

Disability Data from the Current Population Survey

Terence M. McMenamin

U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics
Division of Labor Force Statistics

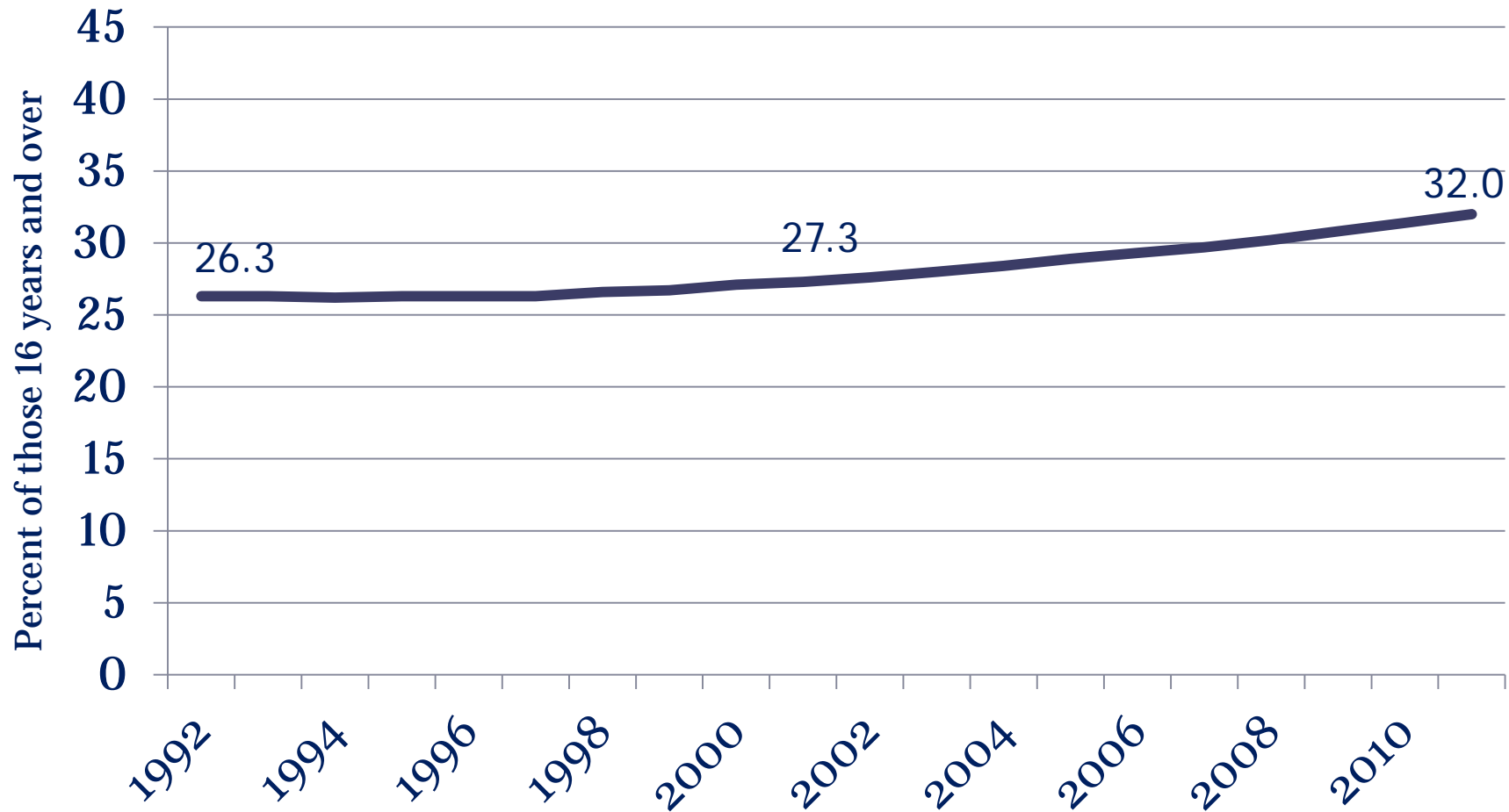
November 28, 2012



About the Current Population Survey (CPS)

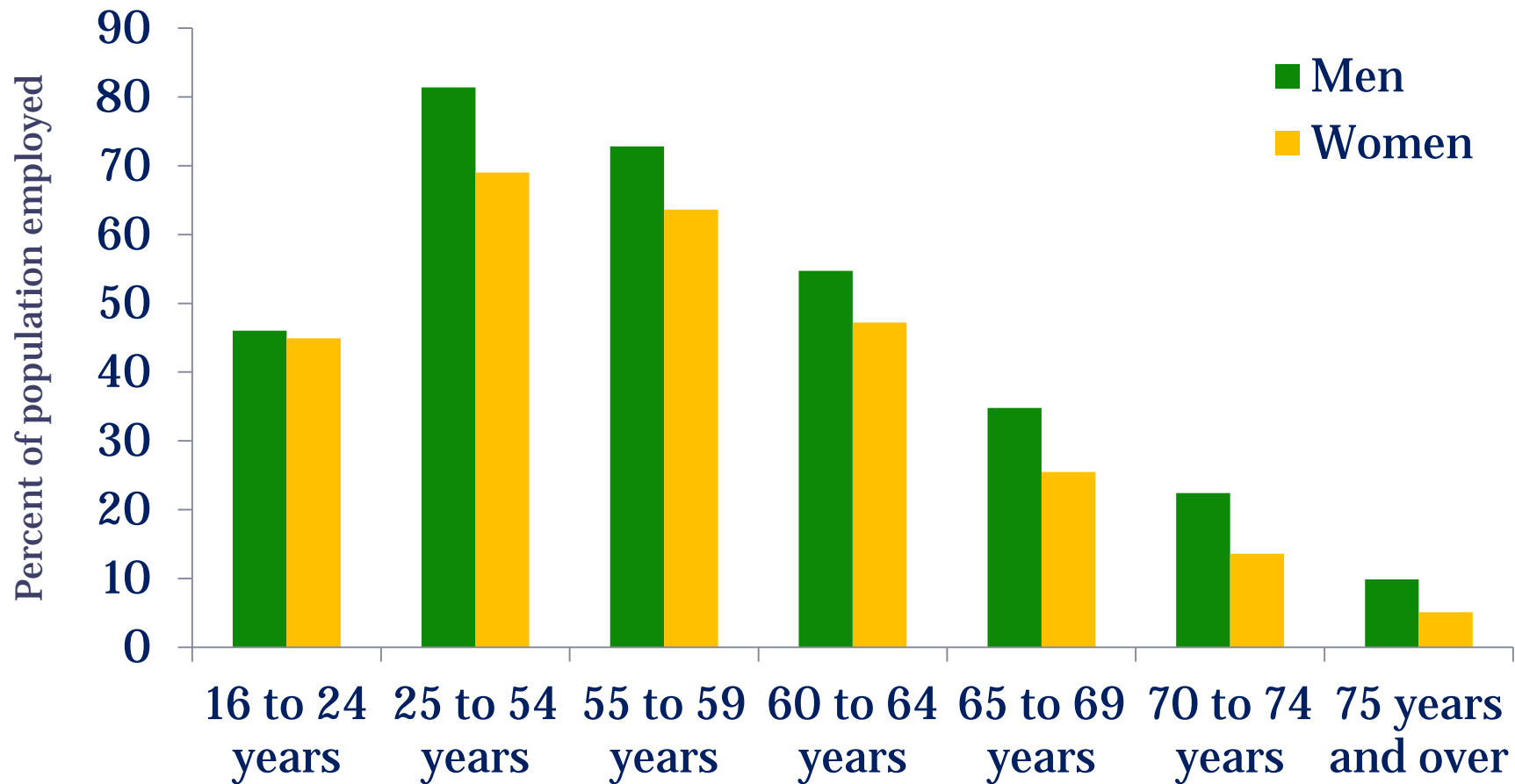
- The Current Population Survey (CPS) is a monthly survey of around 60,000 households.
- The CPS collects employment and unemployment data with significant demographic detail (age, sex, race, educational attainment, etc.)
- The CPS can append additional questions (supplements) that are useful for collecting information not measured elsewhere

Portion of the population 55 years and over



SOURCE: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Population Survey

Employment rates decline after age 55

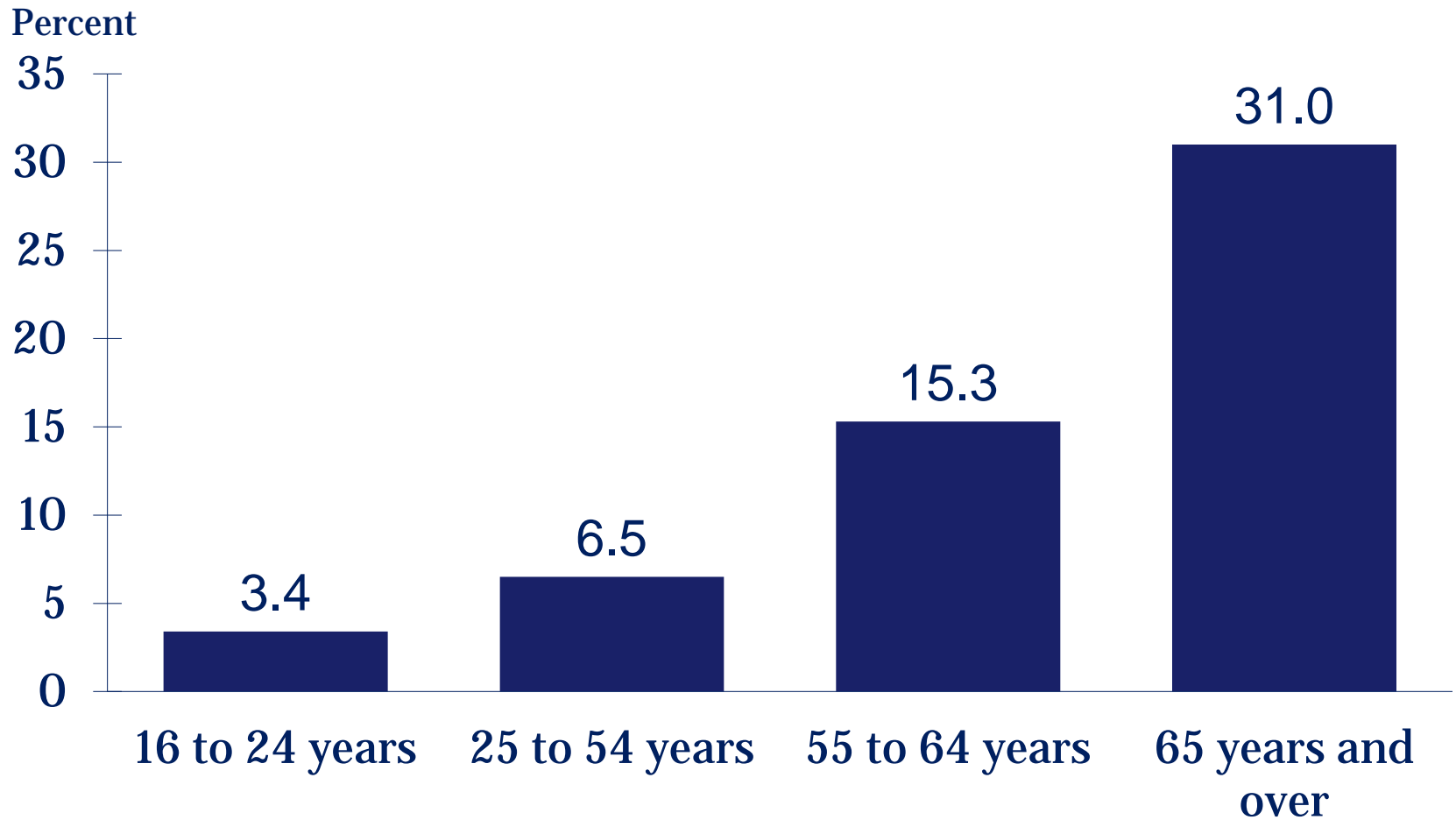


2011



SOURCE: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Population Survey

Disability rates increase with age

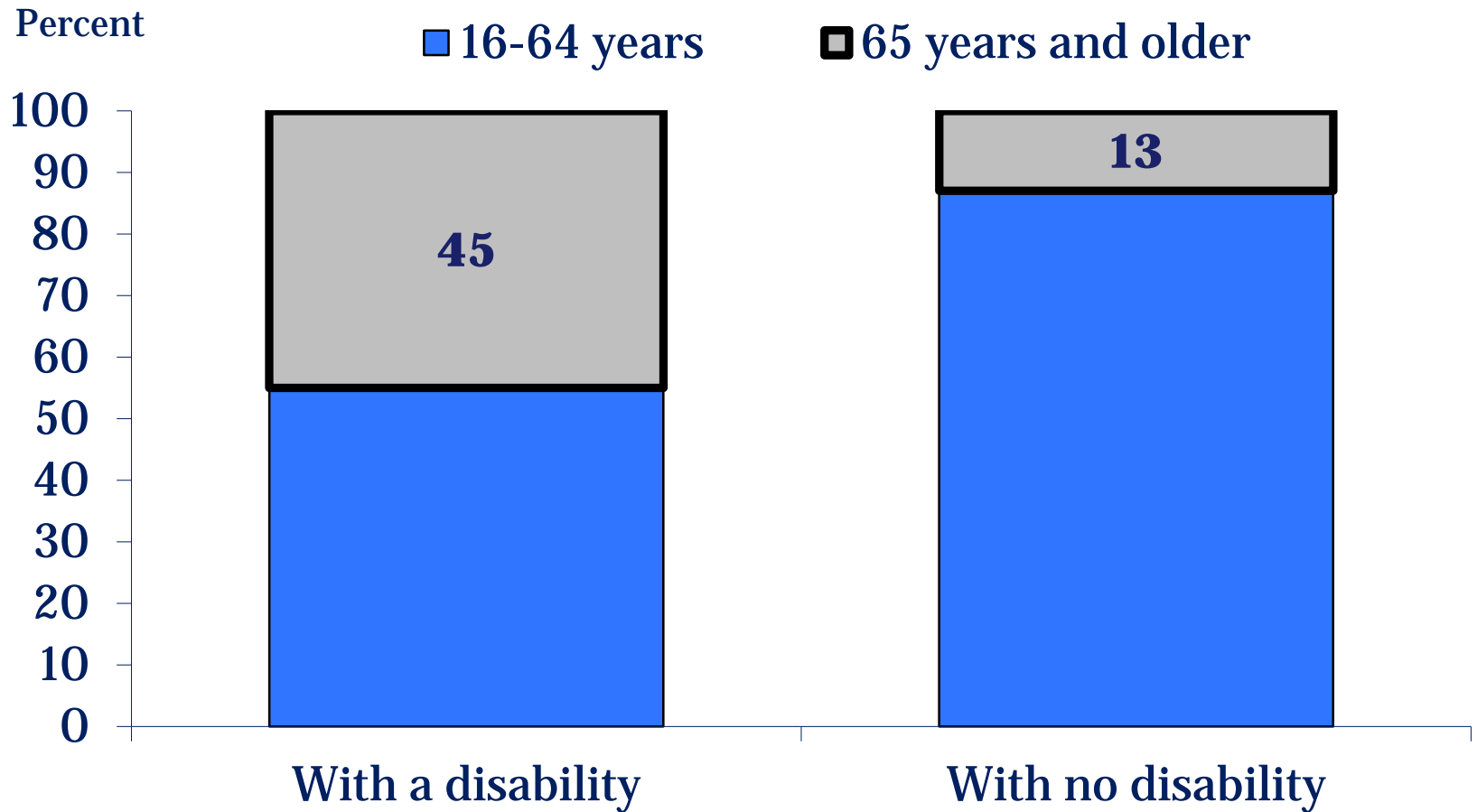


2011



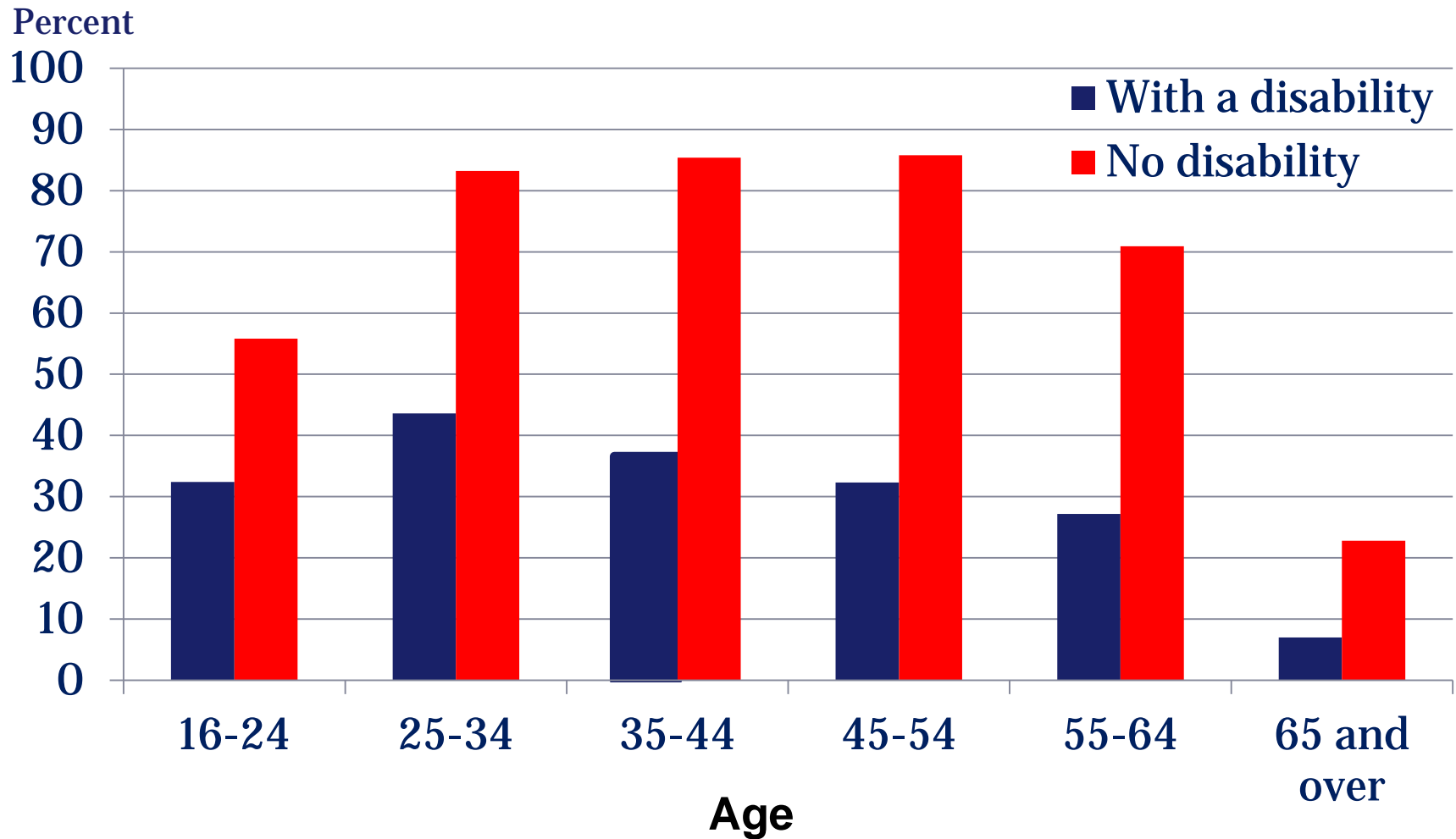
SOURCE: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Population Survey

A greater portion of those with disabilities are age 65 and over



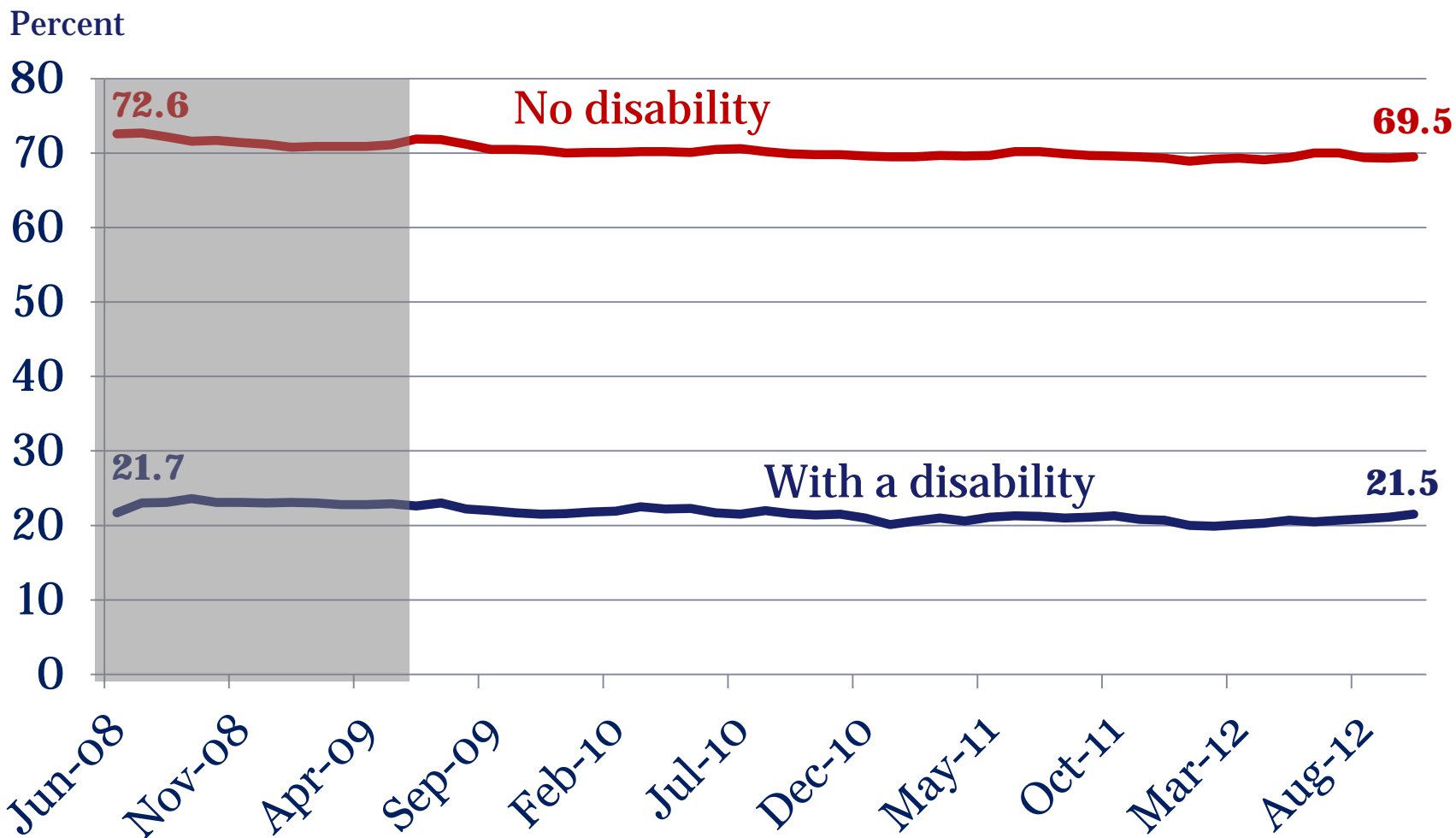
SOURCE: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Population Survey

Labor force participation rates by age and disability status, 2011



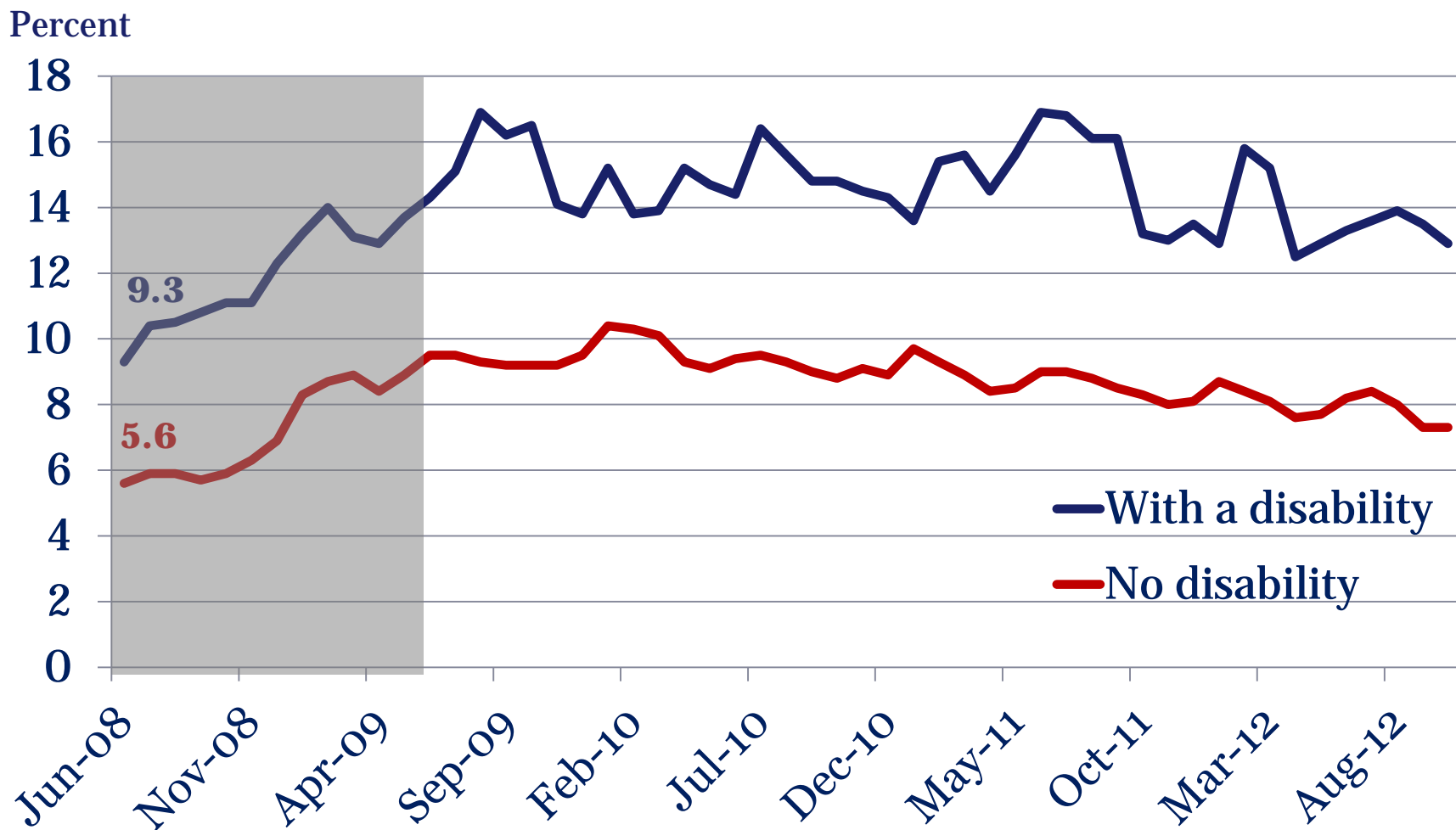
SOURCE: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Population Survey

Labor force participation rates have remained low for people with disabilities



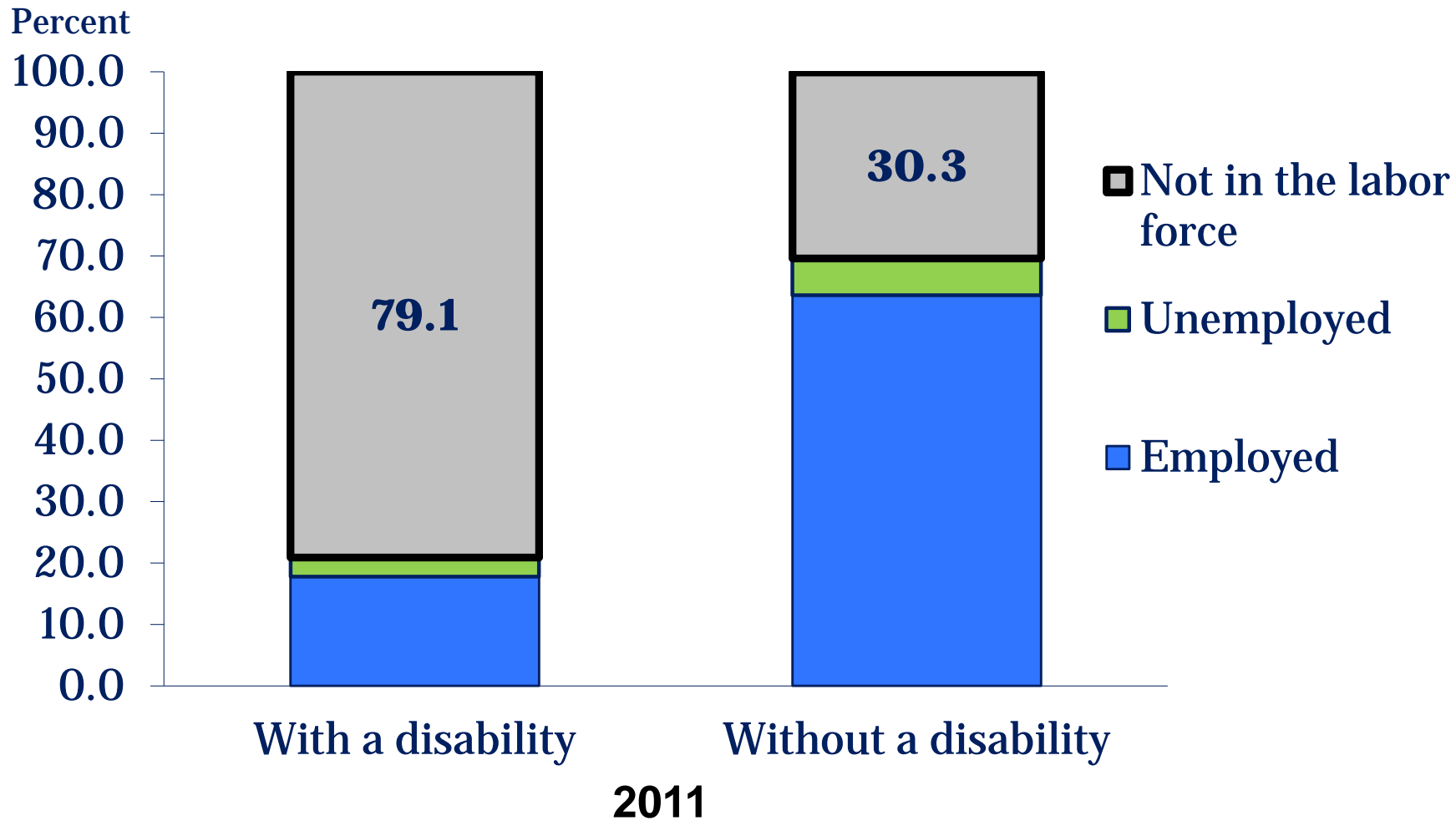
SOURCE: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Population Survey, shaded area represents recession

The unemployment rate has remained relatively high for people with disabilities

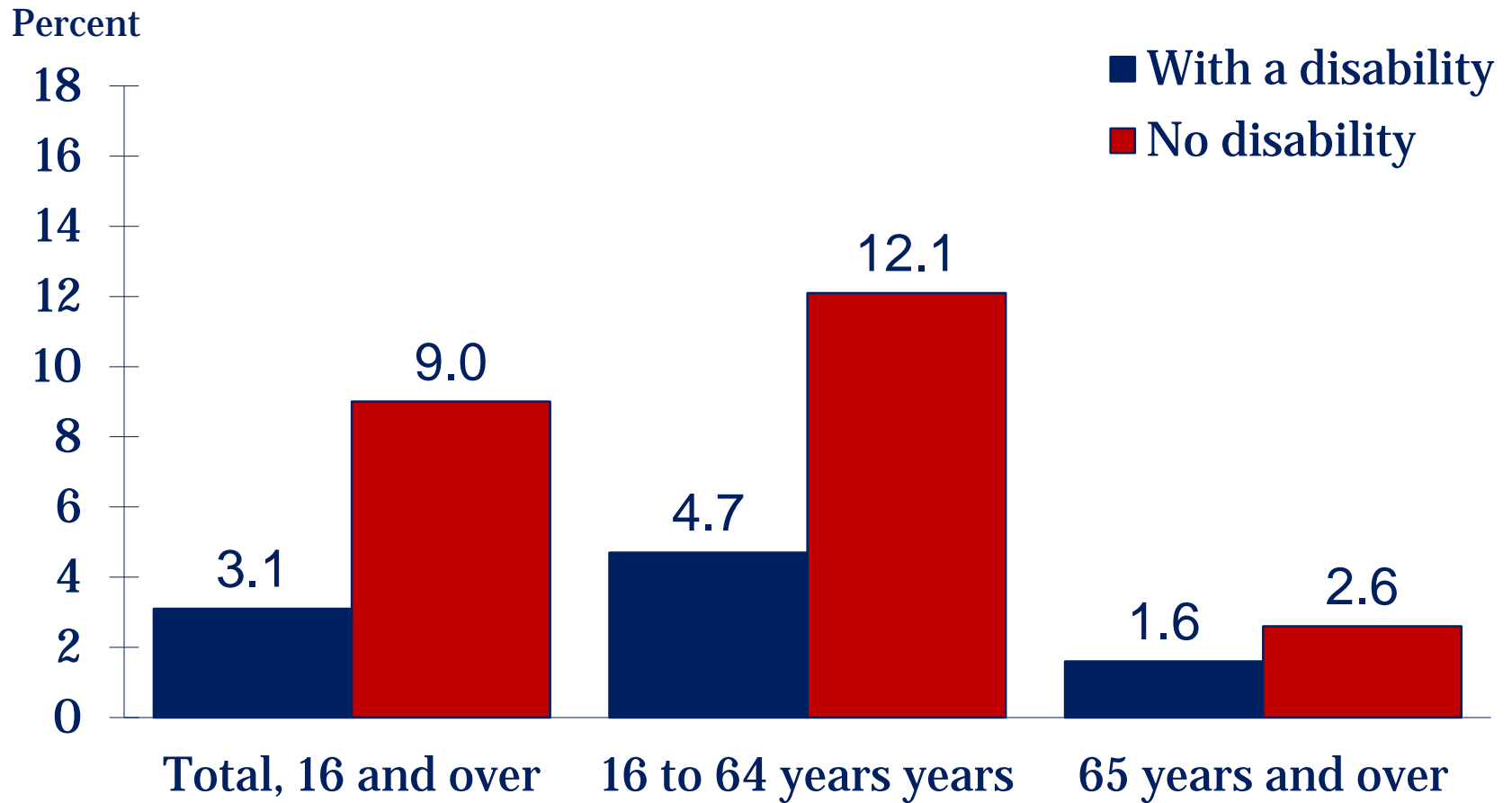


SOURCE: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Population Survey, shaded area represents recession

People with disabilities are less likely to be in the labor force



Portion of those not in the labor force who want a job

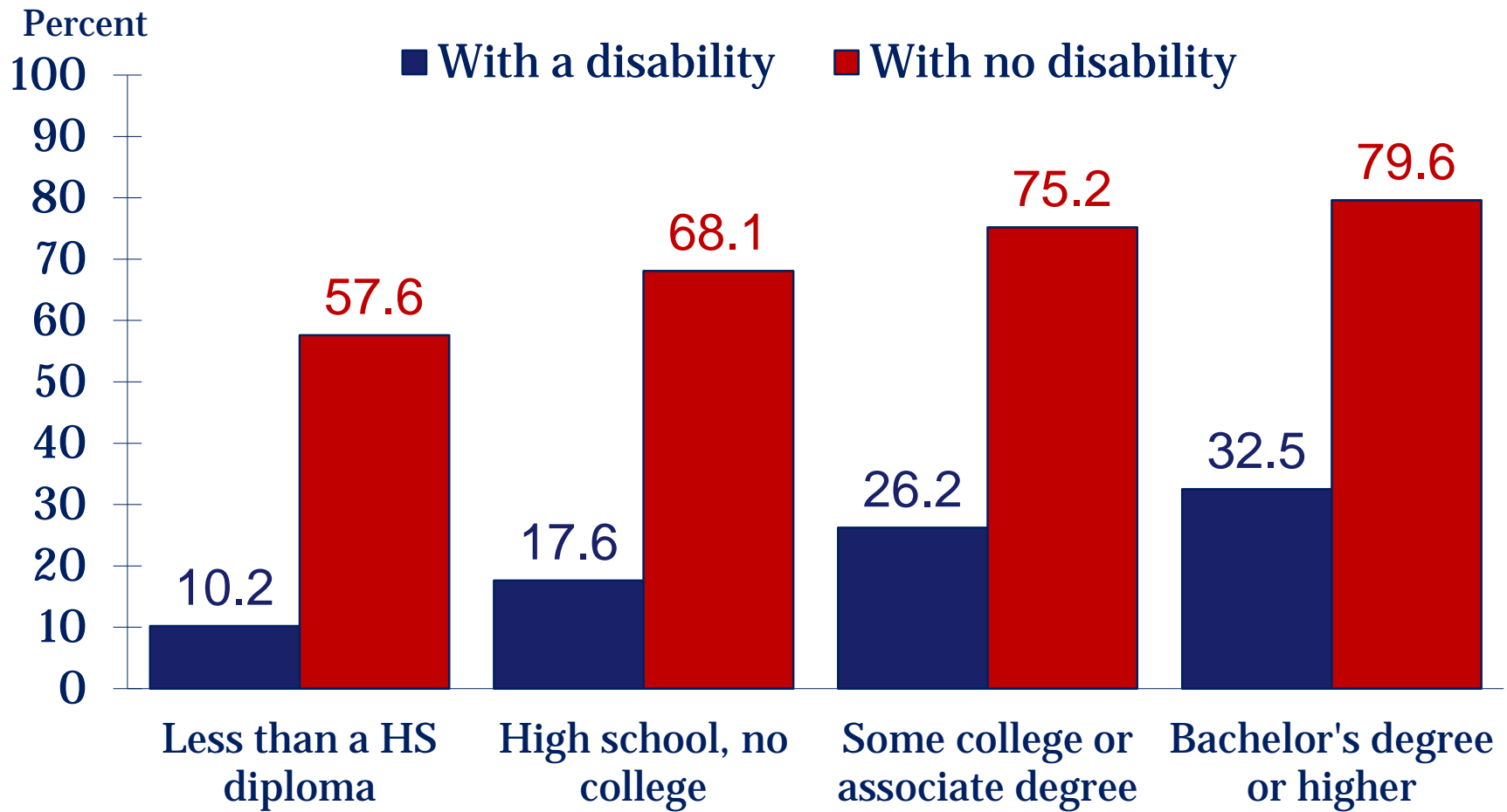


2011



SOURCE: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Population Survey

Labor force participation rates by educational attainment

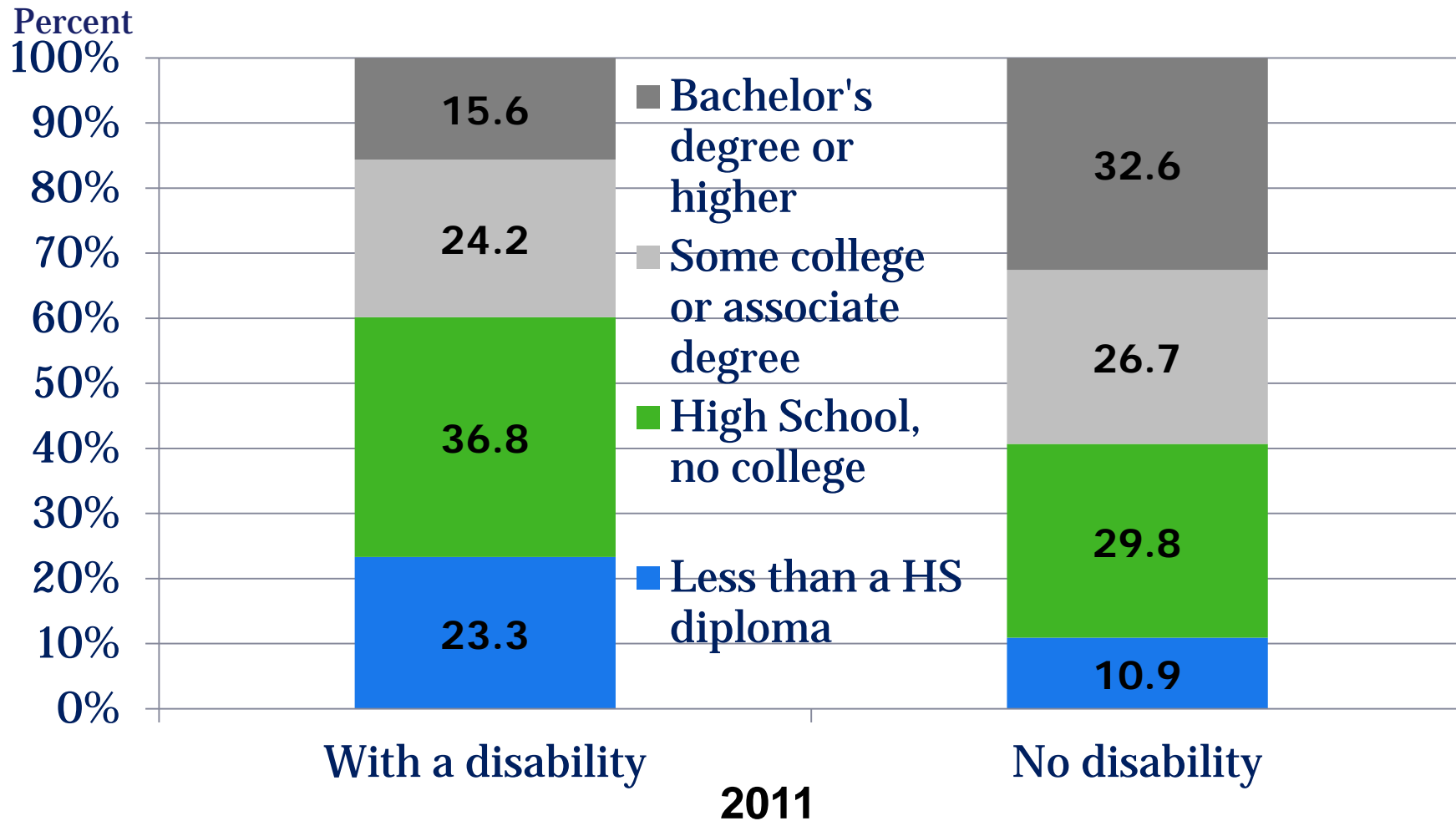


2011



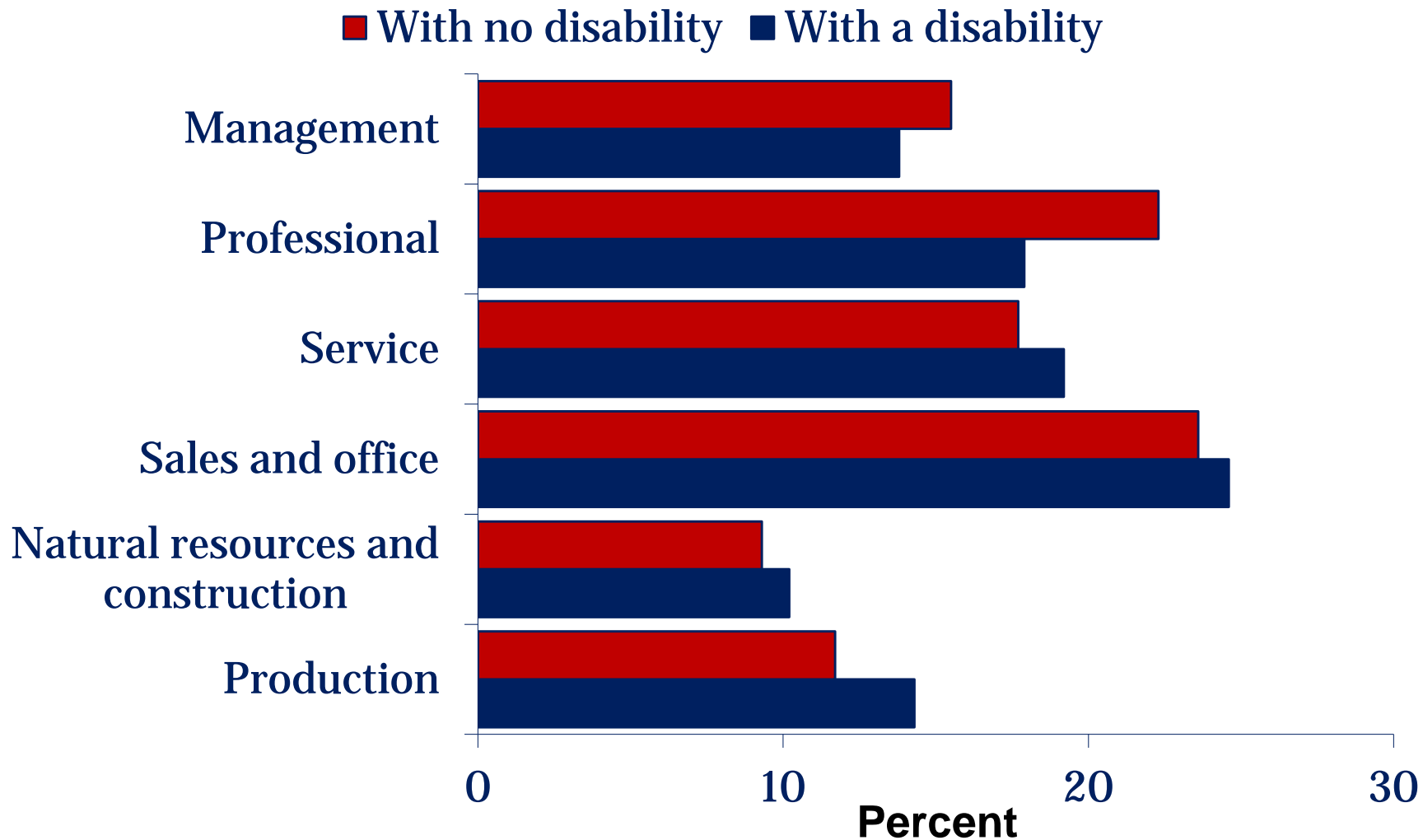
SOURCE: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Population Survey

Percent distribution by educational attainment and disability status, 25 years and older

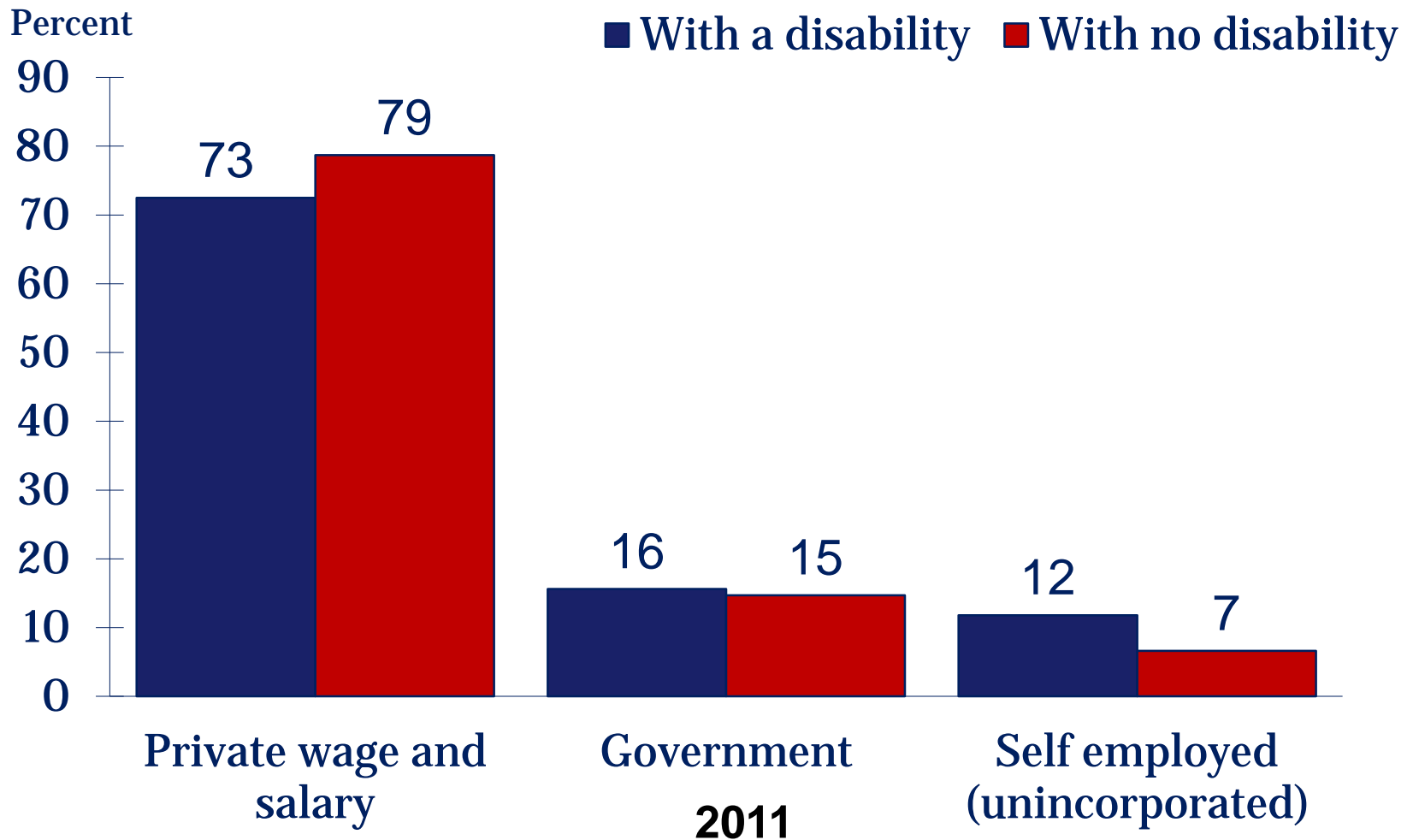


SOURCE: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Population Survey

Percent distribution by occupation and disability status, 2011

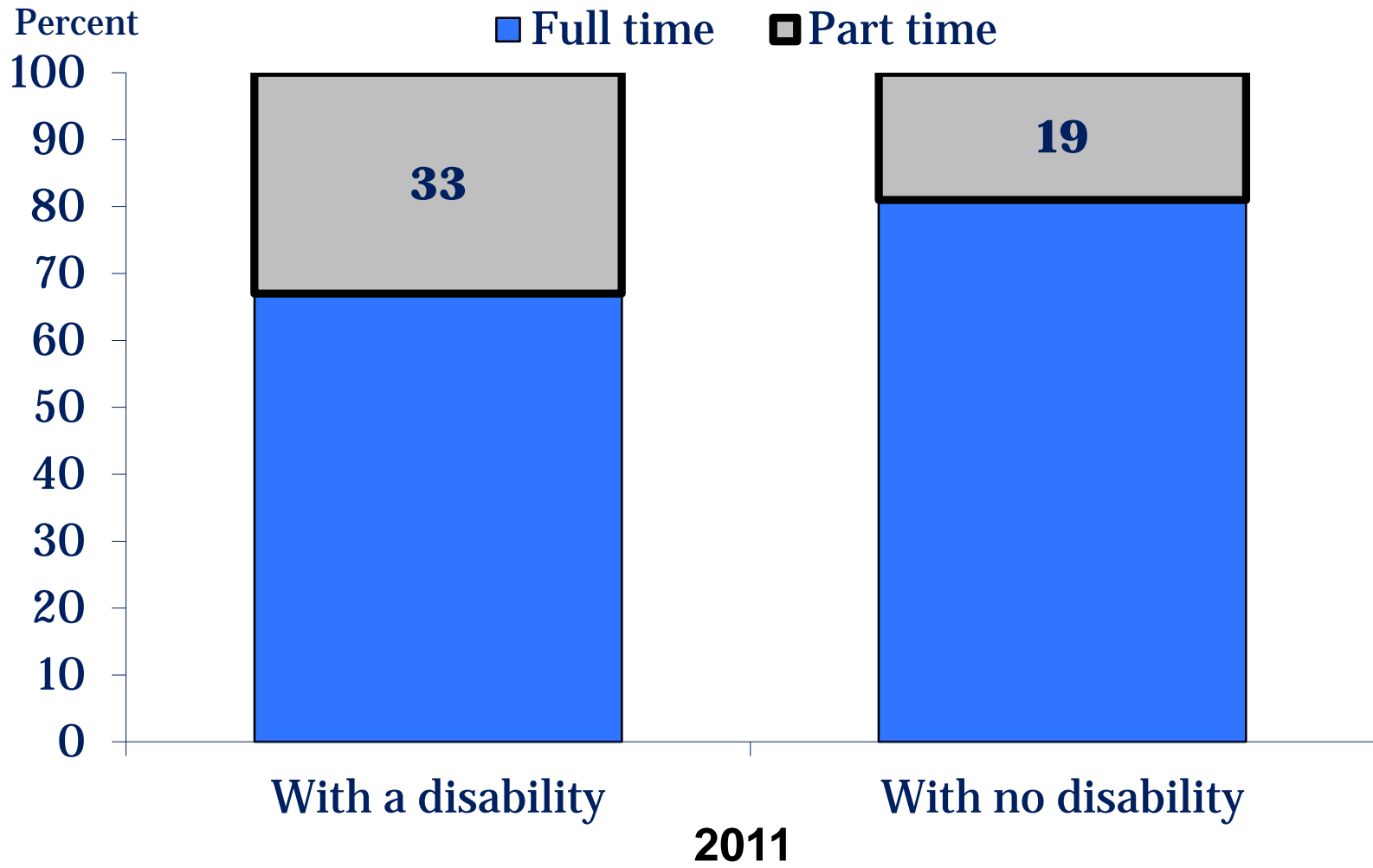


Employed persons by class of worker and disability status

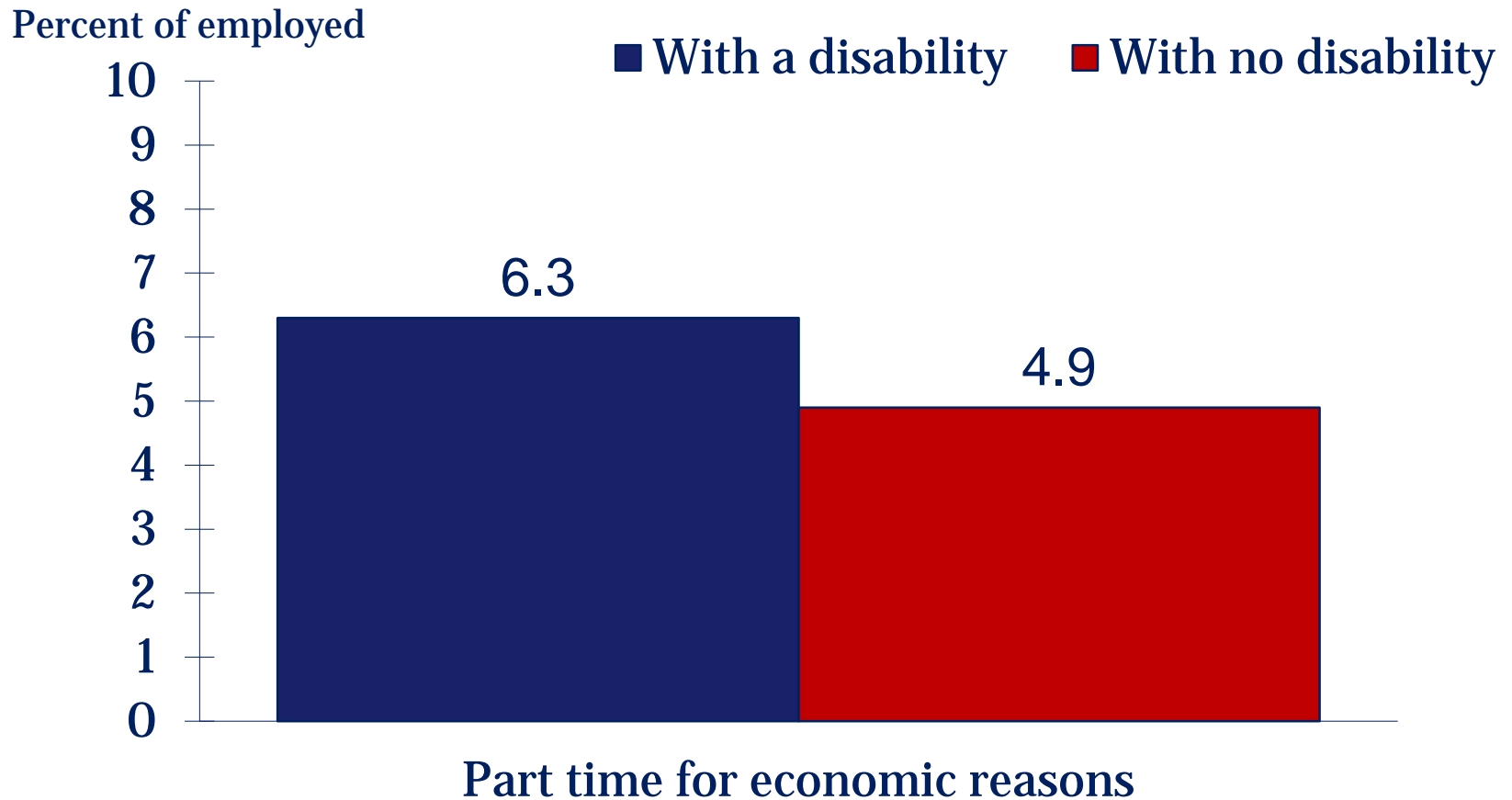


SOURCE: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Population Survey

Employed persons with a disability are more likely to work part time



Employed persons who usually work part time but want to work full time



2011



SOURCE: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Population Survey

May 2012 CPS Disability Supplement

- CPS supplements follow the regular CPS questions and can draw upon the responses to the earlier questions
- The large portion of those with a disability who were not in the labor force brought up several questions that could not be addressed using existing CPS questions
- Extensive outreach was conducted to ensure the supplement questions addressed the most pressing issues

May 2012 CPS Supplement: Employment-related questions

- Learn more about the low labor force participation rates for people with disabilities
- Learn more about the work history of people with disabilities
- Commuting methods used by those with and without disabilities
- Flexibility in work hours and location

May 2012 CPS Supplement: Assistance-related questions

- Use of employment assistance programs by people with disabilities
- Barriers to employment experienced by people with disabilities
- Workplace accommodations that assist people with disabilities
- Types of financial assistance programs that assist those with disabilities and their effect on the likelihood of working

Contact Information

Terence M. McMenamin

Division of Labor Force Statistics

www.bls.gov/cps

202-691-5436

mcmenamin.terence@bls.gov

