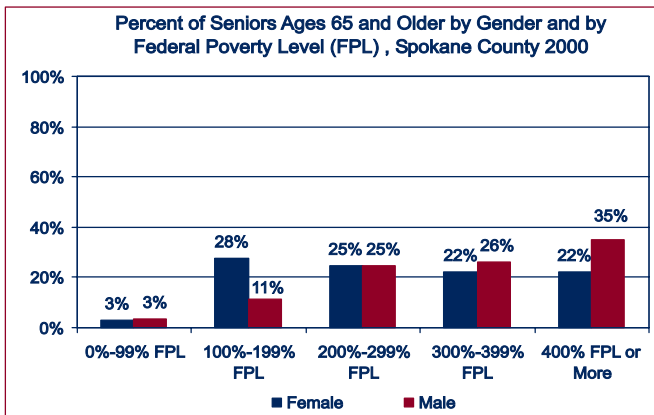


Special Populations and Poverty in Spokane County

Seniors Aged 65 and Older

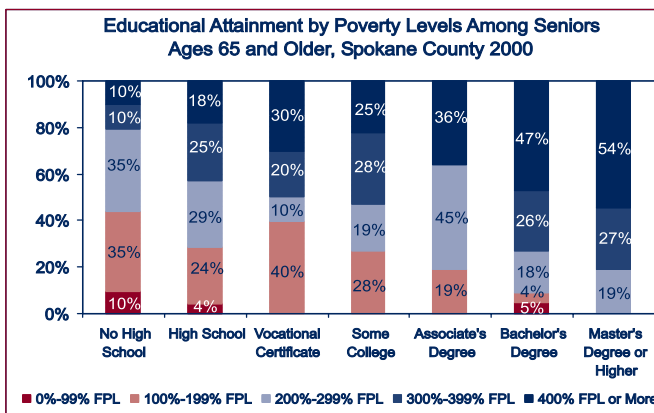
- In 2000, there were 50,528 seniors (13% of the population) aged 65 and older living in Spokane County.¹
- In Spokane County in 2000:
 - √ 4.3% of seniors lived below 100% FPL compared to 7.2% of seniors in Washington State;
 - √ 23% of seniors lived at or below 200% FPL;
 - √ 81% of seniors living in poverty were females;
 - √ 31% of female seniors lived below 200% FPL, compared to 14% of male seniors.²

- In Spokane County in 2000, there were 35,467 households with one or more people 65 years or older; 1,947 of those households received food stamps.¹
- There are specific health conditions that seniors living in poverty are more likely to have.³

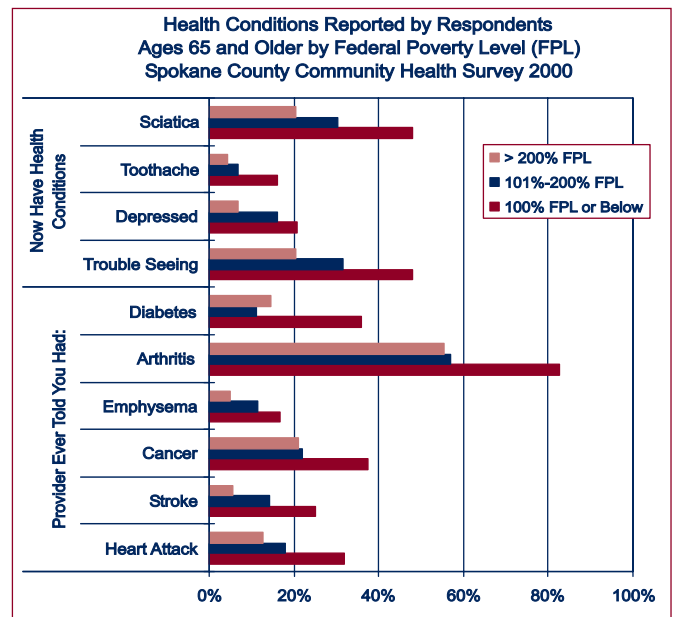


Source: Washington State Office of Financial Management; Washington State Population Survey 2000; 2001.

- In Spokane County in 2000, most seniors living below 100% FPL had not completed high school.²

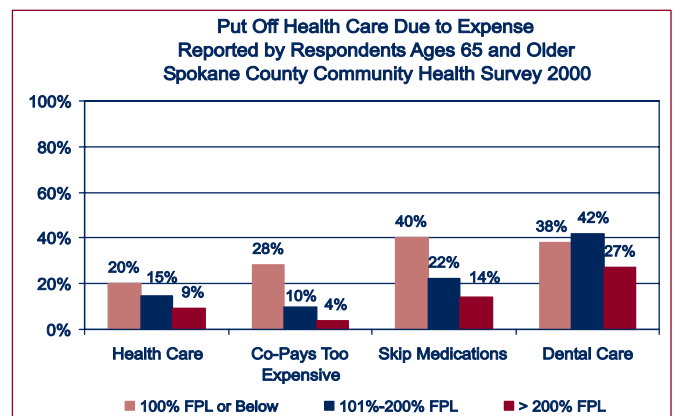


Source: Washington State Office of Financial Management; Washington State Population Survey 2000; 2001.



Source: Spokane Community Health Survey 2000; Spokane Regional Health District, 2001.

- Seniors in higher levels of poverty are more likely to put off health care, medications, and dental care when they need it.³

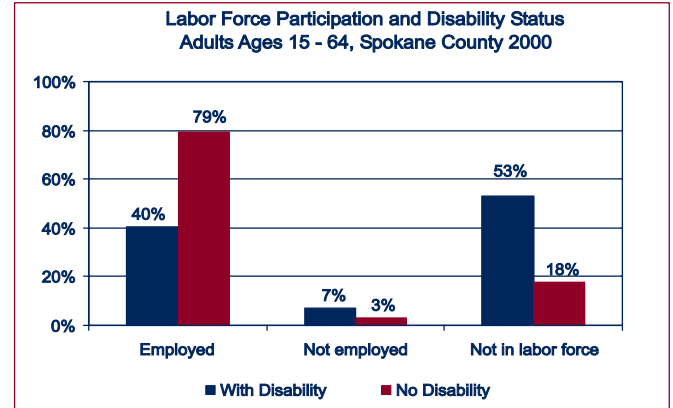
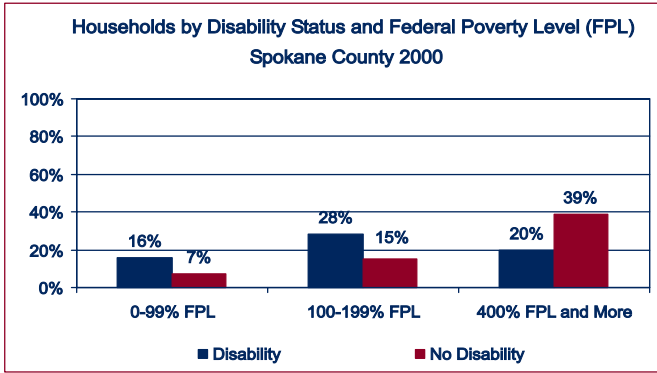


Source: Spokane Community Health Survey 2000; Spokane Regional Health District, 2001.

People with a Disability

- There is a strong association between disability and poverty in Spokane County.
- In Spokane County in 2000, even when their household income did not fall below 100% FPL, people with disabilities were poorer, on average.²

- Spokane County working age adults (ages 15-64) with disabilities are much less likely to be employed and more likely to be unemployed (looking for work) than people without limitations.²

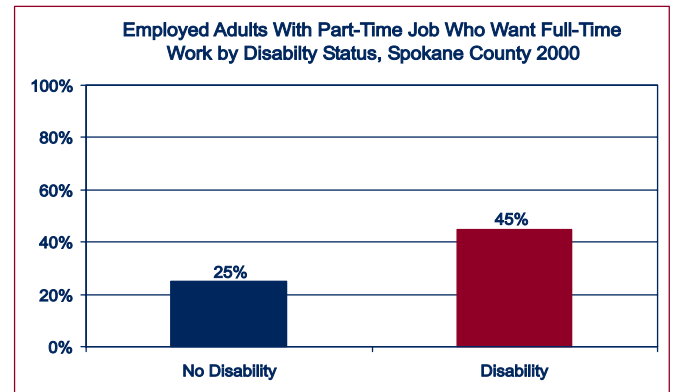
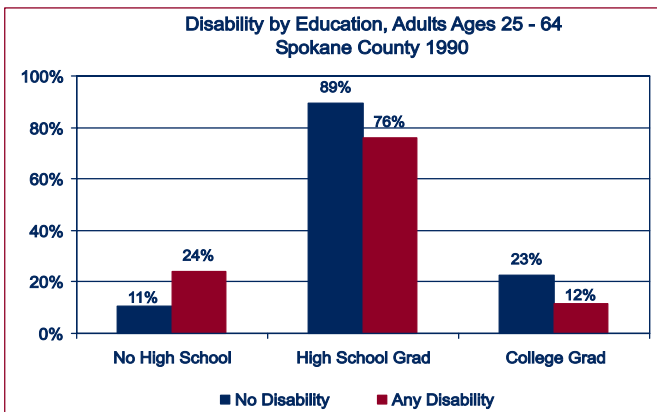


Source: Washington State Population Survey 2000; Washington State Office of Financial Management; 2001.

Source: Washington State Population Survey 2000; Washington State Office of Financial Management; 2001.

- Do people become poor as a result of a disability? This is plausible if disability:
 - ✓ limits income by reducing the ability to work, either by preventing a young person from getting a good education,
 - ✓ restricts an adult in activities necessary for employment.
- Poverty may produce disability. Having low income is associated with:
 - ✓ less education,
 - ✓ poorer overall health, and
 - ✓ higher rates of behaviors that increase the risk of disability due to congenital conditions, injuries, violence, and lack of medical and preventive care.

- Almost half of people with disabilities working part-time would have preferred to work full time. When asked why they had to work part-time:
 - ✓ a quarter said that their health was the limiting factor, and
 - ✓ almost as many said that they could only find part-time work.³



Source: 1990 U.S. Census.

Source: Washington State Population Survey 2000; Washington State Office of Financial Management; 2001.

This information is excerpted from
Facing Spokane Poverty, 2001-2002.
 For questions, additional copies, or to obtain the full report,
 please contact the Spokane Regional Health District
 Assessment/Epidemiology Center at
 509-323-2853.

¹ U.S. Census 2000; 2001.
² Washington State Office of Financial Management. Washington State Population Survey 2000; 2001.
³ Spokane Community Health Survey 2000. Spokane Regional Health District; 2001.