

Center for Studying Disability Policy

Thirty Years After the Americans with Disabilities Act: Where Are We Now, and Where are We Heading?

August 5, 2020

Welcome



Gina Livermore
Mathematica

Speakers



John Tschida
Association of
University Centers on
Disabilities



Jennifer Sheehy
Office of Disability
Employment Policy,
U.S. Department of
Labor



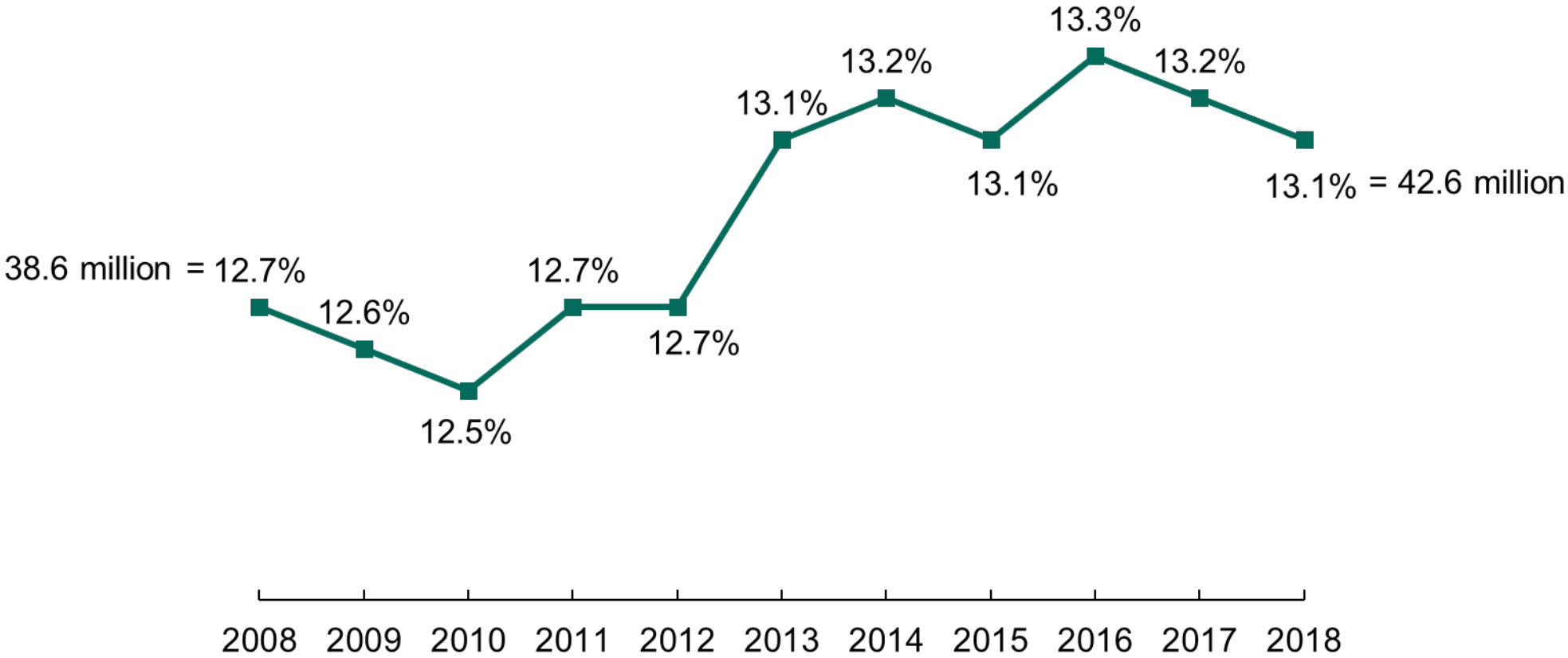
Jill Houghton
Disability:IN



Jason Fichtner
Johns Hopkins
University School of
Advanced International
Studies

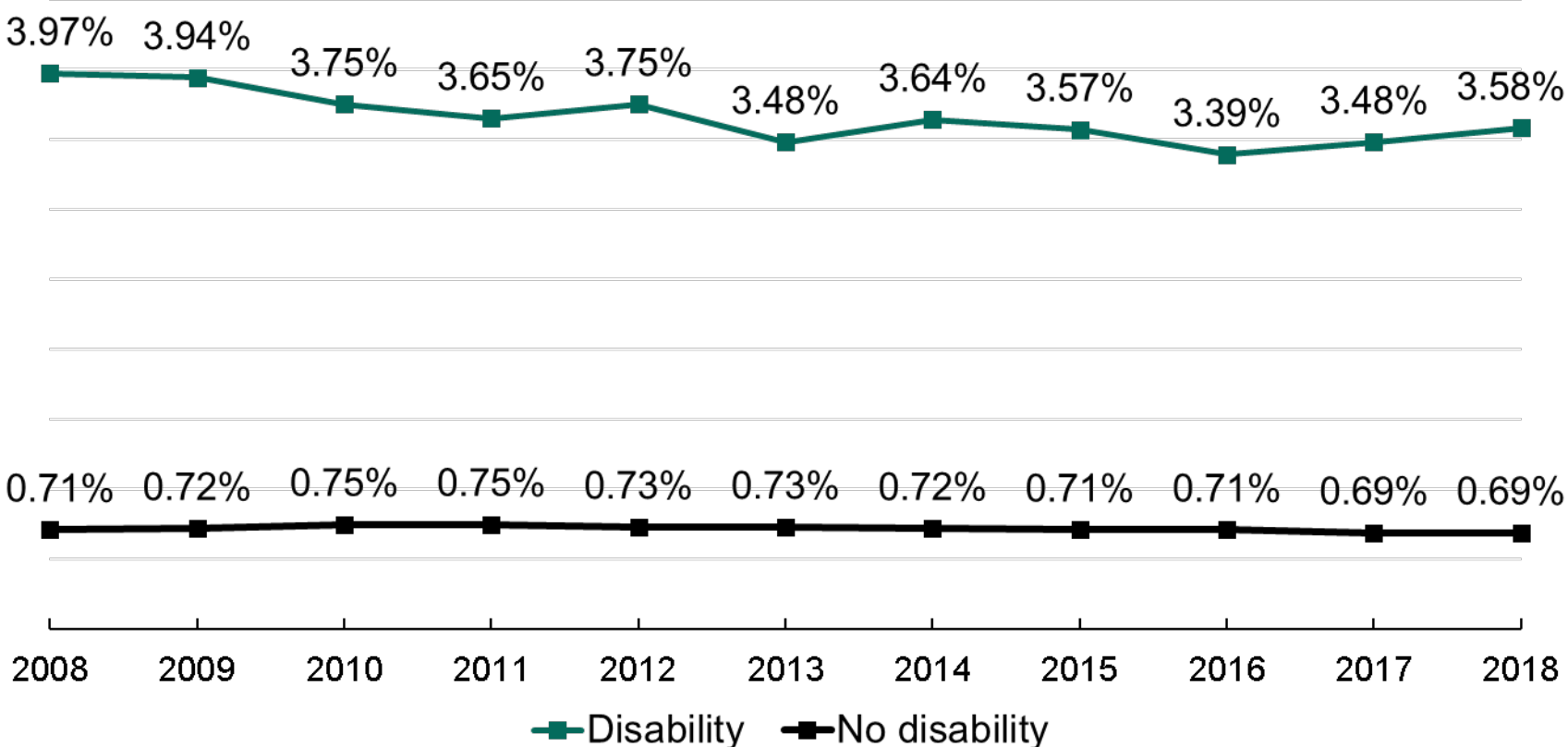
Where are we now?

Percentage of U.S. population with a disability, 2008-2018



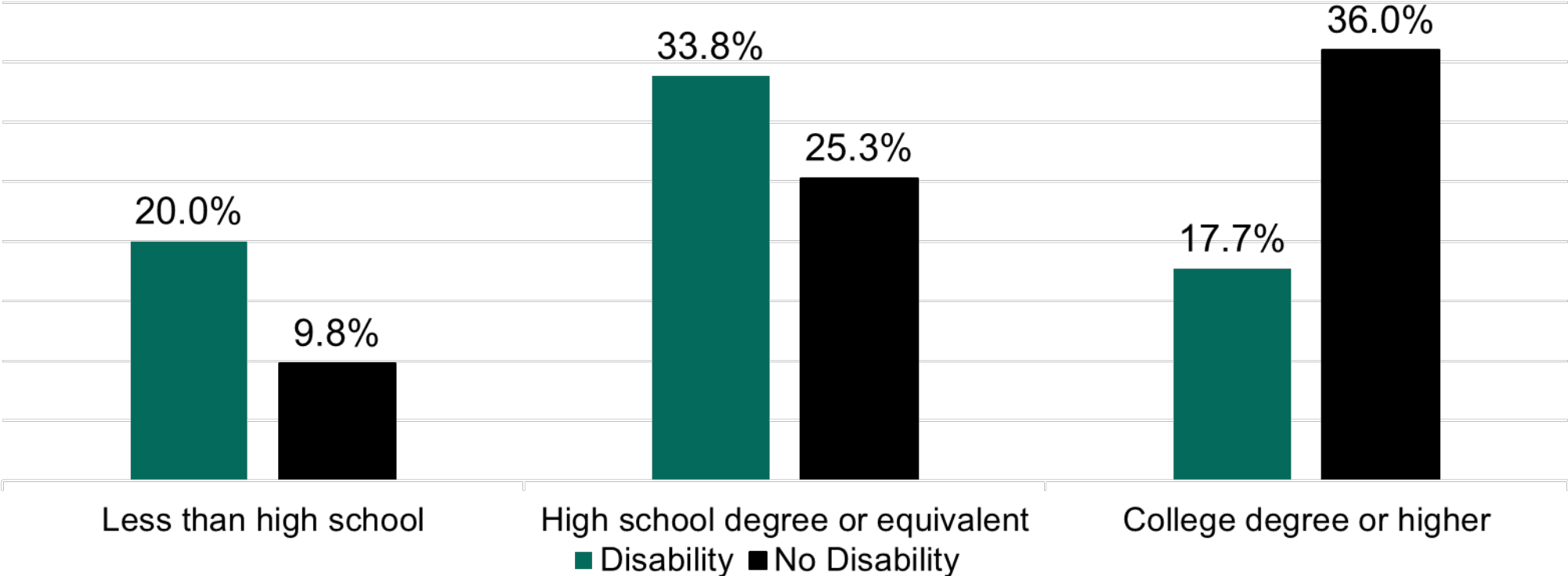
Source: American Community Survey (University of New Hampshire Institute on Disability <https://disabilitycompendium.org/>).

People younger than age 65 living in institutions, 2008-2018



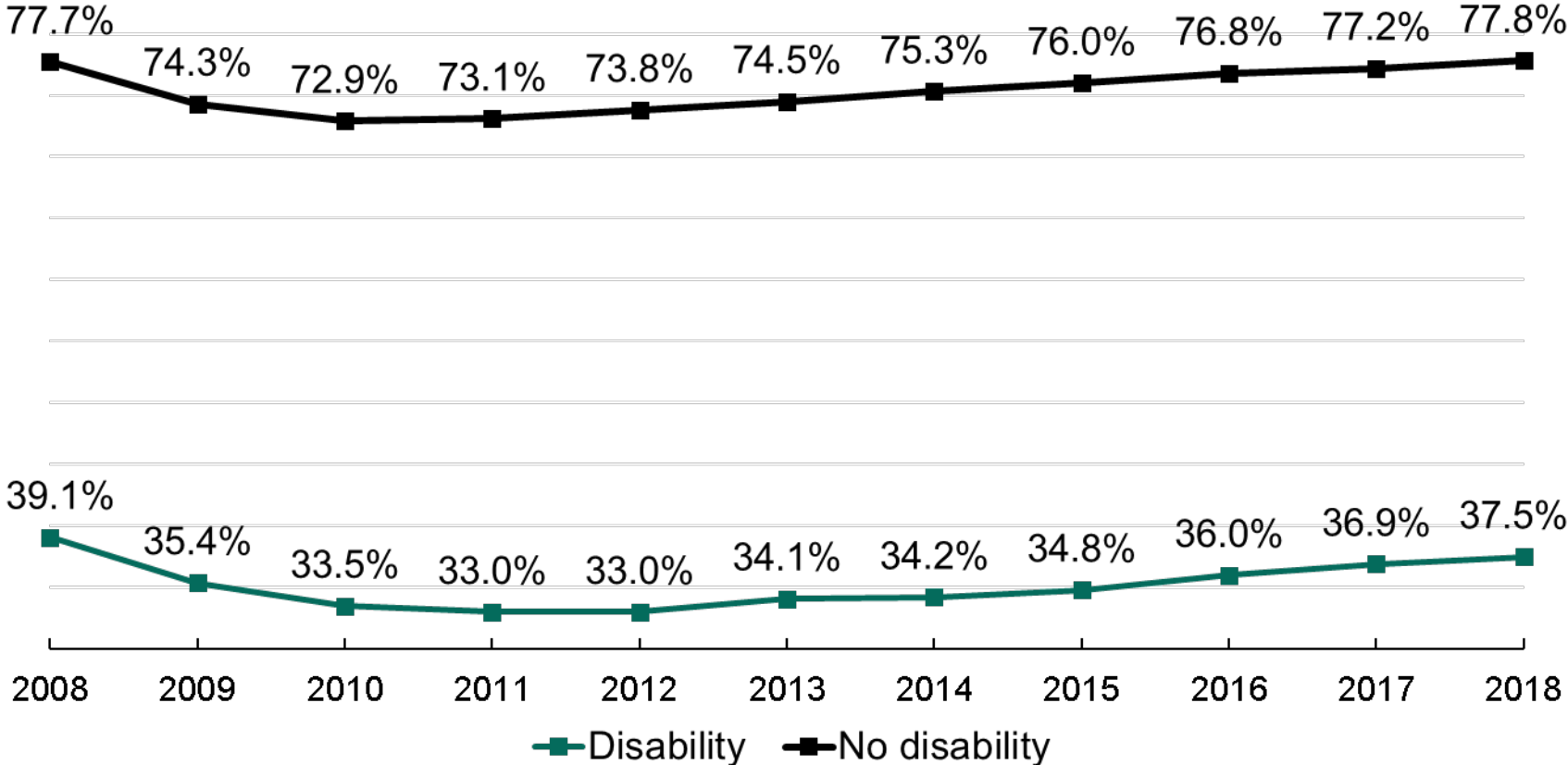
Source: American Community Survey (University of New Hampshire Institute on Disability <https://disabilitycompendium.org/>). Includes people living in nursing and adult correctional facilities.

Education of people age 25 and older in 2018



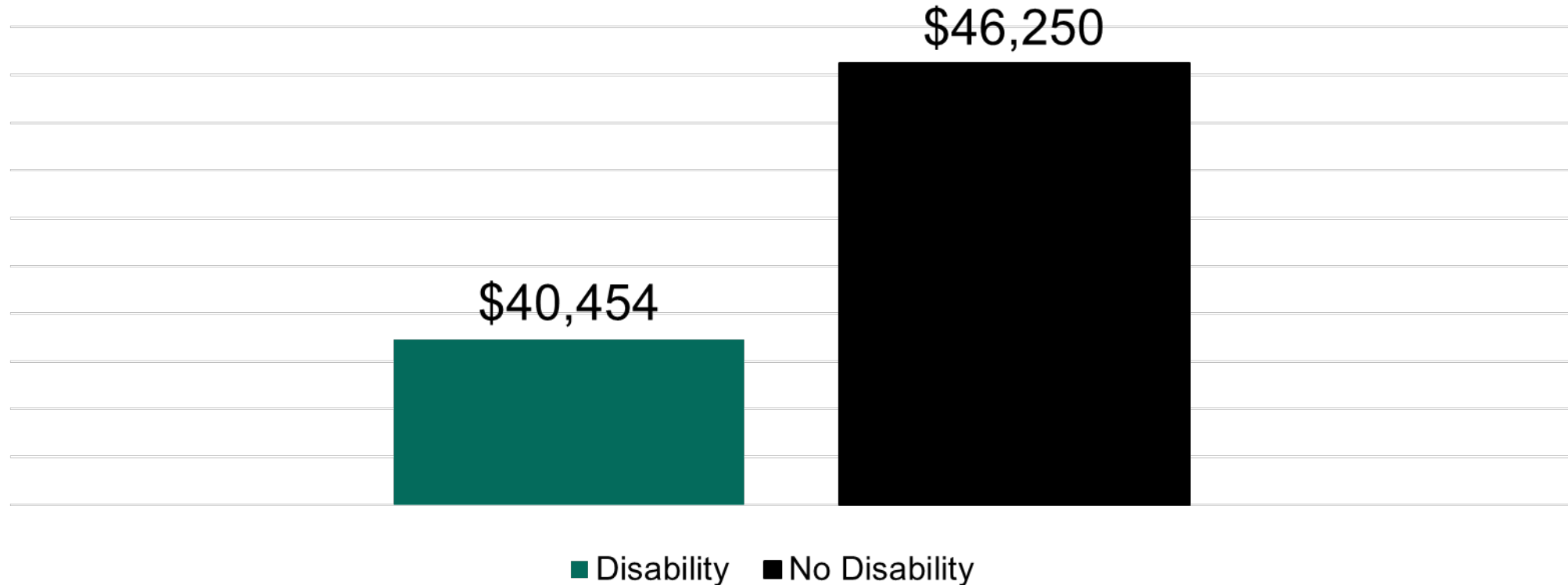
Source: American Community Survey (University of New Hampshire Institute on Disability <https://disabilitycompendium.org/>).

Employment rates of people ages 18-64, 2008-2018



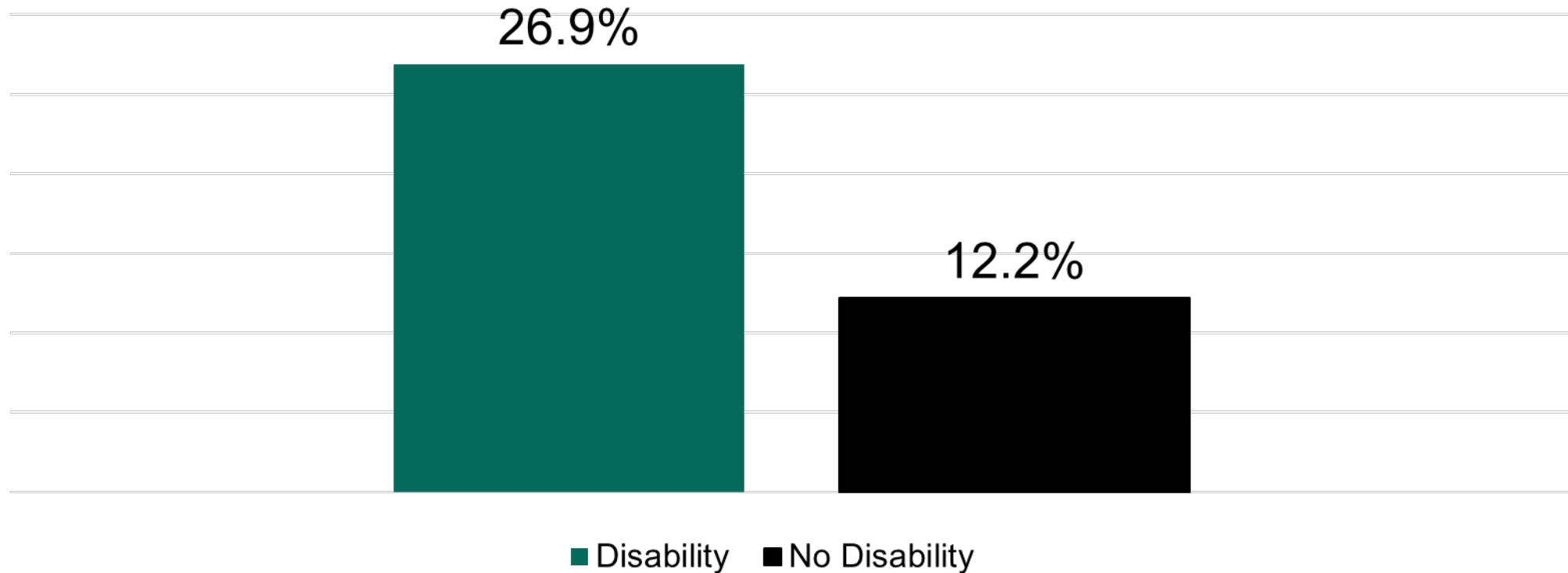
Source: American Community Survey (University of New Hampshire Institute on Disability <https://disabilitycompendium.org/>).

Annual earnings among full-time/full-year workers in 2018



Source: American Community Survey (University of New Hampshire Institute on Disability <https://disabilitycompendium.org/>).

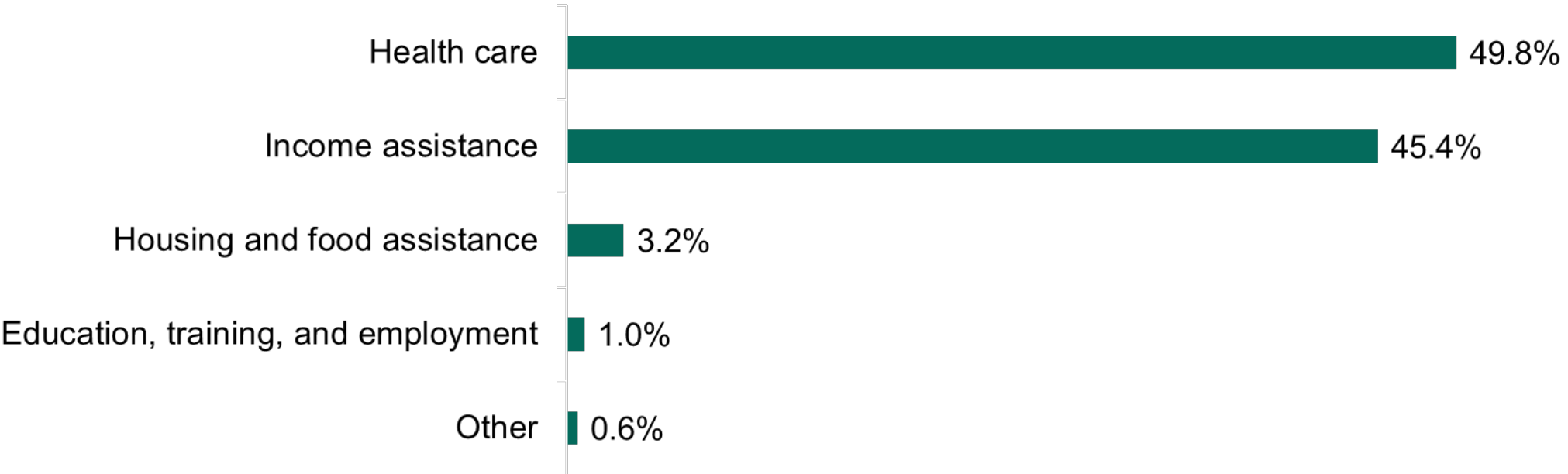
People ages 18-64 living in poverty in 2018



Source: American Community Survey (University of New Hampshire Institute on Disability <https://disabilitycompendium.org/>).

Federal expenditures for people with disabilities

Expenditures for people with disabilities ages 18-64 in 2014
(\$498 billion)



Source: Livermore et al. (2019) <https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/10.1177/1044207319858721>

Speaker



John Tschida
Association of University
Centers on Disabilities

Speaker



Jennifer Sheehy

Office of Disability Employment Policy,
U.S. Department of Labor

Speaker



Jill Houghton
Disability:IN

Speaker



Jason Fichtner

Johns Hopkins University
School of Advanced International Studies

JASON J. FICHTNER

***Beyond All or Nothing:
Reforming SSDI to Encourage Work and
Wealth***

Mathematica Center for Studying Disability Policy

**Thirty Years After the Americans with Disabilities Act:
Where Are We Now, and Where are We Heading?**

AUGUST 5, 2020

Disclaimer: The views are the author's own and do not necessarily represent the views of any other person or organization.

REFORM PROPOSALS – IN A NUTSHELL



Create Temporary Disability Awards



Allow Partial Disability Awards



Engage employers

*use of pilots
to test effectiveness*



These reforms would:

- recognize that disability is not an all-or-nothing condition
- support return to work
- help maintain labor force attachment.

PILOT PROJECTS TO TEST REFORM IDEAS

Individuals: launch pilots offering partial disability payments

target both new & existing SSDI beneficiaries who attempt work.

➤ FEATURES:

➤ voluntary participation for demonstrations

➤ guarantee 50 percent of monthly benefit given earnings are below a threshold, then phase out

eg: threshold might be \$3,500 / month, phase out might be 1:2

➤ benefit counseling provided

health and/or career orientations, as demonstration modules

PILOT PROJECTS TO TEST REFORM IDEAS

Employers: general idea--incentivize employers to take more responsibility for employee coverage

➤ FEATURES:

➤ voluntary participation for demonstrations

➤ tax credit against cost of premiums for private disability insurance coverage

tax credit is up-to a set amount, covers a two-year policy

➤ SSDI enrolment exclusion over coverage period

integrated hand off to public policy which pools long term coverage risks

Questions?

**Submit your questions through the
webinar Q&A widget**



Thank you!