



CANADIAN  
HUMAN RIGHTS  
COMMISSION

COMMISSION  
CANADIENNE DES  
DROITS DE LA PERSONNE

# Report on Equality Rights of People with Disabilities





# Table of Contents

MESSAGE FROM THE ACTING CHIEF COMMISSIONER .....	2
BACKGROUND .....	2
INTRODUCTION .....	3
METHODOLOGY .....	4
CHAPTER 1: A SNAPSHOT OF ADULTS WITH DISABILITIES IN CANADA.....	7
CHAPTER 2: ECONOMIC WELL-BEING .....	21
CHAPTER 3: EMPLOYMENT .....	37
CHAPTER 4: EDUCATION.....	62
CHAPTER 5: HOUSING .....	74
CHAPTER 6: HEALTH.....	80
CHAPTER 7: JUSTICE AND SAFETY.....	99
CHAPTER 8: POLITICAL ENGAGEMENT AND SOCIAL INCLUSION...	109
BIBLIOGRAPHY .....	120

# MESSAGE FROM THE ACTING CHIEF COMMISSIONER

I am pleased to present the *Report on Equality Rights of People with Disabilities*. The first of its kind in Canada, this report provides a portrait of the state of equality for persons with disabilities in Canada.

This report draws upon the Canadian Human Rights Commission's 2010 *Framework for Documenting Equality Rights*. It consolidates existing data from various surveys so that comparisons can be made between people with disabilities and people without disabilities from a human rights perspective.

In March 2010, Canada ratified the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. In signing the Convention, Canada promised to protect, promote and advance the rights of people with disabilities.

It is our hope that this report will help academics, NGOs, community organizations and all levels of Canadian government to identify the areas of human rights that require further study. Ultimately, we hope this report will help inform policy and program development to improve the lives of Canadians with disabilities.

I would like to thank all involved at the Commission for their dedication to this endeavour. I would also like to thank our partners at Statistics Canada for their invaluable contribution.

David Langtry

Acting Chief Commissioner  
Canadian Human Rights Commission

# BACKGROUND

In 2010, the Canadian Human Rights Commission (CHRC) published the “Framework for Documenting Equality Rights”<sup>1</sup>, a tool for developing a consolidated portrait of equality in Canada. The Framework lays out the parameters for presenting reliable and policy-relevant data on equality rights for the groups protected by human rights legislation in Canada. It also enables the identification of gaps in the data that is available to document equality-related issues in Canada.

Using the Framework as a guide, the CHRC set out to produce the first Report on Equality Rights of People with Disabilities which looks at the situation of people with disabilities.

# INTRODUCTION

This Report on Equality Rights of People with Disabilities presents a national portrait of people with disabilities compared to people without disabilities based on seven dimensions of well-being, considered critical from an equality rights perspective. They are: economic well-being, education, employment, health, housing, justice and safety, and political and social inclusion.

This report is divided into nine chapters. The introductory chapter deals with the methodology and the data sources used. Chapter 1 presents an overview of the distribution of adults with disabilities in Canada by type and severity of disability. Subsequent chapters offer a portrait of how people with disabilities compare to people without disabilities for each of the seven dimensions.

Finally, this report is about documenting the status of people with disabilities with respect to their well-being and is not a “report card” or an evaluation of Canada’s performance. It simply brings together existing but discrete data from an equality rights perspective.

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<sup>1</sup> Canadian Human Rights Commission (2010), Framework for Documenting Equal Rights, Ottawa [http://www.chrc-ccdp.gc.ca/pdf/framework\\_equality.pdf](http://www.chrc-ccdp.gc.ca/pdf/framework_equality.pdf)

# METHODOLOGY

## Data Sources

The “Framework for Documenting Equality Rights” (Framework) proposes the use of already existing data sources to document each of the dimensions. The Report on Equality Rights for People with Disabilities (report) uses several surveys conducted by Statistics Canada as sources of data.

The Framework breaks down each dimension into a series of indicators and the indicators into measures. These indicators and measures were used to identify and select the appropriate variables from each of the available surveys. The work in this regard was also informed by literature reviews and advice from Statistics Canada’s experts.

Throughout this report, the variables of sex and age have been retained for as many measures as possible in order to present as precise a portrait as data would allow. Therefore, where feasible, data on people with and without disabilities is presented for both men and women<sup>2</sup>. Similarly, where feasible, data is presented for the following age groups:

- Adults: age 15 and over
- Working-age adults: age 15 to 64
- Younger working-age adults: age 25 to 54
- Older working-age adults: age 55 to 64
- Seniors: age 65 and over

The following surveys were used to produce this report.

- **2006 Participation and Activity Limitation Survey (PALS)<sup>3</sup>:** The 2006 PALS is a post-census survey that collected information about Canadians whose everyday activities may be limited by a health-related condition or problem.
- **Survey on Labour and Income Dynamic (SLID)<sup>4</sup> – Fifth Panel 2005-2010:** SLID is one of the most important sources for understanding the economic well-being of Canadian families, households and individuals.
- **2008 General Social Survey (GSS), Cycle 22 on Social Networks<sup>5</sup>:** This survey collected data on social networks as well as social and civic participation.

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<sup>2</sup> The level of disaggregation might vary depending on the sample size, data quality and survey design.

<sup>3</sup> For more information, visit <http://www.statcan.gc.ca/cgi-bin/imdb/p2SV.pl?Function=getSurvey&SDDS=3251&lang=en&db=imdb&adm=8&dis=2>

<sup>4</sup> For more information, visit <http://www.statcan.gc.ca/survey-enquete/household-menages/slid-edtr/income-revenu-eng.htm>

<sup>5</sup> For more information, visit <http://www.statcan.gc.ca/cgi-bin/imdb/p2SV.pl?Function=getSurvey&SDDS=5024&lang=en&db=imdb&adm=8&dis=2>

- **2009 General Social Survey (GSS), Victimization Cycle 23<sup>6</sup>:** This survey asked Canadians about their experience related to being a victim of crime, their fear and perceptions of crime, and the criminal justice system.
- **2009 Canadian Community Health Survey (CCHS) – Annual Component<sup>7</sup>:** The CCHS gathered health-related data at the sub-provincial levels (health region or combined health regions). This survey provides information on health determinants, health status and health system utilization across Canada.
- **2005 Survey of Financial Security (SFS)<sup>8</sup>:** This survey provides a comprehensive picture of the net worth of Canadians.
- **2007 (Class of 2005) National Graduation Survey<sup>9</sup>:** This survey collected information on educational background and work experiences of people who graduated from a post-secondary institution in 2005.

## Analysis

As previously mentioned, the Framework suggests various indicators and measures to give meaning to the seven dimensions of well-being. For example, the dimension “Employment” proposes six indicators and a whole range of measures.

In this report, proportions are used to compare the situation of people with disabilities to that of people without disabilities. By so doing, statistically significant differences between groups can give an indication of whether inequality exists.

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6 For more information, visit <http://www.statcan.gc.ca/cgi-bin/imdb/p2SV.pl?Function=getSurvey&SDDS=4504&lang=en&db=imdb&adm=8&dis=2>

7 For more information, visit <http://www.statcan.gc.ca/cgi-bin/imdb/p2SV.pl?Function=getSurvey&SDDS=3226&lang=en&db=imdb&adm=8&dis=2>

8 For more information, visit <http://www.statcan.gc.ca/cgi-bin/imdb/p2SV.pl?Function=getSurvey&SDDS=2620&lang=en&db=imdb&adm=8&dis=2>

9 For more information, visit <http://www.statcan.gc.ca/cgi-bin/imdb/p2SV.pl?Function=getSurvey&SDDS=5012&lang=en&db=imdb&adm=8&dis=2>

For each measure, data is provided that allows a comparison between:

- 1) people with disabilities and people without disabilities;
- 2) men with disabilities and men without disabilities;
- 3) women with disabilities and women without disabilities; and
- 4) women with disabilities and men with disabilities.

In addition, the percentage distribution of women and men with disabilities is provided for some measures where this information adds to the understanding of the situation.

Information is presented as frequencies and cross tabulations in the form of tables and charts and a short descriptive analysis is included.

Statistical tests were run on all comparisons to determine if differences in proportions are significant at the 0.05 level. Where differences are not significant, this is noted as a legend in the table.

Differences documented between the situation of people with disabilities and people without disabilities do not necessarily imply discrimination in the sense meant by human rights laws. There may be a number of factors at play that account for the observed differences. However, those differences point to areas where further study is required.

## **Limitations in the Data**

There are limitations in using existing data from several surveys. None of the surveys that were used in producing this report were carried out with an objective to document equality rights. Since each survey differs as to its purpose, design, definition of disability and sample size, no comparison between surveys was made.

Another limitation centres on the fact that the sample size of people with disabilities is low in some surveys. As a result, it was necessary to drop some measures for privacy reasons, because the value of the coefficient of variation (CV) was too high<sup>10</sup> or because data on people with disabilities was not captured.

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The CV is used to determine the reliability of the data.

<sup>10</sup> The following values are used:

- When the CV is greater than 33.3%, the results are considered unacceptable and not published.
- When the CV is greater than 16.5% and less than or equal to 33.3%, the results are considered poor and must be used with caution.
- When the CV is 16.5% or less, the results are considered "acceptable" and are published without restrictions.



# CHAPTER 1: A SNAPSHOT OF ADULTS WITH DISABILITIES IN CANADA

This chapter provides information on:

- 1) the distribution of adults with disabilities;
- 2) the distribution of adults with disabilities based on severity of disability; and
- 3) the distribution of adults with disabilities based on type and severity of disability.

All data comes from the 2006 Participation and Activity Limitation Survey (PALS). The 2006 PALS was selected for this chapter because it is the only survey that provides comprehensive information on the type and severity of disability<sup>11</sup>.

## 1) Distribution of Adults With Disabilities

**Table 1.1: Distribution of adults with disabilities by age group and sex – reference year 2006**

Age Group	Women		Men		Total*	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
15 to 24	94,562	2.2%	100,935	2.4%	195,497	4.6%
25 to 54	773,621	18.4%	663,904	15.8%	1,437,525	34.1%
55 to 64	438,228	10.4%	386,688	9.2%	824,916	19.6%
65+	1,013,632	24.1%	743,955	17.7%	1,757,587	41.7%
<b>Total*</b>	<b>2,320,042</b>	<b>55.0%</b>	<b>1,895,483</b>	<b>45.0%</b>	<b>4,215,525</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Source: 2006 Participation and Activity Limitation Survey

\* The sum of the values for each category may differ from the total due to rounding.

All numbers are rounded to the nearest whole number.

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

Missing values are excluded.

<sup>11</sup> For more information on the severity scale used in the 2006 Participation and Activity Limitation survey, see: Statistics Canada (2006), Participation and Activity Limitation Survey 2006: Technical and Methodological Report, Ottawa, Canada, Catalogue no. 89-628-XIE — No.001, 49 pages.

## 2) Severity of Disability

In the 2006 Participation and Activity Limitation Survey, disabilities are categorized as mild, moderate, severe and very severe.

**Table 1.2: Distribution of adults with mild disability by age group and sex – reference year 2006**

Age Group	Women		Men		Total*	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
15 to 24	45,765	3.1%	48,468	3.3%	94,232	6.3%
25 to 54	241,354	16.2%	247,429	16.6%	488,783	32.8%
55 to 64	137,395	9.2%	135,194	9.1%	272,588	18.3%
65+	350,116	23.5%	286,866	19.2%	636,981	42.7%
<b>Total*</b>	<b>774,629</b>	<b>51.9%</b>	<b>717,956</b>	<b>48.1%</b>	<b>1,492,585</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Source: 2006 Participation and Activity Limitation Survey

\* The sum of the values for each category may differ from the total due to rounding.

All numbers are rounded to the nearest whole number.

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

Missing values are excluded.

**Table 1.3: Distribution of adults with moderate disability by age group and sex – reference year 2006**

Age Group	Women		Men		Total*	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
15 to 24	21,133	2.0%	22,369	2.1%	43,501	4.2%
25 to 54	206,308	19.7%	166,048	15.9%	372,356	35.6%
55 to 64	108,703	10.4%	100,701	9.6%	209,404	20.0%
65+	230,222	22.0%	190,022	18.2%	420,244	40.2%
<b>Total*</b>	<b>566,366</b>	<b>54.2%</b>	<b>479,140</b>	<b>45.8%</b>	<b>1,045,506</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Source: 2006 Participation and Activity Limitation Survey

\* The sum of the values for each category may differ from the total due to rounding.

All numbers are rounded to the nearest whole number.

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

Missing values are excluded.

**Table 1.4: Distribution of adults with severe disability by age group and sex – reference year 2006**

Age Group	Women		Men		Total*	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
15 to 24	19,334	1.7%	18,637	1.7%	37,971	3.4%
25 to 54	213,443	19.2%	162,525	14.7%	375,968	33.9%
55 to 64	132,447	11.9%	106,432	9.6%	238,879	21.5%
65+	283,507	25.6%	172,893	15.6%	456,400	41.2%
<b>Total*</b>	<b>648,731</b>	<b>58.5%</b>	<b>460,486</b>	<b>41.5%</b>	<b>1,109,217</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Source: 2006 Participation and Activity Limitation Survey

\* The sum of the values for each category may differ from the total due to rounding.

All numbers are rounded to the nearest whole number.

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

Missing values are excluded.

**Table 1.5: Distribution of adults with very severe disability by age group and sex – reference year 2006**

Age Group	Women		Men		Total*	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
15 to 24	8,331	1.5%	11,462	2.0%	19,793	3.5%
25 to 54	112,516	19.8%	87,903	15.5%	200,419	35.3%
55 to 64	59,683	10.5%	44,362 <sup>E</sup>	7.8 <sup>E</sup>	104,044	18.3%
65+	149,787	26.4%	94,174	16.6%	243,961	42.9%
<b>Total*</b>	<b>330,316</b>	<b>58.1%</b>	<b>237,901</b>	<b>41.9%</b>	<b>568,218</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Source: 2006 Participation and Activity Limitation Survey

\* The sum of the values for each category may differ from the total due to rounding.

<sup>E</sup> Use with caution.

All numbers are rounded to the nearest whole number.

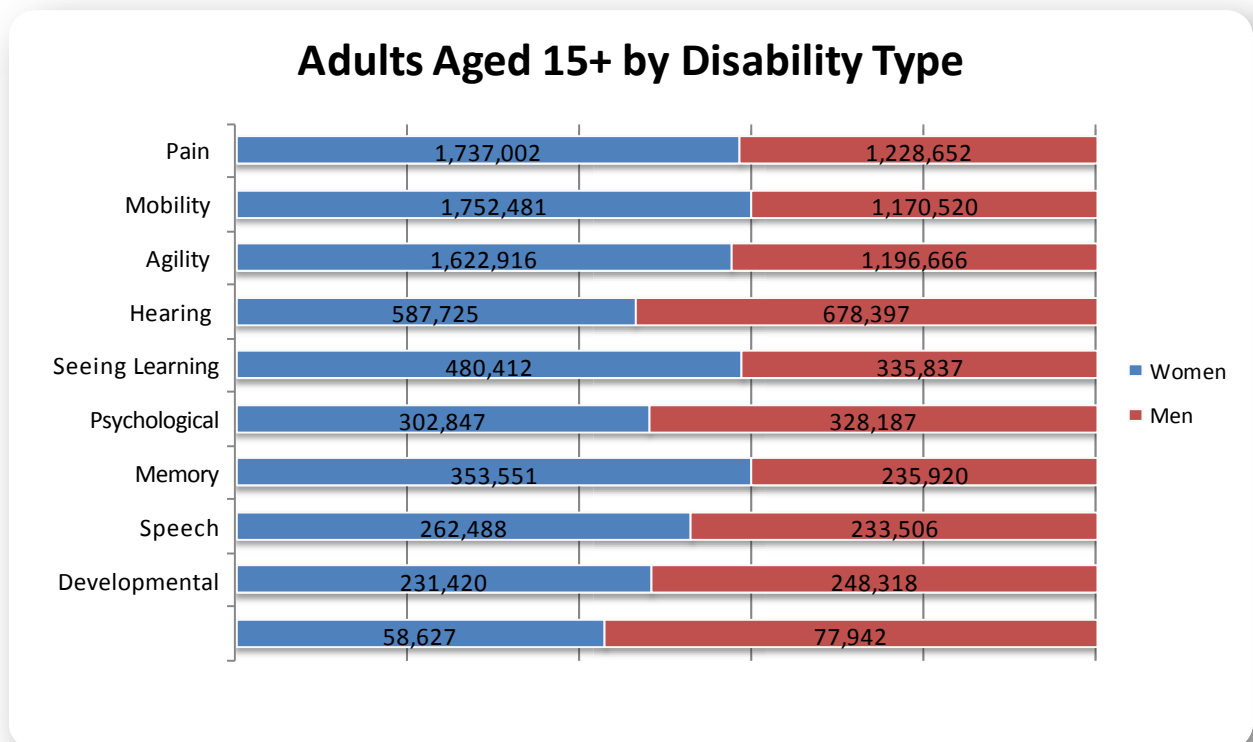
All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

Missing values are excluded.

### 3) Type and Severity of Disability

There are 10 types of disabilities identified in the 2006 Participation and Activity Limitation Survey: pain, mobility, agility, hearing, seeing, learning, psychological, memory, speech, and developmental. Respondents could report more than one type of disability.

**Chart 1.1: Number of adults by type of disability and sex**



Source: 2006 Participation and Activity Limitation Survey  
All numbers are rounded to the nearest whole number  
Missing values are excluded

## a) Pain-Related Disabilities

The 2006 Participation and Activity Limitation Survey defines pain-related disability as one that limits the amount or kind of activities that an individual can do because of long-term pain that is constant or re-occurring, such as recurrent back pain<sup>12</sup>.

**Table 1.6: Distribution of women with pain-related disabilities by age group and severity of disability**

Age Group	Less Severe		More Severe		Total*	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
15 to 24	46,365	2.7%	10,219	0.6%	56,584	3.3%
25 to 54	379,558	21.9%	241,524	13.9%	621,083	35.8%
55 to 64	229,604	13.2%	124,922	7.2%	354,527	20.4%
65+	473,011	27.2%	231,797	13.3%	704,808	40.6%
<b>Total*</b>	<b>1,128,539</b>	<b>65.0%</b>	<b>608,463</b>	<b>35.0%</b>	<b>1,737,002</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Source: 2006 Participation and Activity Limitation Survey

\* The sum of the values for each category may differ from the total due to rounding.

All numbers are rounded to the nearest whole number.

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

Missing values are excluded.

**Table 1.7: Distribution of men with pain-related disabilities by age group and severity of disability**

Age Group	Less Severe		More Severe		Total*	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
15 to 24	32,921	2.7%	8,557	0.7%	41,478	3.4%
25 to 54	302,580	24.6%	183,971	15.0%	486,552	39.6%
55 to 64	165,433	13.5%	104,222	8.5%	269,655	21.9%
65+	294,737	24.0%	136,230	11.1%	430,967	35.1%
<b>Total*</b>	<b>795,672</b>	<b>64.8%</b>	<b>432,980</b>	<b>35.2%</b>	<b>1,228,652</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Source: 2006 Participation and Activity Limitation Survey

\* The sum of the values for each category may differ from the total due to rounding.

All numbers are rounded to the nearest whole number.

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

Missing values are excluded.

<sup>12</sup> Statistics Canada (2006), Participation and Activity Limitation Survey 2006: Analytical Report, Social and Aboriginal Statistics Division, Ottawa, Canada, Catalogue no. 89-628-XIE — No. 002, Page 30.

## b) Mobility-Related Disabilities

The 2006 Participation and Activity Limitation Survey defines mobility-related disabilities as “difficulty walking half a kilometer or up and down a flight of stairs (about 12 steps without resting), moving from one room to another, carrying an object of 5 kg (10 pounds) for 10 meters (30 feet) or standing for long periods.”<sup>13</sup>

**Table 1.8: Distribution of women with mobility-related disabilities by age group and severity of disability**

Age Group	Less Severe		More Severe		Total*	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
15 to 24	36,516	2.1%	4,354	0.2%	40,870	2.3%
25 to 54	419,829	24.0%	100,065	5.7%	519,894	29.7%
55 to 64	269,976	15.4%	85,383	4.9%	355,359	20.3%
65+	565,967	32.3%	270,390	15.4%	836,357	47.7%
<b>Total*</b>	<b>1,292,289</b>	<b>73.7%</b>	<b>460,193</b>	<b>26.3%</b>	<b>1,752,481</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Source: 2006 Participation and Activity Limitation Survey

\* The sum of the values for each category may differ from the total due to rounding.

All numbers are rounded to the nearest whole number.

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

Missing values are excluded.

**Table 1.9: Distribution of men with mobility-related disabilities by age group and severity of disability**

Age Group	Less Severe		More Severe		Total*	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
15 to 24	32,739	2.8%	4,374	0.4%	37,113	3.2%
25 to 54	314,377	26.9%	63,742	5.4%	378,119	32.3%
55 to 64	205,537	17.6%	43,881	3.7%	249,418	21.3%
65+	365,746	31.2%	140,123	12.0%	505,869	43.2%
<b>Total*</b>	<b>918,399</b>	<b>78.5%</b>	<b>252,121</b>	<b>21.5%</b>	<b>1,170,520</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Source: 2006 Participation and Activity Limitation Survey

\* The sum of the values for each category may differ from the total due to rounding.

All numbers are rounded to the nearest whole number.

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

Missing values are excluded.

<sup>13</sup> Ibid

### c) Agility-Related Disabilities

The 2006 Participation and Activity Limitation Survey defines agility related disabilities as “difficulty when bending, dressing and undressing oneself, getting into or out of bed, cutting own toenails, using fingers to grasp or handling objects, reaching in any direction (for example, above one’s head) or cutting own food.”<sup>14</sup>

**Table 1.10: Distribution of women with agility-related disabilities by age group and severity of disability**

Age Group	Less Severe		More Severe		Total*	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
15 to 24	30,717	1.9%	1,792 <sup>E</sup>	0.1 <sup>E</sup>	32,510	2.0%
25 to 54	463,414	28.6%	23,258	1.4%	486,672	30.0%
55 to 64	311,626	19.2%	22,193 <sup>E</sup>	1.4 <sup>E</sup>	333,819	20.6%
65+	710,768	43.8%	59,147	3.6%	769,915	47.4%
<b>Total*</b>	<b>1,516,525</b>	<b>93.4%</b>	<b>106,391</b>	<b>6.6%</b>	<b>1,622,916</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Source: 2006 Participation and Activity Limitation Survey

\* The sum of the values for each category may differ from the total due to rounding.

<sup>E</sup> Use with caution.

All numbers are rounded to the nearest whole number.

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

Missing values are excluded.

**Table 1.11: Distribution of men with agility-related disabilities by age group and severity of disability**

Age Group	Less Severe		More Severe		Total*	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
15 to 24	28,411	2.4%	3,256 <sup>E</sup>	0.3 <sup>E</sup>	31,666	2.6%
25 to 54	374,922	31.3%	22,076 <sup>E</sup>	1.8 <sup>E</sup>	396,998	33.2%
55 to 64	245,128	20.5%	10,934 <sup>E</sup>	0.9 <sup>E</sup>	256,063	21.4%
65+	472,766	39.5%	39,173	3.3%	511,939	42.8%
<b>Total*</b>	<b>1,121,228</b>	<b>93.7%</b>	<b>75,439</b>	<b>6.3%</b>	<b>1,196,666</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Source: 2006 Participation and Activity Limitation Survey

\* The sum of the values for each category may differ from the total due to rounding.

<sup>E</sup> Use with caution.

All numbers are rounded to the nearest whole number.

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

Missing values are excluded.

<sup>14</sup> Ibid

## d) Hearing Disabilities

The 2006 Participation and Activity Limitation Survey defines hearing disability as “difficulty hearing what is being said in a conversation with one other person, in a conversation with three or more persons, or in a telephone conversation.”<sup>15</sup>

**Table 1.12: Distribution of women with hearing disabilities by age group and severity of disability**

Age Group	Less Severe		More Severe		Total*	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
15 to 24	8,625	1.5%	1,460 <sup>E</sup>	0.3 <sup>E</sup>	10,085	1.8%
25 to 54	109,757	18.7%	23,435 <sup>E</sup>	4.0 <sup>E</sup>	133,192	22.7%
55 to 64	80,855	13.8%	10,199 <sup>E</sup>	1.7 <sup>E</sup>	91,054	15.5%
65+	288,526	49.1%	64,869	11.0%	353,395	60.1%
<b>Total*</b>	<b>487,763</b>	<b>83.0%</b>	<b>99,962</b>	<b>17.0%</b>	<b>587,725</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Source: 2006 Participation and Activity Limitation Survey

\* The sum of the values for each category may differ from the total due to rounding.

<sup>E</sup> Use with caution.

All numbers are rounded to the nearest whole number.

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

Missing values are excluded.

**Table 1.13: Distribution of men with hearing disabilities by age group and severity of disability**

Age Group	Less Severe		More Severe		Total*	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
15 to 24	9,543	1.4%	2,180 <sup>E</sup>	0.3% <sup>E</sup>	11,723	1.7%
25 to 54	134,176	19.8%	10,522 <sup>E</sup>	1.6% <sup>E</sup>	144,698	21.3%
55 to 64	120,434	17.8%	19,638 <sup>E</sup>	2.9% <sup>E</sup>	140,072	20.7%
65+	301,790	44.5%	80,114	11.8%	381,904	56.3%
<b>Total*</b>	<b>565,943</b>	<b>83.4%</b>	<b>112,454</b>	<b>16.6%</b>	<b>678,397</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Source: 2006 Participation and Activity Limitation Survey

\* The sum of the values for each category may differ from the total due to rounding.

<sup>E</sup> Use with caution.

All numbers are rounded to the nearest whole number.

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

Missing values are excluded.

<sup>15</sup> Ibid



## e) Seeing Disabilities

The 2006 Participation and Activity Limitation Survey defines seeing disabilities as “difficulty seeing ordinary newsprint or clearly seeing someone’s face from 4 meters away (12 feet).”<sup>16</sup>

**Table 1.14: Distribution of women with seeing disabilities by age group and severity of disability**

Age Group	Less Severe		More Severe		Total*	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
15 to 24	11,161	2.3%	1,639 <sup>E</sup>	0.3 <sup>E</sup>	12,800	2.7%
25 to 54	134,370	28.0%	23,507	4.9%	157,878	32.9%
55 to 64	66,742	13.9%	15,280 <sup>E</sup>	3.2 <sup>E</sup>	82,022	17.1%
65+	163,695	34.1%	64,017	13.3%	227,712	47.4%
<b>Total*</b>	<b>375,969</b>	<b>78.3%</b>	<b>104,443</b>	<b>21.7%</b>	<b>480,412</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Source: 2006 Participation and Activity Limitation Survey

\* The sum of the values for each category may differ from the total due to rounding.

<sup>E</sup> Use with caution.

All numbers are rounded to the nearest whole number.

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

Missing values are excluded.

**Table 1.15: Distribution of men with seeing disabilities by age group and severity of disability**

Age Group	Less Severe		More Severe		Total*	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
15 to 24	7,711	2.3%	2,138 <sup>E</sup>	0.6 <sup>E</sup>	9,849	2.9%
25 to 54	96,675	28.8%	23,777 <sup>E</sup>	7.1 <sup>E</sup>	120,452	35.9%
55 to 64	52,250	15.6%	13,264 <sup>E</sup>	4.0 <sup>E</sup>	65,514	19.5%
65+	108,316	32.3%	31,706 <sup>E</sup>	9.4 <sup>E</sup>	140,022	41.7%
<b>Total*</b>	<b>264,952</b>	<b>78.9%</b>	<b>70,885</b>	<b>21.1%</b>	<b>335,837</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Source: 2006 Participation and Activity Limitation Survey

\* The sum of the values for each category may differ from the total due to rounding.

<sup>E</sup> Use with caution.

All numbers are rounded to the nearest whole number.

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

Missing values are excluded.

<sup>16</sup> Ibid

## f) Learning Disabilities

The 2006 Participation and Activity Limitation Survey defines learning disabilities as “difficulty learning because of a condition, such as attention problems, hyperactivity or dyslexia, whether or not the condition was diagnosed by a teacher, doctor or other health professional.”<sup>17</sup>

**Table 1.16: Distribution of women with learning disabilities by age group and severity of disability**

Age Group	Less Severe		More Severe		Total*	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
15 to 24	33,496	11.1%	7,080	2.3%	40,575	13.4%
25 to 54	114,006	37.6%	35,203	11.6%	149,209	49.3%
55 to 64	48,491	16.0%	8,637 <sup>E</sup>	2.9 <sup>E</sup>	57,128	18.9%
65+	35,269	11.6%	20,666 <sup>E</sup>	6.8 <sup>E</sup>	55,935	18.5%
<b>Total*</b>	<b>231,261</b>	<b>76.4%</b>	<b>71,586</b>	<b>23.6%</b>	<b>302,847</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Source: 2006 Participation and Activity Limitation Survey

\* The sum of the values for each category may differ from the total due to rounding.

<sup>E</sup> Use with caution.

All numbers are rounded to the nearest whole number.

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

Missing values are excluded.

**Table 1.17: Distribution of men with learning disabilities by age group and severity of disability**

Age Group	Less Severe		More Severe		Total*	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
15 to 24	50,428	15.4%	11,672	3.6%	62,100	18.9%
25 to 54	130,837	39.9%	36,106	11.0%	166,943	50.9%
55 to 64	44,959	13.7%	9,459 <sup>E</sup>	2.9 <sup>E</sup>	54,419	16.6%
65+	31,901	9.7%	12,824 <sup>E</sup>	3.9 <sup>E</sup>	44,725	13.6%
<b>Total*</b>	<b>258,126</b>	<b>78.7%</b>	<b>70,061</b>	<b>21.3%</b>	<b>328,187</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Source: 2006 Participation and Activity Limitation Survey

\* The sum of the values for each category may differ from the total due to rounding.

<sup>E</sup> Use with caution.

All numbers are rounded to the nearest whole number.

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

Missing values are excluded.

<sup>17</sup> Ibid

## g) Psychological Disabilities

The 2006 Participation and Activity Limitation Survey defines psychological disabilities as limitations in the amount or kind of activities that an individual can do due to the presence of an emotional, psychological or psychiatric condition, such as phobias, depression, schizophrenia, or addiction problems.<sup>18</sup>

**Table 1.18: Distribution of women with psychological disabilities by age group and severity of disability**

Age Group	Less Severe		More Severe		Total*	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
15 to 24	14,835	4.2%	8,569	2.4%	23,404	6.6%
25 to 54	132,429	37.5%	80,296	22.7%	212,725	60.2%
55 to 64	43,196	12.2%	24,119 <sup>E</sup>	6.8 <sup>E</sup>	67,314	19.0%
65+	30,412	8.6%	19,695 <sup>E</sup>	5.6 <sup>E</sup>	50,107	14.2%
<b>Total*</b>	<b>220,872</b>	<b>62.5%</b>	<b>132,679</b>	<b>37.5%</b>	<b>353,551</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Source: 2006 Participation and Activity Limitation Survey

\* The sum of the values for each category may differ from the total due to rounding.

<sup>E</sup> Use with caution.

All numbers are rounded to the nearest whole number.

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

Missing values are excluded.

**Table 1.19: Distribution of men with psychological disabilities by age group and severity of disability**

Age Group	Less Severe		More Severe		Total*	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
15 to 24	14,740	6.2%	6,760	2.9%	21,500	9.1%
25 to 54	84,213	35.7%	42,857	18.2%	127,070	53.9%
55 to 64	37,168	15.8%	F	F	53,614	22.7%
65+	25,093	10.6%	8,644 <sup>E</sup>	3.7 <sup>E</sup>	33,736	14.3%
<b>Total*</b>	<b>161,213</b>	<b>68.3%</b>	<b>74,707</b>	<b>31.7%</b>	<b>235,920</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Source: 2006 Participation and Activity Limitation Survey

\* The sum of the values for each category may differ from the total due to rounding.

<sup>E</sup> Use with caution.

<sup>F</sup> Too unreliable to be published.

All numbers are rounded to the nearest whole number.

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

Missing values are excluded.

<sup>18</sup> Ibid

## h) Memory-Related Disabilities

The 2006 Participation and Activity Limitation Survey defines memory-related disabilities as limitations in the amount or kind of activities that an individual can do “due to frequent periods of confusion or difficulty remembering things. These difficulties may be associated with Alzheimer’s disease, brain injuries or other similar conditions”.<sup>19</sup>

**Table 1.20: Distribution of women with memory-related disabilities by age group and severity of disability**

Age Group	Less Severe		More Severe		Total*	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
15 to 24	12,485	4.8%	3,950 <sup>E</sup>	1.5 <sup>E</sup>	16,435	6.3%
25 to 54	76,562	29.2%	27,169 <sup>E</sup>	10.4%	103,731	39.5%
55 to 64	38,125 <sup>E</sup>	14.5 <sup>E</sup>	10,089 <sup>E</sup>	3.8 <sup>E</sup>	48,214	18.4%
65+	57,435	21.9%	36,674 <sup>E</sup>	14.0 <sup>E</sup>	94,109	35.9%
<b>Total*</b>	<b>184,607</b>	<b>70.3%</b>	<b>77,881</b>	<b>29.7%</b>	<b>262,488</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Source: 2006 Participation and Activity Limitation Survey

\* The sum of the values for each category may differ from the total due to rounding.

<sup>E</sup> Use with caution.

All numbers are rounded to the nearest whole number.

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

Missing values are excluded.

**Table 1.21: Distribution of men with memory-related disabilities by age group and severity of disability**

Age Group	Less Severe		More Severe		Total*	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
15 to 24	12,762	5.5%	8,851	3.8%	21,612	9.3%
25 to 54	64,010	27.4%	28,447	12.2%	92,457	39.6%
55 to 64	24,726	10.6%	13,758 <sup>E</sup>	5.9 <sup>E</sup>	38,484	16.5%
65+	55,057	23.6%	25,896	11.1%	80,953	34.7%
<b>Total*</b>	<b>156,554</b>	<b>67.0%</b>	<b>76,952</b>	<b>33.0%</b>	<b>233,506</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Source: 2006 Participation and Activity Limitation Survey

\* The sum of the values for each category may differ from the total due to rounding.

<sup>E</sup> Use with caution.

All numbers are rounded to the nearest whole number.

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

Missing values are excluded.

<sup>19</sup> Ibid

## i) Speech-Related Disabilities

The 2006 Participation and Activity Limitation Survey defines speech-related disabilities as “difficulty speaking and/or being understood”.<sup>20</sup>

**Table 1.22: Distribution of women with speech-related disabilities by age group and severity of disability**

Age Group	Less Severe		More Severe		Total*	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
15 to 24	12,705	5.5%	9,146	4.0%	21,852	9.4%
25 to 54	79,256	34.3%	24,612	10.6%	103,868	44.9%
55 to 64	27,825	12.0%	9,498	4.1%	37,323	16.1%
65+	52,425	22.7%	15,953	6.9%	68,378	29.6%
<b>Total*</b>	<b>172,210</b>	<b>74.4%</b>	<b>59,210</b>	<b>25.6%</b>	<b>231,420</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Source: 2006 Participation and Activity Limitation Survey

\* The sum of the values for each category may differ from the total due to rounding.

All numbers are rounded to the nearest whole number.

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

Missing values are excluded.

**Table 1.23: Distribution of men with speech-related disabilities by age group and severity of disability**

Age Group	Less Severe		More Severe		Total*	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
15 to 24	19,499	7.9%	11,269	4.5%	30,768	12.4%
25 to 54	72,210	29.1%	26,940	10.9%	99,150	39.9%
55 to 64	27,872	11.2%	15,514	6.3%	43,386	17.5%
65+	52,692	21.2%	22,323	9.0%	75,014	30.2%
<b>Total*</b>	<b>172,274</b>	<b>69.4%</b>	<b>76,045</b>	<b>30.6%</b>	<b>248,318</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Source: 2006 Participation and Activity Limitation Survey

\* The sum of the values for each category may differ from the total due to rounding.

All numbers are rounded to the nearest whole number.

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

Missing values are excluded.

<sup>20</sup> Ibid

## j) Developmental-Related Disabilities

The 2006 Participation and Activity Limitation Survey defines developmental-related disabilities as “cognitive limitations due to an intellectual disability or developmental disorder such as Down’s syndrome, autism or an intellectual disability caused by a lack of oxygen at birth.”<sup>21</sup>

**Table 1.23: Distribution of adults aged 15+ with developmental-related disabilities by sex and severity of disability**

Age Group	Less Severe		More Severe		Total*	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Women	37,360	27.4%	21,267	15.6%	58,627	42.9%
Men	48,002	35.2%	29,940	21.9%	77,942	57.1%
<b>Total*</b>	<b>85,362</b>	<b>62.5%</b>	<b>51,206</b>	<b>37.5%</b>	<b>136,569</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Source: 2006 Participation and Activity Limitation Survey

\* The sum of the values for each category may differ from the total due to rounding.

All numbers are rounded to the nearest whole number.

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

Missing values are excluded.

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<sup>21</sup> Ibid

## CHAPTER 2: ECONOMIC WELL-BEING

The right to fair remuneration, equal pay for work of equal value, social security and an adequate standard of living are provided for in the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR, articles 6-11). These rights are also provided for in the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD, articles 27 and 28).

This chapter gives a portrait of the economic well-being of people with and without disabilities.<sup>22</sup> Four indicators are used:

- 1) median household after-tax income;<sup>23</sup>
- 2) share of the total household after-tax income;
- 3) low income; and
- 4) net worth.

With the exception of net worth, all data on income is presented using the total after-tax income of individuals.<sup>24</sup>

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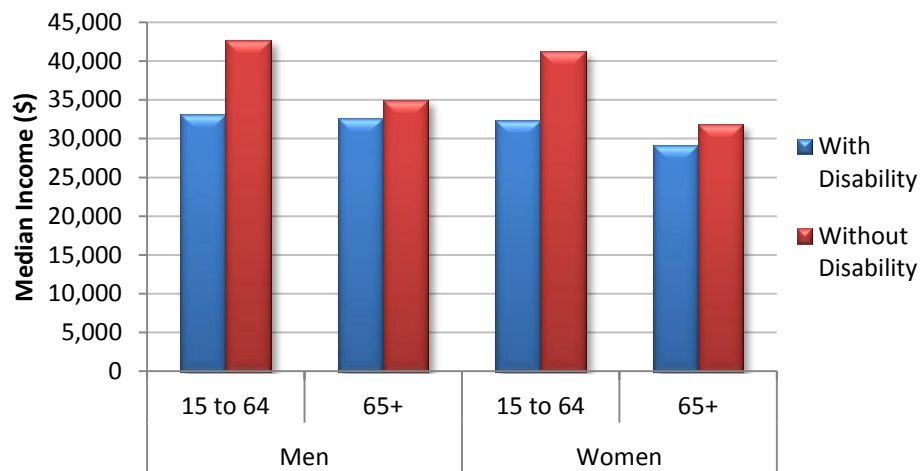
<sup>22</sup> Most of the data used for longitudinal analysis is extracted from the 5th panel (2006-2009) of the Survey of Labour and Income Dynamics (SLID). Cross-sectional analysis was carried out using data specific to the reference year 2009. Data on the share of wealth comes from the 2005 Survey of Financial Security (SFS).

<sup>23</sup> Income for this purpose refers to the sum of one's market income and government transfers.

<sup>24</sup> Statistics Canada recommends the use of after-tax income for two reasons: first, after-tax income reflects the entire "...redistributive impact of Canada's tax/transfer system, by including the effect of transfers and the effect of income taxes"; and secondly, "...since the purchase of necessities is made with after-tax dollars...", after-tax income can be used to draw more precise conclusions about the overall economic well-being of individuals: Giles, Philip, Low-Income Measurement in Canada, Statistics Canada's Income Research Paper Series, Income Statistics Division, Catalogue no. 75F0002MIE – No. 011, 2004, 20p.

## Indicator One: Median Household After-Tax Income

Chart 2.1: Median household after-tax income<sup>25</sup> by age group, sex and disability status – reference year 2009



Source: 2005-2009 Survey of Labour and Income Dynamics

Missing values are excluded.

If not mentioned otherwise, all comparisons are statistically significant at 0.05.

All numbers are rounded to the nearest whole number.

In general, adults with disabilities have a lower median household after-tax income than adults without disabilities. More specifically, the median income for women with disabilities aged 15 to 64 is \$8,853 less than it is for women without disabilities. For men with disabilities, the median income is \$9,557 less than it is for men without disabilities in the same age group.

<sup>25</sup> The median income is the mid-point where, by definition, half of the population falls above the median line and half falls below. The median income measure was chosen over the commonly used average/mean income, in part because median income provides better information about the distribution of income in the population.



**Table 2.1: Median household after-tax income for men by quintile<sup>26</sup>, disability status and age group - reference year 2009**

Quintile	Men with Disabilities		Men without Disabilities		Difference	
	Age 15 to 64	Age 65+	Age 15 to 64	Age 65+	Age 15 to 64	Age 65+
Lowest 20%	\$12,224	\$19,159	\$18,656	\$19,834	\$6,432	\$675
Second 20%	\$22,901	\$25,014	\$31,816	\$26,852	\$8,915	\$1,838
Third 20%	\$33,187	\$32,695	\$42,749	\$34,979	\$9,562	\$2,284
Fourth 20%	\$46,241	\$42,217	\$55,201	\$44,967	\$8,960	\$2,750
Highest 20%	\$67,497	\$60,560	\$79,297	\$64,729	\$11,800	\$4,169

Source: 2009 Survey of Labour and Income Dynamic

Amounts in the table are in dollars

All numbers are rounded to the nearest whole number.

Missing values are excluded.

Men with disabilities have a lower median household after-tax income than men without disabilities in all quintiles and in both age groups. The difference between the lowest and the highest quintile for men with disabilities aged 15 to 64 is \$55,273 as compared to \$60,641 for men without disabilities.

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<sup>26</sup> A quintile: the portion of a frequency distribution containing one fifth of the total sample.

**Table 2.2: Median household after-tax income for women by quintile, disability status and age group - reference year 2009**

Quintile	Women with Disabilities		Women without Disabilities		Difference	
	Age 15 to 64	Age 65+	Age 15 to 64	Age 65+	Age 15 to 64	Age 65+
Lowest 20%	\$12,398	\$17,310	\$18,870	\$17,996	\$6,472	\$686
Second 20%	\$21,818	\$22,122	\$30,648	\$23,656	\$8,830	\$1,534
Third 20%	\$32,364	\$29,182	\$41,225	\$31,882	\$8,861	\$2,700
Fourth 20%	\$44,754	\$39,278	\$53,158	\$41,995	\$8,404	\$2,717
Highest 20%	\$67,460	\$54,961	\$76,982	\$59,302	\$9,522	\$4,341

Source: 2009 Survey of Labour and Income Dynamic

Amounts in the table are in dollars.

All numbers are rounded to the nearest whole number.

Missing values are excluded.

Women with disabilities have a lower median household after-tax income than women without disabilities in all quintiles and in both age groups. The difference between the lowest and the highest quintile for women with disabilities aged 15 to 64 is \$55,062 as compared to \$58,112 for women without disabilities.

**Table 2.3: Median household after-tax income for adults with disabilities by quintile and age group - reference year 2009**

Quintile	Women with Disabilities		Men with Disabilities		Difference	
	Age 15 to 64	Age 65+	Age 15 to 64	Age 65+	Age 15 to 64	Age 65+
Lowest 20%	\$12,398	\$17,310	\$12,224	\$19,159	\$174	\$1,849
Second 20%	\$21,818	\$22,122	\$22,901	\$25,014	\$1,083	\$2,892
Third 20%	\$32,364	\$29,182	\$33,187	\$32,695	\$823	\$3,513
Fourth 20%	\$44,754	\$39,278	\$46,241	\$42,217	\$1,487	\$2,939
Highest 20%	\$67,460	\$54,961	\$67,497	\$60,560	\$37	\$5,599

Source: 2009 Survey of Labour and Income Dynamic  
Amounts in the table are in dollars.  
All numbers are rounded to the nearest whole number.  
Missing values are excluded.

In all quintiles of the 15 to 64 age group, there are only minor differences in median household after-tax income between women and men with disabilities. However, the differences are greater in the 65+ age group with women having a notable lower median income than men in all quintiles.

The difference between the lowest and the highest quintile is similar for both men and women in the 15 to 64 age group. However, in the 65+ age group, the difference is lower for women (i.e., \$37,651 for women and \$41,401 for men).

## Indicator Two: Share of the Total Household After-Tax Income

**Table 2.4: Proportionate share of the total household after-tax income of adults with disabilities by quintile, sex and age group – reference year 2009**

Quintile	Women with Disabilities		Men with Disabilities	
	Ages 15 to 64	Ages 65+	Ages 15 to 64	Ages 65+
Lowest 20%	6.0%	9.9%	5.8%	9.6%
Second 20%	11.4%	13.0%	11.8%	13.1%
Third 20%	16.9%	17.2%	17.3%	17.0%
Fourth 20%	23.5%	22.8%	23.9%	22.2%
Highest 20%	42.3%	37.1%	41.3%	38.1%
Total Income of Adults with Disabilities (\$ billions)	85.7	42.0	83.6	35.7

**Source:** 2009 Survey of Labour and Income Dynamic  
 All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.  
 All numbers are rounded to one decimal point.  
 Missing values are excluded.

**Table 2.5: Proportionate share of the total household after-tax income of adults without disabilities by quintile, sex and age group – reference year 2009**

Quintile	Women		Men	
	Ages 15 to 64	Ages 65+	Ages 15 to 64	Ages 65+
Lowest 20%	7.5%	9.2%	7.2%	9.4%
Second 20%	13.2%	12.6%	13.3%	13.3%
Third 20%	17.8%	16.7%	18.0%	17.3%
Fourth 20%	23.1%	22.2%	23.2%	22.5%
Highest 20%	38.4%	39.4%	38.3%	37.4%
Total Income of Adults without Disabilities (\$ billions)	321.3	35.9	331.6	31.9

**Source:** 2009 Survey of Labour and Income Dynamic

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

All numbers are rounded to one decimal point.

Missing values are excluded.

There are only minor differences between adults with and without disabilities across all quintiles and age groups in terms of their proportionate share of their respective total household after-tax incomes.

## Indicator Three: Low-income

Low-income is measured by:

- a) low-income status;
- b) average low-income gap ratio;
- c) persistent low-income status; and
- d) receipt of government transfers as the major source of income.

### a) Low-income Status

In this report, the 2009 SLID Low-Income Measure (LIM)<sup>27</sup> threshold of \$18,680 is used to identify those in low-income status.

**Table 2.6: Proportion of men in low-income status by age group and disability status – reference year 2009**

Age Group	Men with Disabilities		Men without Disabilities	
	Number	%	Number	%
15-64	963,636	31.2%	2,171,581	28.0%
65+	290,501	9.4%	210,881	2.7%
<b>Total*</b>	<b>1,254,136</b>	<b>40.6%</b>	<b>2,382,462</b>	<b>30.7%</b>

Source: 2009 Survey of Labour and Income Dynamics

\* The sum of the values for each category may differ from the total due to rounding.

All numbers are rounded to the nearest whole number.

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

Missing values are excluded.

Overall, the proportion of men with disabilities in low-income status is almost 10% higher than that of men without disabilities. The proportion of men with disabilities aged 65+ in low-income status is 6.7% higher than for men without disabilities.

<sup>27</sup> The LIM is a fixed percentage (50%) of the median adjusted household income. Reference: Statistics Canada, Low Income Lines, 2008-2009, Ottawa, Catalogue no. 75F0002M – No. 005, page 10.

**Table 2.7: Proportion of women in low-income status by age group and disability status – reference year 2009**

Age Group	Women with Disabilities		Women without Disabilities	
	Number	%	Number	%
15-64	1,029,345	29.7%	2,379,443	30.1%
65+	400,032	11.6%	268,027	3.4%
<b>Total*</b>	<b>1,429,377</b>	<b>41.3%</b>	<b>2,647,470</b>	<b>33.5%</b>

**Source:** 2009 Survey of Labour and Income Dynamics

\* The sum of the values for each category may differ from the total due to rounding.

All numbers are rounded to the nearest whole number.

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

Missing values are excluded.

Overall, the proportion of women with disabilities in low-income status is almost 8% higher than that of women without disabilities. The proportion of women with disabilities aged 65+ in low-income status is 8.2% higher than for women without disabilities.

**Table 2.8: Proportion of adults with disabilities in low-income status by age group and sex – reference year 2009**

Age Group	Women with Disabilities		Men with Disabilities	
	Number	%	Number	%
15-64	1,029,345	29.7%	963,636	31.2%
65+	400,032	11.6%	290,501	9.4%
<b>Total*</b>	<b>1,429,377</b>	<b>41.3%</b>	<b>1,254,136</b>	<b>40.6%</b>

**Source:** 2009 Survey of Labour and Income Dynamics

\* The sum of the values for each category may differ from the total due to rounding.

All numbers are rounded to the nearest whole number.

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

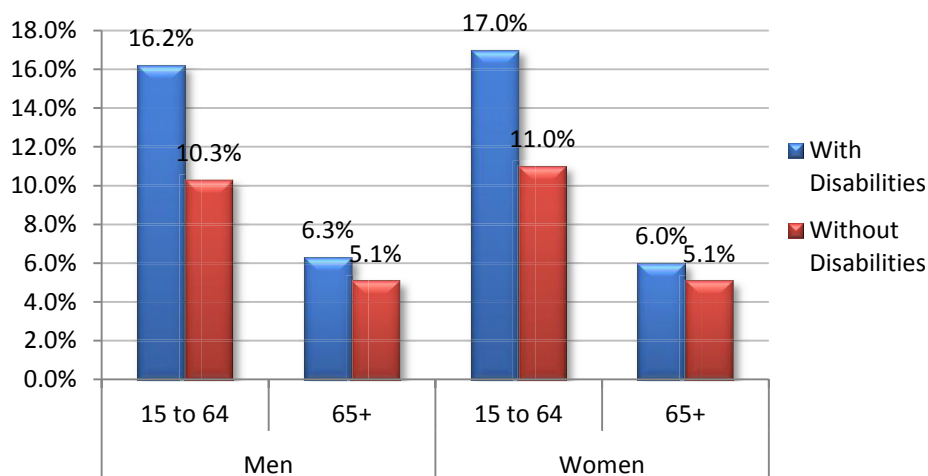
Missing values are excluded.

There are only minor differences between the proportion of women and men with disabilities in low-income status.

## b) Low-income Gap Ratio<sup>28</sup>

For this report, the SLID after-tax LIM threshold for 2009 (\$18,680) was used to calculate average low-income gap ratios.

**Chart 2.2: Average low-income gap ratios of adults by sex, age group and disability status—reference year 2009**



**Source:** 2009 Survey of Labour and Income Dynamics  
All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.  
Missing values are excluded.

Men with disabilities aged 15 to 64 in low-income status have, on average, an income that is 16.2% below the 2009 LIM threshold, compared to 10.3% for men without disabilities. A similar pattern is noted when comparing women with and without disabilities aged 15 to 64 (17.0% versus 11.0%). The differences are much less in the 65+ age group.

<sup>28</sup> The low-income gap is the difference between the LIM and actual household income. For example, if the LIM cut-off is \$20,000 and the income of a household is \$15,000, the low-income gap would be \$5,000. In order to calculate the low-income gap ratio for this household, we divide the gap by the LIM cut-off: \$5,000/\$20,000 = 25%. Therefore, the low-income gap ratio for this household would be 25%. In other words, the income of the household falls 25% below the LIM cut-off.



### c) Persistent Low-income Status

In this report, persistent low-income status is defined as having been in low-income status for four consecutive years (2006-2009).<sup>29</sup>

**Table 2.9: Proportion of adults in persistent low-income status by sex, age group and disability status—reference years 2005-2009**

Sex	Age Group	Adults without Disabilities	Disabled One Year	Disabled Two Years	Disabled Three Years	Disabled Four Years
Men	15-64	15.8%	16.8%	21.9%	24.3%	29.8%
	65+	15.4%	17.5%	15.7%	20.2%	21.0%
Women	15-64	18.8%	23.5%	21.3%	23.4%	31.7%
	65+	13.4%	21.1%	12.2%	23.1%	22.7%

**Source:** 2005-2009 Survey of Labour and Income Dynamics  
All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.  
Missing values are excluded.

Overall, a higher proportion of adults with disabilities are in persistent low-income status than were adults without disabilities. Furthermore, the proportion of adults with disabilities in persistent low-income status increases as the number of reported years with disabilities increases.

<sup>29</sup> Low income was determined through the Low-Income Measure (LIM) used in the Survey of Labour and Income Dynamics, which is a fixed percentage (50%) of median adjusted household income. Persistent low-income was calculated using the following formula:

$$\text{Proportion in Persistent low-income status} = \frac{\text{The number of people who experienced persistent low-income based on sex, age group and disability status}}{\text{The total number of people from the same characteristics above}} \times 100\%$$

## d) Receipt of Government Transfers as the Major Source of Income

**Table 2.10: Proportion of men who receive government transfers as their major source of income<sup>30</sup> by age group and disability status – reference year 2009**

Age Group	Men with Disabilities		Men without Disabilities	
	Number	%	Number	%
15-64	598,271	19.4%	441,037	5.7%
65+	542,230	17.6%	386,065	5.0%
<b>Total*</b>	<b>1,140,501</b>	<b>36.9%</b>	<b>827,102</b>	<b>10.7%</b>

**Source:** 2009 Survey of Labour and Income Dynamics

\* The sum of the values for each category may differ from the total due to rounding.

All numbers are rounded to the nearest whole number.

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

Missing values are excluded.

Regardless of age, a much higher proportion of men with disabilities receive government transfers as their major source of income than do men without disabilities.

<sup>30</sup> Government transfers include employment insurance, social assistance (welfare) as well as income-tested benefits such as the Guaranteed Income Supplement (GIS) and the Spousal Allowance, both linked to the Old Age Security (OAS) benefits.

**Table 2.11: Proportion of women who receive government transfers as their Major source of income by age group and disability status – reference year 2009**

Age Group	Women with Disabilities		Women without Disabilities	
	Number	%	Number	%
15-64	730,550	21.1%	1,079,707	13.7%
65+	925,915	26.8%	657,830	8.3%
<b>Total*</b>	<b>1,656,465</b>	<b>47.9%</b>	<b>1,737,538</b>	<b>22.0%</b>

**Source:** 2009 Survey of Labour and Income Dynamics

\* The sum of the values for each category may differ from the total due to rounding

All numbers are rounded to the nearest whole number.

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

Missing values are excluded.

Similar to the situation with men, a much higher proportion of women with disabilities receive government transfers as their major source of income than do women without disabilities.

**Table 2.12: Proportion of adults with disabilities who receive government transfers as their major source of income by age group and sex – reference year 2009**

Age Group	Women with Disabilities		Men with Disabilities	
	Number	%	Number	%
15-64	730,550	21.1%	598,271	19.4%
65+	925,915	26.8%	542,230	17.6%
<b>Total*</b>	<b>1,656,465</b>	<b>47.9%</b>	<b>1,140,501</b>	<b>36.9%</b>

**Source:** 2009 Survey of Labour and Income Dynamics

\* The sum of the values for each category may differ from the total due to rounding.

All numbers are rounded to the nearest whole number.

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

Missing values are excluded.

For adults with disabilities, the proportion of women who receive government transfers as their major source of income is 11% higher overall than that of men.

## **Indicator Four: Net Worth**

Two measures are used to document this indicator:

- a) median net worth<sup>31</sup>; and
- b) share of the total net worth.

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<sup>31</sup> The 2005 Survey of Financial Security (SFS) calculates “net worth” by adding all assets of a family and subtracting all debts. In other words, “a family’s net worth can be thought of as the amount of money they would have if they liquidated their assets and paid off all of their debts.” In addition, data from the SFS 2005 are collected per family unit and not per individual in the family: Pensions and Wealth Surveys Section (2006), “The Wealth of Canadian: An Overview of the Results of the Survey of Financial Security 2005”, Statistics Canada, Income Statistics Division, Ottawa, page 7.

## a) Median Net Worth

**Table 2.13: Median net worth of family units by quintile, disability status and sex of the major income earner – reference year 2005**

Quintile	Adult with Disabilities		Adult without Disabilities	
	Men as Major Income Earner	Women as Major Income Earner	Men as Major Income Earner	Women as Major Income Earner
Lowest 20%	X	X	2,900 <sup>E</sup>	X
Second 20%	38,700 <sup>E</sup>	21,000 <sup>**</sup>	60,100	20,000 <sup>**</sup>
Third 20%	173,500	126,000	189,900	97,000
Fourth 20%	362,500	296,100	427,500	256,400
Highest 20%	844,800	711,200 <sup>**</sup>	1,009,900	719,300 <sup>**</sup>
<b>Median Net Worth of All Family Units*</b>	173,900	126,000 <sup>**</sup>	190,400	97,000 <sup>**</sup>

**Source:** Statistics Canada, customize tabulation, 2005 Survey of Financial Security

\* The sum of the values for each category may differ from the total due to rounding.

<sup>E</sup> Use with caution.

Amounts in the table are in dollars and rounded to hundreds.

<sup>X</sup> Suppressed to meet the confidentiality requirements of the *Statistics Act* or because coefficient of variation is greater than 33.3.

Missing values are excluded.

<sup>\*\*</sup> Not statistically significant at 0.05.

For all quintiles, the median net worth of family units where the major income earner is a man with disabilities is lower than those where the major income earner is a man without disabilities. However, in the case of women, the median net worth of family units in the third and fourth quintiles is higher where the major income earner is a woman with disabilities.

In the case of adults with disabilities, family units where a woman is the major income earner have a consistently lower median net worth than those family units where the man is the major income earner.

## b) Share of the Total Net Worth

**Table 2.14: Proportionate share of the total net worth of family units by quintile, disability status and sex of major income earner – reference year 2005**

Quintile	Adults with Disabilities		Adults without Disabilities	
	Men as Major Income Earner	Women as Major Income Earner	Men as Major Income Earners	Women as Major Income Earner
Lowest 20%	X	X	0.1%	-0.4%
Second 20%	2.6%	1.6%**	3.1%	1.3%**
Third 20%	10.5%	8.4%	9.3%	6.0%
Fourth 20%	22.9%	21.4%	21.0%	16.7%
Highest 20%	64.3%	68.6%**	66.5%	76.3%**
<b>Total Net Worth of All Family Units (in billions)*</b>	681.3	444.8	2,536.0	1,200.2

**Source:** Statistics Canada, customize tabulation, 2005 Survey of Financial Security

\* The sum of the values for each category may differ from the total due to rounding.

<sup>x</sup> Suppressed to meet the confidentiality requirements of the *Statistics Act* or because coefficient of variation is greater than 33.3.

All numbers are rounded to one decimal point.

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

Missing values are excluded.

\*\* Not statistically significant at 0.05.

For men, their proportionate share of the total net worth is similar regardless of disability status and quintile. In the case of women, women with disabilities proportionately have a higher share of the total net worth than do women without disabilities in the second, third and fourth quintiles.

## CHAPTER 3: EMPLOYMENT

The right to work, the opportunity to earn a living, and the right to just and favourable work conditions are set out in articles 6 and 7 of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and in article 27 of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. In addition, the right to equal treatment at work is guaranteed in every human rights code in Canada. Employment is linked to higher levels of income and to some extent, a better quality of life. It provides the opportunity to interact with others and the tools for a more independent life. Employment is also an important indicator of inclusion.

This chapter examines the employment situation of adults with and without disabilities using the following four indicators<sup>32</sup>:

- 1) status in the labour force;
- 2) relationship between specialization and employment;
- 3) work-related benefits; and
- 4) discrimination experienced in employment.<sup>33</sup>

### Indicator One: Status in the Labour Force

Status in the labour force is measured by:

- a) whether a person has single or multiple status in the labour force during the reference year;
- b) type of employment:
  - i) permanent employment,
  - ii) non-permanent employment, and
  - iii) involuntary part-time employment; and
- c) chronic unemployment.

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<sup>32</sup> Data for this chapter comes from the 2009 Survey on Labour and Income Dynamics (SLID) and the 2006 Participation and Activity Limitation Survey (PALS).

<sup>33</sup>Two indicators proposed in the “Framework” were dropped during the development of this report: access to income support and employment equity. The former was dropped as data is unavailable. Data on employment equity for people with disabilities in the federally regulated sector can be found at the Canadian Human Rights Commission’s web site: <http://www.chrc-ccdp.gc.ca/default-eng.aspx>.

## a) Single or Multiple Status in the Labour Force

**Table 3.1: Adults with disabilities aged 15+ by sex and labour force status – reference year 2009**

Sex	Single Labour Force Status						Multiple Labour Force Status								Total*	
	Employed all Year		Unemployed <sup>34</sup> all Year		Not in Labour <sup>35</sup> Force all Year		Part-Year: Employed and Unemployed		Part-Year: Employed and Not in Labour Force		Part-Year: Unemployed and Not in Labour Force		Part-Year: Employed, Unemployed and Not in Labour Force			
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Men	1,153,550	23.2%	71,496	1.4%	809,684	16.3%	161,066	3.2%	87,539	1.8%	60,972	1.2%	75,361	1.5%	2,419,666	48.7%
Women	1,035,492	20.9%	45,286 <sup>E</sup>	0.9 <sup>E</sup>	1,072,946	21.6%	129,212	2.6%	120,227	2.4%	57,213	1.2%	85,381	1.7%	2,545,757	51.3%
Total*	2,189,042	44.1%	116,781	2.4%	1,882,630	37.9%	290,278	5.9%	207,766	4.2%	118,185	2.4%	160,742	3.2%	4,965,423	100.0%

Source: 2009 Survey of Labour and Income Dynamic

All numbers are rounded to the nearest whole number.

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

\* The sum of the values for each category may differ from the total due to rounding.

<sup>E</sup> Use with caution.

Missing values are excluded.

<sup>34</sup> Unemployed refers to persons who are without paid work or without self-employment work and were available for work and either:

- had actively looked for paid work in the past four weeks; or
- were on temporary lay-off and expected to return to their job; or
- had definite arrangements to start a new job in four weeks or less.

<sup>35</sup> Not in the labour force refer to persons who are neither employed nor unemployed.

Reference: Statistics Canada (2006), 2006 Census Dictionary, Ottawa, Catalogue no. 92-566-X, 640 p.



**Table 3.2: Adults without disabilities aged 15+ by sex and labour force status – reference year 2009**

Sex	Single Labour Force Status						Multiple Labour Force Status								Total*	
	Employed all Year		Unemployed all Year		Not in Labour Force all Year		Part-Year: Employed and Unemployed		Part-Year: Employed and Not in Labour Force		Part-Year: Unemployed and Not in Labour Force		Part-Year: Employed, Unemployed and Not in Labour Force			
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Men	4,867,817	33.4%	129,678	0.9%	712,669	4.9%	683,917	4.7%	395,128	2.7%	132,421	0.9%	351,687	2.4%	7,273,318	49.9%
Women	4,459,161	30.6%	76,314	0.5%	1,393,932	9.6%	426,900	2.9%	449,086	3.1%	149,889	1.0%	335,320	2.3%	7,290,602	50.1%
Total*	9,326,977	64.0%	205,992	1.4%	2,106,601	14.5%	1,110,817	7.6%	844,214	5.8%	282,310	1.9%	687,008	4.7%	14,560,000	100.0%

Source: 2009 Survey of Labour and Income Dynamic

All numbers are rounded to the nearest whole number.

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

\* The sum of the values for each category may differ from the total due to rounding.

<sup>E</sup> Use with caution.

Missing values are excluded.

Proportionately, 19.9% fewer adults with disabilities are employed all year than adults without disabilities. In addition, proportionately 23.4% more adults with disabilities are not in the labour force all year. However, there are only minor differences in the proportion of adults with and without disabilities in any of the multiple labour force status categories.

**Table 3.3: Proportion of adults with disabilities aged 15+ by sex and labour force status – reference year 2009**

Sex	Single Labour Force Status						Multiple Labour Force Status							
	Employed all Year		Unemployed all Year		Employed all Year		Unemployed all Year		Employed all Year		Unemployed all Year		Employed all Year	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Men	1,153,550	52.7%	71,496	61.2%	809,684	43.0%	161,066	55.5%	87,539	42.1%	60,972	51.6%	75,361	46.9%
Women	1,035,492	47.3%	45,286 <sup>E</sup>	38.8% <sup>E</sup>	1,072,946	57.0%	129,212	44.5%	120,227	57.9%	57,213	48.4%	85,381	53.1%

Source: 2009 Survey of Labour and Income Dynamic

All numbers are rounded to the nearest whole number.

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

<sup>E</sup> Use with caution.

Missing values are excluded.

When looking at adults with disabilities, the proportion of women who are unemployed all year is 22.4% lower than that of men. However, the proportion of women who are not in the labour force all year is 14% higher than that of men. With respect to those having multiple labour force status, women are proportionately less “employed and unemployed” than men but are proportionately more “employed and not in the labour force” than men.

## b) Type of Employment

Type of Employment is measured by:

- i) permanent employment;
- ii) non-permanent employment; and
- iii) involuntary part-time employment.

### i) Permanent Employment

**Table 3.4: Proportion of men holding permanent employment by age group and disability status – reference year 2009**

Age Group	Men with Disabilities		Men without Disabilities	
	Number	%	Number	%
15 to 24	77,707	6.8%	580,556	11.2%
25 to 54	622,175	54.6%	3,166,836	61.2%
55 to 64	212,198	18.6%	499,934	9.7%
65+	21,900 <sup>E</sup>	1.9 <sup>E</sup>	31,942	0.6%
<b>Total*</b>	<b>933,980</b>	<b>81.9%</b>	<b>4,279,268</b>	<b>82.7%</b>

Source: 2009 Survey of Labour and Income Dynamic

All numbers are rounded to the nearest whole number.

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

\* The sum of the values for each category may differ from the total due to rounding.

<sup>E</sup> Use with caution.

Missing values are excluded.

The proportion of men with and without disabilities holding permanent employment is similar overall. However, differences can be noted in terms of age. Proportionately, fewer men with disabilities hold permanent employment under age 55 than do men without disabilities. The reverse is true for those over age 55.

**Table 3.5: Proportion of women holding permanent employment by age group and disability status – reference year 2009**

Age Group	Women with Disabilities		Women without Disabilities	
	Number	%	Number	%
15 to 24	85,773	7.4%	591,548	11.8%
25 to 54	639,622	55.3%	3,044,787	60.7%
55 to 64	209,868	18.1%	477,254	9.5%
65+	19,183 <sup>E</sup>	1.7 <sup>E</sup>	36,982	0.7%
<b>Total*</b>	<b>954,447</b>	<b>82.5%</b>	<b>4,150,570</b>	<b>82.7%</b>

Source: 2009 Survey of Labour and Income Dynamic

All numbers are rounded to the nearest whole number.

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

\* The sum of the values for each category may differ from the total due to rounding.

<sup>E</sup> Use with caution.

Missing values are excluded.

The proportion of women with and without disabilities holding permanent employment is similar overall to the comparable results of men. However, differences can be noted in terms of age. Proportionately, fewer women with disabilities hold permanent employment under age 55 than do women without disabilities. The reverse is true for those over age 55.

**Table 3.6: Proportion of adults with disabilities holding permanent employment by age group and sex – reference year 2009**

Age Group	Men with Disabilities		Women with Disabilities	
	Number	%	Number	%
15 to 24	77,707	6.8%	85,773	7.4%
25 to 54	622,175	54.6%	639,622	55.3%
55 to 64	212,198	18.6%	209,868	18.10%
65+	21,900 <sup>E</sup>	1.9 <sup>E**</sup>	19,183 <sup>E</sup>	1.7 <sup>E**</sup>
<b>Total*</b>	<b>933,980</b>	<b>81.9%</b>	<b>954,447</b>	<b>82.5%</b>

Source: 2009 Survey of Labour and Income Dynamic

All numbers are rounded to the nearest whole number.

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

\* The sum of the values for each category may differ from the total due to rounding.

<sup>E</sup> Use with caution.

Missing values are excluded.

\*\* Comparison is not statistically significant at 0.05.

For adults with disabilities, there are no notable differences in the proportion of men and women holding permanent employment in all age groups.

## ii) Non-Permanent Employment

**Table 3.7: Adults with disabilities aged 15+ holding non-permanent employment by sex and type of employment – reference year 2009**

Sex	Seasonal Job		Temporary, Term, Contract or Employment Agency		Casual Job		Total*	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Men	61,622	15.8%	89,861	23.1%	47,911	12.3%	199,395	51.2%
Women	34,447	8.8%	100,158	25.7%	55,686	14.3%	190,290	48.8%
<b>Total*</b>	96,069	<b>24.7%</b>	190,019	<b>48.8%</b>	103,597	<b>26.6%</b>	389,685	<b>100.0%</b>

**Table 3.8: Adults without disabilities aged 15+ holding non-permanent employment by sex and type of employment – reference year 2009**

Sex	Seasonal Job		Temporary, Term, Contract or Employment Agency		Casual Job		Total*	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Men	286,277	16.8%	434,615	25.5%	146,100	8.6%	866,992	50.8%
Women	183,578	10.8%	424,452	24.9%	230,456	13.5%	838,487	49.2%
<b>Total*</b>	469,855	<b>27.6%</b>	859,067	<b>50.4%</b>	376,557	<b>22.1%</b>	1,705,479	<b>100.0%</b>

Source: 2009 Survey of Labour and Income Dynamic

All numbers are rounded to the nearest whole number.

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

\* The sum of the values for each category may differ from the total due to rounding.

Missing values are excluded.

Proportionately, there are only minor differences between adults with and without disabilities in each of the types of non-permanent employment.

**Table 3.9: Proportion of adults with disabilities aged 15+ holding non-permanent employment by sex and type of employment - reference year 2009**

Sex	Seasonal Job		Temporary, Term, Contract or Employment Agency		Casual Job		Total	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Men	61,622	30.9%	89,861	45.1%	47,911	24.0%	199,394	100.0%
Women	34,447	18.1%	100,158	52.6%	55,686	29.3%	190,291	100.0%

**Source: 2009 Survey of Labour and Income Dynamic**

All numbers are rounded to the nearest whole number.

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

Missing values are excluded.

If not mentioned otherwise, all comparisons are statistically significant at 0.05.

The proportion of women with disabilities who have a “seasonal job” is 12.2% lower than that of men with disabilities. In contrast, the proportions of women with disabilities who work in a “temporary, term, contract or employment agency” or a “casual job” are respectively 7.5% and 5.3% higher than that of men with disabilities.

### iii) Involuntary Part-Time Employment

#### 3.10: Men with disabilities who work part-time but want to work full-time by age group – reference year 2009

Age Group	Wants Full-Time Work		Does not Want Full-Time Work		Total*	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
15 to 24	34,905	10.0%	47,159	13.4%	82,064	23.4%
25 to 54	65,406	18.7%	101,153	28.8%	166,559	47.5%
55 to 64	28,500 <sup>E</sup>	8.1 <sup>E</sup>	49,006	14.0%	77,506	22.1%
65+	F	F	23,464 <sup>E</sup>	6.7 <sup>E</sup>	24,653 <sup>E</sup>	7.0 <sup>E</sup>
<b>Total*</b>	<b>130,000</b>	<b>37.1%</b>	<b>220,782</b>	<b>62.9%</b>	<b>350,783</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

#### 3.11 Men without disabilities who work part-time but want to work full-time by age group – reference year 2009

Age Group	Wants Full-Time Work		Does not Want Full-Time Work		Total*	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
15 to 24	150,571	10.4%	446,092	30.7%	596,663	41.1%
25 to 54	225,637	15.5%	441,340	30.4%	666,977	45.9%
55 to 64	34,274	2.4%	112,140	7.7%	146,414	10.1%
65+	F	F	38,169	2.6%	43,524	3.0%
<b>Total*</b>	<b>415,837</b>	<b>28.6%</b>	<b>1,037,741</b>	<b>71.4%</b>	<b>1,453,578</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Source: 2009 Survey of Labour and Income Dynamic

All numbers are rounded to the nearest whole number.

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

\* The sum of the values for each category may differ from the total due to rounding.

<sup>E</sup>

Use with caution.

<sup>F</sup>

Too unreliable to be published.

Missing values are excluded.

Overall, proportionately 8.5% more men with disabilities work part-time but want to work full-time than do men without disabilities. The largest difference is in the 55 to 64 age group where the proportion of men with disabilities is more than three times higher than that of men without disabilities (8.1% vs. 2.4%).

### 3.12: Women with disabilities who work part-time but want to work full-time by age group – reference year 2009

Age Group	Wants Full-Time Work		Does not Want Full-Time Work		Total*	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
15 to 24	32,154	5.1%	59,344	9.4%	91,498	14.5%
25 to 54	131,277	20.7%	232,269	36.7%	363,546	57.5%
55 to 64	31,425	5.0%	107,764	17.0%	139,189	22.0%
65+	F	F	31,016	4.9%	38,585	6.1%
<b>Total*</b>	<b>202,425</b>	<b>32.0%</b>	<b>430,393</b>	<b>68.0%</b>	<b>632,818</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

### 3.13: Women without disabilities who work part-time but want to work full-time by age group – reference year 2009

Age Group	Wants Full-Time Work		Does not Want Full-Time Work		Total*	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
15 to 24	179,604	7.4%	643,180	26.6%	822,783	34.0%
25 to 54	376,765	15.6%	906,856	37.5%	1,283,621	53.1%
55 to 64	52,985	2.2%	220,001	9.1%	272,985	11.3%
65+	F	F	32,284	1.3%	38,276	1.6%
<b>Total*</b>	<b>615,345</b>	<b>25.5%</b>	<b>1,802,320</b>	<b>74.6%</b>	<b>2,417,665</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Source: 2009 Survey of Labour and Income Dynamic

All numbers are rounded to the nearest whole number.

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

\* The sum of the values for each category may differ from the total due to rounding.

F Too unreliable to be published.

Missing values are excluded.

Overall, proportionately 6.5% more women with disabilities work part-time but want to work full-time than do women without disabilities. The largest difference is in the 25 to 64 age group where the proportion of women with disabilities who work part-time but want to work full-time was 20.7% compared to 15.6% for women without disabilities.



### 3.14: Proportion of adults with disabilities who work part-time but want to work full-time by age group and sex – reference year 2009

Age Group	Women		Men	
	Number	%	Number	%
15 to 24	32,154	5.1%	34,905	10.0%
25 to 54	131,277	20.7%	65,406	18.7%
55 to 64	31,425	5.0%	28,500 <sup>E</sup>	8.1 <sup>E</sup>
65+	F	F	F	F
<b>Total*</b>	<b>202,425</b>	<b>32.0%</b>	<b>130,000</b>	<b>37.1%</b>

Source: 2009 Survey of Labour and Income Dynamic

All numbers are rounded to the nearest whole number.

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

\* The sum of the values for each category may differ from the total due to rounding.

<sup>E</sup> Use with caution.

F Too unreliable to be published.

Missing values are excluded.

For adults with disabilities, proportionately 5.1% more men work part-time but want to work full-time than do women overall.

### 3.15: Percentage of adults with disabilities who work part-time but want to work full-time by age group and sex – reference year 2009

Age Group	Women with Disabilities		Men with Disabilities		Total*	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
15 to 24	32,154	10.0%	34,905	10.5%	67,059	20.5%
25 to 54	131,277	40.7%	65,406	19.7%	196,683	60.4%
55 to 64	31,425	9.7%	28,500 <sup>E</sup>	8.6% <sup>E</sup>	31,425	18.3%
65+	F	F	F	F	F	F
<b>Total*</b>	<b>202,425</b>	<b>62.7%</b>	<b>130,000</b>	<b>39.2%</b>	<b>332,425</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Source: 2009 Survey of Labour and Income Dynamic

All numbers are rounded to the nearest whole number.

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

\* The sum of the values for each category may differ from the total due to rounding.

F Too unreliable to be published.

Missing values are excluded.

Among adults with disabilities, a much higher percentage of women than men worked part-time but wanted to work full-time.

## c) Chronic Unemployment

The “chronically unemployed” are those with the most time spent in unemployment within a given period of time<sup>36</sup>.

**Table 3.16: Proportion of adults aged 15+ who are chronically unemployed by sex and disability status**

Sex	Adults With Disabilities			Adults Without Disabilities		
	Chronically Unemployed	%	Total Population	Chronically Unemployed	%	Total Population
Men	41,612	4.5%	932,714	98,597	2.5%	3,900,796
Women	57,645	5.8%	989,320	118,981	3.2%	3,713,513

Source: 2009 Survey of Labour and Income Dynamic  
 All numbers are rounded to the nearest whole number.  
 All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.  
 Missing values are excluded.

There are minor differences between the proportion of adults with disabilities and those without disabilities in terms of chronic unemployment. This is true for both women and men.

<sup>36</sup> In this report, the population under study is from the fifth panel (2005 to 2010) cohort of the Survey of Labour and Income Dynamics. The cohort was studied for five years by examining the employment status of respondents every week. The unemployed population consists of individuals who were in the labour market and experienced at least one spell of unemployment during the five years. For people that were employed, the percentages were calculated based on the accumulated unemployment weeks of individuals over the total weeks in the labour market. The percentages were then ordered from smallest to largest with the last decile (10%) in the sequence representing the population experiencing chronic unemployment. In other words, the chronically unemployed were considered to be the remaining 10% of unemployed individuals who had spent most of their time in unemployment. This last group represents an important disadvantaged segment of the unemployed cohort.

## Indicator Two: Relationship between Specialization and Employment

This indicator looks at the degree to which people self-reported being in occupations that were closely related to their educational specialization<sup>37</sup>.

### 3.17: Men with disabilities who report holding a job related to their specialization by age group and degree of “relatedness” – reference year 2009

Age Group	Closely Related		Somewhat Related		Not at all Related		Total*	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
15 to 24	27,111 <sup>E</sup>	1.9 <sup>E</sup>	14,430 <sup>E</sup>	1.0 <sup>E</sup>	81,757	5.8%	123,298	8.7%
25 to 54	331,851	23.4%	175,492	12.4%	413,686	29.1%	921,029	64.9%
55 to 64	130,601	9.2%	56,370	4.0%	173,161	12.2%	360,133	25.4%
65+	6,422 <sup>E</sup>	0.5 <sup>E</sup>	F	F	6,874 <sup>E</sup>	0.5 <sup>E</sup>	15,181 <sup>E</sup>	1.1 <sup>E</sup>
<b>Total*</b>	<b>495,986</b>	<b>34.9%</b>	<b>248,177</b>	<b>17.5%</b>	<b>675,478</b>	<b>47.6%</b>	<b>1,419,641</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

### 3.18: Men without disabilities who report holding a job related to their specialization by age group and degree of “relatedness” – reference year 2009

Age Group	Closely Related		Somewhat Related		Not at all Related		Total*	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
15 to 24	207,229	3.4%	126,720	2.1%	673,116	10.9%	1,007,065	16.3%
25 to 54	2,066,340	33.4%	704,247	11.4%	1,582,315	25.6%	4,352,902	70.3%
55 to 64	355,870	5.8%	136,598	2.2%	313,151	5.1%	805,620	13.0%
65+	13,430 <sup>E</sup>	0.2 <sup>E</sup>	F	F	12,586 <sup>E</sup>	0.2 <sup>E</sup>	28,543 <sup>E</sup>	0.5 <sup>E</sup>
<b>Total*</b>	<b>2,642,869</b>	<b>42.7%</b>	<b>970,093</b>	<b>15.7%</b>	<b>2,581,168</b>	<b>41.7%</b>	<b>6,194,130</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Source: 2009 Survey of Labour and Income Dynamic

All numbers are rounded to the nearest whole number.

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

\* The sum of the values for each category may differ from the total due to rounding.

<sup>E</sup> Use with caution.

F Too unreliable to be published.

Missing values are excluded.

Overall, proportionately fewer men with disabilities report that their job is “closely related” to their educational specialization than do men without disabilities.

<sup>37</sup> The Framework proposed reporting on the “recognition of foreign qualifications”. In this report, the indicator has been modified to “recognition of qualifications”. One measure has been retained.

### 3.19: Women with disabilities who report holding a job related to their specialization by age group and degree of “relatedness” – reference year 2009

Age Group	Closely Related		Somewhat Related		Not at all Related		Total*	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
15 to 24	36,440 <sup>E</sup>	2.7 <sup>E</sup>	17,321 <sup>E</sup>	1.3 <sup>E</sup>	71,363	5.4%	125,123	9.4%
25 to 54	364,534	27.4%	154,885	11.6%	362,024	27.2%	881,442	66.2%
55 to 64	114,116	8.6%	70,468	5.3%	125,607	9.4%	310,190	23.3%
65+	F	F	F	F	8,475 <sup>E</sup>	0.6 <sup>E</sup>	15,757 <sup>E</sup>	1.2 <sup>E</sup>
<b>Total*</b>	519,641	<b>39.0%</b>	245,403	<b>18.4%</b>	567,468	<b>42.6%</b>	1,332,512	<b>100.0%</b>

### 3.20: Women without disabilities who report holding a job related to their specialization by age group and degree of “relatedness” – reference year 2009

Age Groups	Closely Related		Somewhat Related		Not at all Related		Total*	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
15 to 24	198,691	3.6%	126,791	2.3%	654,394	11.7%	979,875	17.5%
25 to 54	1,902,410	34.0%	652,560	11.7%	1,357,964	24.2%	3,912,935	69.8%
55 to 64	302,701	5.4%	130,845	2.3%	255,826	4.6%	689,373	12.3%
65+	12,528	0.2%	F	F	5,287 <sup>E</sup>	0.1 <sup>E</sup>	20,348 <sup>E</sup>	0.4 <sup>E</sup>
<b>Total*</b>	2,416,331	<b>43.1%</b>	912,729	<b>16.3%</b>	2,273,472	<b>40.6%</b>	5,602,532	<b>100.0%</b>

Source: 2009 Survey of Labour and Income Dynamic

All numbers are rounded to the nearest whole number.

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

\* The sum of the values for each category may differ from the total due to rounding.

<sup>E</sup> Use with caution.

F Too unreliable to be published.

Missing values are excluded.

Proportionately, women with and without disabilities reported overall similar degrees of “relatedness” between their specialization and the job held.

**3.21: Men with disabilities who report holding a job related to their specialization by age group and degree of “relatedness” – reference year 2009**

Age Group	Closely Related		Somewhat Related		Not at all Related		Total*	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
15 to 24	27,111 <sup>E</sup>	1.9 <sup>E</sup>	14,430 <sup>E</sup>	1.0 <sup>E</sup>	81,757	5.8%	123,298	8.7%
25 to 54	331,851	23.4%	175,492	12.4%	413,686	29.1%	921,029	64.9%
55 to 64	130,601	9.2%	56,370	4.0%	173,161	12.2%	360,133	25.4%
65+	6,422 <sup>E</sup>	0.5 <sup>E</sup>	F	F	6,874 <sup>E</sup>	0.5 <sup>E</sup>	15,181 <sup>E</sup>	1.1 <sup>E</sup>
<b>Total*</b>	<b>495,986</b>	<b>34.9%</b>	<b>248,177</b>	<b>17.5%</b>	<b>675,478</b>	<b>47.6%</b>	<b>1,419,641</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

**3.22: Women with disabilities who report holding a job related to their specialization by age group and degree of “relatedness” – reference year 2009**

Age Group	Closely Related		Somewhat Related		Not at all Related		Total*	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
15 to 24	36,440 <sup>E</sup>	2.7 <sup>E</sup>	17,321 <sup>E</sup>	1.3 <sup>E</sup>	71,363	5.4%	125,123	9.4%
25 to 54	364,534	27.4%	154,885	11.6%	362,024	27.2%	881,442	66.2%
55 to 64	114,116	8.6%	70,468	5.3%	125,607	9.4%	310,190	23.3%
65+	F	F	F	F	8,475 <sup>E</sup>	0.6 <sup>E</sup>	15,757 <sup>E</sup>	1.2 <sup>E</sup>
<b>Total*</b>	<b>519,641</b>	<b>39.0%</b>	<b>245,403</b>	<b>18.4%</b>	<b>567,468</b>	<b>42.6%</b>	<b>1,332,512</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Source: 2009 Survey of Labour and Income Dynamic

All numbers are rounded to the nearest whole number.

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

\* The sum of the values for each category may differ from the total due to rounding.

<sup>E</sup> Use with caution.

F Too unreliable to be published.

Missing values are excluded.

Overall, men and women with disabilities proportionately report similar degrees of “relatedness” between their specialization and the job held.

## Indicator Three: Work-Related Benefits

This indicator is measured by the following:

- a) availability of employer-sponsored pension plans;
- b) availability of employer-sponsored life/disability insurance; and
- c) rate of union membership and/or coverage by a collective agreement.

### a) Employer-Sponsored Pension Plans

#### 3.23: Proportion of men who are covered by an employer-sponsored pension plan by age group and disability status – reference year 2009

Age Group	Men with Disabilities		Men without Disabilities	
	Number	%	Number	%
15 to 24	17,561 <sup>E</sup>	1.4 <sup>E</sup>	177,226	2.9%
25 to 54	356,360	27.8%	2,021,902	33.2%
55 to 64	132,046	10.3%	323,603	5.3%
65+	F	F	F	F
<b>Total*</b>	<b>509,500</b>	<b>39.7%</b>	<b>2,526,874</b>	<b>41.5%</b>

Source: 2009 Survey of Labour and Income Dynamic

All numbers are rounded to the nearest whole number.

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

\* The sum of the values for each category may differ from the total due to rounding.

<sup>E</sup> Use with caution.

<sup>F</sup> Too unreliable to be published.

Missing values are excluded.

Overall, the proportion of men with and without disabilities who are covered by an employer-sponsored pension plan is similar.

### 3.24: Proportion of women who are covered by an employer-sponsored pension plan by age group and disability status – reference year 2009

Age Group	Women with Disabilities		Women without Disabilities	
	Number	%	Number	%
15 to 24	14,405	1.1 <sup>E</sup>	143,530	2.4%
25 to 54	391,169	28.8%	1,885,471	31.3%
55 to 64	122,090	9.0%	286,577	4.8%
65+	F	F	7,825 <sup>E</sup>	0.1 <sup>E</sup>
<b>Total*</b>	<b>529,612</b>	<b>39.0%</b>	<b>2,323,403</b>	<b>38.6%</b>

Source: 2009 Survey of Labour and Income Dynamic

All numbers are rounded to the nearest whole number.

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

\* The sum of the values for each category may differ from the total due to rounding.

<sup>E</sup> Use with caution.

<sup>F</sup> Too unreliable to be published.

Missing values are excluded.

As is the situation with men, the proportion of women with and without disabilities who are covered by an employer-sponsored pension plan is similar.

**Table 3.25: Proportion of adults with disabilities who are covered by an employer-sponsored pension plan by age group and sex – reference year 2009**

Age Group	Women with Disabilities		Men with Disabilities	
	Number	%	Number	%
15 to 24	14,405	1.1 <sup>E</sup>	17,561 <sup>E</sup>	1.4 <sup>E</sup>
25 to 54	391,169	28.8%	356,360	27.8%
55 to 64	122,090	9.0%	132,046	10.3%
65+	F	F	F	F
<b>Total*</b>	<b>529,612</b>	<b>39.0%</b>	<b>509,500</b>	<b>39.7%</b>

Source: 2009 Survey of Labour and Income Dynamic

All numbers are rounded to the nearest whole number.

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

\* The sum of the values for each category may differ from the total due to rounding.

<sup>E</sup> Use with caution.

<sup>F</sup> Too unreliable to be published. CVs

Missing values are excluded.

There are no major differences in the proportion of women and men with disabilities who are covered by an employer-sponsored pension plan.

## b) Employer-Sponsored Life/Disability Insurance

### 3.26: Proportion of men who have access to employer-sponsored life/disability insurance by age group and disability status – reference year 2009

Age Group	Men with Disabilities		Men without Disabilities	
	Number	%	Number	%
15 to 24	23,992 <sup>E</sup>	1.8 <sup>E</sup>	231,429	3.7%
25 to 54	502,162	37.7%	2,674,981	42.8%
55 to 64	166,552	12.0%	398,950	6.4%
65+	13,982 <sup>E</sup>	1.1 <sup>E</sup>	15,832	0.3 <sup>E</sup>
<b>Total*</b>	<b>706,688</b>	<b>53.0%</b>	<b>3,321,192</b>	<b>53.2%</b>

Source: 2009 Survey of Labour and Income Dynamic

All numbers are rounded to the nearest whole number.

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

\* The sum of the values for each category may differ from the total due to rounding.

<sup>E</sup> Use with caution.

Missing values are excluded.

Overall, the proportion of men with and without disabilities who have access to employer-sponsored insurance is similar.



### 3.27: Proportion of women who have access to employer-sponsored life/disability insurance by age group and disability status – reference year 2009

Age Group	Women with Disabilities		Women without Disabilities	
	Number	%	Number	%
15 to 24	19,241 <sup>E</sup>	1.4 <sup>E</sup>	190,398	3.1%
25 to 54	468,225	33.4%	2,370,638	38.7%
55 to 64	144,120	10.3%**	322,253	5.3%**
65+	6,692 <sup>E</sup>	0.5 <sup>E</sup>	19,799 <sup>E</sup>	0.3 <sup>E</sup>
<b>Total*</b>	<b>638,278</b>	<b>45.6%</b>	<b>2,903,087</b>	<b>47.4%</b>

Source: 2009 Survey of Labour and Income Dynamic

All numbers are rounded to the nearest whole number.

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

\* The sum of the values for each category may differ from the total due to rounding.

<sup>E</sup> Use with caution.

Missing values are excluded.

\*\* Not statistically significant at 0.05 level.

As is the situation with men, the proportion of women with and without disabilities who have access to employer-sponsored insurance is similar.

### 3.28: Proportion of adults with disabilities who have access to employer-sponsored life/disability insurance by age group and sex – reference year 2009

Age Group	Women with Disabilities		Men with Disabilities	
	Number	%	Number	%
15 to 24	19,241 <sup>E</sup>	1.4 <sup>E</sup>	23,992 <sup>E</sup>	1.8 <sup>E</sup>
25 to 54	468,225	33.4%	502,162	37.7%
55 to 64	144,120	10.3%**	166,552	12.0%**
65+	6,692 <sup>E</sup>	0.5 <sup>E</sup>	13,982 <sup>E</sup>	1.1 <sup>E</sup>
<b>Total*</b>	<b>638,278</b>	<b>45.6%</b>	<b>706,688</b>	<b>53.0%</b>

Source: 2009 Survey of Labour and Income Dynamic

All numbers are rounded to the nearest whole number.

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

\* The sum of the values for each category may differ from the total due to rounding.

<sup>E</sup> Use with caution.

Missing values are excluded.

\*\* Not statistically significant at 0.05 level.

Overall, proportionately fewer women with disabilities have access to employer-sponsored insurance than do men with disabilities.

### c) Union Membership and/or Coverage by a Collective Agreement

**3.29: Adults with disabilities Aged 15+ who are either a member of a union and/or covered by a collective agreement by sex and degree of protection - reference year 2009**

Sex	Member of a Union and Covered by a Collective Agreement		Not a Member of a Union but Covered by a Collective Agreement		Not a Member of a Union Nor Covered by a Collective Agreement		Total*	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Men	328,602	14.5%	27,082	1.2%	766,871	33.9%	1,122,555	49.6%
Women	346,255	15.3%	17,455	0.8%	778,015	34.4%	1,141,726	50.4%
<b>Total*</b>	674,858	<b>29.8%</b>	44,537	<b>2.0%</b>	1,544,886	<b>68.2%</b>	2,264,281	<b>100.0%</b>

**3.30: Adults without disabilities aged 15+ who are either a member of a union and/or covered by a collective agreement by sex and degree of protection - reference year 2009**

Sex	Member of a Union and Covered by a Collective Agreement		Not a Member of a Union but Covered by a Collective Agreement,		Not a Member of a Union Nor Covered by a Collective Agreement		Total*	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Men	1,386,532	13.7%	110,297	1.1%	3,619,906	35.8%	5,116,735	50.7%
Women	1,435,536	14.2%	91,044	0.9%	3,458,803	34.2%	4,985,382	49.4%
<b>Total*</b>	2,822,068	<b>27.9%</b>	201,340	<b>2.0%</b>	7,078,709	<b>70.1%</b>	10,100,000	<b>100.0%</b>

Source: 2009 Survey of Labour and Income Dynamic

All numbers are rounded to the nearest whole number.

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

\* The sum of the values for each category may differ from the total due to rounding.

Missing values are excluded.

There are little differences in the proportion of adults with and without disabilities who re members of a union and/or covered by a collective agreement.

**3.31: Proportion of adults with disabilities aged 15+ who are either a member of a union and/or covered by a collective agreement by sex and degree of protection - reference year 2009**

Sex	Member of a Union and Covered by a Collective Agreement		Not a Member of a Union but Covered by a Collective Agreement		Not a Member of a Union Nor Covered by a Collective Agreement	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Men	328,602	48.7%	27,082	60.8%	766,871	49.6%
Women	346,255	51.3%	17,455	39.2%	778,015	50.4%

Source: 2009 Survey of Labour and Income Dynamic  
All numbers are rounded to the nearest whole number.  
All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.  
Missing values are excluded.

The most noteworthy difference between men and women with disabilities is the lower proportion of women who are not a member of a union but are covered by a collective agreement as compared to men.

## Indicator Four: Discrimination Experienced in Employment

Data from the 2006 Participation and Activity Limitation Survey (PALS) is used to measure the self-reported rate of discrimination experienced in employment by adults with disabilities who are employed, unemployed or not in the labour force.

**Table: 3.32: Proportion of adults with disabilities aged 15+ who report being disadvantaged in employment because of their condition by labour force status and sex – reference year 2006**

Labour Force Status	Women with Disabilities		Men with Disabilities	
	Number	%	Number	%
Employed	126,545	12.1%	126,535	12.1%
Unemployed	19,164 <sup>E</sup>	19.8% <sup>E</sup>	25,732	26.6%
Not in Labour Force	100,106	32.6%	76,125	24.8%

Source: 2006 Participation and Activity Limitation Survey

All numbers are rounded to the nearest whole number.

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

E Use with caution.

Missing values are excluded.

A noteworthy proportion of adults with disabilities report being disadvantaged in employment due to their condition in each labour force category. For women, this proportion is highest for those “not in the labour force”. For men, both the “unemployed” and “not in the labour force” categories show a similarly notable proportion.

**Table 3.33: Proportion of employed adults with disabilities aged 15+ who report being discriminated against in employment because of their condition by type of discrimination and sex – reference year 2006**

Type of Discrimination	Women with Disabilities		Men with Disabilities	
	Number	%	Number	%
Believes that current employer or potential employer would likely consider him/her as disadvantaged in employment	151,045	15.0%	161,522	16.0%
Has been refused a job interview	29,037	2.7%	30,742	2.8%
Has been refused a job	38,549	3.5%	42,075	3.9%
Has been refused a job promotion	26,332	2.4%	31,110	2.9%
Has been given less responsibility than co-workers	33,288	3.0%	34,327	3.1%
Has been denied a workplace accommodation	18,394 <sup>E</sup>	1.7% <sup>E</sup>	13,814 <sup>E</sup>	1.3% <sup>E</sup>
Has been paid less than other workers in similar jobs	27,248	2.5%	27,774	2.6%
Has been denied other work-related benefits	10,703 <sup>E</sup>	1.0% <sup>E</sup>	9,364 <sup>E</sup>	0.9% <sup>E</sup>
Has been exposed to some other kind of discrimination	44,693	4.1%	33,201	3.0%

Source: 2006 Participation and Activity Limitation Survey

All numbers are rounded to the nearest whole number.

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

<sup>E</sup> Use with caution.

Missing values are excluded.

A notable proportion of adults with disabilities report believing that an employer would likely consider them disadvantaged in employment.

Proportionately, there are only minor differences between employed men and women with disabilities with respect to the type of discrimination they report experiencing.

**Table 3.34: Proportion of unemployed adults with disabilities aged 15+ who report being discriminated against in employment because of their condition by type of discrimination and sex – reference year 2006**

Type of Discrimination	Women		Men	
	Number	%	Number	%
Believes that current employer or potential employer would likely consider him/her as disadvantaged in employment	15,010 <sup>E</sup>	16.2% <sup>E</sup>	24,994	27.0%
Has been refused a job interview	6,222 <sup>E</sup>	6.2% <sup>E</sup>	11,929 <sup>E</sup>	11.9% <sup>E</sup>
Has been refused a job	7,679 <sup>E</sup>	7.7% <sup>E</sup>	17,601 <sup>E</sup>	17.7% <sup>E</sup>
Has been given less responsibility than co-workers	4,140 <sup>E</sup>	4.1% <sup>E</sup>	5,585 <sup>E</sup>	5.6% <sup>E</sup>
Has been paid less than other workers in similar jobs	2,119 <sup>E</sup>	2.1% <sup>E</sup>	4,580 <sup>E</sup>	4.6% <sup>E</sup>
Has been exposed to some other kind of discrimination	5,783 <sup>E</sup>	5.8% <sup>E</sup>	8,906 <sup>E</sup>	8.9% <sup>E</sup>

Source: 2006 Participation and Activity Limitation Survey

All numbers are rounded to the nearest whole number.

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

<sup>E</sup> Use with caution.

Missing values are excluded.

For unemployed adults with disabilities, the proportion of men who report experiencing discrimination is higher than women in all categories, and especially in the first three.

**Table 3.35: Proportion of adults with disabilities aged 15+ not in the labour force who report being discriminated against in employment because of their condition by type of discrimination and sex – reference year 2006**

Type of Discrimination	Women with Disabilities		Men with Disabilities	
	Number	%	Number	%
Believes that current employer or potential employer would likely consider him/her as disadvantaged in employment	88,252	30.8%	76,070	26.5%
Has been refused a job interview	11,680 <sup>E</sup>	3.6% <sup>E</sup>	13,511 <sup>E</sup>	4.2% <sup>E</sup>
Has been refused a job	19,310	6.0%	21,798 <sup>E</sup>	6.7% <sup>E</sup>
Has been refused a job promotion	13,165 <sup>E</sup>	4.1% <sup>E</sup>	5,987 <sup>E</sup>	1.8% <sup>E</sup>
Has been given less responsibility than co-workers	15,341 <sup>E</sup>	4.8% <sup>E</sup>	9,050 <sup>E</sup>	2.8% <sup>E</sup>
Has been denied a workplace accommodation	10,603 <sup>E</sup>	3.3% <sup>E</sup>	7,766 <sup>E</sup>	2.4% <sup>E</sup>
Has been paid less than other workers in similar jobs	10,813 <sup>E</sup>	3.4% <sup>E</sup>	6,184 <sup>E</sup>	1.90%
Has been denied other work-related benefits	8,927 <sup>E</sup>	2.8% <sup>E</sup>	6,168 <sup>E</sup>	1.9% <sup>E</sup>
Has been exposed to some other kind of discrimination	20,731 <sup>E</sup>	6.4% <sup>E</sup>	12,803 <sup>E</sup>	4.0% <sup>E</sup>

Source: 2006 Participation and Activity Limitation Survey

All numbers are rounded to the nearest whole number.

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

<sup>E</sup> Use with caution.

Missing values are excluded.

The proportion of adults with disabilities who report believing that an employer would likely consider them disadvantaged is particularly high for those who are not in the labour force.

Proportionately, there are only minor differences between men and women with disabilities who are not in the labour force with respect to the type of discrimination they report experiencing.

## CHAPTER 4: EDUCATION

The right to education is recognized in international human rights instruments ratified by Canada, including article 13 of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, article 28 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, and article 24 of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. Furthermore, Canadian legislation recognizes the right to education.

Education is a powerful influence on income levels and economic well-being. It is also a key determinant of human health<sup>38</sup>. Because of its inherent importance, education is used extensively to track human development on a global scale.

This chapter examines access to the educational system by people with disabilities compared to people without disabilities using the following three indicators:

1. educational enrolment;
2. access to educational supports; and
3. educational attainment.

### Indicator One: Educational Enrolment

Enrolment rates are widely used internationally to assess the degree to which countries are meeting their obligations vis-à-vis their citizens' right to education. This indicator looks at:

- a) enrolment in high school; and
- b) enrolment in post-secondary education.

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<sup>38</sup> Frank, J.W. and Mustard, J.F. (1994). The Determinants of Health from a Historical Perspective. *Daedalus*, 123(4), 1-17.



## a) Enrolment in High School

**Table 4.1: Proportion of adults aged 15+ enrolled in high school by disability status and sex – reference year 2009**

Adults With Disabilities				Adults Without Disabilities			
Women		Men		Women		Men	
Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
72,144	26.8%	72,109	32.4%	447,032	28.4%	474,719	32.3%

**Source:** 2009 Survey of Labour and Income Dynamics

All numbers are rounded to the nearest whole number.

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

Missing values are excluded.

There are only minor differences in high school enrolment between adults with and without disabilities.

**Table 4.2: Percentage of adults with disabilities aged 15+ enrolled in high school by sex - reference year 2009**

Women with Disabilities		Men with Disabilities		Total*	
Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
72,144	50.0%	72,109	50.0%	144,253	100.0%

**Source:** 2009 Survey of Labour and Income Dynamics

All numbers are rounded to the nearest whole number.

\* The sum of the values for each category may differ from the total due to rounding

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

Missing values are excluded.

Women and men with disabilities are equally enrolled in high school.

## b) Enrolment in Post-Secondary Education

**Table 4.3: Proportion of adults aged 15+ enrolled in post-secondary education by type of post-secondary education, disability status and sex – reference year 2009**

Type of Educational Enrolment	Adults With Disabilities				Adults Without Disabilities			
	Women		Men		Women		Men	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Trade School	27,369	10.2%	26,293	11.8%	93,060	5.9%	151,496	10.3%
Apprenticeship And Business School Program	16,145	6.0%	19,649	8.8%	46,394	2.9%	107,066	7.3%
College Or Applied Arts Tech. Inst.	72,864	27.1%	59,304	26.6%	287,494	18.2%	284,693	19.3%
University	91,413	34.0%	61,267	27.5%	686,404	43.6%	514,859	35.0%

**Source:** 2009 Survey of Labour and Income Dynamics  
 All numbers are rounded to the nearest whole number.  
 All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.  
 Missing values are excluded.

Proportionately, more adults with disabilities are enrolled in educational programs other than university as compared to adults without disabilities. The reverse is true for university enrolment.

For adults with disabilities, the proportion of women and men enrolled in the various educational programs is similar, with the exception of university where the proportion of women enrolled is higher.

**Table 4.4: Percentage of adults with disabilities aged 15+ enrolled in post-secondary education by type of educational enrolment and sex – reference year 2009**

Type of Educational Enrollment	Adults With Disabilities				Total*	
	Women		Men			
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Trade School	27,369	7.3%	26,293	7.0%	53,662	14.3%
Apprenticeship And Business School Program	16,145	4.3%	19,649	5.2%	35,794	9.6%
College Or Applied Arts Tech. Inst.	72,864	19.5%	59,304	15.8%	132,168	35.3%
University	91,413	24.4%	61,267	16.4%	152,680	40.8%
Total*	207,791	55.5%	166,513	44.5%	374,304	100.0%

**Source:** 2009 Survey of Labour and Income Dynamics

All numbers are rounded to the nearest whole number.

\* The sum of the values for each category may differ from the total due to rounding

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

Missing values are excluded.

Women with disabilities have higher rates of enrolment than men with disabilities in all educational programs, with the exception of enrolment in apprenticeship and business school programs.

For adults with disabilities, a large majority (76.1%) are enrolled in either “college or applied arts technical institute” or “university”. Of students registered in these categories, women represent a higher percentage (43.9% vs. 32.2%).

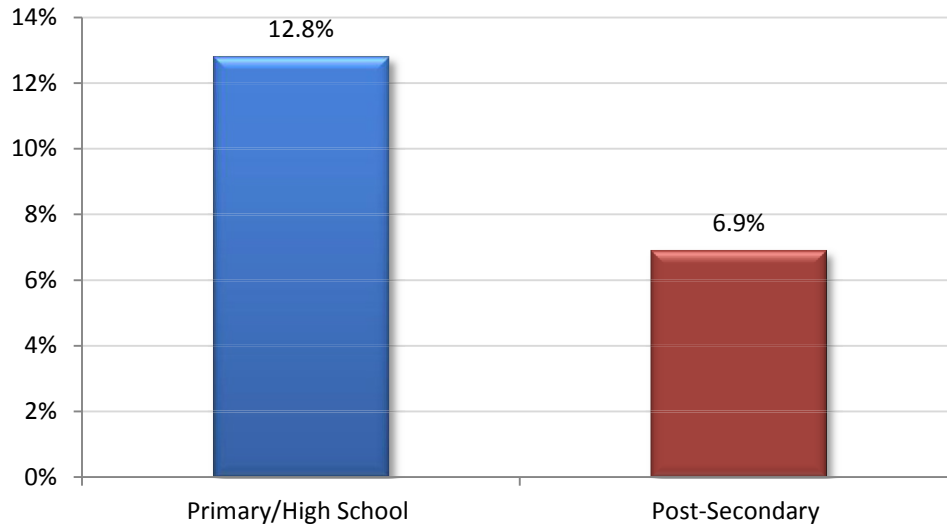
## Indicator Two: Access to Educational Supports

Three measures are used to document this indicator:

- the requirement for accessible building features or services;
- the requirement for assistive devices or services; and
- graduation from post-secondary education with assistance of government educational loans.

## a) Requirement for Accessible Building Features or Services

**Chart: 4.1: Proportion of people with disabilities aged 15+ who require accessible building features or services while attending school – reference year 2006**



**Source:** 2006 Participation and Activity Limitation Survey  
All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.  
Missing values are excluded.

A relatively small proportion of people with disabilities require accessible building features or services while attending school.

## b) Requirement for Assistive Devices or Services

**Table 4.5: Proportion of people with disabilities aged 15+ who require assistive devices or services while attending primary/high school by sex – reference year 2006**

Women with Disabilities		Men with Disabilities	
Number	%	Number	%
4,806	17.6%	8,412	23.5%

**Source:** 2006 Participation and Activity Limitation Survey

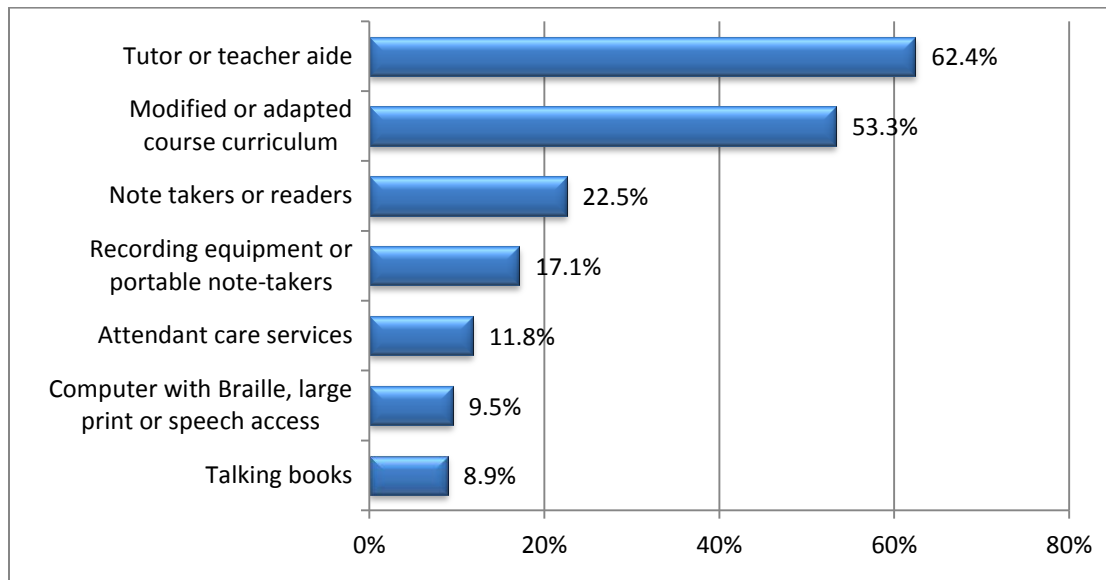
All numbers are rounded to the nearest whole number.

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

Missing values are excluded.

A smaller proportion of women require assistive devices or services while attending primary/high school as compared to men.

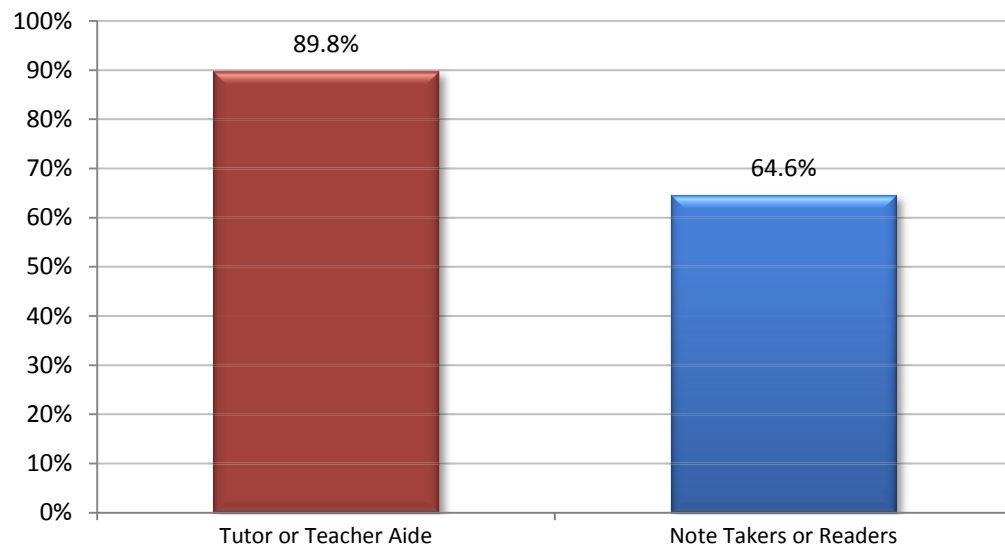
**Chart 4.2: Proportion of people with disabilities aged 15+ who require assistive devices or services while attending primary/high school by type of features or services – reference year 2006**



**Source:** 2006 Participation and Activity Limitation Survey  
All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.  
Missing values are excluded.

“Tutors or teacher aides” and “modified or adapted course curriculum” are the two most frequently required assistive devices or services while attending primary/high school.

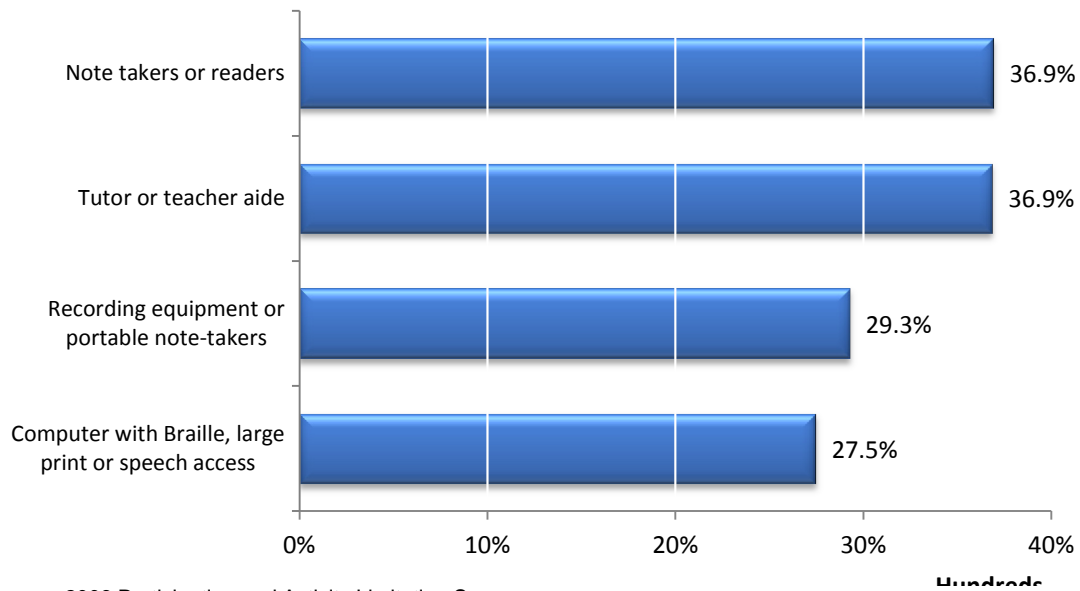
**Chart 4.3: Proportion of people with disabilities aged 15+ who required and have access to assistive devices or services while attending primary/high school - reference year 2006**



**Source:** 2006 Participation and Activity Limitation Survey  
All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.  
Missing values are excluded.

For people with disabilities who require the service of a tutor or teacher's aide while attending primary/high school, 89.8% of them indicated that it was available. In addition, 64.6% of adults who require note takers or readers stated that the service is available.

**Chart 4.4: Proportion of People with disabilities aged 15+ who require assistive devices or services while attending post-secondary institutions by type of features or services – reference year 2006**



**Source:** 2006 Participation and Activity Limitation Survey  
All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.  
Missing values are excluded.

“Tutors or teacher aides” and “note takers or readers” are the most frequently required assistive services of post-secondary students.



### c) Graduation from Post-Secondary Education with Assistance of Governmental Educational Loans

**Table 4.6: Proportion of adults aged 25 to 64 who graduate from post-secondary education with assistance of governmental educational loans by type of certification, disability status, and sex – reference year 2007**

Type of Certification	Adults with Disabilities				Adults without Disabilities			
	Women		Men		Women		Men	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Trade Vocational Dipl. Or Cert.	298 <sup>E</sup>	48.7% <sup>E</sup>	313 <sup>E</sup>	51.3% <sup>E</sup>	3,667	52.2%	3,360	47.8%
College or CEGEP Dipl. Or Cert.	1,332	65.7%	694	34.3%	10,874	62.9%	6,404	37.1%
Univ. Dipl. Or Cert. Below Bach	112 <sup>E</sup>	50.4% <sup>E</sup>	F	49.6%	3,758	73.1%	1,382	26.9%
Bachelor's or Professional Degree	1,633	58.5%	1,158 <sup>E</sup>	41.5% <sup>E</sup>	25,932	62.1%	15,802	37.9%
Univ. Or Cert. Above Bachelor	F	F	F	F	1,089	64.3%	605	35.7%
Master's Degree	440	69.1%	196 <sup>E</sup>	30.9% <sup>E</sup>	5,115	56.2%	3,981	43.8%
Tertiary Doctorate	22	48.1%	24 <sup>E</sup>	51.9% <sup>E</sup>	323	50.4%	318	49.6%

**Source:** Adapted from Statistics Canada, Custom Tabulation, 2007 National Graduation Survey (Class of 2005)

All numbers are rounded to the nearest whole number.

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

Missing values are excluded.

<sup>E</sup> Use with caution.

<sup>F</sup> Too unreliable to be published.

Regardless of disability status, the proportion of women graduating with the assistance of governmental loans is higher than that of men at the college, Bachelor's and Master's levels.

Proportionately, more women with disabilities graduate with the use of governmental loans than men with disabilities at the college, Bachelor's and Master's levels.

## Indicator Three: Educational Attainment

Educational attainment is defined as the highest level of education a person has completed. Two measures are examined:

- a) Graduation from high school; and
- b) Level of post-secondary education attained.

### a) Graduation from High School

**Table 4.7: Proportion of adults aged 25 to 64 who graduate from high school as their highest educational attainment by sex and disability status – reference year 2009**

Sex	Adults with Disabilities		Adults without Disabilities	
	Number	%	Number	%
Women	321,737	15.8%	799,690	14.1%
Men	257,623	13.2%	730,521	13.0%

**Source:** 2009 Survey of Labour and Income Dynamics  
All numbers are rounded to the nearest whole number.  
All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.  
Missing values are excluded.

Proportionately, there is no major difference between adults with and without disabilities who graduate from high school as their highest educational attainment.

## b) Level of Post-Secondary Education Attained

**Table 4.8: Proportion of adults aged 25 to 64 who have attained some post-secondary education by type of post-secondary education, disability status and sex – reference year 2009**

Type of Post-Secondary Education	Adults with Disabilities				Adults without Disabilities			
	Women		Men		Women		Men	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Some Non-University Post-Secondary (no certificate)	188,198	9.2%	191,236	9.8%	350,512	6.2%	399,140	7.1%
Some University (no certificate)	83,572	4.1%	85,179	4.4%	220,081	3.9%	258,822	4.6%
Non-University Post-Secondary Certificate	649,229	31.8%	665,273	34.0%	1,950,443	34.5%	1,840,663	32.7%
University certificate Below Bachelor	38,636	1.9%	41,420	2.1%	158,707	2.8%	137,720	2.4%
Bachelor degree <sup>1</sup>	239,154	11.7%	178,297	9.1%	1,190,907	21.1%	1,099,465	19.6%
Graduate Level Study <sup>2</sup>	93,860	4.6%	88,134	4.5%	405,480	7.2%	504,819	9.0%

**Source:** 2009 Survey of Labour and Income Dynamics

All numbers are rounded to the nearest whole number.

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

Missing values are excluded.

<sup>1</sup>Bachelor degree includes Degree in medicine, dentistry, veterinary medicine, optometry or first professional degree in law.

<sup>2</sup>Graduate study include University certificate or diploma above Bachelor but below Master, Master, and Doctorate PhD

Proportionately, nearly 50% fewer adults with disabilities attain the Bachelor's and Graduate levels than adults without disabilities. The differences are minor for all other types of post-secondary education.

There are no noticeable differences in attainment levels between women and men with disabilities for all types of post-secondary education.

# CHAPTER 5: HOUSING

“Adequate housing” is a human right identified in section 11 of the International Covenant on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights. The right to access public housing programs is also addressed in article 28 of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

This chapter examines housing conditions of adults with and without disabilities using the following two indicators:

- 1) quality and affordability of housing ; and
- 2) accessible housing.

## **Indicator One: Quality and Affordability of Housing**

The quality and affordability of housing is measured by the following:

- a) core housing need; and
- b) expenditure of more than 50% of before-tax income on housing.

### **a) Core Housing Need**

The Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation uses the concept of “core housing need” which comprises the following elements:

- the physical condition of the dwelling, which determines the adequacy of shelter (e.g., whether housing is in need of major repairs);
- the size or potential crowding situation in the dwelling (e.g., whether the housing has sufficient bedrooms for the size and make-up of the occupying household); and
- affordability (the value in relation to typical rents in the area).

The Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation has established standards for each of these elements. “A household is said to be in core housing need if its housing fails to meet one of these standards and if it is unable to pay the median rent for alternative local housing meeting all standards without spending 30% or more of its before-tax income”.<sup>39</sup>

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<sup>39</sup>Statistics Canada, Perspectives on Labour and Income, Catalogue no. 75-001-XIE, page 16.

**Table 5.1: Proportion of adults in core housing need by age group, sex, and disability status – reference year 2006**

Sex	Age Group	Adults with Disabilities		Adults without Disabilities	
		Number	%	Number	%
Both Sexes	15 to 24	40,420	20.7%	555,160	14.1%
	25 to 44	158,840	22.9%	1,002,730	12.6%
	45 to 64	335,110	21.5%	659,540	9.5%
	65+	208,650	12.1%	228,620	10.1%
	Total	743,020	<b>17.8%</b>	2,446,060	<b>11.6%</b>
Men	15 to 24	17,990	17.9%	261,840	13.1%
	25 to 44	71,630	22.0%	434,110	11.1%
	45 to 64	141,990	19.8%	316,820	9.2%
	65+	60,720	8.3%**	69,730	6.7%**
	Total	292,330	<b>15.6%</b>	1,082,500	<b>10.4%</b>
Women	15 to 24	22,430	23.7%	293,320	15.2%
	25 to 44	87,210	23.6%	568,620	14.0%
	45 to 64	193,120	23.0%	342,730	9.8%
	65+	147,930	14.9%**	158,890	13.0%**
	Total	450,680	<b>19.6%</b>	1,363,560	<b>12.7%</b>

**Source:** Statistics Canada, custom tabulation, 2006 Participation and Activity Limitation Survey

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

All numbers are rounded to the nearest whole number.

\*\* Comparison not statistically different at 0.05.

Overall, the proportion of adults in core housing need is 6.2% higher for adults with disabilities than for adults without disabilities. When comparing adults in core housing need in each age group, the proportion is much greater for women and men with disabilities than those without disabilities, except in the 65+ age group.

The proportion of women with disabilities in core housing need is 4% higher overall than that of men with disabilities. This higher proportion for women is true for all age groups.

**Table 5.2: Percentage of adults with disabilities in core housing need by age group and sex – reference year 2006**

Age Group	Women with Disabilities		Men with Disabilities		Total	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
15 to 24	22,430	3.0%	17,990	2.4%	40,420	5.4%
25 to 44	87,210	11.7%	71,630	9.6%	158,840	21.3%
45 to 64	193,120	26.0%	141,990	19.1%	335,110	45.1%
65+	147,930	19.9%	60,720	8.2%	208,650	28.1%
Total	450,680	60.7%	292,330	39.3%	743,020	100.0%

**Source:** Adapted From Statistics Canada, custom tabulation, 2006 Participation and Activity Limitation Survey  
All numbers are rounded to the nearest whole number.  
All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

For adults with disabilities in core housing need, 60.7% are women whereas 39.3% are men. This higher percentage of women in core housing need is evident in each age group.

## b) Expenditure of More than 50% of Before-Tax Income on Housing

Table 5.3: Proportion of adults that spend more than 50% of before-tax income on housing<sup>40</sup> by sex, age group and disability status – reference year 2006

Sex	Age Group	Adults With Disabilities		Adults Without Disabilities	
		Number	%	Number	%
Both Sexes	15 to 64	325,340	13.4%	1,492,560	8.0%
	65+	99,500	5.8%**	119,050	5.3%**
	<b>Total</b>	<b>424,840</b>	<b>10.3%</b>	<b>1,611,610</b>	<b>7.7%</b>
Men	15 to 64	141,570	12.5%	692,960	7.5%
	65+	35,970	5.0%**	39,270	3.8%**
	<b>Total</b>	<b>177,540</b>	<b>9.6%</b>	<b>732,230</b>	<b>7.1%</b>
Women	15 to 64	183,770	14.2%	799,600	8.5%
	65+	63,530	6.4%**	79,780	6.6%**
	<b>Total</b>	<b>247,300</b>	<b>10.8%</b>	<b>879,380</b>	<b>8.3%</b>

**Source:** Statistics Canada, custom tabulation, 2006 Participation and Activity Limitation Survey

All numbers are rounded to the nearest whole number.

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

\*\* Comparison not statistically different at 0.05.

In general, a higher proportion of adults with disabilities spend more than 50% of their before-tax income on housing than adults without disabilities.

For adults with disabilities, a higher proportion of women than men spend more than 50% of their before-tax income on housing.

<sup>40</sup> It should be noted that not all households spending 50% or more of income on housing are necessarily experiencing housing affordability problems. This is particularly true of households with high incomes.

**Table 5.4: Percentage of adults with disabilities that spend more than 50% of before-tax income on housing by age group and sex – reference year 2006**

Age Group	Women with Disabilities		Men with Disabilities		Total*	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
15 to 64	183,770	43.3%	141,570	33.3%	325,340	76.6%
65+	63,530	15.0%	35,970	8.5%	99,500	23.4%
<b>Total*</b>	<b>247,300</b>	<b>58.2%</b>	<b>177,540</b>	<b>41.8%</b>	<b>424,840</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

**Source:** Adapted From Statistics Canada, custom tabulation, 2006 Participation and Activity Limitation Survey

All numbers are rounded to the nearest whole number.

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

\* The sum of the values for each category may differ from the total due to rounding.

In both age groups, a higher percentage of women with disabilities spend more than 50% of before-tax income on housing than men with disabilities.

## Indicator Two: Accessible Housing

This indicator looks at whether accessibility features are required in housing.

**Table 5.5: Proportion of adults with disabilities who require accessibility features by age group and sex – reference year 2006**

Age Group	Women with Disabilities		Men with Disabilities	
	Number	%	Number	%
15-64	69,090	3.4%	35,321	2.1%
65+	53,761	2.6%	28,137	1.7%
<b>Total*</b>	<b>122,851</b>	<b>6.0%</b>	<b>63,458</b>	<b>3.8%</b>

**Source:** Adapted From Statistics Canada, custom tabulation, 2006 Participation and Activity Limitation Survey

All numbers are rounded to the nearest whole number.

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

\* The sum of the values for each category may differ from the total due to rounding.

The proportion of women with disabilities needing accessibility features in housing is higher than men with disabilities.



**Table 5.6: Percentage of adults with disabilities who require accessibility features by age group and sex – reference year 2006**

Age Group	Women with Disabilities		Men with Disabilities		Total*	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
15-64	69,090	37.1%	35,321	19.0%	69,090	56.0%
65+	53,761	28.9%	28,137	15.1%	53,761	44.0%
<b>Total*</b>	<b>122,851</b>	<b>65.9%</b>	<b>63,458</b>	<b>34.1%</b>	<b>186,309</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

**Source:** Adapted From Statistics Canada, custom tabulation, 2006 Participation and Activity Limitation Survey

All numbers are rounded to the nearest whole number.

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

\* The sum of the values for each category may differ from the total due to rounding.

The percentage of women with disabilities requiring accessibility features in housing is substantially higher than that of men with disabilities.

## CHAPTER 6: HEALTH

Article 12 of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights provides that states' parties recognize the "right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health." This is also reflected in article 25 of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and in the Canada Health Act, which emphasizes that:

...continued access to quality health care without financial or other barriers will be critical to maintaining and improving the health and well-being of Canadians.<sup>41</sup>

This chapter examines health issues for adults with and without disabilities using the following three indicators<sup>42</sup>:

- 1) access to health services;
- 2) health-limiting conditions; and
- 3) mental health.

### Indicator One: Access to Health Services

The following measures are used to document this indicator:

- a) availability of health care in the community;
- b) requirement for health information or advice;
- c) difficulties in acquiring health information or advice;
- d) requirement for ongoing care; and
- e) difficulties in acquiring routine or ongoing care.

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<sup>41</sup> *Canada Health Act*, R.S.C., 1985, c. C-6.

<sup>42</sup> All data come from the 2009 Canadian Community Health Survey (CCHS).

## a) Availability of Health Care in the Community

**Table 6.1: Adult men who report on the availability of health care in their community by age group, rating, and disability status – reference year 2009**

Age Group	Rating	Men with Disabilities		Men without Disabilities	
		Number	%	Number	%
15 to 64	Excellent	142,943	10.0%	530,144	13.1%
	Good	472,335	33.0%	1,816,969	44.8%
	Fair	268,468	18.7%	904,142	22.3%
	Poor	201,208	14.1%	372,204	9.2%
65+	Excellent	71,421	5.0%	83,807	2.1%
	Good	177,295	12.4%	231,170	5.7%
	Fair	64,378	4.5%	82,443	2.0%
	Poor	33,827	2.4%	30,400	0.8%
Total*	Excellent	214,365	15.0%	613,952	15.2%
	Good	649,630	45.4%	2,048,140	50.6%
	Fair	332,846	23.2%	986,585	24.4%
	Poor	235,035	16.4%	402,604	9.9%
	Total*	1,431,875	100.0%	4,051,280	100.0%

**Source:** 2009 Canadian Community Health Survey

All numbers are rounded to the nearest whole number.

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

\* The sum of the values for each category may differ from the total due to rounding.

Missing values are excluded.

Overall, a higher proportion of men with disabilities rate the availability of health services as “poor” than do men without disabilities. There are also proportionately fewer men with disabilities in the 15 to 64 age group rating the availability of health care as “good” versus men without disabilities. However, in the 65+ age group, proportionately more men with disabilities provide positive ratings of the availability of health care than do men without disabilities (i.e., rated as either “excellent”, “good”, or “fair”).

**Table 6.2: Adult women who report on the availability of health care in their community by age group, rating, and disability status – reference year 2009**

Age Group	Rating	Women with Disabilities		Women without Disabilities	
		Number	%	Number	%
15 to 64	Excellent	130,778	7.5%	489,197	12.3%
	Good	504,748	29.0%	1,724,613	43.2%
	Fair	361,611	20.8%	881,520	22.1%
	Poor	261,762	15.1%	459,782	11.5%
65+	Excellent	74,694	4.3%	89,291	2.2%
	Good	244,676	14.1%	238,763	6.0%
	Fair	99,254	5.7%	73,004	1.8%
	Poor	60,354	3.5%	32,351	0.8%
Total*	Excellent	205,472	11.8%	578,488	14.5%
	Good	749,424	43.1%	1,963,376	49.2%
	Fair	460,865	26.5%	954,524	23.9%
	Poor	322,117	18.5%	492,132	12.3%
	Total*	1,737,878	100.0%	3,988,521	100.0%

**Source:** 2009 Canadian Community Health Survey

All numbers are rounded to the nearest whole number.

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

\* The sum of the values for each category may differ from the total due to rounding.

Missing values are excluded.

Showing similar results as men, there is a higher proportion of women with disabilities rating the availability of health services as “poor” than women without disabilities. There are also proportionately fewer women with disabilities in the 15 to 64 age group rating the availability of health care as “good” versus women without disabilities. However, in the 65+ age group, proportionately more women with disabilities provided positive ratings of the availability of health care than did women without disabilities (i.e., rated as either “excellent”, “good”, or “fair”).

**Table 6.3: Adults with disabilities who report on the availability of health care in their community by age group, rating, and sex – reference year 2009**

Age Group	Rating	Women with Disabilities		Men with Disabilities	
		Number	%	Number	%
15 to 64	Excellent	130,778	7.5%	142,943	10.0%
	Good	504,748	29.0%	472,335	33.0%
	Fair	361,611	20.8%	268,468	18.7%
	Poor	261,762	15.1%	201,208	14.1%
65+	Excellent	74,694	4.3%	71,421	5.0%
	Good	244,676	14.1%**	177,295	12.4%**
	Fair	99,254	5.7%	64,378	4.5%
	Poor	60,354	3.5%	33,827	2.4%
Total*	Excellent	205,472	11.8%	214,365	15.0%
	Good	749,424	43.1%	649,630	45.4%
	Fair	460,865	26.5%	332,846	23.2%
	Poor	322,117	18.5%	235,035	16.4%
	Total*	1,737,878	100.0%	1,431,875	100.0%

**Source:** 2009 Canadian Community Health Survey

All numbers are rounded to the nearest whole number.

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

\* The sum of the values for each category may differ from the total due to rounding.

Missing values are excluded.

\*\* Not statistically significant at 0.05.

Overall, there are no striking differences between women and men with disabilities in terms of their ratings of the availability of health care.

## b) Requirement for Health Information or Advice

**Table 6.4: Proportion of men who require health information or advice for themselves or for a family member in the past 12 months by age group and disability status – reference year 2009**

Age Group	Men with Disabilities		Men without Disabilities	
	Number	%	Number	%
15 to 64	491,528	38.8%	1,276,817	35.1%
65+	140,709	11.1%	117,196	3.2%
<b>Total*</b>	<b>632,237</b>	<b>49.9%</b>	<b>1,394,013</b>	<b>38.3%</b>

**Source:** 2009 Canadian Community Health Survey

All numbers are rounded to the nearest whole number.

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

\* The sum of the values for each category may differ from the total due to rounding.

Missing values are excluded.

Overall, a greater proportion of men with disabilities require health information or advice than men without disabilities. The largest difference is for those aged 65+.

**Table 6.5: Proportion of women who require health information or advice for themselves or for a family member in the past 12 months by age group and disability status – reference year 2009**

Age Group	Women with Disabilities		Women without Disabilities	
	Number	%	Number	%
15 to 64	670,061	43.3%	1,486,058	41.3%
65+	188,176	12.2%	106,599	3.0%
<b>Total*</b>	<b>858,237</b>	<b>55.5%</b>	<b>1,592,656</b>	<b>44.2%</b>

**Source:** 2009 Canadian Community Health Survey

All numbers are rounded to the nearest whole number.

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

\* The sum of the values for each category may differ from the total due to rounding.

Missing values are excluded.

A similar pattern is evident when looking at women with disabilities in that a greater proportion require health information or advice as compared to women without disabilities. The largest difference is also in the 65+ age group.

**Table 6.6: Proportion of adults with disabilities who require health information or advice for themselves or for a family member in the past 12 months by age group and sex – reference year 2009**

Age Group	Women with Disabilities		Men with Disabilities	
	Number	%	Number	%
15 to 64	670,061	43.3%	491,528	38.8%
65+	188,176	12.2%	140,709	11.1%
<b>Total*</b>	<b>858,237</b>	<b>55.5%</b>	<b>632,237</b>	<b>49.9%</b>

**Source:** 2009 Canadian Community Health Survey

All numbers are rounded to the nearest whole number.

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

\* The sum of the values for each category may differ from the total due to rounding.

Missing values are excluded.

When looking at adults with disabilities, 5.6% proportionately more of women require health information or advice than did men.

### **c) Difficulties in Acquiring Health Information or Advice**

**Table 6.7: Proportion of men who report experiencing difficulties in acquiring health information or advice for themselves or for a family member in the past 12 months by age group and disability status – reference year 2009**

Age Group	Men with Disabilities		Men without Disabilities	
	Number	%	Number	%
15 to 64	89,819	14.2%	180,175	12.9%
65+	21,699 <sup>E</sup>	3.4% <sup>E</sup>	10,446 <sup>E</sup>	0.7% <sup>E</sup>
<b>Total*</b>	<b>111,518</b>	<b>17.6%</b>	<b>190,622</b>	<b>13.7%</b>

**Source:** 2009 Canadian Community Health Survey

All numbers are rounded to the nearest whole number.

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

\* The sum of the values for each category may differ from the total due to rounding.

Missing values are excluded.

<sup>E</sup> Use with caution. CVs from 16.5% to 33.3%.

Overall, a higher proportion of men with disabilities report experiencing difficulties in acquiring health information or advice than do men without disabilities.

**Table 6.8: Proportion of women who report experiencing difficulties in acquiring health information or advice for themselves or for a family member in the past 12 months by age group and disability status – reference year 2009**

Age Group	Women with Disabilities		Women without Disabilities	
	Number	%	Number	%
15 to 64	161,302	18.8%	258,139	16.2%
65+	23,703 <sup>E</sup>	2.8% <sup>E</sup>	12,516 <sup>E</sup>	0.8% <sup>E</sup>
<b>Total*</b>	<b>185,005</b>	<b>21.6%</b>	<b>270,655</b>	<b>17.0%</b>

**Source:** 2009 Canadian Community Health Survey

All numbers are rounded to the nearest whole number.

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

\* The sum of the values for each category may differ from the total due to rounding.

Missing values are excluded.

<sup>E</sup> Use with caution. CVs from 16.5% to 33.3%.

Similar to men, a higher proportion of women with disabilities report experiencing difficulties in acquiring health information or advice than do women without disabilities.

**Table 6.9: Proportion of adults with disabilities who report experiencing difficulties in acquiring health information or advice for themselves or for a family member in the past 12 months by age group and sex – reference year 2009**

Age Groups	Women with Disabilities		Men with Disabilities	
	Number	%	Number	%
15 to 64	161,302	18.8%	89,819	14.2%
65+	23,703 <sup>E</sup>	2.8% <sup>E</sup>	21,699 <sup>E</sup>	3.4% <sup>E</sup>
<b>Total*</b>	<b>185,005</b>	<b>21.6%</b>	<b>111,518</b>	<b>17.6%</b>

**Source:** 2009 Canadian Community Health Survey

All numbers are rounded to the nearest whole number.

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

\* The sum of the values for each category may differ from the total due to rounding.

Missing values are excluded.

<sup>E</sup> Use with caution. CVs from 16.5% to 33.3%.

For adults with disabilities, a higher proportion of women report experiencing difficulties in acquiring health information or advice than men.



**Table 6.10: Percentage of adults with disabilities who report experiencing difficulties in acquiring health information or advice for themselves or for a family member in the past 12 months by age group and sex – reference year 2009**

Age Group	Women with Disabilities		Men with Disabilities		Total*	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
15 to 64	161,302	54.4%	89,819	30.3%	251,121	84.7%
65+	23,703 <sup>E</sup>	8.0% <sup>E</sup>	21,699 <sup>E</sup>	7.3% <sup>E</sup>	45,402	15.3%
<b>Total*</b>	185,005	<b>62.4%</b>	111,518	<b>37.6%</b>	296,523	<b>100.0%</b>

**Source:** 2009 Canadian Community Health Survey

All numbers are rounded to the nearest whole number.

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

\* The sum of the values for each category may differ from the total due to rounding.

Missing values are excluded.

<sup>E</sup> Use with caution.

Among adults with disabilities, the percentage of women who report experiencing difficulties in acquiring health information or advice is much higher (24.8%) than for men.

#### **d) Requirement for On-going Care**

**Table 6.11: Proportion of men who report requiring routine or ongoing care for themselves or a family member by age group and disability status – reference year 2009**

Age Group	Men with Disabilities		Men without Disabilities	
	Number	%	Number	%
15 to 64	587,617	46.4%	1,254,129	34.4%
65+	214,150	16.9%	215,466	5.9%
<b>Total*</b>	801,767	<b>63.4%</b>	1,469,594	<b>40.3%</b>

**Source:** 2009 Canadian Community Health Survey

All numbers are rounded to the nearest whole number.

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

\* The sum of the values for each category may differ from the total due to rounding.

Missing values are excluded.

Overall, a much higher proportion of men with disabilities report requiring care as compared to men without disabilities.

**Table 6.12: Proportion of women who report requiring routine or ongoing care for themselves or a family member by age group and disability status – reference year 2009**

Age Group	Women with Disabilities		Women without Disabilities	
	Number	%	Number	%
15 to 64	770,943	49.9%	1,568,275	43.6%
65+	299,535	19.4%	207,549	5.8%
<b>Total*</b>	<b>1,070,478</b>	<b>69.3%</b>	<b>1,775,824</b>	<b>49.4%</b>

**Source:** 2009 Canadian Community Health Survey

All numbers are rounded to the nearest whole number.

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

\* The sum of the values for each category may differ from the total due to rounding.

Missing values are excluded.

Similar to the results observed for men, there is a notable higher proportion of women with disabilities who report requiring care as compared to women without disabilities.

**Table 6.13: Proportion of adults with disabilities who report requiring routine or ongoing care for themselves or a family member by age group and sex – reference year 2009**

Age Groups	Women with Disabilities		Men with Disabilities	
	Number	%	Number	%
15 to 64	770,943	49.9%	587,617	46.4%
65+	299,535	19.4%	214,150	16.9%
<b>Total*</b>	<b>1,070,478</b>	<b>69.3%</b>	<b>801,767</b>	<b>63.4%</b>

**Source:** 2009 Canadian Community Health Survey

All numbers are rounded to the nearest whole number.

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

\* The sum of the values for each category may differ from the total due to rounding.

Missing values are excluded.

There are no major differences between the proportion of women and men with disabilities who report requiring care, with women having a slightly higher proportion in each age group.

**Table 6.14: Percentage of adults with disabilities who require routine or ongoing care for themselves or a family member by age group and sex – reference year 2009**

Age Groups	Women with Disabilities		Men with Disabilities		Total*	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
15 to 64	770,943	41.2%	587,617	31.4%	1,358,560	72.6%
65+	299,535	16.0%	214,150	11.4%	513,685	27.4%
<b>Total*</b>	1,070,478	57.2%	801,767	42.8%	1,872,245	100.0%

**Source:** 2009 Canadian Community Health Survey

All numbers are rounded to the nearest whole number.

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

\* The sum of the values for each category may differ from the total due to rounding.

Missing values are excluded.

When looking at adults with disabilities, a greater percentage of women than men report requiring care in both age groups.

### **e) Difficulties in Acquiring Routine or On-Going Care**

**Table 6.15: Proportion of men who report experiencing difficulties in getting routine or ongoing care for themselves or for a family member by age group and disability status – reference year 2009**

Age Group	Men with Disabilities		Men without Disabilities	
	Number	%	Number	%
15 to 64	101,327	12.6%	157,223	10.7%
65+	25,025 <sup>E</sup>	3.1% <sup>E</sup>	21,560 <sup>E</sup>	1.5% <sup>E</sup>
<b>Total*</b>	126,353	15.8%	178,783	12.2%

**Source:** 2009 Canadian Community Health Survey

All numbers are rounded to the nearest whole number.

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

\* The sum of the values for each category may differ from the total due to rounding.

Missing values are excluded.

<sup>E</sup> Use with caution.

A slightly higher proportion of men with disabilities report experiencing difficulties in getting care as compared to men without disabilities.

**Table 6.16: Proportion of women who report experiencing difficulties in getting routine or ongoing care for themselves or for a family member by age group and disability status – reference year 2009**

Age Group	Women with Disabilities		Women without Disabilities	
	Number	%	Number	%
15 to 64	181,594	17.0%	261,168	14.7%
65+	29,228 <sup>E</sup>	2.7% <sup>E</sup>	13,936 <sup>E</sup>	0.8% <sup>E</sup>
<b>Total*</b>	<b>210,821</b>	<b>19.7%</b>	<b>275,103</b>	<b>15.5%</b>

**Source:** 2009 Canadian Community Health Survey

All numbers are rounded to the nearest whole number.

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

\* The sum of the values for each category may differ from the total due to rounding.

Missing values are excluded.

<sup>E</sup> Use with caution.

Similar to men, a slightly higher proportion of women with disabilities report experiencing difficulties in getting care than did women without disabilities.

**Table 6.17: Proportion of adults with disabilities who report experiencing difficulties in getting routine or ongoing care for themselves or for a family member by age group and sex – reference year 2009**

Age Group	Women with Disabilities		Men with Disabilities	
	Number	%	Number	%
15 to 64	181,594	17.0%	101,327	12.6%
65+	29,228 <sup>E</sup>	2.7% <sup>E</sup>	25,025 <sup>E</sup>	3.1% <sup>E</sup>
<b>Total*</b>	<b>210,821</b>	<b>19.7%</b>	<b>126,353</b>	<b>15.8%</b>

**Source:** 2009 Canadian Community Health Survey

All numbers are rounded to the nearest whole number.

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

\* The sum of the values for each category may differ from the total due to rounding.

Missing values are excluded.

<sup>E</sup> Use with caution.

For adults with disabilities, a slightly higher proportion of women report experiencing difficulties in getting care as compared to men.

**Table 6.18: Percentage of adults with disabilities who report experiencing difficulties in getting routine or ongoing care for themselves or for a family member by age group and sex – reference year 2009**

Age Group	Women with Disabilities		Men with Disabilities		Total*	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
15 to 64	181,594	53.9%	101,327	30.1%	282,921	83.9%
65+	29,228 <sup>E</sup>	8.6% <sup>E</sup>	25,025 <sup>E</sup>	7.4% <sup>E</sup>	54,253	16.1%
<b>Total*</b>	<b>210,822</b>	<b>62.6%</b>	<b>126,352</b>	<b>37.5%</b>	<b>337,174</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

**Source:** 2009 Canadian Community Health Survey

All numbers are rounded to the nearest whole number.

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

\* The sum of the values for each category may differ from the total due to rounding.

Missing values are excluded.

<sup>E</sup> Use with caution.

When looking at adults with disabilities overall, a much higher percentage of women than men report experiencing difficulties in getting care. This is especially evident in the 15 to 64 age group.

## Indicator Two: Health-Limiting Conditions

Certain health-limiting conditions can be indicators of equality since they are often linked to a person's social condition (e.g., poverty). In this section, we look at two health-limiting conditions:

- a) obesity; and
- b) incidence of type 2 diabetes.

### a) Obesity

Data on obesity comes from the 2009 Canadian Community Health Survey where respondents were asked to self-report their weight and height. This information was then used by Statistics Canada to calculate the Body Mass Index (BMI) to determine if respondents were obese or not<sup>43</sup>.

<sup>43</sup> The variable assigns adult respondents aged 18 and over, excluding women aged 18 to 49 who were pregnant or did not answer the pregnancy question, to one of the following categories, according to their BMI:

Underweight (BMI less than 18.50) - increased health risk;

- Acceptable/normal weight (BMI between 18.50 and 24.99) - least health risk;
- Overweight (BMI between 25.00 and 29.99) - increased health risk;
- Obese class I (BMI between 30.00 and 34.99) - high health risk;
- Obese class II (BMI between 35.00 and 39.99) - very high health risk, and
- Obese class III (BMI above 40.00) - extremely high health risk.

**Table 6.19: Adult men who are obese by age group, BMI category, and disability status – reference year 2009**

Age Group	BMI Category	Men with Disabilities		Men without Disabilities	
		Number	%	Number	%
15 to 64	Underweight	31,965 <sup>E</sup>	1.0% <sup>E</sup>	159,880	1.6%
	Normal Weight	836,775	25.4%	3,832,940	39.5%
	Overweight	955,486	29.0%	3,342,990	34.4%
	Obese - Class I	494,633	15.0%	1,067,894	11.0%
	Obese - Class II	120,131	3.6%	204,920	2.1%
	Obese - Class III	65,831	2.0%	77,848	0.8%
65+	Underweight	8,760	0.3%	11,912	0.1%
	Normal Weight	261,783	8.0%	398,555	4.1%
	Overweight	325,305	9.9%	453,604	4.7%
	Obese - Class I	146,340	4.4%	138,832	1.4%
	Obese - Class II	34,505	1.0%	19,738 <sup>E</sup>	0.2% <sup>E</sup>
	Obese - Class III	10,593 <sup>E</sup>	0.3% <sup>E</sup>	F	F
Total*	Underweight	40,724 <sup>E</sup>	1.2% <sup>E</sup>	171,792	1.8%
	Normal Weight	1,098,558	33.4%	4,231,494	43.6%
	Overweight	1,280,791	38.9%	3,796,594	39.1%
	Obese - Class I	640,973	19.5%	1,206,727	12.4%
	Obese - Class II	154,636	4.7%	224,658	2.3%
	Obese - Class III	76,424	2.3%	82,294	0.8%
	Total*	3,292,107	100.0%	9,713,559	100.0%

Source: 2009 Canadian Community Health Survey

All numbers are rounded to the nearest whole number.

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

\* The sum of the values for each category may differ from the total due to rounding.

Missing values are excluded.

<sup>E</sup> Use with caution.

<sup>F</sup> Too unreliable to be published.

When looking at the “obese” classes (I, II, and III), men with disabilities are represented in a higher proportion in each class than are men without disabilities.

**Table 6.20: Adult women who are obese by age group, BMI category, and disability status – reference year 2009**

Age Group	BMI Category	Women with Disabilities		Women without Disabilities	
		Number	%	Number	%
15 to 64	Underweight	96,790	2.5%	392,960	4.3%
	Normal Weight	1,224,600	32.1%	4,680,887	51.8%
	Overweight	771,189	20.2%	1,868,679	20.7%
	Obese - Class I	399,109	10.5%	691,829	7.6%
	Obese - Class II	163,537	4.3%	224,898	2.5%
	Obese - Class III	102,340	2.7%	81,576	0.9%
65+	Underweight	35,390	0.9%	34,720	0.4%
	Normal Weight	382,056	10.0%	546,104	6.0%
	Overweight	377,815	9.9%	384,608	4.3%
	Obese - Class I	181,814	4.8%	118,917	1.3%
	Obese - Class II	57,481	1.5%	15,803 <sup>E</sup>	0.2% <sup>E</sup>
	Obese - Class III	26,824	0.7%	F	F
Total*	Underweight	132,180	3.5%	427,680	4.7%
	Normal Weight	1,606,656	42.1%	5,226,992	57.8%
	Overweight	1,149,005	30.1%	2,253,287	24.9%
	Obese - Class I	580,922	15.2%	810,746	9.0%
	Obese - Class II	221,018	5.8%	240,701	2.7%
	Obese - Class III	129,164	3.4%	85,784	0.9%
	Total*	3,818,946	100.0%	9,045,190	100.00%

**Source:** 2009 Canadian Community Health Survey

All numbers are rounded to the nearest whole number.

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

\* The sum of the values for each category may differ from the total due to rounding.

Missing values are excluded.

<sup>E</sup> Use with caution.

F Too unreliable to be published.

There is a higher proportion of women with disabilities in each of the three obese categories as compared to women without disabilities. The same observation can be drawn for men.

**Table 6.21: Adults with disabilities who are obese by age group, BMI category, and sex – reference year 2009**

Age Group	BMI Category	Women with Disabilities		Men with Disabilities	
		Number	%	Number	%
15 to 64	Underweight	96,790	2.5%	31,965 <sup>E</sup>	1.0% <sup>E</sup>
	Normal Weight	1,224,600	32.1%	836,775	25.4%
	Overweight	771,189	20.2%	955,486	29.0%
	Obese - Class I	399,109	10.5%	494,633	15.0%
	Obese - Class II	163,537	4.3%	120,131	3.6%
	Obese - Class III	102,340	2.7%	65,831	2.0%
65+	Underweight	35,390	0.9%	8,760	0.3%
	Normal Weight	382,056	10.0%	261,783	8.0%
	Overweight	377,815	9.9%	325,305	9.9%
	Obese - Class I	181,814	4.8%	146,340	4.4%
	Obese - Class II	57,481	1.5%	34,505	1.0%
	Obese - Class III	26,824	0.7%	10,593 <sup>E</sup>	0.3% <sup>E</sup>
Total*	Underweight	132,180	3.5%	40,724 <sup>E</sup>	1.2% <sup>E</sup>
	Normal Weight	1,606,656	42.1%	1,098,558	33.4%
	Overweight	1,149,005	30.1%	1,280,791	38.9%
	Obese - Class I	580,922	15.2%	640,973	19.5%
	Obese - Class II	221,018	5.8%	154,636	4.7%
	Obese - Class III	129,164	3.4%	76,424	2.3%
	Total*	3,818,946	100.0%	3,292,107	100.0%

**Source:** 2009 Canadian Community Health Survey

All numbers are rounded to the nearest whole number.

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

\* The sum of the values for each category may differ from the total due to rounding.

Missing values are excluded.

<sup>E</sup> Use with caution.

There are no major differences between women and men with disabilities in terms of their proportional representation in each of the obesity classes.



## b) Type 2 Diabetes

**Table 6.22: Proportion of adults who report having type 2 diabetes by sex, age group, and disability status – reference year 2009**

Sex	Age Group	Adults with Disabilities		Adults without Disabilities	
		Number	%	Number	%
Men	15 to 64	216,604	8.3%	236,182	2.7%
	65+	224,037	25.1%	195,731	18.3%
Women	15 to 64	173,237	5.9%	173,541	2.0%
	65+	204,806	17.0%	130,151	11.0%
Total*	15 to 64	389,841	7.0%	409,722	2.4%
	65+	428,843	20.5%	325,882	14.5%

**Source:** 2009 Canadian Community Health Survey

All numbers are rounded to the nearest whole number.

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

\* The sum of the values for each category may differ from the total due to rounding.

Missing values are excluded.

Regardless of sex and age, a higher proportion of adults with disabilities report having type 2 diabetes as compared to adults without disabilities. For adults with disabilities, a lower proportion of women report having type 2 diabetes than do men in each age group.

## Indicator Three: Mental Health

From an equality standpoint, mental health issues are often associated with discrimination and stigma in various spheres of activity such as employment and education. For the purpose of this report, mental health is measured by rating one's own state of mental health.

**Table 6.23: Adult men who report on their mental health by age group, mental health status, and disability status – reference year 2009**

Age Group	Self Reported Mental Health Status	Men with Disabilities		Men without Disabilities	
		Number	%	Number	%
15 to 64	Excellent	651,011	19.6%	3,739,748	38.2%
	Very Good	857,460	25.9%	3,241,153	33.1%
	Good	713,514	21.5%	1,534,437	15.7%
	Fair	234,932	7.1%	206,508	2.1%
	Poor	64,818 <sup>E</sup>	2.0% <sup>E</sup>	35,314 <sup>E</sup>	0.4% <sup>E</sup>
65+	Excellent	227,811	6.9%	421,714	4.3%
	Very Good	258,945	7.8%	372,048	3.8%
	Good	233,940	7.1%	220,911	2.3%
	Fair	65,540	2.0%	25,111	0.3%
	Poor	F	F	F	F
Total*	Excellent	878,822	26.5%	4,161,462	42.5%
	Very Good	1,116,405	33.7%	3,613,201	36.9%
	Good	947,454	28.6%	1,755,348	17.9%
	Fair	231,619	9.1%	231,619	2.4%
	Poor	73,078 <sup>E</sup>	2.2% <sup>E</sup>	40,631 <sup>E</sup>	0.4% <sup>E</sup>
	Total*	3,316,231	100.0%	9,802,261	100.0%

**Source:** 2009 Canadian Community Health Survey

All numbers are rounded to the nearest whole number.

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

\* The sum of the values for each category may differ from the total due to rounding.

Missing values are excluded.

<sup>E</sup> Use with caution.

<sup>F</sup> Too unreliable to be published.

For men aged 15 to 64, a lower proportion of men with disabilities rate their mental health status positively (either “excellent” or “very good”) than do men without disabilities. This change for men over 65 where men with disabilities proportionately report higher positive ratings.

**Table 6.24: Adult women who report on their mental health by age group, mental health status, and disability status – reference year 2009**

Age Group	Self Reported Mental Health Status	Women with Disabilities		Women without Disabilities	
		Number	%	Number	%
15 to 64	Excellent	716,850	17.9%	3,443,739	36.0%
	Very Good	939,332	23.5%	3,247,158	33.9%
	Good	855,287	21.4%	1,508,713	15.8%
	Fair	275,330	6.9%	212,170	2.2%
	Poor	104,418 <sup>E</sup>	2.6% <sup>E</sup>	22,205 <sup>E</sup>	0.2% <sup>E</sup>
65+	Excellent	275,615	6.9%	451,473	4.7%
	Very Good	419,788 <sup>**</sup>	10.5% <sup>**</sup>	433,058 <sup>**</sup>	4.5% <sup>**</sup>
	Good	319,978	8.0%	230,389	2.4%
	Fair	80,606	2.0%	26,013	0.3%
	Poor	14,085 <sup>E</sup>	0.4% <sup>E</sup>	F	F
Total*	Excellent	992,466	24.8%	3,895,212	40.7%
	Very Good	1,359,120	34.0%	3,680,215	38.4%
	Good	1,175,265	29.4%	1,739,102	18.2%
	Fair	355,936	8.9%	238,184	2.5%
	Poor	118,504 <sup>E</sup>	3.0% <sup>E</sup>	24,746 <sup>E</sup>	0.3% <sup>E</sup>
	Total*	4,001,291	100.0%	9,577,459	100.0%

**Source:** 2009 Canadian Community Health Survey

All numbers are rounded to the nearest whole number.

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

\* The sum of the values for each category may differ from the total due to rounding.

Missing values are excluded.

<sup>E</sup> Use with caution.

<sup>F</sup> Too unreliable to be published.

<sup>\*\*</sup> Not statistically significant at 0.05

Like men, a lower proportion of women aged 15 to 64 with disabilities rate their mental health status positively (either “excellent” or “very good”) than do women without disabilities. This change for women over 65 where women with disabilities proportionately report higher positive ratings.

**Table 6.25: Adults with disabilities who report on their mental health by age group, mental health status, and sex – reference year 2009**

Age Group	Self Reported Mental Health Status	Women with Disabilities		Men with Disabilities	
		Number	%	Number	%
15 to 64	Excellent	716,850	17.9%	651,011	19.6%
	Very Good	939,332	23.5%	857,460	25.9%
	Good	855,287	21.4%	713,514	21.5%
	Fair	275,330	6.9%	234,932	7.1%
	Poor	104,418 <sup>E</sup>	2.6% <sup>E</sup>	64,818 <sup>E</sup>	2.0% <sup>E</sup>
65+	Excellent	275,615	6.9%	227,811	6.9%
	Very Good	419,788 <sup>**</sup>	10.5% <sup>**</sup>	258,945	7.8%
	Good	319,978	8.0%	233,940	7.1%
	Fair	80,606	2.0%	65,540	2.0%
	Poor	14,085	0.4%	F	F
Total*	Excellent	992,466	24.8%	878,822	26.5%
	Very Good	1,359,120	34.0%	1,116,405	33.7%
	Good	1,175,265	29.4%	947,454	28.6%
	Fair	355,936	8.9%	231,619	9.1%
	Poor	118,504 <sup>E</sup>	3.0% <sup>E</sup>	73,078 <sup>E</sup>	2.2% <sup>E</sup>
	Total*	4,001,291	100.0%	3,316,231	100.0%

**Source:** 2009 Canadian Community Health Survey

All numbers are rounded to the nearest whole number.

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

\* The sum of the values for each category may differ from the total due to rounding.

Missing values are excluded.

<sup>E</sup> Use with caution.

F Too unreliable to be published.

There are no striking differences between women and men with disabilities in terms of their self-reporting ratings of their mental health status.

# CHAPTER 7: JUSTICE AND SAFETY

International legal instruments and Canadian legislation guarantee the right to life and security of the person.

This chapter looks at how people with and without disabilities fare in terms of their personal safety. Four indicators are used:

- 1) domestic violence;
- 2) hate crime;
- 3) incidence of violent crime; and
- 4) vulnerability to crime.

## **Indicator One: Domestic Violence**

The two measures used to document this indicator are:

- a) emotional or financial abuse by a spouse/partner<sup>44</sup>; and
- b) physical or sexual violence by a spouse/partner<sup>45</sup>.

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<sup>44</sup> Includes both current and ex spouses/partners

<sup>45</sup> Ibid

## a) Emotional or Financial Abuse by a Spouse/Partner

**Table 7.1: Proportion of adults who report experiencing emotional or financial abuse by a spouse/partner during their lifetime by age group, sex and disability status – reference year 2009**

Age Group	Adults with Disabilities				Adults without Disabilities			
	Women		Men		Women		Men	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
15 to 64	648,000	22.4%	489,000	17.1%	849,000	13.4%	924,000	14.0%
65+	109,000	3.8%	130,000	4.5%	64,000	1.0%	57,000 <sup>E</sup>	0.9% <sup>E</sup>
<b>Total*</b>	<b>757,000</b>	<b>26.2%</b>	<b>619,000</b>	<b>21.6%</b>	<b>913,000</b>	<b>14.4%</b>	<b>981,000</b>	<b>14.9%</b>

**Source:** Adapted from Statistics Canada, Custom Tabulation, 2009 General Social Survey, Cycle 23 – Victimization, Main Analytical File

\* The sum of the values for each category may differ from the total due to rounding.

All numbers are rounded to the nearest whole number.

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

Overall, the proportion of men with disabilities who report experiencing emotional or financial abuse is 6.7% higher than that of men without disabilities.

The proportion of women with disabilities who report experiencing emotional or financial abuse is 11.8% higher than that of women without disabilities. The higher proportion is particularly evident in the 15 to 64 age group.

For adults with disabilities, there is a slightly higher proportion of women who report experiencing abuse than men overall.

## b) Physical and/or Sexual Violence by a Spouse/Partner

**Table 7.2: Proportion of adults aged 15+ who report experiencing physical and/or sexual violence by a spouse/partner in the last 5 years by sex and disability status – reference year 2009**

Adults with Disabilities				Adults without Disabilities			
Women		Men		Women		Men	
Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
275,000	9.5%	180,000	6.3%	323,000	5.1%	402,000	6.1%

**Source:** Adapted from Statistics Canada, Custom Tabulation, 2009 General Social Survey, Cycle 23 – Victimization, Main Analytical File

All numbers are rounded to the nearest whole number.

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

There is little difference between the proportion of men with and without disabilities who report experiencing physical and/or sexual violence. However, proportionately more women with disabilities (4.4% more) report experiencing violence than did women without disabilities.

Lastly, for adults with disabilities, proportionately more women report experiencing violence than did men.

**Table 7.3: Percentage of adults with disabilities aged 15+ who report experiencing physical and/or sexual violence by a spouse/partner in the last 5 years by sex – reference year 2009**

Women with Disabilities		Men with Disabilities		Total*	
Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
275,000	60.4%	180,000	39.6%	455,000	100.0%

**Source:** Adapted from Statistics Canada, Custom Tabulation, 2009 General Social Survey, Cycle 23 – Victimization, Main Analytical File

\* The sum of the values for each category may differ from the total due to rounding.

All numbers are rounded to the nearest whole number.

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

For adults with disabilities, a much higher percentage of women report experiencing violence than did men.

## Indicator Two: Hate Crime

**Table 7.4: Proportion of hate crime reported by adults aged 15+ by sex and disability status – reference year 2009**

Adults with Disabilities				Adults without Disabilities			
Women		Men		Women		Men	
Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
102,000 <sup>E</sup>	6.2% <sup>E</sup>	94,000 <sup>E</sup>	6.2% <sup>E</sup>	78,000 <sup>E</sup>	2.6% <sup>E</sup>	141,000 <sup>E</sup>	4.6% <sup>E</sup>

**Source:** Adapted from Statistics Canada, Custom Tabulation, 2009 General Social Survey, Cycle 23 – Victimization, Main Analytical File

All numbers are rounded to the nearest whole number.

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

<sup>E</sup> Use with caution.

Proportionately, there is more hate crime reported by adults<sup>46</sup> with disabilities compared to adults without disabilities. With respect to adults with disabilities, the proportions are the same at 6.2%.

<sup>46</sup> Respondents who completed a crime incident report.



## Indicator Three: Incidence of Violent Crime

Two measures document the incidence of violent crime:

- a) assault; and
- b) robbery.

### a) Assault

**Table 7.5: Proportion of assault reported by adults Aged 15+ by sex and disability status – reference year 2009**

Adults with Disabilities				Adults without Disabilities			
Women		Men		Women		Men	
Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
347,000	21.4%	391,000	26.0%	440,000	15.3%	865,000	27.3%

**Source:** Adapted from Statistics Canada, Custom Tabulation, 2009 General Social Survey, Cycle 23 – Victimization, Main Analytical File  
All numbers are rounded to the nearest whole number.  
All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

The most noteworthy difference is between adult<sup>47</sup> women with and without disabilities where the proportion of assault reported by women with disabilities is 6.1% higher.

The difference between the proportion of reported assault is 4.6% lower for women with disabilities compared to men with disabilities.

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<sup>47</sup> Ibid

## b) Robbery

**Table 7.6: Proportion of robbery reported by adults aged 15+ by sex and disability status – reference year 2009**

Adults with Disabilities				Adults without Disabilities			
Women		Men		Women		Men	
Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
42,000 <sup>E</sup>	2.5% <sup>E</sup>	44,000 <sup>E</sup>	2.9% <sup>E</sup>	30,000 <sup>E</sup>	1.0% <sup>E</sup>	65,000 <sup>E</sup>	2.0% <sup>E</sup>

**Source:** Adapted from Statistics Canada, Custom Tabulation, 2009 General Social Survey, Cycle 23 – Victimization, Main Analytical File

All numbers are rounded to the nearest whole number.

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

<sup>E</sup> Use with caution.

There are only minor differences in the proportions of reported robbery between adults with and without disabilities.

## Indicator Four: Vulnerability to Crime

In this report, vulnerability to crime is measured by the following:

- a) perceived vulnerability to crime;
- b) perceived vulnerability to crime when walking alone in the area after dark;
- c) perceived vulnerability to crime while waiting for or using public transportation alone after dark; and
- d) perceived vulnerability to crime when alone at home in the evening or at night.

## a) Perceived Vulnerability to Crime

**Table 7.7: Proportion of adults aged 15+ who report feeling vulnerable to crime by sex and disability status – reference year 2009**

Adults with Disabilities				Adults without Disabilities			
Women		Men		Women		Men	
Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
120,000	2.6%	92,000	2.3%	140,000	1.5%	130,000	1.4%

**Source:** Adapted from Statistics Canada, Custom Tabulation, 2009 General Social Survey, Cycle 23 – Victimization, Main Analytical File

All numbers are rounded to the nearest whole number.

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

A slightly higher proportion of adults with disabilities report feeling vulnerable to crime than do adults without disabilities, regardless of sex.

**Table 7.8: Percentage of adults with disabilities aged 15+ who report feeling vulnerable to crime by sex – reference year 2009**

Women with Disabilities		Men with Disabilities		Total*	
Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
120,000	56.6%	92,000	43.4%	212,000	100.0%

**Source:** Adapted from Statistics Canada, Custom Tabulation, 2009 General Social Survey, Cycle 23 – Victimization, Main Analytical File

All numbers are rounded to the nearest whole number.

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

\* The sum of the values for each category may differ from the total due to rounding.

Among people with disabilities, 13.2% more women report feeling vulnerable to crime than do men.

## b) Perceived Vulnerability to Crime when Walking Alone in the Area After Dark

**Table 7.9: Proportion of adults who report feeling unsafe walking alone after dark by age group, sex and disability status – reference year 2009**

Age Group	Adults with Disabilities				Adults without Disabilities			
	Women		Men		Women		Men	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
15 to 64	875,000	23.1%	267,000	7.1%	1,572,000	18.3%	428,000	4.5%
65+	282,000	7.5%	103,000	2.7%	184,000	2.1%	64,000	0.7%
<b>Total*</b>	<b>1,157,000</b>	<b>30.6%</b>	<b>370,000</b>	<b>9.8%</b>	<b>1,756,000</b>	<b>20.5%</b>	<b>492,000</b>	<b>5.2%</b>

**Source:** Adapted from Statistics Canada, Custom Tabulation, 2009 General Social Survey, Cycle 23 – Victimization, Main Analytical File

All numbers are rounded to the nearest whole number.

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

In both age groups, a higher proportion of men and women with disabilities report feeling unsafe when walking alone after dark<sup>48</sup> than do men and women without disabilities. In the case of adult women, the proportion who report feeling unsafe is 10.1% higher for women with disabilities.

When looking at adults with disabilities, proportionately 20.8% more women than men report feeling unsafe when walking alone after dark.

<sup>48</sup> Data do not include those that do not walk alone.

### c) **Perceived Vulnerability to Crime While Waiting for or Using Public Transportation Alone After Dark**

**Table 7.10: Proportion of adults who report feeling unsafe while waiting for or using public transportation alone after dark by age group, sex and disability status – reference year 2009**

Age Group	Adults with Disabilities				Adults without Disabilities			
	Women		Men		Women		Men	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
15 to 64	493,000	58.3%	249,000	31.0%	1,122,000	53.3%	568,000	23.2%
65+	47,000	5.6%	23,000 <sup>E</sup>	2.9% <sup>E</sup>	39,000 <sup>E</sup>	1.9% <sup>E</sup>	23,000 <sup>E</sup>	0.9% <sup>E</sup>
<b>Total*</b>	539,000	<b>63.7%</b>	272,000	<b>33.8%</b>	1,161,000	<b>55.2%</b>	592,000	<b>24.2%</b>

**Source:** Adapted from Statistics Canada, Custom Tabulation, 2009 General Social Survey, Cycle 23 – Victimization, Main Analytical File

All numbers are rounded to the nearest whole number

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point

\* The sum of the values for each category may differ from the total due to rounding

<sup>E</sup> Use with caution.

In both age groups, a higher proportion of men and women with disabilities report feeling unsafe when waiting for or using public transportation alone after dark than do men and women without disabilities.

Proportionately, almost twice as many more women with disabilities report feeling unsafe than do men with disabilities.

## d) Perceived Vulnerability to Crime When Alone at Home in the Evening or at Night

**Table 7.11: Proportion of adults who report feeling unsafe when alone at home in the evening or at night by age group, sex and disability status – reference year 2009**

Age Group	Adults with Disabilities				Adults without Disabilities			
	Women		Men		Women		Men	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
15 to 64	991,000	22.0%	394,000	10.0%	1,850,000	20.0%	710,000	7.4%
65+	267,000	6.0%	130,000	3.3%	149,000	2.0%	78,000	0.8%
<b>Total*</b>	<b>1,258,000</b>	<b>27.0%</b>	<b>524,000</b>	<b>13.3%</b>	<b>1,999,000</b>	<b>22.0%</b>	<b>788,000</b>	<b>8.2%</b>

**Source:** Adapted from Statistics Canada, Custom Tabulation, 2009 General Social Survey, Cycle 23 – Victimization, Main Analytical File

All numbers are rounded to the nearest whole number

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point

\* The sum of the values for each category may differ from the total due to rounding

There are minor differences in the proportion of adults with disabilities compared to adults without disabilities in terms of their reporting feeling unsafe when alone at home<sup>49</sup>. Even though the differences are minor, the proportions for men and women with disabilities are higher.

For adults with disabilities, proportionately 13.7% more women report feeling unsafe than did men.

<sup>49</sup> Data do not include those that were never alone.

# **CHAPTER 8: POLITICAL ENGAGEMENT AND SOCIAL INCLUSION**

Article 25 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and article 29 of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, as well as Canadian legislation recognize the right to vote and to participate in public life without discrimination.

This chapter focuses on two indicators:

- 1) political engagement; and
- 2) social inclusion.

## **Indicator One: Political Engagement**

Political engagement is measured by the following:

- a) voting in the last municipal/local election;
- b) voting in the last provincial election, and
- c) voting in the last federal election.

## a) Municipal/Local Election

**Table 8.1: Proportion of adults who voted in the last municipal/local election by age group, sex, and disability status – reference year 2008**

Age Group	Adults with Disabilities				Adults without Disabilities			
	Women		Men		Women		Men	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
15 to 64	1,922,000	43.9%	1,771,000	44.9%	4,162,000	56.5%	3,891,000	52.7%
65+	1,109,000	25.3%	863,000	21.9%	710,000	9.6%	691,000	9.4%
<b>Total*</b>	<b>3,032,000</b>	<b>69.2%</b>	<b>2,634,000</b>	<b>66.8%</b>	<b>4,873,000</b>	<b>66.2%</b>	<b>4,582,000</b>	<b>62.1%</b>

**Source:** Adapted from Statistics Canada, Custom Tabulation, 2008 General Social Survey, Cycle 22: Social Network – Main Analytical File.

All numbers are rounded to the nearest whole number.

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

\* The sum of the values for each category may differ from the total due to rounding.

Overall, there are no major differences in the voting patterns of adults with disabilities compared to those without disabilities. That said, there are notable differences in the voting patterns of adults based on age. Specifically, in the 15 to 64 age group, a lower proportion of adults with disabilities voted as compared to adults without disabilities. However, in the 65+ age group, the reverse is true in that adults with disabilities proportionately voted in higher numbers.

When looking at adults with disabilities, the voting patterns are similar regardless of sex and age group.



## b) Provincial Election

**Table 8.2: Proportion of adults who voted in the last provincial election by age group, sex, and disability status – reference year 2008**

Age Group	Adults with Disabilities				Adults without Disabilities			
	Women		Men		Women		Men	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
15 to 64	2,348,000	52.6%	2,293,000	56.6%	5,105,000	68.0%	5,073,000	67.4%
65+	1,255,000	28.1%	953,000	23.5%	799,000	10.6%	742,000	9.9%
<b>Total*</b>	<b>3,603,000</b>	<b>80.8%</b>	<b>3,246,000</b>	<b>80.2%</b>	<b>5,905,000</b>	<b>78.7%</b>	<b>5,815,000</b>	<b>77.2%</b>

**Source:** Adapted from Statistics Canada, Custom Tabulation, 2008 General Social Survey, Cycle 22: Social Network – Main Analytical File.

All numbers are rounded to the nearest whole number.

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

\* The sum of the values for each category may differ from the total due to rounding.

The results are similar to those seen for municipal/local elections. Overall, there are no major differences in the voting patterns of adults with disabilities compared to those without disabilities. That said, there are notable differences in the voting patterns of adults based on age. Specifically, in the 15 to 64 age group, a lower proportion of adults with disabilities voted as compared to adults without disabilities. However, in the 65+ age group, the reverse is true in that adults with disabilities voted in proportionately higher numbers.

For adults with disabilities, the voting patterns are similar regardless of sex and age group.

### c) Federal Election

**Table 8.3: Proportion of adults who voted in the last federal election by age group, sex, and disability status – reference year 2008**

Age Group	Adults with Disabilities				Adults without Disabilities			
	Women		Men		Women		Men	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
15 to 64	2,338,000	52.0%	2,316,000	57.1%	5,150,000	68.3%	5,156,000	67.8%
65+	1,231,000	27.4%	951,000	23.5%	798,000	10.6%	764,000	10.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,569,000</b>	<b>79.5%</b>	<b>3,267,000</b>	<b>80.6%</b>	<b>5,948,000</b>	<b>78.9%</b>	<b>5,920,000</b>	<b>77.8%</b>

**Source:** Adapted from Statistics Canada, Custom Tabulation, 2008 General Social Survey, Cycle 22: Social Network – Main Analytical File.

All numbers are rounded to the nearest whole number.

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

\* The sum of the values for each category may differ from the total due to rounding.

Voting patterns at the federal level are similar to those seen for municipal/local elections and provincial elections. That is, there are no major differences overall in the voting patterns of adults with disabilities compared to those without disabilities. There are notable differences, however, in the voting patterns of adults based on age.

Specifically, in the 14 to 64 age group, a lower proportion of adults with disabilities voted as compared to adults without disabilities. However, in the 65+ age group, the reverse is true in that adults with disabilities voted in proportionately higher numbers.

For adults with disabilities, the voting patterns are similar regardless of sex and age group.

## Indicator Two: Social Inclusion

The following measures are used:

- a) degree of sense of belonging to one's local community;
- b) volunteerism;
- c) participation in civic groups; and
- d) use of technology (computer and Internet).

### a) Sense of Belonging to One's Local Community

**Table 8.4: Adults with disabilities who report their sense of belonging to their local community by age group and degree – reference year 2008**

Age Group	Adults With Disabilities									
	Very strong		Somewhat strong		Somewhat weak		Very weak		Total*	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
15 to 64	1,337,000	14.8%	3,402,000	37.5%	1,262,000	13.9%	682,000	7.5%	6,683,000	73.7%
65+	775,000	8.6%	1,210,000	13.3%	288,000	3.2%	108,000	1.2%	2,381,000	26.3%
<b>Total*</b>	<b>2,113,000</b>	<b>23.3%</b>	<b>4,612,000</b>	<b>50.9%</b>	<b>1,550,000</b>	<b>17.1%</b>	<b>789,000</b>	<b>8.7%</b>	<b>9,064,000</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

**Table 8.5: Adults without disabilities who reported their sense of belonging to their local community by age group and degree – reference year 2008**

Age Group	Adults without Disabilities									
	Very strong		Somewhat strong		Somewhat weak		Very weak		Total*	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
15 to 64	3,142,000	18.2%	8,333,000	48.3%	2,963,000	17.2%	1,138,000	6.6%	15,576,000	90.3%
65+	576,000	3.3%	865,000	5.0%	166,000	1.0%	66,000	0.4%	1,673,000	9.7%
<b>Total*</b>	<b>3,718,000</b>	<b>21.6%</b>	<b>9,198,000</b>	<b>53.3%</b>	<b>3,130,000</b>	<b>18.1%</b>	<b>1,204,000</b>	<b>7.0%</b>	<b>17,250,000</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

**Source:** Adapted from Statistics Canada, Custom Tabulation, 2008 General Social Survey, Cycle 22: Social Network – Main Analytical File.

All numbers are rounded to the nearest whole number.

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

\* The sum of the values for each category may differ from the total due to rounding.

Proportionately, adults with and without disabilities show similar results in terms of their sense of belonging to their community.

## b) Volunteerism

**Table 8.6: Proportion of adults who did volunteer work for an organization in the last 12 months by age group, sex, and disability status – reference year 2008**

Age Group	Adults with Disabilities				Adults without Disabilities			
	Women		Men		Women		Men	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
15 to 64	1,549,000	31.7%	1,373,000	30.9%	3,545,000	40.1%	3,231,000	36.3%
65+	437,000	8.9%	352,000	7.9%**	316,000	3.6%	307,000	3.4%**
<b>Total*</b>	<b>1,986,000</b>	<b>40.7%</b>	<b>1,725,000</b>	<b>38.8%</b>	<b>3,862,000</b>	<b>43.7%</b>	<b>3,538,000</b>	<b>39.8%</b>

**Source:** Adapted from Statistics Canada, Custom Tabulation, 2008 General Social Survey, Cycle 22: Social Network – Main Analytical File.

All numbers are rounded to the nearest whole number.

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

\* The sum of the values for each category may differ from the total due to rounding.

\*\* Not statistically significant at 0.05.

Proportionately, there are no major differences overall between adults with and without disabilities in terms of volunteer work.

## c) Participation in Civic Groups

**Table 8.7: Proportion of adults who participated in a civic group(s) in the last 12 months by age group, sex, and disability status – reference year**

Age Group	Adults with Disabilities				Adults without Disabilities			
	Women		Men		Women		Men	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
15 to 64	2,244	45.9%	2,321,000	52.1%	5,181,000	58.6%	5,513,000	61.9%
65+	744,000	15.2%	631,000	14.2%	461,000	5.2%	526,000	5.9%
<b>Total*</b>	<b>2,988,000</b>	<b>61.1%</b>	<b>2,953,000</b>	<b>66.3%</b>	<b>5,643,000</b>	<b>63.8%</b>	<b>6,038,000</b>	<b>67.8%</b>

**Source:** Adapted from Statistics Canada, Custom Tabulation, 2008 General Social Survey, Cycle 22: Social Network – Main Analytical File.

All numbers are rounded to the nearest whole number.

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

\* The sum of the values for each category may differ from the total due to rounding.

There are only minor differences overall between the proportion of adults with and without disabilities who participated in a civic group<sup>50</sup>. However, for those over 65, proportionately more adults with disabilities participated than did adults without disabilities.

<sup>50</sup> Civic groups includes unions or professional association, a political party or group, a sports or recreational organization (such as a hockey league, health club, or golf club), a cultural, educational or hobby organization (such as a theatre group, book club or bridge club), a religious-affiliated group, a school group, neighbourhood, civic or community association (such as PTA, alumni, block parents or neighborhood watch), a service club or fraternal organization (such as Kiwanis, Knights of Columbus or legions), or any other type of organization that the respondent participated in.

#### **d) Use of Technology (Computer and Internet)**

This measure looks at the use of technology by adults with disabilities in terms of:

- i) computer use in the last 12 months; and
- ii) Internet use in the last 12 months and if:
  - the Internet has improved their quality of life
  - the Internet has helped them to be better informed about the world; or
  - the Internet has increased their ability to reach out to people who had similar interests and/or experiences.

**i) Computer Use in the Last 12 Months**

**Table 8.8: Adults with disabilities who used a computer in the last 12 months by sex and age group – reference year 2006**

Age Group	Women						Men					
	Used a Computer		Did Not Use a Computer		Total		Used a Computer		Did Not Use a Computer		Total	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
15 to 24	66,787	94.6%	3,806	5.4%	70,593	100.0%	67,768	92.6%	5,390	7.4%	73,158	100.0%
25 to 54	528,347	81.9%	117,030	18.1%	645,377	100.0%	419,133	77.0%	125,298	23.0%	544,431	100.0%
55 to 64	224,462	59.1%	155,149	40.9%	379,611	100.0%	202,156	60.1%	134,203	39.9%	336,359	100.0%
65+	200,634	22.2%	701,490	77.8%	902,124	100.0%	202,044	30.9%	451,883	69.1%	653,927	100.0%

**Source:** 2006 Participation and Activity Limitation Survey.

All numbers are rounded to the nearest whole number.

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

\* The sum of the values for each category may differ from the total due to rounding.

A very high proportion of younger adults with disabilities used a computer, regardless of their sex. The proportion decreases as age increases.

## ii) Internet Use in the Last 12 Months

**Table 8.9: Proportion of adults with disabilities who used the internet in the last 12 months by sex and age group – reference year 2006**

Age Group	Women		Men		Total	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
15 to 24	80,657	93.3%	86,491	92.4%	167,148	92.8%
25 to 54	632,009	84.5%	504,732	84.5%	1,136,742	84.5%
55 to 64	290,354	75.0%	260,551	74.3%	550,904	74.7%
65+	301,730	55.1%	294,810	60.5%	596,540	57.8%

**Source:** 2006 Participation and Activity Limitation Survey.

All numbers are rounded to the nearest whole number.

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

\* The sum of the values for each category may differ from the total due to rounding.

A very high proportion of younger adults used a computer, regardless of their sex. The proportion decreases as age increases.

**Table 8.10: Adults with disabilities who report that the internet has improved their quality of life by sex – reference year 2006**

	Women		Men	
	Number	%	Number	%
Yes, Significantly	183,320	19.2%	176,188	21.7%
Yes, Moderately	390,912	41.0%	345,303	42.5%
No	378,936	39.8%	291,862	35.9%
<b>Total*</b>	<b>953,168</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>813,353</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

**Source:** 2006 Participation and Activity Limitation Survey.

All numbers are rounded to the nearest whole number.

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

\* The sum of the values for each category may differ from the total due to rounding.

Proportionately, about two-thirds of adults report that the Internet improved their quality of life. This was the case for both women and men.



**Table 8.11: Proportion of adults with disabilities who report that the internet helped them be better informed about the world by sex and age group – reference year 2006**

Sex	Women		Men	
Age Group	Number	%	Number	%
15 to 64	613,456	77.0%	520,956	80.3%
65+	110,723	69.6%	128,670	76.5%
<b>Total</b>	<b>724,179</b>	<b>80.3%</b>	<b>649,627</b>	<b>79.5%</b>

**Source:** 2006 Participation and Activity Limitation Survey.

All numbers are rounded to the nearest whole number.

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

\* The sum of the values for each category may differ from the total due to rounding.

Proportionately, close to 80% of women and men report overall that the Internet helped them to be better informed about the world. For those over 65, the proportion of women reporting this is less than men.

**Table 8.12: Proportion of adults with disabilities who report that the internet increased their ability to reach out to people who have similar interests and/or experiences by sex and age group – reference year 2006**

Sex	Women		Men		Total	
Age Group	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
15 to 24	64,215	56.2%	63,190	59.3%	127,405	57.7%
25 to 54	511,794	43.1%	404,647	51.4%	916,441	46.8%
55 to 64	214,003	40.3%	177,973	44.8%	391,976	42.3%
65+	158,463	40.5%	164,550	50.4%	323,013	45.6%

**Source:** 2006 Participation and Activity Limitation Survey.

All numbers are rounded to the nearest whole number.

All percentages are rounded to one decimal point.

\* The sum of the values for each category may differ from the total due to rounding.

The proportion of women who report that the Internet increased their ability to reach out to people is lower than that of men in all age groups. This is particularly so in the 25 to 54 and 65+ age groups.

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