$24,135	\$32,184	\$19,272	\$22,968	\$31,890
Average annual income for a person on benefits who is not employed	\$10,959	\$13,384	\$17,533	\$12,034	\$13,543	\$19,838