

Massachusetts and U.S. Disability Facts & Statistics: 2019

- In 2018, there were 6,902,149 individuals living in the community in Massachusetts, of which 791,132 were persons with disabilities; a prevalence rate of 11.6%.
- In 2018, there were 322,249,485 individuals living in the community in the U.S., of which 40,637,764 were persons with disabilities; a prevalence rate of 12.6%.
- In 2018, 26.1% of individuals with disabilities living in the community in the US were below the poverty line, in Massachusetts this rate in 2018 was 25.3%, compared to 10.7% of individuals without disabilities in the US, and 7.9% in Massachusetts.

Massachusetts Residents by Disability Category (ages 18-64 living in the community)

Disability Category	# of MA Residents	% of MA Residents	% of Disabled in MA
Cognitive Disability	319,796	4.7%	40.2%
Ambulatory Disability	381,520	5.6%	47.9%
Independent Living Disability	301,231	4.4%	37.8%
Self-Care Disability	158,718	2.3%	19.9%
Hearing Disability	208,039	3.0%	26.1%
Vision Disability	128,651	1.9%	16.2%

Change in the Number of People with Disabilities in MA (individuals living in the community)

2017	2018	2017 to 2018 % Change
803,977	791,132	-2.6% (12,845 fewer individuals)

MA & U.S. Employment For Individuals With Disabilities (age 18-64, living in the community)

2018	# With Disability	# With Disability & Employed	% With Disability Who are Employed
MA	384,133	146,757	38.2% (+0.5% from 2017)
U.S.	20,212,750	7,602,698	37.6% (+0.6% from 2017)

MA & U.S. Employment For Individuals Without Disabilities (age 18-64, living in the community)

2018	# Without Disability	# Without Disability & Employed	% Without Disability Who are Employed
MA	3,978,445	3,186,731	80.1% (-0.1% from 2017)
U.S.	177,675,796	138,229,018	77.8% (+0.6% from 2017)

- Employment rates for individuals with disabilities lag far behind those for individuals without disabilities.

The information above is taken from the 2019 Disability Statistics Compendium, developed by the Rehabilitation Research and Training Center on Disability Statistics and Demographics at the University of New Hampshire. The annual Disability Statistics Compendium uses data from the most recent American Community Survey (U.S. census Bureau). Access the Disability Compendium here: <http://disabilitycompendium.org>