

# Safety net program participation for working age persons with disabilities

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# Introduction

- Purpose: To explore safety net program and employment service activity participation for persons with disabilities
- Sponsor: Employment Policy and Measurement Rehabilitation Research and Training Center at University of New Hampshire
- Funding: National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research (NIDRR)
- Data: 2009 Current Population Survey - Annual Social and Economic Supplement (CPS-ASEC)

# Research Questions

- 1) **Program composition: What share of safety net program participants of working age are persons with disabilities?**
- 2) Participation differences: Do working age persons with disabilities participate in safety net programs at different rates than working age persons who do not have disabilities?
- 3) Employment service differences: Do working age persons with disabilities who are participating in safety net programs participate in employment services at different rates than working age persons who do not have disabilities?

## Share of 2009 income assistance program participants, age 25-61

Program	Total (millions)	Percent with disability
<i>Any (income or other) program</i>	33.8	34
Other welfare	0.4	43
SSDI - disabled worker	4.2	93
SSI - blind/disabled	2.6	91
SSI/SSDI	1.3	95
Temporary Assistance to Needy Families	2.8	47
Unemployment insurance	8.0	18
Veteran disability compensation	1.1	51
Veteran pension	0.2	37
Workers' compensation	1.0	42

Source: 2009 CPS-ASEC  
 No disability (N=133,385,152)      Disability (N=17,902,082)

## Share of 2009 other program participants, age 25-61

Program	Total (millions)	Percent with disability
<i>Any (income or other) program</i>	33.8	34
Energy assistance	3.5	43
Indian health	0.4	19
Medicaid	12.0	47
Medicare	5.6	83
Military health	4.3	23
Public housing	2.5	41
Rent subsidy	1.4	45
Supplemental Nutrition Assistance	11.0	35

Source: 2009 CPS-ASEC

No disability (N=133,385,152)

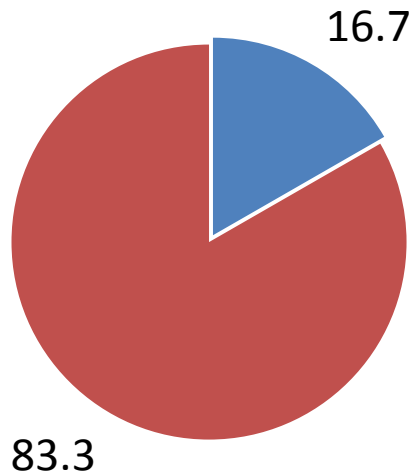
Disability (N=17,902,082)

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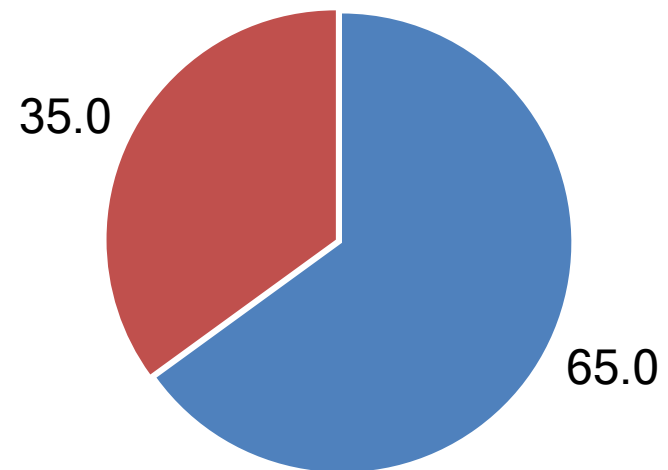
# Percent participating in safety net programs, persons age 25-61, 2009

## Persons without disabilities



■ Safety net participation  
■ No programs

## Persons with disabilities



■ Safety net participation

Source: 2009 CPS-ASEC

No disability (N=133,385,152)

Disability (N=17,902,082)

# Results: Disability programs

## Program participation among persons age 25-61

	No Disability	Disability
	Percent	Percent
SSDI - disabled worker	0.2	22.1
SSI - disabled	0.2	17.0
SSI/SSDI	0.0	3.3
Veteran disability compensation	0.4	3.0
Workers' compensation	0.4	2.6

Source: 2009 CPS-ASEC

No disability (N=133,385,152)

Disability (N=17,902,082)



## Results: Other programs

### Program participation among persons age 25-61

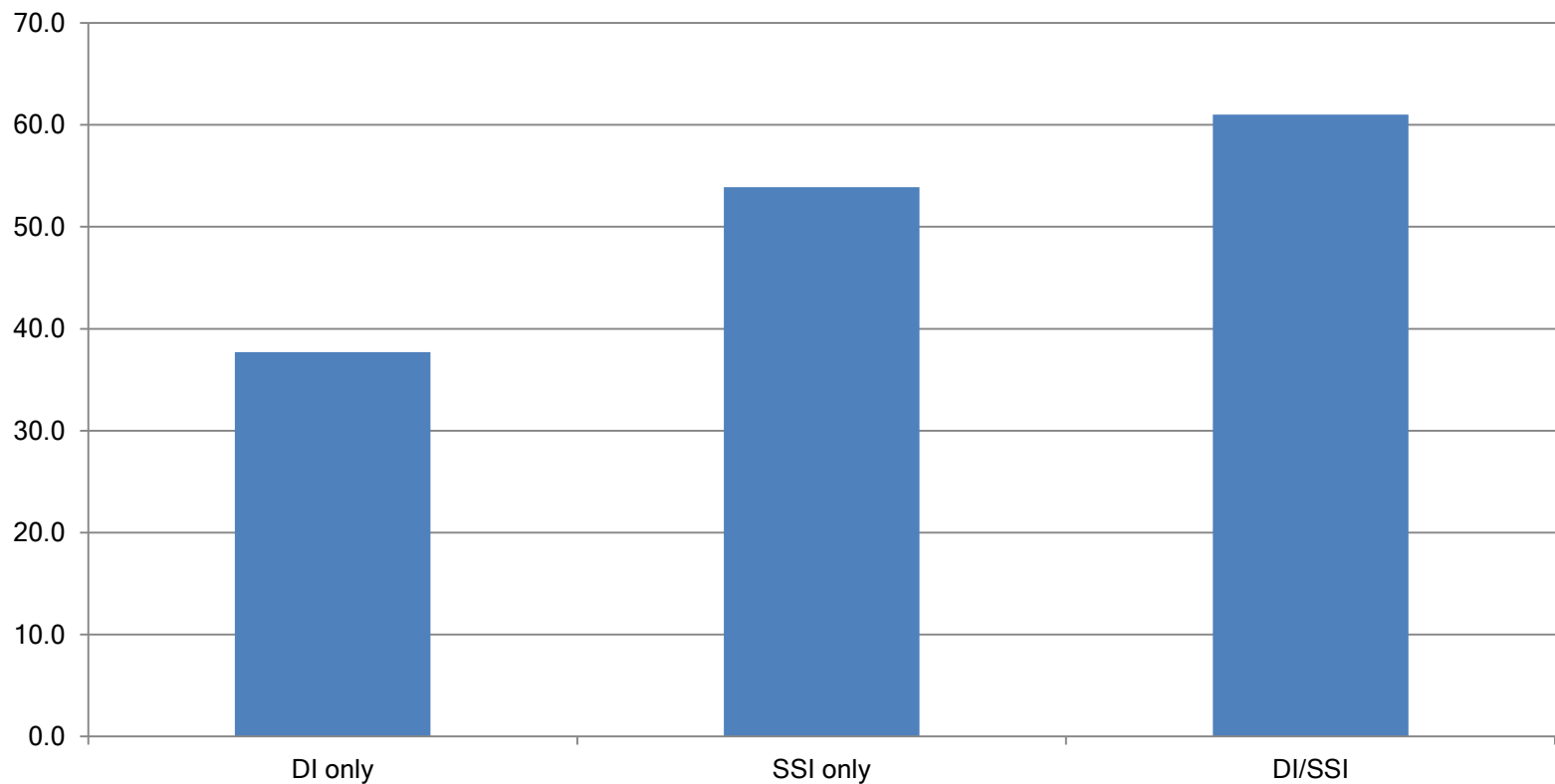
	No Disability	Disability
	Percent	Percent
Energy assistance	1.5	8.4
Indian health	0.2	0.4
Medicaid	4.8	32.2
Medicare	0.7	25.9
Military health	2.5	5.5
Other welfare	0.2	0.9
Public housing	1.1	5.8
Rent subsidy	0.6	3.7
Supplemental Nutrition Assistance	5.4	21.6
Temporary Assistance for Needy Families	0.4	1.7
Unemployment insurance	4.6	4.1
Veteran pension	0.1	0.5

Source: 2009 CPS-ASEC

No disability (N=133,385,152)

Disability (N=17,902,082)

# Percent participating in other safety net programs, SSA disability program participants age 25-61, 2009



Source: 2009 CPS-ASEC

DI (N=4,231,549) SSI (N=2,611,363) DI/SSI (N=619,226)

# Results: Cross participation, disability programs

## Program participation among disability program participants

	DI only	SSI only	DI/SSI
	Percent	Percent	Percent
Veteran disability compensation	3.7	0.7	1.0
Workers' compensation	1.0	0.6	1.7

Source: 2009 CPS-ASEC  
DI (N=4,231,549) SSI (N=2,611,363) DI/SSI (N=619,226)

# Results: Cross participation, other programs

Program participation among other program participants age 25-61			
	DI only	SSI only	DI/SSI
	Percent	Percent	Percent
Energy assistance	8.7	15.9	19.8
Indian health	0.3	0.3	0.1
Medicaid	31.6	94.7	94.0
Medicare	70.5	27.1	72.6
Military health	6.2	1.6	1.8
Other welfare	0.7	1.6	1.8
Public housing	6.6	12.5	16.0
Rent subsidy	3.9	7.2	9.5
Supplemental Nutrition Assistance	20.6	42.0	47.1
Temporary Assistance for Needy Families	1.3	2.9	4.0
Unemployment insurance	1.3	1.1	2.4
Veteran pension	0.6	0.1	0.0

Source: 2009 CPS-ASEC  
 DI (N=4,231,549) SSI (N=2,611,363) DI/SSI (N=619,226)

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- 1) Program composition: What share of safety net program participants of working age are persons with disabilities?
- 2) Participation differences: Do working age persons with disabilities participate in safety net programs at different rates than working age persons who do not have disabilities?
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Employment *services* participation among low income disability program participants, age 25-61, not employed, 2009

	No disability	Disability
<i>Any (disability or other) program</i>	8	3
Social Security Disability Insurance	2	2
Supplemental Security Income	5	3
SSI/SSDI	8	2
Veteran disability compensation	0	3
Workers' compensation	10	4

Source: 2009 CPS-ASEC  
 Low income, no disability, not employed (N=13,820,024)  
 Low income, disability, not employed (N=9,126,769)

## Employment *services* participation among low income other program participants, age 25-61, not employed, 2009

	No disability	Disability
	Percent	Percent
<i>Any (disability or other) program</i>	8	3
Energy assistance	13	5
Indian health	10	0
Medicaid	7	4
Medicare	2	2
Military health	5	3
Other welfare	11	4
Public housing	11	5
Rent subsidy	11	6
Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program	9	4
Temporary Assistance for Needy Families	15	14
Unemployment insurance	15	14
Veteran pension	0	6

Source: 2009 CPS-ASEC

Low income, no disability, not employed (N=13,820,024)

Low income, disability, not employed (N=9,126,769)

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# Summary

- 1) About one-third of safety net program participants are persons with disabilities.
- 2) Persons with disabilities participate in safety net programs at higher rates than persons without disabilities.
- 3) Rates of participation in employment services are low for low income, not employed, program participants with and without disabilities.

# Contact Information

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