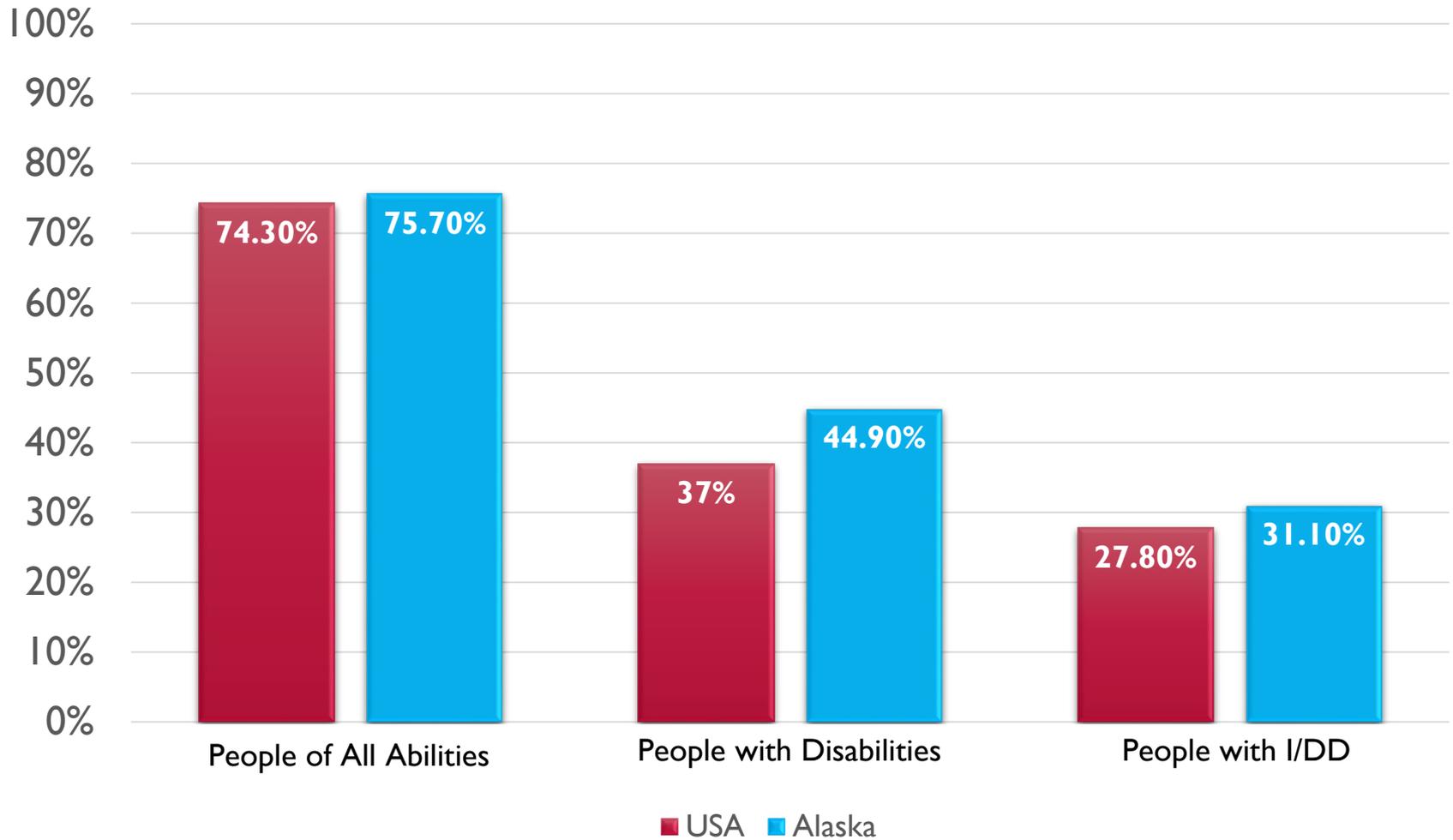


EMPLOYMENT

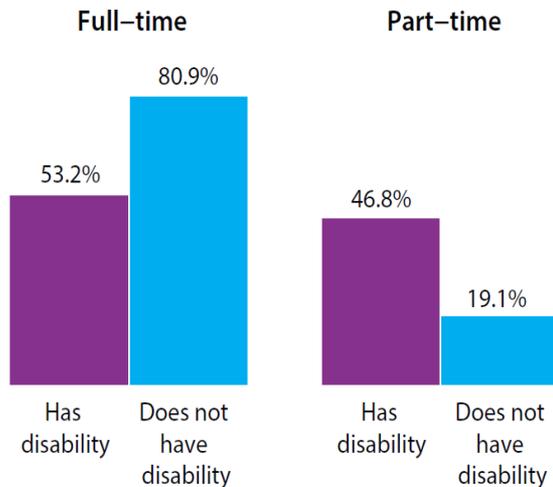
**COMPREHENSIVE REVIEW
AND ANALYSIS 2020**

The Percentage of People Who Work in USA vs. Alaska



I/DD WORKFORCE STATISTICS

Figure 2 Full- and Part-Time Employment Status for Workers by Disability Status (age 18–64), 2017



SOURCE: U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration, 2017 National Household Travel Survey.

- Americans with disabilities earn 65.6 cents for every dollar someone of average ability earns
- Alaskans with disabilities earn 79.6 cents for every dollar someone of average ability earns
- American workers of all abilities work full time 80.9%, while those with disabilities work full time 53.2%
- American workers with I/DD are 2.5 times more likely to live in poverty if employed, and 1.4 times if unemployed

INTEGRATED WORKFORCE

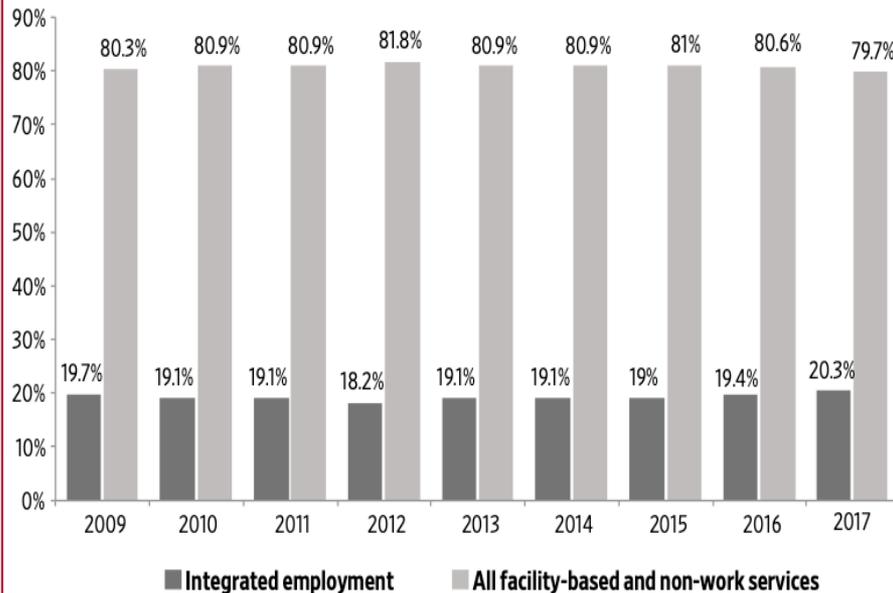
The 14 (c) certification was eliminated in Alaska

As of 2018 Alaska has no sheltered workshops, and no sub-minimum wage

Most states in the USA have sheltered workshops, sub-minimum wage

Only 20% of the I/DD workforce works integrated, in USA

Figure 4. Estimated IDD Agency Service Distribution by Year

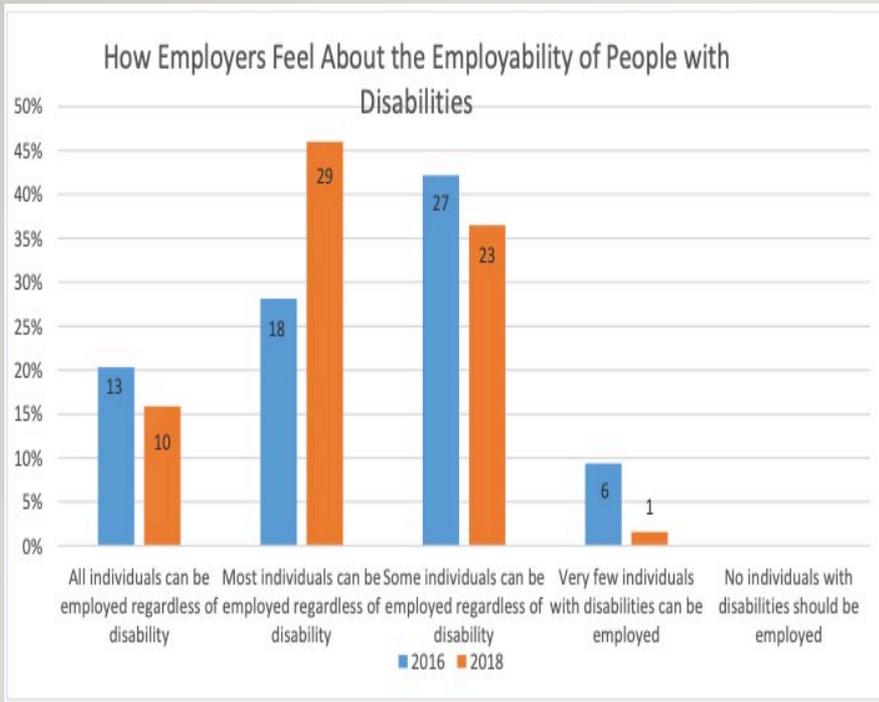


EMPLOYER PERCEPTION

Lack of I/DD employment may be partially caused by employer perception

Many employers think that people with disabilities are hireable

Comfort level in hiring someone with a disability is low, but slowly improving



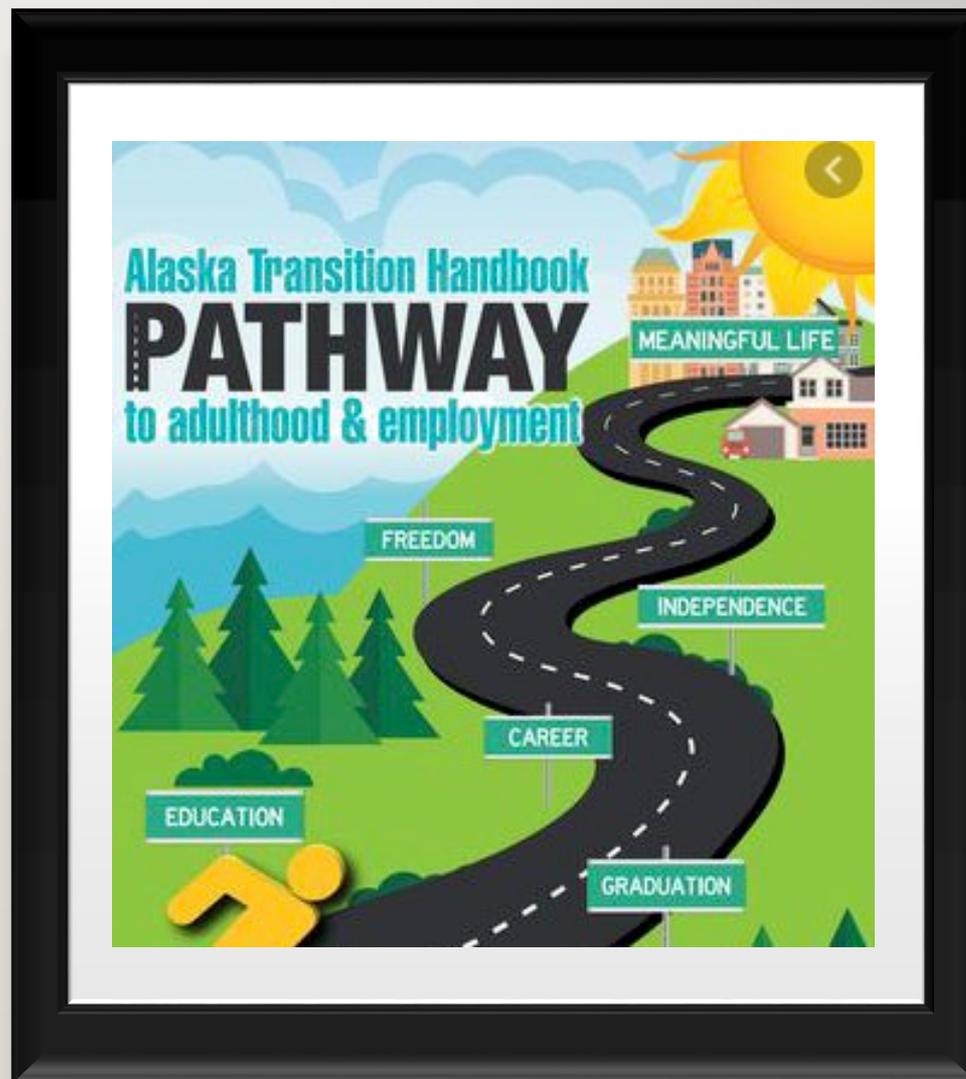
SUPPORTED EMPLOYMENT IN ALASKA



- 4% of Medicaid expenditures are for Supported Employment
- 399 people on Supported Employment
- 19% of people on I/DD waivers have Supported Employment
- Small portion of spending responsible for large economic growth in the State and the Nation

TRANSITION

- At age 16, Alaskan students with I/DD are introduced to transition
- There are 1.25 million children with I/DD in the USA
- There are 32,994 children with disabilities in Alaska
- The number of Alaskan students with I/DD who are the appropriate age for transition is not known

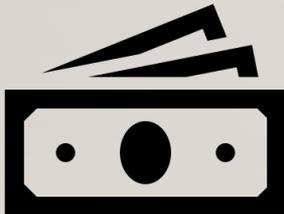


MEDICAID BUY-IN



- The USA has Medicaid Buy-In in most states; five states do not
- Alaska has the Working Disabled Medicaid Buy-In Program
- In Alaska, the number of people on this program ranges between 300-350
- The program may be underutilized, considering Alaska's 8.8% disabled population

ABLE ACCOUNTS



In 2014, President Obama signed into law the ABLE Act, which allows people to open ABLE accounts to save

In 2016, Governor Walker signed a bill allowing Alaskans to open ABLE accounts

ABLE accounts allow \$15,000/ year savings for the unemployed

ABLE accounts allow \$27,060/ year savings for employed

In Alaska as of 2019, there are 301 ABLE accounts, containing \$1,750,434

BARRIERS TO EMPLOYMENT IN ALASKA



- Lack of informational employment services
- Lack of rural employment services
- Misinformation that employment means cuts to benefits
- Low wage jobs keeping employed people in poverty
- Employer misconceptions about hiring people with I/DD
- Supported Employment restrictions on travel
- Lack of transition resources for teens and family
- Lack of Medicaid Buy-In information
- Overall lack of jobs in Alaska

RESOURCES IN ALASKA



Employee Resources:

- Division of Vocation Rehabilitation
- Tribal Vocational Rehabilitation
- Multiple agencies (if they offer Supported Employment)
- Job Center
- Transition Handbook

Employer Resources:

- Business Engagement Service Team (BEST)
- Job Accommodation Network (JAN)
- Job Center
 - Business Connection
- Division of Vocation Rehabilitation
 - Business Team