

Technology and Disability

“Technology makes the world a new place.”
- Shoshana Zuboff

Technology enhances productivity and improves quality of life. For many people with disabilities, technology is critical to functioning independently. It provides people with disabilities access to employment, a wider range of tools to accomplish jobs and greater freedom to live and socialize in the setting of their choice.

41 % of adults with disabilities use some form of assistive technology specific to their disability.

48% of adults with disabilities use assistive devices that aid in mobility.

17% of people with disabilities lack some form of assistive technology they need.

48% of people with disabilities say that the Internet has significantly improved their quality of life.

93% say the Internet has increased their ability to be better informed.

52% say the Internet has increased their ability to reach out to people with similar interests/experiences.

ACCESSIBILITY

43% of people with disabilities cite problems with building design (i.e. stairs, bathrooms, narrow or heavy doors, etc.) as a barrier that limits or prevents community participation.

These Disability Fast Facts are a product of the Virginia Board's Policy Fellowship Program. Copies may also be downloaded from the Board's website. Duplication and distribution is encouraged.