



SAN FRANCISCO HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY

Department of Disability
and Aging Services

The Office on Disability and Accessibility



Image: Wheelchair users protesting outside of San Francisco City Hall in 1977. One protester has a hand-made “We Shall Overcome” sign on the back of his wheelchair (black and white. Credit: Anthony Tusler)

Eli Gelardin, Director



ODA's Purpose

The San Francisco **Office on Disability & Accessibility (ODA)** helps ensure that the City's programs, services, facilities and digital information are accessible to people with disabilities of all ages and backgrounds. As the City's overall ADA Coordinator, ODA leads compliance with **Title II of the ADA** and other federal, state, and local disability access laws.

Key Functions:

- Oversees the City's **ADA Transition Plan**, including capital planning and the City's ADA grievance and appeals procedures
- Provides **technical assistance** and **policy guidance** to City leadership and stakeholders
- Supports the **Mayor's Disability Council**
- Serves as a **liaison to the disability community**
- Advises the **Mayor, Board of Supervisors, and City departments** on disability rights and accessibility





Demographics

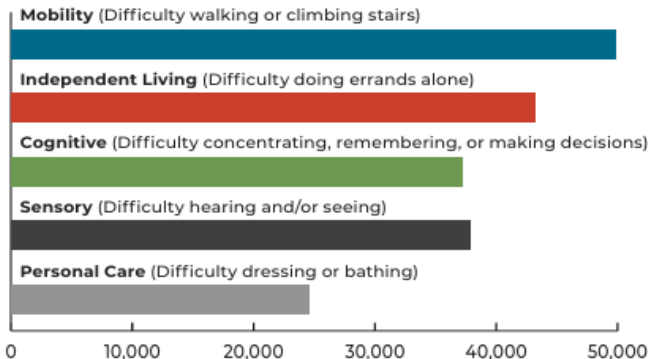
Disability in San Francisco

One in ten San Franciscans reports a disability (96,000 people). Almost half of people with disabilities are under age 65.¹ Investing in this community is important for the future of our City.



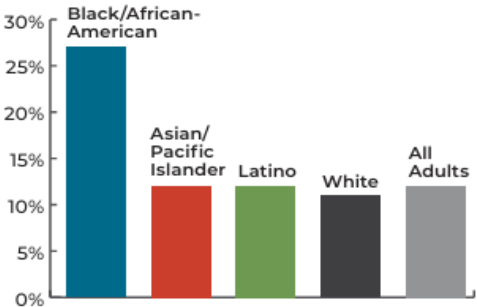
San Francisco Residents Report Many Types of Disability

Some report multiple disabilities.¹



Disability Rates Vary by Ethnicity

African-Americans are twice as likely to experience disability.¹





Demographics

Challenges and Priorities

City living can be challenging for people with disabilities but also provides great opportunity for culture, connection, and enrichment. Working with and on behalf of people with disabilities to support engaged and fulfilling community living is a shared responsibility for us all.

Income, Poverty, and Employment



1 in 4 people with disabilities live in poverty.¹

Even adults with disabilities who are employed are more than twice as likely to experience poverty.¹

Housing



60% of adults with disabilities are renters.¹

The majority of San Francisco's housing (82%) pre-dates state and federal requirements for accessibility.²

Home Care



26,000 people live in their communities with help through Medi-Cal's In-Home Supportive Services program.⁴

Transportation



22% of people with disabilities ride public transportation daily.⁴

Safety



1 in 3 people with disabilities feel unsafe traveling alone in their neighborhood at night.³



Beyond the Front Door

Best Practices Guide

This is a guide of practical ideas for businesses to create a welcoming place for customers with disabilities. They focus on low cost or no cost actions.

Read and download the guide





Expanding ASL~ Language Access

Updates

- Updated SF.gov accessibility standards and guidance
- Digital resources for merchants and business districts
- San Francisco's Accessible Communication Card that staff can print out and share with visitors who need assistance.
- Port Wayfinding Map
- SFMTA Vlog
- SFPD DGO 5.23





504 Walking Tour: Connecting to History and Community Benefits · One City Day

- 504 Walking Tour: 10–11:30am (historic 1977 Sit-In)
- Mobile Benefits Center: 10am–1pm (outreach, benefits help)
- Accessible venue + hybrid option; ASL provided

Signup:

[Volunteer Opportunities, Events, and Petitions Near Me · One City Day on Mobilize](#)





Questions?





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**Department of Disability
and Aging Services**

Thank you



Disability advocates, members of the Mayor's Disability Council and DAS staff gathered at the Disability Cultural Center for the ribbon-cutting ceremony with Mayor Lurie..

www.sfhsa.org