AMERICAN ASSOCIATION ON HEALTH AND DISABILITY (AAHD) RESEARCH BRIEF
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AAHD COVID-19 & DISABILITY SURVEY: KEY FINDINGS ON PANDEMIC INFORMATION & IMPACT FOR PERSONS WHO ARE DEAF OR HARD OF HEARING

Introduction
People with disabilities experience unique risks during disasters, epidemics, and pandemics that can impact health and health care. Yet, we do not know the full impact of COVID-19 on people with disabilities.

Research Approach
AAHD conducted the COVID-19 and Disability online survey between April 17 and May 1, 2020 and 2,469 adults with disabilities responded, including 182 adults (7%) that were Deaf or Hard of Hearing.

Main Findings- COVID-19 Information & Impact

Ranking of Sources of COVID-19 Information
- 34% of respondents said the Internet was the most important source of information, followed by Television (26%) and Health Care Providers and Relatives (21%).
- The Internet (28%), Television (25%), and Social Media (19%) were selected as the second-most important sources of information.
- Social Media (20%), Television (19%), and the Internet (16%) were selected as the third-most important source of information about COVID-19.
- Health Care Providers ranked fairly low as sources of information about COVID-19 (21%-Most Important; 11%-Second Most Important; and 10%-Third Most Important).

Following COVID-19 Recommendations
- 96% of respondents were following COVID-19 public health recommendations.
- 4% of respondents said they were not following COVID-19 recommendations, but that still means some respondents were potentially endangering others!

COVID-19 Testing
- 4% of respondents had received a test for COVID-19.
- 96% had not received a test.
- Top reasons for not getting a test (when needed): No Test Available (16%) & No Sign Language Interpreters (9%).

Anxiety & Depression During the Pandemic
- 64% of respondents feeling anxious or depressed had emotional support or services.
- 36% of respondents were without emotional support or services.

Conclusion
- Population-based research is critically needed to fully document these issues.

Full results are available at: https://www.aahd.us/initiatives/dissemination/covid-19-disability-survey/

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