

ECONOMIC IMPACT ANALYSIS HIGHLIGHTS

People with disabilities represent a large and underutilized component of the United States labor market. Individuals with disabilities have a significantly lower workforce participation rate compared to their non-disabled peers (21% vs. 67%) and have nearly double the unemployment rate (10.1% vs. 5.1%).

One critical barrier to competitive integrated employment and entrepreneurship for people with disabilities is a lack of accessible transportation options. The promise of autonomous vehicles (AVs), particularly Levels 4 and 5, offers a potential transportation solution for many people with disabilities.

This economic impact analysis examined how accessible, affordable, and sustainable AVs could increase employment for people with disabilities and strengthen the broader economy.†

Gains for People with Disabilities:

- ↑ 4.4 million jobs
- ↑ \$160 billion in wages and earnings

Gains for the U.S. Economy:

- ↑ 9.2 million jobs
- ↑ \$417 billion wages and earnings
- ↑ \$867 billion increase in GDP
- ↑ \$1.6 trillion increase in output

National economic impact of AV adoption (moderate scenario Year 0)

Economic Impact Category	Direct	Indirect	Induced	Total*	Estimated % of U.S. Total (2021)
Employment (Millions)	4.41	1.93	2.81	9.15	4.1%
GDP (Billions)	\$348.05	\$242.22	\$277.43	\$867.70	3.8%
Output (Billions)	\$639.67	\$467.57	\$495.74	\$1,602.99	5.7%
Income (Billions)	\$160.23	\$117.27	\$139.42	\$416.92	2.0%
Federal Tax Revenue (Billions)	\$36.41	\$26.04	\$30.51	\$92.96	1.8%

Source: IMPLAN Group LLC, ICF (2022). *Total may not add up due to rounding.

These findings suggest that accessible AVs could be a powerful factor in reducing transportation barriers, increasing employment and economic outcomes for many people with disabilities, and ultimately strengthening the economy.

† The above projections are based on the study's moderate scenario.

Source: National Disability Institute & ICF. (Dec. 2022). Economic Impacts of Removing Transportation Barriers to Employment for Disabled Individuals Through Autonomous Vehicle Adoption.