

THE ADA, 20 YEARS LATER

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

KESSLER FOUNDATION/NOD
SURVEY OF AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES

POWERED BY:
HARRIS INTERACTIVE

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Background

Working with the Kessler Foundation and the National Organization on Disability (NOD) to study the attitudes, experiences, and levels of participation of Americans with disabilities, Harris Interactive has identified 13 very important indicators of the quality of life and standard of living of Americans with disabilities. Since 1986, the *Surveys of Americans with Disabilities* have measured the gaps on 10 of these indicators between people with and without disabilities; three new indicators were added this year.

The primary purposes of the 2010 research are to:

- ◆ measure the size of the gaps on these indicators between people with and without disabilities 20 years after the passage of the ADA;
- ◆ determine which gaps are and are not closing and by how much compared to earlier research in 2004, 2000, 1998, 1994, and 1986;
- ◆ provide a benchmark for measuring future progress; and
- ◆ examine additional measures of quality of life that may be especially relevant in today's environment.

The 10 indicators that are tracked over the course of the six surveys focus on: employment, poverty, education, health care, access to transportation, socializing, going to restaurants, attendance at religious services, political participation, and satisfaction with life. The three indicators added this year include: access to mental health services, technology, and overall financial situation.

Along with these measures, the 2010 survey also examines in much greater detail than in years past the employment of people with disabilities.

Finally, this report provides up-to-date measures in a number of critical areas that are specific to people with disabilities, including:

- ◆ The impact of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) on the lives of Americans with disabilities;
- ◆ The sense of common identity shared by people with disabilities;
- ◆ Financial independence and homeownership among people with disabilities.

The results of this research will underline the need for policymakers, leaders of the disability movement, and those who work with people with disabilities to redouble their efforts in improving the quality of life of Americans with disabilities.

Methodological Overview

The 2010 survey was conducted using the same basic sampling approach and methodology as previous years' research. Following similar methods ensures greater confidence when describing trends over time. For the majority of the survey questions, the findings are based on two samples, both of which were conducted by telephone: (1) a national cross-section of 1,001 adults with disabilities and (2) a national cross-section of 788 adults without disabilities. These interviews took place between May 5 and June 3, 2010. When a person with a disability was unavailable for an interview or unable to be interviewed, a proxy from the same household who was best qualified to answer questions about that person was chosen to complete the interview. Overall, 10% of the interviews were conducted with proxies.

In the case of findings on employment among people with disabilities, the data is based off of employed people ages 18 to 64 from the national telephone cross-section, as well as an oversample of 315 people with disabilities in the labor force, which was conducted online using sample from the Harris Poll Online panel.

All of the results were weighted to be representative of the general population ages 18 and over with and without disabilities.

The questionnaire consisted of 53 substantive response items, including demographic questions. The average length of the phone and online surveys for people with disabilities was 15 and 14 minutes, respectively.

A more-detailed methodology can be found in Appendix A and the entire questionnaire and topline results can be found in Appendix B of the full report.

Defining Disability

Using a similar definition that was used in the previous years, the sample of people with disabilities was limited to non-institutionalized individuals with disabilities, with a person qualifying for this portion of sample if he or she currently:

- ◆ Has a health problem or disability that prevents him or her from participating fully in work, school, housework, or other activities; *or*
- ◆ Reports having a physical disability of any kind; a seeing, hearing, or speech impairment; an emotional or mental disability; or a learning disability; *or*
- ◆ Considers himself or herself a person with a disability or says that other people would consider him or her to be a person with a disability.

No more than one adult with a disability was interviewed in each household.

In order to produce an estimated measure of disability prevalence, Harris Interactive conducted screening on 12 surveys over the course of six weeks. According to the findings, the estimated prevalence of people with disabilities is between 13 and 16%.

Overview of Findings

The Kessler Foundation/National Organization on Disability 2010 Survey of Americans with Disabilities marks the sixth effort over the past 24 years (since 1986) to assess the quality of life of people with disabilities on a wide range of critical dimensions, to measure the differences, or “gaps”, between people with and without disabilities on these indicators, and to track them over time. The National Organization on Disability and Kessler Foundation, working with Harris Interactive, have established a series of 10 measures of significant life activities of Americans with disabilities. These indicators, which have been tracked over the course of six surveys, are: employment, poverty, education, health care, transportation, socializing, going to restaurants, attendance at religious services, political participation, and satisfaction with life. This year, three new indicators were added, which include: technology, access to mental health services, and overall financial situation.

While there has been modest improvement among a few indicators, the general trend of the measures is that twenty years after the passage of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), there has yet to be significant progress in many areas (Exhibit 1). For instance, although there has been substantial improvement reported in education attainment and political participation since 1986, large gaps still exist between people with and without disabilities with regard to: employment, household income, access to transportation, health care, socializing, going to restaurants, and satisfaction with life (Exhibit 2). In some instances, the spread has actually gotten worse since the inception of the survey in 1986 (Exhibit 5).

Since this survey was last conducted in 2004, America has undergone a significant economic downturn. Some areas measured in the survey, such as employment, poverty, and going to restaurants were negatively impacted by the state of the economy. However, the consistency of the size of the gaps this year suggests that people with disabilities and without disabilities were affected as much, or more, by the recession.

The 2010 survey continues to underscore the notion that there is no single indicator of the quality of lives of people with disabilities. They face a range of challenges, and have varied experiences and aspirations. This diversity is characterized not only by a broad spectrum of disability characteristics, specifically type and severity, but also by a range of personal characteristics and circumstances. Understanding this heterogeneity will be crucial toward properly equipping people with disabilities with the tools, skills, and opportunities they need to succeed.

In addition to the gap measures that have been included in this and previous research, the survey includes an expanded section on employment, and selected questions on financial independence. These items add further texture to the disadvantages faced by people with disabilities and point to the potential of accommodations and programs that can be designed to facilitate and improve the employment outcomes of more people with disabilities.

There have been some improvements measured over the years that may be in part attributable to the implementation of the ADA of 1990. However, there is clearly much work to be done in order to narrow the very substantial gaps that still exist. Hopefully policymakers, employers, and the disability community will work together to translate these findings into actions and policies that will improve the lives of the millions of Americans with disabilities in the future.

Highlights of the 2010 Report

As mentioned above, one of the primary aims of this research is to measure and track over time a number of disparities between people with and without disabilities. As part of this effort, Harris Interactive, the Kessler Foundation, and NOD have developed specific quantifiable measures or “indicators” in a range of key life activities, with a “gap” defined as the number of percentage points by which Americans with disabilities lag behind Americans without disabilities on a given indicator. These gaps, along with a number of additional key findings from this year’s survey, are presented and discussed below, with the gaps highlighted in bold.

Employment

Employment rates for people with and without disabilities seem to have been affected similarly by the economic recession, meaning that this is still the area where people with disabilities seem to be at the greatest disadvantage compared to the rest of the population.

(Chapter 2)

- ◆ Among *all* working-age (18-64) people with disabilities, only 21% say that they are **employed full or part-time**, compared to 59% of working-age people without disabilities – a **gap of 38 percentage points**.
- ◆ This gap has been decreasing since 1998, but it still remains large and its decline has been slow (gap in 1998: 50 points; 2000: 49 points; 2004: 43 points).
- ◆ People with disabilities who are not employed describe themselves as unemployed but looking for work (14%), unemployed and not looking for work (14%), retired (14%), a stay-at-home spouse or partner (7%), or something else (29%).
- ◆ Among those with disabilities who describe themselves as unemployed, 73% cite their disability as one of the reasons why they are not working right now. Other reasons for unemployment include being unable to find a job in their line of work (cited by 56%) and being unable to get the accommodations needed to effectively perform in the workplace

(37%). Almost one-quarter (23%) mention as a reason the fear that getting a job would mean losing their federal health benefits.

- ◆ A significant minority of people with disabilities (43%) claim that they have encountered some form of job discrimination throughout their life. The percentage remains the same when considering only those who are 18-64 and employed full or part-time (43%) but drops to 26% when limiting it to employees' experiences of the past five years, suggesting that job discrimination based on disability status has been declining in recent years.

A Closer Look at Employed People with Disabilities (Ages 18-64)

- ◆ Two-in-five (42%) employees with disabilities feel that their work requires them to use their full abilities. This number has remained steady since 1998.
- ◆ Most are either comfortable (49%) or indifferent (35%) about disclosing their disability status at work. Only 16% report that they are not comfortable disclosing that they have a disability.
- ◆ A large majority (78%) of employed people with disabilities say someone at their organization knows they have a disability. Of those who have disclosed that they have a disability, half (49%) say they did so because they thought it was important for others to know, while a third report that part of the reason was because their ability to perform essential job duties was negatively affected (33%) or because it is a visible disability (32%).
- ◆ A quarter (26%) of employed people with disabilities have experienced discomfort or a negative reaction from a supervisor, co-worker or customer in their current job.
- ◆ Although only 5% of employed people with disabilities report that they have used a state, federal, non-profit, or community-based service provider agency to help them get their current job, one-quarter of all people with disabilities (24%), regardless of employment status, have used such an agency before.

Poverty

People with disabilities report that they are still much more likely than people without disabilities to be living in poverty¹. (Chapter 3)

- ◆ People with disabilities are more than twice as likely as people without disabilities to report that they **have a household income of \$15,000 or less** (34% versus 15%) – **a gap of 19 percentage points**.
- ◆ Likewise, people with disabilities are more than half as likely as people without disabilities to say that they live in households that earn more than \$50,000 annually (18% versus 38%).
- ◆ Although changes in the absolute numbers of those with incomes of \$15,000 or less should be interpreted with caution when not controlling for inflation, the gap between people with and without disabilities with household incomes at this level has remained relatively stable since 1986 (19 percentage points in 2010, 17 percentage points in 2004, 19 points in 2000, and 22 points in 1986, 1994, and 1998).
- ◆ As might be expected due to the low employment rates of people with disabilities, their personal income is substantially lower than their household income. Just about half (48%) report a personal income of \$15,000 or less and only 7% say they have a personal income over \$50,000.

¹ The 2009 U.S. Census Bureau Poverty threshold was \$14,570 for a two-person non-elderly household.

Financial Situation

Americans with disabilities are much more likely than their non-disabled counterparts to say that they are facing financial hardships. (Chapter 3)

- ◆ A majority (58%) of people with disabilities report that they are **struggling to get by, going further into debt each month or living paycheck to paycheck, not going into debt, but not gaining much either**, compared to only one-third (34%) of people without disabilities – a **gap of 24 percentage points**.
- ◆ Perhaps most troubling, more than twice as many people with disabilities seem to be going further into debt each month as compared to people without disabilities (21% versus 8%).
- ◆ The more severe the disability, the worse the financial situation. Only 6% of people with a slight disability say that they are struggling to get by and going further into debt each month compared to 32% of people with a very severe disability.
- ◆ Examining other financial indicators, one-third (34%) of people with disabilities have applied for a loan and been denied. On a more positive note, about three-in-five people with disabilities (59%) own their home.

Education

With regard to education attainment, notable improvements have been made over the past 24 years, but findings indicate that a modest gap still exists. (Chapter 4)

- ◆ 17% of people with disabilities report that they have **not completed high school**, compared to 11% of people without disabilities – a **gap of 6 percentage points**.
- ◆ The percentage of people without disabilities who say that they have not completed high school is exactly the same as 2004 (11%) so the decrease in the size of the gap from 10 percentage points to 6 points is due to a gain in education from people with disabilities.

- ◆ 19% of people with disabilities have reportedly graduated from college compared to 27% of their non-disabled counterparts. These figures have increased for both groups (up from 14% in 2004 for people with disabilities and up from 25% in 2004 for people without disabilities).
- ◆ Although one-in-six people with disabilities has not completed high school, there has still been marked progress in the area of education over the past 24 years. While 82% of people with disabilities have graduated from high school today, this share was only 61% in 1986.

Health Care

People with disabilities still report a higher likelihood of going without needed healthcare services today, and they are also slightly more likely to say that they have trouble accessing needed mental health services. (Chapter 5)

- ◆ People with disabilities are more likely to say that they **have gone without needed health care on at least one occasion in the past year**, when compared to people without disabilities (19% and 10%, respectively) – **a gap of 9 percentage points**.
- ◆ The gap has decreased slightly from 11 percentage points in 2004, but this decrease is not due to improved access for people with disabilities. Instead, getting the needed care has become more of a problem for people without disabilities (10% in 2010 up from 7% in 2004).
- ◆ On a more encouraging note, neither population reports having as much trouble accessing mental health services, though twice as many people with disabilities (7%) say they **did not get needed help from a mental health professional on at least one occasion in the past year** compared to people without disabilities (3%). This is **a gap of 4 percentage points**.

Transportation

Many people with disabilities state that they continue to face transportation challenges. (Chapter 6)

- ◆ People with disabilities are much more likely than people without disabilities to **consider inadequate transportation to be a problem** (34% versus 16%, respectively) – **a gap of 18 percentage points.**
- ◆ Transportation appears to have become more of a problem in 2010 for both people with and without disabilities: the indicator increased from 30% in 2004 to 34% in 2010 for people with disabilities and from 13% in 2004 to 16% in 2010 for people without disabilities. More than likely there is an economic factor contributing to this increase.
- ◆ The transportation gap between people with and without disabilities has widened by 5 percentage points since we started measuring it (13% in 1998 to 18% in 2010).

Socializing

People with disabilities are also less likely than those without disabilities to report that they socialize with friends, relatives, or neighbors, once again suggesting that there are significant barriers to participation in leisure activities for this population. (Chapter 7)

- ◆ Significant majorities of people with and without disabilities indicate that they **socialize with friends, family, or neighbors at least twice a month.** However, people with disabilities appear to socialize less often than people without disabilities (79% versus 90%) – **a gap of 11 percentage points.**
- ◆ Younger people with disabilities (ages 18-29) are actually more likely than their non-disabled counterparts to say that they socialize with close friends, relatives, or neighbors at least twice a month (94% versus 91%).

- ◆ With respect to socializing, the gap between people with and without disabilities has remained steady since 2000 (11 percentage points today versus 10 points in 2004 and 11 points in 2000). (Exhibit 4)

Going to Restaurants

People with disabilities are also significantly less likely to report that they go to restaurants, even more so than they were in 2004. Even across similar income levels, people with disabilities are less likely to be dining out, implying that other issues may be at play in addition to the financial factor, such as lack of accessibility, negative public attitudes, or discomfort. (Chapter 7)

- ◆ People with disabilities are reportedly less likely to **go to restaurants at least twice a month** than are people without disabilities (48% versus 75%) – **a gap of 27 percentage points**.
- ◆ The gap has increased significantly from 16 percentage points in 2004. This growth is primarily because of a significant drop in 2010 of the number of people with disabilities who are dining out (from 57% in 2004 to 48% in 2010). There has been essentially no change in the number of people without disabilities who are eating out (from 73% in 2004 to 75% in 2010).
- ◆ People with somewhat (40%) or very severe disabilities (32%) are much less likely than are people with slight (55%) or moderate disabilities (66%) to say they eat in restaurants at least twice a month.

Attendance at Religious Services

Again in 2010, people with disabilities are less likely than people without disabilities to attend religious services on a regular basis. (Chapter 8)

- ◆ Half of people with disabilities (50%) state that they **attend religious services at least once per month**. However, 57% of people without disabilities do the same – **a gap of 7 percentage points**.
- ◆ The gap between people with and without disabilities in terms of attendance at religious services is almost identical to that in 2004 and all previous years with the exception of 2000 when this gap was wider at 18 percentage points. (Exhibit 4)

Political Participation

The gap in political participation, defined as voting, appeared to close in the 2008 Presidential election season.² (Chapter 9)

- ◆ According to *The Harris Poll* 2008 pre-election survey, people with disabilities were as likely as those without disabilities to vote in the 2008 Presidential election, with turnout for both of these populations estimated at 59% – **a gap of zero percentage points**.
- ◆ This is a continuation of the trend which has shown a narrowing of the gap since the 1996 Presidential election year: it was 11 percentage points in 1992, peaked at 17 percentage points in 1996, returned to 11 points again in 2000, and then dropped to 4 percentage points in 2004.

² The gap in political participation is based on estimated voter turnout among people with and without disabilities, with trended data available going back to the 1992 elections. (Post-election data on *actual turnout* based on exit polls do not break out people with and without disabilities.)

- ◆ Although other sources³ have reported a gap in voter turnout between people with and without disabilities in the 2008 Presidential election, their data corroborates the new Harris Interactive finding that the political participation gap narrowed significantly in the 2008 election.
- ◆ People with disabilities were once again more likely to vote for the Democratic Presidential candidate, Senator Barack Obama, unlike in 2004 when they voted for the Republican candidate, President George W. Bush, for the first time. According to the final Harris Poll 2008 pre-election survey, half of people with disabilities (50%) supported Obama as opposed to 44% for McCain.

Satisfaction with Life

Given the size and persistence of the various gaps between people with and without disabilities, it is not surprising that people with disabilities are on average less satisfied with their lives and that the gap on this key indicator has not change. (Chapter 10)

- ◆ People with disabilities are much less likely to say that they are **very satisfied with life in general** than are people without disabilities (34% versus 61%, respectively) – **a gap of 27 percentage points**.
- ◆ This gap in life satisfaction is exactly the same as the 2004 measure in terms of absolute measures. Considering the various negative consequences of the economic downturn, it is not altogether surprising that there has been no increase in life satisfaction since 2004.

³ According to an analysis conducted by Lisa Schur and Douglas Kruse of the Current Population Survey Voting Supplement, the voting gap between people with and without disabilities in 2008 was 7 percentage points. Schur and Kruse estimated that approximately 35% more people with disabilities voted in the 2008 presidential election as compared to the 2000 election.

Technology

The second largest gap between people with and without disabilities is regarding using technology to access the Internet. People with disabilities are much less likely to use the Internet and this gap exists across all age groups. (Chapter 12)

- ◆ 85% of adults without disabilities claim to **use a computer or other electronic device to access the Internet from home, work or another location**, whereas only 54% of adults with disabilities report the same – **a gap of 31 percentage points**.
- ◆ The gap is smallest among the youngest cohort but a difference still exists (10 percentage points). The gap increases threefold among those 65 or older to 33 percentage points.

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)

Most Americans with disabilities do not believe that the ADA has had either a positive or a negative impact on their lives. (Chapter 11)

- ◆ A majority (61%) of people with disabilities say that the ADA of 1990 has made no difference in their life, while just about one-quarter (23%) report that the ADA has made their life better. Only 4% report that it has made their life worse and 7% have not heard of the ADA.

Perceptions of People with Disabilities

A majority of people with disabilities say they are treated the same as others when people learn that they have a disability or health problem. However, a considerable minority have experienced a negative reaction. (Chapter 11)

- ◆ Around three-quarters (72%) say they are treated the same as others when people learn they have a disability and half (50%) report that people are surprised to find out about their disability. On the other hand, 28% report that people generally act as if they are sorry for the person with a disability, 27% say they are treated differently and 14% say people tend to avoid further contact with them.
- ◆ People with more severe disabilities are much more likely to describe negative experiences when asked how people generally react toward them: half (49%) of people with somewhat or very severe disabilities describe negative experiences, compared to 29% of those with slight or moderate disabilities.

Exhibit 1
Key "Indicators" for People with Disabilities – Trends 1986-2010

	<u>2010</u>	<u>2004</u>	<u>2000</u>	<u>1998</u>	<u>1994</u>	<u>1986</u>
Base:	1,001 %	1,267 %	997 %	989 %	1003 %	981 %
Employment						
Works either full or part-time (18-64)	21	35	32	29	31	34
Poverty**						
Annual household income \$15,000 or less	34	26	29	34	40	51
Education*						
Has not graduated from high school	17	21	22	20	24	39
Health Care*						
Did not get needed care on at least one occasion in past year	19	18	19	21	18	n/a
Transportation*						
Inadequate transportation considered a problem	34	30	30	30	n/a	n/a
Socializing						
Socializes with close friends, relatives, or neighbors at least twice a month	79	79	81	82	81	n/a
Going to Restaurants						
Goes to a restaurant at least twice a month	48	56	56	51	50	48
Attendance at Religious Services						
Goes to church, synagogue, or any other place of worship at least once a month	50	49	47	54	48	55
Political Participation**						
Voter turnout in the Presidential election	59 (2008)	52	41	33 (1996)	45 (1992)	n/a
Satisfaction with Life						
Very satisfied with life in general	34	34	33	33	35	39
Access to Mental Health Services*						
Did not get help from mental health professional on at least one occasion in past year	3	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Technology						
Uses a computer/electronic device to access the Internet	54	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Financial Situation*						
Struggling to get by or Living paycheck to paycheck	58	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

* These variables are "negative" in that a higher score indicates more of a disadvantage.

† Data have not been adjusted for inflation.

** Source: Harris Poll, selected Presidential election years.

Exhibit 2
A Comparison between People With and Without Disabilities on
Key “Indicator” Measures (2010)

	People With <u>Disabilities</u>	People Without <u>Disabilities</u>	Gap in Percentage <u>Points</u>
Base:	1,001 %	788 %	
Employment			
Works either full or part-time (18-64)	21	59	38
Poverty*			
Annual household income \$15,000 or less	34	15	19
Education*			
Has not graduated from high school	17	11	6
Health Care*			
Did not get needed care on at least one occasion in past year	19	10	9
Transportation*			
Inadequate transportation considered a problem	34	16	18
Socializing			
Socializes with close friends, relatives, or neighbors at least twice a month	79	90	11
Going to Restaurants			
Goes to a restaurant at least twice a month	48	75	27
Attendance at Religious Services			
Goes to church, synagogue, or any other place of worship at least once a month	50	57	7
Political Participation**			
Voter turnout in the Presidential election	59 (2008)	59	0
Satisfaction with Life			
Very satisfied with life in general	34	61	27
Access to Mental Health Services*			
Did not get help from mental health professional on at least one occasion in past year	7	3	4
Technology			
Uses a computer/electronic device to access the Internet	85	54	31
Financial Situation*			
Struggling to get by or Living paycheck to paycheck	58	34	24

* These variables are “negative” in that a higher score indicates more of a disadvantage.

** Source: 2008 Harris Poll.

Exhibit 3
Key "Indicators," by Severity of Disability (2010)

	<u>Slight or Moderate Disabilities</u>	<u>Very or Somewhat Severe Disabilities</u>	<u>All People With Disabilities</u>	<u>People Without Disabilities</u>
Base:	431 %	550 %	1,001 %	788 %
Employment				
Works either full or part-time (18-64)	30	16	21	59
Poverty*				
Annual household income \$15,000 or less	26	38	34	15
Education*				
Has not graduated from high school	12	21	17	11
Health Care*				
Did not get needed care on at least one occasion in past year	13	23	19	10
Transportation*				
Inadequate transportation a problem	24	41	34	16
Socializing				
Socializes with close friends, relatives, or neighbors at least twice a month	87	73	79	90
Going to Restaurants				
Goes to a restaurant at least twice a month	63	37	48	75
Attendance at Religious Services				
Goes to church, synagogue, other place of worship at least once a month	58	46	50	57
Satisfaction with Life				
Very satisfied with life in general	44	27	34	61
Access to Mental Health Services*				
Did not get help from mental health professional on at least one occasion in past year	4	10	7	3
Technology				
Uses a computer/electronic device to access the Internet	55	57	54	50
Financial Situation*				
Struggling to get by or Living paycheck to paycheck	45	74	58	34

* These variables are "negative" in that a higher score indicates more of a disadvantage.

Note: Political participation is not included in this table as these data were not gathered from this survey, but rather from the Harris Poll in selected Presidential election years.

Exhibit 4
Trends in Gaps for "Indicator" Measures—1986-2010
(Percentage Points)

	2010 <u>Gaps</u> %	2004 <u>Gaps</u> %	2000 <u>Gaps</u> %	1998 <u>Gaps</u> %	1994 <u>Gaps</u> %	1986 <u>Gaps</u> %
Employment						
Works either full or part-time (age 18-64)	38	43	49	50	n/a	n/a
Poverty						
Annual household income \$15,000 or less	19	17	19	22	22	22
Education						
Has not graduated from high school	6	10	13	11	12	24
Health Care						
Did not get needed care on at least one occasion in past year	9	11	13	10	5	n/a
Transportation						
Inadequate transportation considered a problem	18	17	20	13	n/a	n/a
Socializing						
Socializes with close friends, relatives, or neighbors at least twice a month	11	10	11	n/a	n/a	n/a
Going to Restaurants						
Goes to a restaurant at least twice a month	27	16	25	n/a	n/a	25
Attendance at Religious Services						
Goes to church, synagogue, or any other place of worship at least once a month	7	8	18	3	10	11
Political Participation*						
Voter turnout in the Presidential election	0 (2008)	4	11	17 (1996)	11 (1992)	n/a
Satisfaction with Life						
Very satisfied with life in general	27	27	34	28	20	11
Access to Mental Health Services						
Did not get help from mental health professional on at least one occasion in past year	4	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Technology						
Uses a computer/electronic device to access the Internet	31	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Financial Situation						
Struggling to get by or Living paycheck to paycheck	24	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

* Source: Harris Poll, selected Presidential election years.

Exhibit 5
Change in Gaps since Benchmark Year
(Percentage Points)

	2010 <u>Gaps</u> %	Benchmark Year <u>Gaps*</u> %	Change in Size of Gaps
Employment			
Works either full or part-time (age 18-64)	38	50 (1998)	-12
Poverty			
Annual household income \$15,000 or less	19	22	-3
Education			
Has not graduated from high school	6	24	-18
Health Care			
Did not get needed care on at least one occasion in past year	9	5 (1994)	+4
Transportation			
Inadequate transportation considered a problem	18	12 (1998)	+6
Socializing			
Socializes with close friends, relatives, or neighbors at least twice a month	11	11 (2000)	0
Going to Restaurants			
Goes to a restaurant at least twice a month	27	25	+2
Attendance at Religious Services			
Goes to church, synagogue, or any other place of worship at least once a month	7	11	+4
Political Participation**			
Voter turnout in the Presidential election	0 (2008)	11 (1992)	-11
Satisfaction with Life			
Very satisfied with life in general	27	11	+16

* The Benchmark Year is 1986 unless otherwise indicated

** Source: Harris Poll, selected Presidential election years.

Exhibit 6
A Comparison between People With and Without Disabilities on
“Indicator” Measures (2004)

	<u>People With Disabilities</u>	<u>People Without Disabilities</u>	<u>Gap in Percentage Points</u>
Base:	1,001 %	988 %	
Employment			
Works either full or part-time (18-64)	35	78	43
Poverty*			
Annual household income \$15,000 or less	26	9	17
Education*			
Has not graduated from high school	21	11	10
Health Care*			
Did not get needed care on at least one occasion in past year	18	7	11
Transportation*			
Inadequate transportation considered a problem	30	13	17
Socializing			
Socializes with close friends, relatives, or neighbors at least twice a month	79	89	10
Going to Restaurants			
Goes to a restaurant at least twice a month	57	73	16
Attendance at Religious Services			
Goes to church, synagogue, or any other place of worship at least once a month	49	57	8
Political Participation**			
Voter turnout in the Presidential election	52	56	4
Satisfaction with Life			
Very satisfied with life in general	34	61	27

* These variables are “negative” in that a higher score indicates more of a disadvantage.

** Source: 2004 Harris Poll.

Exhibit 7
A Comparison between People With and Without Disabilities on
“Indicator” Measures (2000)

	<u>People With Disabilities</u>	<u>People Without Disabilities</u>	<u>Gap in Percentage Points</u>
Base:	997 %	953 %	
Employment			
Works either full or part-time (18-64)	32	81	49
Poverty*			
Annual household income \$15,000 or less	29	10	19
Education*			
Has not graduated from high school	22	9	13
Health Care*			
Did not get needed care on at least one occasion in past year	19	6	13
Transportation*			
Inadequate transportation considered a problem	30	10	20
Socializing			
Socializes with close friends, relatives, or neighbors at least once a week	70	85	15
Going to Restaurants			
Goes to a restaurant at least once a week	40	59	19
Attendance at Religious Services			
Goes to church, synagogue, or any other place of worship at least once a month	47	65	18
Political Participation**			
Registered to vote in the Presidential election	41	52	11
Satisfaction with Life			
Very satisfied with life in general	33	67	34

* These variables are “negative” in that a higher score indicates more of a disadvantage.

** Source: 2000 Harris Poll.

Exhibit 8
A Comparison between People With and Without Disabilities on
“Indicator” Measures (1998)

	<u>People With Disabilities</u>	<u>People Without Disabilities</u>	<u>Gap in Percentage Points</u>
Base:	989 %	905 %	
Employment			
Works either full or part-time (18-64)	29	79	50
Poverty*			
Annual household income \$15,000 or less	34	12	22
Education*			
Has not graduated from high school	20	9	11
Health Care*			
Did not get needed care on at least one occasion in past year	21	11	10
Transportation*			
Inadequate transportation considered a problem	30	17	13
Socializing			
Socializes with close friends, relatives, or neighbors at least once a week	69	84	15
Going to Restaurants			
Goes to a restaurant at least once a week	33	60	27
Attendance at Religious Services			
Goes to church, synagogue, or any other place of worship at least once a month	54	57	3
Political Participation (1996)**			
Voter turnout in the Presidential election	33	50	17
Satisfaction with Life			
Very satisfied with life in general	33	61	28

* These variables are “negative” in that a higher score indicates more of a disadvantage.

** Source: 1996 Harris Poll.

Exhibit 9
A Comparison between People With and Without Disabilities on
“Indicator” Measures (1994)

	People With <u>Disabilities</u>	People Without <u>Disabilities</u>	Gap in Percentage <u>Points</u>
Base:	1003 %	1115 %	
Poverty*			
Annual household income \$15,000 or less	40	18	22
Education*			
Has not graduated from high school	24	12	12
Health Care*			
Did not get needed care on at least one occasion in past year	18	13	5
Socializing			
Socializes with close friends, relatives, or neighbors at least once a week	68	86	18
Going to Restaurants			
Goes to a restaurant at least once a week	34	55	21
Attendance at Religious Services			
Goes to church, synagogue, or any other place of worship at least once a month	48	58	10
Political Participation (1992)**			
Voter turnout in the Presidential election	45	56	11
Satisfaction with Life			
Very satisfied with life in general	35	55	20

* These variables are “negative” in that a higher score indicates more of a disadvantage.

** Source: 1992 Harris Poll.

Note: Only 8 “Key Indicators” are represented in this table, since 2 of the 10 indicators were not measured in 1994.

Exhibit 10
A Comparison between People With and Without Disabilities on
“Indicator” Measures (1986)

	<u>People With Disabilities</u>	<u>People Without Disabilities</u>	<u>Gap in Percentage Points</u>
Base:	981 %	1064 %	
Poverty*			
Annual household income \$15,000 or less	51	29	22
Education*			
Has not graduated from high school	39	15	24
Socializing			
Socializes with close friends, relatives, or neighbors at least once a week	75	85	10
Going to Restaurants			
Goes to a restaurant at least once a week	34	58	24
Attendance at Religious Services			
Goes to church, synagogue, or any other place of worship at least once a month	55	66	11
Satisfaction with Life			
Very satisfied with life in general	39	50	11

* These variables are “negative” in that a higher score indicates more of a disadvantage.
Note: Only 6 “Key Indicators” are represented in this table, since 4 of the 10 indicators were not measured in 1986.