

**October Facts of the Day 2012**



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<b>October Facts of the Day</b>		
<b>Date</b>	<b>Fact</b>	<b>Source</b>
1	The theme for this year's National Disability Employment Awareness Month is: "A Strong Workforce is an Inclusive Workforce: What Can YOU Do?"	deomi.org
2	The effort to educate the American public about disability and employment began in 1945 when Congress declared the first week in October, "National Employ the Physically Handicapped Week." The word "physically" was removed in 1962 to acknowledge the employment needs and contributions of all individuals with disabilities. In 1988, Congress expanded the week to a month and changed the name to "National Disability Employment Awareness Month."	<a href="http://www.dol.gov/odep/faqs/ndeam.htm">http://www.dol.gov/odep/faqs/ndeam.htm</a>
3	President George H.W. Bush, in 1990, signed the Americans with Disabilities Act into law. The law guaranteed equal opportunity for people with disabilities in public accommodations, commercial facilities, employment, transportation, state and local government services, and telecommunications.	U.S. Census Bureau
4	Despite the strides made in disability rights since the signing of the Americans with Disabilities Act, 22 years ago, the majority of people with disabilities are poor, under-employed, and under-educated, largely due to unequal opportunities. People with disabilities are a diverse group, crossing lines of age, ethnicity, gender, race, sexual orientation, and socioeconomic status.	<a href="http://www.disabilityfunders.org/disability-stats-and-facts">http://www.disabilityfunders.org/disability-stats-and-facts</a>

5	The Americans with Disability Act defines a disability as any of the following: a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more of the major life activities of the individual, a record of such impairment, or being regarded as having such an impairment.	<a href="http://www.law.cornell.edu/wex/disability_law">http://www.law.cornell.edu/wex/disability_law</a>
6	Disability.gov is a federal website whose mission is to connect people with disabilities, their family members, veterans, caregivers, employers, service providers, and others with the resources they need to ensure that people of all abilities can fully participate in the workplace and in their communities.	<a href="https://www.disability.gov/home/about_us">https://www.disability.gov/home/about_us</a>
7	According the 2010 Census, 57 million people live with a disability, representing 19 percent of the civilian population.	<a href="http://www.census.gov/newsroom/releases/archives/facts_for_features_special_editions/cb12-ff16.html">http://www.census.gov/newsroom/releases/archives/facts_for_features_special_editions/cb12-ff16.html</a>
8	People with disabilities constitute the nation's largest minority group, and the only group any of us can become a member of at any time.	<a href="http://www.disabilityfunders.org/disability-stats-and-facts">http://www.disabilityfunders.org/disability-stats-and-facts</a>
9	People with disabilities represent the single largest minority group seeking employment in today's marketplace.	<a href="http://www.disabilityfunders.org/disability-stats-and-facts">http://www.disabilityfunders.org/disability-stats-and-facts</a>
10	The Wounded Warrior Program, established in 2008, offers employment opportunities in the House of Representatives for wounded and disabled service members to work with members of Congress, committees, leadership offices, and in support services.	<a href="http://www.cao.house.gov/wwwp-about.shtml">http://www.cao.house.gov/wwwp-about.shtml</a>
11	The Disabled American Veterans (DAV) Association was founded in 1920 by disabled veterans from World War I to represent their special interest. In 1932, the DAV was congressionally chartered as the official voice of the nation's wartime disabled veterans.	<a href="http://www.dav.org/">http://www.dav.org/</a>

12	<p>Over the past 25 years Boy Scouts Troop 409, whose members have various physical and mental disabilities, have earned 1,000 merit badges and produced eight Eagle Scouts. Scoutmaster Richard Coleman, a former Air Force sergeant said, "To me they aren't disabled, they're scouts, and that's how I treat them." The troop has 22 members—including seven of its ten charter members who are still involved because age limits don't apply to Scouts with permanent disabilities.</p>	<p><a href="http://www.scouting.org/sitecore/content/AlumniAlive/Profiles/2010_09_FloridaCouple.aspx">http://www.scouting.org/sitecore/content/AlumniAlive/Profiles/2010_09_FloridaCouple.aspx</a></p>
13	<p>One of the common misconceptions about individuals who are visually impaired or blind is the belief that they can read and write Braille. In actuality, only about ten percent of people who are blind can read and write Braille.</p>	<p><a href="http://brailleinstitute.org/About_Sight_Loss/Common_Misconceptions.aspx">http://brailleinstitute.org/About_Sight_Loss/Common_Misconceptions.aspx</a></p>
14	<p>The U.S. Department of Labor estimated that the military discharged 160,000 Active Service Members and 110,000 Reserve and National Guard members in 2011. Statistically, about 32,000 of those veterans joined the ranks of nearly 1 million veterans already unemployed. For young, male veterans (18-24) one out of every three was looking for work, almost double the unemployment rate of their non-veteran peers.</p>	<p><a href="http://www.hireheroesusa.org/">http://www.hireheroesusa.org/</a></p>
15	<p>The Disabled American Veterans (DAV) Association members first began selling Forget-Me-Nots in 1926 to support DAV services needed by veterans who were disabled in World War I. The blue flower signifies the spring flowers that grew on the graves of comrades killed during the First World War. The tradition continues today.</p>	<p><a href="http://www.dav.org/membership/ForgetMeNot.aspx">http://www.dav.org/membership/ForgetMeNot.aspx</a></p>

16	The National Veterans Wheelchair Games was held in July 2012 in Tampa, Florida. The largest annual wheelchair sports competition in the world, the games offered different sports to veterans who use wheelchairs due to spinal cord injuries, amputations, and neurological diseases.	<a href="http://www.va.gov/opa/speceven/wcg/index.asp">http://www.va.gov/opa/speceven/wcg/index.asp</a>
17	The last "Ugly Law" was repealed in Chicago, Illinois in 1974. These laws allowed police to arrest and jail people with "apparent" disabilities for no reason other than being disfigured or demonstrating some type of disability.	<a href="http://www.nclid-youth.info/index.php?id=61#">http://www.nclid-youth.info/index.php?id=61#</a>
18	Disability discrimination occurs when an employer or other entity covered by the Americans with Disabilities Act treats a qualified individual with a disability who is an employee or applicant unfavorably because they have a disability.	<a href="http://www.eeoc.gov/laws/types/disability.cfm">http://www.eeoc.gov/laws/types/disability.cfm</a>
19	The National Institute of Mental Health reported that one in four Americans experience a mental health disorder annually. The U.S. Surgeon General reported that ten percent of children and adolescents in the U.S. suffer from emotional and mental disorders that cause significant impairment in their day-to-day lives at home, in school, and with peers.	<a href="http://www.nami.org/template.cfm?section=about_mental_illness">http://www.nami.org/template.cfm?section=about_mental_illness</a>
20	The number of veterans rated at 100 percent disabled as of June 30, 2011 was 315,748 according to the United States Department of Veteran Affairs.	<a href="http://www.va.gov/vetdata/Quick_Facts.asp">http://www.va.gov/vetdata/Quick_Facts.asp</a>
21	According to the United States Department of Veteran Affairs, 3.30 million veterans were receiving VA disability compensation as of June 30, 2011.	<a href="http://www.va.gov/vetdata/Quick_Facts.asp">http://www.va.gov/vetdata/Quick_Facts.asp</a>
22	The 2012 Paralympics Games ran from 29 Aug - 9 Sept 12 in London had athletes representing 158 countries competing in 21 sports. Twenty U.S. Service Members and veterans were among the more than 4,000 athletes that participated in the 2012 Games.	<a href="http://www.defense.gov/home/features/2012/0812_paralympics/">http://www.defense.gov/home/features/2012/0812_paralympics/</a>

23	<p>The Paralympics began when Sir Ludwig Guttman organized a multi-sports event between several hospitals that coincided with the 1948 London Olympics to promote the rehabilitation of soldiers after World War II. Guttman's event became an annual sports festival. In 1960, coinciding with the Rome Olympics, 400 athletes competed in the "Parallel Olympics," which became known as the first Paralympics. Since then, the Paralympics were held in every Olympic year.</p>	
24	<p>The National Veterans Golden Age Games is a national event and the only sports competition program designed to improve the quality of life for older veterans, including those with a wide range of abilities and disabilities. It is one of the most progressive and adaptive rehabilitative senior sports programs in the world, offering 14 different sports and recreational activities.</p>	<p><a href="http://www.va.gov/opa/speceven/gag/index.asp">http://www.va.gov/opa/speceven/gag/index.asp</a></p>
25	<p>The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) has launched its Paralympics Program website as part of VA's ongoing commitment to support the rehabilitation and recovery of disabled veterans through participation in adaptive sports. The website is located at <a href="http://www.va.gov/adativesports">www.va.gov/adativesports</a>.</p>	<p><a href="http://www.dav.org/news/NewsArticle.aspx?ID=456">http://www.dav.org/news/NewsArticle.aspx?ID=456</a></p>
26	<p>The talking-book program was established by an act of Congress in 1931 to serve blind adults. It was expanded in 1952 to include children, in 1962 to provide musical materials, and again in 1966 to include individuals with other physical impairments that that prevent the reading of standard print.</p>	<p><a href="http://www.local.gov/nls/faq.html">http://www.local.gov/nls/faq.html</a></p>

27	Mental illnesses are medical conditions that disrupt a person's thinking, feeling, mood, ability to relate to others, and daily functioning. Mental illnesses are medical conditions that often result in a diminished capacity for coping with the ordinary demands of life. Mental illnesses can affect persons of any age, race, religion, or income. Mental illnesses are not the result of personal weakness, lack of character, or poor upbringing.	<a href="http://www.nami.org/template.cfm?section=about_mental_illness">http://www.nami.org/template.cfm?section=about_mental_illness</a>
28	The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) is a law ensuring services to children with disabilities. IDEA governs how states and public agencies provide early intervention, special education, and related services to more than 6.5 million eligible infants, toddlers, children, and youth with disabilities.	<a href="http://idea.ed.gov/">http://idea.ed.gov/</a>
29	Section 4214 of Title 38, United States Code, called upon agencies to establish a separate affirmative action program for disabled veterans as part of the agency efforts to hire, place, and advance persons with disabilities under the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.	<a href="http://us-code.vlex.com/vid/employment-individuals-disabilities-19215856">http://us-code.vlex.com/vid/employment-individuals-disabilities-19215856</a>
30	The World Health Organization has reported that four of the ten leading causes of disability in the U.S. and other developed countries are mental disorders. By 2020, major depressive illness will be the leading cause of disability in the world for women and children.	<a href="http://www.nami.org/template.cfm?section=about_mental_illness">http://www.nami.org/template.cfm?section=about_mental_illness</a>
31	The Disability History Museum provides visitors an array of tools to help deepen the understanding of human variation and difference, and to expand appreciation of how vital to our common life the experiences of people with disabilities have always been. The website is located at <a href="http://disabilitymuseum.org">disabilitymuseum.org</a> .	<a href="http://www.disabilitymuseum.org">http://www.disabilitymuseum.org</a>