

P&A TiDBITS

LEGAL NEWS & other

Disability-Related info

JUNE 2020



Statement by Assistant Attorney General for Civil Rights: Protecting Civil Rights While Responding to the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)

In light of the public health emergency concerning the coronavirus disease (COVID-19), the Civil Rights Division of the United States Department of Justice (DOJ) issued a statement regarding their continued work to “ensure that victims of illegal discrimination know where to turn when their civil rights are violated.”

To see the Statement, go to: <https://www.justice.gov/file/1271776/download>



What People with Disabilities Need to Know about COVID-19



Department of Justice Temporarily Halts the Issuance of Right-to-Sue Notices Amidst COVID-19 Pandemic

The Department of Justice has temporarily suspended issuing Right-to-Sue Notices to individuals who have filed civil rights charges of employment discrimination, unless a charging party requests such a notice, amid the COVID-19 pandemic.

The suspension prevents the running of the deadline for charging parties to file claims of employment discrimination in federal court.

To see the Guidance, go to: <https://www.justice.gov/crt/case-document/file/1272126/download>

Global Disability Inclusion Survey Reports People with Disabilities Are More Negatively Affected by the Economic Impact of COVID-19

Global Disability Inclusion conducted a national independent survey of over 500 participants to measure the impact and outlook of COVID-19 on those with and without disabilities. This article provides the details of the survey results, which reveal that people with disabilities are being impacted by COVID-19 at a higher rate than those without a disability.

To see the videos available, go to: [https://www.youtube.com/playlist?](https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL1272126)

Accessibility **NEWS**



United Spinal Launches National Initiative to Expand Access to Inclusive Technology

United Spinal is launching its Tech Access Initiative to assist technology companies in designing inclusive products and services that are accessible to people with spinal cord injuries and disorders (SCI/D). It will focus on improving various technologies that are vital and life-changing to people with disabilities, including autonomous vehicles, artificial intelligence and environmental controls, medical and mobility equipment, wheelchair and smart home technology, and augmentative and alternative communication.

For more information or to read the full article, go to: <https://unitedspinal.org/tech-access-initiative-launched/>

Vote by Mail Is One of Many Ways to Ensure the Disability Community Is Included in the Next Election

This article discusses the various barriers to voting for people with disabilities, and the options available to ensure that voting is accessible for everyone.



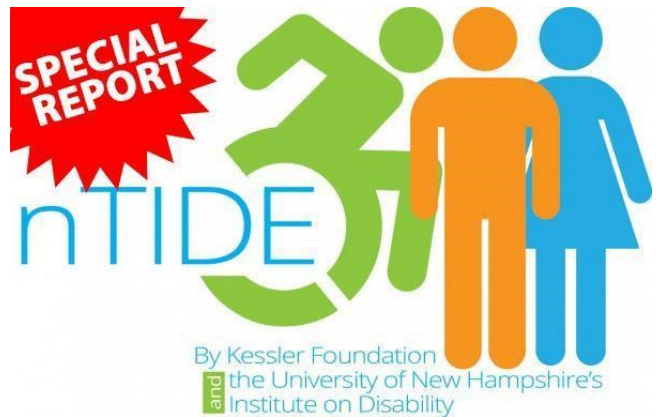
To read the article, go to: <https://www.americanprogress.org/issues/disability/news/2020/05/19/485218/vote-mail-one-many-ways-ensure-disability-community-included-next-election/>

nTIDE May 2020 Special Report: Workers with Disabilities in the COVID Economy

On May 8, 2020, a report was issued that nearly one million more people with disabilities are not working compared to March, according to the most recent National Trends in Disability Employment - Monthly Update (nTIDE), issued by Kessler Foundation and the University of New Hampshire's Institute on Disability (UNH-IOD).

In the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) Jobs Report released earlier in May, the number of working-age people with disabilities who were employed decreased by 950,000 between March and April (from 4,772,000 to 3,827,000), a 20 percent reduction. In comparison, the number of working-age people without disabilities who were employed decreased by 14 percent (from 140,135,000 to 120,804,000).

For more information or to read the article on the April report, go to: https://www.eurekaalert.org/pub_releases/2020-05/kf-na2050820.php



From the May report, the COVID-19 pandemic appears to influence absence from work for people with and without disabilities. In April 2020, 13.4 percent of employed working-age people with disabilities and 8.1 percent of employed working-age people without disabilities were absent in the reference week, April 12-18, 2020, compared with 5.5 percent and 2.3 percent, respectively, in April 7-13, 2019. These statistics have never been higher. These absences may be due to a worker's own illness/injury, child-care problems, family illness, and other reasons. When looking at workers' illness/injury only, 4.8 percent of employed working-age people with disabilities and 1.3 percent of employed working-age people without disabilities were absent in the reference week, April 12-18, 2020.

For the update, go to: <https://bioengineer.org/ntide-may-2020-special-report-workers-with-disabilities-in-the-covid-economy/>

FOR MORE
INFO

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