Cornell University has developed an Online Resource for U.S. Disability Statistics.

The Annual Disability Status Reports provide policy makers, disability advocates, reporters, and the public with a summary of the most recent demographic and economic statistics on the non-institutionalized population with disabilities. They contain information on the population size and disability prevalence for various demographic subpopulations, as well as statistics related to employment, earnings, and household income. Comparisons are made to people without disabilities and across disability types. Disability Status Reports and other statistics are available for each state, DC, and Puerto Rico at www.DisabilityStatistics.org.

The Status Reports primarily look at the working-age population because the employment gap between people with and without disabilities is a major focus of government programs and advocacy efforts. Furthermore, employment is a key factor in the social integration and economic self-sufficiency of working-age people with disabilities. In the future we will add health-related statistics. The estimates in the 2008 Disability Status Report are based on American Community Survey (ACS) data, a U.S. Census Bureau survey designed to replace the decennial census long form. See the ACS user Guide on www.disabilitystatistics.org for additional information on the ACS. See the ACS User Guide for additional disability-related information in the ACS.

The U.S. Census Bureau provides guidance on the use of the American Community Survey information - http://www.census.gov/acs/www/guidance_for_data_users/guidance_main. The ACS collects data on many subject areas to help communities make informed decisions. They provide various tools including American FactFinder, Easy Stats, Subject Tables, PUMS, Summary File and more. They have published a series of handbooks for particular groups with specific how-to instructions and/or case studies.