

Disability Employment Awareness Month 2023

Talking Points:

- October is National Disability Employment Awareness Month.
- This year's theme, *Advancing Access and Equity* recognizes the essential role people with disabilities play in our nation's economic success.
- In 2022, 21.3 percent of persons with a disability were employed, up from 19.1 percent in 2021, the U.S.*
- The unemployment rates for persons with a disability (7.6 percent) and persons without a disability (3.5 percent) both declined in 2022.*
- Working age persons with disabilities in Fairfax County are about five times more likely to earn less than half of the poverty line.
- While disability employment is celebrated in October, it is imperative that advocacy take place year-round to ensure that persons with disabilities are employed at a rate equal to persons without disabilities.

*The statistics on employment are based on data obtained from the [U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics](#).