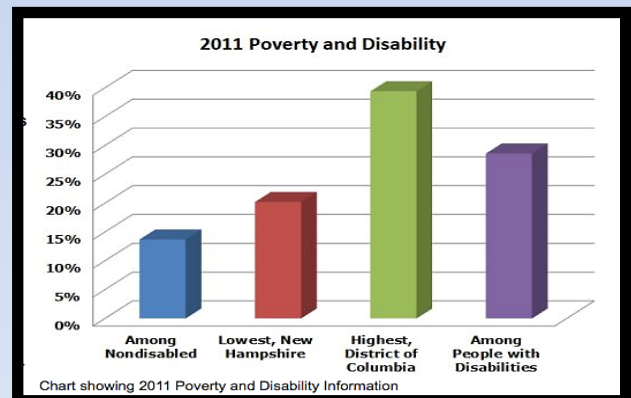
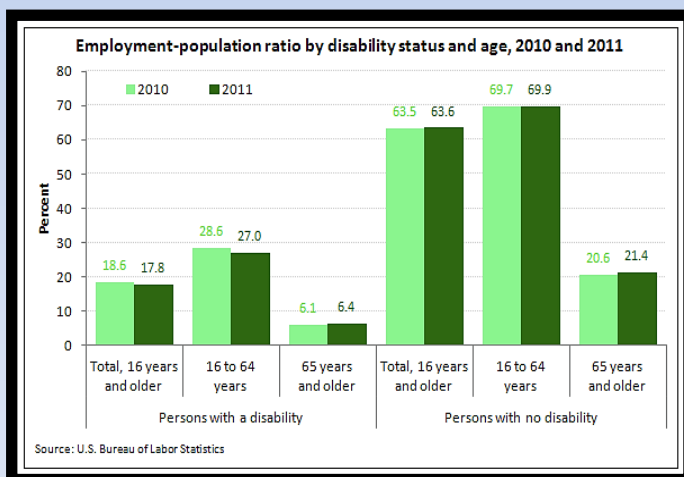
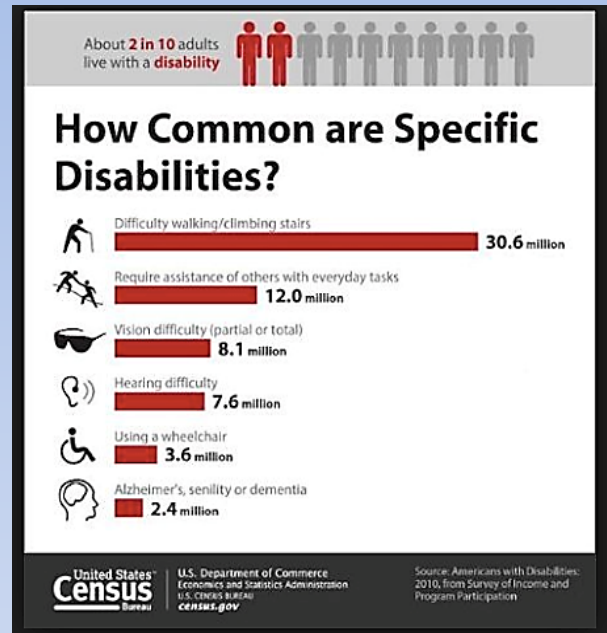
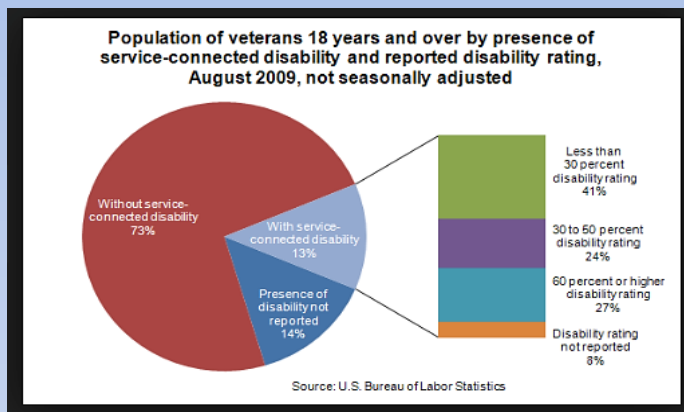


# Outreach to People with Disabilities: An Essential Call of our Faith

Despite unique skills and gifts, people with disabilities are disproportionately living in the margins of society. People with disabilities should have the right to achieve the fullest measure of personal development. This includes the right to equal opportunity in education, in employment, in housing, as well as the right to free access to public accommodations, facilities, and services. (from #10 Pastoral Statement on Persons with Disabilities)

## Disability Statistics

57 million people with disabilities (~20% of the population) are distributed throughout every segment of the U.S. society. Approximately 30% of Americans with disabilities live in poverty, 70% are unemployed, and 70% of individuals with disabilities, when surveyed, report that they have been victims of abuse.



*Through the generous support of individuals and parishes, NCPD implements the Church's teaching on the value, dignity, and belonging of all people with disabilities.*



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## Our Mission

Rooted in Gospel values that affirm the dignity of every person, the National Catholic Partnership on Disability (NCPD) works collaboratively to ensure meaningful participation of people with disabilities in all aspects of the life of the Church and society.

## More Info

The National Catholic Partnership on Disability (NCPD) was established in 1982 to implement in parishes and dioceses throughout the United States the 1978 *Pastoral Statement of U.S. Catholic Bishops on Persons with Disabilities* (Pastoral Statement).

## Supporting NCPD

NCPD is an independent 501(c)(3) organization.  
EIN#52-1262317

# Did You Know?

### Did you know ...

- that when Catholics with disabilities are able to access their faith and receive sacramental preparation, their parish participation makes families whole and enriches parish life for all?
- that many of the 15 million Catholics with a disability don't come to church because of access and/or inclusion issues?
- that children with disabilities sometimes don't receive sacraments beyond Baptism because parishes do not have appropriate materials and trained catechists?

### The U.S. Catholic Bishops ...

- envisioned an independent national office to serve these Catholics and their families, in their 1978 *Pastoral Statement of U.S. Catholic Bishops on Persons with Disabilities*. NCPD was created to serve the Catholic Church, its (arch) dioceses, seminaries, parishes, schools and ministries...and always its families.

*At the very least, we must undertake forms of evangelization that speak to the particular needs of persons with disabilities, make those liturgical adaptations that promote active participation, and provide help and services that reflect our loving concern.*  
*Pastoral Statement on Persons with Disabilities, par 14*

### NCPD implements the *Pastoral Statement* by ...

- advocating on issues affecting the life and dignity of people with disabilities.
- providing ongoing support and guidance to diocesan disability directors and other leaders in catechetical and pastoral ministries.
- evaluating dioceses and training priests, seminarians, deacons, and other parish and diocesan personnel.
- developing and distributing Disability Ministry Toolkit resources via [www.ncpd.org](http://www.ncpd.org).

### So that Catholics with a disability can...

- share their giftedness.
- deepen their faith through the sacraments and parish participation.
- create communities of belonging within the Catholic Church.

*To carry out our mission, NCPD relies on donations from diocesan Affiliate memberships, grants, and the generous donations of individuals and corporations. For more information about our programs, services, and giving opportunities, please visit*

[www.ncpd.org](http://www.ncpd.org)