

Disability Status and the Characteristics of People in Group Quarters: A Brief Analysis of Disability Prevalence Among the Civilian Noninstitutionalized and Total Populations in the American Community Survey

By Matthew Brault
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The Census Bureau, using data from the American Community Survey (ACS), currently publishes approximately eighty tables on American Fact Finder that describe both the prevalence of disability and selected characteristics of people by disability status. In general, the publication universe for these data products is the civilian noninstitutionalized population 5 years and over, a subset of the total population. From 2000 through 2005, the disability estimates have been representative of only the civilian population 5 years and over living in households. With the ACS expanding to include people living in group quarters (GQ) in 2006, the data products are now representative of the full publication universe. Even so, a portion of the total population is not represented in the disability estimates. This paper will demonstrate the effects of adding the GQ population on disability prevalence and how disability differs between the household, civilian noninstitutionalized, and total populations.¹ Furthermore, the paper will describe the characteristics of people living in GQs, specifically those who fall in and out of the publication universe, in order to help explain how these populations influence the prevalence of disability.

Background

The GQ population² consists of several types of non-household living situations that can be categorized into two general groups – institutional and noninstitutional group quarters. The institutionalized GQ population includes (but is not limited to) people living in adult correctional facilities, juvenile facilities, nursing facilities/skilled nursing facilities, in-patient hospice facilities, residential schools for people with disabilities, and hospitals with patients who have no usual home elsewhere. The noninstitutionalized GQ population includes people living in college/university student housing, military barracks, emergency and transitional shelters, and group homes. The publication universe used in ACS data products - the civilian noninstitutionalized population - refers to the people living in households and noninstitutional GQs (except military barracks) who have not reported employment with the armed forces. While the ACS reports data only for this population, the disability questions in the instrument are asked to all people 5 years and older, regardless of their living situation or military status.

Other than the ACS and Census 2000, there are seven other current national household surveys that provide estimates on disability – the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS), the Current Population Survey (CPS), the Medical Expenditure Panel Survey (MEPS), the National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (NHANES), the National Health

¹ While not explicitly stated throughout this paper, the household, civilian noninstitutionalized, total and excluded populations include only people age 5 years and older. The 2006 ACS instrument does not capture information on disability status for people under 5.

² Definitions of the GQ types are described in the *American Community Survey 2006 Subject Definitions* found at http://www.census.gov/acs/www/Downloads/2006/usedata/Subject_Definitions.pdf.

Interview Survey (NHIS), the Panel Study of Income Dynamics (PSID)³, and the Survey of Income and Program Participation (SIPP) – none of which completely capture people living in institutional GQs nor the military population.⁴ For the purposes of comparability, Census 2000 published disability estimates for the civilian noninstitutionalized population. ACS products were, in turn, designed for comparability with the Census 2000 products. With inclusion of GQs, the ACS data products continue to use the civilian noninstitutionalized population as its universe when reporting disability.

The decision to exclude the institutionalized and military populations from data products was also impacted by the needs of data users, including both government and private citizen organizations. People living in institutional group quarters and those in the military tend to have their disability accommodation needs addressed by the services provided by the facilities at which they reside. Also, institutionalized people are less likely to be using public services like public transportation, as they generally do not participate in activities outside of the institution.⁵ In order to effectively make policy, funding, and planning decisions, it is important that the estimates cover the population that would likely be using the services. At the same time, having data on the disability status of this excluded population is necessary for making policies affecting the institutional facilities and the services available to people in the armed forces.

Disability Prevalence

According to the 2006 ACS, 15.1 percent of the civilian noninstitutionalized population 5 years and over in the United States, or about 41.3 million people reported a disability. Table 1 shows that 4.3 percent reported a sensory disability, 9.4 percent reported a physical disability, 5.8 percent reported a mental disability, and 3.0 percent reported a self-care disability. Of the civilian noninstitutionalized population 16 years and over, 5.5 percent reported a go-outside-home disability, and of those 16 to 64 years old, 7.1 reported an employment disability.⁶ Disability prevalence was highest among the 65 years and older population at 41.0 percent, compared to rates for the 16 to 64 years age group (12.3 percent) and 5 to 15 years age group (6.3 percent).

When this universe is collapsed down to those living in households, the disability rate is 14.9 percent, a small but statistical difference from the disability rate for the civilian noninstitutionalized population.⁷ The six types of disability also had statistically different rates.⁸

³ Unlike the other surveys in this list, the PSID is not conducted by the federal government. Rather, the PSID is primarily funded through a grant from the National Science Foundation with additional funding provided by the National Institutes of Health, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, and the U.S. Department of Labor, in addition to other agencies and organizations.

⁴ The MEPS does collect data on some institutionalized populations and the CPS collects data from some military quarters.

⁵ Some institutions do allow residents to leave.

⁶ Definitions of the six types of disability are described in the *American Community Survey 2006 Subject Definitions* found at http://www.census.gov/acs/www/Downloads/2006/usedata/Subject_Definitions.pdf.

⁷ All stated differences in this paper have been tested for significance. Differences between estimates for the household, civilian noninstitutionalized, and total populations used replicate weights to calculate the standard errors of the differences due to covariance associated with high correlation. The margins of error provided with these estimates do not necessarily reflect the variance of the differences.

Sensory disability was 4.3 percent, physical disability was 9.4 percent, mental disability was 5.6 percent, and self-care disability was 2.9 percent. For people age 16 and older, 5.3 percent had a go-outside-home disability and for 16 to 64 year olds, 6.9 percent had an employment disability. The disability rate for the 65 years and older population was 40.7 percent, higher than the 16 to 64 year olds at 12.2 percent and 5 to 15 year olds at 6.3 percent.

When the civilian noninstitutionalized population is expanded to include people living in institutional GQs and people in the armed forces creating the total population 5 years and older, the disability rate becomes 15.7 percent, higher than rates for the household and civilian noninstitutionalized populations. Derivatively, 4.6 percent reported a sensory disability, 9.9 percent reported a physical disability, 6.3 percent reported a mental disability, and 3.5 percent reported a self-care disability. Of people age 16 years and older, 6.1 percent reported a go-outside-home disability, and of people age 16 to 64 years, 7.2 percent reported an employment disability. Again, by age, the 65 and older population had the highest disability rate at 43.4 percent, higher than 16 to 64 year olds at 12.6 percent and 5 to 15 year olds at 6.4 percent.

When the universes are expanded and collapsed to the total and household populations, respectively, differences in the disability rates for the states, Puerto Rico, and the District of Columbia can be seen geographically. Table 2 shows that the disability rates of the civilian noninstitutionalized population 5 years and over for all state-level geographies except Alaska, Delaware, Kentucky, Montana, Rhode Island, and Tennessee were different from the rates for the household population. Between the civilian noninstitutionalized and total population disability rates, only the rates from Alaska were not statistically different. Under all three universes, Puerto Rico remained the state-level geography with the highest disability rate at 26.1 percent of the total population (26.0 percent of the civilian noninstitutionalized population and 25.8 percent of the household population).

Characteristics of the GQ Populations

To help understand how collapsing and expanding the universes influence disability prevalence, this section examines the characteristics of the populations that are added to or excluded from the household population to create the civilian noninstitutionalized population. Two factors are particularly important – the definitional characteristics of the GQ type and the age of the population.

As seen in Table 3, the civilian noninstitutionalized population can be categorized into three groups: the household population, people living in college/university student housing, and those living in other noninstitutional GQs, which include living situations like emergency and transitional shelters for people experiencing homelessness, residential treatment centers, group homes intended for adults not operated by correctional authorities, workers' group living quarters and Job Corp centers, religious group quarters, and YMCA/YWCA living arrangements. About 98.7 percent of the people in this universe live in households, 0.8 percent live in college/university student housing, and 0.5 percent live in other noninstitutional GQs.

⁸ While some of the disability rates for the household population shown here and in Table 1 may appear the same as rates for the civilian noninstitutionalized population, this similarity is due to rounding.

The median age of the civilian noninstitutionalized population was 38.8 years, lower than the median age for the population living in households at 39.0 years. People living in college/university student housing were much younger, with a median age of 19.6 years, whereas people living in other noninstitutional GQs were older than the household population, at 47.2 years. The distributions of age for the household and GQ populations were also very different as shown in Figure 1. The GQ population is heavily concentrated between the 15 to 24 year old age groups and has increasing proportions of persons in the oldest age groups, whereas the household population has declining proportions of persons in these groups. This is due to the union of the college age population with the older population in other noninstitutional GQs.

While the college/university student housing population was the driving factor in the lower age of the civilian noninstitutionalized population, the other noninstitutionalized population was the driving factor in the higher rate of disability. In addition to being older than the household population, by definition, the other noninstitutional GQs contain certain populations that are prone to disability. People in residential treatment centers and those in shelters are likely to have mental or emotional conditions that interfere with daily activities. The disability rate for people in other noninstitutional GQs is 62.7 percent, about 4 times the rate of the household population. The proportion of the college/university student housing population that reported a disability was 5.1 percent, offsetting some of the higher rates of disability reported in the other noninstitutionalized GQ population.

Other characteristics of the noninstitutionalized GQ and household populations are shown in Table 4. While the household population is 51.3 percent female, the noninstitutionalized GQ population is 49.0 percent female. In addition, the GQ population has proportionally more people reporting Black alone and Asian alone, fewer reporting White alone and Hispanic of any race, and fewer foreign born people. Of the population 25 years and older, the GQ population also has more people reporting an education level of below a high school diploma, likely influenced by the age-based exclusion of much of the college/university student housing population on this distribution.

When expanding the universe to all people 5 years and over, the characteristics of age and the definitional component of GQ types are also important in understanding the difference in disability prevalence in comparison to the civilian noninstitutionalized population. This expansion of the universe adds in the population living in institutional GQs and those in the military, which are called the “excluded population” as they are excluded from the publication universe. Of this population, 39.6 percent were living in adult correctional facilities, 35.4 percent were living in nursing facilities/skilled nursing facilities, 2.4 percent were living in juvenile facilities, 2.2 percent were living in other health related institutional facilities, and 7.3 percent were living in military barracks. Independent of these living arrangements, 19.1 percent were members of the armed forces.⁹

The excluded population is also generally older than the publication universe. The median age of the excluded population was 41.4 years, higher than the median age of the civilian noninstitutionalized population. People in nursing facilities/skilled nursing facilities were the oldest with a median age of 83.2 years, compared to the median age of people in adult correctional facilities at 34.3 years and the median age of people in the armed forces at 27.1

⁹ In the excluded population, people living in group quarters and people in the armed forces are not mutually exclusive. As such, the sum of the percentages shown here is greater than 100 percent.

years. People in juvenile facilities are, by definition, younger as the constraints for this GQ type limit ages between 0 and 25.¹⁰

The median age of the excluded population, however, does not best describe the distribution of age for this population as a whole. This distribution, as seen in Figure 2, is bimodal, unlike the civilian household population's distribution that shows a general exponential decline as age increases. The first peak of the bimodal distribution is concentrated around the 20 to 24 years age group, which accounts for 13.1 percent of the excluded population, with the peak at age 21. The proportion of people at each age then begins to decrease until roughly age 65 where the proportion begins increasing again. The second peak occurs around age 86, falling in the 85 years and over age group, which is 15.3 percent of the excluded population. The population living in nursing facilities/skilled nursing facilities obviously comprises the second modal peak whereas the first peak is predominantly the military and adult correctional facilities populations.

Overall, the excluded population had a disability rate of 49.4 percent. Looking at the disability status and proportions of the GQ types, it is plain to see to what degree each affects the disability rate of the excluded population. Among the population in the armed forces, 4.4 percent reported having a disability. About 28.8 percent of the population in adult correctional facilities reported a disability.

Nursing facilities/skilled nursing facilities and other health-related institutional facilities, by definition, service people who, because of health and aging, cannot fully take care of their own needs. And so, not surprisingly, the population in nursing facilities had a disability rate of 97.3 percent. Given the relative size of the population in nursing facilities to the larger excluded population, it is clear why this group accounts for about 70 percent of the disabled population living in institutional GQs or serving in the military. Likewise, the nursing facility population is driving the higher rate disability in the total population as compared to the civilian noninstitutionalized population.

Like the GQ population in the civilian noninstitutionalized universe, the excluded population is predominantly male at 67.2 percent. In addition to proportionally fewer people reporting White alone (65.0 percent), the excluded population has about twice the percent (24.4 percent) reporting Black Alone compared to the household population. Lastly, the excluded population is less likely to be foreign born (6.8 percent) and less educated (34.3 percent below a high school diploma) than the population in households.

Conclusion

The reporting of disability in ACS was affected by the inclusion of group quarters in 2006. This changed the representative population of the civilian noninstitutionalized population and in turn created an excluded population, not part of the publishing universe. The characteristics of the GQ population are different from the household population that was solely used to create estimates in the past. These differences influence the prevalence of disability as

¹⁰ Due to the coverage rate for juvenile facilities, the Census Bureau is unable to provide an estimate of median age for this population.

universes are expanded, starting with the household population and building up to the civilian noninstitutionalized and total populations.

Higher disability rates for these successive universes were also not isolated to a few types. All six disability types that were captured in the ACS experienced an increase when the universe was expanded. Specific characteristics of the GQ populations – included or excluded from the universe definitions – weigh heavily on the expression of disability in the specific populations. In addition, the distribution and central tendencies of age for the GQ populations also lend understanding to differences in disability. As such, it is important to note the universe being used for the reporting of disability in Census Bureau products. Whether an estimate is including the GQ population – in whole or in part – greatly affects the prevalence of disability and changes the understanding of who these people with disabilities are.

Source and Accuracy

The data in this report are from the 2006 ACS and Puerto Rico Community Survey (PRCS). These surveys collect data twelve months of each year using a combination of mail, telephone, and personal visit interviews. The population represented in the ACS includes the populations living in housing units and group quarters. Statistics from surveys are subject to sampling and nonsampling error. Data from the ACS are based on a sample and are estimates of the actual figures that would have been obtained by interviewing the entire population using the same methodology. All comparisons presented in this paper have taken sampling error into account and are significant at the 90-percent confidence level. The final ACS population estimates are adjusted in the weighting procedure for coverage error by controlling specific survey estimates to independent population controls by sex, age, race, and Hispanic origin. For further information on the sample, weighting procedures, and sampling and nonsampling error from the 2006 ACS, see <<http://www.census.gov/acs/www/Downloads/ACS/accuracy2006.pdf>>.

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Table 1. Prevalence of Disability by Age and Type for the Total, Civilian Noninstitutionalized and Household Populations 5 Years and Over in the United States

Category	Civilian Noninstitutionalized Population (Publishing Universe)				Household Population		Total Population	
	Number (in thousands)	Margin of Error (\pm) ¹	Percentage	Margin of Error (\pm) ¹	Percentage	Margin of Error (\pm) ¹	Percentage	Margin of Error (\pm) ¹
Age 5 years and over	273,835	21	100.0	(NA)	100.0	(NA)	100.0	(NA)
With a disability	41,260	99	15.1	0.1	14.9	0.1	15.7	0.1
Sensory disability	11,830	59	4.3	0.1	4.3	0.1	4.6	0.1
Physical disability	25,781	85	9.4	0.1	9.4	0.1	9.9	0.1
Mental disability	15,927	71	5.8	0.1	5.6	0.1	6.3	0.1
Self-care disability	8,295	47	3.0	0.1	2.9	0.1	3.5	0.1
Age 16 years and over	229,139	43	100.0	(NA)	100.0	(NA)	100.0	(NA)
Go-outside-home disability	12,517	45	5.5	0.1	5.3	0.1	6.1	0.1
Age 16 to 64 years	193,568	43	100.0	(NA)	100.0	(NA)	100.0	(NA)
Employment disability	13,667	62	7.1	0.1	6.9	0.1	7.2	0.1
Age 5 to 15 years	44,697	41	100.0	(NA)	100.0	(NA)	100.0	(NA)
With a disability	2,830	32	6.3	0.1	6.3	0.1	6.4	0.1
Age 16 to 64 years	193,568	43	100.0	(NA)	100.0	(NA)	100.0	(NA)
With a disability	23,863	85	12.3	0.1	12.2	0.1	12.6	0.1
Age 65 years and over	35,570	18	100.0	(NA)	100.0	(NA)	100.0	(NA)
With a disability	14,567	42	41.0	0.1	40.7	0.1	43.4	0.1

(NA) Not applicable

¹ A margin of error is a measure of an estimate's variability. The margin of error, when added to and subtracted from the estimate, yields the 90% confidence interval around the estimate. The larger the margin of error in relation to the size of the estimate, the less reliable the estimate. For further information on the accuracy of the estimates, including standard errors and margins of error, go to <<http://www.census.gov/acs/www/Downloads/ACS/accuracy2006.pdf>>.

NOTE: When comparing the percentages between columns, be aware that the household, civilian noninstitutionalized and total populations overlap with one another. For this reason derived estimates are often highly correlated. The margins of error of the differences (not shown) between columns can sometimes be smaller than the margins of errors (shown) within the columns.

Source: 2006 American Community Survey, U.S. Census Bureau

Table 2. Prevalence of Disability for the Civilian Noninstitutionalized, Household, and Total Populations 5 Years and Over by State

States	Civilian Noninstitutionalized Population (Publishing Universe)				Household Population		Total Population	
	Number with a disability (in thousands)	Margin of Error (\pm) ¹	Percentage with a disability	Margin of Error (\pm) ¹	Percentage with a disability	Margin of Error (\pm) ¹	Percentage with a disability	Margin of Error (\pm) ¹
United States	41,260	99	15.1	0.1	14.9	0.1	15.7	0.1
Alabama	850	14	20.1	0.3	20.1	0.3	20.7	0.3
Alaska ²	91	5	15.0	0.8	15.0	0.8	15.0	0.7
Arizona	796	15	14.2	0.3	14.1	0.3	14.5	0.3
Arkansas	557	10	21.8	0.4	21.7	0.4	22.5	0.4
California	4,283	32	12.9	0.1	12.6	0.1	13.3	0.1
Colorado	546	11	12.6	0.3	12.5	0.3	13.0	0.3
Connecticut	418	9	12.9	0.3	12.9	0.3	13.8	0.3
Delaware ³	120	5	15.3	0.7	15.3	0.7	15.9	0.7
District of Columbia	75	4	14.1	0.8	13.8	0.8	14.7	0.7
Florida	2,680	25	16.1	0.1	15.9	0.2	16.6	0.1
Georgia	1,227	16	14.5	0.2	14.5	0.2	15.0	0.2
Hawaii	152	5	13.2	0.5	13.0	0.5	13.3	0.5
Idaho	199	7	15.0	0.5	14.9	0.5	15.7	0.5
Illinois	1,509	16	12.8	0.1	12.7	0.1	13.6	0.1
Indiana	896	16	15.5	0.3	15.5	0.3	16.3	0.3
Iowa	390	8	14.2	0.3	14.1	0.3	15.3	0.3
Kansas	370	9	14.8	0.4	14.7	0.4	15.7	0.3
Kentucky ³	820	14	21.3	0.4	21.3	0.4	21.9	0.3
Louisiana	729	12	18.7	0.3	18.6	0.3	19.4	0.3
Maine	240	8	19.4	0.6	19.4	0.6	20.0	0.6
Maryland	660	13	12.8	0.2	12.7	0.2	13.4	0.2
Massachusetts	827	13	13.9	0.2	13.8	0.2	14.8	0.2
Michigan	1,487	17	16.0	0.2	15.7	0.2	16.5	0.2
Minnesota	592	10	12.5	0.2	12.2	0.2	13.3	0.2
Mississippi	564	11	21.4	0.4	21.3	0.4	22.0	0.4
Missouri	911	16	17.1	0.3	17.0	0.3	17.9	0.3
Montana ³	151	6	17.3	0.7	17.3	0.7	18.0	0.7
Nebraska	217	7	13.5	0.4	13.5	0.4	14.5	0.4
Nevada	288	8	12.6	0.3	12.5	0.3	12.9	0.3
New Hampshire	172	6	14.0	0.5	13.9	0.5	14.7	0.5
New Jersey	987	17	12.3	0.2	12.1	0.2	12.9	0.2
New Mexico	293	10	16.5	0.5	16.3	0.5	16.9	0.5
New York	2,480	25	13.9	0.1	13.7	0.1	14.6	0.1
North Carolina	1,361	20	16.9	0.3	16.8	0.3	17.4	0.2
North Dakota	82	3	14.1	0.6	14.2	0.6	15.1	0.6
Ohio	1,699	21	16.1	0.2	16.0	0.2	16.9	0.2
Oklahoma	635	10	19.6	0.3	19.5	0.3	20.4	0.3
Oregon	560	15	16.3	0.4	16.1	0.4	16.8	0.4
Pennsylvania	1,860	18	16.2	0.2	16.0	0.2	17.2	0.2
Rhode Island ³	156	5	15.8	0.5	15.7	0.5	16.7	0.5
South Carolina	687	12	17.4	0.3	17.3	0.3	17.8	0.3
South Dakota	97	4	13.6	0.5	13.4	0.5	14.7	0.5
Tennessee ³	1,043	15	18.8	0.3	18.8	0.3	19.5	0.3
Texas	3,081	33	14.6	0.2	14.5	0.2	15.3	0.2

Table 2. Prevalence of Disability for the Civilian Noninstitutionalized, Household, and Total Populations 5 Years and Over by State

States	Civilian Noninstitutionalized Population (Publishing Universe)				Household Population		Total Population	
	Number with a disability (in thousands)	Margin of Error (\pm) ¹	Percentage with a disability	Margin of Error (\pm) ¹	Percentage with a disability	Margin of Error (\pm) ¹	Percentage with a disability	Margin of Error (\pm) ¹
Utah	279	8	12.3	0.3	12.2	0.3	12.6	0.3
Vermont	98	4	16.7	0.7	16.8	0.7	17.4	0.7
Virginia	951	14	13.7	0.2	13.7	0.2	14.4	0.2
Washington	937	15	15.9	0.2	15.7	0.3	16.3	0.2
West Virginia	395	10	23.4	0.6	23.4	0.6	23.9	0.6
Wisconsin	687	12	13.4	0.2	13.2	0.2	14.2	0.2
Wyoming	74	4	15.6	0.8	15.4	0.8	16.2	0.8
Puerto Rico	946	15	26.0	0.4	25.8	0.4	26.1	0.4

¹ A margin of error is a measure of an estimate's variability. The margin of error, when added to and subtracted from the estimate, yields the 90% confidence interval around the estimate. The larger the margin of error in relation to the size of the estimate, the less reliable the estimate. For further information on the accuracy of the estimates, including standard errors and margins of error, go to <<http://www.census.gov/acs/www/Downloads/ACS/accuracy2006.pdf>>.

² The disability rates between the civilian noninstitutionalized, household, and total populations were not statistically different for Alaska.

³ The disability rates between the civilian noninstitutionalized and household populations were not statistically different for Delaware, Kentucky, Montana, Rhode Island, and Tennessee.

NOTE: When comparing the percentages between columns, be aware that the household, civilian noninstitutionalized and total populations overlap with one another. For this reason derived estimates are often highly correlated. The margins of error of the differences (not shown) between columns can sometimes be smaller than the margins of errors (shown) within the columns.

Source: 2006 American Community Survey, U.S. Census Bureau

Table 3. Percent Distribution, Disability Prevalence, and Median Age for Civilian Noninstitutionalized and Excluded Populations 5 Years and Over by Population Sub-groups

Population Group	Percent	Margin of Error (\pm) ¹	Percentage With a Disability	Margin of Error (\pm) ¹	Median Age	Margin of Error (\pm) ¹
Total population	100.0	(NA)	15.7	0.1	38.9	0.1
Civilian noninstitutionalized population	100.0	(NA)	15.1	0.1	38.8	0.1
Population living in households	98.7	0.1	14.9	0.1	39.0	0.1
Population living in college/university student housing	0.8	0.1	5.1	0.2	19.6	0.1
Population in other noninstitutional GQs	0.5	0.1	62.7	1.0	47.2	0.3
Excluded population²	100.0	(NA)	49.4	0.2	41.4	0.1
Population living in adult correctional facilities	39.6	0.1	28.8	0.3	34.3	0.1
Population living in juvenile facilities	2.4	0.1	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Population living in nursing facilities/skilled nursing facilities	35.4	0.2	97.3	0.2	83.2	0.1
Population living in other health related institutional facilities	2.2	0.1	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Population living in military barracks	7.3	0.1	(X)	(X)	(X)	(X)
Population in the armed forces	19.1	0.2	4.4	0.4	27.1	0.2

(NA) Not applicable

(X) Data unavailable as coverage rates for these GQ types failed to meet standards for publication.

¹ A margin of error is a measure of an estimate's variability. The margin of error, when added to and subtracted from the estimate, yields the 90% confidence interval around the estimate. The larger the margin of error in relation to the size of the estimate, the less reliable the estimate. For further information on the accuracy of the estimates, including standard errors and margins of error, go to <<http://www.census.gov/acs/www/Downloads/ACS/accuracy2006.pdf>>.

² The populations living in group quarters and those in the armed forces are not mutually exclusive. As a result the sum of these six categories is greater than 100 percent.

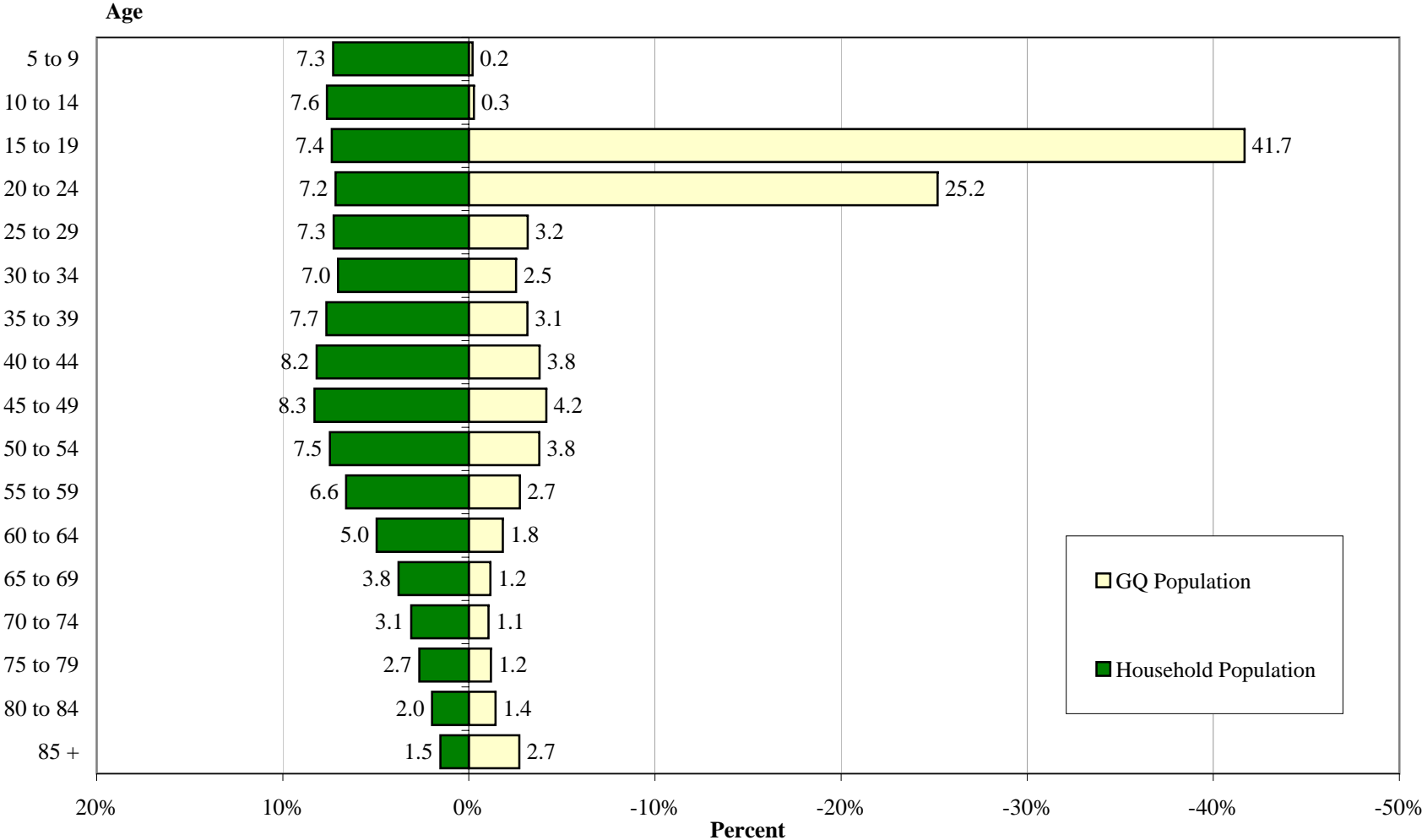
Source: 2006 American Community Survey, U.S. Census Bureau

Table 4. Selected Characteristics for the Civilian Household, Civilian Noninstitutionalized GQ, and Excluded Populations 5 Years and Over

Characteristic	Civilian Noninstitutionalized Population				Excluded Population	
	Household Population		GQ Population		Percent Distribution	Margin of Error (\pm) ¹
	Percent Distribution	Margin of Error (\pm) ¹	Percent Distribution	Margin of Error (\pm) ¹		
AGE						
5 to 9 years	7.3	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1
10 to 14 years	7.6	0.1	0.3	0.1	0.8	0.1
15 to 19 years	7.4	0.1	41.7	0.3	5.6	0.1
20 to 24 years	7.2	0.1	25.2	0.2	13.1	0.2
25 to 29 years	7.3	0.1	3.2	0.1	11.1	0.2
30 to 34 years	7.0	0.1	2.5	0.2	8.7	0.1
35 to 39 years	7.7	0.1	3.1	0.1	8.4	0.1
40 to 44 years	8.2	0.1	3.8	0.1	7.6	0.1
45 to 49 years	8.3	0.1	4.2	0.2	5.2	0.1
50 to 54 years	7.5	0.1	3.8	0.2	3.4	0.1
55 to 59 years	6.6	0.1	2.7	0.1	2.6	0.1
60 to 64 years	5.0	0.1	1.8	0.1	2.1	0.1
65 to 69 years	3.8	0.1	1.2	0.1	2.1	0.1
70 to 74 years	3.1	0.1	1.1	0.1	2.7	0.1
75 to 79 years	2.7	0.1	1.2	0.1	4.5	0.1
80 to 84 years	2.0	0.1	1.4	0.1	6.6	0.1
85 years and older	1.5	0.1	2.7	0.1	15.3	0.2
SEX						
Male	48.7	0.1	51.0	0.4	67.2	0.3
Female	51.3	0.1	49.0	0.4	32.8	0.3
RACE/HISPANIC ORIGIN						
White alone	74.7	0.1	73.0	0.3	65.0	0.3
Black alone	12.0	0.1	15.0	0.2	24.4	0.2
Asian alone	4.4	0.1	5.1	0.2	1.5	0.1
Hispanic or Latino, any race	14.3	0.1	8.0	0.3	11.6	0.2
NATIVITY						
Native	86.5	0.1	91.7	0.2	93.2	0.1
Foreign Born	13.5	0.1	8.3	0.2	6.8	0.1
Naturalized citizen	5.7	0.1	2.7	0.1	3.1	0.1
Non-citizen	7.8	0.1	5.6	0.2	3.7	0.1
EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT (Population 25 years and older)						
Below a HS diploma	15.4	0.1	40.2	0.7	34.3	0.3
High school diploma	30.1	0.1	29.0	0.6	34.8	0.3
Some college/associate's degree	27.1	0.1	16.0	0.5	20.0	0.3
Bachelor's degree or higher	27.4	0.1	14.8	0.4	10.8	0.2

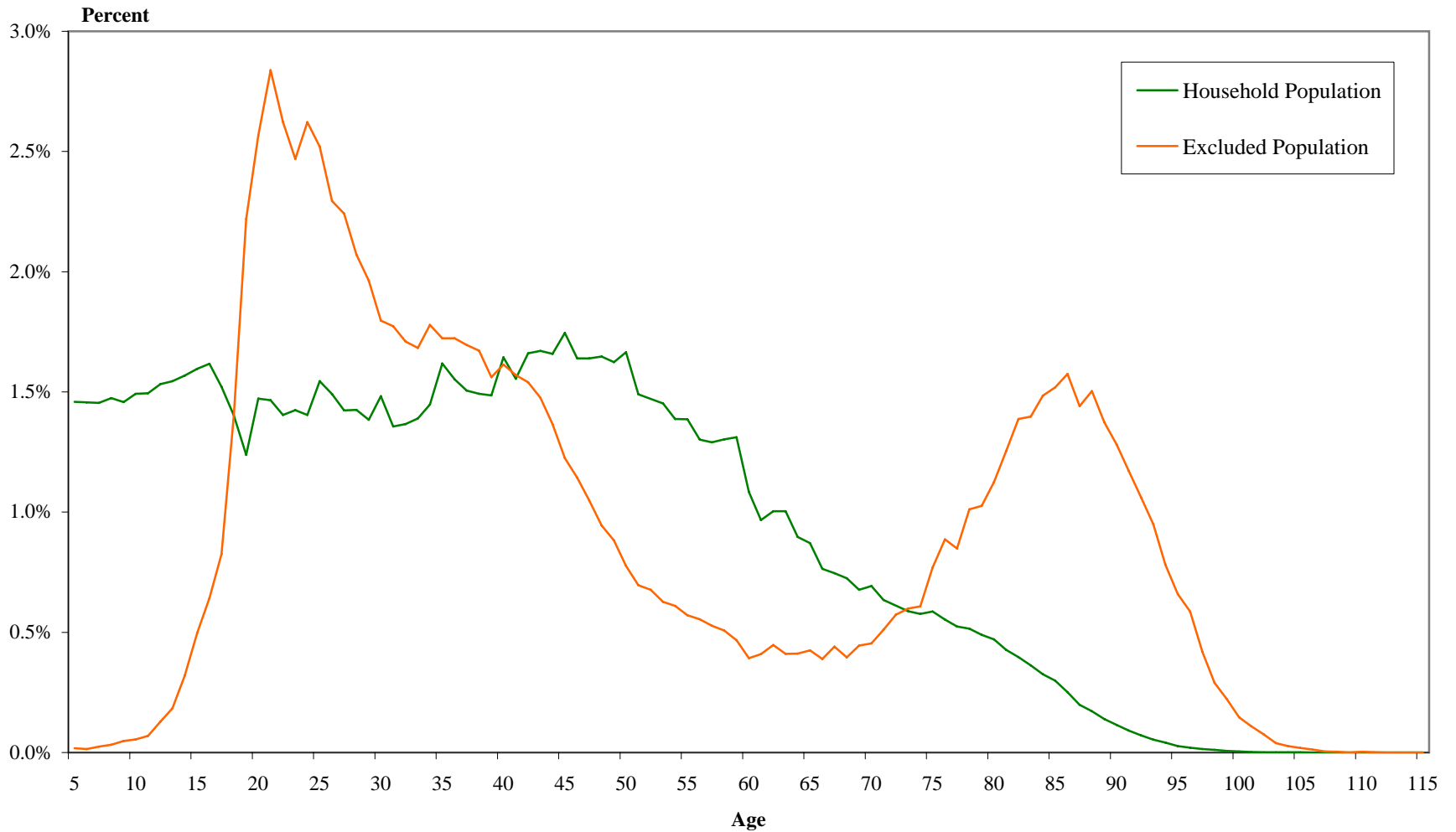
¹ A margin of error is a measure of an estimate's variability. The margin of error, when added to and subtracted from the estimate, yields the 90% confidence interval around the estimate. The larger the margin of error in relation to the size of the estimate, the less reliable the estimate. For further information on the accuracy of the estimates, including standard errors and margins of error, go to <<http://www.census.gov/acs/www/Downloads/ACS/accuracy2006.pdf>>.

Figure 1. Distribution of Age for the Household and GQ Populations within the Civilian Noninstitutionalized Population 5 Years and Over Universe



Source: 2006 American Community Survey, U.S. Census Bureau

Figure 2. Age Distributions of Civilian Household, and Excluded Populations 5 Years and Over



Source: 2006 American Community Survey, U.S. Census Bureau