The National Longitudinal Transition Study-2 (NLTS2)

Project Update: Self-Perceptions of Youth With Disabilities

Renée Cameto
Lynn Newman
Mary Wagner
SRI International

June 14, 2006







NLTS2 Overview



Focuses on	Youth
Study began	2000 – 2001 school year
Age at start of study	13 to 16
Disability categories	All disability categories
Longitudinal	9 years 5 waves of data collection



NLTS2 Sample Design

NLTS2 includes a nationally representative sample of LEAs, from which students were randomly selected to generalize to:

- Students receiving special education who are in the NLTS2 age range
- Each of the 12 special education disability categories
- Each single-year age cohort, with a larger proportion of the oldest age group than others



Today's agenda

- Describe the perceptions of youth with disabilities regarding:
 - Themselves
 - Their self-determination abilities
 - School
 - Their social involvement
 - Expectations for their future
- Compare the perceptions held by youth with disabilities, when possible, with:
 - Their own actions
 - Perceptions held by youth in the general population
 - Their parents' perceptions
 - Other sources of data about them



Data sources

- Primarily NLTS2 Wave 2 (2003) youth telephone interviews/mail survey (youth who could respond for themselves, could be reached, and were willing to respond)
 - -N = 2,919
- NLTS2 youth in-person interviews (2002 and 2004) as part of youth assessments
 - -N = 5,111
- For comparison:
 - Data from parents for youth who did not respond for themselves (to describe differences in the samples; N = 3,940)
 - NLTS2 Waves 1 and 3 (2001 and 2005) parent/youth interviews for youth with Wave 2 youth data (variable sample size by item)
 - Selected surveys of youth in the general population



Characteristics of youth respondents

- Compared with youth whose parents were interview respondents, youth who responded for themselves are significantly:
 - More likely to have a learning disability (69 percent vs. 54 percent) or to be from a household with an income of more than \$50,000 (41 percent vs. 30 percent).
 - Less likely to have mental retardation (8 percent vs. 17 percent) or multiple disabilities (1 percent vs. 3 percent) or to be male (64 percent vs. 71 percent).
 - More likely to have high functional cognitive skills (70 percent vs. 54 percent), social skills (26 percent vs. 18 percent), and self-care skills (97 percent vs. 90 percent).
 - Less likely to have trouble communicating (23 percent vs. 43 percent), understanding language (26 percent vs. 43 percent), hearing (6 percent vs. 15 percent), seeing (11 percent vs. 18 percent), using their arms and hands (3 percent vs. 9 percent), or using their legs or feet (5 percent vs. 11 percent).

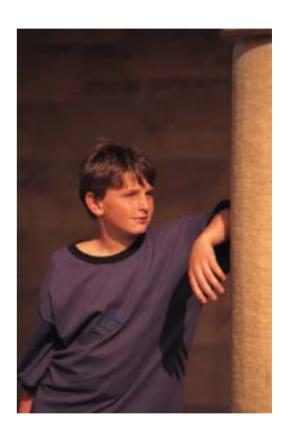


Source: U.S. Department of Education, Institute of Education Sciences, National Center for Special Education Research, National Longitudinal Transition Study-2 (NLTS2) Wave 1 parent interviews, 2001 and school district rosters indicating primary disability classification.

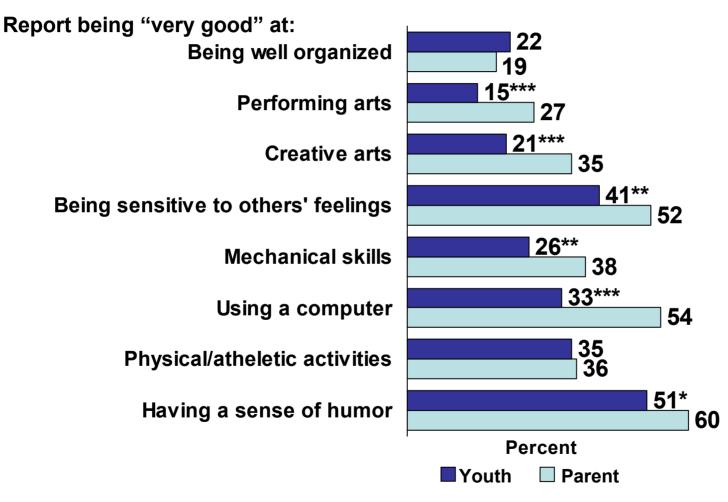


Perceptions of self among youth with disabilities

- Strengths
- Self-concept
- Views of their life
- Views of their disability



Youth's and parents' reports of strengths of youth with disabilities

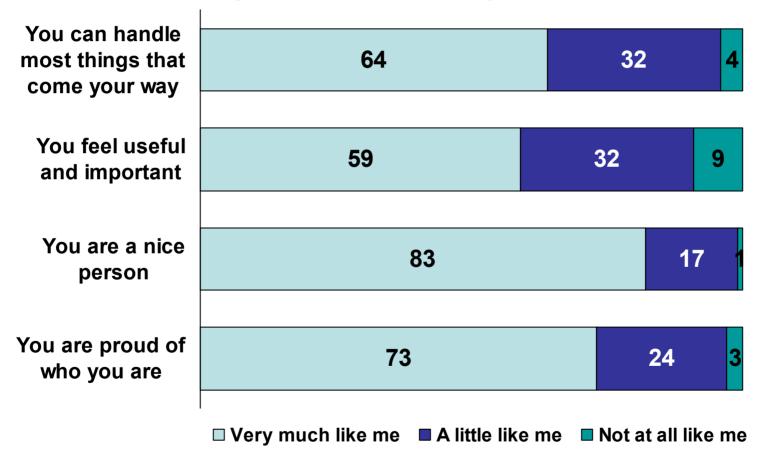




Statistical significance: *p < .05; **p < .01, ***p < .001. Source: U.S. Department of Education, Institute of Education Sciences, National Center for Special Education Research, National Longitudinal Transition Study-2 (NLTS2) Wave 1 parent interviews, 2001, and Wave 2 youth interviews/survey, 2003

Youth with disabilities' perceptions of self

How much the following statements are "like you:"

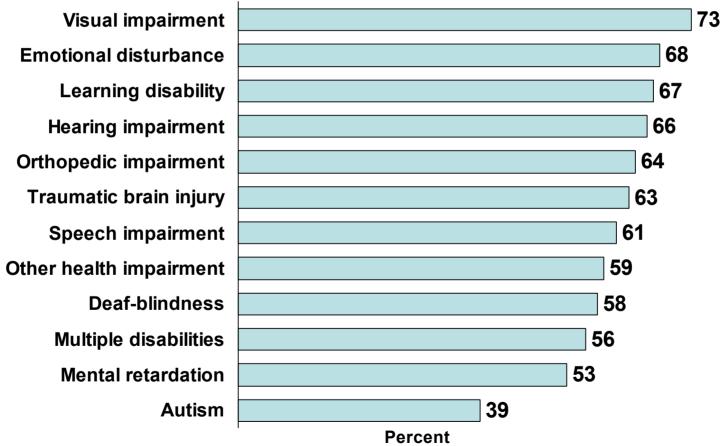






Youth's perceptions of general competence, by disability category

Youth perceive the statement "you can handle most things that come your way" is "very much like me"

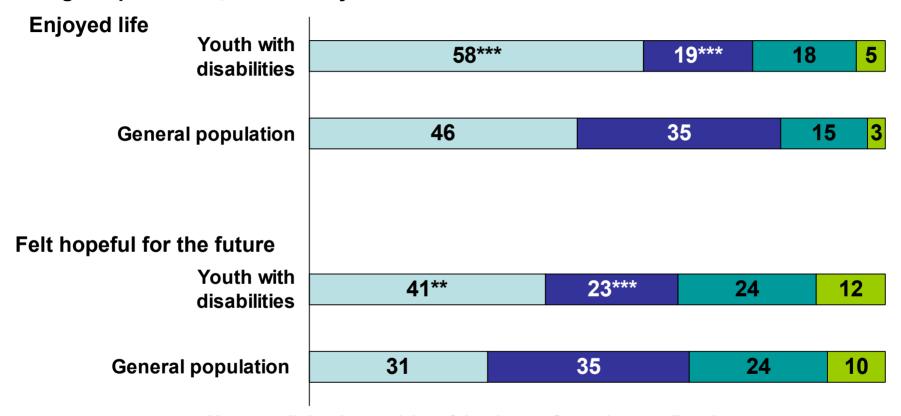




Source: U.S. Department of Education, Institute of Education Sciences, National Center for Special Education Research, National Longitudinal Transition Study-2 (NLTS2) student assessment, 2001 and 2003.

Youth with disabilities' positive feelings toward life

During the past week, how often youth:



■ Most or all the time ■ A lot of the time ■ Sometimes ■ Rarely or never Statistical significance: **p < .01, ***p < .001; for comparison between youth

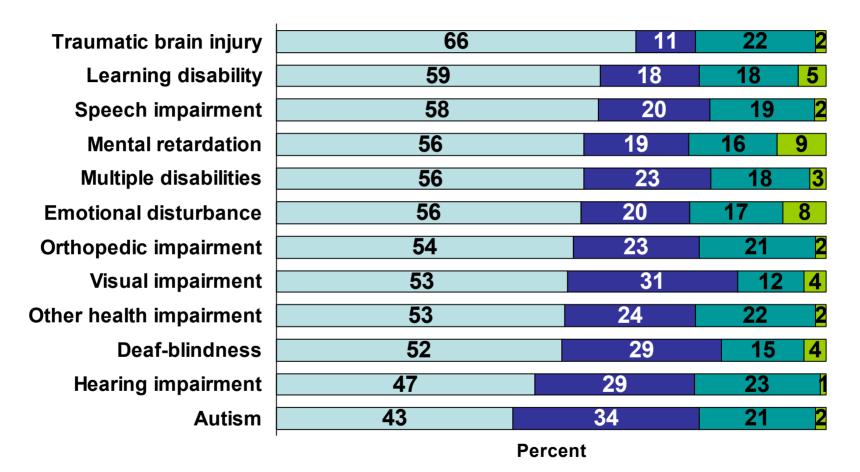
disabilities and in the general population

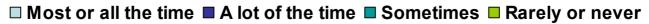
Source: U.S. Department of Education, Institute of Education Sciences, National Center for Special Education Research, National Longitudinal Transition Study-2 (NLTS2) Wave 2 youth interviews/survey, 2003, National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, National Longitudinal Study of Adolescent Health, Wave 1 youth survey, 1998





Youth's enjoyment of life, by disability category



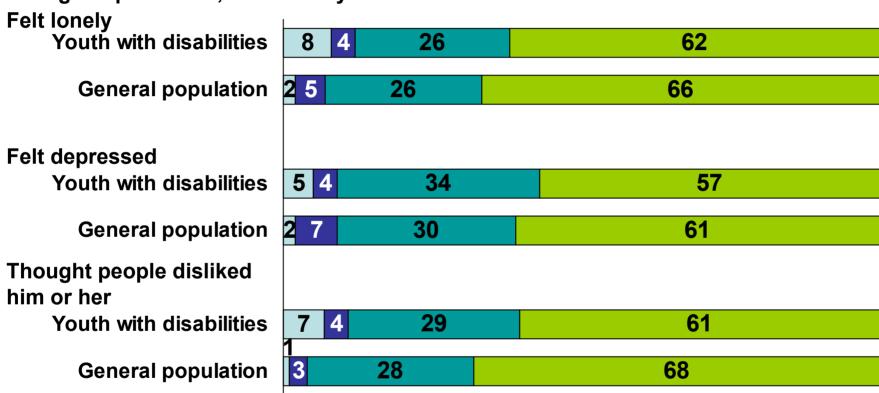






Youth with disabilities' negative feelings toward life

During the past week, how often youth:



Percent

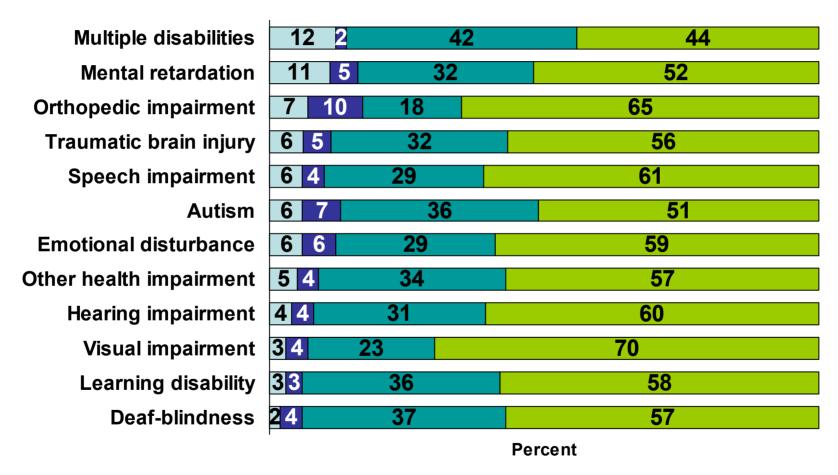
■ Most or all the time ■ A lot of the time ■ Sometimes ■ Rarely or never



Source: U.S. Department of Education, Institute of Education Sciences, National Center for Special Education Research, National Longitudinal Transition Study-2 (NLTS2) Wave 2 youth interviews/survey, 2003, National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, National Longitudinal Study of Adolescent Health, Wave 1 youth survey, 1998



Youth's feelings of depression, by disability category

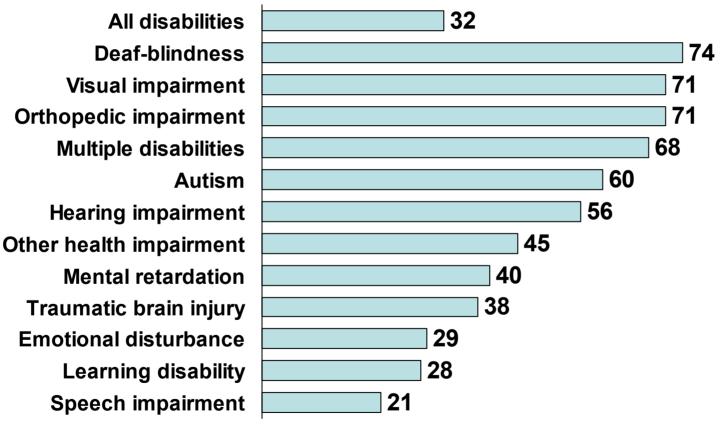


■ Most or all the time ■ A lot of the time ■ Sometimes ■ Rarely or never





Youth perceive themselves to have a disability or special need







Source: U.S. Department of Education, Institute of Education Sciences, National Center for Special Education Research, National Longitudinal Transition Study-2 (NLTS2) student assessment, 2001 and 2003.

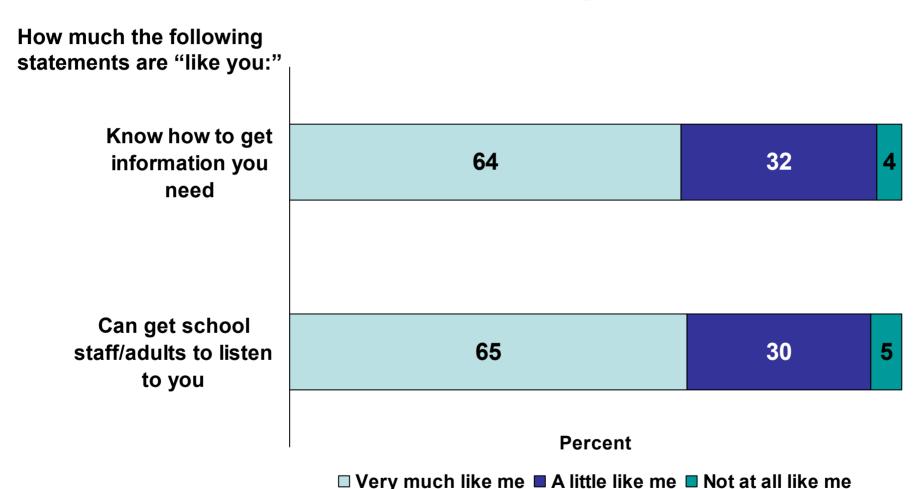
Self-determination of youth with disabilities

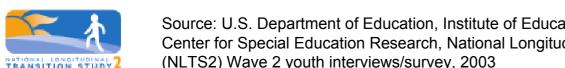
- Self-advocacy
- Understands service needs
- Acknowledges disability
- Communicates with professionals about services
- ARC Self-determination Scale





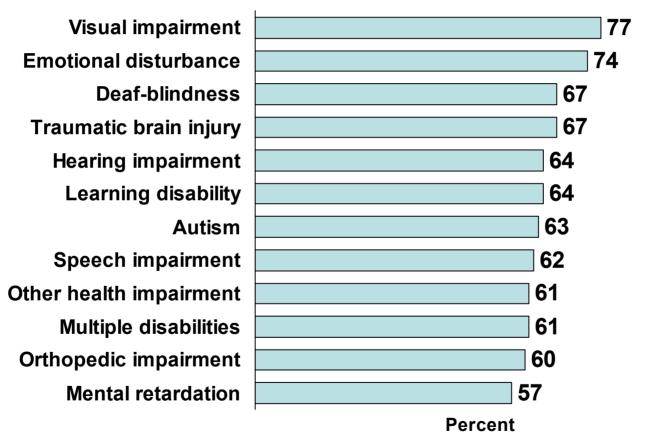
Youth with disabilities' feelings of self-advocacy







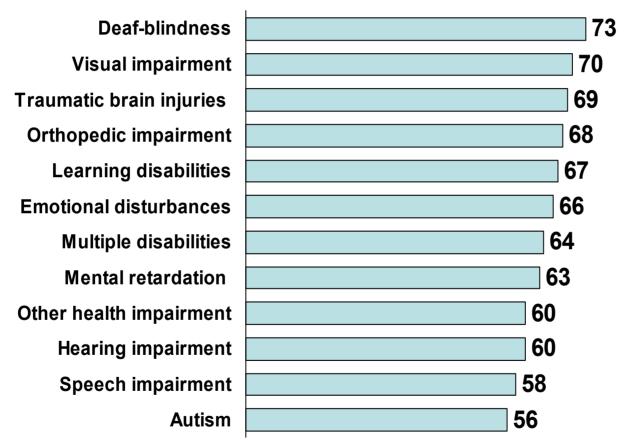
Youth with disabilities' report that they know how to get information they need, by disability category







Youth with disabilities' report that they can get school staff/adults to listen to them, by disability category



Percent reporting statement is "a lot like me"





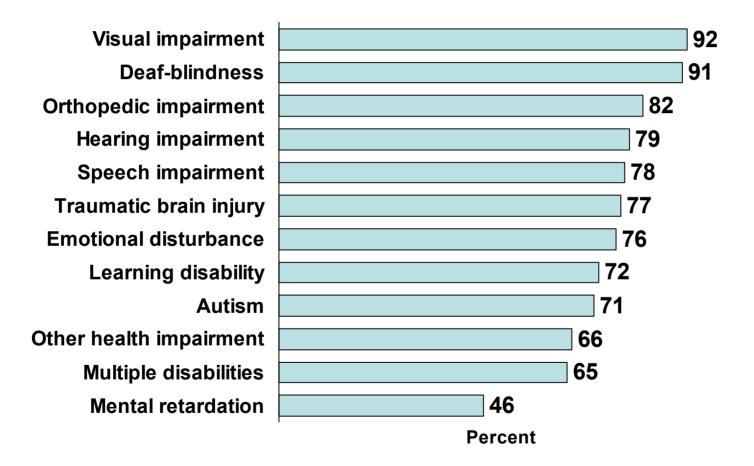
Self-advocacy regarding their disability of youth who report disability

Know what services he or she 69 needs for dealing with disability How often tells professionals opinions on services they provide: **32** Often 36 **Sometimes** 32 Hardly ever Percent





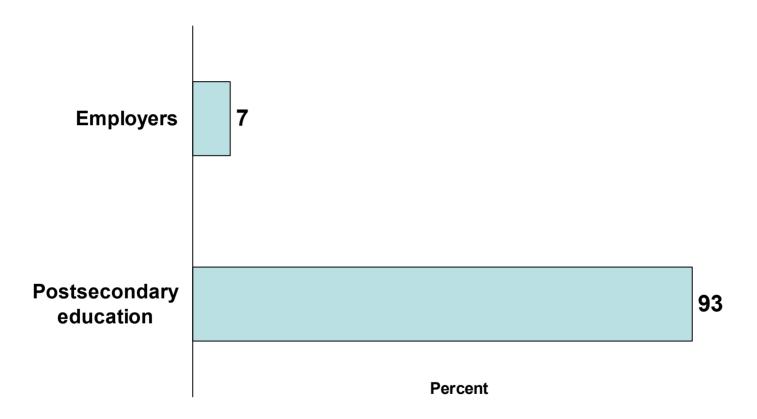
Knowledge of services needed by youth who report disability, by disability category







Employer and/or postsecondary education institution's awareness of their disability for youth who report disability







Personal autonomy items

- I keep my own personal items together
- I keep good personal care and grooming
- I make friends with other kids my age
- I keep my appointments and meetings
- I plan weekend activities that I like to do
- I am involved in school-related activities
- I volunteer for things that I am interested in
- I go to restaurants that I like
- I choose gifts to give to family and friends
- I choose how to spend my personal money





Autonomy in career planning items

- I work on schoolwork that will improve my career chances.
- I do school and free time activities based on my career interests.
- I make long-range career plans.
- I work or have worked to earn money.
- I am in or have been in career or job classes or training





Self-realization items

- I can like people even if I don't agree with them.
- I know what I do best.
- I like myself.
- I know how to make up for my limitations.
- I am confident in my abilities





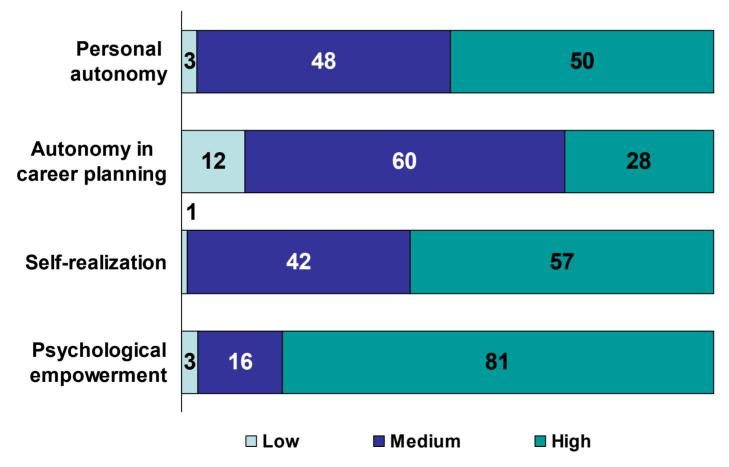
Psychological empowerment items

- I tell others when I have a new or different opinion, or I usually agree with others' opinions and/or ideas.
- I can make my own decisions, or Other people make decisions for me.
- I can get what I want by working hard, or I need good luck to get what I want.
- I keep trying even after I get something wrong, or It is no use to keep trying because it will not work.
- I usually make good choices, or I usually do not make good choices.
- I will be able to make choices that are important to me, or
 My choices will not be honored.





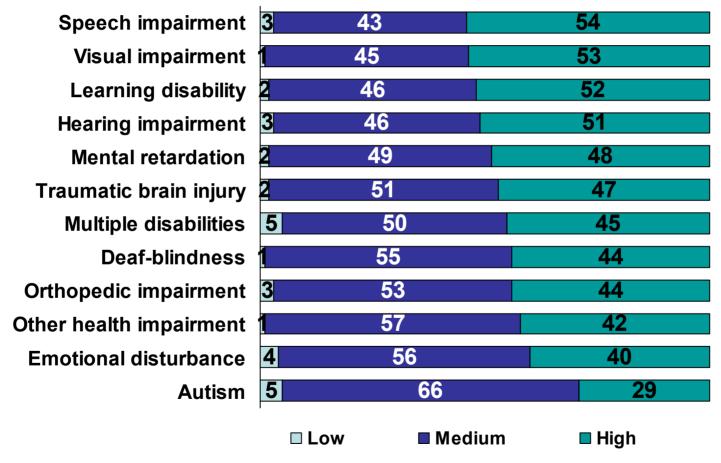
Self-determination scores of youth with disabilities



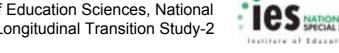


tional udy-2

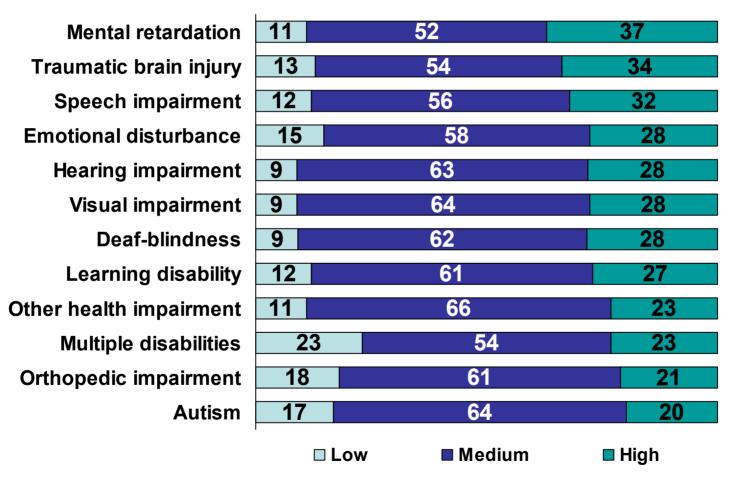
Personal autonomy scores, by disability category







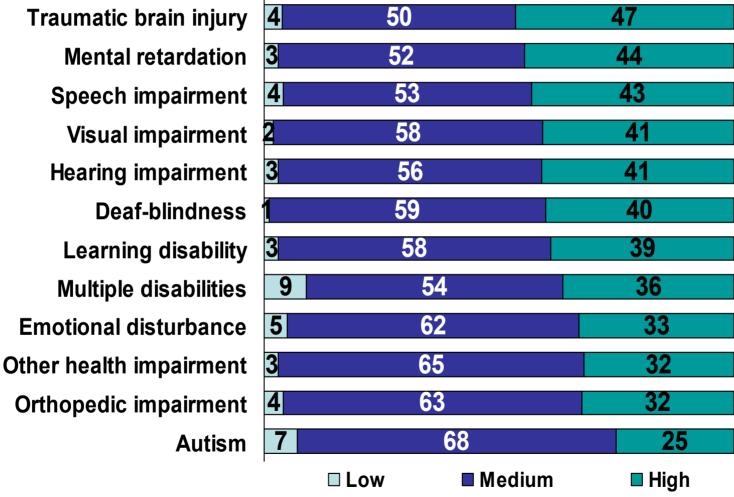
Autonomy in career planning scores, by disability category







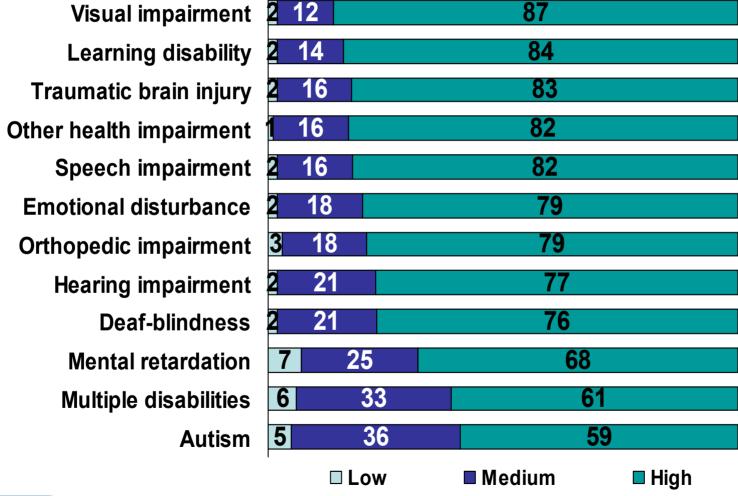
Self-realization scores, by disability category







Psychological empowerment scores, by disability category





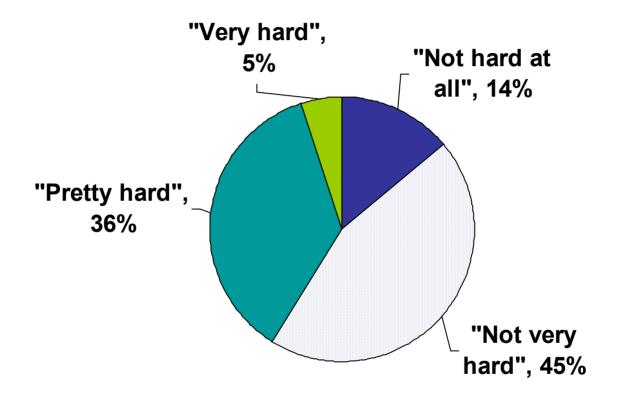
Source: U.S. Department of Education, Institute of Education Sciences, National Center for Special Education Research, National Longitudinal Transition Study-2 (NLTS2) student assessment 2002 and 2004.

Views of school

- Academic challenges
- Relationships at school
- Participation at school
- Receipt of services from school



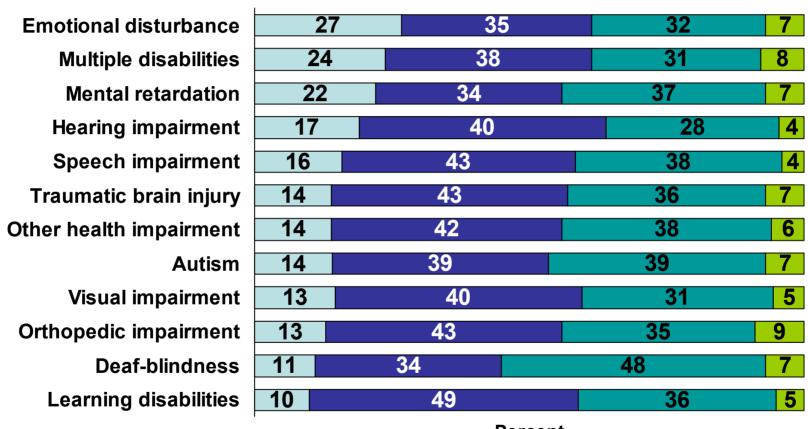
Youth with disabilities' perceptions of school difficulty







Perceptions of difficulty of school, by disability category



Percent

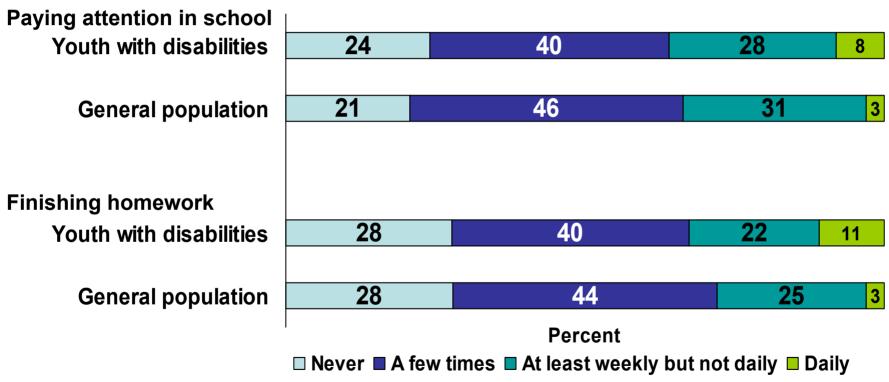
■ Not at all hard
■ Not very hard
■ Pretty hard
■ Very hard

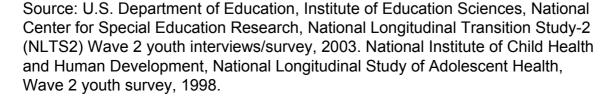




Youth with disabilities' academic challenges

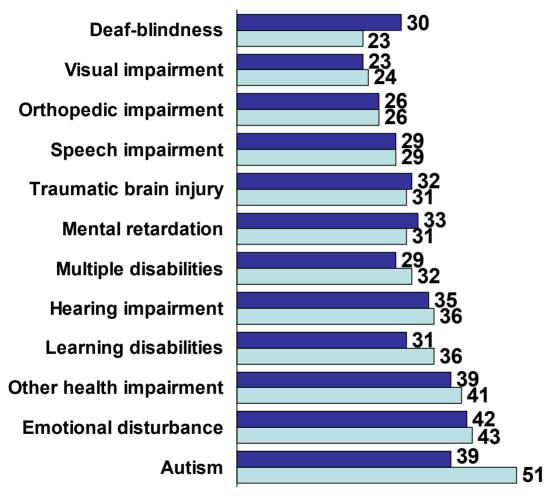
In 2002-03 school year, how often youth had trouble:







Youth's perceptions of academic challenges, by disability category



Percentage having trouble weekly or more often with:

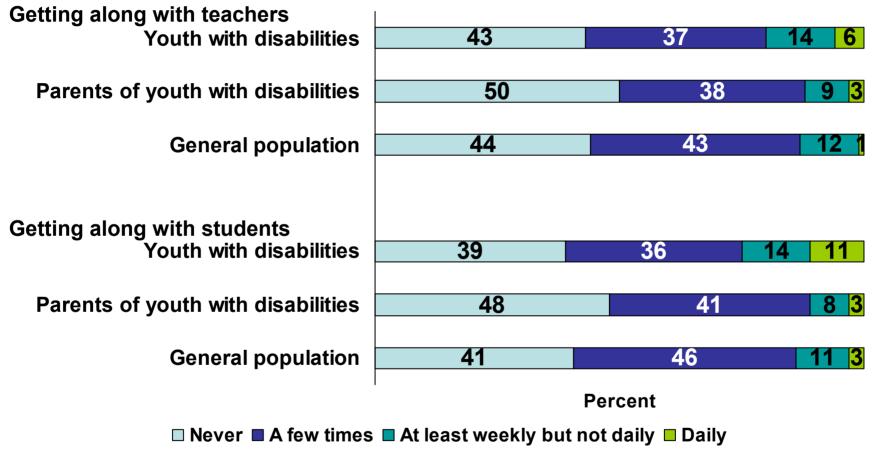
■ Finishing homework □ Paying attention at school





Youth with disabilities' social challenges at school

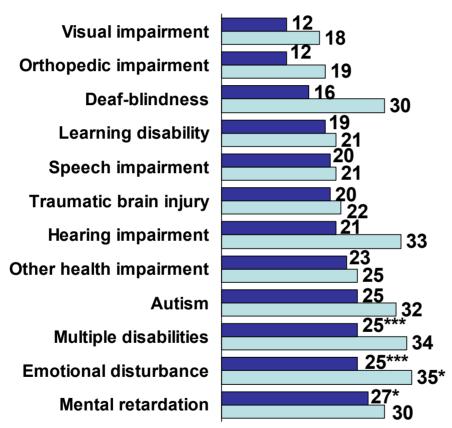
During the school year, how often youth had trouble:



Source: U.S. Department of Education, Institute of Education Sciences, National Center for Special Education Research, National Longitudinal Transition Study-2 (NLTS2) Wave 1 parent and Wave 2 youth interviews/survey, 2001 and 2003, National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, National Longitudinal Study of Adolescent Health, Wave 2 youth survey, 1998



Youth's perceptions of social challenges, by disability category



Percent having trouble at least weekly with:

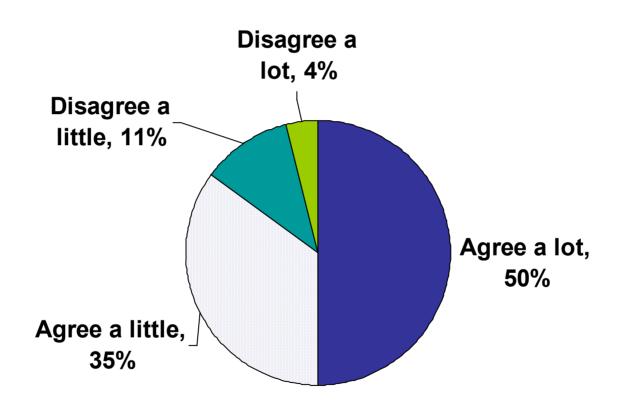
■ Getting along with teachers □ Getting along with students



Statistical significance: *p < .05; ***p < .001. Source: U.S. Department of Education, Institute of Education Sciences, National Center for Special Education Research, National Longitudinal Transition Study-2 (NLTS2) Wave 2 youth interviews/survey, 2003



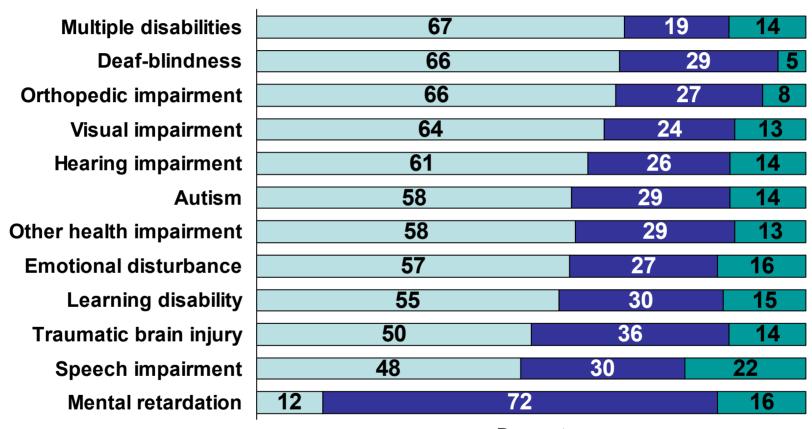
Youth with disabilities' perceptions of there being an adult at school who cares about them







Youth's reports of there being an adult at school who cares about them, by disability category



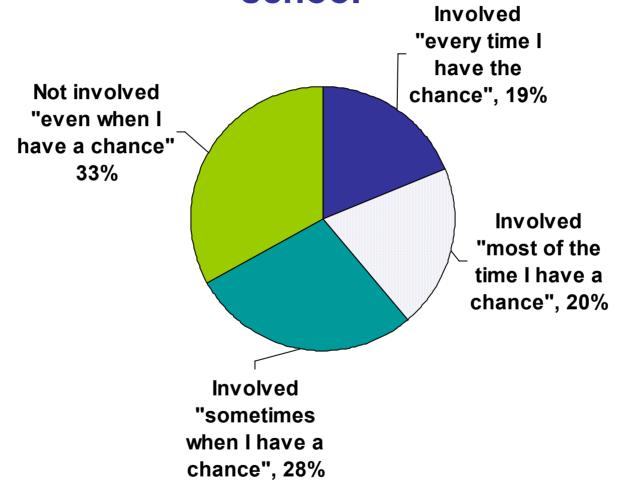
Percent

■ Agree a lot ■ Agree a little ■ Disagree a little or a lot





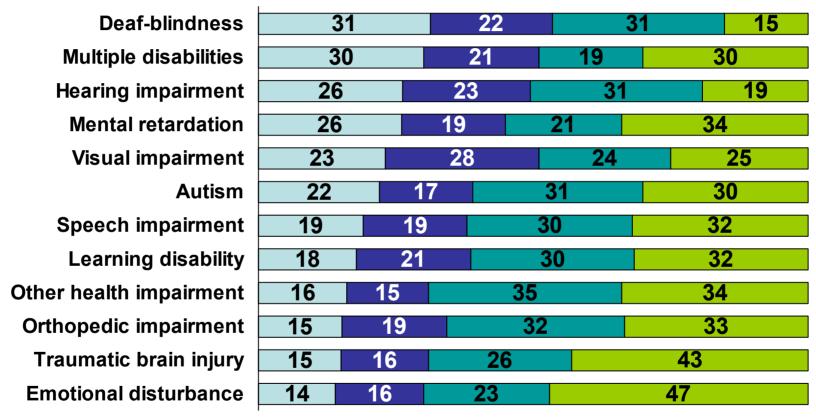
Youth with disabilities' levels of involvement at school





SPECIAL EDUCATION RESEAR

Frequency of involvement at school, by disability category



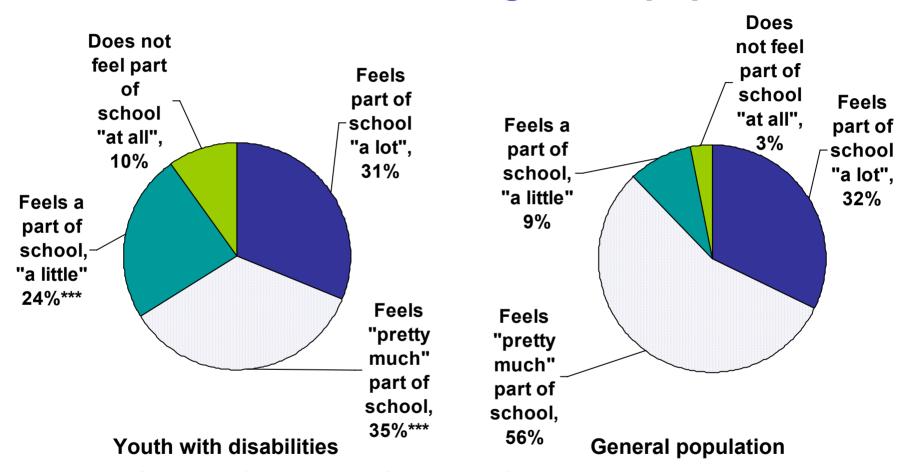
Percent involved "when I have a chance"

■ Every time ■ Most times ■ Sometimes ■ Never





Feelings of being part of their school of youth with disabilities and the general population



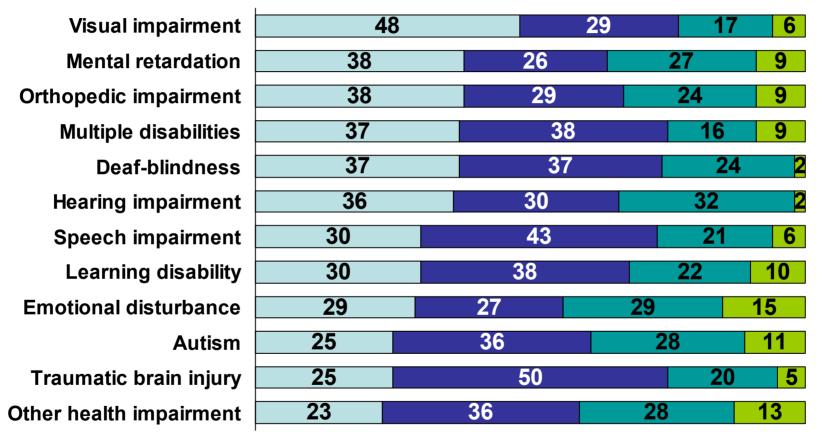
Statistical significance: ***p < .001 for comparison of youth with disabilities and in the general population.

Source: U.S. Department of Education, Institute of Education Sciences, National Center for Special Education Research, National Longitudinal Transition Study-2 (NLTS2) Wave 2 youth interviews/survey, 2003, National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, National Longitudinal Study of Adolescent Health, Wave 2 youth survey, 1998





Feeling "part of school," by disability category



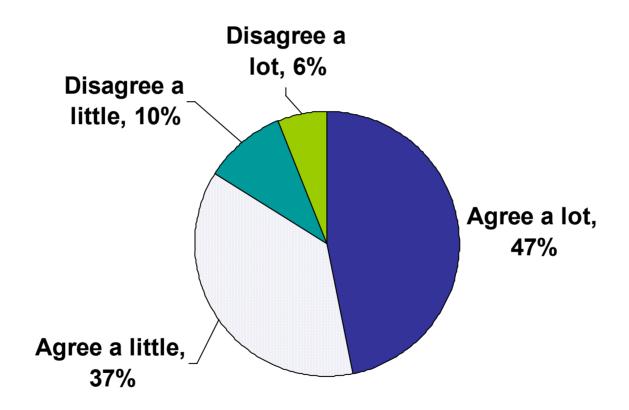
Percent feeling part of school

■ A lot ■ Pretty much ■ A little ■ Not at all





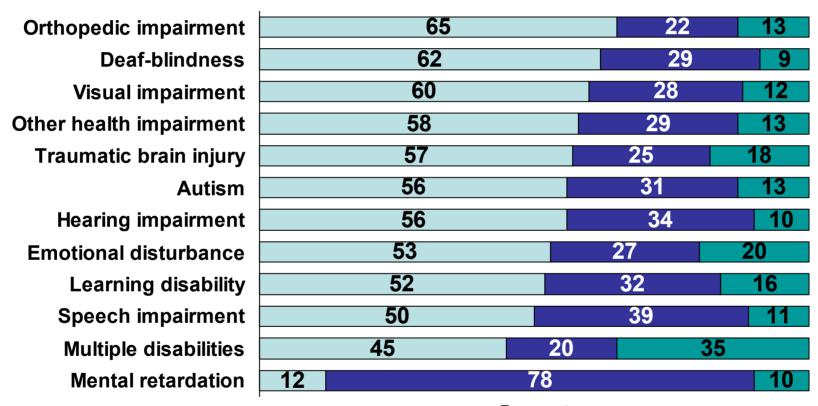
Youth with disabilities' perceptions of getting needed services and support from school







Youth's reports of receiving needed services and support at school, by disability category



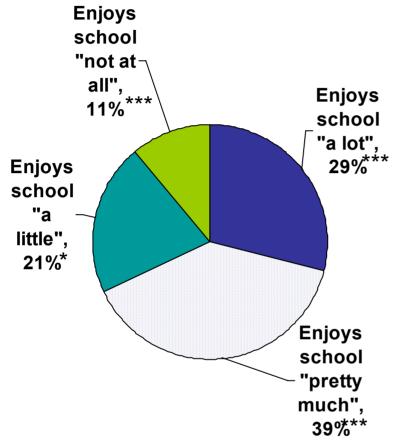
Percent

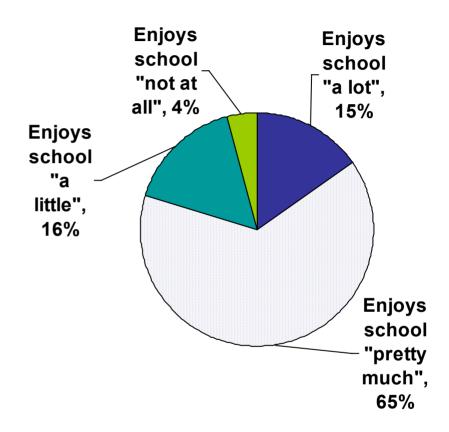
□ Agree a lot ■ Agree a little ■ Disagree a little or a lot





Youth with disabilities' enjoyment of school





Youth with disabilities

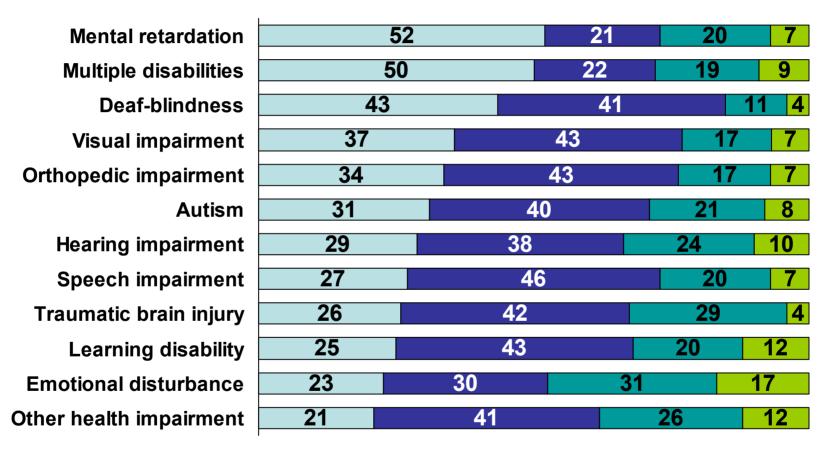
General population

Statistical significance: p < .05, p < .001 for comparisons of youth with disabilities and in the general population.

Source: U.S. Department of Education, Institute of Education Sciences, National Center for Special Education Research, National Longitudinal Transition Study-2 (NLTS2) Wave 1 parent and Wave 2 youth interviews/survey, 2001 and 2003, U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, National Household Education Survey, parent interview, 1996



Enjoyment of school, by disability category



Percent

☐ A lot ☐ Pretty much ☐ A little ☐ Not at all





Personal relationships

- What youth with disabilities say about:
 - their ability to make friends; and
 - feelings of being liked, cared about, and paid attention to.

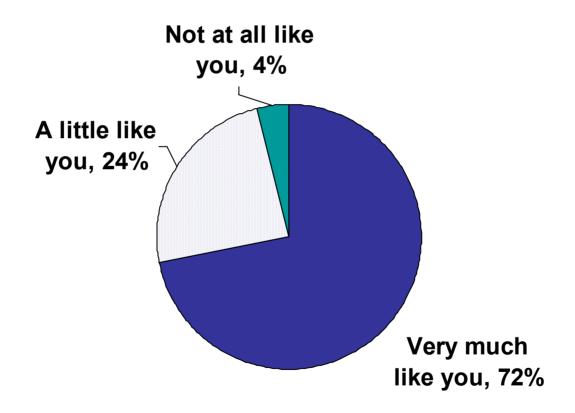






Youth with disabilities' views of the ease of making friends

How much the statement, "you can make friends easily" is like you:

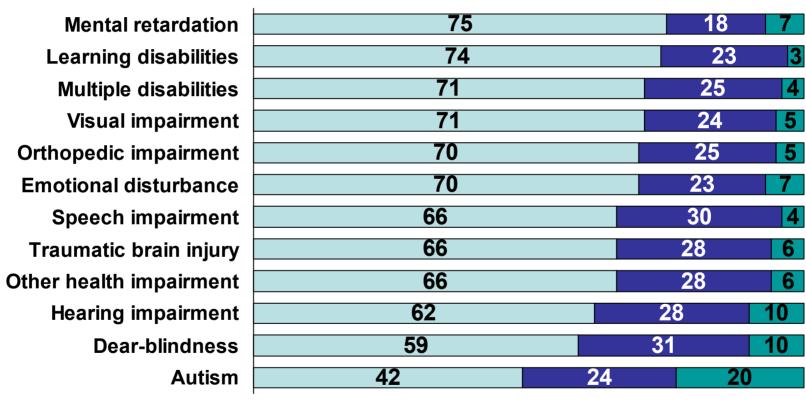






Views of the ease of making friends, by disability category

How much statement "you can make friends easily" is like you:



Percent

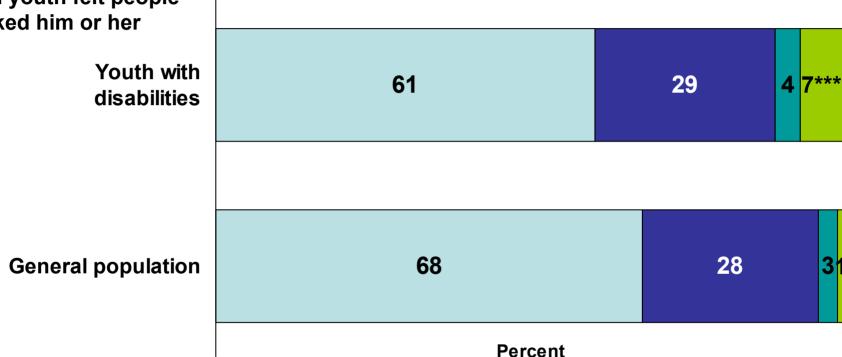
☐ A lot like me ☐ A little like me ☐ Not at all like me





Youth with disabilities' views of being disliked by others

During the past week, how often youth felt people disliked him or her



□ Rarely or never ■ Sometimes ■ A lot of the time ■ Most or all of the time

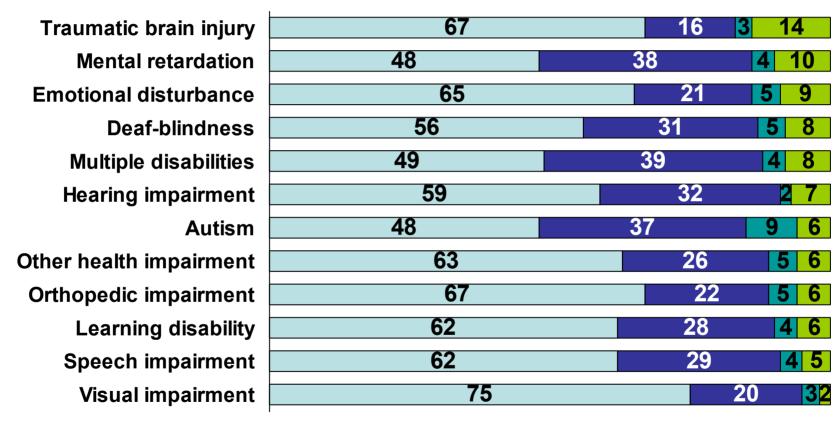
Statistical significance: ***p < .001 for comparison of youth with disabilities and in the general population.

Source: U.S. Department of Education, Institute of Education Sciences, National Center for Special Education Research, National Longitudinal Transition Study-2 (NLTS2) Wave 2 youth interviews/survey, 2003. U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, National Household Education Survey, youth interview, 1990





Frequency of youth's feelings of being disliked by others, by disability category



Percent

■ Rarely or never ■ Sometimes ■ A lot of the time ■ Most or all the time

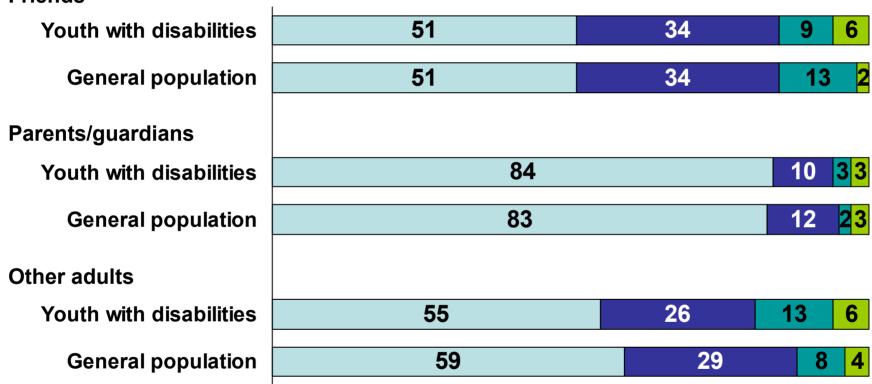




Youth with disabilities' perceptions of being cared about

Extent of feeling cared about by:

Friends



Percent

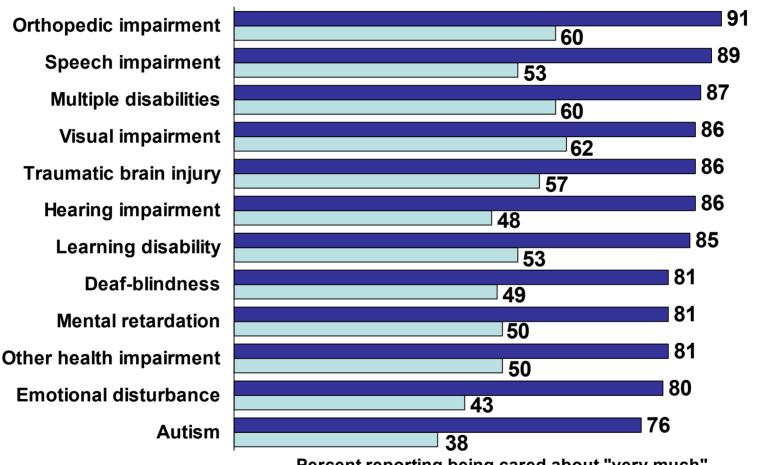
■ Very much ■ Quite a bit ■ Somewhat ■ Very little or not at all



Source: U.S. Department of Education, Institute of Education Sciences, National Center for Special Education Research, National Longitudinal Transition Study-2 (NLTS2) Wave 2 youth interviews/survey, 2003, U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, National Household Education Survey, youth interviews, 1999



Youth's perceptions of being cared about, by disability category



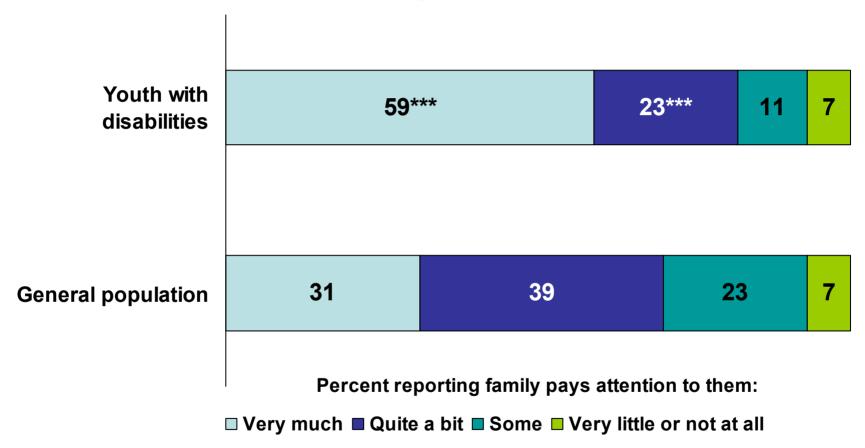
Percent reporting being cared about "very much"





Source: U.S. Department of Education, Institute of Education Sciences, National Center for Special Education Research, National Longitudinal Transition Study-2 (NLTS2) Wave 2 youth interviews/survey, 2003

Youth with disabilities' views of being paid attention to by their families



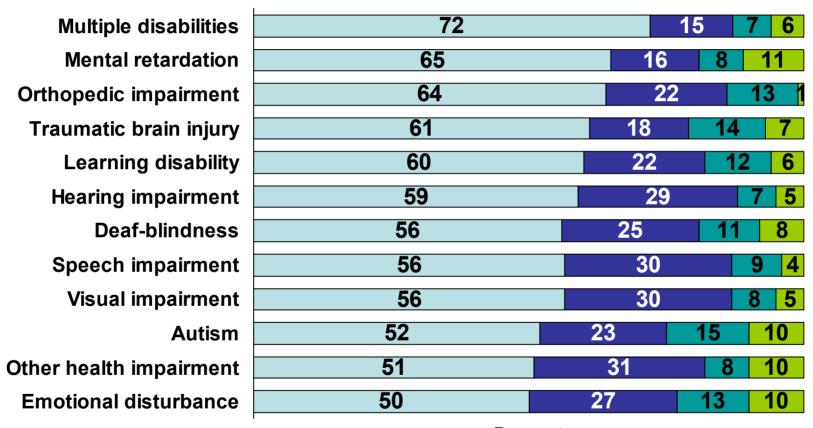
Statistical significance: ***p < .001 for comparisons of youth with disabilities and in the general population.

Source: U.S. Department of Education, Institute of Education Sciences, National Center for Special Education Research, National Longitudinal Transition Study-2 (NLTS2) Wave 2 youth interviews/survey, 2003. U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, National Household Education Survey, youth interview, 1999





Youth's feelings of being paid attention to by their families, by disability category

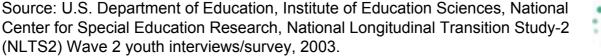


(NLTS2) Wave 2 youth interviews/survey, 2003.

Percent

■ Very much ■ Quite a bit ■ Some ■ Very little or not at all





Youth's expectations

- Future educational attainment
- Future employment/ financial independence
- Attainment after high school



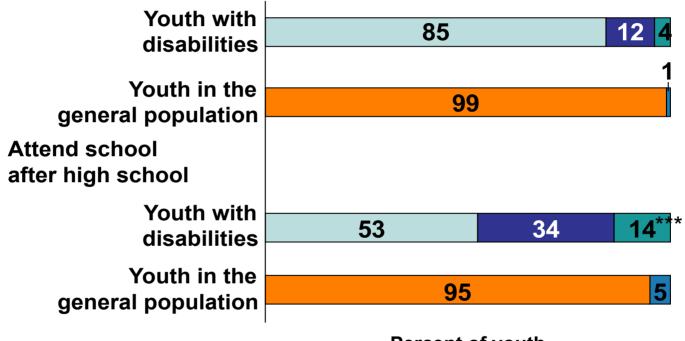




Expectations for future education attainment

Youth expects¹ to:

Graduate from high school with a regular diploma



Percent of youth

Definitely will Probably will Probably or definitely won't

Yes No

Statistical significance: ***p < .001 for comparisons of youth with disabilities and in the general population.

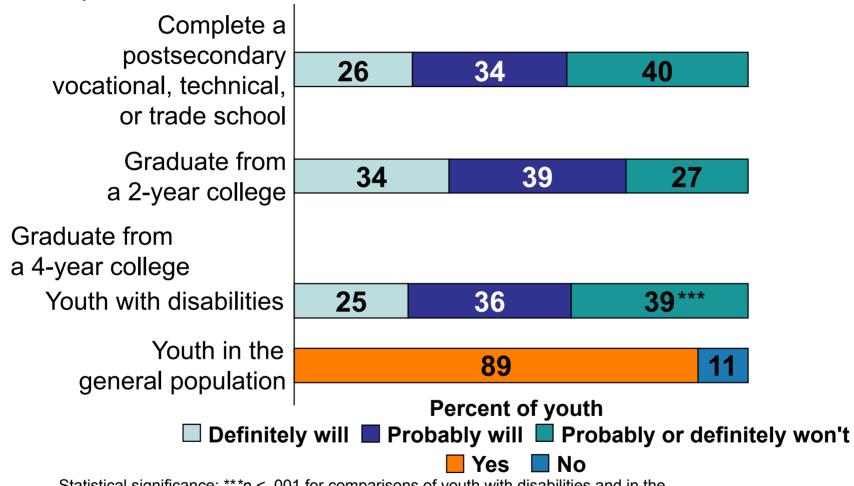
¹Youth who have attained outcome are included as "definitely will."

Source: U.S. Department of Education, Institute of Education Sciences, National Center for Special Education Research, National Longitudinal Transition Study-2 (NLTS2), Wave 2 youth interviews/survey, 2003 and National Center for Education Statistics, National Household Education Survey (NHES), 1999 youth survey.



Expectations for future postsecondary school completion

Youth expects¹ to:



Statistical significance: ***p < .001 for comparisons of youth with disabilities and in the general population.

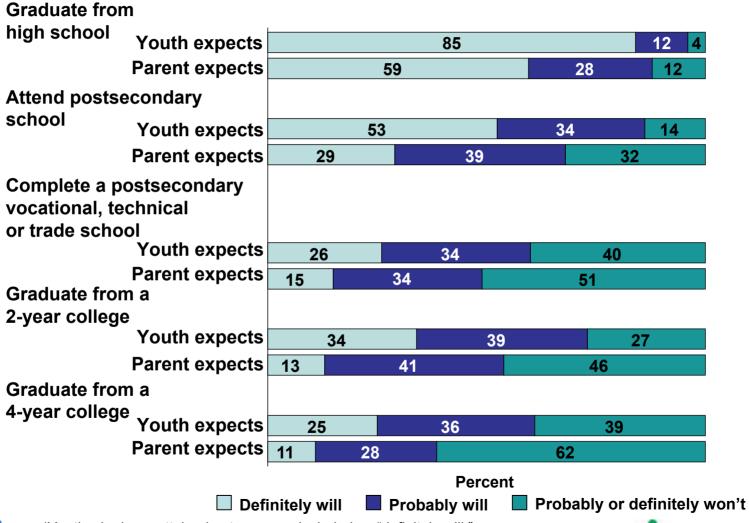
¹Youth who have attained outcome are included as "definitely will."

Source: U.S. Department of Education, Institute of Education Sciences, National Center for Special Education Research, National Longitudinal Transition Study-2 (NLTS2), Wave 2 youth interviews/survey, 2003 and National Center for Education Statistics, National Household Education Survey (NHES), 1993 and 1999 youth surveys.



60

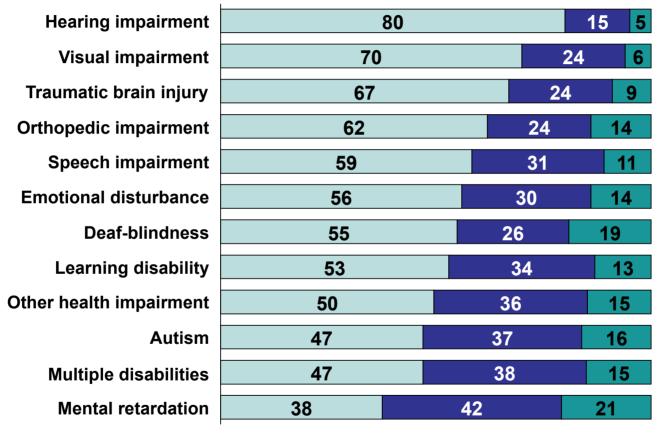
Youth's and parent's expectations¹ for youth's future education attainment





¹Youth who have attained outcome are included as "definitely will." Source: U.S. Department of Education, Institute of Education Sciences, National Center for Special Education Research, National Longitudinal Transition Study-2 (NLTS2), Wave 2 youth interviews/survey, 2003; Wave 1 (2001) parent interviews.

Youth's expectations for postsecondary school attendance, by disability category



Percent of youth

■ Definitely will ■ Probably will ■ Definitely or probably will not



Source: U.S. Department of Education, Institute of Education Sciences, National Center for Special Education Research, National Longitudinal Transition Study-2 (NLTS2), Wave 2 youth interviews/survey, 2003.



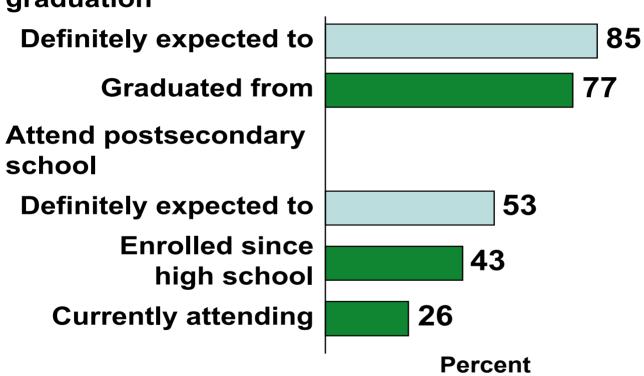
What are the outcomes of school leavers up to 4 years after high school?

- Wave 3 (2005) attainments of Wave 2 (2003) youth interview/survey respondents
- Attainments reported here are for youth who responded to the Wave 2 interview/survey.



Educational attainment of out-of-secondary school youth in 2005

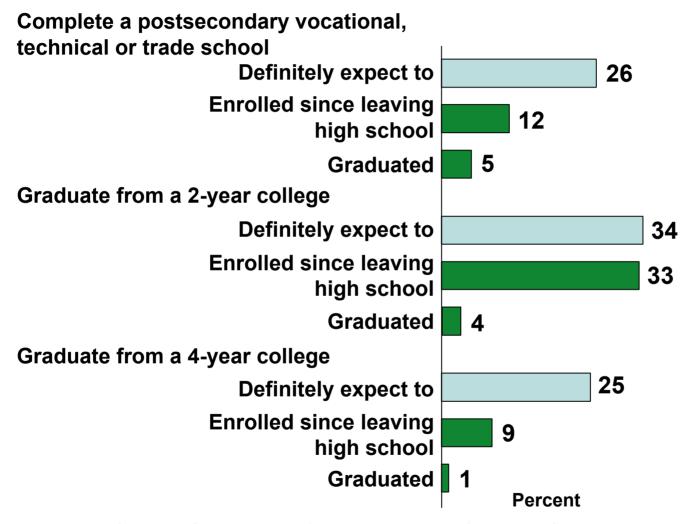
High school graduation





Source: U.S. Department of Education, Institute of Education Sciences, National Center for Special Education Research, National Longitudinal Transition Study-2 (NLTS2), Wave 2 youth interviews/survey 2003 (expectations), and Wave 3 parent/youth interview, 2005 (attainment), restricted to youth who responded to Wave 2 interview/survey.

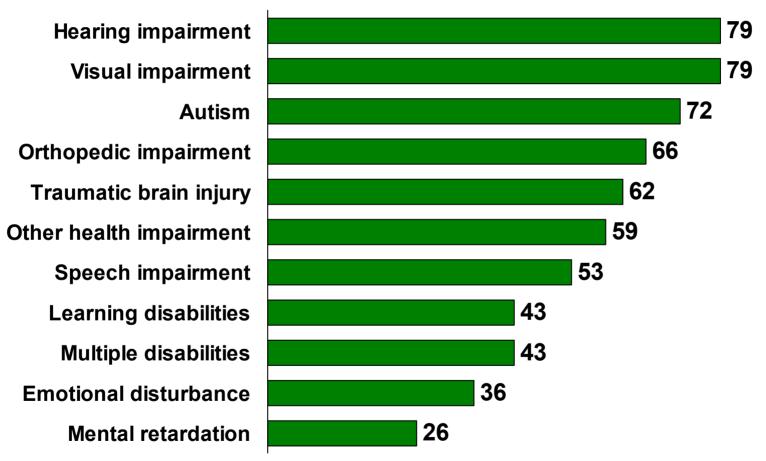
Postsecondary school participation by 2005





Source: U.S. Department of Education, Institute of Education Sciences, National Center for Special Education Research, National Longitudinal Transition Study-2 (NLTS2), Wave 2 youth interviews/survey, 2003 (expectations), and Wave 3 parent/youth interviews/survey, 2005 (participation), restricted to youth who responded to Wave 2 interviews/survey.

Ever enrolled in postsecondary school as of 2005, by disability category







NOTE: There are too few youth with deaf-blindness to report separately. Source: U.S. Department of Education, Institute of Education Sciences, National Center for Special Education Research, National Longitudinal Transition Study-2 (NLTS2), Wave 3 parent/youth interviews/survey, 2005.

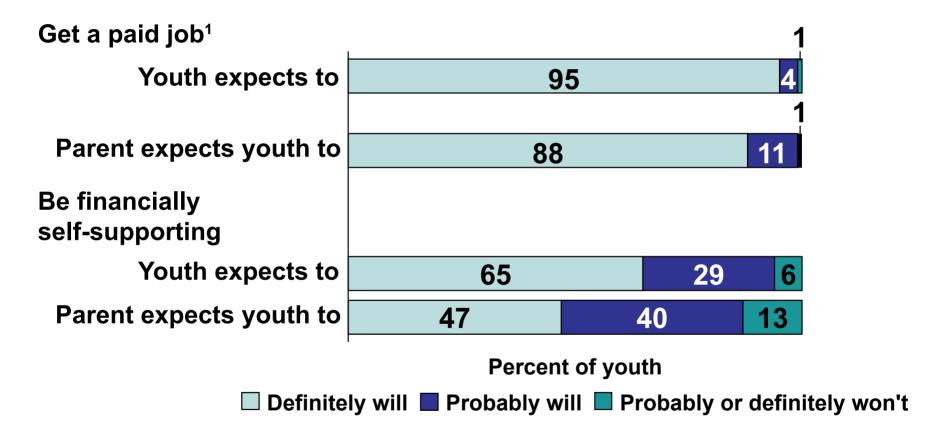


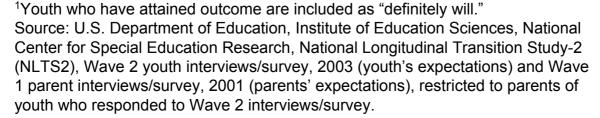
Expectations for employment and financial independence





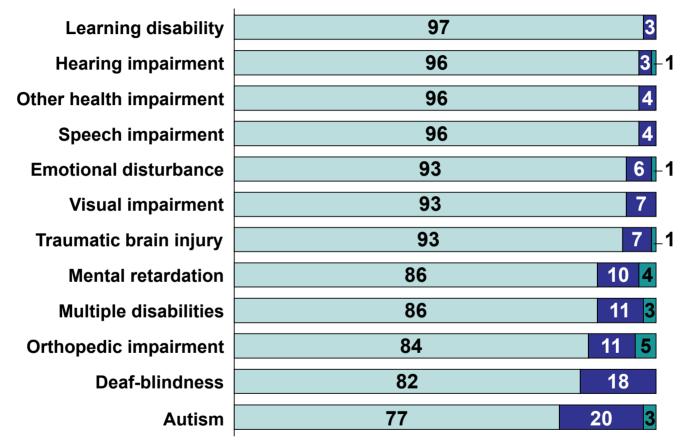
Expectations for future employment and financial independence







Youth's expectations for paid employment¹, by disability category



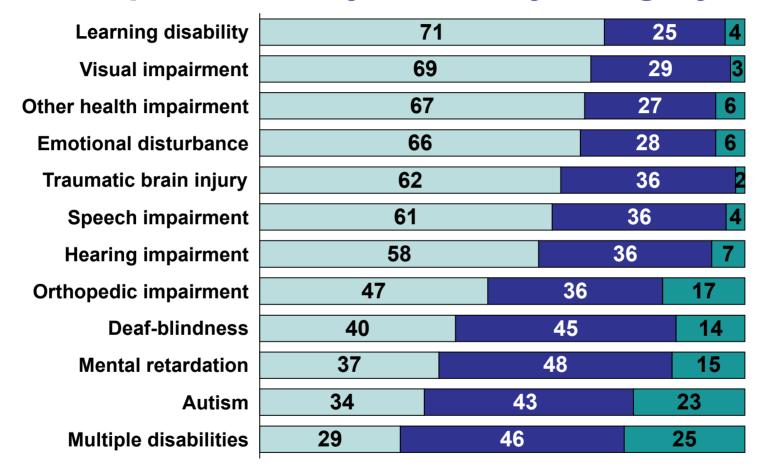
Percent of youth

☐ Definitely will ☐ Probably will ☐ Definitely or probably won't

¹Youth who have attained outcome are included as "definitely will." Source: U.S. Department of Education, Institute of Education Sciences, National Center for Special Education Research, National Longitudinal Transition Study-2 (NLTS2), Wave 2 youth interviews/survey, 2003.



Youth's expectations for financial independence, by disability category



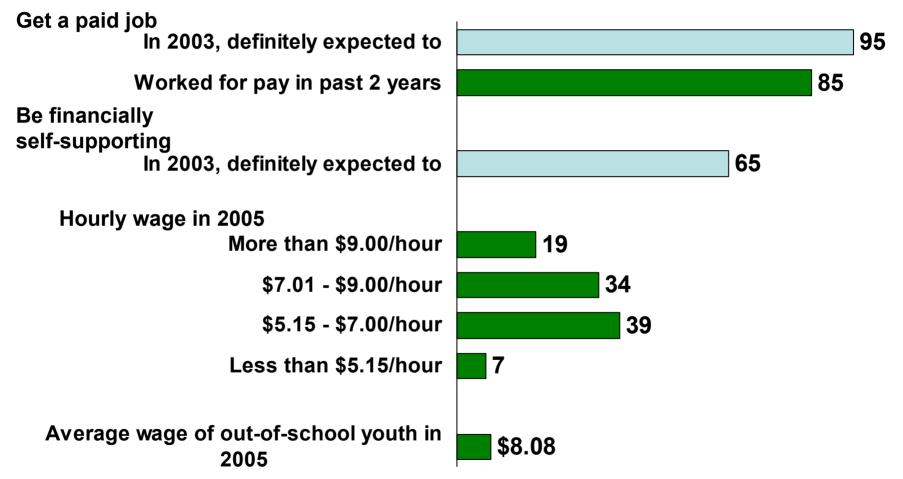
Percent of youth





Source: U.S. Department of Education, Institute of Education Sciences, National Center for Special Education Research, National Longitudinal Transition Study-2 (NLTS2), Wave 2 youth interviews/survey, 2003.

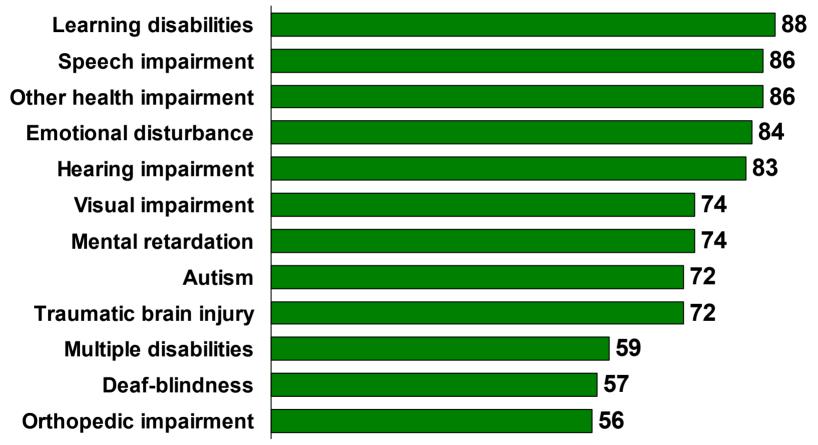
Employment and financial independence of out-of-secondary school youth in 2005





Source: U.S. Department of Education, Institute of Education Sciences, National Center for Special Education Research, National Longitudinal Transition Study-2 (NLTS2), Wave 2 youth interviews/survey, 2003 (expectations) and Wave 3 parent/youth interviews/survey, 2005 (employment and earnings), restricted to youth who responded to Wave 2 interviews/survey.

Employment of out-of-secondary school youth in 2005, by disability category







Source: U.S. Department of Education, Institute of Education Sciences, National Center for Special Education Research, National Longitudinal Transition Study-2 (NLTS2), Wave 3 parent/youth interviews/survey, 2005), restricted to youth who responded to Wave 2 interviews/survey

Hourly wage of out-of-secondary school youth in 2005, by disability category



Mean hourly wage

NOTE: There are too few working youth with deaf-blindness to report separately. Source: U.S. Department of Education, Institute of Education Sciences, National Center for Special Education Research, National Longitudinal Transition Study-2 (NLTS2), Wave 3 parent/youth interviews/survey, 2005; restricted to youth who responded to Wave 2 interviews/survey.

73

What's next for NLTS2?





What's newly available from NLTS2 on the web?

Reports

- Family Involvement in the Educational Development of Youth With Disabilities
- After High School: A First Look at the Postschool Experiences of Youth With Disabilities
- Changes Over Time in the Early Postschool Outcomes of Youth With Disabilities

Fact Sheets

- The Self-Determination of Youth With Disabilities
- High School Completion by Youth With Disabilities
- School Behavior and Disciplinary Experiences of Youth With Disabilities



What's newly available from NLTS2 on the web? (continued)

- NLTS2 Data Briefs (distributed by NCSET)
 - The Transition Planning Process
 - Family Expectations and Involvement for Youth With Disabilities
- Data tables
 - Wave 2 school surveys
 - Student assessments



What's next?

Reports

- The academic achievement and functional performance of youth with disabilities
- The attitudes and expectations of youth with disabilities
- The postschool outcomes of youth up to 4 years after high school
- Participation in risk behaviors by young adults with disabilities
- Factors related to the outcomes of youth with disabilities up to 4 years after high school



What's next? (continued)

- Fact sheets
 - Youth with learning disabilities
 - Youth with autism
- Data tables
 - Wave 3 parent and youth interview/survey
- Wave 4 data collection
 - Final course transcripts for 2006 school leavers



For more information

www.nlts2.org



