

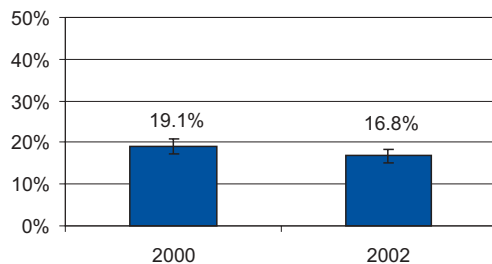
# Disability in Spokane County

This fact sheet presents data from the Washington State Population Survey that is administered every other year by the Office of Financial Management. As part of the survey, Spokane County residents were asked several questions about themselves and members of their households to determine who suffers from a long lasting sensory, physical, or mental condition and if these conditions limit their ability to care for themselves in the home, or to go outside alone, or their ability to be employed.

## Percent of Population

From 2000 to 2002, the total percentage of the Spokane County population with a disability dropped from 19.1% to 16.8%. However, the change is not significant at a 95% confidence level and could be due to sampling error.

Percent of Population with Disabilities by Year, Spokane County 2000/2002

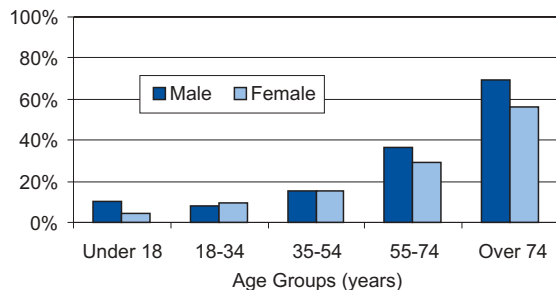


This means that there are currently between 63,350 and 77,950 people in the Spokane County community living with a disability.

## Age and Gender

The prevalence of disability increases with age and differs by gender. Within each age and gender group, the percentage of the population with a disability ranges from less than 10% for people under 18 years of age to over 50% for people 75 years of age and older.

Percent of Population with Disability by Age/Gender, Spokane County 2002



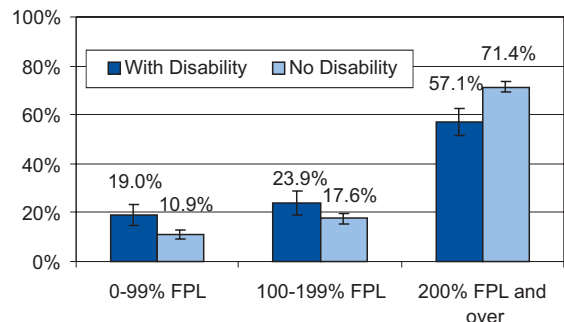
Males under the age of 18 years and those older than 54 years are more likely to have a disability than females of the same age group.

About 13,000 (± 3,400) of the population 75 years of age and older are living with some type of disability.

## Income

People with disabilities are significantly more likely than people without disabilities to be living on incomes below 100% Federal Poverty Level (FPL). The FPL is based on income thresholds for different household sizes and household composition. For a household of four persons in 2002, the poverty income threshold is \$18,100.

Percent of Population by Percent of Federal Poverty Level (FPL), Spokane County 2002

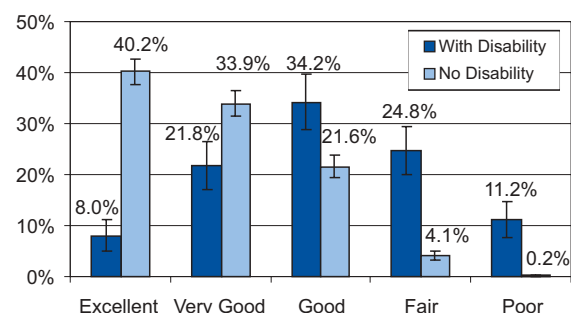


19.0% (± 4.5%) of people with disabilities live on incomes below poverty level, compared to 10.9% (± 1.7%) of people with no disabilities. People with disabilities are also significantly less likely to be living on incomes above 200% of the FPL.

## Self-Reported Health Status

When asked to indicate the general status of their current health, there was a significant difference between those with and those without a disability. In 2002, 36.0% (± 5.4%) of people with disabilities indicated their general health status as “fair” or “poor”, compared to 4.3% (± 1.0%) of people with no disabilities.

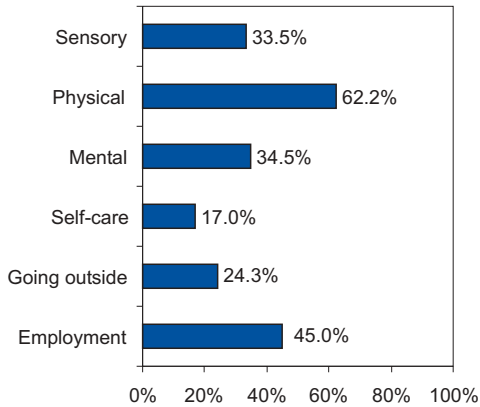
Self-Reported Health Status Spokane County 2002



## Types of Disability

About 63% of people with a disability indicate having a physical condition, the most common type of disability.

Percent of Disabled Population by Disability Types, Spokane County 2002



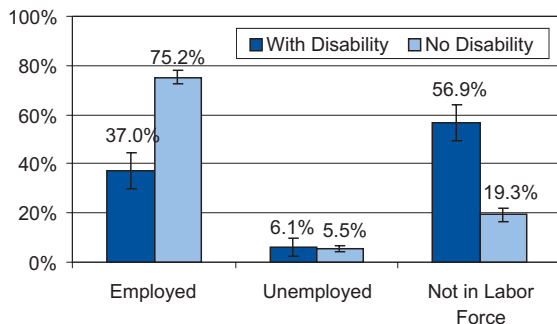
Data note: One or more of these disability types could apply to each person with a disability.

When only those disabled individuals 15 years of age and older are looked at, close to half have difficulty working at a job or business because of their condition. This is a total of about 29,400 ( $\pm 3,800$ ) people in our community.

## Labor Force Status

People between the ages of 15 and 64 without disabilities are about twice as likely to be employed as people the same age with disabilities.

Percent of 15-64 Year Olds by Labor Force Status, Spokane County 2002



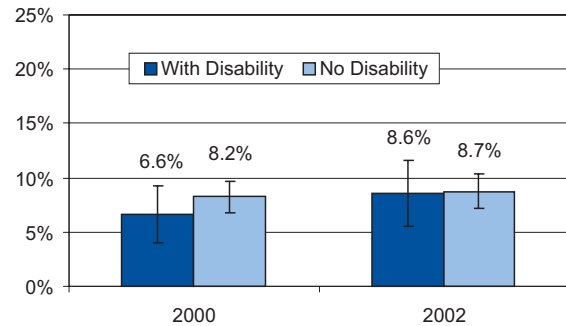
Over half of the people with disabilities in this age group are not in the labor force, meaning they retired early, are unable to work, or are not looking for work.

Those who are not in the labor force are not included in unemployment rates. To calculate the unemployment rate, the number of people who are unemployed is divided by the sum of the number of people employed and unemployed (unemployed / [employed + unemployed]). The unemployment rate of people with disabilities is 14.2% ( $\pm 7.8\%$ ) compared to 6.8% ( $\pm 1.8\%$ ) for people with no disabilities.

## Health Insurance Coverage

The percentage of both the disabled and non-disabled population that is not covered by some kind of health insurance plan has not changed significantly from 2000 to 2002.

Percent of Population with No Health Insurance by Year, Spokane County 2000-2002



The percentage of persons with a disability without health insurance is also not significantly different than the percentage of people with no disabilities without health insurance.

In 2002, 8.6% ( $\pm 3.0\%$ ) of people with a disability reported no form of health insurance, while 8.7% ( $\pm 1.6\%$ ) of people without disabilities reported the same lack of insurance coverage.

## Assessment/Epidemiology Center

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**Data Source:**  
 State of Washington Office of Financial Management: Washington State Population Survey 2000/2002.

**About the survey:**  
 The State Population Survey (SPS) is administered every other year by an independent contractor hired to conduct the survey on behalf of the Office of Financial Management, the governor's budget and policy office. The purpose of the study is to provide up-to-date information on employment, income, health insurance coverage, health status, and demographic characteristics.

Potential participants for the SPS are selected at random from all Washington State residences with telephones. One person from each selected residence is interviewed and responds for each person within the household. By selecting participants randomly, we can statistically infer what the whole population of Washington State looks like.

In Spokane County, 752 residences were surveyed in 2000, representing 1,958 people, and in 2002, 745 residences were surveyed representing 1,841 people.