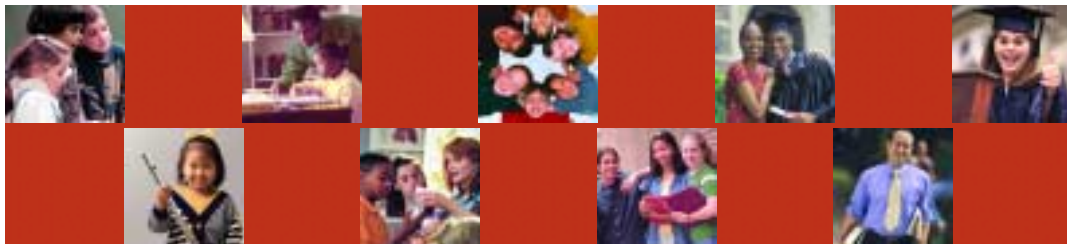


the condition of education 2003



INDICATOR 34

Services and Accommodations for Students With Disabilities

The indicator and corresponding tables are taken directly from *The Condition of Education 2003*. Therefore, the page numbers may not be sequential.

Additional information about the survey data and supplementary notes can be found in the full report. For a copy of *The Condition of Education 2003*, visit the NCES web site (<http://nces.ed.gov/pubsearch/pubsinfo.asp?pubid=2003067>) or contact ED PUBs at 1-877-4ED-PUBS.

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Special Programs

Services and Accommodations for Students With Disabilities

About 9 percent of undergraduates reported having disabilities in 1999–2000, and 22 percent of these students reported not receiving the services or accommodations they needed.

The Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 require postsecondary institutions to make education accessible for students with disabilities. At the postsecondary level, disability-related services and accommodations might include, for example, alternative examination formats, readers, interpreters, or ramps for wheelchair access. The percentage of college freshmen reporting disabilities has increased from just under 3 percent in 1978 to more than 9 percent in 1998 (American Youth Policy Forum and Center on Education Policy 2002).

In 1999–2000, 9 percent of all undergraduate students in degree-granting institutions reported having a disability that created difficulties for them as a student.¹ About half of these students were enrolled at public 2-year institutions, and another 26 percent were enrolled at public 4-year institutions. The percentage of students with disabilities was higher at public 2-year and private for-profit institutions than at public and private not-for-profit 4-year institutions. Among students with disabilities, 26 percent reported

receiving disability-related services or accommodations. However, 22 percent of students with disabilities reported not receiving the services or accommodations they needed. At private for-profit institutions, 11 percent of students with disabilities reported not receiving the services or accommodations they needed, compared with 21 to 24 percent of their counterparts at other types of institutions.

Of the students with disabilities, 29 percent had an orthopedic or mobility impairment; 17 percent mental illness or depression; 15 percent a health impairment; 12 percent a visual or hearing impairment; 11 percent a learning disability or Attention Deficit Disorder (ADD); and 15 percent had some other type of disability. Students with a learning disability or ADD were more likely than students with other types of disabilities to report receiving services (51 percent vs. 19 to 30 percent). Nevertheless, 32 percent of students with a learning disability or ADD reported not receiving the services or accommodations they needed (see supplemental table 34-1).

DISABILITY-RELATED SERVICES: Percentage and percentage distribution of students reporting disabilities, and among students reporting disabilities, their service receipt status, by type of institution: 1999–2000

Students reporting disabilities	Total ²	Private not-		Public 2-year	Private for-profit
		Public 4-year	for-profit 4-year		
Percentage of students with disabilities	9.3	7.8	7.5	10.8	12.0
Among students with disabilities, percentage who					
Received services	26.0	29.2	26.3	25.2	18.0
Needed services, but did not receive them	22.0	21.2	24.0	23.2	10.6
Percentage distribution of students with disabilities	100.0	26.4	11.4	48.6	6.3
Percentage distribution of all students	100.0	31.3	14.0	42.1	4.9

¹Students were asked several questions about their disability status. Eleven percent reported having a disability, 9 percent reported having a disability that created difficulties for them as a student, and 4 percent considered themselves to be disabled (NPSAS 2000: Previously unpublished tabulations [March 2002]). *Supplemental note 11* provides more information on disabilities.

²Percentages are based on students who attended all types of institutions, including others not cited, or more than one institution.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, NCES, 1999–2000 National Postsecondary Student Aid Study (NPSAS:2000).

FOR MORE INFORMATION:
 Supplemental Notes 3, 8, 11
 Supplemental Table 34-1
 American Youth Policy Forum
 and Center on Education Policy
 2002



Services and Accommodations for Students With Disabilities

Table 34-1. Percentage distribution of students reporting disabilities according to type of disability, and among students reporting disabilities, their service receipt status, by type of disability: 1999–2000

Type of disability reported	Percentage distribution of students reporting disabilities	Percentage of students reporting disabilities who reported receiving disability-related services	Percentage of students reporting disabilities who reported needing disability-related services, but did not receive them
All disabilities	100.0	26.0	22.0
Orthopedic or mobility impairment	29.4	19.0	20.5
Mental illness or depression	17.1	30.3	24.1
Health impairment or problem	15.1	19.5	19.6
Visual or hearing impairment	11.9	22.0	13.7
Learning disability or ADD	11.4	51.1	31.7
Other disability	15.1	25.4	23.6

NOTE: Disabilities are defined as those that created difficulties for the undergraduate as a student. Detail may not sum to totals because of rounding.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, NCES, 1999–2000 National Postsecondary Student Aid Study (NPSAS:2000).

Services and Accommodations for Students With Disabilities

Table S34. Standard errors for the percentage and percentage distribution of students reporting disabilities, and among students reporting disabilities, their service receipt status, by type of institution: 1999–2000

Students reporting disabilities	Total	Public 4-year	Private not-for-profit 4-year	Public 2-year	Private for-profit
Percentage of students with disabilities	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.5	1.0
Among students with disabilities, percentage who					
Received services	1.2	1.7	2.1	2.2	2.0
Needed services, but did not receive them	1.1	1.7	1.9	2.0	1.3
Percentage distribution of students with disabilities	†	1.1	0.7	1.5	0.8
Percentage distribution of all students	†	0.6	0.3	0.7	0.5

†Not applicable.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, NCES, 1999–2000 National Postsecondary Student Aid Study (NPSAS:2000).

Services and Accommodations for Students With Disabilities

Table S34-1. Standard errors for the percentage distribution of students reporting disabilities according to type of disability, and among students reporting disabilities, their service receipt status, by type of disability: 1999–2000

Type of disability reported	Percentage distribution of students reporting disabilities	Percentage of students reporting disabilities who reported receiving disability-related services	Percentage of students reporting disabilities who reported needing disability-related services, but did not receive them
All disabilities	†	1.20	1.13
Orthopedic or mobility impairment	1.04	1.77	1.90
Mental illness or depression	1.08	2.81	2.94
Health impairment or problem	0.93	2.76	2.78
Visual or hearing impairment	0.88	2.80	2.73
Learning disability or ADD	0.87	3.74	3.34
Other disability	0.92	2.95	2.74

†Not applicable.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, NCES, 1999–2000 National Postsecondary Student Aid Study (NPSAS:2000).