

# The Economic Consequences of Disability Status: A Comparison Between Anglo, Black, and Latino Men

Anna Santiago

Research Report No. 14

June 1996

## ABSTRACT

Utilizing data from the 1990 Panel Study of Income Dynamics Preliminary Release File, this paper examines patterns of disability and estimates the differential costs attributed to disability status for Anglo, Black and Latino men. The analysis reveals considerable variation in the prevalence of disability. When examining prevalence across racial and ethnic groups, Puerto Rican men have the highest rates of disability, regardless of the indicator used to measure disability; Anglo men report the lowest rates. Multivariate analyses reveal that poor health and the presence of a work disability were significant predictors of the labor force participation and earnings of men. These analyses also suggest that the economic well-being of Blacks and Latinos is further constrained by the costs associated with carrying “additional minority” statuses, lending partial support to the notion of double or triple jeopardy.

## ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Anna M. Santiago currently is an Associate Research Scientist at the University of Michigan. She is also the Director of Research at the Center for the Education of Women and is a Research Affiliate at the Population Studies Center. She earned her Ph.D. in Urban Social Institutions at the University of Michigan and completed a NICHD/Rockefeller postdoctoral fellowship in demography and poverty studies at the University of Michigan. Santiago's research interests are in the areas of residential segregation, poverty and inequality, and the economic consequences of disability status for minority populations.