



THE MUSIC SETTLEMENT

IDEA COMMITTEE



DISABILITY PRIDE MONTH

JULY 2022



The Music Settlement
OHIO CITY • UNIVERSITY CIRCLE

ABOUT DISABILITY PRIDE

- The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) was passed on July 26, 1990, to prohibit discrimination against people with disabilities. Following this legislation, Boston held the first Disability Pride Day event in July 1990, and the number of cities participating in Disability Pride events continue to grow.
- AmeriDisability describes Disability Pride as "accepting and honoring each person's uniqueness and seeing it as a natural and beautiful part of human diversity" and connects it to the larger movement for disability justice.
- Disability Pride can mean various things to different people. The disabled community is diverse, so individuals with disabilities may vary in their thoughts and feelings regarding Disability Pride Month.
- The disability community is one of the largest minority populations in the United States.
- While the experience of disabilities may differ, a sense of community can help people with disabilities to cope, especially given the ongoing systemic barriers, stigma, etc.
- Disability justice movements continue to advocate for intersectional approaches to meeting the needs of people with disabilities, which are connected to race, class, gender, etc.

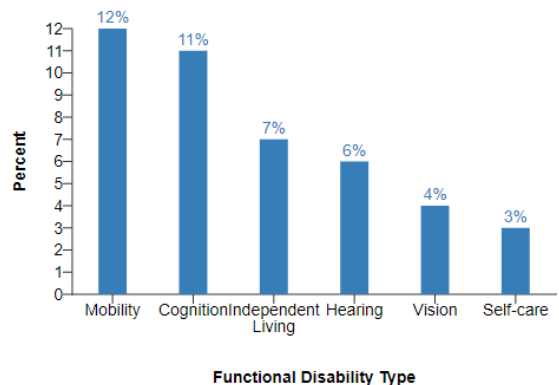


DISABILITY INFO ON OHIO

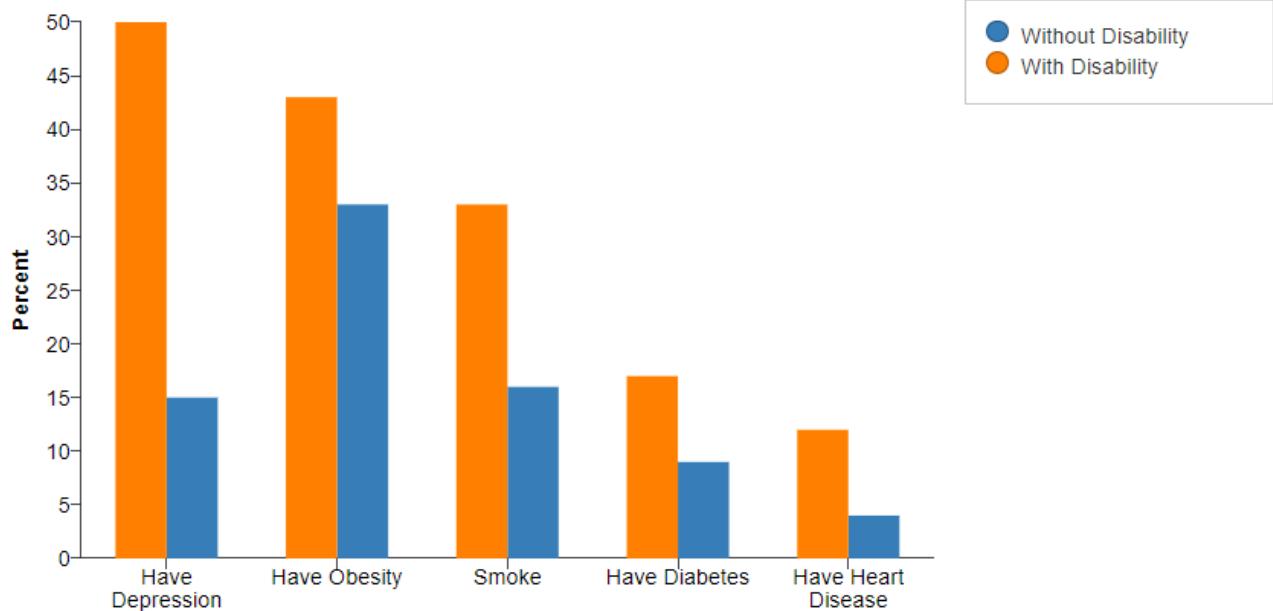


2,322,751 adults in Ohio have a disability¹
This is equal to 25% or 1 in 4 adults in Ohio

Percentage of adults in Ohio with select functional disability types



Adults with disabilities in Ohio experience health disparities and are more likely to...¹



1.Data Source: 2020 Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS).

OF NOTE ...



THE DISABILITY PRIDE FLAG

The flag was created by Ann Magill, and the symbolism for the flag are:

The Black Field: Mourning for those who've suffered and died from Ableist violence, and also rebellion.

The Zigzag Band: How disabled people must move around and past barriers, and our creativity in doing so.

The Five Colors: the variety of Disability, our needs and experiences (Mental Illness, Neurodiversity, Invisible and Undiagnosed Disabilities, Physical Disability, and Sensory Disabilities).

The Parallel Stripes: Solidarity within the Disability Community, despite our differences.

From <https://disabilityrightswi.org/news/celebrate-disability-pride-month/>



July 2: Thurgood Marshall's Birthday

Thurgood Marshall was the nation's first Black Supreme Court Justice. In addition to being a justice, Marshall was also a well-known civil rights activist.

July 6: Dalai Lama's Birthday

Happy birthday to the 14th Dalai Lama, the most famous Buddhist teacher in the world. The Dalai Lama is widely respected for his commitment to both nonviolence and Tibetan freedom.

July 6: Frida Kahlo's Birthday

July diversity celebrations include the birthday of Frida Kahlo (Women, Mexican): one of the most recognizable painters of the 20th century.

July 7: The Hajj

Our July diversity month includes The Hajj, an annual pilgrimage and one of the pillars of Islam. All able-bodied Muslims are required to undertake the journey to Mecca at least once in their lifetime. Once in Mecca, all Muslims perform a series of rituals.

July 18: Nelson Mandela's Birthday

A South African civil rights leader, he won the Nobel Prize for Peace in 1993. He then served as the country's first Black president from 1994 to 1999, leading the country's transition from apartheid to multiracial democracy. Mandela demonstrated that all people can make a positive impact on the world through small acts of kindness.

July 26: Anniversary of Americans with Disabilities Act

In 1990, Congress passed the Americans with Disabilities Act or ADA. This civil rights law made it illegal to discriminate against people with disabilities in areas like employment, transportation, public accommodation, communications, and access to state and local government programs/services.

FAMOUS PEOPLE WHO OVERCAME THEIR DISABILITY



FRIDA KAHLO - She suffered polio during her childhood and, according to some sources, also had spina bifida, which caused dysmetria in her right leg. In addition, her spinal problems were aggravated by an accident suffered in her adolescence, which left her with physical issues for her entire life. Frida spent much of her life in bed suffering from severe pain.



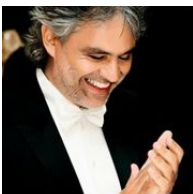
JOHN NASH - Another example of a celebrity with a disability who broke the mold is John Nash, an American mathematician whose life, marked by acute paranoid schizophrenia, is known to us thanks to the film "A Beautiful Mind." Aware of his illness, Nash fought against it and developed a successful academic career that earned him the Nobel Prize in Economics in 1994.



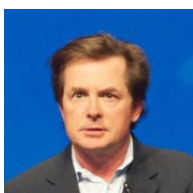
STEPHEN HAWKING - A theoretical physicist, astrophysicist, cosmologist, and eminent scientist, Stephen Hawking was diagnosed with ALS at age 21: he was given two more years to live. He lived the rest of his life - 55 more years - paralyzed from head to toe. He used a voice synthesizer to communicate and a wheelchair that he operated through slight movements of his head and eyes.



NICK VUJICIC - Nick Vujicic is the founder of Life Without Limbs - an organization for people with physical disabilities. Vujicic was born in 1982 with no limbs. He claims that as a child he suffered ridicule and discrimination, and tried to commit suicide, but with time he learned to see his own potential. He became very famous when starring in the touching short film "The Butterfly Circus."



ANDREA BOCELLI - Tenor, musician, writer, and musical producer of Italian origin, he was born with congenital glaucoma that left him partially blind, something that did not prevent him from taking piano lessons until the age of six. However, at age 12 he suffered a blow during a soccer game that left him completely blind. Endowed with a spirit of innate improvement, he decided to focus entirely on music, specifically on singing. He also studied law.



MICHAEL J. FOX - The protagonist of "Back to the Future" was diagnosed with Parkinson's disease in 1991 when he was only 29 years old and his career was in full success. He was told that he should withdraw from the stage, but he did not stop being an actor. Although at first it was not easy to accept his illness (he fell into depression and alcoholism), in the last decade he has not stopped working and his foundation has already raised \$233 million for Parkinson's disease research.



ALEX ZANARDI - After several years competing in Formula 1, Alex Zanardi suffered an accident in 2001 in which both legs were amputated. Three years later, he was on the track again driving a BMW for which he himself had adapted some prostheses. He won four World Touring Car Championship (WTCC) victories. In 2007 he decided to focus his sporting efforts on adapted cycling. The tricycle he rides has also been designed by himself, and, to date, he has won three Paralympic gold medals.



AARON FOTHERINGHAM - In addition to being one of the most inspirational disabled celebrities, Aaron Fotheringham is also one of the most famous skaters in the world. His specialty? Wheelchair skater. During his childhood, Aaron underwent several failed hip operations that forced him to use a wheelchair permanently. Even so, he continued to practice a sport which he was passionate about adapting to his disability. In 2005, Aaron Fotheringham landed a great jump with a 180° turn, and in 2006 made the first somersault in wheelchair history. Since then, his achievements and challenges are an example for hundreds of people.

MEDIA

Books

Disability Visibility: First-Person Stories From the Twenty-First Century edited by Alice Wong

One in five people in the United States lives with a disability. Some disabilities are visible, others less apparent; but all are underrepresented in media and popular culture. Now, just in time for the thirtieth anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act, activist Alice Wong brings together this urgent, galvanizing collection of contemporary essays by disabled people.

Sitting Pretty: The View From My Ordinary Resilient Disabled Body by Rebekah Taussig

The disability advocate and creator of the Instagram account @sitting_pretty offers an honest look at disability and its effects on identity, love, money and self-worth by processing a lifetime of memories to paint a beautiful portrait of a body that looks and moves differently. Rebekah reflects on everything from the complications of kindness and charity, living both independently and dependently, experiencing intimacy, and how the pervasiveness of ableism in our everyday media directly translates to everyday life.

Haben: The Deafblind Woman who Conquered Harvard Law by Haben Grima

Haben defines disability as an opportunity for innovation. Inspired by her parents' refugee story, she embarked on a quest for knowledge, traveling the world in search of the secret to belonging. She learned non-visual techniques for everything from dancing salsa to handling an electric saw. She developed a text-to-braille communication system that created an exciting new way to connect with people. Haben pioneered her way through obstacles, graduated from Harvard Law, and now uses her talents to advocate for people with disabilities.

Unbroken: 13 Stories Starring Disabled Teens edited by Marieke Nijkamp

Edited by the best-selling author of *This Is Where It Ends*, this impressive anthology of stories featuring disabled and neurodiverse characters written by authors who understand these experiences firsthand. This collection includes contributions by such leading authors as Kody Keplinger, Katherine Locke and Fox Benwell.

Diary of a Young Naturalist by Dara McNulty

As well as Dara's intense connection to the natural world, *Diary of a Young Naturalist* captures his perspective as a teenager juggling exams, friendships, and a life of campaigning. We see his close-knit family, the disruptions of moving and changing schools, and the complexities of living with autism. "In writing this book," writes Dara, "I have experienced challenges but also felt incredible joy, wonder, curiosity and excitement. In sharing this journey my hope is that people of all generations will not only understand autism a little more but also appreciate a child's eye view on our delicate and changing biosphere."

From <<https://www.nypl.org/blog/2021/07/02/books-celebrate-disability-pride>>

Videos

Crip Camp: A Disability Revolution

This Oscar-nominated Netflix documentary was produced by the [Obamas](#). Camp Jened was a summer camp in New York in the '70s that was described as a "loose, free-spirited camp designed for teens with disabilities". For the teenagers, it was a place where they could really be themselves, away from the pressures of an ableist society. Beyond looking at the camp itself, the documentary shows the influence the camp had on people. Many of the attendees went on to become activists in the disability rights movement. [Watch on Netflix now](#)

The Peanut Butter Falcon

This film has big Hollywood talent like [Dakota Johnson](#) but the standout performance is from Zack Gottsagen, an actor with Down syndrome. The film came about when he met filmmakers Tyler Nilson and Michael Schwartz and told them he wanted to become a film star. He plays Zak, who escapes from a state-run care facility to pursue his dream of becoming a professional wrestler and changes the lives of Tyler (Shia LaBeouf) and Eleanor (Johnson) along the way. In 2020 Zack was the first person with Down syndrome to be a presenter at the Academy Awards. [Watch on Amazon Prime now](#)

Rising Phoenix

Rising Phoenix is a must-see. It follows nine Paralympians in the run-up to the Paralympics in Rio in 2016 and stars Tatyana McFadden, Bebe Vio and Jonnie Peacock. The documentary shows the history of the Paralympic Games as well as the frustration felt by athletes and organisers that it is still viewed as lesser than the [Olympic Games](#). [Watch on Netflix now](#)

Special

Ryan O'Connell is an extremely talented guy. He writes, stars in and produces this semi-autobiographical show based on his memoir *I'm Special: And Other Lies We Tell Ourselves*. Ryan has cerebral palsy and is super comfortable about being gay but not super comfortable with being disabled. Ryan has said that getting the show made was a struggle because having a gay, disabled lead is not the norm. It's a good thing he persevered because *Special* is, well, a really special show. [Watch on Netflix now](#)

Atypical

Atypical follows Sam Gardner (Keir Gilchrist) who is on the autistic spectrum and on a mission to get a girlfriend following the advice of his therapist. The show [drew criticism](#) after its first series for its lack of autistic actors and what people thought of as inaccuracies in its depiction of autism. Luckily, the show listened to this criticism and the second series featured autistic actors and writers who shared their experiences to make the show feel more authentic. [Watch on Netflix now](#)

From <<https://www.refinery29.com/en-gb/films-tv-to-watch-disability-pride-month#slide-7>>



KINDNESS
PEACE
EQUALITY
LOVE
INCLUSION
HOPE
DIVERSITY

THANK YOU.