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Deaf Statistics

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Deaf employment in the U.S.

Deaf employment in the United States

For the first time, there are some statistics investigating the employment rate of working-age individuals with hearing loss in the United States. The following table is taken directly from [Table 2.3](#), found in the [Disability Statistics Compendium](#) for 2013, and is based on data from the 2012 American Community Survey from the [Census Bureau](#). All caveats, which can be found at the bottom of Table 2.3, linked above, should be kept in mind when reviewing the following. This includes other warnings from elsewhere within this guide, in regard to the difficulties of defining the term "hearing disability."

Three notes to consider when comparing the following table to broader employment statistics for the general population:

- This data comes from the 2012 American Community Survey; as such, general employment data to be compared to this table should originate from approximately the same time period.
- Neither the *Compendium* nor the Census Bureau clarify very much about what percentage of the population with hearing loss includes individuals with additional disabilities; these numbers likely include individuals with visual, mobility, intellectual, or other disabilities in addition to deafness.
- There is still little differentiation between types and severity levels of hearing loss; thus, this information should be considered as holding a great deal of nuance.

State	Population ages 18-64 with hearing disability (est)	Employed (#)	Employed (%)
Alabama	83,376	36,550	43.8
Alaska	16,552	8,888	53.7
Arizona	82,244	41,662	50.7

Arkansas	52,197	25,725	49.3
California	363,508	169,171	46.5
Colorado	67,322	38,203	56.7
Connecticut	36,730	20,721	56.4
Delaware	9,656	5,131	53.1
District of Columbia	4,412	1,719	39.0
Florida	211,049	97,494	46.2
Georgia	118,214	56,849	48.1
Hawaii	15,857	9,145	57.7
Idaho	27,539	14,899	54.1
Illinois	126,710	63,541	50.1
Indiana	98,209	50,221	51.1
Iowa	37,882	23,305	61.5
Kansas	42,974	25,752	59.9
Kentucky	82,461	34,173	41.4
Louisiana	78,451	38,897	49.6
Maine	25,705	13,611	53.0
Maryland	55,235	32,265	58.4
Massachusetts	70,648	36,615	51.8
Michigan	137,702	60,392	43.9
Minnesota	63,688	37,421	58.8
Mississippi	49,323	20,459	41.5
Missouri	99,982	47,589	47.6
Montana	16,554	9,518	57.5
Nebraska	24,715	16,186	65.5
Nevada	38,405	19,003	49.5
New Hampshire	18,443	11,010	59.7
New Jersey	69,426	33,114	47.7
New Mexico	38,856	16,585	42.7
New York	185,731	85,499	46.0
North Carolina	130,610	59,934	45.9
North Dakota	9,476	6,524	68.8
Ohio	159,814	78,876	49.6
Oklahoma	71,442	37,003	51.8
Oregon	160,899	35,641	52.4
Pennsylvania	164,601	85,370	51.9
Puerto Rico	58,198	15,514	26.7
Rhode Island	12,427	6,166	49.6
South Carolina	67,426	28,629	42.6

South Dakota	14,074	9,964	70.8
Tennessee	103,809	45,582	43.9
Texas	357,574	182,971	51.2
Utah	30,716	17,102	55.7
Vermont	10,868	5,449	50.1
Virginia	79,940	41,548	52.0
Washington	105,878	55,901	52.8
West Virginia	47,463	15,519	32.7
Wisconsin	70,800	39,804	56.2
Wyoming	10,256	7,043	68.7
Total	4,022,334	1,975,853	49.1

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