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Research on Disability TRENDS  
October "Trends in Disability Employment" - National Update



## Research on Disability **TRENDS**

### nTIDE Jobs Report: Despite Economic Milestones, Employment Gap Remains for People with Disabilities

October 3, 2014

*Kessler Foundation and University of New Hampshire release  
September nTIDE Report – Monthly Update*

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**DURHAM, NH – October 3, 2014.** With the overall unemployment rate dropping below 6 percent for the first time since the Great Recession, the participation of people with disabilities continues to slip, according to today's National Trends in Disability Employment – Monthly Update (nTIDE), issued by [Kessler Foundation](#) and University of New Hampshire's [Institute on Disability](#) (UNH-IOD). Disability job training and employment initiatives support efforts to find work.

#### SAVE-THE-DATE!

2014 Annual Compendium of Disability Statistics and Research-to-Policy Roundtable

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Alternatives to Disability Benefit Receipt

Impact of the Work Requirement in Supplemental Nutrition Assistance (SNAP) on Low-Income Working-Age People with Disabilities

Employment Policy & Measurement RRTC Releases New Disability Policy Forum

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#### RESOURCES

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*Trends in Disability Employment – National Update is funded, in part, by a grant from the National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research (H133B120006), and*

national Trends In Disability Employment:  
Comparison of People With and Without Disabilities  
(September 2013 and September 2014)



SEPTEMBER 2014	Labor Force Participation Rate		Employment-Population Ratio		Percent Looking	
	Sep '13	Sep '14	Sep '13	Sep '14	Sep '13	Sep '14
	32.5	31.1	27.8	26.9	4.7	4.2
	% change ▲ 4.3		% change ▼ 3.2		% change ▼ 10.6	
	76.1	76.2	70.9	71.9	5.2	4.2
	% change ▲ 0.1		% change ▲ 1.4		% change ▼ 18.6	

Source: Kessler Foundation/University of New Hampshire Institute on Disability \* PWD – People with disabilities; PWOD – People without disabilities

In the [Bureau of Labor Statistics' Jobs Report](#) released Friday, October 3, the seasonally adjusted unemployment rate hit a new low for the first time since July 2008. "This is **very** important news for the overall economy," according to [Andrew Houtenville, Ph.D.](#), UNH-IOD Associate Professor of Economics. "The number of people with jobs has increased, so this is **not** the case in which people have stopped looking for work, causing the unemployment rate to go down."

"Despite the thriving economy, we see a stark contrast between people with and without disabilities," according to [John O'Neill, Ph.D.](#), Kessler Foundation's Director of Employment and Disability Research. "This is evident in the differences in the employment-to-population ratios between these two groups." The employment-to-population ratio decreased from 27.8 percent in September 2013 to 26.9 percent in September 2014 (down 3.2 percent; 0.9 points) for working-age people *with* disabilities. For people *without* disabilities, the employment-to-population ratio increased from 70.9 percent in September 2013 to

71.9 percent in September 2014 (up 1.4 percent; 1.0 percentage points). The employment-to-population ratio, a key indicator, reflects the percentage of people who are working relative to the total population (the number of people working divided by the number of people in the total population multiplied by 100).

*Kessler Foundation.*

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