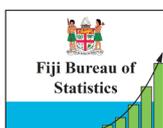


Fiji Disability Monograph

An analysis of the 2017 Population and Housing Census



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An analysis of the 2017 Population and Housing Census

Fiji Bureau of Statistics and the Pacific Community



Noumea, New Caledonia
April 2023

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ACRONYMS & ABBREVIATIONS

FBoS	Fiji Bureau of Statistics
CEB	children ever born
CSPro	Census and Survey Processing System
FDPF	Fiji Disabled Peoples Federation
FNCPD	Fiji National Council for Persons with Disabilities
HH	Household
HM	Household member
PFRPD	Pacific Framework for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities
SDG	Sustainable Development Goal
SDP	Social Development Programme
SPC	Pacific Community
UNCRPD	United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
WHO	World Health Organization

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FOREWORD

The purpose of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD) is to “promote, protect and ensure the full and equal enjoyment of all human rights and fundamental freedoms by all persons with disabilities, and to promote respect for their inherent dignity.” In line with the UNCRPD, the principle of “leaving no one behind” underpins the Sustainable Development Goals and implies reaching the most vulnerable and disadvantaged people, including persons with disabilities. The 2016-2025 Pacific Framework for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (PFRPD) outlines the equalisation of opportunities for persons with and without disabilities in all aspects of life.

Most Pacific leaders ratified the UNCRPD, and the adoption of the PFRPD represents another important step towards strengthening their commitment to address the barriers faced by persons with disabilities. Another key factor in these commitments is the great regional and multi-stakeholder collaboration between governments, regional bodies, United Nations agencies, donor agencies and key partners to support capacity building in improving and standardising the collection and compilation of disability statistics through mainstreaming international standard tools such as the Washing Group set of questions and/or modules on Disability into censuses and surveys.

In 2017, the Government of Fiji, through its Bureau of Statistics, incorporated the Washington Group Short Set of Disability Questions in its national Population and Housing Census in order to collect disability data. In the past, disability data in Fiji was collected through different bodies using different tools and methodologies. The 2017 national census marked the first time that disability data were collected through standard and improved tools.

This report undertakes a detailed analysis of the 2017 Population and Housing Census data to explore the situation of children, women and men with disabilities with respect to their living conditions, education, economic activities and health. This analysis makes an important contribution to the ongoing development aspects of disability-related issues within and outside Fiji. The results will assist with and contribute to the revision of Fiji’s development policies, legislation and implementation plans in mainstreaming disability into these policies and laws. These include the Fiji National Development Plan, National Policy for Persons with Disabilities 2008–18, National Employment Policy 2018 (policy priority 8), Policy on Special and Inclusive Education in Fiji, Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act 2018 and others.

The report demonstrates that despite all the interventions that have taken place and are still ongoing, persons with disabilities in Fiji still encounter inequalities with regards to education and economic activities when compared with persons without disabilities. Persons with disabilities are less likely to have attended school, and the majority of those who do attend rarely continue beyond the secondary school level. In terms of economic participation, a significant proportion of persons with disabilities are not employed or seeking employment, and very few of those who are engaged are paid for their work. Thus, opportunities to improve their livelihoods are limited.

The findings in this report are very important for measuring the achievement of related policies, development plans and programmes toward persons with disabilities. The report further contributes to understanding the situation that persons with disabilities encounter and is a recognition for urgent interventions from both the public and private sector. The contents of the report will inform evidence-based policies and inclusive development activities that are of benefit to all Fijians.



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The workshop was organised to support and provide capacity building for national statistics staff from Fiji, Tuvalu and Tonga in the analysis of their disability reports based on their current census data. The three countries adopted the Washington Group Short Set of Questions on Disability in their current census: Fiji 2017 Population and Housing Census, Tuvalu 2017 Population and Housing Census, Tonga 2016 Population and Housing Census, and the Tonga 2018 National Disability Survey.

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The United Nations 2011 World Report on Disability indicates that: “Many people with disabilities do not have equal access to health care, education, and employment opportunities, do not receive the disability-related services they require, and experience exclusion from everyday life activities”. Because of their status and unfriendly environmental factors, persons with disabilities are most at risk of experiencing poor socio-economic outcomes and poverty than persons without disabilities. They are a highly vulnerable group and have a greater risk of being left behind in social and economic development plans if their needs are not specifically targeted.

The magnitude of the disability issue has been acknowledged by international and national communities and countries. The United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, and other conventions, frameworks and reporting mechanisms such as the Sustainable Development Goals, have been developed and include wording in support of persons with disabilities. Fiji signed the convention in 2010 followed by its ratification in 2017. This is an indication of the government’s full commitment and agreement to mainstream disability into all development plans and policies, and to ensure that equal opportunities and benefits are received by persons with disabilities.

Fiji has progressed in this area and can be considered a leader in disability issues in the Pacific, and in the adoption of the Persons with Disabilities Act 2018 and implementation of legislative initiatives toward persons with disabilities. This is evident in the establishment of a vocational rehabilitation programme for persons with disabilities and labour legislation with a provision on employment for persons with disabilities. The government supported the establishment of the National Council for People with Disabilities to act as a coordinating body for all organisations dealing with the care and rehabilitation of persons with disabilities.

The lack of updated and detailed information about persons with disabilities has been a long-standing challenge in the Pacific, including Fiji. Fiji has taken on several initiatives in conjunction with various partners and organisations to improve the collection and reporting of disability statistics for better informed decision-making

and interventions. In the 2017 Population and Housing Census, the Fiji Government, through the Bureau of Statistics, included the Washington Group Short Set of Questions on Disability to collect information on persons with disabilities, and represents another initiative towards supporting policies and interventions targeting persons with disabilities.

This report utilises data from the Fiji 2017 Population and Housing Census. The reference point for the 2017 census was midnight on 17 September 2017. The census included the six Washington Group Short Set of Disability Questions, developed by the Washington Group, which is recommended for use in census surveys. The main variable for analysis was, therefore, derived from these questions for persons aged 5+ years. The Short Set included six core functional domains – seeing, hearing, mobility, cognition and/or memory, self-care and communication.

Disability is conceptualised as a continuum, from minor functioning difficulties to severe difficulties that significantly impact people’s lives, and responses to disability-related questions were purposefully designed to reflect this continuum. Cut-off points for disability can, therefore, be determined by the purposes of the data.

If the level of inclusion for disability is set at “at least some difficulty” (includes “a lot of difficulty” and “cannot do at all”), about 14.3% (113,595 persons) of the population aged 5+ years will be classified as having some disability. If the level of inclusion for disability is set at “at least a lot of difficulty” (includes “cannot do at all”) about 3.3% (25,807 persons) of the population aged 5 and older will be classified as having some disability. If a very conservative cut-off level of “cannot do at all” is chosen, the prevalence of disability is about 0.6% (4,790 persons). The various cut-off points for disability prevalence help to guide policy positions. For example, the provision of assistive devices and technologies, and cash transfer support, could first apply to those who have severe functional challenges. For the purposes of analysis for this report, persons with disabilities are classified as anyone with at least one domain that is coded as “a lot of difficulty” or “cannot do at all”.

Analysis was limited to the available data collected in the 2017 census. A secondary analysis was conducted and highlighted disparities in living conditions, education,

employment opportunities and health situations between persons with disabilities and those without disabilities. The key findings are summarised below.

Living conditions

The results show that persons with disabilities are more likely to live in lower wealth quintile households (HH), with about 23% living in the lowest wealth quintile households compared with 21% of persons without disabilities. Only 16% persons with disabilities were found in the highest wealth quintile as opposed to 21% of those without disabilities. The lower living standard of persons with disabilities, could contribute to their limitations in accessing internet, mobile phone and financial services. Only 15% of persons with disabilities accessed the internet in the month preceding the census compared with 45% of those without disabilities. Three out of 10 used a bank account the last month preceding the census compared with about 3 in 5 persons without disabilities.

Conversely, the data reveal the high level of accessibility to basic needs such as water, sanitation and clean energy for both persons with and without disabilities. The data on accessibility to clean water, sanitation and energy were collected from the HH head only and, therefore, the result might not reflect the actual situation that persons with disabilities experience.

Education

The findings demonstrate that educational opportunities are limited and very challenging for persons with disabilities. Persons with disabilities have lower enrolment rates and are three times more likely to have never attended school than those without disabilities. More than 15% of persons with disabilities have never attended school compared with about 6% of persons without disabilities.

Persons with disabilities are less likely to continue their education after attaining secondary school. About 51% of persons with disabilities attained secondary qualifications compared with 59% of persons without disabilities. Among persons with disabilities who managed to finish secondary school, only 5% attained a post-secondary degree or higher. The higher proportion of persons with disabilities attaining secondary school level could be due to several factors including the provision of special schools that could accommodate education up to this level. The dramatic drop in the proportion of persons with disabilities attaining a higher education indicates challenges when transiting from a secondary to higher

level of education. Further analysis is recommended to assist in understanding the challenges persons with disabilities encountered in this area.

Current school attendance rates for persons aged 5–24 years are much lower for persons with disabilities than for persons without disabilities attending primary and secondary schools. Persons with disabilities aged 6–14 years had an attendance rate of about 70% compared with more than 90% for persons without disabilities. The attendance rate for persons with disabilities dropped by age 15 years and declined thereafter, while the attendance rate for persons with disabilities dropped dramatically by age 20 years. Furthermore, the data show that 22% of persons with disabilities of this school age (n=2,836) never attended school and of those currently attending school (n=2,204), 34% left school before finishing.

Economic activity

Of the total number of persons with disabilities aged 15+ years in Fiji (24,371), about three in 10 (27%) are in the labour force and economically active compared with about three in five persons without disabilities (58%). Of those, 15% have paid work compared with 45% for persons without disabilities. The majority (73%) of persons with disabilities are not economically active compared with 42% of persons without disabilities in this same category and about 1% did not do or pursue any work. Women with and without disabilities are more likely than men to be in this category of being not economically active with most of them engaged in home duties.

Health

Health data collected in the 2017 Fiji census is limited and based only on reproductive health related to the person's marital status and women's total number of children. This information is critical since reproductive health impacts socio-economic situations, especially those of women with disabilities.

The distribution of the population aged 15+ years shows that the categories of "married" (legally or illegally) had the highest proportion of about 61%, followed by "never married" with 30%, widowed with about 7%, and 1% for those in the categories of separated and divorced. The same pattern was noted among legally married people for both persons with and without disabilities, with each category having almost the same high proportion at 62% and 61%, respectively. One out of five (21%) persons with disabilities have never been married and less than 2% were

either separated or divorced. Of the total persons with disabilities, 28% were widowed as compared with 6% of total persons without disabilities. Females are more likely to be widowed than men for both groups, indicating a long life-expectancy among women. Women with disabilities have fewer children ever born (CEB), with an average of 1.6 CEB compared with 2.1 for women without disabilities. It is vital that women with disabilities have access to better health services that can accommodate their specific needs.



1. INTRODUCTION

The principle of “leaving no one behind” underpins the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and this principle implies reaching the most disadvantaged people in a population. In many parts of the world, persons with disabilities are among the poorest, most vulnerable and marginalised members of society and, therefore, are most at risk of being left behind. Persons with disabilities often lack consistent access to health care, education, employment and economic opportunities and thus, are more likely to suffer social exclusion, economic vulnerability and other hardships.

The United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD) led to a paradigm shift in attitudes and approaches to persons with disabilities. Persons with disabilities are no longer viewed as “objects” of charity, medical treatment or social protection, but instead as “subjects” with rights, and capable of claiming those rights and making decisions about their lives based on free and informed consent, as well as being active members of society. Adopted in 2006 and coming into force in 2008, the UNCRPD universally recognises the dignity of persons with disabilities.

The UNCRPD is both a development and human rights instrument. It contains several articles that outline commitment to, and provide guidance on, the inclusion of persons with disabilities across all sectors. Relevant to this report is Article 31, which requires governments to collect relevant disaggregated information to identify and address barriers faced by persons with disabilities.

Reliable, national-level disability data enables policy formulation, evidence-based decision-making, and more efficient and effective use of limited resources. Moreover, reliable disability data can play a pivotal role in the development, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of programmes aimed at equalising opportunities for all. Because persons with disabilities are most at risk of being left behind, it is necessary to disaggregate data by disability status to inform policies that aim at addressing these disparities.

The situation of persons with disabilities has “been on the radar” of governments in the Pacific Islands region for some time, and the need to improve the availability of reliable disability statistics has been a subject of discussion at recent high-level meetings.

- Pacific leaders in 2016 endorsed the 2016–2025 Pacific Framework for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (PFRPD), which was developed to support governments in the Pacific with promoting and protecting the rights of persons with disabilities. At the 47th Pacific Islands Forum Leaders Meeting, leaders reiterated that disability remains an issue of significance for the region. Goal 5 of the PFRPD focuses on strengthening disability research, statistics and analysis.
- Member States of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific declared 2013–22 the “Asian and Pacific Decade of Persons with Disabilities” and adopted the Incheon Strategy to “Make the Right Real” for Persons with Disabilities in Asia and the Pacific. The strategy includes a specific goal to improve the reliability and comparability of disability data.
- The Fourth Regional Conference of Heads of Planning and Heads of Statistics hosted by the Pacific Community (SPC) in 2013, endorsed a proposal to re-analyse existing census and survey datasets to obtain richer information on disability related to equalising opportunities.

Disability-inclusive development in Fiji

Fiji is one of the Pacific Island countries that has taken a lead in addressing disability-related issues and realising the right of persons with disabilities prior to the United Nations conventions. In the mid-1960s, education for students with disabilities was in existence in Fiji with the establishment of the first special school by the Fiji Crippled Society, the Society for the Blind, and the Fiji Red Cross Society to provide education support and services for persons with severe physical and hearing impairments. The number of special schools has increased since then to 17, with the expansion of services to accommodate the needs of persons with disabilities. The number of mainstream schools enrolling students with disabilities is rapidly expanding since the Ministry of Education started providing additional resources based on disaggregated enrolment data.

In the mid-1970s, the Fiji Rehabilitation Council was established as the organisation responsible for vocational

programmes for students who have been unable to advance academically. Its role was to provide these students with some skills to enter the workforce or become self-employed. The vocational training programmes were reviewed in the late 1980s and found to be inadequate because they favoured students who lived in bigger urban centres, but were inaccessible for disabled persons in rural areas.

The establishment of the Fiji National Council for Persons with Disabilities (FNCPD) as the central authority and the national coordinating body for disability development began in the 1980s following the declaration by the United Nations General Assembly in 1981, as the “International Year of Disabled Persons”. The FNCPD – comprising government, non-governmental organisations and people with disabilities – was approved by Cabinet in September 1992 as a central authority to look after the needs of persons with disabilities.

Community-based rehabilitation has been in existence since the 1990s, with the initial aim of developing ways to promote early identification of and intervention towards children with disabilities living in rural areas, and who had very limited access to rehabilitation facilities and services offered within urban areas. The implementation of the Community-based Rehabilitation National Plan was through community rehabilitation assistance within the Ministry of Health and Social Welfare. Some of these assistances include staffing of a position in the Ministry to coordinate activities and supports, training of caregivers conducted by Australia Pacific Training Coalition as well as Fiji National University and training of physio students at Year 4 level on basic wheel-chair fittings.

Fiji signed the United Nations Convention on the UNCRPD in June 2010 and its optional protocol. The government’s recognition of the rights of persons with disabilities is evident in the inclusion of a disability-specific chapter 2(42) in the Constitution of the Republic of Fiji. The commitment recognises the rights for reasonable accommodation and accessibility towards enabling full and effective participation of persons with disabilities.¹ The Fiji parliament endorsed the ratification of the UNCRPD on 22 March 2017 and ratification followed on 7 June 2017. The disability bill was endorsed on 12 March 2018 and went into force on 21 March 2018 as the Rights of Persons with Disability¹ Act 2018 (Act no. 4 of 2018). This replaced the repealed Fiji National Council for Disabled Persons Act of 1994.

In 2017, the Government of Fiji – through the FBoS – adopted the Washington Group Short Set of Questions on Disability in the 2017 Housing and Population census as a commitment to improving the collection and compilation of disability statistics to support the availability of quality data for sound decision-making and development planning and interventions with regards to persons with disabilities. This is the first time in Fiji that disability information was collected nationwide through a census using recognised international tools and methodologies that had been tested in different settings. In the past, disability data were collected through short surveys conducted by different organisations, using different methodologies, making it difficult to utilise the data.

Concepts and definitions

Disability is an evolving concept and over the past decade, a transformation has occurred with regards to how disability is viewed: from a problem that belongs to an individual, to a societal problem (WHO 2007). The International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health classifies disability into three interrelated areas:

- Impairments include a loss or abnormality of a body part (i.e. structure) or body function (i.e. physiological function including mental functions).
- Activity limitations are difficulties an individual may have in executing activities.
- Participation restrictions are problems an individual may experience in life situations

Disability refers to challenges faced in all three areas. Disability denotes the negative aspects of the interaction between an individual’s health condition and that individual’s environmental or personal factors (WHO 2007).

Recognising the complexity of measuring disability, in 2001 the United Nations Statistical Commission established the Washington Group on Disability Statistics – commonly known as the Washington Group – to develop measures of disability. With the participation of national statistics offices from 123 countries and other key stakeholders, the Washington Group developed questions suitable for use in censuses, population surveys and specialised surveys.

The questions use the International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health as a conceptual framework and, as such, do not focus on impairment but rather on identifying limitations in functioning. The Short Set of

¹ Constitution of the Republic of Fiji, Chapter 2 section 42, p. 26.

Disability Questions includes six core functional domains: seeing, hearing, walking, cognition and/or memory, self-care and communication.

The Washington Group also developed an extended set of survey items on functioning to be used as components of population surveys or as supplements to specialised surveys. These questions identify persons who are at a greater risk of experiencing restrictions in performing usual activities such as those undertaken in daily living or participating in roles if no accommodations are made (Washington Group 2006). The questions were trialled during several rounds of testing (see Miller et al. 2011). The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), in conjunction with the Washington Group, also developed tools appropriate for identifying children who are at a greater risk of experiencing restrictions in performing usual activities such as those required for daily living, although these were not implemented in Fiji's 2017 census.

It has been recommended that countries use the Washington Group questions in censuses and other national surveys. The Short Set of Disability Questions are recommended for use in censuses. When these questions are used, data can be utilised to compare levels of participation in education, employment and family life of persons with disabilities with levels of participation among persons without disabilities. The data can also be used to monitor prevalence and trends for persons with disabilities.

Organisation of this report

This report is divided into eight sections, with this section being Chapter 1. Chapter 2 describes the data and methodology used in this report. Chapter 3 highlights the prevalence of disability in Fiji, while Chapters 4 to 8 detail specific disparities that exist between persons with disabilities and persons without disabilities. At the end of Chapters 3 to 8, key conclusions, policy implications and recommendations are made for possible actions by the government and its partners.



2. METHODOLOGY

This section describes the data used for this report, the analysis performed, and the limitations intrinsic to the analysis.

Overview of the 2017 Population and Housing Census

The analysis was based on data collected through Fiji's 2017 Population and Housing Census. The census is conducted every 10 years. Disability data were collected in the 2007 census but were not captured well due to the low level of understanding of census staff and trainers on the subject matter. Huge improvements were noted in the 2017 census's methodology, whereby the functional challenges questions were incorporated using the Washington Group Short Set of Disability Questions.

The 2017 census was conducted between 16 September and 16 October 2017. It was the first time that data were collected through Computer-Assisted Personal Interviews (using tablets to collect data), using software developed by the World Bank.

A department-wide effort was needed for this survey, and nine subcommittees were formed internally to assist with the overall census operation. These subcommittees covered: budget, human resources, mapping, training, publicity, questionnaire design, purchasing and equipment, data processing and tabulation, and data analysis. Each committee was allocated with one or more census operations as their key responsibilities to ensure a successful national data collection exercise.

The questionnaire design was completed with the assistance of SPC, with nine survey modules. Other key stakeholders and development partners provided input to the questionnaire design through various consultations. In total, 600 supervisors and 2,156 enumerators were recruited, trained and engaged in this national exercise. The training was conducted in Fiji's Central, Western and Northern divisions to assist enumerators in understanding the survey's purpose, survey manual, survey questions, data quality, and survey operation processes and procedures. More detailed information regarding the survey methodology can be obtained from the FBoS Census Release 3.²

Data analysis

The final datasets from the 2017 census were used in the compilation of this report. Data were processed and analysed using CSPro 6.3 and Stata 15. The following questions were asked in the 2017 census:

- i. Does (name) have any difficulty seeing, even if wearing glasses?
- ii. Does (name) have any difficulty hearing, even if wearing a hearing aid?
- iii. Does (name) have any difficulty walking or climbing steps?
- iv. Does (name) have any difficulty remembering or concentrating?
- v. Does (name) have any difficulty washing all over or dressing?
- vi. Does (name) have any difficulty communicating, understanding or being understood?

Respondents were asked to choose from the following choices when responding to the questions:

- i. No difficulty
- ii. Some difficulty
- iii. A lot of difficulty
- iv. Cannot do at all.

The main variable for analysis was derived from these questions for persons aged 5+ years. Disability was conceptualised as a continuum, from minor functioning difficulties to severe difficulties that significantly impact people's lives. Answer categories were purposefully designed to reflect this continuum, and cut-off points for disability subsequently were determined. Persons with disabilities were classified as anyone with at least one domain coded as "a lot of difficulty" or "cannot do at all" as recommended by the Washington Group for international comparability.

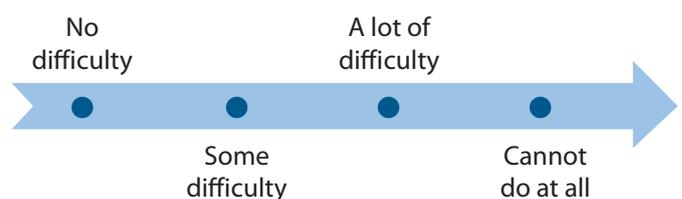


Fig. 2.1: Continuum of disability

² <https://www.statsfiji.gov.fj/index.php/census-2017/census-2017-release-3> and <https://microdata.pacificdata.org/index.php/catalog/486>

Additional variables, such as wealth quintile, were created for when they were not directly available from the census dataset. An analysis of the principal components was performed using data on the ownership of HH goods and assets. Amenities or assets were weighted to obtain wealth scores for each HH in the sample. Households were divided into five groups of equal size, from the poorest quintile to the richest quintile, based on the wealth scores. Household members (HMs) were allocated to the respective category of HHs in which they live. The wealth index captured underlying long-term wealth using information on HH assets, and was to be used to rank HHs by wealth, from poorest to richest. The final index was tested against the income data collected in the census. The wealth index did not provide information on absolute poverty, current income or expenditure levels, and calculated wealth scores are applicable only to the dataset on which they are based. As a result, some variables were re-categorised to facilitate analysis, including variables on age categories, education and others.

Limitations of the disability data and analysis

The analysis was limited to the available data collected during the 2017 Population and Housing Census, and as such, only aspects of disability for which available data exists are explored in this report. While it would have been preferable to provide information on, and an analysis of, all aspects of disability, this was not achievable from the data provided from the census and/or other surveys that did not focus exclusively on persons with disabilities. Limitations in the data, analysis performed, and interpretation of results in this report are summarised below.

The Washington Group Short Set of Disability Questions was designed to collect data on functionality among adult populations. Certain questions may be suitable for child subpopulations (17 years of age and younger), but the questions were not developed with this group in mind. While the Short Set includes six core domains of functioning, the questions were not designed to identify children with disabilities. Questions that are best suited for children were finalised in 2016 by the Washington Group and UNICEF, and are available for use by countries.

The Washington Group also developed an extended set of questions that expands on its Short Set to include additional domains of functioning (i.e. upper body functioning, pain and fatigue), and additional information per domain for use as components of population surveys or supplements to specialised surveys.



3. PREVALENCE OF DISABILITY

Prevalence of difficulties by domain

The six core domains assessed include seeing, hearing, walking, remembering or concentrating, self-care and communicating. Every person aged 5+ years in all HHs was asked about their difficulties and their level of difficulty (e.g. “no difficulty”, “some difficulty”, “a lot of difficulty” or “cannot do at all”) in all of the six domains. It is important to note that one person could have multiple difficulties and could report having all of these difficulties according to each domain and level of difficulty. Table 3.1a shows the summary distribution of the population aged 5+ years, with difficulties and severity of difficulties by domain and sex. Table 3.1b presents the proportion of these groups out of the total population aged 5+ years by domain, sex and level of difficulty.

Tables 3.1a and 3.1b show that out of the total population aged 5+ years (792,990 persons), more people (71,274) report some difficulties in seeing, which represent the highest proportion (9%) of the population. The second highest proportion of the population with some difficulties are those in the mobility domain, comprising about 5% of the population (36,540 persons) followed by the domains of memory and hearing with 3% each, respectively. The lowest proportion with some difficulties is

found in the domains of self-care and communication, with little more than 1% each.

The mobility and seeing domains have the highest proportion of the population aged 5+ years reporting a lot of difficulty, representing more than 1%, respectively. The domains with the lowest proportion of having a lot of difficulty are communication and self-care, with less than 1% each.

The data also indicate that mobility domains have the highest proportion of the population who "cannot do at all". Self-care and communication have the second highest proportion of 0.2%, while the remaining three domains of seeing, hearing and memory have the same lowest proportion of 0.1%.

Table 3.2 presents the prevalence of difficulties by functional domain, degree of difficulty among persons with disabilities and their background characteristics. Overall, of the total population 5+ years reporting any difficulties in any of the six domains, females are more likely than males to report any difficulties. By degree of difficulty, more males than females have a lot of difficulty in hearing. The data also indicate that more males than females report that they cannot hear (53%), cannot see (51%) and cannot communicate (52%).

Table 3.1a: Population aged 5+ years with difficulties by domains and level of difficulty

	None			Some			A lot			Cannot		
	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total
Seeing	364,360	347,582	711,942	32,519	38,755	71,274	4,171	4,911	9,082	350	342	692
Hearing	387,583	377,154	764,737	11,156	11,866	23,022	2,225	2,189	4,414	436	381	817
Mobility	378,964	364,822	743,786	16,480	20,060	36,540	4,767	5,429	10,196	1,189	1,279	2,468
Memory	385,966	373,430	759,396	12,341	14,554	26,895	2,617	3,102	5,719	476	504	980
Self-care	393,819	383,160	776,979	4,888	5,622	10,510	1,746	1,847	3,593	947	961	1,908
Communication	394,246	383,430	777,676	4,766	5,647	10,413	1,588	1,763	3,351	800	750	1,550

Source: Fiji 2017 Population and Housing Census

Table 3.1b: Percentage of the population aged 5+ years with difficulties by domains and level of difficulty

	None			Some			A lot			Cannot		
	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total
Seeing	90.8	88.8	89.8	8.1	9.9	9.0	1.0	1.3	1.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Hearing	96.6	96.3	96.4	2.8	3.0	2.9	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.1	0.1	0.1
Mobility	94.4	93.2	93.8	4.1	5.1	4.6	1.2	1.4	1.3	0.3	0.3	0.3
Memory	96.2	95.4	95.8	3.1	3.7	3.4	0.7	0.8	0.7	0.1	0.1	0.1
Self-care	98.1	97.8	98.0	1.2	1.4	1.3	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.2	0.2	0.2
Communication	98.2	97.9	98.1	1.2	1.4	1.3	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.2	0.2	0.2

Source: Fiji 2017 Population and Housing Census

Table 3.2: Population by functional domain and degree of difficulty by background characteristics

Functioning domains	Sex			Age group			Division				Rural / Urban	
	Total	Males	Females	5–17	18–49	50+	Central	Eastern	Western	Northern	Rural	Urban
Total	792,990	401,400	391,590	212,658	409,231	171,101	338,830	33,202	117,364	303,594	454,791	338,199
Seeing	81,048	45.7	54.3	2.6	23.7	73.8	46.1	5.0	14.4	34.6	55.3	44.7
Some difficulty	71,274	45.6	54.4	2.3	24.3	73.4	46.3	4.9	14.4	34.3	55.5	44.5
A lot of difficulty	9,082	45.9	54.1	3.6	18.8	77.6	44.4	5.5	13.5	36.6	54.1	45.9
Cannot do at all	692	50.6	49.4	11.3	29.9	58.8	39.2	6.8	16.2	37.9	45.8	54.2
Hearing	28,253	48.9	51.1	5.1	15.3	79.6	44.3	5.4	15.6	34.7	50.3	49.7
Some difficulty	23,022	48.5	51.5	4.3	14.2	81.5	44.7	5.1	15.6	34.7	50.9	49.1
A lot of difficulty	4,414	50.4	49.6	6.5	17.1	76.5	42.6	7.0	15.9	34.5	47.2	52.8
Cannot do at all	817	53.4	46.6	20.1	37.6	42.4	42.5	5.4	14.7	37.5	50.2	49.8
Mobility	49,204	45.6	54.4	2.6	17.1	80.3	43.1	5.8	15.9	35.1	49.4	50.6
Some difficulty	36,540	45.1	54.9	2.1	17.4	80.5	43.5	5.8	15.8	34.8	49.0	51.0
A lot of difficulty	10,196	46.8	53.2	2.8	15.0	82.2	42.2	6.2	16.0	35.6	50.5	49.5
Cannot do at all	2,468	48.2	51.8	9.8	21.9	68.2	40.1	5.2	16.9	37.8	52.3	47.7
Memory	33,594	45.9	54.1	4.5	21.2	74.3	43.8	6.5	15.8	33.9	47.2	52.8
Some difficulty	26,895	45.9	54.1	3.3	19.9	76.8	44.3	6.5	15.6	33.7	46.9	53.1
A lot of difficulty	5,719	45.8	54.2	8.2	24.8	67.0	42.5	6.7	16.5	34.3	47.7	52.3
Cannot do at all	980	48.6	51.4	14.8	37.0	48.2	37.9	5.4	18.1	38.7	51.6	48.4
Self-care	16,011	47.3	52.7	7.6	17.6	74.8	42.6	5.0	16.3	36.1	52.8	47.2
Some difficulty	10,510	46.5	53.5	5.9	15.4	78.7	43.4	5.1	16.7	34.7	52.4	47.6
A lot of difficulty	3,593	48.6	51.4	8.9	19.9	71.2	40.9	4.8	15.3	39.1	53.5	46.5
Cannot do at all	1,908	49.6	50.4	14.6	25.1	60.4	41.1	5.0	16.2	37.6	53.9	46.1
Communication	15,314	46.7	53.3	10.8	24.4	64.8	43.3	4.5	16.1	36.0	54.8	45.2
Some difficulty	10,413	45.8	54.2	7.9	20.1	72.0	44.3	4.4	16.7	34.6	53.9	46.1
A lot of difficulty	3,351	47.4	52.6	15.0	29.1	55.9	43.0	5.0	16.0	36.0	53.2	46.8
Cannot do at all	1,550	51.6	48.4	21.0	43.0	35.9	37.7	3.9	12.8	45.5	64.4	35.6

By age category, those aged 50+ are more likely to have difficulties in any of the six domains. The degree of difficulty in all six domains increases with age and this pattern is observed in all domains except for communication. Of the persons who cannot communicate at all, 43% of these people are in the 18–49 age group as compared with 36% in the older age group of 50+.

The data also show that of the total number of people reporting any difficulties in seeing (81,048), 46% live in the Central Division, 35% live in the Northern Division, 14% live in the Western Division and 5% live in the Eastern Division. Among those having difficulties with communication, 43% live in the Central Division, 36% live in the Northern Division, 16% live in the Western Division and about 5% are in the Eastern Division.

Furthermore, the data indicate that of the total population reporting any difficulties with mobility (49,024) and memory (33,594), half of these people live in urban areas.

Data from Table A-3 (see Appendix) shows that 14.3% (113,595) of the total population aged 5+ years (792,990) reported having any difficulty with, 13% (53,681) of the total male population (401,400) and 15% (59,914)

of the female population (391,590) were living with any difficulty. Among the male and female population living with any difficulty, more than 18% stated that they had a lot of difficulty while more than 4% cannot do at all in any of the six functional domains. The distribution by age group reveals that around 3% among the young population of 5–17 year olds had any difficulty, another 8% among the age group of 18–49 years and 45% among the older population aged 50+. Furthermore, about 15% and 17% of the rural and urban population confirmed having any difficulty.

The distribution of the population experiencing difficulty by functional domains reveals that the majority of 71% reported having difficulty with their vision, followed by 43% having difficulty with mobility, 30% memory difficulty, while 25% had hearing difficulty. Both self-care and communication domains constitute about 14% respectively.

Among males and females reporting any difficulty with their vision, more than 80% are with some difficulty, 11% had a lot of difficulties and about 1% stated they cannot see at all. By age group, about 4% of the young age group

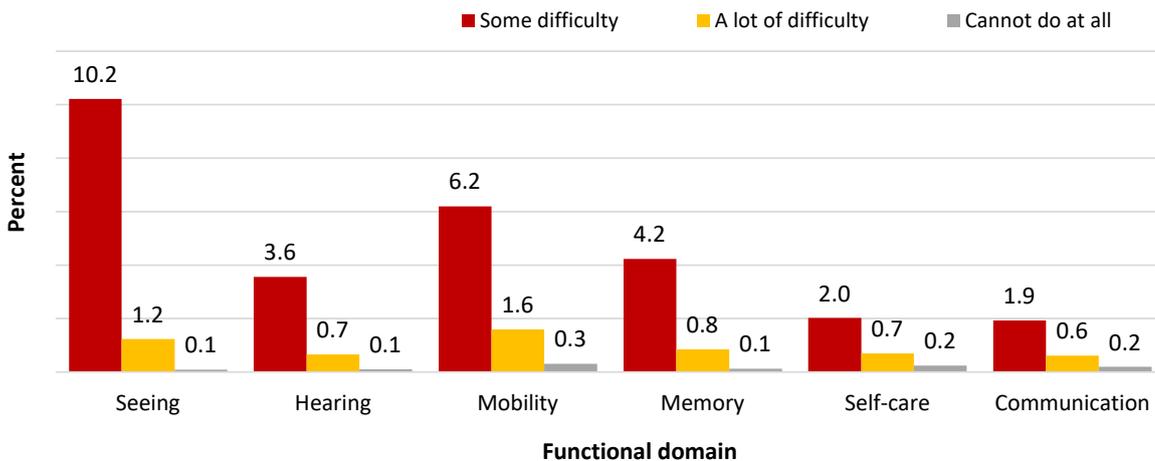


Fig. 3.1: Prevalence of difficulties by domain and degree of difficulty

5–17 years with seeing difficulty stated that they cannot see at all as opposed to 1% of the older age groups of 18–49 and 50+. The distribution of people with seeing difficulty and degree of difficulty across the four divisions indicated a similar proportion of more than 10% with "a lot of difficulty" and 1% with those who cannot see at all.

Of the total population reporting any difficulty in communication, males (11%), those in the young age group of 5–17 years (20%), those living in the Western Division (13%) and those residing in the rural areas (12%) are more likely to report that they cannot communicate at all compared with their counterparts.

More detailed information on the types and degree of difficulty by domains and background characteristics is presented in Table A-3.

Figure 3.1 shows the prevalence of difficulties by functional domain and degree of difficulty. The prevalence of "at least some difficulty" includes "some difficulty", "a lot of difficulty" and "cannot do at all". Similarly, the prevalence for "at least a lot of difficulty" includes "a lot of difficulty" and "cannot do at all", while the prevalence of "cannot do at all" refers to those who "cannot do at all" in all domains.

The seeing domain has the highest prevalence of at least some difficulties, with 10%, followed by mobility at 6%, and the memory and hearing domains with around 4% each. Self-care and communication had almost the same prevalence rate of around 2%. Mobility has the highest prevalence for "at least a lot of difficulties" and "cannot do at all".

Prevalence of difficulties by cut-off points

Disability is conceptualised as a continuum from minor functioning difficulties to severe difficulties that could impact people's health and well-being. The answer categories are designed to reflect this continuum from "no difficulty" to "cannot do at all". The disability prevalence at different cut-off points could serve to guide programme managers and decision-makers on interventions. For example, the disability prevalence cut-off at "a lot of difficulty" could be used for improving education and health services and support, while the cut-off point of "cannot do at all" could feed into the provision of assistive devices and pensions for people with disabilities. Figure 3.2 indicates the prevalence of disabilities and difficulties by different cut-off points. Figure 3.3 also demonstrates the cut-off points in the level of difficulties.

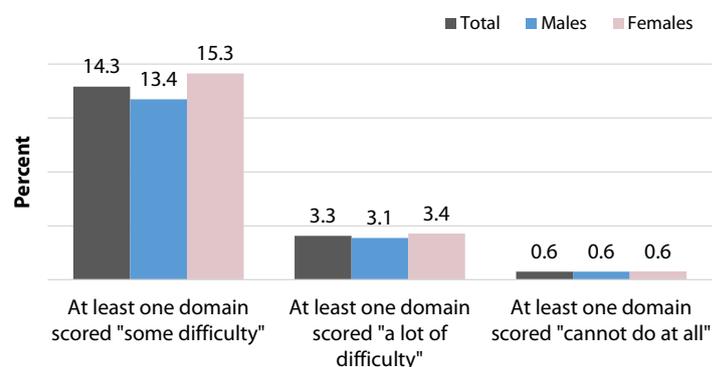


Fig. 3.2: Disability prevalence rate at different cut-off points for the population aged 5+ years, by sex

If the disability cut-off point is set at "some difficulty" (which includes "some difficulty", "a lot of difficulty" or "cannot do at all"), 14% of the population aged 5+ years are classified as having a disability. If the inclusion is set

at “a lot of difficulty” (which includes “a lot of difficulty” and “cannot do at all” in any of the functional domains), 3% of the total population aged 5+ years are classified as

having a disability. The disability prevalence is about 1% if the cut-off point is restricted to “cannot do at all”.

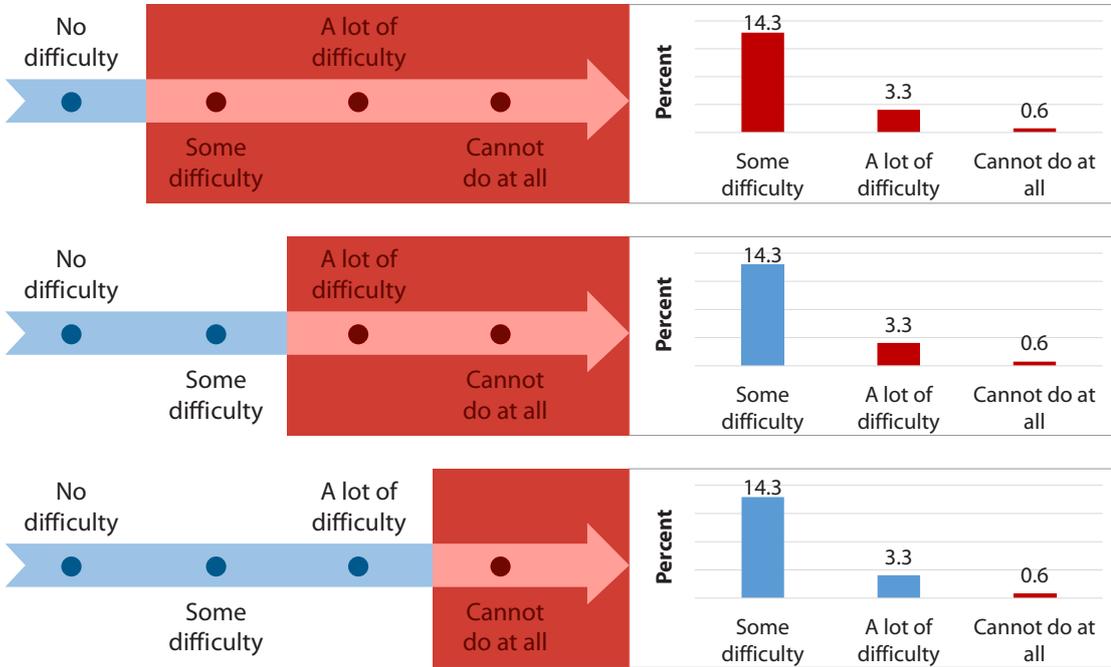


Fig. 3.3: Distribution of the population aged 5+ years by disability prevalence at different cut-off points

Prevalence of disability – Washington Group recommendation

The Washington Group recommends the use of a disability cut-off point at “a lot of difficulty” (i.e. at least one domain scored as “a lot of difficulty” or “cannot do at all”) to define and categorise persons with disabilities. Following these recommendations, the disability prevalence rate of the population aged 5+ years for Fiji is estimated to be about 3% (25,807 persons), which is shown in Figure 3.4.

Figure 3.5 shows disability prevalence by background characteristics. The prevalence rate by sex and area shows little difference, while the prevalence of disability is highest among the age group 50+. This could reflect the fact that health problems leading to functional limitations tend to increase with age. Proportionally, across divisions, the Eastern Division has the largest prevalence rate of 4% (1,420), but in absolute numbers, other divisions had higher number of persons with disabilities, with about 11,000 in Central, 10,000 in Western and about 4,000 in Northern.

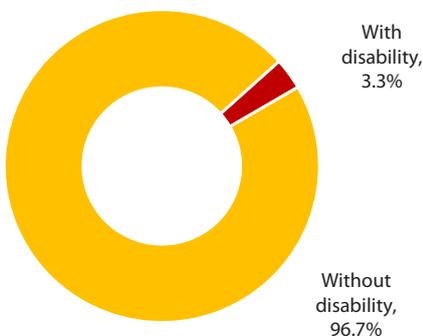


Fig. 3.4: Disability prevalence adopting the Washington Group recommended cut-off point

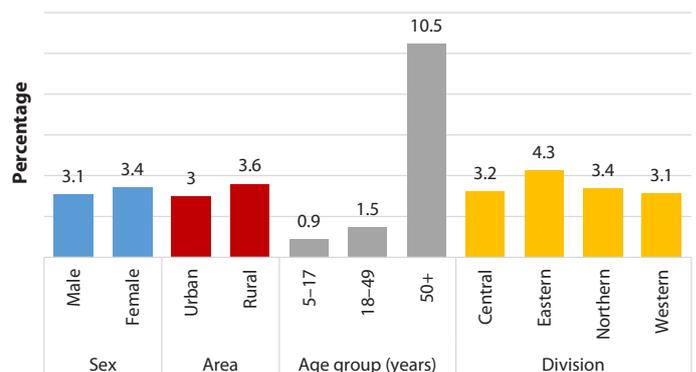


Fig. 3.5: Disability prevalence rates by sex, age groups, area and division

Figures 3.6a, b and c show the comparison between the overall disability prevalence and disability prevalence by sex and by age group. This is very critical as the relationship between the two indicators indicates which sex and what age group are more likely to be affected by disability.

The graphs show that disability in males increases past the national prevalence rate from age 50+ years, while disability in females increases past the national prevalence rate from age 55+. In general, disability is slightly more prevalent among females than males.

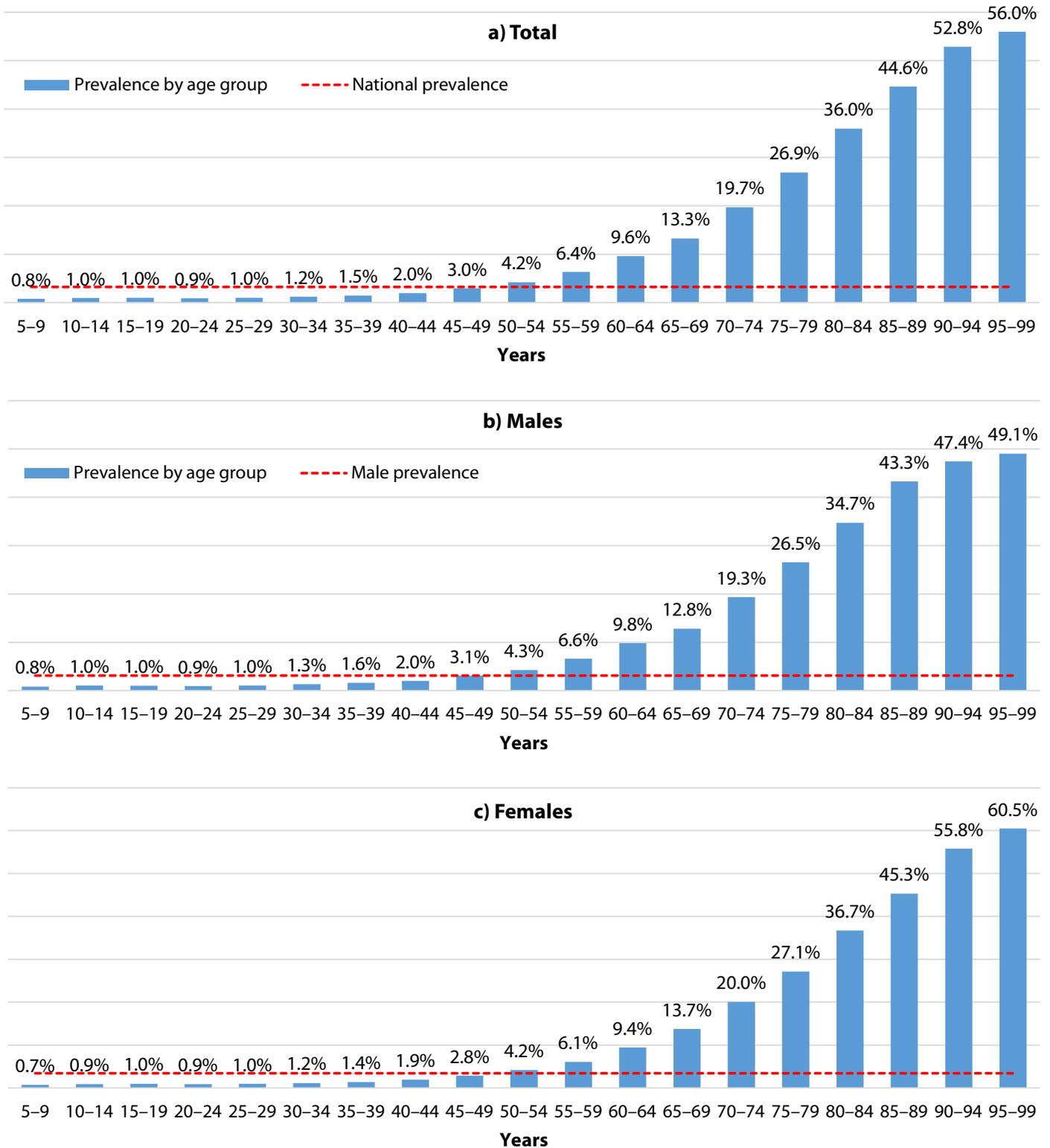
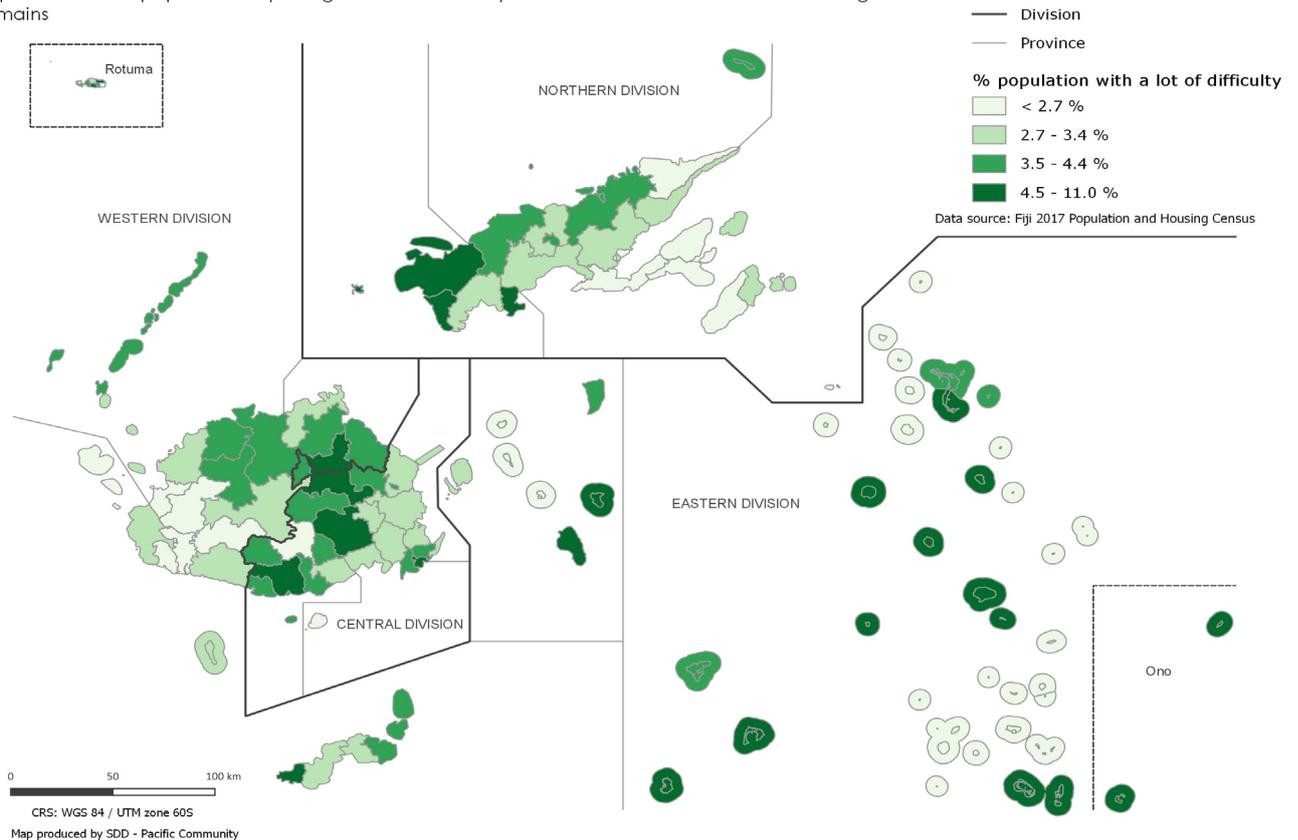


Fig. 3.6a, b and c: Distribution of population by age group against the national prevalence rate (a) at the Washington Group recommended cut-off point, and the distribution by age group in males (b) and females (c)

Figure 3.7 shows the prevalence of disability at the *tikina* (village) level for the population aged 5+ years. The presentation of data at the very lower level of aggregation is the key to reaching and improving the lives of persons with disabilities. The data indicate a higher prevalence rate in Nayau and Ono *tikina* with over 10%, followed by 9% in Matuku and 8% in Totoya *tikina*. The data also show other higher prevalence of disabilities in other *tikinas*, with 6% in Waimaro and 5% each in Matailobau, Noco and Nuku in the Central Division. Another 5% reside in Bua and Vuya *tikinas* in the Northern Division. Juju and Oinafa *tikinas* on Rotuma both reported 7% of persons with disabilities. The prevalence rate is shown to be higher in these places as a proportion to their individual total population, although their absolute numbers are much lower compared with other places.

Degree of disability: percentage of population with a lot of difficulty, by tikina

Proportion of the population reporting "a lot of difficulty" in at-least one of the six functioning domains



Note: Data in this figure is in Table A-2 (annex).

Fig. 3.7: Degree of disability: percentage of population with "a lot of difficulty", by tikina



FIJI DISABLED PEOPLES FEDERATION

Mission Statement

"To support and promote equalizing opportunities for persons with disabilities through advocacy programs and through promotion of an inclusive, barrier free society"

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4. LIVING CONDITIONS OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

The majority of persons with disabilities who live in developing countries often live in very poor conditions and have low access to basic needs and services that could improve their living conditions. Information regarding persons with disabilities and their living conditions is required for government and non-governmental bodies to be able to develop sound disability policies that aim to improve the living standards and conditions of persons with disabilities.

Disability by wealth status

This section covers the living conditions of persons with and without disabilities, with comparisons made between the two groups to highlight the key differences and main findings. The living environment where an individual resides plays an important role not only in the health status of the person but also in the capacity and capability of accessing social and economic development services and opportunities for a healthy life.

Figures 4.1a and b, and Table 4.1 show differentials in wealth status for persons with disabilities and those without disabilities. The wealth index, derived from the HH asset ownership, is a proxy indicator of long-term wealth. The analysis of the wealth index is based on the population of (767,183 persons without disabilities and 25,807 with disabilities) private HHs whose data on HH asset ownership were available. Table A-4 in the appendix provides further information about persons with disabilities by wealth quintile, age group and functional domains.

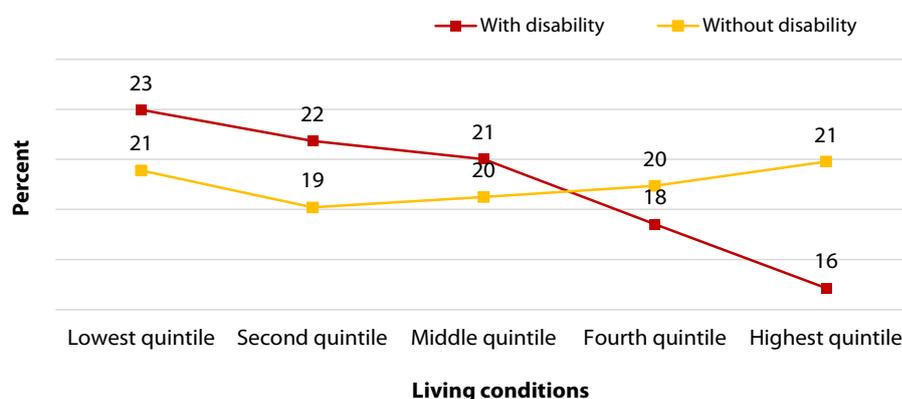


Fig. 4.1a: Proportion of the population aged 5+ years by household wealth and disability status

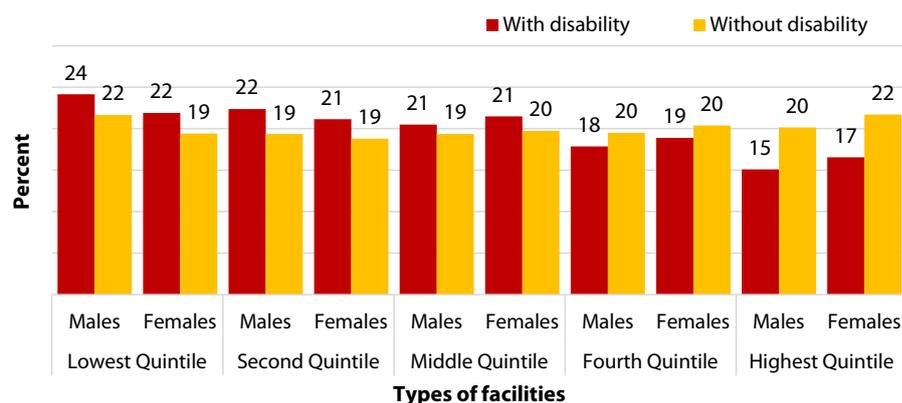


Fig. 4.1b: Proportion of the population aged 5+ years by household wealth, disability status and sex

Table 4.1: Population aged 5+ years by household wealth, sex and disability status

Wealth quintile	Total population			With disability			Without disability		
	Total	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females
Total	792,990	401,400	391,590	25,807	12,435	13,372	767,183	388,965	378,218
Lowest quintile	163,666	87,230	76,436	5,931	3,003	2,928	157,735	84,227	73,508
Second quintile	152,037	78,051	73,986	5,610	2,781	2,829	146,427	75,270	71,157
Middle quintile	155,025	77,750	77,275	5,423	2,550	2,873	149,602	75,200	74,402
Fourth quintile	157,736	78,107	79,629	4,751	2,224	2,527	152,985	75,883	77,102
Highest quintile	164,526	80,262	84,264	4,092	1,877	2,215	160,434	78,385	82,049
Lowest quintile	21%	22%	20%	23%	24%	22%	21%	22%	19%
Second quintile	19%	19%	19%	22%	22%	21%	19%	19%	19%
Middle quintile	20%	19%	20%	21%	21%	21%	20%	19%	20%
Fourth quintile	20%	19%	20%	18%	18%	19%	20%	20%	20%
Highest quintile	21%	20%	22%	16%	15%	17%	21%	20%	22%

Overall, the distribution of wealth among the total population is evenly distributed, with around 20% of the population falling within each wealth quintile. However, differences in wealth distribution are observed between persons with and without disabilities. The data show that persons with disabilities tend to live in the lowest wealth quintile HHs, and their numbers decline with an increase in HH wealth (23% live in the lowest quintile, and 16% in the highest quintile). In contrast, wealth distribution among persons without disabilities is more evenly distributed, although most of them are more likely to reside in the highest wealth quintile HHs than those with disabilities (21% versus 16%, respectively). This is indicative of the hardships incurred by HHs that have a HM with a disability.

The distribution of wealth by disability status for males and females for both groups (i.e. those with and without disabilities) also follows the same pattern. However, males with disabilities are more likely to be found in the lowest wealth quintile HHs, while more females without disabilities are found in the highest wealth quintile HHs.

Access to drinking water

Access to safe and clean drinking water and sanitation facilities are basic rights for all people, including persons with disabilities, and the denial of these basic rights can seriously affect a person's well-being. The collection of

data on accessibility to various drinking water sources involved asking heads of HHs questions on the source of the drinking water their HH mainly uses. Similar questions on sanitation were also asked of heads of HHs.

Figure 4.2 and Table 4.2 show accessibility to drinking water sources by heads of HHs and the disability status of the heads of HHs. Of 191,910 HHs, about 72% (137,542) were headed by someone without a disability, while 28% (54,368) of HHs were headed by someone with a disability. Of the same total, 82% (156,770) were HHs headed by males, while the remaining 18% (35,140) were HHs headed by females. Among the total HHs headed by males, one in every four (25%) male HH heads had a disability, while two out of five (41%) female HH heads had a disability.

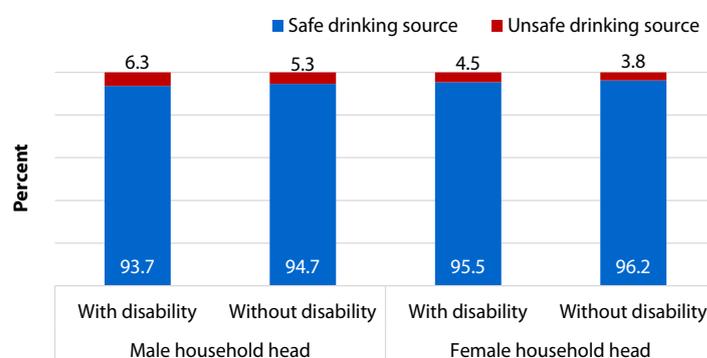


Fig. 4.2: Accessibility to drinking water by household head and their disability status

Table 4.2: Accessibility to drinking water by household head and their disability status

Source of drinking water	Total			Male HH head			Female HH head		
	Total	With disability	Without disability	Total	With disability	Without disability	Total	With disability	Without disability
Total HHs	191,910	54,368	137,542	156,770	39,983	116,787	35,140	14,385	20,755
Safe drinking source	94.7	94.1	94.9	94.4	93.7	94.7	95.9	95.5	96.2
Metered piped_Dwell	63.1	60.0	64.3	61.7	57.7	63.1	69.4	66.2	71.5
Metered piped_Outside	3.8	3.9	3.8	3.8	3.9	3.8	3.9	3.9	3.8
Metered_Standpipe	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.7
Metered_Neighbour	1.4	1.2	1.5	1.5	1.1	1.6	1.3	1.3	1.3
Dug_Protected	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.6	1.6	1.6	0.9	1.0	0.8
Spring_Protected	3.2	3.6	3.0	3.4	4.0	3.2	2.4	2.7	2.2
Rain tap_Inside	0.8	0.9	0.8	0.9	1.0	0.8	0.7	0.7	0.6
Rain tap_Outside	2.8	3.1	2.6	2.9	3.3	2.7	2.2	2.4	2.1
Communal_Tank	8.1	9.0	7.7	8.4	9.5	8.0	6.8	7.6	6.2
Communal_Standpipe	4.4	5.4	4.0	4.5	5.7	4.1	3.7	4.6	3.1
Borehole	3.8	3.8	3.9	4.0	4.0	4.0	3.0	3.1	2.8
Unsafe drinking water	5.3	5.9	5.1	5.6	6.3	5.3	4.1	4.5	3.8
Dug_Unprotected	0.3	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.1	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0
Spring_Unprotected	1.0	0.5	0.9	1.2	0.4	0.9	0.2	0.1	0.1
Surface_Water	2.5	1.2	2.3	3.0	0.9	2.1	0.5	0.3	0.2
Fsc_Egm*	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.1	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0
Other	1.3	0.5	1.4	1.5	0.4	1.2	0.3	0.1	0.2

* Fsc_Egm: Fiji Sugar Corporation and Vatukoula Gold Mine

Energy source

The source of energy used in the HH is another factor that contributes to the good living and good health of all HMs, especially to persons with disabilities. The 2017 census questionnaire included a question that was administered to the HH head about the source of energy (electricity) used. In cases where the HH used more than one source of energy, heads of HHs were instructed to list the sources by the most important. Figure 4.4 and Table 4.4 show the energy sources for persons with and without disabilities. The results show that the most common source of energy used among the population – both with and without disabilities – is from the Fiji Electricity Authority, with the majority of the population (77%) using this source. The second most common source of energy is solar, accounting for about 12%. The accessibility to different energy sources is more or less equal between persons with and without disabilities.

Access to the internet and mobile phone

Internet access and mobile phone ownership contribute to an individual's ability to communicate and access information. Figure 4.5 presents data on the proportion of persons aged 10+ years who have access to the internet and who own a mobile phone, by disability status. The data indicate that persons with disabilities have lower levels of internet access and mobile phone ownership than people without disabilities. Among persons with disabilities in this age group (25,132), only 15% have access to the internet or own a mobile phone. The vast majority of persons without disabilities (679,563 or 86%) have access to both services (Table 4.5).

The same pattern is observed with regard to internet accessibility between the two groups when broken down by gender. About 16% of males with disabilities have access to the internet, while 45% of males without disabilities have access to the internet. This pattern also applies when observing internet accessibility among females with and without disabilities. The data confirm the gap in accessing the internet and owning a mobile among persons with disabilities.

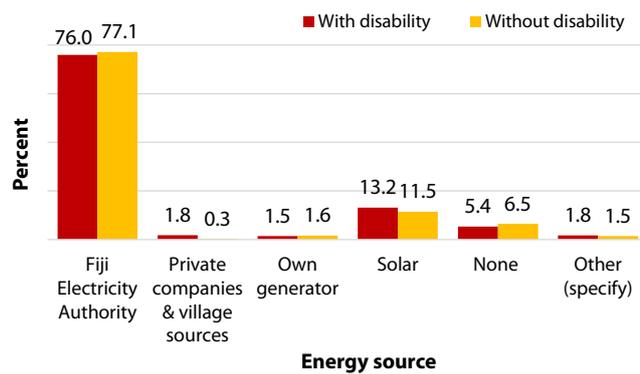


Fig. 4.4: Percentage of the population aged 5+ years with access to different sources of electricity by disability status

Table 4.4: Percentage of the population aged 5+ years with access to different sources of electricity by disability status and sex

Electricity sources	With disability			Without disability			Total
	Total	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	
Total population aged 5+	25,807	12,435	13,372	767,183	388,965	378,218	792,990
Fiji Electricity Authority	76.0	74.5	77.3	77.1	75.9	78.4	77.1
Fiji Sugar Corporation	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Vatukoula goldmine	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
Village diesel plant	1.8	1.9	1.7	1.4	1.4	1.3	1.4
Village hydro plant	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
Own generator	1.5	1.7	1.3	1.6	1.7	1.6	1.6
Solar	13.2	14.1	12.2	11.5	11.8	11.1	11.5
None	5.4	5.5	5.3	6.5	7.2	5.7	6.4
Other (specify)	1.8	1.8	1.7	1.5	1.5	1.4	1.5

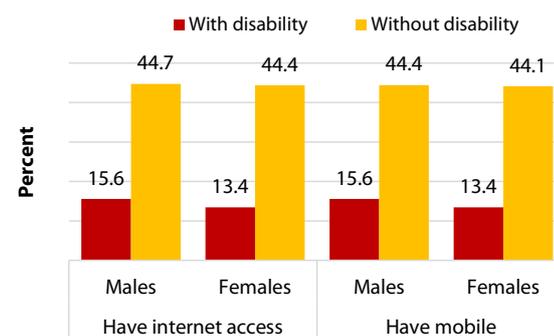


Fig. 4.5: Percentage of the population aged 10+ years with access to the internet and mobile phone by disability status and sex

Table 4.5: Percentage of the population aged 10+ years with access to the internet and mobile phone by disability status and sex

Accessibility	With disability			Without disability			Total
	Total	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	
Internet access							
Total	25,132	12,070	13,062	679,563	344,087	335,476	704,695
Yes	14.5	15.6	13.4	44.5	44.7	44.4	43.5
No	85.5	84.4	86.6	55.5	55.3	55.6	56.5
Mobile phone							
Total	25,132	12,070	13,062	679,563	344,087	335,476	704,695
Yes	14.5	15.6	13.4	44.3	44.4	44.1	43.2
No	85.5	84.4	86.6	55.7	55.6	55.9	56.8

Financial inclusion

The 2017 census questionnaire included a set of financial services-related questions, asking the population aged 10+ years whether they have a bank account or a mobile money account. Those aged 15+ years were asked about whether they have a credit union account or a microfinance account. For those reporting having any account, they were then asked about the number of times they used the services in the last month. Those aged 16+ years were also asked whether they have a Fiji National Provident Fund (FNPF) account. The presence of financial services in a country enables it to improve its economic growth, which is then reflected in people’s standard of living. The data collected are presented in Table 4.6 and Figure 4.6, and will assist policy-makers and other development bodies in understanding the proportion of the population with access to these services, particularly those with disabilities.

Figure 4.6 summarises the frequency of use of these financial services among the population, both with and without disabilities. In summary, the results show that persons with disabilities are less likely to use these services than persons without disabilities. For instance, of the total number of persons with disabilities reporting having a bank account (12,296), most (56%) used this service only once in the last month preceding the census; around three out of 10 (32%) used these services two to four times in the last month preceding the census; and very few (3%) are frequent users among persons with disabilities. Another 9% report that they never used their account in the last month. The situation is reversed for persons without disabilities. Of the 391,322 with a bank account, and without

a disability, 33% used their bank account once, more than half the total number (53%) used these services two to four times, 6% are regular users, and about 8% had not used their account in the last month prior to the census. A similar pattern can be found in the use of credit union services among persons with and without disabilities.

Access to and use of mobile money and microfinance services are also reported to be low among persons with disabilities. About 20% of persons with disabilities with mobile money accounts had not used their account in the last month.

Access to these financial services by disability status and by sex is presented in Table 4.6. The data show that males are more likely than females in both groups to use these services frequently, particularly a banking account and mobile money account. About 57% of all males without disabilities (215,371) used banking services two to four times in the last month prior to the census compared with 49% of all females without disabilities. A similar pattern occurs for persons with disabilities, with 34% of males using banking services compared with 29% of females. The use of a mobile money account indicates a similar pattern, with more males than females for both groups (i.e. with and without disabilities) using the service two to four times in the last month preceding the census.

Table 4.6 also shows the proportion of the population aged 16+ years with a national provident fund. Persons without disabilities are more likely to have a national provident fund (48%) compared with persons with disabilities (18%). Males in both groups are more likely than females to be a member of the national provident fund.

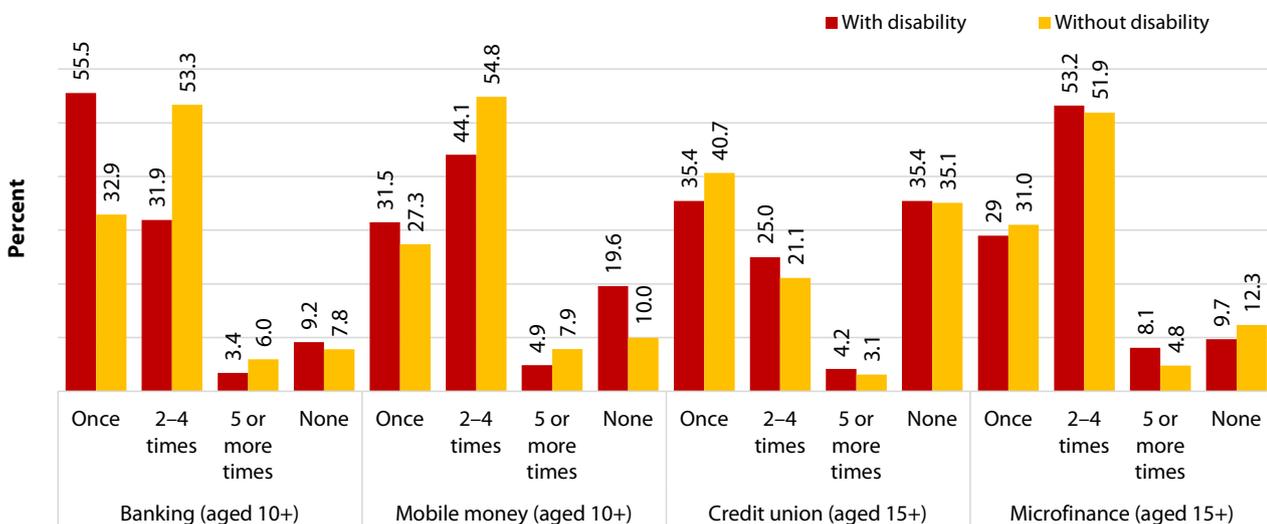


Fig. 4.6: Population aged 10+ years with access to financial services by disability status

Table 4.6: Percentage of the population aged 10+ years with access to financial services by disability status

Financial services	With disability			Without disability			Total
	Total	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	
Banking frequency (aged 10+)							
Total	12,296	6,584	5,712	391,322	215,371	175,951	403,618
Once	55.5	53.1	58.3	32.9	29.9	36.5	33.6
2–4 times	31.9	34.1	29.3	53.3	56.7	49.2	52.7
5 or more times	3.4	3.6	3.2	6.0	6.5	5.3	5.9
None	9.2	9.2	9.2	7.8	6.9	9.0	7.9
Mobile money frequency (aged 10+)							
Total	143	76	67	7,063	3,876	3,187	7,206
Once	31.5	30.3	32.8	27.3	27.2	27.5	27.4
2–4 times	44.1	47.4	40.3	54.8	55.4	54.1	54.6
5 or more times	4.9	3.9	6.0	7.9	8.3	7.3	7.8
None	19.6	18.4	20.9	10.0	9.0	11.1	10.2
Credit union frequency (aged 15+)							
Total	48	33	15	2,371	1,428	943	2,419
Once	35.4	36.4	33.3	40.7	39.4	42.6	40.6
2–4 times	25.0	24.2	26.7	21.1	21.7	20.3	21.2
5 or more times	4.2	6.1	-	3.1	3.4	2.8	3.1
None	35.4	33.3	40.0	35.1	35.6	34.4	35.1
Microfinance frequency (aged 15+)							
Total	62	12	50	1,572	335	1,237	1,634
Once	29.0	25.0	30.0	31.0	44.8	27.2	30.9
2–4 times	53.2	75.0	48.0	51.9	30.1	57.8	52.0
5 or more times	8.1	-	10.0	4.8	6.3	4.4	4.9
None	9.7	-	12.0	12.3	18.8	10.6	12.2
FNPF account (aged 16+)							
Total	23,909	11,427	12,482	567,336	284,334	283,002	591,245
FNPF Account	18.3	24.4	12.7	48.2	57.6	38.8	47.0
No account	81.7	75.6	87.3	51.8	42.4	61.2	53.0

Dwelling and land tenure

Heads of HHs were asked about their dwelling type and whether they owned the land they lived on. This information assists decision-makers and policy-makers with developing plans and policies that improve the security of dwellings and land ownership arrangements.

More persons with disabilities than persons without disabilities reside in a one-family house detached from any other house (81% and 79%, respectively, see Table 4.7). The same proportion of persons with disabilities and without disabilities (12% and 13%, respectively) live in a one-family house consisting of multiple small structures. Very few people with or without disabilities reside in the other remaining dwelling types, including a building with two or more apartments, a dwelling attached to shops or other non-resident buildings, and others.

The majority of persons with and without disabilities live in a dwelling that is owned outright by a member of their HH. The owner of the dwelling can be the head of the HH, spouse, parents or other HM. Moreover, persons with disabilities are more likely to reside in this arrangement than persons without disabilities (87% and 80%, respectively). More persons without disabilities than persons with disabilities reside in dwellings that are rented from a private landlord (12% and 7%, respectively) and occupy government or institutional housing (4% and fewer than 2%, respectively). This pattern is very similar when comparing dwelling tenure by sex and disability status.



Table 4.7: Percentage of the population by dwelling type, dwelling tenure and land tenure, by disability status and sex

Tenure types	With disability			Without disability			Total
	Total	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	
Total	25,807	12,435	13,372	767,183	388,965	378,218	792,990
Dwelling type							
A one-family house detached from any other house	80.5	81.0	80.1	78.6	79.2	78.0	78.7
A one-family house made up of multiple small structures	12.3	12.2	12.4	12.6	12.3	12.8	12.6
A building with two or more apartments	5.7	5.4	6.0	7.6	7.3	8.0	7.6
Dwelling attached to a shop or other non-resident buildings	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7
Lodging house (hostels, etc.)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Hotels	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5
Dwelling tenure							
Own outright	87.3	87.9	86.8	80.4	80.8	80.0	80.6
Have a mortgage	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Rent from private landlord	7.2	6.6	7.7	11.6	11.2	12.0	11.4
Rent from Public Rental Board	1.2	1.1	1.2	1.0	1.0	1.1	1.0
Occupy government or institutional housing	1.7	1.6	1.7	4.1	4.0	4.1	4.0
Occupy by leave of employer	0.4	0.5	0.3	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.6
Caretaker	1.3	1.3	1.2	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.4
Other	1.0	0.9	1.1	0.9	1.0	0.9	0.9
Land tenure							
Freehold	17.5	17.1	17.9	17.7	17.6	17.9	17.7
Lease from state	12.0	12.1	11.9	13.5	13.6	13.5	13.5
Registered lease from iTaukei Land Trust Board	19.1	18.7	19.5	19.3	19.2	19.4	19.3
Occupy without any legal arrangement (squatters)	1.9	2.0	1.9	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0
Occupy iTaukei land with informal (<i>vakavanua</i>) arrangement	5.7	5.7	5.7	4.7	4.7	4.7	4.7
Occupy iTaukei land with formal tenancy agreement	1.0	1.1	0.9	1.3	1.3	1.2	1.3
Occupy through traditional village tenure	19.7	20.2	19.2	16.9	17.3	16.5	17.0
Traditional ownership (Mataqali, Tokatoka, Yavusa)	11.9	12.4	11.4	11.5	11.6	11.3	11.5
Housing Authority lease	3.4	3.5	3.3	3.2	3.1	3.2	3.2
Other	7.8	7.3	8.2	9.9	9.4	10.3	9.8

The data on land tenure also reflect a number of land tenure arrangements in the country. The most common arrangement is through traditional village tenure, with about 20% of persons with disabilities and 17% of persons without disabilities living in this type of land arrangement. The second most common arrangement is a registered lease from iTaukei Land Trust Board, with 19% of persons with disabilities and 19% without disabilities reporting residing in this type of land tenure ownership. Another 14% of persons without disabilities and 12% of persons with disabilities reside in land leased from the state while about 12% of both groups have traditional ownership of the land. Less than 10% of both groups stay in other land ownership arrangements, and 2% occupy the land without any proper arrangement and are squatters.

Conclusions and recommendations

The data reveal that wealth is distributed unevenly among persons with and without disabilities, with more persons with disabilities living in the lowest wealth quintile HHs (23%) than those living in highest wealth quintile HHs (16%). By contrast, about 21% of persons without disabilities reside in the lowest wealth quintile HHs while 21% live in the highest wealth quintile HHs. The lower level of socio-economic status associated with their difficulties could be a contributing factor that limits their accessibility to the internet, mobile phone, and financial services as confirmed by the findings. Of the total number of persons with disabilities, 15% have access to the internet and a mobile compared with about 45% persons without disabilities.

In contrast, the results demonstrate that access to clean drinking water sources and improved sanitation is available for HHs of people with disability. It is important to emphasise, however, that the data were not collected directly from individuals but from the head of the HH at the HH level. The analysis assumes that accessibility applies to all HHs regardless of their status, which might not be the case for persons with disabilities.

The following recommendations are suggested to support government ministries, development partners and other public and private interventions to address the issues highlighted in this section of the report.

- Review existing policies, particularly the National Policy on Persons Living with Disabilities 2008–18 as it provides a framework to address all issues and needs of persons with disabilities, and identifies priority areas for actions to dismantle barriers hindering the full participation of persons with disabilities. The policy's implementation plan number 9 more specifically focuses on strengthening social security programmes for persons with disabilities, and strategies developed for effective delivery services. The data show the need to review these programmes to ensure that the implementation and delivery of programmes and services are effective and reach all identified persons with disabilities. Furthermore the implementation plan of the policy should be costed to monitor the spend towards disability intervention commitments by the Fiji government.
- The government should provide support in strengthening research and development to develop information and communications technology (ICT)-enabled solutions for persons with disabilities, incorporate accessibility requirement for persons with disabilities in procurement policies, and review disability policies to include ICTs. It is also recommended for the public and private sectors, as well as other sectors including disability organisations, to consider lowering the cost of assistive technologies, improving the provision of training opportunities, and raising ICT awareness among persons with disabilities.
- Consider undertaking additional research and data collection that focuses more on persons with disabilities and their accessibility to safe drinking water, sanitation and other HH basic needs in order to reflect their actual experiences and challenges that were not possible through the census questions.



5. EDUCATION AND DISABILITY STATUS

Article 24 of the UNCRPD declares: “States Parties recognize the right of persons with disabilities to education. With a view to realising this right without discrimination and on the basis of equal opportunity, States Parties shall ensure an inclusive education system at all levels and lifelong learning directed to the development by persons with disabilities of their personality, talents and creativity, as well as their mental and physical abilities, to their fullest potential”.

Inclusive education in Fiji has been in existence since the 1960s, with church schools enrolling persons with disabilities, and through the establishment of special schools by disability-related societies. Later, more special schools were established as well as vocational training centres for persons with disabilities. The Special and Inclusive Education Policy was endorsed in 2010 and reviewed in 2016. The purpose of the policy is to provide a framework that ensures and strengthens access to quality education for all persons with disabilities in all schools throughout Fiji. The Special and Inclusive Education Policy Implementation Plan 2017–20 was developed to support a realistic, staged approach to implementing the policy.

Ever attended school

The 2017 Population and Housing Census included education-related questions on those aged 3+ years. The questions began with finding out whether the respondent had ever attended any school in his or her lifetime. The questions that followed asked about educational attainment and current attendance for those who have ever attended any school. The analysis of the data in this section covers the educational background of persons aged 5+ years for those with and without disabilities.

According to the census results, over nine out of 10 (94%) persons aged 5+ years (743,882), irrespective of their disability status, have ever attended school in their lifetime regardless of whether they completed their education or not (Fig. 5.1 and Table A-5a*). The proportion of the population that ever attended school by disability was also high, although the results indicate an educational oppor-

tunity gap between the two groups. Of the total number of persons with disabilities (25,807), 85% ever attended school. As for the total number of persons without disabilities (767,183), 94% ever attended school, a difference of 9%. Moreover, persons with disabilities are most likely to not attend school.

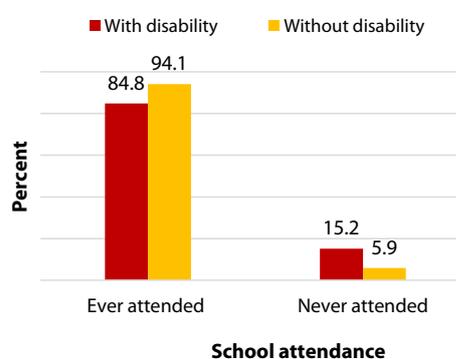


Fig. 5.1: Percentage of the population that has ever attended school by disability status

Educational attainment

Figure 5.2 and Table A-5b* present the percentage of the population aged 5+ years by their background characteristics, highest educational attainment and disability status. Overall, about 59% (465,827) of the whole population (792,990) had completed secondary school as their highest qualification, 11% (89,578) attained a tertiary qualification, while 6% (49,108) never attended any school in their lifetime. The results show that these proportions were similar to those without disabilities, but differences could be cited when compared with persons with disabilities. About 2% (13,490) attended school but did not attain any qualification (Table A-5b*).

Of the total number of persons with disabilities (25,807), about 51% were able to obtain a secondary qualification compared with 59% of those without disabilities. The proportion of persons with disabilities who attained higher than a secondary education drops to only 5% as compared with 12% of persons without disabilities. About 15% of persons with disabilities never attended school, in comparison with only 6% of persons without disabili-

* Table available in the annex.

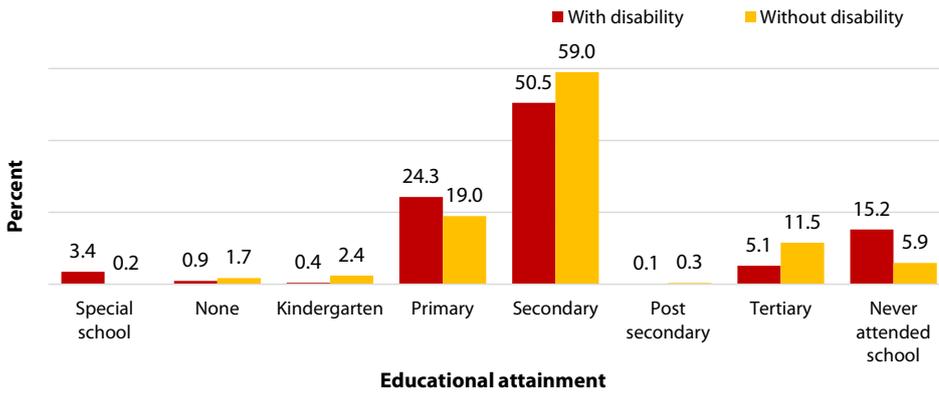


Fig. 5.2: Percentage of the population aged 5+ years by background characteristics, maximum education attainment and disability status

ities, with 28% in the age group of 5–17 years having never attended school compared with only 7% of persons without disabilities. Females with disabilities are less likely to attend school with 18% never attending as opposed to 6% of females without disabilities.

Among persons with disabilities, females are more likely than males to never attend school. They are also less likely to complete a secondary and higher than secondary education than males. Those with disabilities living in rural areas are less likely to obtain higher educational qualifications (2%) as compared with those living in urban areas (8%, Table A-5b*).

The data indicate that persons with disabilities are having challenges to access and complete a higher level of education and this is more evident among persons with disabilities living in rural areas. This could be due to the lack of educational services in the rural areas, difficulties accessing transport to travel to educational facilities, perceived lack of benefit of post-secondary education (such as employment for people with disabilities), or minimal support towards persons with disabilities from their communities and families.

Education attendance

Figure 5.3 and Table A-5c* show the school-aged population (aged 5–24 years) who are currently attending school by disability status. The data are based on the question asked of all persons in this age group of whether they are currently attending any school. The information on education attendance is important for monitoring the education coverage among the school-aged population of 5–24 years. This is the age range of the population that should be attending school, regardless of their disability status.

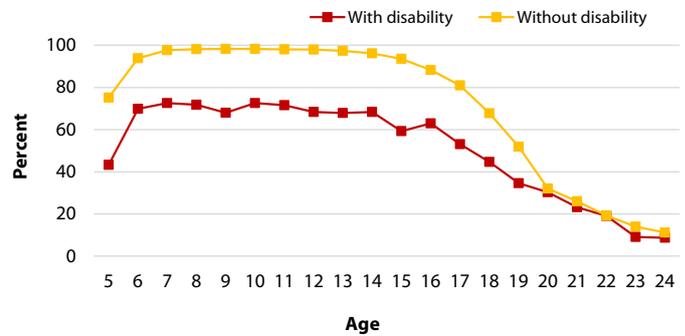


Fig. 5.3: Percentage of the population aged 5–24 years currently attending school by age and disability status

Table A-5d* shows the percentage of school aged population by school attendance, disability status, type of disability and sex. The results show that the most common difficulty among school-aged children with disability who are currently attending school is communication, comprising 34%. This is followed by seeing (24%), hearing (22%), memory (21%), and the lowest of 15% with mobility. A similar pattern can be observed among children aged 5–19 years of age except among older children where seeing (45%) is the most common difficulty with females more likely than males to report having this difficulty.

Furthermore, young males are more likely than young females to report having difficulties in all the domains. Moreover, 33% of females in the age group of 15–19 years with disability who are currently attending school had difficulty with seeing compared with 22% of males.

Early childhood education is critical for children’s mental development, and the data show that 75% of all children without disabilities at age 5 currently attend school, while this figure is much lower for children with disabilities, with only about two out of five (43%) entering school

* Table available in the annex on page 45.

at this early age. At age 6, the attendance rate increases for both groups, however, differences in the attendance rate could be observed. Despite all of the interventions and support to children with disabilities with regards to education, the data show that about 70% of children with disabilities between the ages of 6 and 14 were able to attend school (primary and secondary level), and the rate drops by age 15 years and continues to decline thereafter, indicating challenges that persons with disabilities encounter to continue to a post-secondary and higher level of education.

In comparison to children without disabilities, the data reveal that almost all children (between 80% and 90%) aged of 6–18 years are currently attending school (primary and secondary school), while more than half of those aged 19 and 20 attended school and their rate drops by age 21.

Current school attendance rates for persons aged 5–24 are much lower for persons with disabilities than for persons without, indicating lower levels of access to education services for persons with disabilities. There appears to be a greater disparity between persons with disabilities in primary and secondary school (a difference of more than 20%), which is indicative of a need to improve access to education at these levels, and/or that persons with disabilities in this age group may be of a level of severity that prevents school attendance altogether.

Table 5.1: The population aged 5–24 years by school attendance and disability status

School attendance	With disability		Without disability	
	Number	%	Number	%
Ever attended school				
Total	2,836	100.0	312,759	100.0
Attended school	2,202	77.6	305,482	97.7
Never attended	634	22.4	7,277	2.3
Currently attending school				
Total	2,202	100.0	305,482	100.0
Attending school	1,463	66.4	228,984	75.0
Left school	739	33.6	76,498	25.0

Table 5.1 presents overall data on school attendance for the population aged 5–24 years by disability status. Of the total 2,836 persons with disabilities in the 5–24 age group, one in five (22%) never attended school compared with only 2% of persons without disabilities. About 34% of persons with disabilities left school as opposed to 25% of those without disabilities. The results indicate that there are children in this school-age group for both groups who are still missing out on education opportunities. Despite all the interventions and support – particularly towards

persons with disabilities – this group is still not receiving the same education opportunities as their peers without disabilities, including having higher risk of dropping out if they were enrolled in the first place. This should be of great concern to the government, line ministries, communities and families, which should each ensure that all children in this age group attend school.

Conclusions and recommendations

The findings demonstrate that educational opportunities are lower for persons with disabilities than for persons without disabilities. Persons with disabilities have lower enrolment rates and are three times more likely to have never attended school than those without disabilities. More than 15% of persons with disabilities have never attended school compared with about 6% of persons without disabilities (Figure 5.1). Among persons with disabilities who enter school, about 51% manage to continue to secondary school and attain secondary qualifications, with the percentage higher (59%) for persons without disabilities. Persons with disabilities are under-represented at the post-secondary level and higher, with only 6% able to reach this level of education compared with 12% of persons without disabilities. Data on current attendance for persons aged 15–24 confirms that persons with disabilities do not obtain the same educational opportunities as those persons without disabilities.

The following recommendations are proposed to address the issues related to education accessibility faced by persons with disabilities:

- Review the Fiji Five Year Development Plan for education (section 3.1.5) to mainstream disability in education development programmes and projects, and include resources and support that specifically target the needs of persons with disabilities, with special attention to children with disabilities in both mainstream and or special schools, and those with different needs who may require support. The policy goal dictates the provision of access to education for physically challenged students, although policy programmes and projects that detail the support do not contain specific needs and requirements for persons with disabilities. This has resulted in a lack of funds to support educational activities for persons with disabilities.
- Review the Fiji Special and Inclusive Education Policy and ensure that the government – through

the Ministry of Education and in collaboration with stakeholders, communities and partners – implements the policy to support resources and services for persons and students with disabilities at the government level as well as at the community and family level.

- Suggest that laws and regulations be revised to ensure school transport, infrastructure, and school curriculum, materials and information are made available to persons with disabilities.
- Provide ongoing training to school managers in developing school annual plans (refer to Special and Inclusive Education Policy); training teachers in the use and sharing of data from different sources to assist in identifying students with disabilities (enrolled or out of school); strengthening the capacity of teachers to educate students with disabilities at all levels.
- Strengthen collaboration between government bodies, key stakeholders and communities so as to inform and raise awareness of the importance of education to all people, including persons with disabilities.



6. ECONOMIC ACTIVITY AND DISABILITY STATUS

Article 27 of the UNCRPD stipulates that persons with disabilities should have access to open, inclusive and accessible employment in the mainstream labour market. In line with this, the PFRPD (goal 1) promotes livelihood opportunities through inclusive economic development and decent work. One of the outcomes of this goal is that work and employment opportunities – in both the public and private sectors – are improved for persons with disabilities. Access to livelihoods for adults is crucial for both persons with and without disabilities to achieve self-reliance and ensure the well-being of their families.

Employment status

This section covers the economic activities for both persons with and without disabilities. In the census, the data on economic activities were collected for all persons aged 10+ years through a set of questions asking the person about their main activity in the last week. However, the analysis presented in this section focuses on persons

aged 15+ years. Figure 6.1 and Table A-6* summarise the proportion of the population aged 15+ years by their background characteristics, main activity and disability status.

The 2017 census counted 625,099 persons aged 15+ years, with 57% (357,391) of them in the labour force and about 44% involved in paid work. Of the 43% (267,708) of the population aged 15+ years who are classified as not being in the labour force, most are people with home duties (23%), followed by students (12%), elderly people (3%), and retired persons (2%). About 1% are not involved in any economic activities and are not looking for work.

Of the total population aged 15+ years, about 4% (24,371) are classified as persons with disabilities. Of these, only 27% participated in the labour force as compared with 57% participation by persons without disabilities. Persons with disabilities are more likely to be involved with activities outside the labour force, with the majority (74%) falling into this category.

* Table available in the annex.

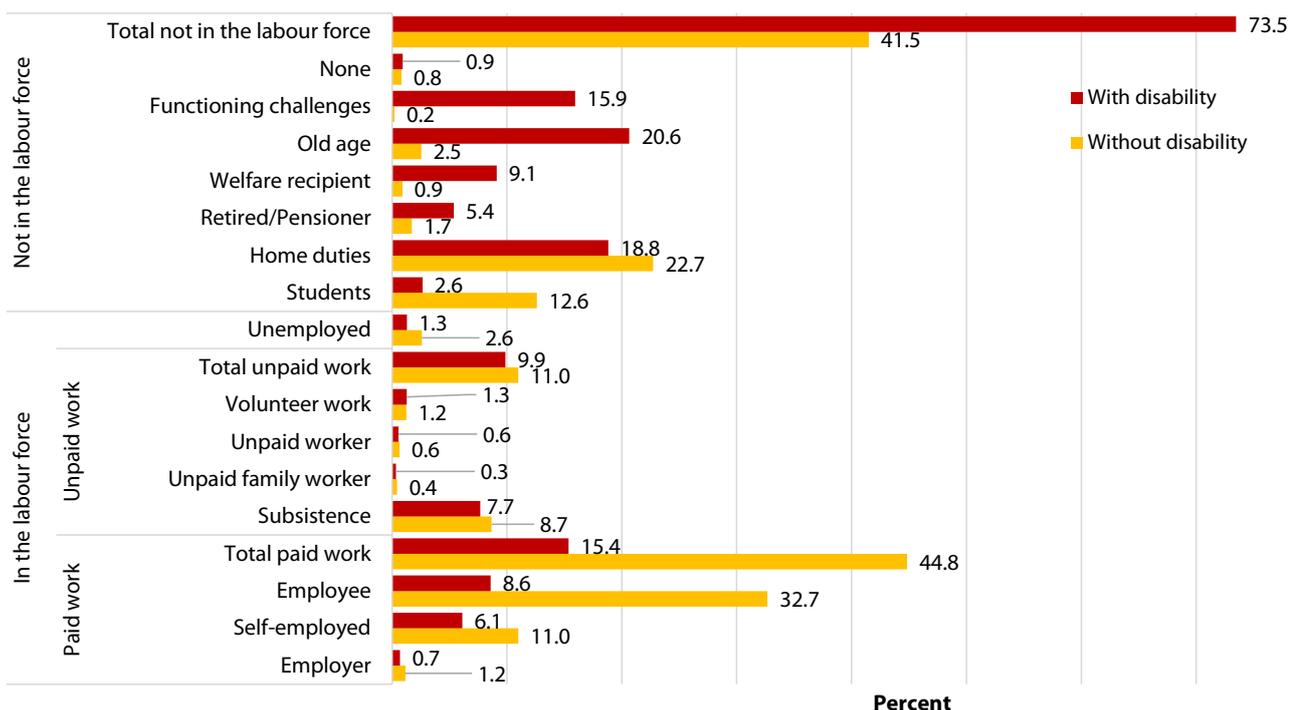


Fig. 6.1: Employment status for the population aged 15+ years by disability status

When comparing involvement in individual activities, particularly in paid work, the data indicate that persons with disabilities face challenges in participating in, or looking for, paid work. Only 15% in this group have paid employment as compared with nearly one in two persons without disabilities (45%) undertaking paid work. Persons with disabilities represent four times fewer employees compared with those without disabilities (9% and 33%, respectively). Rates of self-employment among persons with disabilities (6%) were lower than those without (11%).

The proportion of the population not in the labour force reveals that persons with disabilities are more likely to be older people (21%) and those doing home duties (19%), while 23% of persons without disabilities are involved in home duties and 13% are students.

Occupation

Table 6.1 summarises the proportion of the population aged 15+ years by occupation, region, disability status and sex. Overall, the data indicate that of the total number of persons with disabilities (6,150), about 47% hold jobs as skilled agricultural and fisheries workers, followed by 11% in the elementary occupation category which includes cleaners and helpers, street and related sales and service workers, agricultural, forestry and fishery labourers. The other remaining occupational categories comprised less than 10% of persons with disabilities. Similarly, the distribution of all persons without disabilities (335,240) by occupation shows that about 29% are in the skilled agricultural and fisheries workers category, 12% are in crafts and trade-related work, 11% occupy elementary related jobs and another 10% occupy service, shop and market sales jobs. The remaining occupational groups consisted of less than 10% of the total number of persons without disabilities.

Table 6.1 also shows that persons with disabilities living in urban areas include 24% with skilled agricultural and fisheries jobs, and more than 10% in each of the categories of elementary, craft and related trade workers, and professional occupations. Fewer than 10% of all persons with disabilities occupy other remaining occupation categories. In comparison, more than 10% of persons without disabilities occupy six different occupational categories: 14% in crafts and related trade work, 13% in service-related work, 12% for each professional and skilled agricultural and fisheries workers while 10% work in elementary occupations.

The occupations for persons with and without disabilities living in rural areas indicate another pattern, with the skilled agricultural and fisheries category as the main occupation for both groups. For instance, of the total number of persons with disabilities in rural areas, 67% are in this occupational category whereas of the total number of persons without disabilities, 51% are found to be in this occupational category. The same occupational pattern was also observed for both groups by males and females.

Conclusions and recommendations

Persons with disabilities are less likely to have access to paid employment as persons without disabilities. About one in five persons with disabilities (15%) are in paid work compared with one in two persons without disabilities (45%). The majority of persons with disabilities are not economically active and, therefore, are not in the labour force, with most either unable to work, or retired or on welfare. The data also reveal that persons with disabilities are more engaged in skilled agriculture and fisheries work, with most of these workers found in rural areas rather than urban areas. The following are suggested recommendations to assist with improving the employment status and opportunities for persons with disabilities:

- Review existing employment policies, regulations and programmes regarding persons with disabilities and ensure they are implemented and delivered effectively, such as the National Employment Policy (policy priority 8), which suggests increasing the opportunities for persons with disabilities to earn income, and the Employment Relations Act, which recommends a provision for a 2% quota for persons with disabilities. Other policies that promote inclusive employment for persons with disabilities should also be reviewed.
- Review and strengthen financial and technical support from the government and its partners to encourage the recruitment of persons with disabilities through the provision of wage subsidies, grants towards training costs, and workplace adjustment costs.
- Consider collaborative efforts between data producers from the national statistics offices and other statistical systems to improve the collection and production of reliable up-to-date data of the labour market situation of persons with disabilities, and provide training to data users in order to effectively mainstream disability data in all employment and labour market policies and programmes.

Table 6.1: Proportion of the population aged 15+ years by occupation, area, disability status and sex

Occupation	With disability			Without disability		
	Total	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females
Total population 15+	6,150	4,236	1,914	335,240	230,176	105,064
Legislators, Senior Officials and Managers	4.9	4.9	4.7	6.0	5.9	6.1
Professionals	6.3	5.0	9.2	9.7	7.3	14.8
Technicians and Associate Professionals	7.0	4.9	11.4	8.5	6.8	12.2
Clerks	4.5	2.8	8.1	6.8	3.7	13.6
Service Workers and Shop and Market Sales Assistants	5.6	4.9	7.2	10.0	8.6	13.0
Skilled Agricultural and Fisheries Workers	46.8	52.7	33.8	28.8	32.8	20.2
Craft and Related Trade Workers	8.8	9.3	7.7	11.5	13.9	6.0
Plant and Machine Operators and Assemblers	4.8	6.5	0.9	7.2	9.9	1.3
Elementary Occupations	11.3	8.7	17.0	10.9	10.1	12.6
Armed forces	0.1	0.2	0.0	0.7	1.0	0.1
Urban						
Total	2,870	1,880	990	188,843	123,780	65,063
Legislators, Senior Officials and Managers	8.6	9.0	8.0	8.8	9.1	8.2
Professionals	10.2	8.4	13.7	12.0	9.6	16.7
Technicians and Associate Professionals	8.2	7.6	9.2	11.2	9.7	14.0
Clerks	7.7	5.2	12.4	9.4	5.3	17.2
Service Workers and Shop and Market Sales Assistants	8.5	8.0	9.5	12.7	11.5	14.8
Skilled Agricultural and Fisheries Workers	24.0	26.0	20.3	11.9	13.1	9.6
Craft and Related Trade Workers	12.5	15.3	7.1	13.7	17.7	6.0
Plant and Machine Operators and Assemblers	7.5	10.6	1.4	9.1	13.0	1.7
Elementary Occupations	12.6	9.6	18.4	10.3	9.5	11.7
Armed forces	0.2	0.4	0.0	1.1	1.5	0.2
Rural						
Total	3,280	2,356	924	146,397	106,396	40,001
Legislators, Senior Officials and Managers	1.6	1.7	1.2	2.4	2.2	2.8
Professionals	2.9	2.3	4.3	6.7	4.7	11.8
Technicians and Associate Professionals	5.9	2.8	13.9	4.9	3.3	9.1
Clerks	1.6	0.9	3.5	3.4	1.8	7.8
Service Workers and Shop and Market Sales Assistants	3.1	2.4	4.8	6.5	5.1	10.2
Skilled Agricultural and Fisheries Workers	66.8	74.1	48.2	50.7	55.6	37.5
Craft and Related Trade Workers	5.6	4.5	8.4	8.6	9.6	6.0
Plant and Machine Operators and Assemblers	2.4	3.2	0.3	4.9	6.4	0.6
Elementary Occupations	10.1	7.9	15.5	11.7	10.8	14.1
Armed forces	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.3	0.0



7. REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH AND DISABILITY STATUS

Improved reproductive health services and accessibility to them is fundamental to all individuals in order to reduce reproductive-related morbidity and mortality. The health care an individual receives is important for the survival of both the mother and the child, especially for mothers with disabilities who are more likely to experience complications and are at high-risk during pregnancy and child bearing.

The Fiji government states in its National Development Plan that: “Access to quality health facilities is necessary for good health, and to health care services, including reproductive health care”. Fiji has made significant progress in this area, through the Ministry of Health, in developing policies to promote population health and the provision of high-quality and comprehensive reproductive services. In the Reproductive Health Policy, strategies were outlined specifically toward the expansion and provision of quality and effective health and reproductive health services for all.

The data presented in this section is limited to the marital status background of persons with and without disabilities aged 5+ years. The data on marital status are critical because they are associated with the health and survival outcome of a person at certain ages, with women at higher risk of becoming pregnant, giving birth and becoming widowed. This chapter further explores the data on children ever born for both women aged 15–49 years and above with and without disabilities.

Marital status

Figure 7.1 and Table A-7* present the distribution of the population aged 15+ years by their marital status, disability status and other background characteristics. Of the total population aged 15+ years (625,099), about 3 in 5 persons were married or living in a de facto relationship (61%), 30% have never married, 7% were widowed, 1% were separated and another 1% were divorced.

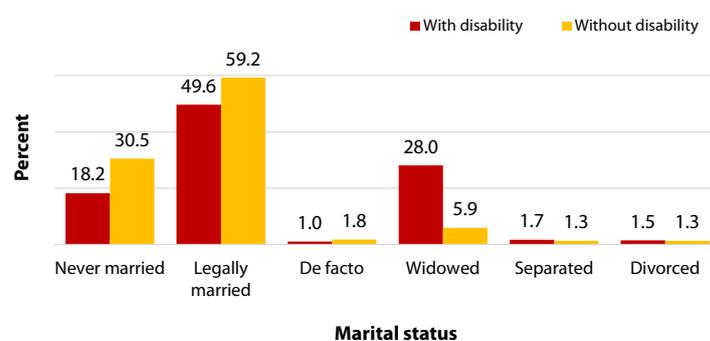


Fig. 7.1: Proportion of the population aged 15+ years by marital and disability status

Among persons with disabilities (24,371), half of them (51%) were married or in a de facto relationship, with a higher percentage of males being married (61%) than females (39%). Those who have never married or are widowed account for 18% and 28% respectively with females having higher percentage of being widowed (41%) than males (14%) which could be due to the higher life expectancy for Fijian women than men. Being widowed is also high among persons with disabilities at the older age of 50+ years.

For persons without disabilities, most of them (61%) were married legally or illegally, 31% have never married and only 6% were widowed. The data also reveal higher percentages of married people in rural areas, and a higher percentage of widowed females and older people.

Children ever born

The data on children ever born (CEB) refer to the mean number of children born alive to women in a specific age group. The information on CEB is critical not only for the estimation of fertility measures and other demographics measures but also its association with the development and health of both the mother and child. All women in the reproductive age group (15–49) who have ever given birth were asked about the total number of children that they ever gave birth to and were alive at birth.

* Table available in the annex.

The census data reveal that 331,967 children were born to 221,590 women aged 15–49 (Table 7.1). Women with disabilities in this age group (3,005) reported 4,103 CEB, with an overall average of 1.6 children per woman with disabilities. In comparison, 327,864 children were born to 218,585 women without disabilities, resulting in an average CEB of 2.3 children per woman without disabilities. The number of CEB for both groups increases with age, with an average of 2 children per woman with disabilities and about 3 children per woman without disabilities in the older age group of 45–49. CEB in this age group provides an estimate of completed fertility that can be compared with current total fertility to indicate fertility changes.

The results show that women with disabilities have fewer CEB than women without disabilities. It is critical that women with disabilities have access to health care and services.

Table 7.1: Females aged 15–49 by disability status, age group and children ever born (CEB)

Age groups	Women	CEB	Average CEB
Total women			
Total	221,590	331,967	2.3
15–19 years	36,056	1,760	0.0488
20–24 years	36,152	15,563	0.4305
25–29 years	34,055	40,911	1.2013
30–34 years	33,552	62,092	1.8506
35–39 years	31,768	75,425	2.3742
40–44 years	25,817	69,303	2.6844
45–49 years	24,190	66,913	2.7661
With disabilities			
Total	3,005	4,103	1.6
15–19 years	358	21	0.0587
20–24 years	320	53	0.1656
25–29 years	329	200	0.6079
30–34 years	386	497	1.2876
35–39 years	432	693	1.6042
40–44 years	494	1,015	2.0547
45–49 years	686	1,624	2.3673
Without disabilities			
Total	218,585	327,864	2.3
15–19 years	35,698	1,739	0.0487
20–24 years	35,832	15,510	0.4329
25–29 years	33,726	40,711	1.2071
30–34 years	33,166	61,595	1.8572
35–39 years	31,336	74,732	2.3849
40–44 years	25,323	68,288	2.6967
45–49 years	23,504	65,289	2.7778



8. END NOTES: URBAN AND RURAL SECTORS DEFINED

Urban sector

The urban sector consists of a number of urban areas. These urban areas have been delineated using five statistical criteria. In 2017, there were 21 urban areas in Fiji that fell into two categories:

Urban areas, including an official (incorporated) city or town

In 2017, 13 urban areas in Fiji had an official incorporated city or town as their core, and the boundaries of these cities and towns have been gazetted. The area surrounding this core city or town is called the peri-urban area. Urban areas that include a *city* are Suva and Lautoka, and those that include a *town* are Lami, Nasinu, Nausori, Nadi, Ba, Tavua, Rakiraki, Sigatoka, Labasa, Savusavu and Levuka. Each of the cities and towns is further subdivided into wards. Contrary to the urban area boundaries, the city or town and ward boundaries are not based on statistical criteria. Consequently, studies of rural to urban migration and urbanisation in Fiji that are based on these official cities and towns give a very misleading picture of the extent of movement.

During the 1996–2017 intercensal period, Nasinu has been carved out of the peri-urban area of Suva and proclaimed a separate incorporated town. Moreover, the boundaries of some towns have been extended during this period. This applies first and foremost to the town of Nadi. Recently, the town boundary of Labasa has also slightly been extended to the west.

Urban areas without an official (incorporated) city or town

Eight urban areas do not include an incorporated town. These are the unincorporated towns or townships of Korovou, Navua, Pacific Harbour, Vatukoula, Naqara, Matei, Seaqaqa and Nabouwalu. For census and statistical purposes, they are considered to be urban areas. The proposed town boundary of Navua has been drawn up and a declaration of township status will follow.

Based on the five statistical criteria, the boundaries of some of the urban areas were revised before the 2017 census.

Rural sector

The rural sector in Fiji includes all areas outside of the urban areas. This sector has been further subdivided into two subsectors: the traditional rural sector and the rural-non-agricultural sector. These are places located in the rural sector, which are non-agricultural in nature. Examples include government stations, mission stations, resorts, work camps, forestry stations, agricultural stations, large plantations and others. The separation of these areas was made after the 2017 census collection.

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Note: The Washington Group was established to address the urgent need for cross-nationally comparable population-based measures of disability. Its mandate is the promotion and coordination of international cooperation in the area of health statistics focusing on disability data collection tools suitable for censuses and national surveys. For more details about the Washington Group, see: <http://www.washingtongroup-disability.com/>

ANNEX TABLES

Table A-1: Proportion of the population aged 5+ years with and without disabilities by background characteristics

Background characteristics		Disability status (%)		Total
		With disabilities	Without disabilities	
Sex	Males	3.1	96.9	401,400
	Females	3.4	96.6	391,590
Area	Urban	3.0	97.0	454,791
	Rural	3.6	96.4	338,199
Age group (years)	5–17	0.9	99.1	212,658
	18–49	1.5	98.5	409,231
	50+	10.5	89.5	171,101
Division	Central	3.2	96.8	338,830
	Eastern	4.3	95.7	33,202
	Northern	3.4	96.6	117,364
	Western	3.1	96.9	303,594

Table A-2: Proportion of the population aged 5+ years with and without disabilities by tikina

Division	Provisionz	Tikina	Disability status (%)		Total
			With disabilities	Without disabilities	
Northern	Bua				
		Bua	4.9	95.1	5,429
		Vuya	4.9	95.1	4,180
		Wainunu	3.5	96.5	3,882
	Cakaudrove				
		Cakaudrove	2.6	97.4	12,736
		Nasavusavu	2.7	97.3	11,108
		Rabi	2.9	97.1	2,035
		Saqani	3.1	96.9	1,749
		Tunuloa	2.2	97.8	3,308
		Vaturova	3.5	96.5	3,696
		Wailevu	3.4	96.6	5,578
		Wainikeli	3.0	97.0	3,858
	Macuata				
		Cikobia	3.7	96.3	81
		Dogotuki	2.5	97.5	1,830
		Labasa	3.6	96.4	45,127
		Macuata	3.6	96.4	8,280
		Sasa	2.9	97.1	4,487
Eastern	Kadavu				
		Nabukelevu	5.7	94.3	2,215
		Naceva	3.4	96.6	1,546
		Nakasaleka	4.5	95.5	2,173
		Tavuki	3.0	97.0	3,483
	Lau				
		Cicia	6.3	93.7	916
		Kabara	2.7	97.3	585
		Lakeba	6.6	93.4	1,389
		Lomaloma	6.4	93.6	818
		Matuku	8.5	91.5	460
		Moala	4.0	96.0	1,210
		Moce	1.0	99.0	381
		Mualevu	4.5	95.5	761
		Nayau	10.2	89.8	256
		Oneata	2.4	97.6	124
		Ono	11.0	89.0	465
		Totoya	7.7	92.3	534
		Vulaga	5.1	94.9	276
	Lau Other	1.1	98.9	270	

Eastern (cont')	Lomaiviti				
		Batiki	1.6	98.4	186
		Gau	4.6	95.4	1,973
		Koro	3.6	96.4	2,601
		Nairai	6.5	93.5	415
		Ovalau	3.3	96.7	8,507
	Lomai Other	1.9	98.1	214	
Western	Ba				
		Ba	4.3	95.7	36,029
		Magadro	4.1	95.9	4,245
		Nadi	2.6	97.4	54,023
		Naviti	4.1	95.9	2,572
		Nawaka	2.7	97.3	14,390
		Tavua	3.9	96.1	20,857
		Vuda	2.9	97.1	89,860
		Yasawa	4.5	95.5	1,928
	Nadroga/Navosa				
		Baravi	2.8	97.2	7,412
		Cuvu	1.9	98.1	6,483
		Malolo	1.0	99.0	2,973
		Malomalo	3.1	96.9	13,999
		Nasigatoka	2.2	97.8	12,797
		Navosa	3.2	96.8	4,451
		Ruwailevu	2.3	97.7	3,969
		Vatulele	3.2	96.8	680
	Ra				
		Nakorotubu	4.3	95.7	3,767
		Nalawa	4.7	95.3	4,301
		Rakiraki	3.3	96.7	12,544
	Saivou	4.0	96.0	6,314	
Central	Naitasiri				
		Lomaivuna	3.1	96.9	4,689
		Matailobau	4.7	95.3	3,449
		Naitasiri	3.0	97.0	143,995
		Waimaro	6.4	93.6	3,561
		Wainimala	3.6	96.4	3,566
	Namosi				
		Namosi	3.6	96.4	1,137
		Veivatuloa	2.8	97.2	3,850
		Wainikoroiuva	2.5	97.5	1,960
	Rewa				
		Beqa	2.6	97.4	1,208
		Noco	5.4	94.6	3,227
		Rewa	4.3	95.7	7,948
		Suva	3.0	97.0	85,326
	Serua				
		Nuku	5.0	95.0	3,178
		Serua	3.9	96.1	14,540
	Tailevu				
		Bau	3.5	96.5	27,602
		Nakelo	3.7	96.3	9,635
		Sawakasa	3.2	96.8	7,682
		Verata	3.1	96.9	9,035
	Wainibuka	4.1	95.9	3,242	
Rotuma					
	Itumuta	2.4	97.6	85	
	Itutiu	3.9	96.1	591	
	Juju	7.3	92.7	193	
	Malhaha	3.3	96.7	212	
	Noatau	2.6	97.4	116	
	Oinafa	7.1	92.9	140	
	Pepjei	3.7	96.3	107	

Table A-3: Proportion of the population aged 5+ years by background characteristics and level of difficulty

Functioning domains	Sex			Age group			Division				Rural / Urban	
	Total	Males	Females	5-17	18-49	50+	Central	Eastern	Western	Northern	Rural	Urban
Total population	792,990	401,400	391,590	212,658	409,231	171,101	338,830	33,202	117,364	303,594	454,791	338,199
Total with disability	113,595	53,681	59,914	5,488	30,803	77,304	50,683	5,845	52,268	61,327	52,268	61,327
Some difficulty	87,788	76.8	77.7	65.6	80.6	76.8	78.5	75.7	76.8	77.7	76.8	77.7
A lot of difficulty	21,017	18.7	18.3	22.1	14.6	19.8	17.7	20.5	19.3	17.9	19.3	17.9
Cannot do at all	4,790	4.4	4.0	12.3	4.8	3.4	3.8	3.8	4.0	4.4	4.0	4.4
Seeing	81,048	37,040	44,008	2,070	19,203	59,775	37,335	4,027	11,634	28,052	44,783	36,265
Some difficulty	71,274	87.8	88.1	80.4	90.0	87.5	88.5	86.4	88.5	87.2	88.3	87.5
A lot of difficulty	9,082	11.3	11.2	15.8	8.9	11.8	10.8	12.4	10.6	11.8	11.0	11.5
Cannot do at all	692	0.9	0.8	3.8	1.1	0.7	0.7	1.2	1.0	0.9	0.7	1.0
Hearing	28,253	13,817	14,436	1,440	4,332	22,481	12,512	1,522	4,404	9,815	14,202	14,051
Some difficulty	23,022	80.7	82.2	68.8	75.5	83.4	82.2	76.9	81.4	81.4	82.4	80.5
A lot of difficulty	4,414	16.1	15.2	19.8	17.4	15.0	15.0	20.2	15.9	15.5	14.7	16.6
Cannot do at all	817	3.2	2.6	11.4	7.1	1.5	2.8	2.9	2.7	3.1	2.9	2.9
Mobility	49,204	22,436	26,768	1,285	8,432	39,487	21,197	2,878	7,835	17,294	24,328	24,876
Some difficulty	36,540	73.5	74.9	59.1	75.4	74.5	75.0	73.5	73.9	73.6	73.5	75.0
A lot of difficulty	10,196	21.2	20.3	22.0	18.1	21.2	20.3	22.1	20.8	21.0	21.2	20.3
Cannot do at all	2,468	5.3	4.8	18.9	6.4	4.3	4.7	4.5	5.3	5.4	5.3	4.7
Memory	33,594	15,434	18,160	1,506	7,128	24,960	14,704	2,179	5,309	11,402	15,851	17,743
Some difficulty	26,895	80.0	80.1	59.2	75.0	82.8	80.9	80.0	78.8	79.5	79.6	80.5
A lot of difficulty	5,719	17.0	17.1	31.1	19.9	15.4	16.5	17.5	17.8	17.2	17.2	16.9
Cannot do at all	980	3.1	2.8	9.6	5.1	1.9	2.5	2.4	3.3	3.3	3.2	2.7
Self-care	16,011	7,581	8,430	1,215	2,814	11,982	6,816	808	2,615	5,772	8,458	7,553
Some difficulty	10,510	64.5	66.7	50.9	57.6	69.0	66.9	66.8	67.2	63.2	65.1	66.2
A lot of difficulty	3,593	23.0	21.9	26.3	25.4	21.4	21.5	21.3	21.0	24.3	22.7	22.1
Cannot do at all	1,908	12.5	11.4	22.9	17.0	9.6	11.5	11.9	11.8	12.4	12.2	11.6
Communication	15,314	7,154	8,160	1,648	3,736	9,930	6,637	685	2,473	5,519	8,395	6,919
Some difficulty	10,413	66.6	69.2	49.6	56.1	75.5	69.5	66.9	70.2	65.3	66.9	69.3
A lot of difficulty	3,351	22.2	21.6	30.6	26.1	18.9	21.7	24.4	21.7	21.9	21.2	22.7
Cannot do at all	1,550	11.2	9.2	19.8	17.9	5.6	8.8	8.8	8.0	12.8	11.9	8.0

Table A-4: Persons with disability by wealth quintile, age group and functional domain

Age group	Seeing	Hearing	Mobility	Memory	Self-care	Communication	Population 5+
Total	9,774	5,231	12,664	6,699	5,501	4,901	25,807
5-17	4.2	8.6	4.2	9.2	10.9	16.9	1,890
18-59	38.8	31.5	35.2	38.9	36.7	45.0	10,686
60+	57.0	60.0	60.6	51.9	52.5	38.1	13,231
Lowest Quintile							
Total	2,145	1,352	3,012	1,823	1,206	1,044	5,931
5-17	4.4	9.4	4.3	8.7	10.9	15.3	462
18-59	34.5	27.5	33.6	37.6	34.3	43.0	2,303
60+	61.1	63.1	62.1	53.7	54.7	41.7	3,166
Second Quintile							
Total	2,030	1,223	2,852	1,605	1,174	1,052	5,610
5-17	4.8	9.2	4.1	10.5	11.3	17.0	419
18-59	35.5	32.5	35.9	40.4	38.5	43.9	2,290
60+	59.7	58.2	60.0	49.1	50.2	39.1	2,901
Middle Quintile							
Total	2,042	1,073	2,726	1,376	1,201	1,046	5,423
5-17	3.5	7.7	4.1	8.4	10.0	15.9	357
18-59	40.2	33.8	37.0	41.9	38.6	47.2	2,335
60+	56.3	58.4	58.9	49.6	51.4	36.9	2,731
Fourth Quintile							
Total	1,879	883	2,278	1,072	1,056	1,004	4,751
5-17	3.8	7.1	4.0	8.9	10.6	16.5	332
18-59	41.0	33.0	35.7	37.6	36.4	46.7	2,022
60+	55.1	59.9	60.2	53.5	53.0	36.8	2,397
Highest Quintile							
Total	1,678	700	1,796	823	864	755	4,092
5-17	4.1	9.0	4.2	9.2	11.6	21.1	320
18-59	44.3	31.7	33.7	35.5	35.2	43.7	1,736
60+	51.6	59.3	62.1	55.3	53.2	35.2	2,036

Table A-5a: Proportion of the population aged 5+ years ever attending school by educational attainment and disability status

School attendance	With disabilities	Without disabilities	Total
Total	25,807	767,186	792,990
Ever attended school	84.8%	94.1%	743,882
Never attended school	15.2%	5.9%	49,108

Table A-5b: Educational attainment for the population aged 5+ years by background characteristics and disability status

Background characteristics	Special School	None	Pre-school	Primary	Secondary	Post Secondary	Tertiary	Never attended school	Total
Total	2,045	13,490	18,711	151,689	465,827	2,542	89,578	49,108	792,990
With disabilities									
Total	884	236	104	6,263	13,029	37	1,326	3,928	25,807
Sex									
Males	4.1	0.8	0.4	24.2	52.7	0.2	5.7	11.9	12,435
Females	2.8	1.0	0.4	24.3	48.5	0.1	4.7	18.3	13,372
Age group									
5–17	16.5	3.1	4.8	28.9	18.6	-	-	28.0	1,890
18–49	8.6	0.3	0.1	10.9	53.9	0.4	11.5	14.3	5,964
50+	0.3	0.9	0.1	28.2	52.7	0.1	3.6	14.2	17,953
Area									
Urban	4.0	0.9	0.4	21.3	50.0	0.2	7.7	15.6	13,656
Rural	2.8	1.0	0.4	27.6	51.1	0.1	2.3	14.8	12,151
Division									
Central	3.4	0.8	0.4	20.9	53.0	0.2	7.8	13.5	10,908
Eastern	1.8	0.9	0.5	29.6	56.4	-	2.3	8.5	1,420
Northern	2.6	0.9	0.4	28.2	41.0	0.1	2.3	24.5	3,944
Western	4.1	1.0	0.4	25.6	50.7	0.1	3.7	14.3	9,535
Without disabilities									
Total	1,161	13,254	18,607	145,426	452,798	2,505	88,252	45,180	767,183
Sex									
Males	0.2	1.7	2.5	19.5	58.1	0.3	11.6	6.1	388,965
Females	0.1	1.7	2.4	18.4	59.9	0.4	11.4	5.7	378,218
Age group									
5–17	0.3	6.0	8.8	47.0	30.6	-	-	7.4	210,768
18–49	0.1	0.0	0.0	4.8	70.6	0.6	19.2	4.7	403,267
50+	0.0	0.4	0.0	17.7	67.7	0.1	7.2	6.9	153,148
Area									
Urban	0.2	1.6	2.2	16.8	57.6	0.4	15.5	5.7	441,135
Rural	0.1	2.0	2.7	21.9	60.9	0.2	6.0	6.2	326,048
Division									
Central	0.1	1.7	2.4	17.3	57.4	0.5	14.7	5.9	327,922
Eastern	0.1	2.4	3.5	22.3	55.5	0.2	7.0	8.9	31,782
Northern	0.1	1.8	2.5	22.8	58.3	0.2	7.0	7.3	113,420
Western	0.2	1.7	2.3	19.0	61.5	0.2	10.1	5.0	294,059

Note: "None" refers to those who had attended school but never completed (dropped out) and never attained any qualification.

Table A-5c: Proportion of the population aged 5–24 years by school attendance and disability status

Age	With disabilities			Without disabilities		
	Total	Currently attending	Not currently attending	Total	Currently attending	Not currently attending
5 years	141	43.3	56.7	18,144	75.2	24.8
6 years	136	69.9	30.1	18,729	93.9	6.1
7 years	124	72.6	27.4	17,634	97.7	2.3
8 years	124	71.8	28.2	16,889	98.1	1.9
9 years	150	68.0	32.0	16,224	98.3	1.7
10 years	153	72.5	27.5	16,277	98.2	1.8
11 years	158	71.5	28.5	15,998	98.1	1.9
12 years	158	68.4	31.6	15,797	98.0	2.0
13 years	137	67.9	32.1	15,619	97.4	2.6
14 years	155	68.4	31.6	15,144	96.1	3.9
15 years	172	59.3	40.7	14,970	93.6	6.4
16 years	135	63.0	37.0	14,825	88.3	11.7
17 years	147	53.1	46.9	14,518	80.9	19.1
18 years	141	44.7	55.3	14,564	67.7	32.3
19 years	142	34.5	65.5	14,474	51.8	48.2
20 years	119	30.3	69.7	14,206	32.0	68.0
21 years	151	23.2	76.8	14,712	25.9	74.1
22 years	121	19.0	81.0	14,448	19.2	80.8
23 years	122	9.0	91.0	14,875	14.0	86.0
24 years	150	8.7	91.3	14,712	11.2	88.8
Total 5–24	2,836	1,463	1,373	312,759	228,984	83,775

Table A-5d: Proportion of the population aged 5–24 years by school attendance, disability status, and type of disability

Type of disability	Currently attending					Currently not attending					Total
	5–9	10–14	15–19	20–24	Total	5–9	10–14	15–19	20–24	Total	
Total	437	531	377	118	1,463	238	230	360	545	1,373	2,836
Seeing	17.4	20.9	28.4	44.9	23.7	19.3	26.5	26.9	26.4	25.3	24.5
Hearing	22.2	23.0	19.9	16.9	21.5	22.3	31.7	26.7	21.8	24.8	23.1
Mobility	14.9	14.7	15.4	17.8	15.2	57.1	60.9	36.9	31.0	42.1	28.2
Memory	16.7	26.4	20.4	15.3	21.1	43.7	59.1	52.8	38.3	46.5	33.4
Self-care	19.9	17.9	18.6	13.6	18.3	56.7	63.9	40.0	26.1	41.4	29.5
Communication	36.6	33.7	30.2	33.9	33.7	66.0	60.4	53.9	38.0	50.8	42.0
Males											
Total	238	281	164	58	741	127	139	215	285	766	1,507
Seeing	16.4	19.2	22.0	39.7	20.5	16.5	25.2	25.6	21.8	22.6	21.6
Hearing	21.4	23.8	25.0	22.4	23.2	26.0	28.1	27.4	22.8	25.6	24.4
Mobility	17.6	12.5	12.8	24.1	15.1	52.0	60.4	35.8	30.2	40.9	28.2
Memory	18.1	30.2	28.0	19.0	25.0	40.9	50.4	55.3	40.4	46.5	35.9
Self-care	20.2	18.9	22.0	19.0	20.0	50.4	63.3	40.0	26.0	40.7	30.5
Communication	37.4	33.1	36.6	31.0	35.1	66.1	56.1	52.1	39.3	50.4	42.9
Females											
Total	199	250	213	60	722	111	91	145	260	607	1,329
Seeing	18.6	22.8	33.3	50.0	27.0	22.5	28.6	29.0	31.5	28.8	27.8
Hearing	23.1	22.0	16.0	11.7	19.7	18.0	37.4	25.5	20.8	23.9	21.6
Mobility	11.6	17.2	17.4	11.7	15.2	63.1	61.5	38.6	31.9	43.7	28.2
Memory	15.1	22.0	14.6	11.7	17.0	46.8	72.5	49.0	36.2	46.6	30.5
Self-care	19.6	16.8	16.0	8.3	16.6	64.0	64.8	40.0	26.2	42.2	28.3
Communication	35.7	34.4	25.4	36.7	32.3	65.8	67.0	56.6	36.5	51.2	40.9

Note: The totals do not add up to 100% as one person can have multiple types of disability.

Table A-6: Proportion of the population aged 15+ years by background characteristics, economic activities and disability status

Background characteristics	Labour force (%)											Not in the labour force (%)								Total population		
	Paid work						Unpaid work					Unemployed	Not in the labour force (%)									
	Total in the labour force	Total paid work	Employer	Self-Employed	Employee (public sector)	Employee (private sector)	Total unpaid work	Subsistence	Unpaid family worker	Unpaid worker	Volunteer work		Not in the labour force	Student - Full-time	Student - Part-time	Home duties	Retired/Pensioner	Welfare recipient	Old age		Functioning challenges	None
Total population 15+	57.2	43.7	1.1	10.8	7.7	24.1	10.9	8.6	0.4	0.6	1.2	2.6	42.8	12.1	0.2	22.6	1.9	1.2	3.2	0.8	0.8	625,099
With disabilities																						
Total	26.5	15.4	0.7	6.1	1.8	6.8	9.9	7.7	0.3	0.6	1.3	1.3	73.5	2.6	0.0	18.8	5.4	9.1	20.6	15.9	0.9	24,371
Sex																						
Males	37.9	23.5	1.1	10.3	2.1	10.1	12.8	11.3	0.3	0.1	1.1	1.5	62.1	2.4	0.1	3.5	7.6	10.1	17.8	19.4	1.4	11,650
Females	16.2	7.9	0.3	2.3	1.6	3.7	7.1	4.4	0.4	0.9	1.4	1.1	83.8	2.8	0.0	32.9	3.4	8.3	23.2	12.8	0.5	12,721
Age groups																						
15–17	5.5	2.6	0.0	1.3	0.2	1.1	2.4	1.5	0.0	0.7	0.2	0.4	94.5	58.6	0.0	3.5	0.0	0.7	0.0	31.5	0.2	454
18–49	41.9	30.2	0.9	7.6	4.8	17.0	8.8	6.7	0.4	0.7	1.1	2.9	58.1	4.8	0.2	19.2	0.0	3.7	0.0	27.9	2.3	5,964
50+	23.8	12.4	0.7	6.1	1.1	4.5	10.5	8.2	0.3	0.5	1.4	1.0	76.2	0.4	0.0	19.4	6.8	10.6	25.9	12.4	0.7	19,420
Area																						
Urban	24.1	16.5	0.8	3.7	2.7	9.3	5.8	4.1	0.4	0.5	0.9	1.7	75.9	3.3	0.1	20.0	6.9	7.2	21.3	16.0	1.1	12,835
Rural	29.3	14.1	0.6	8.8	0.8	3.9	14.3	11.7	0.3	0.6	1.7	0.8	70.7	1.8	0.0	17.6	3.7	11.2	19.9	15.9	0.7	11,536
Division																						
Central	28.4	16.6	0.7	5.1	2.7	8.2	10.2	7.0	0.4	1.1	1.7	1.6	71.6	3.0	0.1	19.4	6.7	6.2	20.9	14.4	0.9	10,281
Eastern	35.2	12.6	0.3	9.5	0.7	2.0	22.2	19.8	0.0	0.4	2.0	0.4	64.8	2.1	0.1	16.1	2.5	6.0	23.4	14.2	0.4	1,354
Northern	24.2	13.3	0.6	8.5	0.9	3.3	10.0	9.1	0.3	0.0	0.6		75.8	2.2	0.0	16.2	3.6	13.8	21.1	18.1	0.7	3,734
Western	24.1	15.2	0.8	5.7	1.4	7.3	7.6	6.1	0.3	0.2	1.0		75.9	2.3	0.0	19.6	5.1	11.0	19.8	17.1	1.1	9,002
Without disabilities																						
Total	58.4	44.8	1.2	11.0	7.9	24.8	11.0	8.7	0.4	0.6	1.2	2.6	41.6	12.4	0.2	22.7	1.7	0.9	2.5	0.2	0.8	600,728
Sex																						
Males	78.0	63.0	1.8	18.4	8.7	34.0	12.8	11.1	0.4	0.3	1.1	2.2	22.0	11.7	0.2	3.0	2.4	0.8	2.2	0.3	1.3	303,792
Females	38.4	26.3	0.5	3.4	7.1	15.3	9.1	6.2	0.5	1.0	1.4	3.0	61.6	13.2	0.3	42.9	1.0	1.0	2.9	0.1	0.4	296,936
Age groups																						
5–17	12.2	5.7	0.0	1.4	0.5	3.8	5.0	2.6	0.4	1.2	0.9	1.5	87.8	84.4	0.3	2.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0	44,313
18–49	66.9	53.4	1.1	10.8	10.3	31.2	10.3	8.1	0.4	0.6	1.2	3.2	33.1	9.1	0.3	22.4	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.2	1.0	403,267
50+	54.5	39.2	1.8	14.7	5.2	17.5	14.0	11.4	0.4	0.6	1.5	1.4	45.5	0.3	0.0	28.8	5.1	2.6	7.6	0.3	0.7	201,185
Area																						
Urban	56.5	47.5	1.5	6.5	9.9	29.7	5.9	3.9	0.4	0.5	1.0	3.2	43.5	14.1	0.3	22.1	2.3	0.7	2.7	0.2	1.1	354,119
Rural	61.1	41.0	0.7	17.5	5.1	17.8	18.3	15.5	0.4	0.8	1.6	1.8	38.9	10.0	0.2	23.7	0.8	1.1	2.3	0.2	0.5	246,609
Division																						
Central	57.8	44.6	1.2	7.6	10.0	25.8	10.2	7.1	0.5	1.1	1.5	3.0	42.2	14.7	0.3	21.1	2.0	0.6	2.4	0.2	0.9	258,607
Eastern	67.3	37.9	0.5	18.6	7.9	10.8	28.4	25.5	0.0	0.4	2.5	1.0	32.7	9.8	0.1	19.3	0.5	0.6	1.9	0.2	0.3	22,786
Northern	60.0	44.5	0.9	20.8	7.2	15.6	14.2	12.9	0.4	0.3	0.7	1.2	40.0	11.2	0.2	23.6	1.0	1.2	2.3	0.2	0.4	86,207
Western	57.7	45.9	1.3	10.4	5.9	28.4	8.9	7.2	0.4	0.3	1.0	2.9	42.3	10.6	0.2	24.5	1.7	1.2	2.9	0.2	0.9	233,128

Table A-7: Proportion of the population aged 15+ years by background characteristics, marital and disability status

Background characteristics	Never married	Legally married	De facto	Widowed	Separated	Divorced	Total
Total population 15+	187,618	367,855	10,799	42,551	8,294	7,982	625,099
With disabilities							
Total	18.2	49.6	1.0	28.0	1.7	1.5	24,371
Sex							
Males	21.0	60.9	1.4	13.5	1.7	1.5	11,650
Females	15.6	39.2	0.7	41.4	1.6	1.4	12,721
Age groups							
15–17	97.8	1.5	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.0	454
18–49	46.8	45.4	1.3	2.7	2.0	1.8	5,964
50+	7.9	53.2	1.0	34.8	1.7	1.5	19,420
Area							
Urban	18.9	48.3	1.1	27.8	2.0	2.0	12,835
Rural	17.4	51.1	1.0	28.3	1.3	0.9	11,536
Division							
Central	18.6	48.0	1.1	28.3	2.2	1.8	10,281
Eastern	17.0	52.9	1.3	26.4	0.8	1.6	1,354
Northern	18.5	48.6	1.0	29.9	1.2	0.8	3,734
Western	17.9	51.3	0.8	27.2	1.4	1.4	9,002
Without disabilities							
Total	30.5	59.2	1.8	5.9	1.3	1.3	600,728
Sex							
Males	35.3	57.5	2.2	2.6	1.2	1.1	303,792
Females	25.5	61.0	1.3	9.4	1.4	1.4	296,936
Age groups							
5–17	97.1	2.3	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.1	44,313
18–49	33.1	61.0	2.2	1.1	1.4	1.3	403,267
50+	4.9	74.1	1.0	16.5	1.6	1.8	201,185
Area							
Urban	32.3	56.9	1.8	5.9	1.4	1.6	354,119
Rural	27.9	62.5	1.7	5.9	1.1	0.8	246,609
Division							
Central	33.7	55.9	2.0	5.6	1.4	1.4	258,607
Eastern	27.9	64.5	1.0	4.9	1.0	0.7	22,786
Northern	27.1	63.0	1.9	6.3	1.0	0.7	86,207
Western	28.4	61.0	1.5	6.3	1.3	1.4	233,128

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