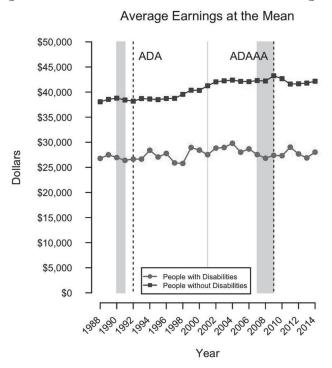
Investigating the Wage Gap: Race, Gender, and Ability

According to Maroto and Pettinicchio (2015), the average earnings for people with disabilities in 1988 were approximately \$27,000, and in 2014 were approximately \$28,000. Average earnings for people without a disability for 1988 were \$38,000 and for 2014 were \$42,000. The figure below shows Maroto and Pettinicchio's findings:



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- 1. Develop a function to describe the relationship between time and the average earnings for those with a disability. Also develop a function to describe the same relationship for those without a disability.
- **2.** Use a graphing utility to graph each function. Graph both on the same coordinate plane. Answer the following questions:
 - **a.** Using your model, what would be the average earnings of a person without a disability in 2010? A person with a disability?
 - **b.** Using your model, when would a person with a disability have the same average earnings of a person without a disability in 1994?
- **3.** Using your model and respective graphs, how would you describe in general the gains made by those with and without disabilities?

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4.	How does this new information change how you think about the wage gaps explored yesterday about race and gender differences?
5.	Modify the models from the day before based on the new information you have about those with and without disability. Considering the following as well: "Women with disabilities working full time, year-round are typically paid just 73 cents for every dollar men without disabilities working full time, year-round are paid" (National Women's Law Center, 2017).
6.	Return to the functions modeling the gains in the wage gap for men and women of different races. As a group determine a way to revise the models to include those with disability and without disability for each race and gender combination.
7.	How do you think other identity characteristics may influence the models you have constructed (e.g., sexual identity—Would a gay white man have the same income as a straight white man?)?

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