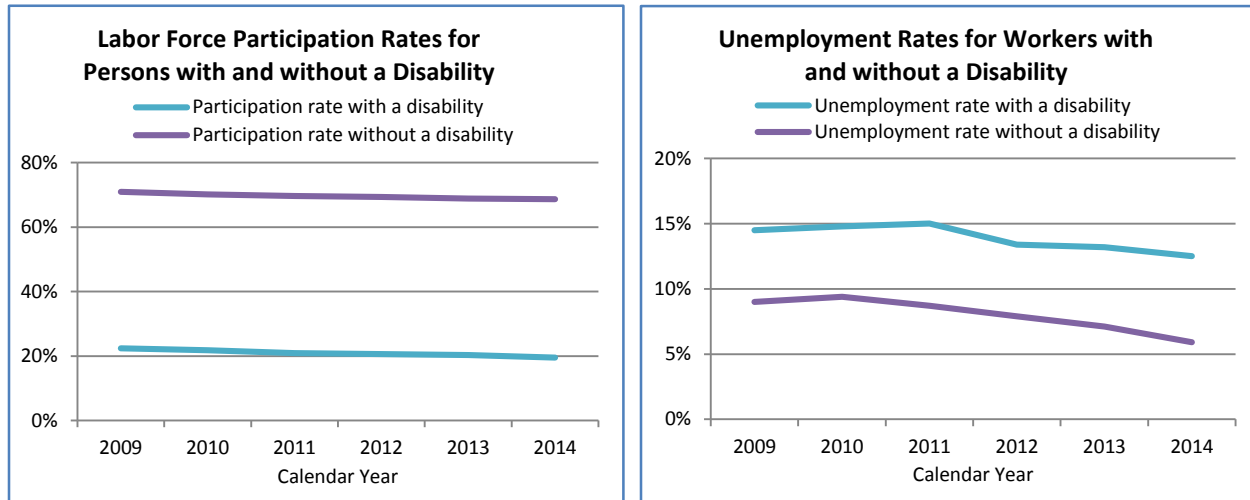




## Persons with Disabilities Have Higher Unemployment Rates and Lower Labor Force Participation Rates than Others

Workers with disabilities, who comprise less than four percent of the civilian labor force, participate at a much lower rate than people without disabilities and have a much higher unemployment rate than other workers. The differences for both measures grew between 2009 and 2014.



**NOTES:** Participation rate: the proportion of the civilian non-institutional population in the labor force.  
Unemployment rate: The number unemployed (no job, actively looking for work in the prior 4 weeks, and available for work) as a percent of the labor force.

A person with a disability has at least one of the following conditions: is deaf or has serious difficulty hearing; is blind or has serious difficulty seeing even when wearing glasses; has serious difficulty concentrating, remembering, or making decisions because of a physical, mental, or emotional condition; has serious difficulty walking or climbing stairs; has difficulty dressing or bathing; or has difficulty doing errands alone such as visiting a doctor's office or shopping because of a physical, mental, or emotional condition.

Annual data prior to 2009 were not available.

**SOURCES:** [Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Population Survey, Household Data, Table A-6 \(civilian labor force age 16+\)](#)  
[Office of Disability Employment Policy \(ODEP\), Disability Employment Statistics](#)

### Suggested Citation

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