A Snapshot of Disability in Massachusetts*

This fact sheet provides an overview of disability in Massachusetts compared to national estimates. You can use this information to learn more about the percentages and characteristics of adults with disabilities in Massachusetts.

Disability Costs in
HEALTHCARE EXPENDITURES

$11.7 billion per year** in Massachusetts

Adults with Disabilities are more likely to*

Despite progress, adults with disabilities in Massachusetts and across the country continue to experience significant differences in health characteristics and behaviors compared to adults without disabilities.

Types of Disabilities Comparing U.S. with Massachusetts

Percentage of adults with select functional disability types*

MOBILITY: Serious difficulty walking or climbing stairs
COGNITION: Serious difficulty concentrating, remembering, or making decisions
INDEPENDENT LIVING: Difficulty doing errands alone, such as visiting a doctor’s office or shopping
HEARING: Deafness or serious difficulty hearing
VISION: Blind or serious difficulty seeing, even when wearing glasses
SELF-CARE: Difficulty dressing or bathing

* Data Source: 2017 Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS).
** Disability-associated healthcare expenditures are presented in 2006 dollars as reported in Anderson et al, 2010. This value represents approximately 28% of total healthcare expenditures for the state of Massachusetts.

For more information go to www.cdc.gov/disabilities