



LD/ADHD Overview Statistics

General

- **One out of every five people in the United States is identified as having a learning or attention issue.** “The State of Learning Disabilities” 2017. National Center for Learning Disabilities.
- **A disproportionate number of students with disabilities who are imprisoned - 85% of incarcerated youth have learning and/or emotional disabilities.** “Breaking the School-to-Prison Pipeline for Students with Disabilities.” 2015. National Council on Disability.
- **Language-based learning disabilities cost society approximately \$7.5 billion annually.** The Dana Consortium on Language-Based Learning Disabilities (1999) as reported by: <http://web.archive.org/web/20160516213003/http://coletti.org/ld/stats.html>
- **The annual cost of ADHD to society is estimated to be \$14,500 per child, totaling \$42.5 billion per year.** Pelham, W. E., Foster, E. M. & Robb, J. A. “The Economic Impact of Attention Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder in Children and Adolescents. 2007. *Ambulatory Pediatrics* (7)1, 121-131.
- **A student with ADHD (grades K-12) costs society on average about \$5,007 per year, as compared to \$318 for students without ADHD.** Robb, J. A. et al. “The Estimated Annual Cost of ADHD to the U.S. Education System.” 2011. *School Mental Health* 3(3), 169-177
- **According to BLS, in 2016, 17.9% of persons with a disability were employed. By contrast, the employment-population ratio for people without a disability was 65.3%.** U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (<https://www.bls.gov/home.htm>)

Poverty, Socioeconomic & Wage

- **Roughly 92% of individuals diagnosed with an LD have incomes of less than \$50,000 within 8 years of graduating high school, and 67% earned \$25,000 or less.** “The State of Learning Disabilities.” 2017. National Center for Learning Disabilities.
- **“The Prevalence of reported LD is much higher among those living in poverty (2.6%) versus those living above poverty (1.5%). Among those 18–64 years of age, the percentage in poverty is almost twice as high as those above poverty..”** “The State of Learning Disabilities.” 2014. National Center for Learning Disabilities.
- **“In 2013, six% of children living in families at or above the poverty line, and 12% of children below it, were identified as having a learning disability.”** “Learning disabilities.” 1014. Child Trends Databank.



- **“Median earnings for people with no disability were over \$30,469, compared to the \$20,250 median income reported for individuals with a disability.”** American Community Survey: Disability characteristics.” 2015. U.S. Census Bureau.
- **“Between 2009 and 2010, the poverty rate and number in poverty for people aged 18 to 64 with a disability rose from 25.0% and 3.7 million to 27.9% and 4.2 million. Among people aged 18 to 64 without a disability, 12.5% and 22.0 million were in poverty in 2010—up from 12.0% and 21.0 million in 2009. People aged 18 to 64 with a disability represented 15.9% of people aged 18 to 64 in poverty compared to 7.8% of all people aged 18 to 64.”** U.S. Census Bureau 2011
- **Despite federal assistance, persons with disabilities are more likely to be unemployed and live in poverty. The high incidence of poverty among persons with a disability fuels doubts about the sufficiency of public assistance and incentives to help people return to work.”** “Disability & Socioeconomic Status.” n.d. American Psychological Association. Accessed from: <https://www.apa.org/pi/ses/resources/publications/disability.aspx>

Employment and Education

- **Among LD youth, only 41% complete post-secondary education, and only 46% are able to obtain regular paid employment within two years of graduating from high school.** “The State of Learning Disabilities.” 2017. National Center for Learning Disabilities
- **Students with LD drop-out of high school at three times the rate of all students.** “The State of Learning Disabilities.” 2017. National Center for Learning Disabilities
- **Young adults with learning disabilities enroll in 4 year colleges at half the rate of the general population.** “The State of Learning Disabilities.” 2017. National Center for Learning Disabilities
- **Students with disabilities are more than twice as likely to be suspended. The loss of instructional time increases the risk of course failure and school aversion.** “The State of Learning Disabilities.” 2017. National Center for Learning Disabilities
- **Paid transitional employment is one of the strongest predictors of positive post-school outcomes for youth with disabilities.** Gold, P.B., Fabian, E.S., and Luecking. R.G. “Job Acquisition by Urban Youth With Disabilities Transitioning From School to Work.” 2013. *Rehabilitation Counseling Bulletin* (57), 31-45.