



Disability by the Numbers

People with disabilities have more than \$200 billion to use in discretionary spending each year.

People with disabilities are the world's largest minority group.

In countries with life expectancies of age 70 or more, people on average spend about 8 years, or 11.5% of their life span living with a disability.

There are 56.7 million non-institutionalized people (or 18.7% of the population) in the U.S. who have one or more disabilities. Of this group:

38.3 million (or 12.6% of the total population) have severe disabilities
51.5 million are adults

21% of people 15 and older have a disability.

* Top ten causes of disability in adults age 18 and older are:

Arthritis or rheumatism	17.5% of people with disabilities
Back or spine problems	16.5%
Heart problems	7.8%
Lung or respiratory problems	4.7%
Deafness or hearing problems	4.4%
Limb extremity problems	4.2%
Mental or emotional problems	3.7%
Diabetes	3.4%
Blindness or vision problems	3.3%
Stroke	2.8%

* Pre year 2000 Census Bureau categories

Using the disability categories included in more recent U.S. Census Bureau data, the most common disability type is mobility followed by thinking/memory, independent living, vision and self-care.

Most disability occurs during working age. However, disability is largely a part of aging, and the aging population is growing.

- In 2015, 14.9% of the population was 65 or over. This will increase to 22.1% by 2050.
- By 2050, the number of Americans age 65 and older is expected to more than double as compared to 2010 (40.2 million in 2010 to 88.5 million in 2050)
- Among those age 65 and over, almost 50% (49.8%) have disabilities
- At age 80 and above, 70.5% have disabilities.
- The majority of the country's older population will be relatively young, ages 65 to 74, until around 2034.

Are You Ready?

Do you know what accessibility features are needed by this group of customers?

Do you know what accessibility features you have?

Are your staff able to accurately tell prospective guests what accessibility features you have?

Does your staff know what the unique needs are of your customers and guests who have disabilities?

Do you have a plan on how to remove architectural and communication barriers that can be accomplished without much difficulty or expense (readily achievable)?



5821 S. Anthony Blvd.
Fort Wayne, Indiana 46816
Office (260) 441-0551
Fax (260) 441-7760
www.the-league.org
the-league@the-league.org