

Autism and Work

332,600k

It is estimated that there are around 332,600 people of working age in the UK with an autism spectrum disorder (ASD).



22%

Only 22% of autistic adults are in some kind of paid employment (compared to 80% of non-disabled people and 47% of disabled people)

16%

A mere 16% of autistic adults are in full-time paid employment.

40%

40% of autistic adults working part-time want to work more hours.

53%

Fifty-three per cent of adults with autism said they want help to find work, but only 10 per cent are getting the support.

77%



77% of unemployed autistic adults want employment.

Negative attitudes or low expectations.

Skills and qualification gaps for people with a learning disability.

A lack of flexible employment support programmes and appropriate job opportunities.

Unfair treatment in the workplace such as bullying and discrimination.

Issues around access to the working environment (including transport and physical access).



Research by Mencap (2017) has identified that the main barriers that prevent adults with learning difficulties from finding a job, keeping a job and progressing in that job are:

Without understanding, autistic people and families are at greater risk of being isolated and developing mental health problems.

