

South Florida Disability Statistics

Nearly **1-in-5** U.S. residents have a disability, according to the U.S. Census Bureau. Locally in South Florida, the percentages are slightly higher than the national average. Disability is a general term used for functional limitation that interferes with a person's ability. It may refer to a physical, mental, or sensory condition that substantially limits one or more of a person's major life activities. As the population continues to age, and with the likelihood of having a disability increasing with age, the number of individuals with disabilities is expected to accelerate in the coming decades.

Location	Percentages of Individuals with a Disability	Notes
United States	19.3%	National average
Palm Beach County	20.9%	Above the national average
State of Florida	22.2%	Above the national average
Broward County	22.6%	Above the national average
City of Ft. Lauderdale	23.7%	Above the national average
Miami-Dade County	25.7%	Above the national average
City of West Palm Beach	27.6%	Above the national average
City of Miami	29.4%	In cities with over 100,000 people, Miami has the second highest percentage of individuals with disabilities in the nation. Paterson, New Jersey has the largest number with 29.8%

These percentages reflect the number of individuals with some form of disability who are five years of age and older in the United States. This information is based on the U.S. Census 2000, which can be found at www.census.gov.