

1.10 Disability

1.10.1 Population with Disabilities

The Census Bureau used indicators based on the three domains of disability, communication, mental and physical, to count the total population with disabilities. “The communication domain is a category of disability that involves limitations to a person’s ability to communicate with others. The mental domain encompasses limitations that stem from psychological or neurological conditions. The physical domain contains a wide range of limitations, but generally relates to respiratory, metabolic, and musculoskeletal body functions associated with movement.”¹

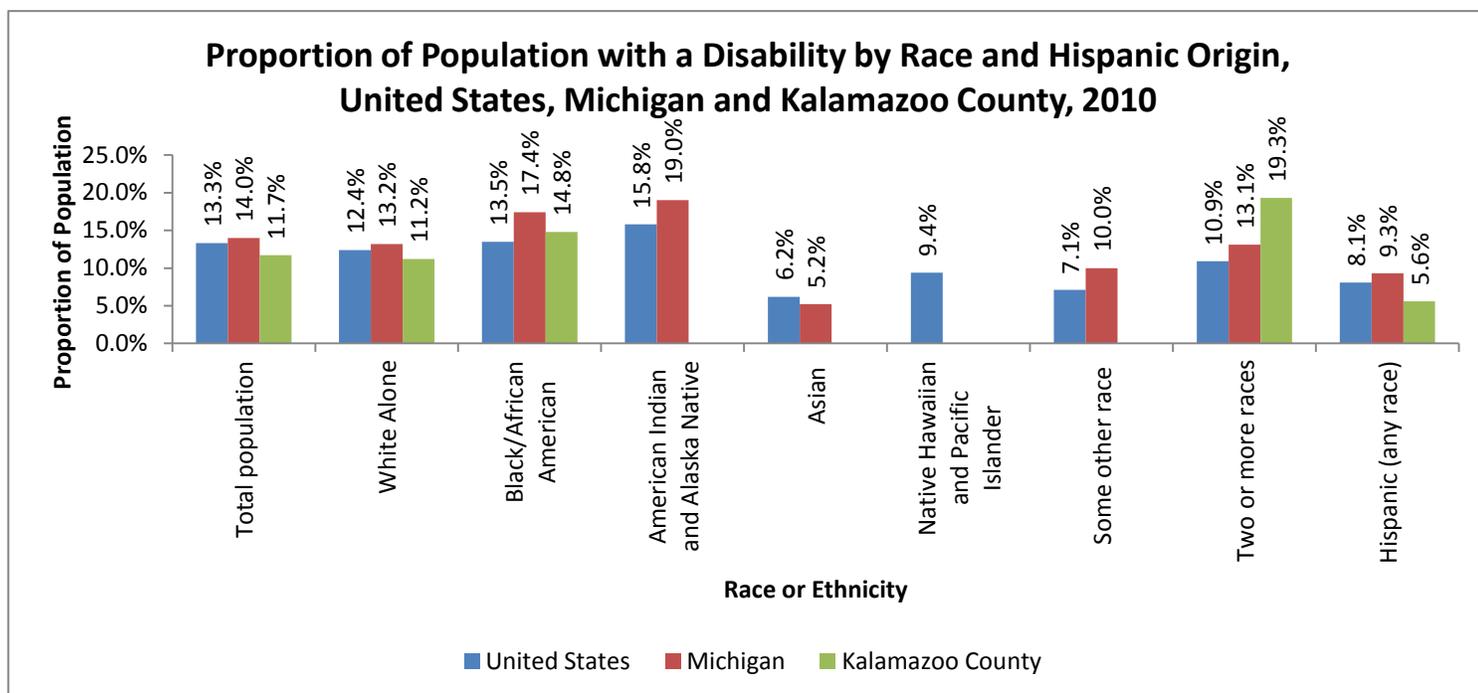
The measure included questions on Activities of Daily Living (ADL) and Instrumental Activities of Daily Living (IADL) measures. “ADL questions attempt to capture difficulty with basic activities around the home associated with caring for oneself. IADL questions attempt to capture difficulty with slightly more complex activities than ADLs.”²

Among the population aged five years and older, in 2010 the proportion of people who had a disability was slightly higher in Michigan (14.0%) than in Kalamazoo County (11.7%) or the United States (13.3%).

Variation by race and ethnicity in disability rates was seen across all geographies in 2010 data. Data on several racial groups (American Indian and Alaska Native, Asian, Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander, and “some other race”) was not available for Kalamazoo County. Of the data available, individuals who identify as “two or more races” experienced the highest rates of disability (19.3%) – a rate nearly 1.5 times the national average. Hispanics of any race experienced the lowest rates of disability in Kalamazoo County (5.6%) and experienced rates lower than state or national averages (9.3% and 8.1% respectively).

¹ U.S. Census Bureau, Disability Status and the Characteristics of People in Group Quarters: A Brief Analysis of Disability Prevalence Among the Civilian Noninstitutionalized and Total Populations in the American Community Survey, February 2008.

² See 1.



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 1-Year Estimates, 2010, B18101

Proportion of Population with Disability by Race and Hispanic Ethnicity, Kalamazoo County, Michigan and the United States, 2010

Racial or Ethnic Group	United States		Michigan		Kalamazoo County	
	Number of people with disabilities	% of group with a disability	Number of people with disabilities	% of group with a disability	Number of people with disabilities	% of group with a disability
Total population	40,387,885	13.3%	1,364,925	14.0%	29,193	11.7%
White Alone	27,993,031	12.4%	1,023,543	13.2%	23,163	11.2%
Black/African American	5,070,834	13.5%	235,092	17.4%	4,334	14.8%
American Indian and Alaska Native	393,277	15.8%	10,646	19.0%	N/A	N/A
Asian	902,144	6.2%	12,634	5.2%	N/A	N/A
Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander	46,637	9.4%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Some other race	1,046,811	7.1%	11,377	10.0%	N/A	N/A
Two or more races	901,978	10.9%	31,254	13.1%	1,140	19.3%
Hispanic (any race)	4,033,173	8.1%	40,379	9.3%	556	5.6%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 1-Year Estimates, 2010, B18101

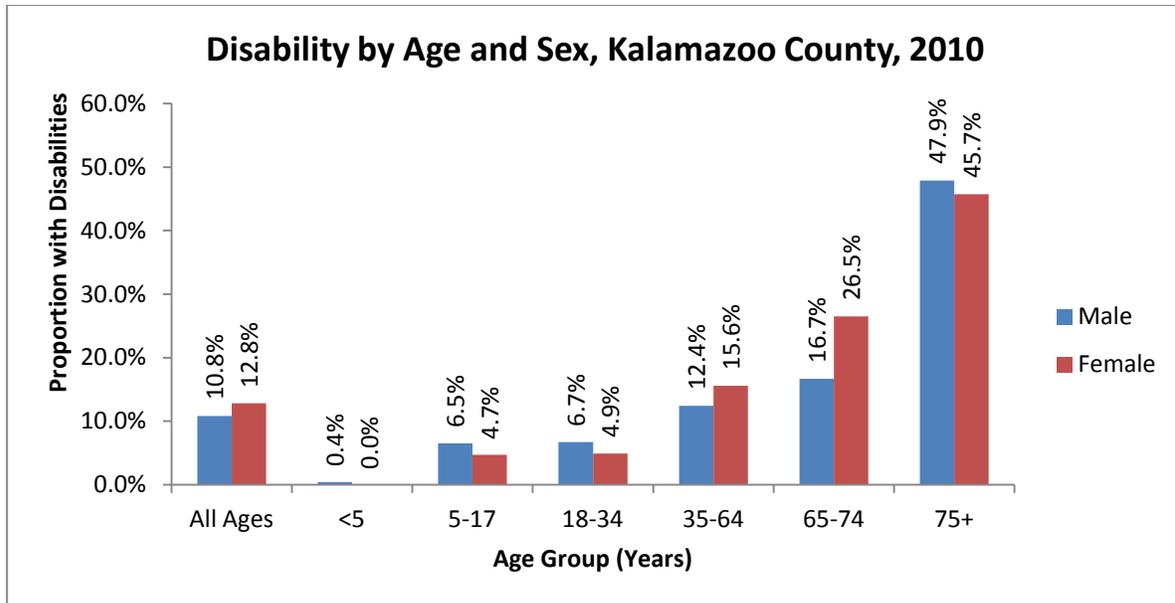
Rates of disability increase with age. This trend is consistent at the county, state and national level. Individuals in Kalamazoo County aged 65 and older experienced lower rates of disability than the state and national averages for these age groups. Among younger age groups, disability rates were similar at the county, state and national level.

Disability rates also vary by sex. In Kalamazoo County in 2010, females experienced slightly higher rates of disability than men (12.8% and 10.8% respectively). Rates of disability among females 34 and younger were lower than rates among men; conversely, females 35 and older experienced higher rates of disability than men.

**Population with a Disability by Age, United States,
Michigan and Kalamazoo County, 2010**

Age Group	United States		Michigan		Kalamazoo County	
	Number of people with disabilities	% of age group with disabilities	Number of people with disabilities	% of age group with disabilities	Number of people with disabilities	% of age group with disabilities
All Ages	36,354,712	11.9%	1,384,841	13.6%	29,410	11.8%
Under 5 years	156,038	0.8%	4,898	0.8%	33	0.2%
5-17 years	2,798,597	5.2%	109,403	6.3%	2,333	5.6%
18-34 years	3,745,876	5.4%	147,353	7.0%	4,164	5.8%
35-64 years	15,302,550	12.6%	567,312	14.2%	12,820	14.1%
65-74 years	5,498,041	25.4%	188,009	26.1%	3,491	22.1%
75+ years	8,853,610	50.5%	307,866	50.9%	6,569	46.6%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 1-Year Estimates, 2010, B18101



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 1-Year Estimates, 2010, B18101

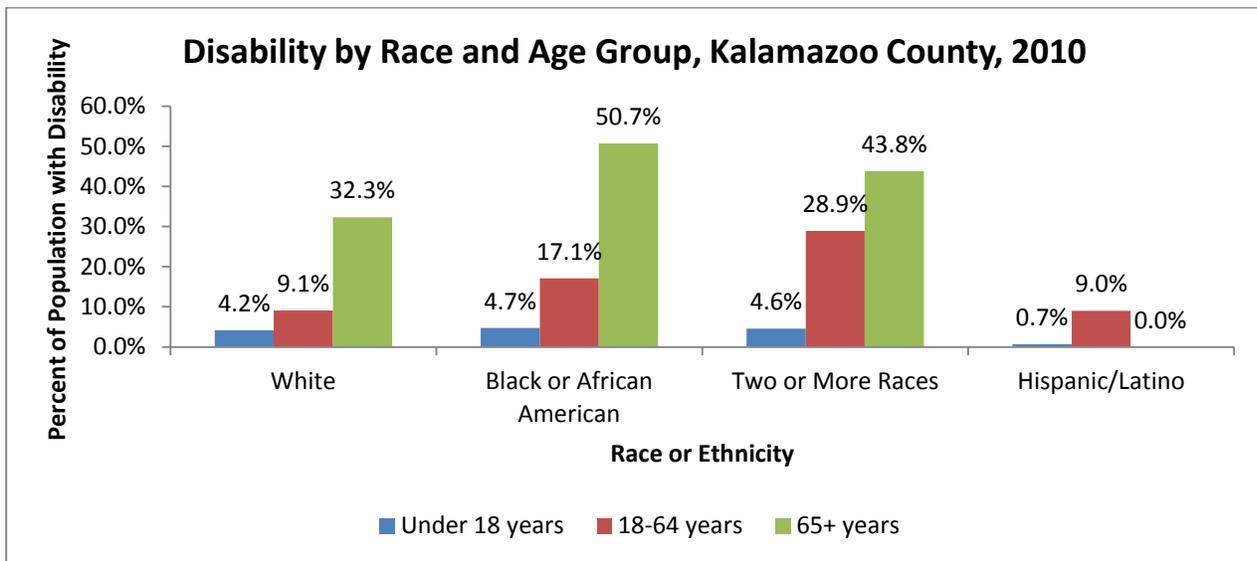
Population with a Disability by Age and Sex, Kalamazoo County, 2010

Age Group	Total Population		Males		Females	
	Number of people who have disabilities	% of age group who have disabilities	Number of people who have disabilities	% of age group who have disabilities	Number of people who have disabilities	% of age group who have disabilities
All Ages	29,410	11.8%	13,074	10.8%	16,336	12.8%
Under 5 years	33	0.2%	33	0.4%	0	0.0%
5-17 years	2,333	5.6%	1,387	6.5%	946	4.7%
18-34 years	4,164	5.8%	2,440	6.7%	1,724	4.9%
35-64 years	12,820	14.1%	5,402	12.4%	7,418	15.6%
65-74 years	3,491	22.1%	1,189	16.7%	2,302	26.5%
75+ years	6,569	46.6%	2,623	47.9%	3,946	45.7%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 1-Year Estimates, 2010, B18101

Because rates of disability vary by age group, it is possible that differences among racial and ethnic groups may be due to different age structures in these groups. For example, because younger people have lower rates of disability, if one group had a higher proportion of young people than another group, the group with an older population would likely have a higher rate of disability. However, when age-specific rates of disability are analyzed within these racial and ethnic groups, it is apparent that disparities remain even when controlling for age.

The chart below illustrates that although rates of disability among racial and ethnic groups are similar for the youngest age group (less than 18 years), rate differences among racial and ethnic groups emerge in older age groups. The rates of disability among African Americans aged 65 or older are noticeably higher than for other groups, as are disability rates for individuals of two or more races aged 18-64.



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 1-Year Estimates, 2010, B18101

Population with a Disability by Race/Hispanic Ethnicity and Age, Kalamazoo County, 2010

Racial/Ethnic Group	Under 18 Years		18-64 Years		65+ Years	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
White	1,771	4.2%	12,421	9.1%	8,971	32.3%
Black or African American	485	4.7%	2,931	17.1%	918	50.7%
Two or more races	110	4.6%	977	28.9%	53	43.8%
Hispanic/Latino	27	0.7%	529	9.0%	0	0.0%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 1-Year Estimates, 2010, B18101

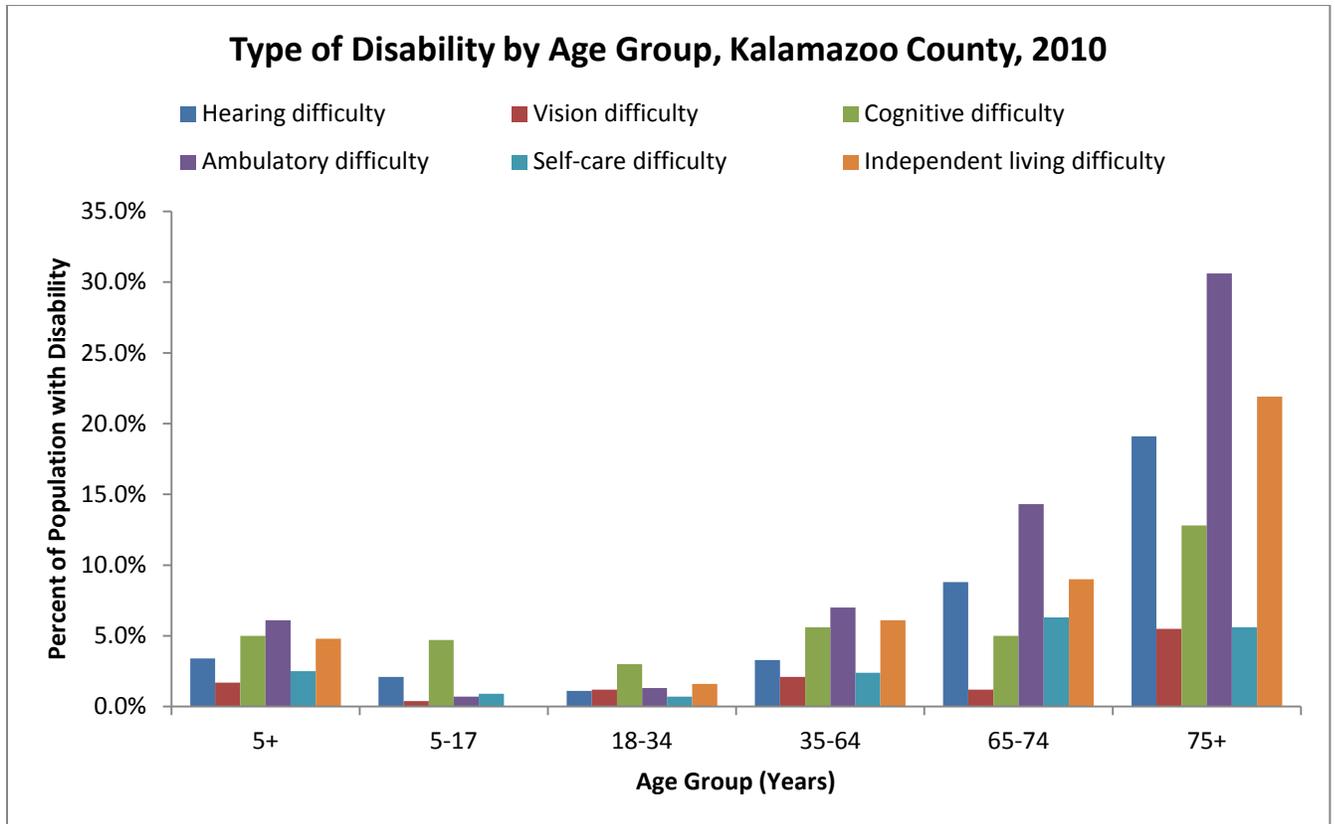
1.10.2 Types of Disabilities

Types of disabilities classified in the U.S. Census include hearing, vision, cognitive, ambulatory, self-care, and independent living. Descriptions of what was included in each type of disability are shown in the table below.

Disability Type	Conditions Included
Hearing Difficulty	Deaf or has serious difficulty hearing
Vision Difficulty	Blind or has serious difficulty seeing even when wearing glasses
Cognitive Difficulty	Due to a physical, mental, or emotional condition, the person has serious difficulty concentrating, remembering, or making decisions
Ambulatory Difficulty	Serious difficulty walking or climbing stairs
Self-Care Difficulty	Serious difficulty dressing or bathing
Independent Living Difficulty	Due to a physical, mental, or emotional condition, the person has difficulty doing errands alone such as visiting a doctor's office or shopping

An individual could be classified as having more than one type of disability; therefore, in the following tables and charts, the number of individuals with each type of disability will not sum to the total number of individuals with a disability. Rates of each type of disability represent all individuals who have the particular type of disability.

Among the Kalamazoo County population aged five years and older, the most common type of disability was ambulatory difficulty. However, within different age groups the type of disability that was most common varied. Among ages five to 17 years, the most common type of disability was cognitive difficulty (4.7% of the population in this age group had a mental disability). Among ages 35 to 64 years, ambulatory difficulties were most common (experienced by 7.0% of individuals), followed by independent living difficulties (in 6.1% of individuals). Among seniors ages 75 years and older, ambulatory difficulties were most common (in 30.6% of seniors) followed by independent living and hearing difficulties (experienced by 21.9% and 19.1% of seniors respectively).



*View table on following page for exact percentages

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 1-Year Estimates, 2010, B18102

Type of Disability by Age Group, Kalamazoo County, 2010

Type of Disability	All ages 5+ years		5-17 years		18-34 years	
	Number in age group with disability	% of age group with disability	Number in age group with disability	% of age group with disability	Number in age group with disability	% of age group with disability
Any disability	54,835	23.5%	2,841	6.8%	6,360	8.9%
Hearing difficulty	7,970	3.4%	87	2.1%	794	1.1%
Vision difficulty	3,929	1.7%	147	0.4%	882	1.2%
Cognitive difficulty	11,807	5.0%	1,941	4.7%	2,133	3.0%
Ambulatory difficulty	14,153	6.1%	301	0.7%	893	1.3%
Self-care difficulty	5,727	2.5%	365	0.9%	493	0.7%
Independent living difficulty	11,249	4.8%	N/A	N/A	1,165	1.6%

Type of Disability	35-64 years		65-74 years		75+ years	
	Number in age group with disability	% of age group with disability	Number in age group with disability	% of age group with disability	Number in age group with disability	% of age group with disability
Any disability	24,193	26.6%	7,047	44.6%	13,044	92.5%
Hearing difficulty	3,013	3.3%	1,384	8.8%	2,692	19.1%
Vision difficulty	1,942	2.1%	185	1.2%	773	5.5%
Cognitive difficulty	5,131	5.6%	791	5.0%	1,811	12.8%
Ambulatory difficulty	6,378	7.0%	2,264	14.3%	4,317	30.6%
Self-care difficulty	2,163	2.4%	1,000	6.3%	1,706	5.6%
Independent living difficulty	5,566	6.1%	1,423	9.0%	3,095	21.9%

*Sum of individuals with each type of disability does not equal the number of individuals with any disability, because a person may have more than one type of disability.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 1-Year Estimates, 2010, B18102-B18107