**Disability Employment Awareness Month 2022**

Talking Points:

* October is National Disability Employment Awareness Month.
* We recognize National Disability Employment Awareness Month (NDEAM) each October to commemorate the many contributions of people with disabilities to America’s workplaces and economy.
* The theme for NDEAM 2022, “Disability: Part of the Equity Equation,” recognizes the important role people with disabilities play in a diverse and inclusive American workforce.
* According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, 19.1 percent of persons with a disability were employed in 2021\*.
* A larger share of workers with a disability were self-employed in 2021 than were those with no disability (9.6 percent versus 6.4 percent)\*.
* The unemployment rate for persons with a disability, at 10.1 percent in 2021, decreased by 2.5 percentage points from the previous year\*.
* While disability employment is celebrated in October, it is imperative that advocacy take place year-round to ensure that persons with disabilities are employed at a rate equal to persons without disabilities.

\* Statistics obtained from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, [Persons with a Disability: Labor Force Characteristics Summary](https://www.bls.gov/news.release/disabl.nr0.htm).