

## Chapter 1 Prevalence of disability

### 1.1 Introduction

In 2006, the Census of Population included two questions on disability, one on long-lasting conditions (Question 15) and the second on activity limitations (Question 16, see Figure 1.1). Persons answering 'Yes' to any part of Question 15<sup>1</sup> were included in the Census disability rate. From these questions it was found that 9.3% of the population or 393,800 persons reported a disability.

The disability questions in the Census were necessarily brief given the multi-dimensional nature of the Census questionnaire. A more detailed study, the National Disability Survey (NDS) was conducted during the period September–October 2006. The purposes of the NDS were to establish the prevalence, severity and impact of disability and to provide more detail on the characteristics and situation of the population with a disability.

**Figure 1.1 Census Questions 15 and 16**

<b>15 Do you have any of the following long-lasting conditions?</b>			
(a) Blindness, deafness or a severe vision or hearing impairment	Yes 1 <input type="checkbox"/>	No 2 <input type="checkbox"/>	
(b) A condition that substantially limits one or more basic physical activities such as walking, climbing stairs, reaching, lifting or carrying	Yes 1 <input type="checkbox"/>	No 2 <input type="checkbox"/>	
(c) A learning or intellectual disability	Yes 1 <input type="checkbox"/>	No 2 <input type="checkbox"/>	
(d) A psychological or emotional condition	Yes 1 <input type="checkbox"/>	No 2 <input type="checkbox"/>	
(e) Other, including any chronic illness	Yes 1 <input type="checkbox"/>	No 2 <input type="checkbox"/>	
<b>16 IF 'Yes', to any of the conditions specified in Question 15, do you have any difficulty in doing any of the following activities?</b>			
(a) Learning, remembering or concentrating	Yes 1 <input type="checkbox"/>	No 2 <input type="checkbox"/>	
(b) Dressing, bathing or getting around inside the home	Yes 1 <input type="checkbox"/>	No 2 <input type="checkbox"/>	
(c) Going outside the home alone to shop or visit a doctor's surgery	Yes 1 <input type="checkbox"/>	No 2 <input type="checkbox"/>	
(d) Working at a job or business or attending school or college	Yes 1 <input type="checkbox"/>	No 2 <input type="checkbox"/>	
(e) Participating in other activities, for example leisure or using transport	Yes 1 <input type="checkbox"/>	No 2 <input type="checkbox"/>	

### 1.2 NDS definition of disability

The NDS questionnaires covered a broader range of difficulties than had been possible to include in the Census. The NDS included nine different disabilities including speech, pain and breathing, which were not specifically mentioned in the Census. Each section began with at least one filter question to determine the level of disability (if any) experienced by the respondent for each disability type. Table 1.2 shows the thresholds used in the NDS for defining a person as having a disability for each area of functioning. In most cases, a person was classified as having a disability if they indicated that they had a moderate or more severe level of difficulty. For two categories (Intellectual and learning difficulties and Emotional, psychological and mental health difficulties), persons responding with "Just a little difficulty" were also classified as having a disability (see Table 1.2). The full questionnaire is available in Appendix B.

<sup>1</sup> The Census disability rate also included a small number of persons who answered 'Yes' to one or more part(s) of Question 16 but did not respond to Question 15.

Table 1.2 Disability thresholds for each disability type in the NDS

Disability type	Level of difficulty in every day activities				
	No difficulty	Just a little	A moderate level	A lot of difficulty	Cannot do at all
A. Seeing			√	√	√
B. Hearing			√	√	√
C. Speech			√	√	√
D. Mobility & dexterity			√	√	√
E. Remembering & concentrating			√	√	√
F. Intellectual & learning		√	√	√	√
G. Emotional, psychological, & mental health		√	√	√	√
H. Pain			√	√	√
I. Breathing			√	√	√

√ = Persons reporting this level of difficulty under a particular disability were classified as having that disability type.

### 1.3 NDS design

The design of the NDS involved two separate processes. The main approach was to select a sample from among those persons who reported a disability in the Census and who were enumerated at their usual residence (the "Census disability" sample). This was an efficient way of identifying the population of interest. Of the 393,800 persons reporting a disability in the Census, 370,500 were enumerated in their usual residence of a private household or a communal establishment such as a nursing home, hospital or children's home. These 370,500 persons formed the population from which the main NDS sample was selected, 344,100 persons in private households and 26,400 persons living in communal establishments. Interviews were conducted with 14,518 individuals defined as having a disability in the Census, of which the vast majority (13,868 or 96%) were resident in private households and the remainder (650) were resident in communal establishments.

A second and smaller sample (the "General population" sample) was drawn from among those persons enumerated at their usual residence in private households and who did not report a disability on their Census form (3.7 million persons). The sample selected from this population was smaller (1,551) than for the Census disability sample since the main focus of the survey was on those with a disability in the Census. The inclusion of this smaller sample from the population not defined as disabled in the Census was to explore the extent to which the broader NDS definition would identify disability not picked up in the Census.

The General population sample is small relative to the target population it represents compared with the sample from within the Census disability population. Each person within that sample carries a far bigger weight when grossed up to the population it represents and the estimates are much less precise, particularly when broken down into smaller groups such as different age profiles. The NDS achieved sample sizes and the populations they represent are shown in Table 1.3.

Table 1.3 NDS achieved sample size

Sample and target population <sup>2</sup>	persons	
	Sample achieved	Target population
Census disability sample	14,518	370,500
resident in private households	13,868	344,100
resident in communal establishments	650	26,400
General population sample <sup>3</sup>	1,551	3,700,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>16,069</b>	<b>4,070,500</b>

#### 1.4 Agreement between the two measures of disability

Given the differences in the disabilities covered by each survey, the introduction of the concept of severity in setting the threshold for disability in the NDS<sup>4</sup>, and the difference in the mode of administration (i.e. self reporting in the Census versus personal interviewing in the NDS) of the two questionnaires, perfect agreement between the two measures would not be expected. Within both NDS samples, as a result of their response to the NDS disability filter questions, the disability status of some people changed from that recorded in the Census, but overall the level of agreement was high, with 87% of all those interviewed maintaining the same disability status, 87% of the Census disability sample and 83% of the General population sample (see Appendix A). The rate of agreement between the two measures is much higher for persons resident in communal establishments than for persons in private households – with agreement rates of 97% and 87% respectively before weighting. Those who changed status are classified as either **false negatives** (not disabled under Census rules but having a disability under NDS rules) or **false positives** (having a disability in the Census but not under the NDS rules).

##### Understanding the differences

Looking at the two samples weighted to their population totals, the vast majority of the Census disability sample (88%) was also recorded as having a disability in the NDS. The “*false positive*” accounted for 12% – i.e. the proportion of persons with a disability as defined by the Census but not having any of the nine NDS disability types at a sufficient level of severity to meet the minimum disability threshold. Further analysis of this group of *false positives* shows that over half (52%) had reported a disability in the residual “Other including chronic illness” category in the Census; 45% were found to have low levels of difficulty; and they were largely in the 65 and over age group (25%). The disagreement between the two measures for the Census disability sample would seem to be occurring mainly around the threshold of the definition of disability.

After weighting the General population sample to the population totals, 11.5% of those who recorded no disability in the Census were found to have a disability in the NDS. This group were predominantly reporting disabilities not covered in the Census – for example, 46% reported Pain and 21% reported Breathing difficulties, or were reporting lower levels of difficulties than in the Census disability sample – 58% reported a moderate or lower level of difficulty compared with 33% of the Census disability sample (see Tables in Appendix A).

<sup>2</sup> The target population is the population enumerated in their usual residence of private households and in nursing homes, hospitals and children’s homes in the Census of Population.

<sup>3</sup> Population in private households only.

<sup>4</sup> With the consequence of the exclusion of persons below a selected level of severity from the disability rate.

## 1.5 Estimating the prevalence of disability

Although the General population sample is small it is important. Combined with the Census disability sample it allows the overall disability prevalence rate to be estimated, if somewhat crudely.<sup>5</sup> The precision of the estimates from the Census disability sample are robust given the sample size and their confirmed identification as disabled in both the Census and the NDS questions. When the General population sample is weighted up to the population it represents, each individual contributes a greater weight to the total estimates than in the Census disability sample since the population they represent is far greater. As a result, when grossed up to population totals, the General population sample contributes more in terms of estimated numbers of disabled people in the population than the Census disability sample but to a lower level of precision. Using the General population sample it is possible to derive estimates of the range of the overall disability rate including the new areas of disability covered in the NDS.

Table 1.4 shows the levels of disability identified by the NDS for the Census disability sample and provides estimates of total population of people with a disability which include the General population sample, in absolute terms and rates per thousand of the population. It also provides indications of precision for the estimates for each sample. These provide an upper and lower boundary of the estimates based on a 95% confidence interval. If the General population sample of “false negatives” is included in the overall disability rates, the estimated prevalence of disability would increase from 8.1% of the population to 18.5%, or from an estimated 325,800 persons with a disability to 749,100. As is to be expected, the estimates from the Census disability sample are shown to be robust with a margin of error of + or – 2,300. The margin of error on the General population sample is in the order of 70,000 reflecting the smaller sample size relative to the target population (see Table 1.4).

**Table 1.4 Numbers of persons with a disability and rate per thousand population**

Sample	Persons with a disability	Lower range limit 95% confidence	Upper range limit 95% confidence	Persons with a disability	Lower range limit 95% confidence	Upper range limit 95% confidence
			<b>persons</b>			<b>rate per 000</b>
<b>Census Disability sample</b>	<b>325,800</b>	<b>323,500</b>	<b>328,200</b>	<b>880</b>	<b>873</b>	<b>886</b>
<i>in private households</i>	300,200	297,900	302,500	872	866	879
<i>in communal establishments</i>	25,600	25,200	26,000	972	957	987
<b>NDS General population sample</b>	<b>423,300</b>	<b>353,300</b>	<b>493,300</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>135</b>
<b>All persons</b>	<b>749,100</b>	<b>676,800</b>	<b>821,500</b>	<b>185</b>	<b>168</b>	<b>204</b>

<sup>5</sup> The General population sample only covered private households so it does not represent the non-disabled population resident in communal establishments. Both samples exclude persons not enumerated at their usual residence. This non-coverage is small, about 6% (23,300) of the Census disabled population and 5% (180,200) of the remaining general population.

## 1.6 Disability estimates by key characteristics

The following tables provide estimates of the different types of disabilities for the Census disability sample and for the total population which incorporates the General population sample. However, given the small numbers of people with difficulties identified through the General population sample and the associated margins of error, these should be regarded as indicative only and any detailed breakdowns of the adjusted total population estimates should be used with caution.

**Table 1.5 Estimated prevalence of disability by disability type**

Disability type	persons		rate per 000	
	Census disability sample	Total population	Census disability sample	Total population
Seeing	50,600	108,900	13	27
Hearing	57,600	97,700	14	24
Speech	35,300	53,200	9	13
Mobility & dexterity	184,000	334,800	45	83
Remembering & concentrating	113,000	187,700	28	46
Intellectual & learning	71,600	126,100	18	31
Emotional, psychological & mental health	110,600	192,500	27	48
Pain	152,800	348,500	38	86
Breathing	71,500	162,100	18	40
<b>Total persons with any disability<sup>6</sup></b>	<b>325,800</b>	<b>749,100</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>185</b>
<i>Average disabilities per person</i>	2.6	2.2		

Table 1.5 shows the estimated numbers experiencing the various types of disability. As some people experienced difficulty in more than one area, the totals add to more than the total number of persons. The two most frequently occurring areas of difficulty for the whole population were Pain and Mobility and dexterity with overall rates of 86 per thousand and 83 per thousand respectively. The inclusion of the General population sample had a big impact, more than doubling the estimates for persons with Pain and Breathing disabilities. This is not unexpected as these disabilities were not explicitly included in the Census. ( see Table 1.5)

<sup>6</sup> As individuals could report multiple disabilities the sum of the individual disability types amounts to more than the total of persons reporting a disability.

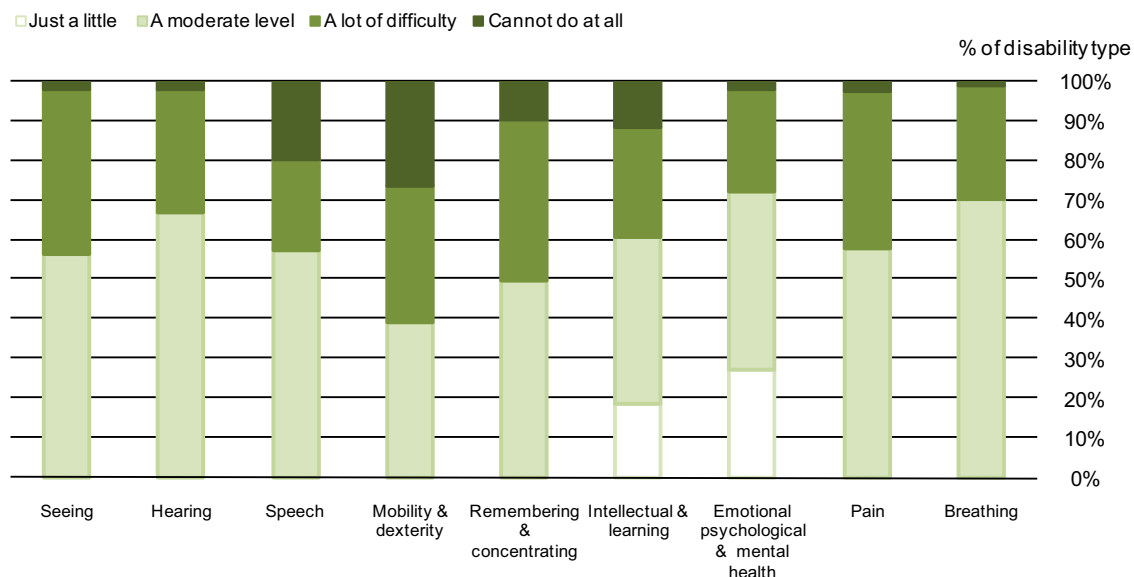
**Table 1.6 Severity of disability**

Level of difficulty <sup>7</sup>	% of all persons with a disability	
	Census disability sample	Total population
Just a little <sup>8</sup>	2.2	3.3
A moderate level	31.1	43.7
A lot of difficulty	42.6	38.4
Cannot do at all	24.2	14.6
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Persons</b>	<b>325,800</b>	<b>749,100</b>

Table 1.6 shows the level of severity of the difficulties experienced by all those defined as having a disability. The threshold for being defined as having a disability was set as having a moderate level of difficulty except for Intellectual and learning difficulties and Emotional, psychological and mental health difficulties. Just over half of those with a disability reported a lot of difficulty or that they cannot do certain activities at all. Higher levels of difficulty were reported within the Census disability sample, two-thirds reporting having a lot of difficulty or higher level of severity. (see Table 1.6)

Graph 1.7 and Table 1.8 show the severity of difficulty by type of disability for the total population. For most disabilities the majority reported a moderate or lower level of difficulty. However, just over a quarter (26%) of those with a difficulty in the area of Mobility and dexterity reported that this was such that they cannot do this at all and just over a third (34%) experienced a lot of difficulty in this domain of functioning. (see Graph 1.7 and Table 1.8)

**Graph 1.7 Level of difficulty by disability type**



<sup>7</sup> The overall level of difficulty is taken as the highest recorded for persons with multiple disability types.

<sup>8</sup> This level of difficulty only applied to Intellectual and learning, and Emotional, psychological and mental health disabilities.

Table 1.8 Level of difficulty by disability type

Disability type	Level of difficulty in every day activities				Total
	Just a little	A moderate level	A lot of difficulty	Cannot do at all	
	% of disability type				
<b>Census disability</b>					
Seeing	n/a	55	41	5	100
Hearing	n/a	61	36	3	100
Speech	n/a	48	34	18	100
Mobility & dexterity	n/a	31	34	35	100
Remembering & concentrating	n/a	49	39	13	100
Intellectual & learning	17	36	35	12	100
Emotional psychological & mental health	23	42	32	4	100
Pain	n/a	49	48	3	100
Breathing	n/a	63	35	2	100
<b>Total population</b>					
Seeing	n/a	56	42	2	100
Hearing	n/a	67	31	2	100
Speech	n/a	57	23	20	100
Mobility & dexterity	n/a	39	34	26	100
Remembering & concentrating	n/a	50	41	9	100
Intellectual & learning	19	42	28	12	100
Emotional psychological & mental health	27	45	26	2	100
Pain	n/a	58	40	2	100
Breathing	n/a	71	29	1	100

Graph 1.9 and Table 1.10 show the rates of disability per thousand of the population by age group and sex respectively. The rate of disability is relatively similar among the younger age groups and then rises with age, with a steep increase in the oldest age group of 75 years and older. (see Graph 1.9 and Table 1.10)

Graph 1.9 Rate of disability per 1,000 population by age group

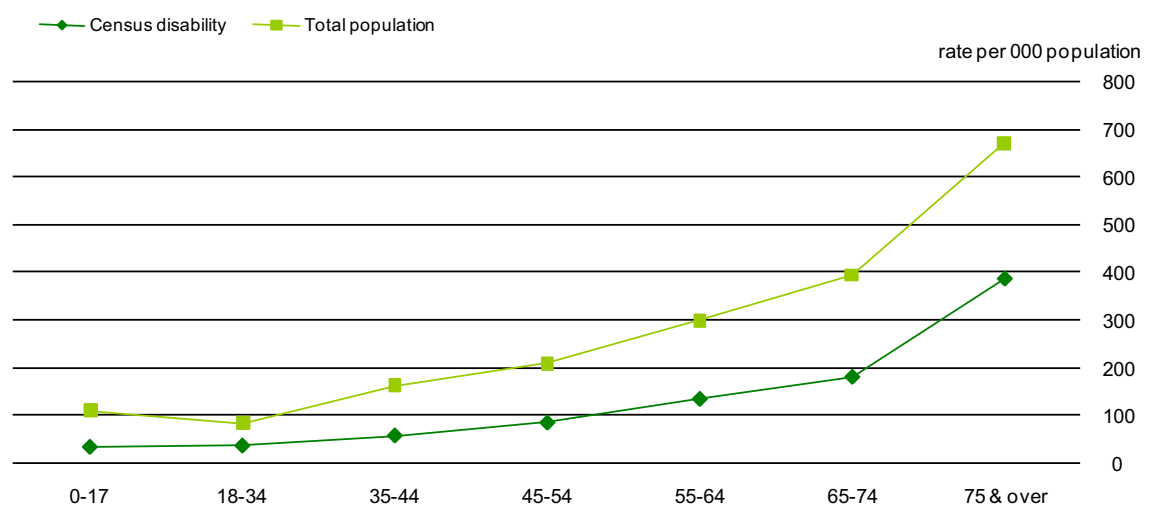


Table 1.10 Persons with a disability by age group and sex

Age group	persons		rate per 000	
	Census disability	Total population	Census disability	Total population
<b>Persons</b>	<b>325,800</b>	<b>749,100</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>185</b>
0-17	35,900	112,600	35	110
18-34	41,400	91,000	38	83
35-44	35,400	98,300	59	164
45-54	43,200	105,500	86	210
55-64	52,600	116,900	135	300
65-74	44,900	98,100	181	395
75 & over	72,600	126,800	377	660
<b>Males</b>	<b>157,200</b>	<b>374,200</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>185</b>
0-17	22,900	66,600	44	128
18-34	21,400	46,400	39	84
35-44	16,900	52,700	56	175
45-54	21,500	55,700	85	221
55-64	27,900	55,600	142	283
65-74	21,700	49,300	179	406
75 & over	25,000	47,800	331	634
<b>Females</b>	<b>168,600</b>	<b>375,000</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>185</b>
0-17	13,000	45,900	26	92
18-34	20,000	44,600	37	83
35-44	18,500	45,600	62	153
45-54	21,700	49,900	86	198
55-64	24,700	61,200	128	318
65-74	23,100	48,800	182	383
75 & over	47,600	78,900	408	676

Table 1.11 Estimated persons with a disability by region

Region	persons		rate per 000	
	Census disability	Total population	Census disability	Total population
<b>State</b>	<b>325,800</b>	<b>749,100</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>185</b>
Border	37,900	84,900	84	189
Midland	19,500	48,800	81	202
West	32,100	73,500	82	188
Dublin	91,800	193,300	82	172
Mid-East	30,200	58,000	66	126
Mid-West	29,700	78,600	87	230
South-East	36,900	94,400	84	214
South-West	47,700	117,600	81	200

Table 1.11 shows the estimated numbers of persons with a disability in each region. The lowest rates were observed in the Mid-East and in the Dublin region with rates of 126 per thousand and 172 per thousand respectively. As has been seen disability is associated with age so the rates per thousand of the population need to take account of the composition of the population of the region in terms of age. Age-standardised rates allow comparisons between populations with different age structures<sup>9</sup>. Table 1.12 shows age-standardised ratios for each region. A ratio of more than 100 indicates a greater likelihood of having a disability than would be expected in that region on the basis of its age distribution alone. Conversely a ratio of less than 100 indicates that the population of the region are less likely to have a disability than would be expected from the age composition of the region.(see Table 1.11)

Based on the Census disability sample, the Mid-East region shows disability rates below what would be expected based on the age composition of the population in the region while the Mid-West, Dublin, and South-East have slightly higher rates than their population structure would suggest. For the total population, age-standardised ratios are provided and show a more exaggerated pattern reflecting the imprecision of the rates due to the small sample size. The Census disability sample provides a more robust indication of the differences in disability rates by region when taking account of the age structure of the region.

Table 1.12 Age-standardised disability ratios by region

	Border	Midland	West	Dublin	Mid-East	Mid-West	South-East	South-West
<b>Census disability</b>								
Observed %	8.4	8.1	8.2	8.2	6.6	8.7	8.4	8.1
Expected %	8.4	8.1	8.6	7.8	7.3	8.3	8.3	8.3
<b>Standardised ratio</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>97</b>
<b>Total population</b>								
Observed %	18.9	20.2	18.8	17.2	12.6	23.0	21.4	20.0
Expected %	19.2	18.7	19.5	17.9	17.2	19.0	19.0	19.1
<b>Standardised ratio</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>108</b>	<b>97</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>121</b>	<b>112</b>	<b>105</b>

<sup>9</sup> Age-standardised ratios are calculated as the observed rate for the region divided by the rate which would be expected if the region conformed to the age-specific rates in the sample as a whole, multiplied by 100.

## 1.7 Comparison with other populations

The disability prevalence rate from the Census is low in Ireland compared with that of other countries. Table 1.13 shows the disability rate from Censuses in other countries and from specific surveys on disability. While the definitions and measurement of disability used in other countries vary, the indicative total population estimate incorporating the General population sample and using the broader definition of disability brings the rate more in line with those found elsewhere.(see Table 1.13)

**Table 1.13 National disability rates – most recent years available**

Country	Year	Data source	Disability rate
Ireland	2006	Census of Population	9.3%
Ireland	2006	NDS total population sample	18.5%
USA	2002	Census of Population and Housing <sup>10</sup>	19.3%
Canada	2001	Census of Population	16.0%
United Kingdom	2001	Census of Population (England and Wales) – Persons with a long term limiting illness	18.2%
	2001	Census of Population (Northern Ireland) – Persons with a long term limiting illness	19.7%
	2006	Northern Ireland Survey on Disability and Activity Limitation.	18.0%
New Zealand	2003	Household Disability Survey & Disability Survey of Residential Facilities	20.0%
Australia	2001	Survey of Disability, Ageing and Carers	19.8%

The analyses presented in this chapter on the total population estimates should be regarded as indicative only. The detailed profiles contained in the rest of this release are based on the larger Census disability sample only. More detailed tables showing the breakdown of both parts of the NDS sample are available on the CSO website.

<sup>10</sup> Disability rate refers to population aged 5 years and over.

## Chapter 2 Profile of disability

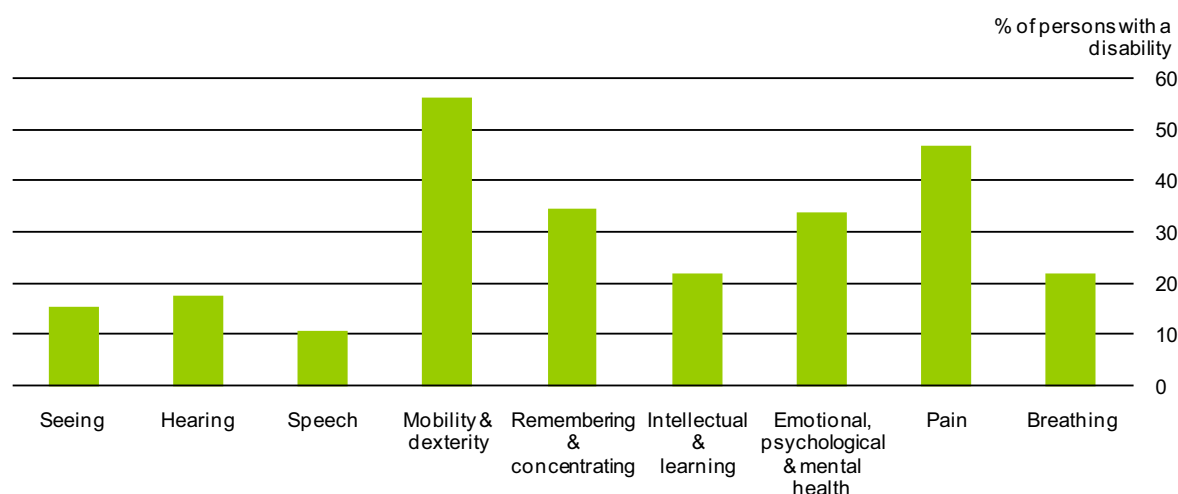
### 2.1 Introduction

This chapter and the next provide the detailed results from the NDS Census disability sample. This chapter summarises the data provided in Detailed Tables 1-13. It provides a summary description of people with a disability by the nine NDS disability types and level of difficulty, and by key characteristics of age, sex, type of accommodation and region.

### 2.2 Demographic profile of disability

This section shows the distribution of different types of disability within the population reporting a disability. Mobility and dexterity was the most frequently reported disability type, at 56% of all persons with a disability. The next highest categories were Pain (47%), Remembering and concentrating (35%) and Emotional, psychological and mental health (34%). Speech was the least frequently reported disability at 11% of those with a disability (see Graph 2.1).

**Graph 2.1 Distribution of disability types**



**Table 2.2 Persons with a disability: sex by disability type**

Disability type	% of disability type			Persons
	Males	Females	Total	
Seeing	42	58	100	50,600
Hearing	50	50	100	57,600
Speech	54	46	100	35,300
Mobility & dexterity	43	57	100	184,000
Remembering & concentrating	49	51	100	113,000
Intellectual & learning	61	39	100	71,600
Emotional, psychological & mental health	47	53	100	110,600
Pain	43	57	100	152,800
Breathing	49	51	100	71,500
<b>Persons with a disability<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>48</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>325,800</b>

<sup>1</sup> Persons reporting multiple disabilities are counted only once in this row.

Of the 325,800 persons reporting a disability 52% were female and 48% were male. When examined by disability type, the highest proportions of females were observed among those with a Seeing disability (58%), Mobility and dexterity (57%) and Pain (57%). Speech, and Intellectual and learning were the only disability types where there were more males than females at 54% and 61% respectively (see Table 2.2 and Graph 2.3).

**Graph 2.3 Profile of sex by disability type**

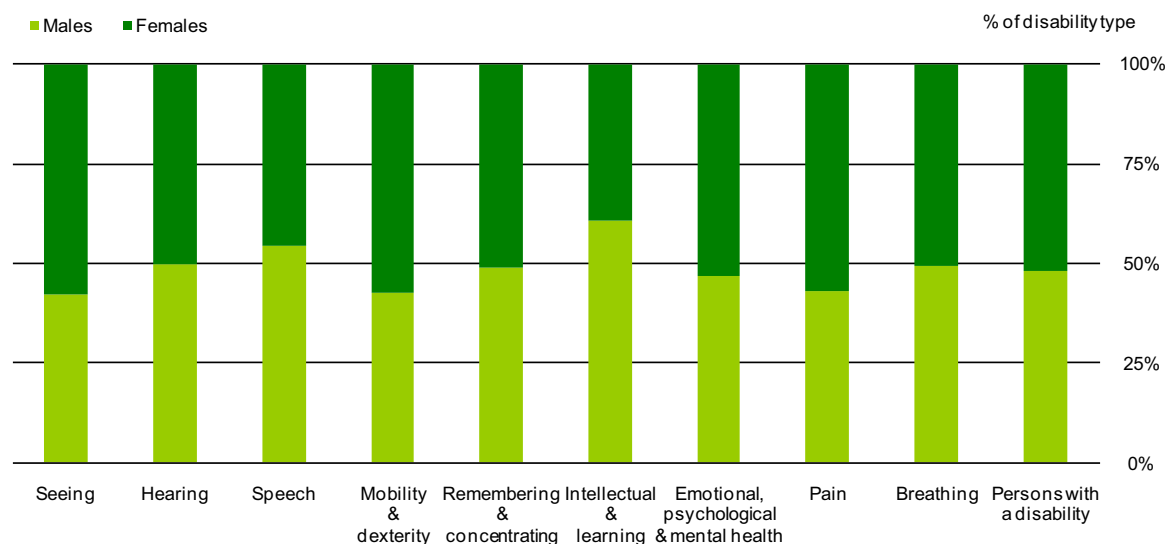


Table 2.4 shows the distribution of the nine disability types by sex among people with a disability. Mobility and dexterity was the most frequently reported disability by both males and females, with 50% of males and 63% of females with a disability reporting this disability type. Pain was the next highest category reported, at 42% for males and 52% for females. Speech was the least reported category at 12% of males with a disability and 10% of females. Over one-quarter (28%) of males with a disability reported an Intellectual and learning disability compared to 17% of females.

**Table 2.4 Persons with a disability: disability type by sex**

Disability type	% of sex		
	Males	Females	Persons
Seeing	14	17	16
Hearing	18	17	18
Speech	12	10	11
Mobility & dexterity	50	63	56
Remembering & concentrating	35	34	35
Intellectual & learning	28	17	22
Emotional, psychological & mental health	33	35	34
Pain	42	52	47
Breathing	22	21	22
<b>% of persons with a disability<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>
Number of persons with a disability <sup>3</sup>	157,200	168,600	325,800
Average number of disabilities per person	2.5	2.7	2.6

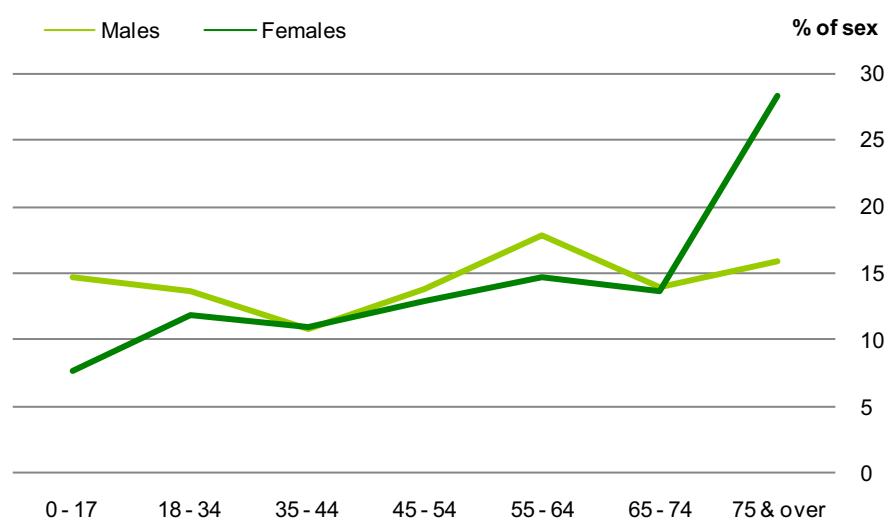
<sup>2</sup> The individual disability percentages total to more than 100 due to persons reporting multiple disabilities being counted in each disability type reported.

<sup>3</sup> Persons reporting multiple disabilities are counted only once in this row.

Table 2.5 Persons with a disability: age group by sex

Persons with a disability	Age group							% of sex	
	0-17	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74	75 & over	Total	Persons
Males	15	14	11	14	18	14	16	100	157,200
Females	8	12	11	13	15	14	28	100	168,600
<b>Persons</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>325,800</b>
Age profile of total population (%) <sup>4</sup>	25	27	15	12	10	6	5	100	4,036,300

Graph 2.6 Profile by age group and sex



Overall, 11% of persons with a disability were in the 0-17 age group, while around one-third were in the age groups of 65 and over. There was some variation from this pattern by disability type (see Tables 2.5 and 2.7). Persons reporting an Intellectual and learning disability were predominantly in the younger age groups with 38% in the 0-17 group and a further 25% in the 18-34 age group. Persons with Speech difficulties were also more likely to be in the younger age groups with persons aged 0-17 accounting for 29% of persons experiencing this type of disability and the 18-34 age group for a further 18% (see Table 2.7).

Around one-third of people with Seeing (36%), Hearing (38%) and Mobility and dexterity (33%) disabilities were aged 75 and over (see Table 2.7). From Graph 2.8 it can be seen that over two-thirds of those experiencing Emotional, psychological and mental health disability were aged 18-64.

<sup>4</sup> Refers to population from which NDS sample is drawn – see Chapter 1 and Appendix C - Background Notes.

Table 2.7 Persons with a disability: age group by disability type

Disability type	Age group							Total	Persons
	0-17	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74	75 & over		
Seeing	5	8	6	13	15	16	36	100	50,600
Hearing	6	6	7	11	16	16	38	100	57,600
Speech	29	18	9	10	8	8	18	100	35,300
Mobility & dexterity	4	7	8	12	18	17	33	100	184,000
Remembering & concentrating	16	13	10	11	14	11	25	100	113,000
Intellectual & learning	38	25	11	10	7	4	6	100	71,600
Emotional, psychological & mental health	9	16	16	18	17	10	13	100	110,600
Pain	2	9	11	16	22	17	23	100	152,800
Breathing	8	9	8	13	20	19	23	100	71,500
<b>Persons with a disability</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>325,800</b>

Graph 2.8 Profile of age group by disability type

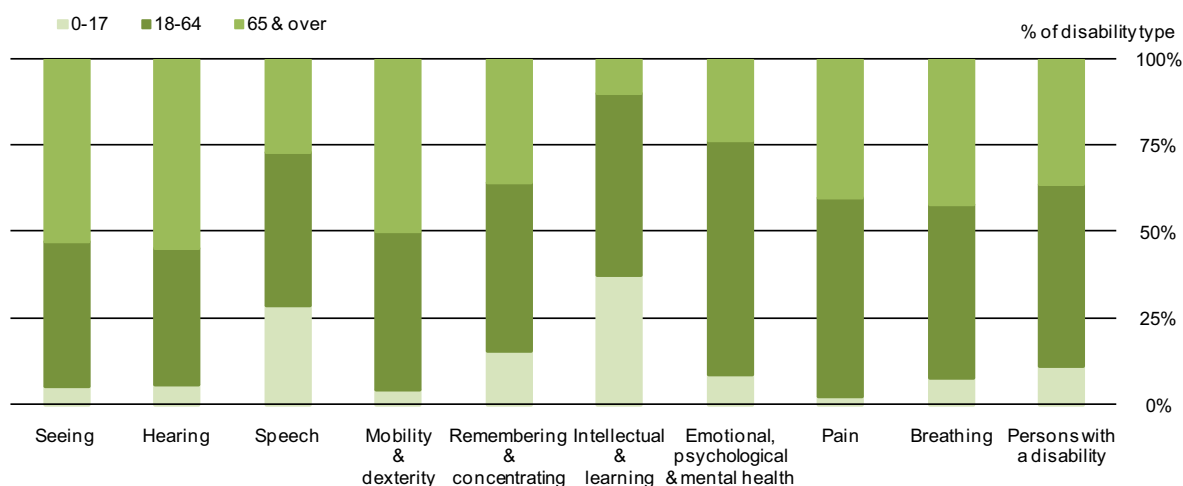


Table 2.9 shows the distribution of the different types of disability within age groups. The most frequently reported disability for older age groups was Mobility and dexterity, at 83% of all persons with a disability in the 75 and over age group and 70% of the 65-74 age group. This was the most reported disability overall also with 56% of all persons with a disability recorded as having this type of disability.

The profile of disabilities among children is different from other age groups. Three-quarters of disabled children reported Intellectual and learning difficulties and half reported difficulties in Remembering and concentrating. Although Speech is the least reported disability overall at 11% this problem was reported by 28% of those in the youngest age group (see Table 2.9 and Graph 2.10).

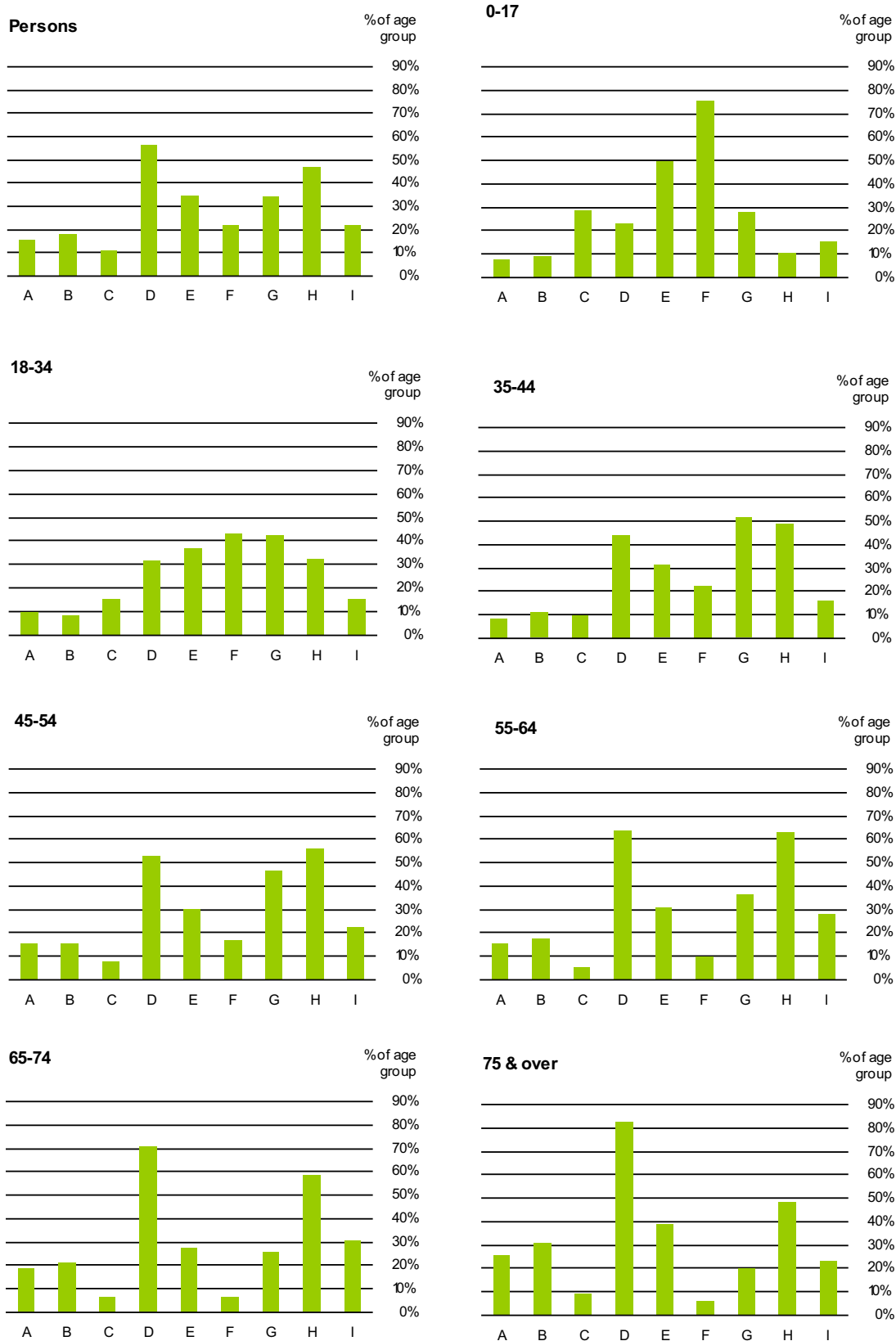
Table 2.9 Persons with a disability: disability type by age group

% of age group

Disability type	Age group							All persons
	0-17	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74	75 & over	
Seeing	8	10	8	15	15	18	25	16
Hearing	9	8	11	15	17	21	30	18
Speech	28	15	9	8	5	7	9	11
Mobility & dexterity	23	32	44	53	63	70	83	56
Remembering & concentrating	50	36	31	30	30	27	39	35
Intellectual & learning	75	43	22	16	10	6	6	22
Emotional, psychological & mental health	28	42	51	46	36	26	20	34
Pain	10	32	49	56	63	59	48	47
Breathing	15	15	16	22	28	30	23	22
<b>% of persons with a disability<sup>5</sup></b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>
Number of persons with a disability	35,900	41,400	35,400	43,200	52,600	44,900	72,600	325,800
<i>Average number of disabilities per person</i>	2.5	2.3	2.4	2.6	2.7	2.6	2.8	2.6

<sup>5</sup> The individual disability percentages total to more than 100 due to persons reporting multiple disabilities being counted in each disability type reported.

Graph 2.10 Profile of age group by disability type



A	Seeing	D	Mobility & dexterity	G	Emotional, psychological & mental health
B	Hearing	E	Remembering & concentrating	H	Pain
C	Speech	F	Intellectual & learning	I	Breathing

## 2.3 Severity of disability

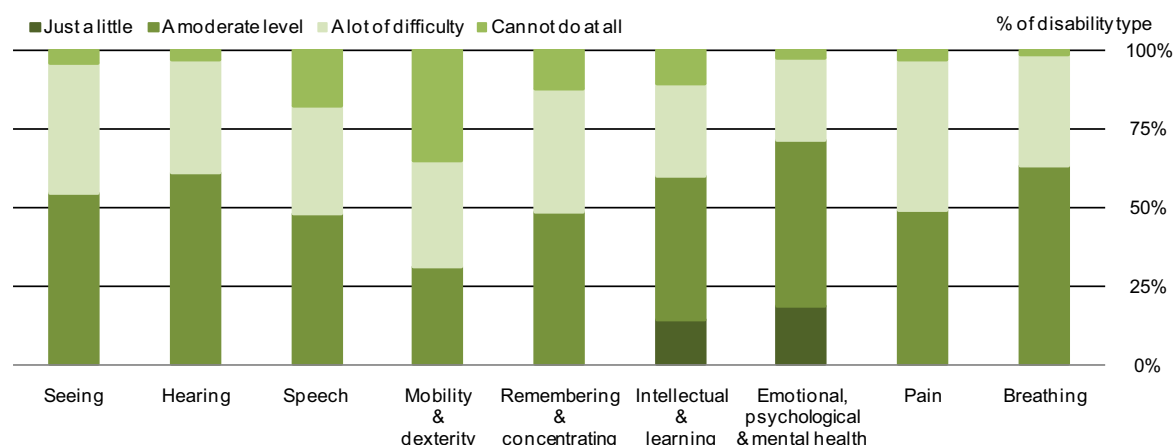
**Table 2.11 Persons with a disability: level of difficulty by disability type**

Disability type	Level of difficulty in everyday activities				Total	Persons
	Just a little <sup>6</sup>	A moderate level	A lot of difficulty	Cannot do at all		
Seeing	n/a	55	41	5	100	50,600
Hearing	n/a	61	36	3	100	57,600
Speech	n/a	48	34	18	100	35,300
Mobility & dexterity	n/a	31	34	35	100	184,000
Remembering & concentrating	n/a	49	39	13	100	113,000
Intellectual & learning	17	36	35	12	100	71,600
Emotional, psychological & mental health	23	42	32	4	100	110,600
Pain	n/a	49	48	3	100	152,800
Breathing	n/a	63	35	2	100	71,500
<b>Persons with a disability<sup>7</sup></b>	<b>2</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>325,800</b>

A third of those with a disability (33%) reported a moderate or lower level of difficulty. A further 43% reported their highest level of difficulty as “A lot of difficulty”, while just under a quarter reported “Cannot do at all” under at least one disability type (see Table 2.11).

Mobility and dexterity was the only disability with approximately equal proportions experiencing the three levels of difficulty and had the largest proportion of persons reporting “Cannot do at all” at 35%. Apart from this group, the largest proportions of persons in reporting this level of difficulty were those with Speech disabilities (18%), Remembering and concentrating (13%) and Intellectual and learning (12%). There were much smaller proportions (5% or less) in this category for the other disability types (see Table 2.11 and Graph 2.12).

**Graph 2.12 Profile of level of difficulty by disability type**



<sup>6</sup> This level of difficulty only applies to Intellectual and learning and Emotional, psychological and mental health disabilities.

<sup>7</sup> Persons reporting multiple disabilities are counted only once in this row and have been assigned to the highest level of difficulty that they reported. For example a person reporting a moderate level of seeing difficulty and a lot of difficulty with breathing would have been included in the “A moderate level” category in the “Seeing” row in Table 2.11 and also in the “A lot of difficulty” category in the “Breathing” row. They would be then included in the “A lot of difficulty” category of the Persons with a disability row of this table as this was their highest reported level of difficulty.

The highest proportion of persons reporting “A lot of difficulty” was those with a Pain disability at 48% followed by Seeing at 41% and Remembering and concentrating at 39%. The proportions reporting this level of difficulty were very similar for the other six disability types ranging from 32% to 36% (see Table 2.11).

More than half of persons with a Seeing disability reported a moderate level of difficulty (55%), while 61% of those with a Hearing disability and 63% of those with a Breathing disability reported this level of difficulty. For the two disability types where persons experiencing ‘Just a little difficulty’ were included in the total, this category represented 17% of those with an Intellectual and learning disability and 23% of those with an Emotional, psychological and mental health disability. When combined with “A moderate level”, these two categories accounted for 53% of persons with an Intellectual and learning disability and 65% of persons with an Emotional, psychological and mental health disability (see Graph 2.12).

## 2.4 Profile of disability in private households and communal establishments

**Table 2.13 Persons with a disability: disability type by type of accommodation**

Disability type	% of persons with a disability		
	Private household	Nursing home, hospital and children's home	All persons
Seeing	15	22	16
Hearing	18	17	18
Speech	9	33	11
Mobility & dexterity	55	76	56
Remembering & concentrating	32	61	35
Intellectual & learning	22	27	22
Emotional, psychological & mental health	33	45	34
Pain	48	30	47
Breathing	22	16	22
<b>% of persons with a disability<sup>8</sup></b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>
Number of persons with a disability	300,200	25,600	325,800
<i>Average number of disabilities per person</i>	2.5	3.3	2.6

Overall, 8% (25,600 persons) of all persons with a disability were usually resident in a nursing home, hospital or children's home. The remainder were living in private households. Those resident in a nursing home, hospital or children's home experienced a higher level of multiple disability (averaging 3.3 disabilities per person) than those in private households who had an average of 2.5 disabilities per person (see Table 2.13).

The profile of disabilities reported by people with a disability living in private households is different from those resident in nursing homes, hospitals and children's homes. Mobility and dexterity difficulties were the most frequently reported type for persons in both types of accommodation, at 55% of persons in private households and 76% of persons in a nursing home, hospital or children's home. The second most reported disability type for persons with a disability in private households was Pain (48%) with Emotional psychological and mental health and Remembering and concentrating experienced by around a third. Among residents of nursing homes, hospitals and children's homes with a disability 61% reported problems with Remembering and concentrating and around a third reported difficulties with Speech and Pain (see Table 2.13).

<sup>8</sup> The individual disability percentages total to more than 100 due to persons reporting multiple disabilities being counted in each disability type reported.

Graph 2.14 Profile of disability type by type of accommodation

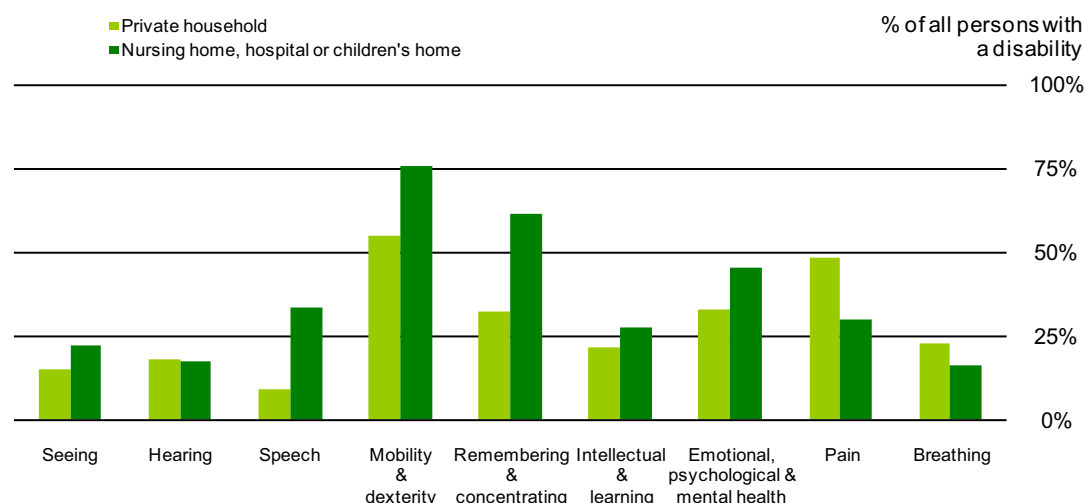


Table 2.15 Persons with a disability: level of difficulty by disability type and type of accommodation

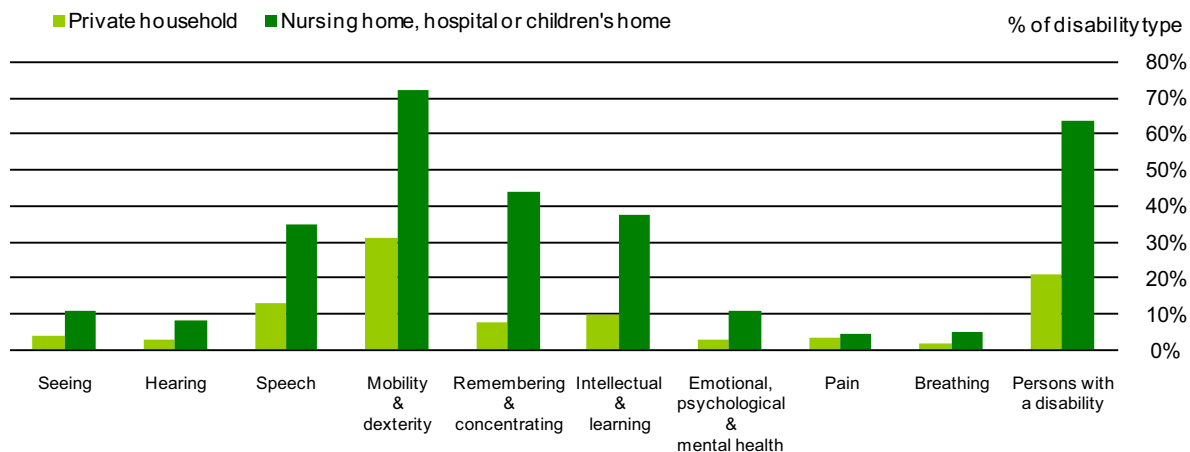
Disability type	% of disability type				Total	Persons
	Just a little	A moderate level	A lot of difficulty	Cannot do at all		
<b>Private household</b>						
Seeing	n/a	55	41	4	100	45,000
Hearing	n/a	61	36	3	100	53,200
Speech	n/a	53	34	13	100	26,800
Mobility & dexterity	n/a	33	36	31	100	164,600
Remembering & concentrating	n/a	53	39	8	100	97,200
Intellectual & learning	17	38	36	10	100	64,600
Emotional, psychological & mental health	24	43	31	3	100	99,000
Pain	n/a	48	49	3	100	145,200
Breathing	n/a	63	36	2	100	67,400
<b>Persons with a disability</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>300,200</b>
<b>Nursing home, hospital and children's home</b>						
Seeing	n/a	49	40	10	100	5,600
Hearing	n/a	58	33	8	100	4,400
Speech	n/a	31	34	35	100	8,600
Mobility & dexterity	n/a	11	17	72	100	19,400
Remembering & concentrating	n/a	21	35	44	100	15,800
Intellectual & learning	14	22	26	37	100	7,000
Emotional, psychological & mental health	16	33	39	11	100	11,600
Pain	n/a	65	31	4	100	7,700
Breathing	n/a	69	26	5	100	4,100
<b>Persons with a disability</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>25,600</b>

Persons resident in a nursing home, hospital or children's home reported greater severity of disability across most types of disability. They reported the highest level of severity "Cannot do at all" in much greater proportions than persons with a disability living in private households. Overall 63% of residents in a nursing home, hospital or children's home with a disability reported this level of difficulty on at least one type of disability compared with 21% of persons with a disability living in private households (see Table 2.15).

Almost two-thirds of persons living in nursing homes, hospitals and children’s homes reported “Cannot do at all” as their highest level of difficulty for at least one of their disabilities (63%). When examined by disability type, this proportion ranged from 4% for Pain to 72% for Mobility and dexterity. The proportions reporting this level of difficulty were high for Speech (35%), Remembering and concentrating (44%) and Intellectual and learning (37%) also (see Table 2.15).

Graph 2.16 shows the proportion of persons with a disability in each type of accommodation who reported the highest level of difficulty, “Cannot do at all” for each disability type. The “Persons with a disability” category refers to the highest level of difficulty reported for persons with multiple disabilities.

**Graph 2.16 Persons reporting “Cannot do at all”: disability type by type of accommodation**



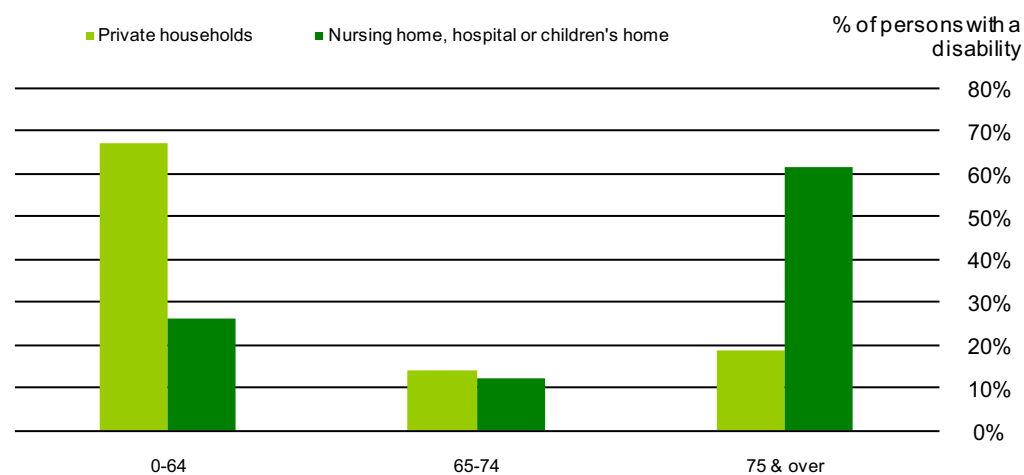
People living in private households showed much lower proportions reporting “Cannot do at all”, with the highest proportion again in Mobility and dexterity at 31%. For all other disabilities the proportion reporting this level of difficulty was consistently lower and showed less variation by disability type than for persons in nursing homes, hospitals and children’s homes, ranging from 2% for Breathing to 13% for Speech. Overall, persons in private households 44% reported “A lot of difficulty” as their highest level of difficulty and 33% reported “A moderate level”. More than half reported “A moderate level” for Breathing (63%), Hearing (61%), Seeing (55%), Speech (53%), and Remembering and concentrating (53%) (see Table 2.15).

**Table 2.17 Persons with a disability: age group by disability type and type of accommodation**  
% of disability type

Disability type	% of disability type			Total	Persons
	0-64	65-74	75 & over		
<b>Private household</b>					
Seeing	50	17	33	100	45,000
Hearing	48	17	35	100	53,200
Speech	83	7	9	100	26,800
Mobility & dexterity	54	18	28	100	164,600
Remembering & concentrating	70	11	18	100	97,200
Intellectual & learning	93	3	4	100	64,600
Emotional, psychological & mental health	81	10	9	100	99,000
Pain	62	17	21	100	145,200
Breathing	59	19	21	100	67,400
<b>Persons with a disability</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>300,200</b>
<b>Nursing home, hospital and children's home</b>					
Seeing	27	6	67	100	5,600
Hearing	17	8	75	100	4,400
Speech	41	12	47	100	8,600
Mobility & dexterity	16	12	72	100	19,400
Remembering & concentrating	25	9	66	100	15,800
Intellectual & learning	67	10	23	100	7,000
Emotional, psychological & mental health	36	14	50	100	11,600
Pain	22	13	64	100	7,700
Breathing	31	13	56	100	4,100
<b>Persons with a disability</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>25,600</b>

Persons with a disability living in nursing homes, hospitals and children's homes were more concentrated in the older age groups than those resident in private households. For persons with a disability living in private households, the majority (67%) were in the 0-64 age group, with 14% aged 65-74 and the remaining 19% aged 75 and over. For persons resident in nursing homes, hospitals and children's homes this pattern was reversed with 62% aged 75 and over, 12% aged 64-75 and 26% in the youngest age category of 0-64 (see Table 2.17 and Graph 2.18).

**Graph 2.18 Profile of persons with a disability by age group and type of accommodation**



**Table 2.19 Persons with a disability: age group by sex and type of accommodation**

Sex	% of age group			
	0-64	65-74	75 & over	Total
<b>Private household</b>				
Males	53	48	36	49
Females	47	52	64	51
<b>Persons with a disability (%)</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>
Persons with a disability	201,700	41,700	56,700	300,200
<b>Nursing home, hospital and children's home</b>				
Males	57	50	28	38
Females	43	50	72	62
<b>Persons with a disability (%)</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>
Persons with a disability	6,700	3,100	15,800	25,600

Persons with a disability resident in nursing homes, hospitals and children's homes were more likely to be female (62%). The difference was particularly evident in the 75 and over age group, of whom 72% were female. Among persons in private households with a disability, there were roughly equal proportions of males and females overall, but again a difference can be seen in the oldest age group with 64% of persons in this age group with a disability being female (see Table 2.19).

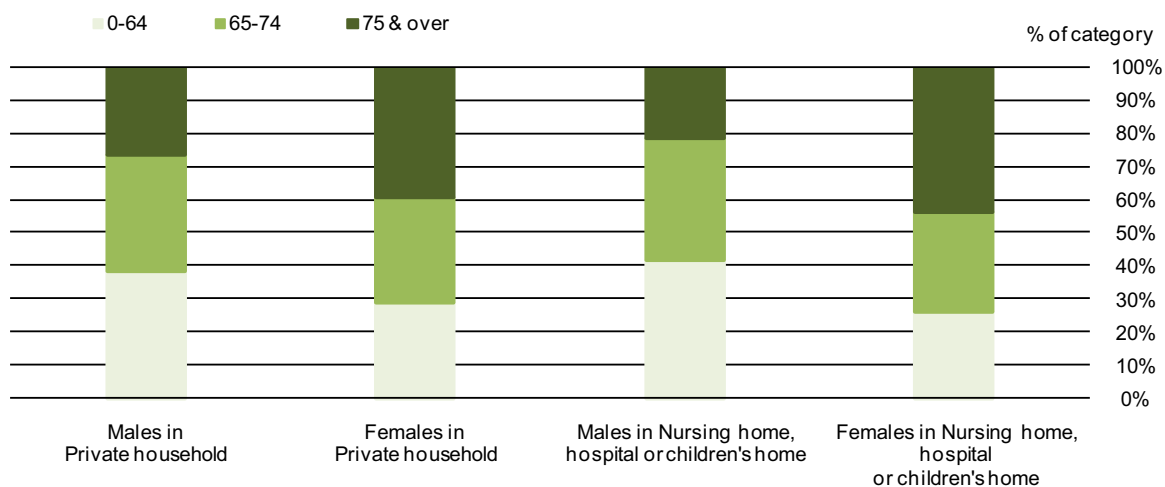
**Graph 2.20 Profile of persons with a disability by type of accommodation, sex and age group**

Table 2.21 Persons with a disability: sex by disability type and type of accommodation

Disability type	% of disability type			Persons
	Males	Females	Total	
	<b>Private household</b>			
Seeing	44	56	100	45,000
Hearing	51	49	100	53,200
Speech	60	40	100	26,800
Mobility & dexterity	44	56	100	164,600
Remembering & concentrating	51	49	100	97,200
Intellectual & learning	62	38	100	64,600
Emotional, psychological & mental health	47	53	100	99,000
Pain	43	57	100	145,200
Breathing	50	50	100	67,400
<b>Persons with a disability</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>300,200</b>
	<b>Nursing home, hospital and children's home</b>			
Seeing	29	71	100	5,600
Hearing	32	68	100	4,400
Speech	36	64	100	8,600
Mobility & dexterity	33	67	100	19,400
Remembering & concentrating	35	65	100	15,800
Intellectual & learning	52	48	100	7,000
Emotional, psychological & mental health	45	55	100	11,600
Pain	33	67	100	7,700
Breathing	39	61	100	4,100
<b>Persons with a disability</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>25,600</b>

When examined by disability type there was some divergence from the overall equal male/female split of persons in private households with a disability. Those reporting Intellectual and learning and Speech disabilities were more likely to be male with males representing 62% and 60% of persons with these disability types respectively. Of those who reported Pain, Mobility and dexterity, and Seeing disabilities more than half (56-57%) were female (see Table 2.21).

For residents of nursing homes, hospitals and children's homes eight of the nine disability types followed the pattern consistent with the overall sex distribution of the population. Intellectual and learning was the only category where there was a higher proportion of males (52%) than females (48%). Those reporting a difficulty with Seeing were disproportionately female at 71% (see Table 2.21).

## 2.5 Regional profile of disability

Table 2.22 shows the profile of people with a disability by region and age-standardised to reflect the demographic composition of the region. The overall rate of disability per thousand population showed little variation by region from the State total with the exception of the Mid-East region with a rate of 66 persons with a disability per thousand population compared to the State average of 81 persons per thousand. This region had also recorded a lower rate than the average in the Census disability rates. This pattern remained mostly consistent across disability types, however the rates for Intellectual and learning and Speech disabilities for the Mid-East region were more in line with the national rate. The Mid-West had the highest rate of disability of all the regions at 87 per thousand.

The second half of Table 2.22 shows age-standardised ratios for each region by disability type. A value of more than 100 indicates that the population of the region has a higher occurrence of a particular disability than would be expected from their age profile while a value of less than 100 indicates that the population has a lower incidence of disability than expected. On examining these ratios it can be seen that the West, Mid-East and South-West regions had lower disability rates overall than would be expected taking the age profile of the region into account. Dublin, the Mid-West and the South-East had higher rates than expected. When examined by disability type, Dublin and the Mid-East were the only regions with a consistent pattern across all disability types, with Dublin having higher rates and the Mid-East lower rates than expected for all nine disabilities.

**Table 2.22 Crude and age-standardised disability rates by disability type and region**

Disability type	Border	Midland	West	Dublin	Mid-East	Mid-West	South-East	South-West	State
	<b>Crude rate per 1,000 population</b>								
Seeing	15	16	15	13	9	11	13	11	13
Hearing	16	14	16	15	10	14	15	13	14
Speech	10	8	10	9	7	9	8	8	9
Mobility & dexterity	51	48	50	44	33	51	44	48	46
Remembering & concentrating	29	31	31	28	22	32	26	28	28
Intellectual & learning	17	21	18	18	18	18	18	16	18
Emotional, psychological or mental health	24	26	27	29	21	33	28	29	27
Pain	40	40	42	37	27	44	40	37	38
Breathing	18	20	16	19	13	20	19	17	18
<b>Persons with a disability</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>81</b>
	<b>Age-standardised disability ratios<sup>9</sup></b>								
Seeing	111	124	106	105	89	87	101	83	100
Hearing	102	100	103	111	88	91	103	89	100
Speech	107	95	113	106	88	102	89	93	100
Mobility & dexterity	105	105	100	102	85	108	93	100	100
Remembering & concentrating	100	108	105	104	88	110	90	97	100
Intellectual & learning	94	116	102	101	98	104	104	91	100
Emotional, psychological or mental health	87	95	96	109	80	117	102	102	100
Pain	100	106	103	103	80	113	102	95	100
Breathing	95	112	85	111	82	110	106	92	100
<b>Persons with a disability</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>97</b>	<b>100</b>

<sup>9</sup> Age-standardised ratios are calculated as the observed rate for the region divided by the rate which would be expected if the region conformed to the age-specific rates in the sample as a whole, multiplied by 100. See Appendix C for a more detailed explanation.

## Chapter 3 Profile by type of disability

### 3.1 Introduction

This chapter examines each of the nine individual disability types in more detail. It summarises the data presented in Detailed Tables 14-22 which focus on individual disabilities. For each disability type an analysis by age and sex is presented, followed by data on items specific to each disability type such as use of, or need for, disability specific aids and illnesses related to particular disabilities. For the three disability types Mobility and dexterity, Remembering and concentrating, and Intellectual and learning the components of the difficulties in terms of the specific types of disability reported in the NDS questionnaire are also presented. As in Chapter 2, the tables and graphs refer to the Census disability sample only.

### 3.2 Individual disability types

The following sections are numbered in accordance with the labelling and sequence of individual disability types used on the NDS questionnaires as shown in Chapter 1.

- A. Seeing
- B. Hearing
- C. Speech
- D. Mobility & dexterity
- E. Remembering & concentrating
- F. Intellectual & learning
- G. Emotional, psychological, & mental health
- H. Pain
- I. Breathing

## A Seeing

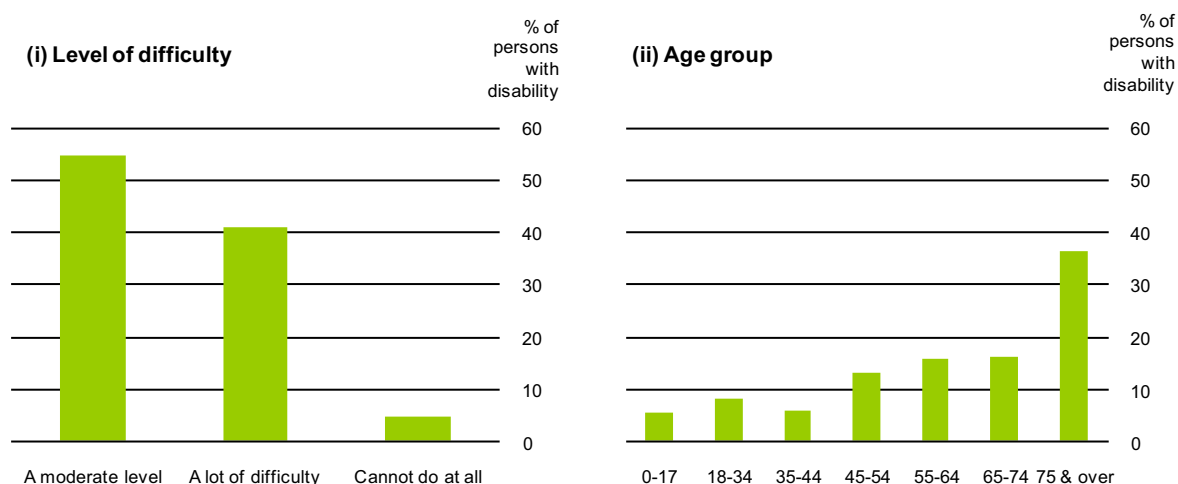
There were an estimated 50,600 persons with a Seeing disability in 2006, of whom 58% were female and 42% were male. More than half (55%) of the persons with a Seeing disability reported a moderate level of difficulty seeing, with a further 41% reporting a lot of difficulty and 5% unable to see at all (see Table A.1 and Graph A.2).

**Table A.1 Persons with a Seeing disability: level of difficulty by sex and age group**

Age group	% of sex/age group			Total	Persons
	A moderate level	A lot of difficulty	Cannot do at all		
<b>Persons</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>50,600</b>
Males	54	41	4	100	21,400
Females	55	41	5	100	29,200
0-17	61	32	7	100	2,700
18-34	46	40	14	100	4,000
35-44	56	40	4	100	2,900
45-54	54	42	4	100	6,600
55-64	59	35	6	100	7,800
65-74	58	39	3	100	8,200
75 & over	52	46	3	100	18,400

The level of difficulty experienced varied by age group. Among the youngest age group, 0-17, 61% reported a moderate level of difficulty. Those with a Seeing disability aged 18-34 had the largest proportion reporting the higher levels of difficulty with 54% of this age group reporting a lot of difficulty or being unable to see at all. Among those aged 75 and over 49% reported they had a lot of difficulty seeing or could not see at all. Those aged 75 and over accounted for 36% of all persons with a Seeing disability (see Table A.1 and Graph A.2).

**Graph A.2 Persons with a Seeing disability: level of difficulty and age group**



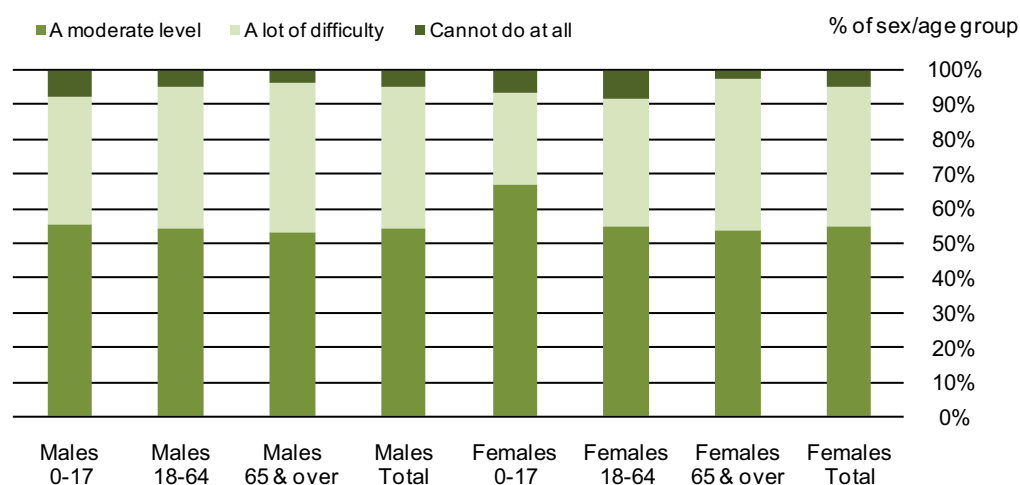
**Table A.3 Persons with a Seeing disability: age group by sex**

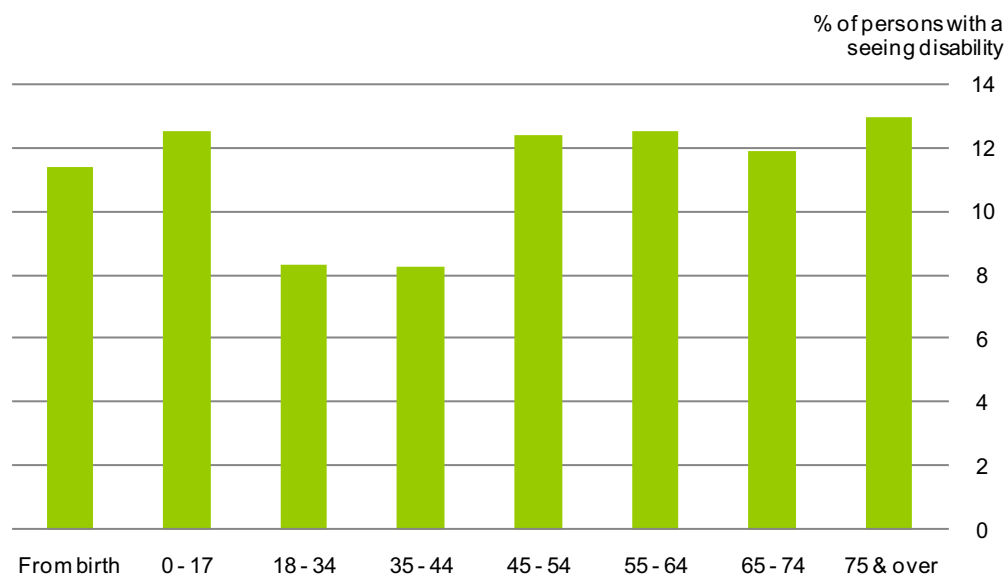
Age group	% of sex		
	Males	Females	Persons
0-17	6	5	5
18-34	10	7	8
35-44	7	4	6
45-54	15	11	13
55-64	19	13	15
65-74	14	17	16
75 & over	28	43	36
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>
Persons	21,400	29,200	50,600

Of females with a Seeing disability 60% were in the older age groups of 65 and over, while for males 42% were in these age groups (see Table A.3). There were relatively small numbers of children with a Seeing disability. Males aged 0-17 with a Seeing disability had a higher level of difficulty with 44% reporting the two higher levels of difficulty compared with 33% of females in the same age group. The profiles of difficulty were similar for males and females in the 18-64 age group and in the 65 & over age group (see Table A.4 and Graph A.5).

**Table A.4 Persons with a Seeing disability: level of difficulty by sex and age group**

Sex	% of sex/age group				Total	Persons
	A moderate level	A lot of difficulty	Cannot do at all	Total		
<b>Males</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>21,400</b>	
0-17	56	37	7	100	1,300	
18-64	55	41	5	100	11,100	
65 & over	53	43	4	100	9,000	
<b>Females</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>29,200</b>	
0-17	67	27	6	100	1,400	
18-64	55	37	8	100	10,300	
65 & over	54	44	2	100	17,600	

**Graph A.5 Profile of Seeing disability: level of difficulty by sex and age group**

**Graph A.6 Persons with a Seeing disability: age of onset<sup>1</sup>**

Just over one in ten (11%) persons with a Seeing disability had their disability from birth. A further 13% acquired their disability aged 0-17. Lower proportions (around 8%) reported having acquired their disability in the 18-34 and 35-44 age groups (see Graph A.6).

**Table A.7 Persons using and needing aids for their Seeing disability**

% of persons with a seeing disability<sup>2</sup>

Aid for seeing disability	Use aid	Need aid
Magnifier, large print or Braille reading materials	32	12
Audible or tactile devices	8	8
Recording equipment or portable note-takers	4	4
Computer with large print, Braille, etc.	7	7
Screen reader	4	6
Scanner	4	4
Guidance cane	7	3
Guide dog	1	2
Mobility or rehabilitative worker	4	3
Community resource worker	5	4
<b>Persons using / needing any aid</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>26</b>

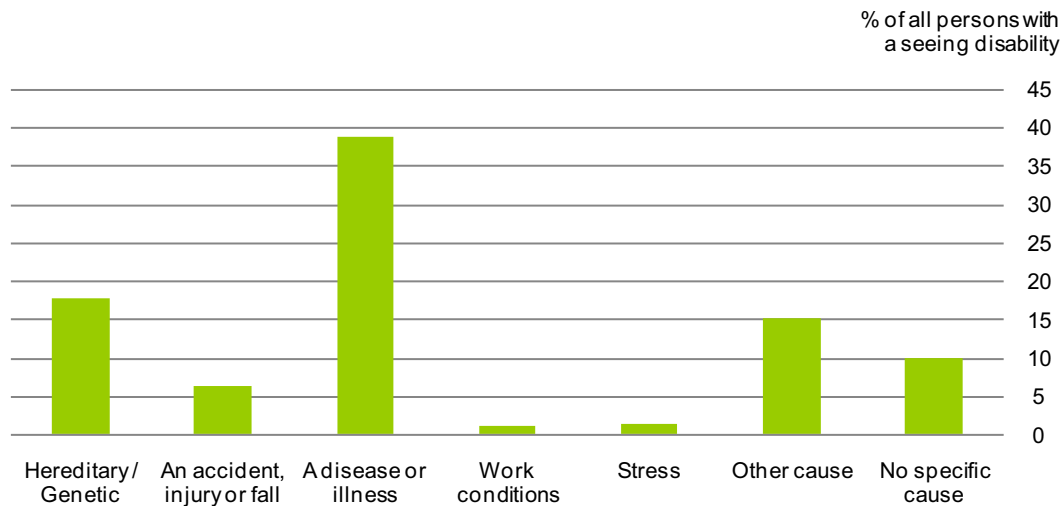
Overall 42% of persons with a Seeing disability reported using at least one of the aids shown in Table A.7, and 26% reported needing but not having at least one of these aids. Magnifiers, large print and Braille reading materials were the aids reported to be most in use and most needed, with 32% of persons with a Seeing disability using these aids and a further 12% needing them. There were much lower proportions reporting use of or need for all other aids. Screen readers and guide dogs were the only aids where there was a slightly higher level of need than usage reported. Persons using and needing aids tended to have a higher difficulty profile than persons who neither used nor needed aids (see Table A.8).

<sup>1</sup> Excludes 'Unknown' or 'Not stated'.

<sup>2</sup> The percentages do not sum to the total as persons may have reported use of or need for more than one aid.

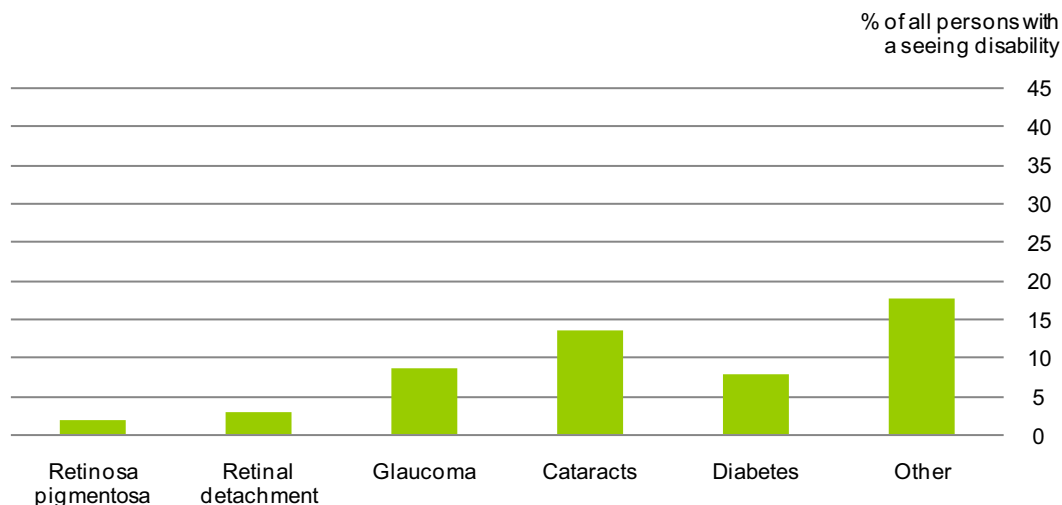
Table A.8 Persons using and needing aids by level of difficulty

				%	
	A moderate level	A lot of difficulty	Cannot do at all	Total	Persons
<b>Persons with seeing disability</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>50,600</b>
Persons using any aid	45	48	7	100	21,200
Persons needing any aid	46	47	7	100	13,400
Persons not needing or using any aid	63	34	4	100	22,700

Graph A.9 Causes of Seeing disability<sup>3,4</sup>

Almost 40% of all persons with a Seeing disability reported that a disease or illness was the main cause of their disability, and 18% reported that their disability was caused by a hereditary or genetic condition. Very low proportions (around 1%) reported work conditions or stress as the main cause of their disability (see Graph A.9).

The illness most commonly reported by persons with a Seeing disability was cataracts at 14%, followed by glaucoma at 9% and diabetes at 8% (see Graph A.10).

Graph A.10 Illnesses reported as the cause of Seeing disability<sup>3,4</sup>

<sup>3</sup> Excludes 'Don't know' or 'Not stated'.

<sup>4</sup> Multiple responses allowed.

## B Hearing

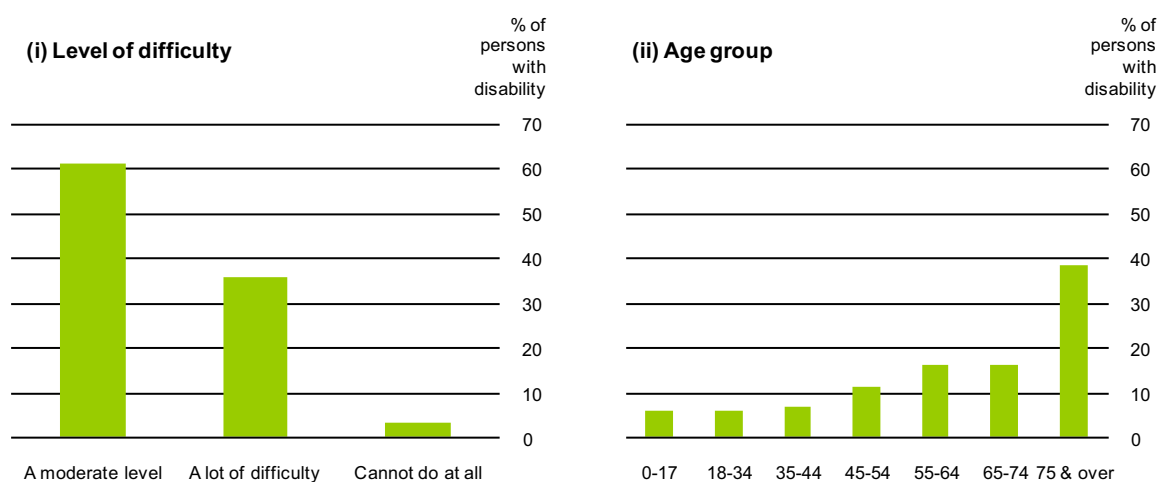
Of the estimated 57,600 persons with a Hearing disability, 61% reported a moderate level of difficulty, 36% a lot of difficulty and 3% could not hear at all. There were roughly equal numbers of males and females with a Hearing disability overall and similar proportions across the levels of difficulty (see Table B.1 and Graph B.2).

**Table B.1 Persons with a Hearing disability: level of difficulty by age group and sex**  
% of sex/age group

Age group	A moderate level	A lot of difficulty	Cannot do at all	Total	Persons
<b>Persons</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>57,600</b>
Males	62	35	3	100	28,600
Females	60	36	3	100	29,000
0-17	78	18	4	100	3,300
18-34	64	27	9	100	3,400
35-44	59	35	6	100	3,900
45-54	64	30	7	100	6,500
55-64	61	37	2	100	9,100
65-74	61	38	1	100	9,300
75 & over	58	40	2	100	22,100

The proportion reporting lower levels of difficulty decreased overall with age. Persons aged 0-17 tended to report lower levels of difficulty with 78% of this age group reporting a moderate level of difficulty. Persons aged between 18 and 54 reported higher proportions of "Cannot do at all" at 9% of the 18-34 age group, 6% of the 35-44 age group and 7% of the 45-54 age group (see Table B.1 and Graph B.2).

**Graph B.2 Persons with a Hearing disability: level of difficulty and age group**



More than a third (38%) of persons who had a Hearing disability were aged 75 and over. For females the proportion was higher at 46% while 31% of males with a Hearing disability were in this age group (see Table B.3).

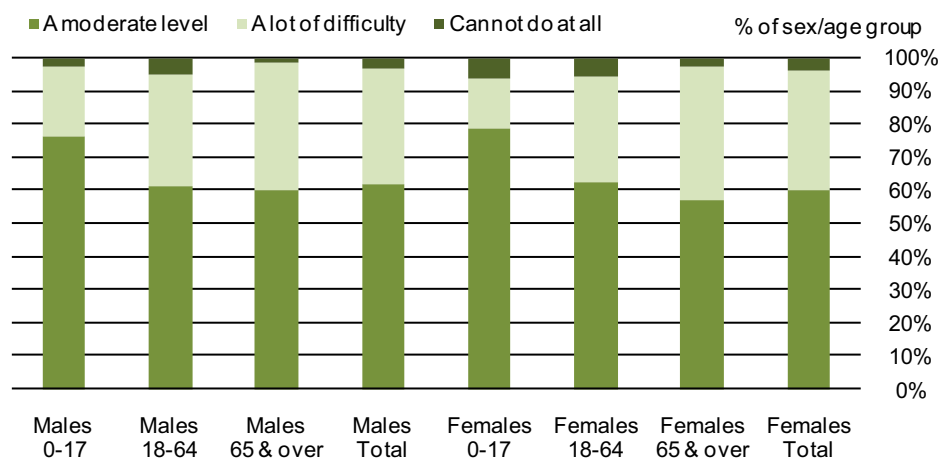
**Table B.3 Persons with a Hearing disability: sex by age group**

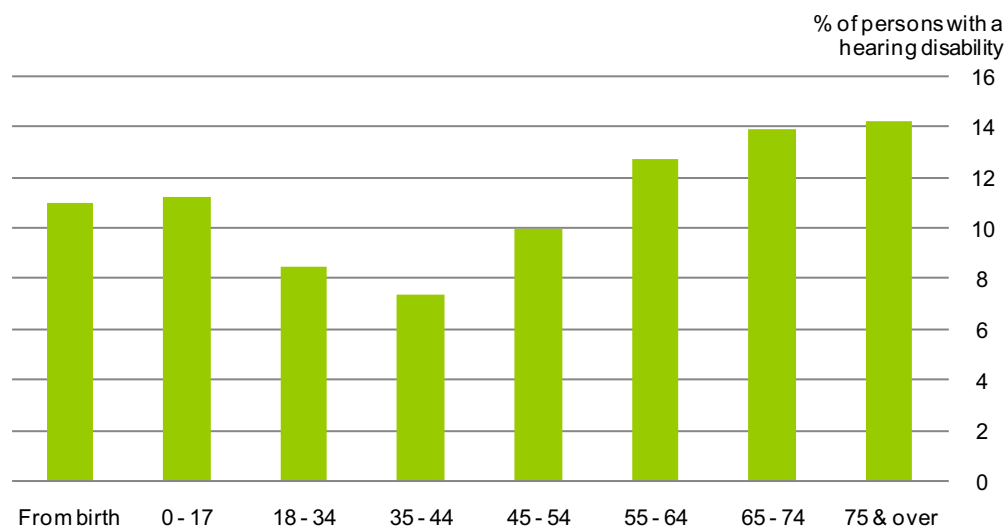
Age group	% of sex		
	Males	Females	Persons
0-17	6	5	6
18-34	6	6	6
35-44	7	6	7
45-54	12	10	11
55-64	20	12	16
65-74	18	15	16
75 & over	31	46	38
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>
Persons	28,600	29,000	57,600

Both males and females in the youngest age group, 0-17, were more likely to report moderate levels of difficulty than those in the older age groups at 77% of males aged 0-17 and 79% of females compared with 60-63% of males and females in the 18 and over age groups. The proportions of males (1%) and females (2%) aged 65 and over reporting that they could not hear at all were lower than for the 18-64 age group where 5% of both males and females reported "Cannot do at all" (see Table B.4 and Graph B.5).

**Table B.4 Persons with a Hearing disability: level of difficulty by sex and age group**

Sex	% of sex/age group				Total	Persons
	A moderate level	A lot of difficulty	Cannot do at all			
<b>Males</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>28,600</b>	
0-17	77	21	3	100	1,800	
18-64	61	34	5	100	13,000	
65 & over	60	39	1	100	13,900	
<b>Females</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>29,000</b>	
0-17	79	16	6	100	1,500	
18-64	63	32	5	100	10,000	
65 & over	61	38	2	100	17,600	

**Graph B.5 Profile of Hearing disability: level of difficulty by sex and age group**

**Graph B.6 Persons with a Hearing disability: age of onset<sup>5</sup>**

Of all persons with a Hearing disability, 11% acquired their disability before the age of 18 and a further 11% had their disability from birth. Just over 40% of persons with a Hearing disability acquired their disability after the age of 55 (see Graph B.6).

**Table B.7 Persons using and needing aids for their Hearing disability**

Aid for hearing disability	% of persons with hearing disability <sup>6</sup>	
	Use aid	Need aid
Hearing aid(s) without T-switch	23	19
Hearing aid(s) with T-switch	18	16
Cochlear implants	3	7
Phone related devices	10	13
Mobile phone for texting	22	4
Fax machine	4	3
Speedtext	3	2
Computer to communicate, e.g. e-mail or chat services	10	6
Subtitles on TV	17	5
Amplifiers	7	4
Visual or vibrating alerts or alarms	10	13
A loop	2	3
Sign language e.g. ISL	5	2
Lip read or speech read	12	3
<b>Persons using / needing any aid</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>45</b>

Overall 62% of persons with a Hearing disability used one or more of the aids shown in Table B.7 and 45% expressed a need for one or more of those aids. Hearing aids (without T-switch) and mobile phones for texting were the most commonly used aids by persons with a Hearing disability at 23% and 22% respectively. Hearing aids with T-switches were the next most commonly used aids at 18%. The level of need among those not having hearing aids of both kinds was only slightly lower than the level of usage (19% for hearing aids without T-switches and 16% for hearing aids with T-switches), while the level of need for mobile phones was much lower at 4%. Television subtitles were used by 17% of persons with a Hearing disability and 12% used lip

<sup>5</sup> Excludes 'Unknown' and 'Not stated'.

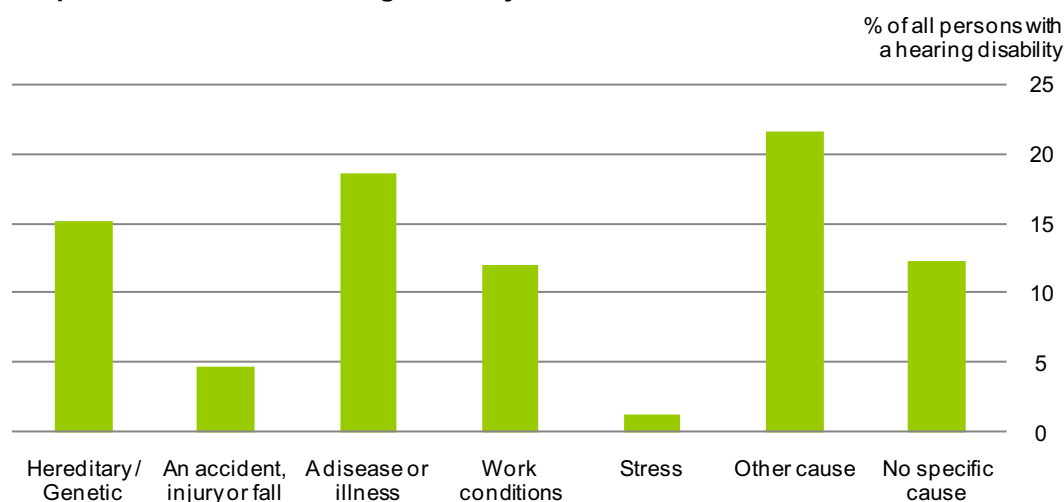
<sup>6</sup> The percentages do not sum to the total as persons may have reported use of or need for more than one aid.

reading or speech reading. Persons using or needing aids for their Hearing disability had a higher difficulty profile than those not using or needing any aid (see Table B.8).

**Table B.8 Persons using and needing aids by level of difficulty**

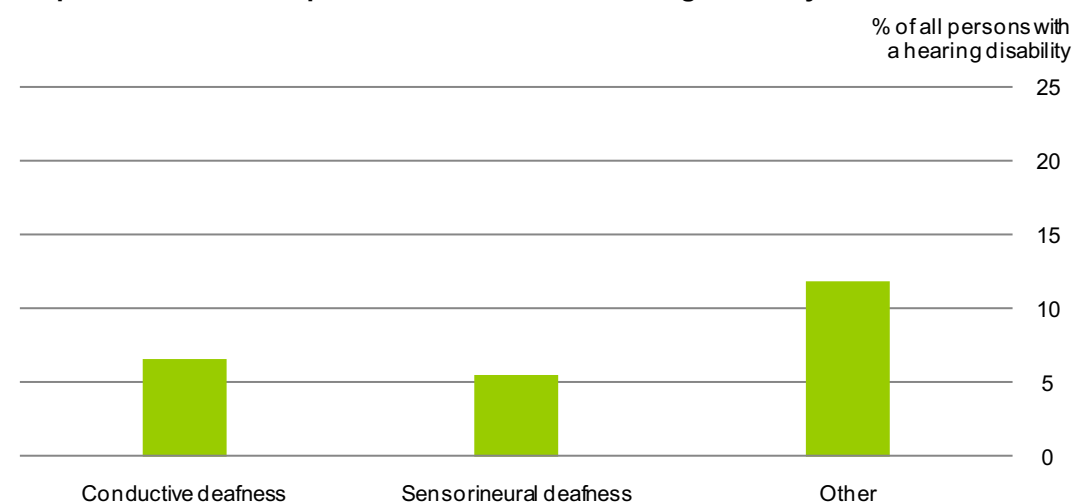
				%	
	A moderate level	A lot of difficulty	Cannot do at all	Total	Persons
<b>Persons with hearing disability</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>57,600</b>
Persons using any aid	56	40	4	100	35,400
Persons needing any aid	53	44	3	100	26,200
Persons not needing or using any aid	75	22	2	100	12,500

**Graph B.9 Causes of Hearing disability<sup>7,8</sup>**



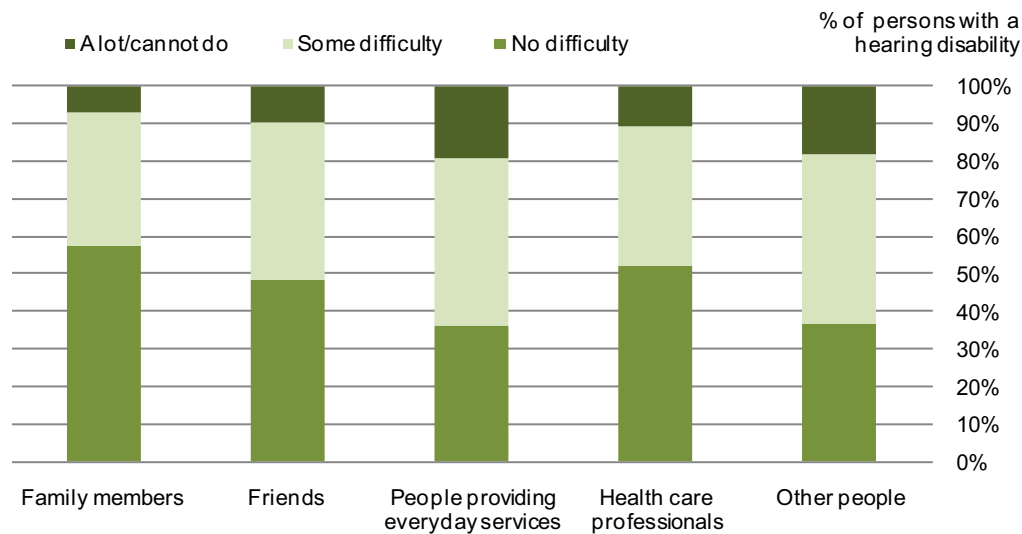
A disease or illness was reported as the cause of their disability by 19% of all persons with a Hearing disability, while 15% reported a hereditary or genetic condition and 12% reported work conditions (see Graph B.9). Conductive deafness and sensorineural deafness were reported by 7% and 6% respectively of all persons with a Hearing disability (see Graph B.10).

**Graph B.10 Illnesses reported as the cause of Hearing disability<sup>7,8</sup>**



<sup>7</sup> Excludes 'Don't know' and 'Not stated'.

<sup>8</sup> Multiple responses allowed.

**Graph B.11 Level of difficulty in communicating with different groups due to Hearing disability**

Over half of persons with a Hearing disability reported no difficulty in communicating with family (58%) and with health care professionals (52%). Just under half (48%) had no difficulty communicating with friends, while a further 42% reported some difficulty communicating with friends. The categories presenting the most difficulty in communication were people providing everyday services (such as shop assistants, bus drivers etc.) and other people in general, with just under 20% of persons with a Hearing disability having a lot of difficulty or being completely unable to communicate with these groups (see Graph B.11 and Detailed Table 15.7).

## C Speech

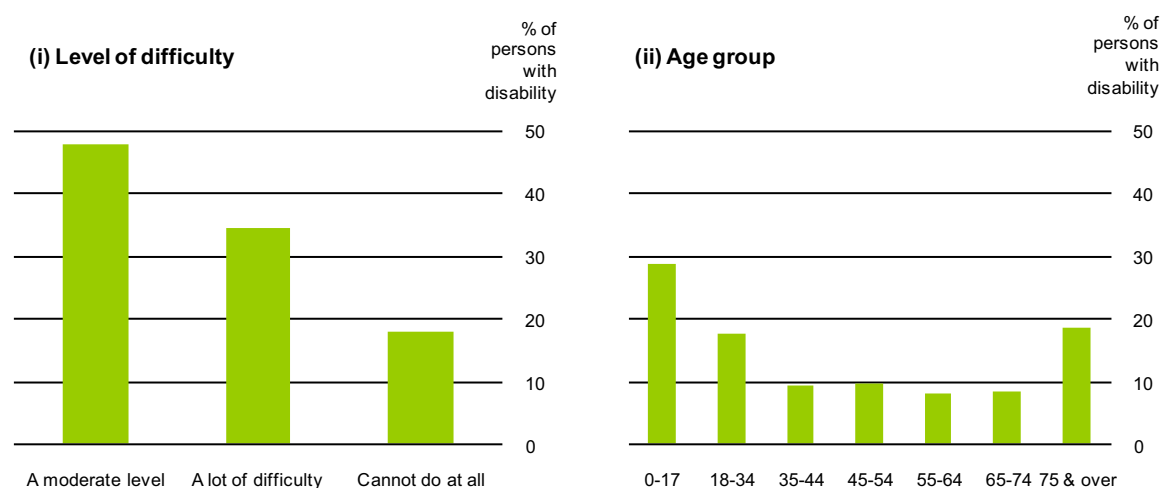
Overall, an estimated 35,300 persons reported that others had difficulty understanding their speech. Of these, 48% had a moderate level of difficulty in being understood, 34% reported a lot of difficulty and the remaining 18% reported that their speech could not be understood by others at all. There was little variation by age group from this pattern, with the exception of the 65-74 age group where just 6% reported a lot of difficulty (see Table C.1 and Graph C.2).

**Table C.1 Persons with a Speech disability: level of difficulty by age group and sex**

Age group	% of sex/age group			Total	Persons
	A moderate level	A lot of difficulty	Cannot do at all		
<b>Persons</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>35,300</b>
Males	49	34	17	100	19,200
Females	46	35	19	100	16,100
0-17	51	34	15	100	10,100
18-34	44	30	26	100	6,200
35-44	52	24	24	100	3,300
45-54	48	32	20	100	3,400
55-64	49	34	16	100	2,800
65-74	51	43	6	100	3,000
75 & over	41	42	17	100	6,500

The age profile of those with a Speech disability was skewed towards the younger age groups with just under half aged under 35, 29% were in the 0-17 age group and 18% aged 18-34. Similar proportions were in the age groups from 35 to 74 with between 8-10% in each age group. Almost 1 in 5 of those with a Speech disability were in the oldest age group, 75 and over (see Table C.1 and Graph C.2).

**Graph C.2 Persons with a Speech disability: level of difficulty and age group**



Just over half of males with a Speech disability and 40% of females were aged under 35. There were similar proportions in the 35-74 age groups for both males and females, while 28% of females with a Speech disability were aged 75 and over compared with 11% of males (see Table C.3).

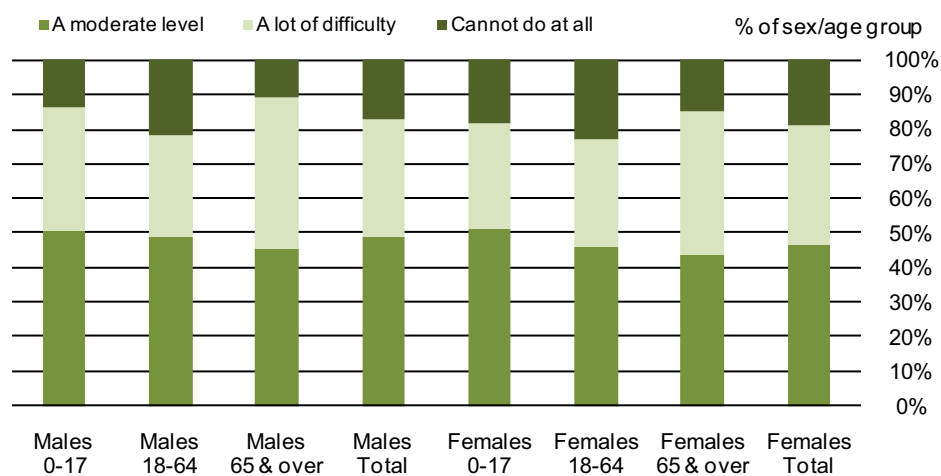
**Table C.3 Persons with a Speech disability: sex by age group**

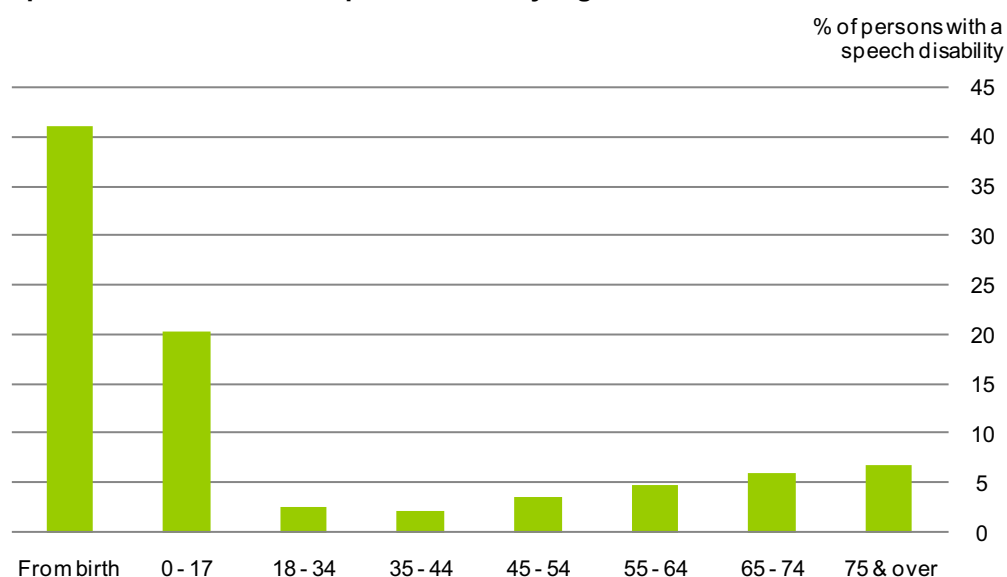
Age group	% of sex		
	Males	Females	Persons
0-17	33	24	29
18-34	19	16	18
35-44	11	8	9
45-54	10	10	10
55-64	9	7	8
65-74	9	8	8
75 & over	11	28	18
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>
Persons	19,200	16,100	35,300

Just under half of both males and females reported “A moderate level” of difficulty at 49% and 46% respectively. Just over one-third reported “A lot of difficulty” at 34% for males and 35% for females, while 17% of males and 19% of females reported “Cannot do at all” (see Table C.4 and Graph C.5).

**Table C.4 Persons with a Speech disability: level of difficulty by sex and age group**

Sex	% of sex/age group			Total	Persons
	A moderate level	A lot of difficulty	Cannot do at all		
<b>Males</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>19,200</b>
0-17	51	36	14	100	6,300
18-64	49	29	22	100	9,200
65 & over	45	44	11	100	3,700
<b>Females</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>16,100</b>
0-17	51	31	18	100	3,800
18-64	46	31	23	100	6,500
65 & over	44	41	15	100	5,800

**Graph C.5 Profile of Speech disability: level of difficulty by sex and age group**

**Graph C.6 Persons with a Speech disability: age of onset<sup>9</sup>**

Over 60% of persons with a Speech disability reported having acquired their disability in childhood, 41% having their disability from birth and 20% acquiring it before the age of 18. There were much smaller proportions reporting that their disability began to affect them in adulthood although increasing slightly with advancing age (see Graph C.6).

**Table C.7 Persons using and needing aids for their Speech disability**

Aid for speech disability	% of persons with speech disability <sup>10</sup>	
	Use aid	Need aid
Voice amplifier	1	3
Computer or keyboard	8	8
Communications board	5	8
Speech and language therapy	28	17
Sign language e.g. ISL	11	4
Interpreter	5	2
<b>Persons using / needing any aid</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>27</b>

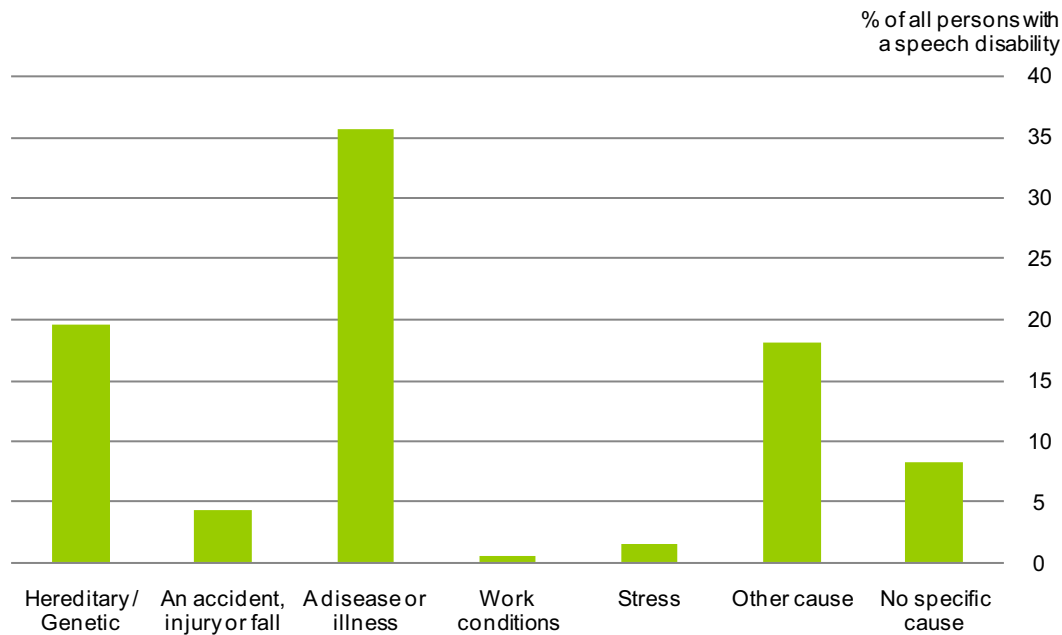
Overall 40% of persons with a Speech disability reported using at least one aid and 27% reported needing at least one aid. Speech and language therapy was the most commonly used and needed aid by persons with a Speech disability with 28% reporting use of this aid, and a further 17% who did not have it expressing a need for it (see Table C.7).

**Table C.8 Persons using and needing aids by level of difficulty**

	% of persons with speech disability			Total	Persons
	A moderate level	A lot of difficulty	Cannot do at all		
<b>Persons with speech disability</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>35,300</b>
Persons using any aid	44	37	19	100	14,100
Persons needing any aid	44	34	22	100	9,700
Persons not needing or using any aid	49	34	18	100	16,300

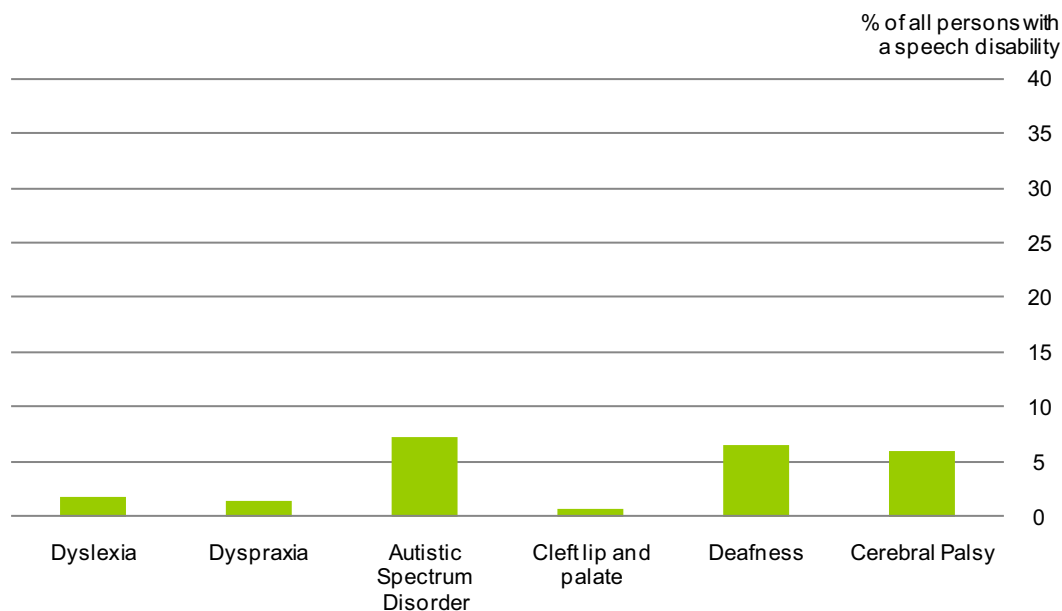
<sup>9</sup> Excludes 'Unknown' and 'Not stated'.

<sup>10</sup> The percentages do not sum to the total as persons may have reported use of or need for more than one aid.

**Graph C.9 Causes of Speech disability<sup>11,12</sup>**

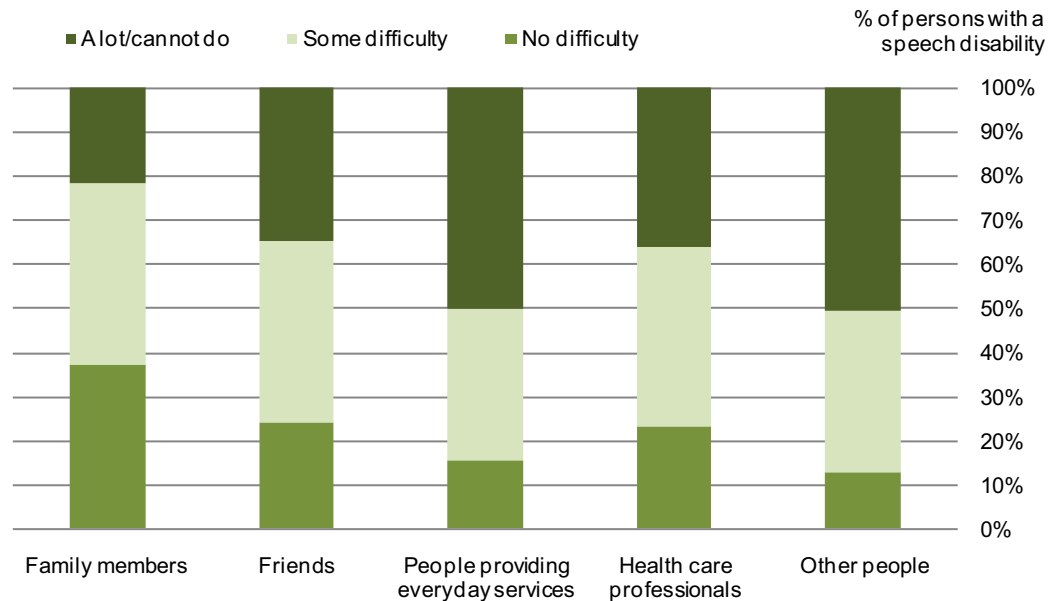
Just over one-third (36%) of all persons with a Speech disability reported a disease or illness as the main cause of their disability, and 19% reported a hereditary or genetic condition (see Graph C.9).

Autistic Spectrum Disorders were identified as the main illness causing their disability by 7% of all persons with a Speech disability. Deafness and Cerebral Palsy were each reported by 6% of those with a Speech disability (see Graph C.10).

**Graph C.10 Illnesses reported as the cause of Speech disability<sup>11,12</sup>**

<sup>11</sup> Excludes 'Don't know' and 'Not stated'.

<sup>12</sup> Multiple responses allowed.

**Graph C.11 Level of difficulty in communicating with different groups due to Speech disability**

Communicating with family members presented no difficulty for 37% of persons with a Speech disability and around one-quarter had no difficulty communicating with friends and with health care professionals. Just over 40% of people with a Speech disability experienced some difficulty in communicating with family, friends and health care professionals. Half of persons with a Speech disability had a lot of difficulty or could not communicate at all with people providing everyday services such as shop assistants, bus drivers etc. (see Graph C.11 and Detailed Table 16.7).

## D Mobility and dexterity

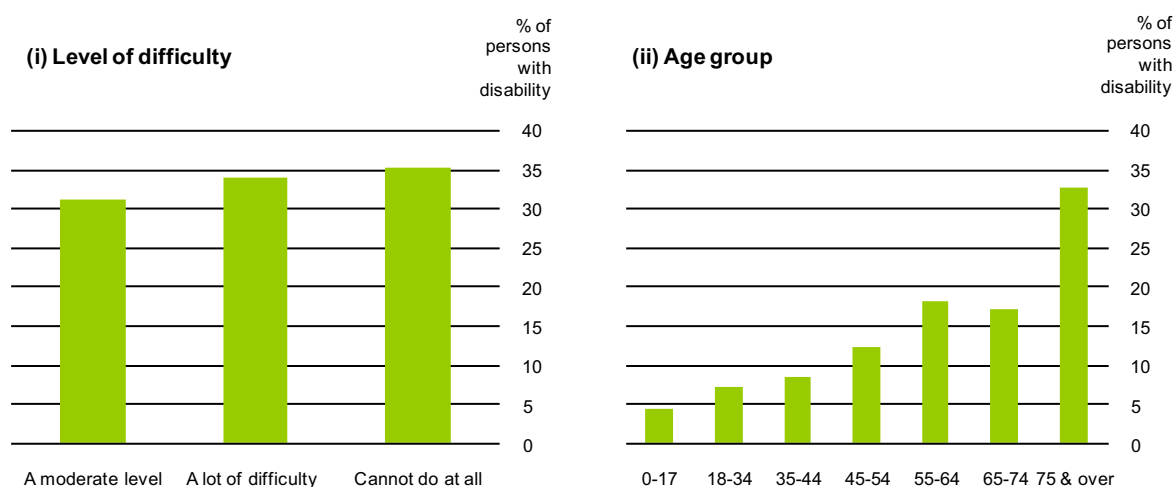
There were an estimated 184,000 persons who reported a Mobility or dexterity disability. This estimate is based on those reporting one or more of the four specific disabilities described in Table D.6. The overall level of difficulty has been taken as the highest level of difficulty reported for persons who had more than one type of Mobility and dexterity disability. Of all persons with a Mobility and dexterity disability, 31% reported “A moderate level” as their highest level of difficulty, 34% reported “A lot of difficulty” and 35% reported “Cannot do at all” (see Table D.1).

**Table D.1 Persons with a Mobility and dexterity disability by age group and level of difficulty**

Age group	% of sex/age group			Total	Persons
	A moderate level	A lot of difficulty	Cannot do at all		
<b>Persons</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>184,000</b>
Males	34	36	31	100	78,200
Females	29	33	39	100	105,800
0-17	37	33	31	100	8,100
18-34	36	31	33	100	13,100
35-44	41	35	24	100	15,500
45-54	40	40	20	100	22,700
55-64	37	38	25	100	33,200
65-74	29	37	34	100	31,600
75 & over	21	28	51	100	59,900

Older people with a Mobility and dexterity disability reported higher levels of difficulty, just over half of those aged 75 and over said they “Cannot do at all”. The age profile of those with a Mobility and dexterity disability showed greater proportions in the older age groups. Almost a third were in the oldest age group, 75 and over, while just 4% were aged 0-17 (see Table D.1 and Graph D.2).

**Graph D.2 Persons with a Mobility and dexterity disability: level of difficulty and age group**



**Table D.3 Persons with a Mobility and dexterity disability: sex by age group**

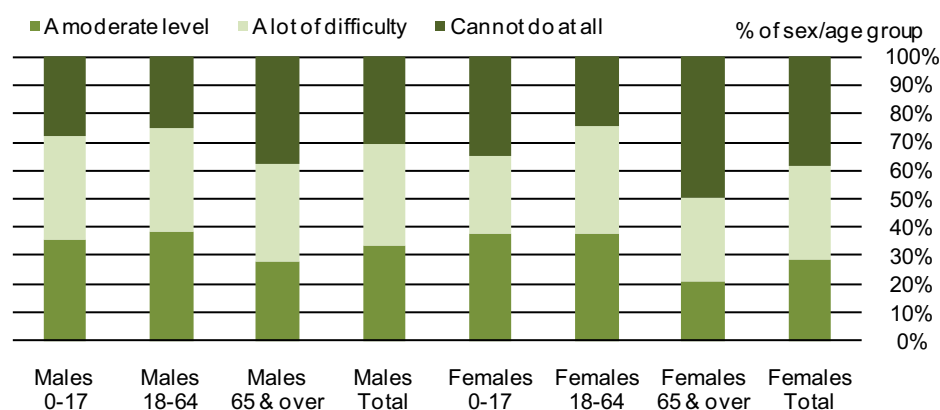
Age group	% of sex		
	Males	Females	Persons
0-17	6	3	4
18-34	8	7	7
35-44	9	8	8
45-54	13	12	12
55-64	21	16	18
65-74	18	16	17
75 & over	24	39	33
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>
Persons	78,200	105,800	184,000

Females with this disability were more likely to be in the older age groups than males, 39% of all females with this disability were aged 75 and over compared with 24% of males. Similar age profiles of males and females were observed up to age 55 (see Table D.3).

Among those with a Mobility and dexterity disability, a higher proportion of females (39%) than males (31%) reported "Cannot do at all" as their highest level of difficulty. This difference was most noticeable for the 65 and over age group, with 50% of females of this age reporting "Cannot do at all" compared with 38% of males (see Table D.4 and Graph D.5).

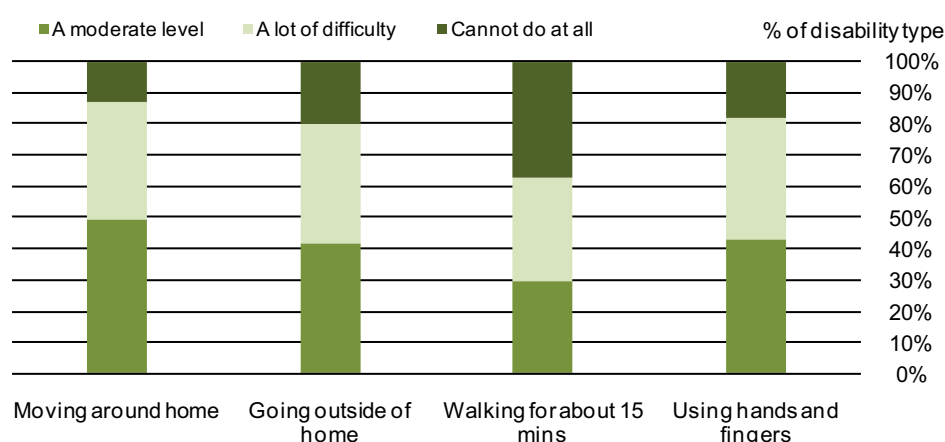
**Table D.4 Persons with a Mobility and dexterity disability: level of difficulty by sex and age group**

Sex	% of sex/age group				Persons
	A moderate level	A lot of difficulty	Cannot do at all	Total	
<b>Males</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>78,200</b>
0-17	36	36	28	100	4,700
18-64	38	37	25	100	39,900
65 & over	28	34	38	100	33,600
<b>Females</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>105,800</b>
0-17	38	28	35	100	3,400
18-64	38	37	25	100	44,500
65 & over	21	29	50	100	57,900

**Graph D.5 Profile of Mobility and dexterity disability: level of difficulty by sex and age group**

**Table D.6 Persons with specific mobility and dexterity difficulties: level of difficulty by type of disability**

Type of disability	% of disability type			Total	Persons
	A moderate level	A lot of difficulty	Cannot do at all		
Moving around home	50	38	13	100	101,200
Going outside of home	42	39	20	100	128,900
Walking for about 15 minutes	29	33	37	100	160,000
Using hands and fingers	43	39	18	100	79,000
<b>Persons with mobility and dexterity disability</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>184,000</b>

**Graph D.7 Profile of specific mobility and dexterity difficulties: level of difficulty by type of disability**

Persons reporting difficulty in “Walking for about 15 minutes” had the highest proportion reporting “Cannot do at all” at 37%. The proportions reporting this level of difficulty were much lower for all other mobility and dexterity disabilities, at 20% for “Going outside of home”, 18% for “Using hands and fingers”, and 13% for “Moving around home”. Half of those reporting a difficulty in moving around their home described their difficulty as moderate (see Table D.6 and Graph D.7).

**Table D.8 Persons with specific mobility and dexterity difficulties: sex by type of disability**

Type of disability	% of disability type			Persons
	Males	Females	Total	
Moving around home	39	61	100	101,200
Going outside of home	41	59	100	128,900
Walking for about 15 minutes	42	58	100	160,000
Using hands and fingers	39	61	100	79,000
<b>Persons with mobility and dexterity disability</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>184,000</b>

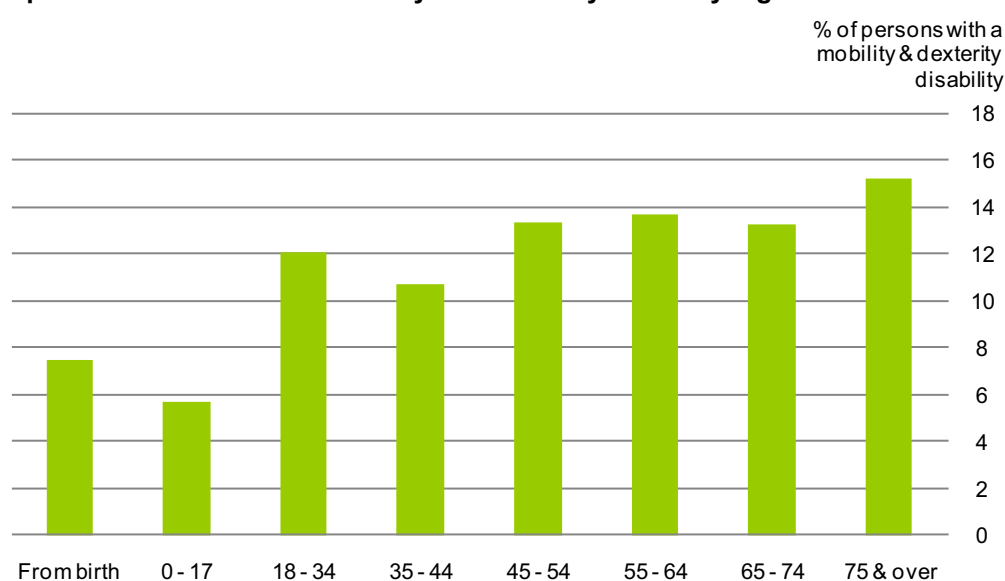
The various specific disabilities were broadly similar in their distribution by sex with between 58-61% of each being female. “Moving around home” and “Using hands and fingers” had the highest proportion of females at 61% each (see Table D.8).

**Table D.9 Persons with specific mobility and dexterity difficulties: age group by type of disability**

% of persons in age group with specific mobility and dexterity disability

Age group	Moving around home	Going outside of home	Walking for about 15 minutes	Using hands and fingers	Mobility & dexterity disability <sup>13</sup>	Persons
0-17	35	58	70	58	100	8,100
18-34	49	64	83	44	100	13,100
35-44	48	63	80	39	100	15,500
45-54	51	62	86	42	100	22,700
55-64	51	65	84	41	100	33,200
65-74	55	71	87	42	100	31,600
75 & over	65	80	94	44	100	59,900
<b>Total</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>184,000</b>

Table D.9 shows the occurrence of the specific mobility and dexterity disabilities by age group. Difficulty with “Walking for about 15 minutes” was experienced by 87% of persons with a Mobility and dexterity disability. When analysed by age group the proportions ranged from 70% of those aged 0-17 with a Mobility and dexterity disability to 94% of those aged 75 and over. “Going outside of home” was reported as a difficulty for 70% of all those with a Mobility and dexterity disability and for 80% of those aged 75 and over (see Table D.9).

**Graph D.10 Persons with a Mobility and dexterity disability: age of onset<sup>14</sup>**

Just over 13% of persons with a Mobility and dexterity disability had acquired their disability in childhood with more than half of this group (7.5% of all persons) having their disability from birth. Broadly similar proportions (11-13%) reported the onset of disability in the age groups up to 74 years of age, and 15% reported that their disability began at the age of 75 and over (see Graph D.10).

<sup>13</sup> The individual percentages sum to more than 100 as persons may have reported more than one specific type of mobility and dexterity disability.

<sup>14</sup> Excludes 'Unknown' and 'Not stated'.

**Table D.11 Persons using and needing aids for their Mobility and dexterity disability**

% of persons with mobility and dexterity disability<sup>15</sup>

Aid for mobility and dexterity disability	Use aid	Need aid
Walking aids	45	6
Manual or electric wheelchair	17	5
Portable ramps	8	8
Assistive devices	15	9
Grab bars	35	17
Lift or stair lift	6	10
Hoist or similar device	8	5
Physiotherapy	31	17
Occupational therapy	14	10
<b>Persons using / needing any aid</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>43</b>

Overall 72% of persons with a Mobility and dexterity disability used at least one aid and 43% expressed a need for at least one aid. This was the second highest level of use of aids reported across all nine disability types after persons with an Emotional, psychological, and mental health disability, of whom, 90% used at least one aid (see Tables D.11).

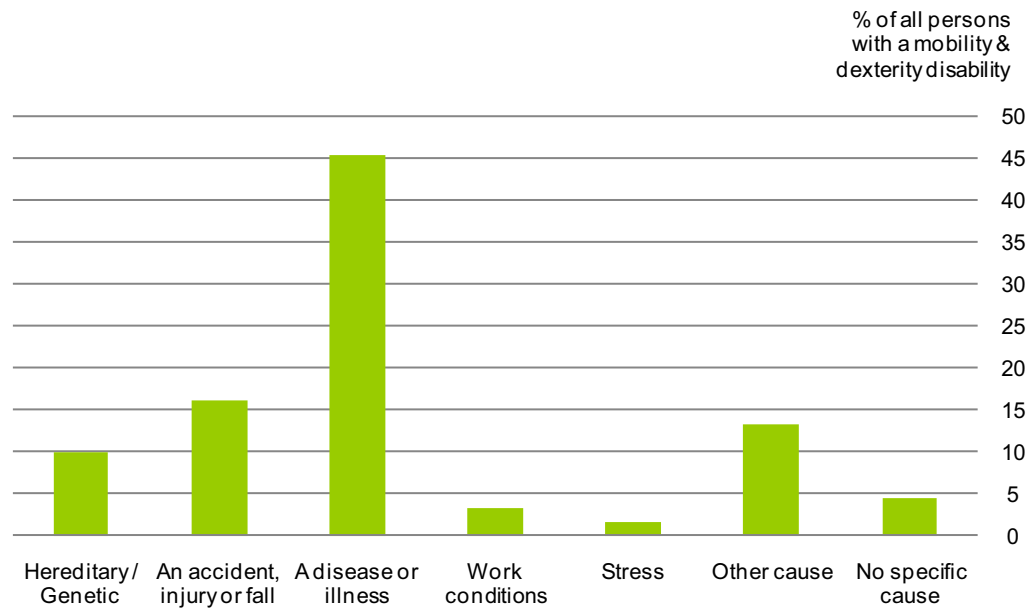
The aids most commonly used by people with a Mobility and dexterity disability were walking aids (45%), grab bars (35%) and physiotherapy (31%). Two of these (grab bars and physiotherapy) were the aids where the greatest levels of need were expressed, with 17% of persons with a Mobility and dexterity difficulty expressing a need for each aid. A lift or stair lift was needed by 10% of persons, making this the only aid where need exceeded usage (see Table D.11).

People reporting use of or need for an aid had a higher difficulty profile than those who did not use or need any aids (see Table D.12).

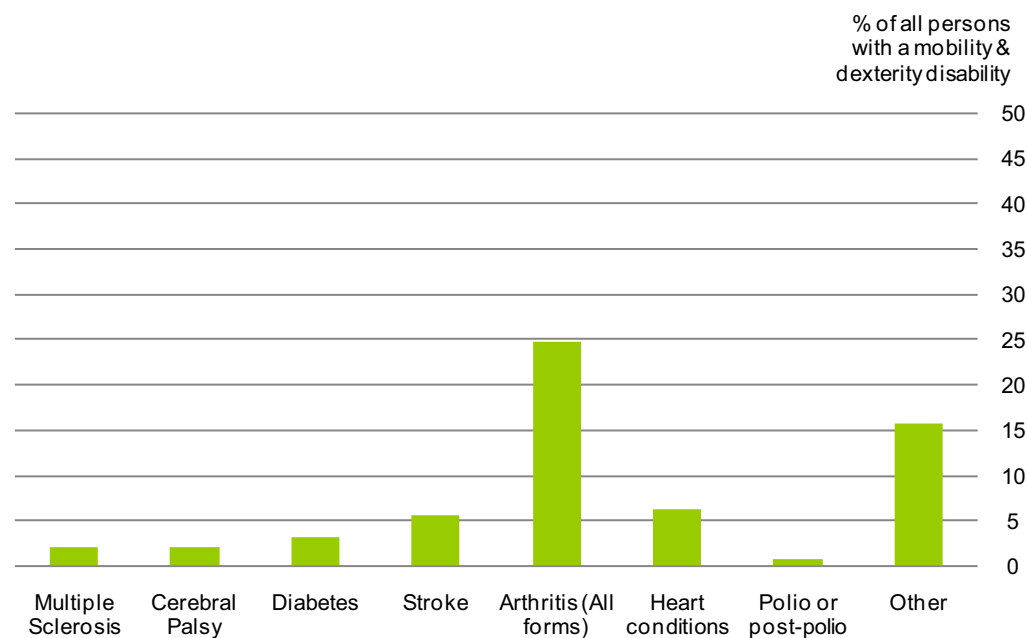
**Table D.12 Persons using and needing aids by level of difficulty**

	%			Total	Persons
	A moderate level	A lot of difficulty	Cannot do at all		
Persons with mobility and dexterity disability	31	34	35	100	184,000
Persons using any aid	24	34	42	100	133,300
Persons needing any aid	25	37	38	100	78,200
Persons not needing or using any aid	54	30	16	100	32,000

<sup>15</sup> The percentages do not sum to the total as persons may have reported use of or need for more than one aid.

**Graph D.13 Causes of Mobility and dexterity disability<sup>16,17</sup>**

A disease or illness was reported as the cause of their disability by 45% of all persons with a Mobility and dexterity disability, with 16% reporting an accident injury or fall as the cause of their disability and 10% a hereditary or genetic condition (see Graph D.13). Arthritis (25%) was the most commonly reported illness among those with a Mobility and dexterity disability (see Graph D.14).

**Graph D.14 Illnesses reported as the cause of Mobility and dexterity disability<sup>16,17</sup>**

<sup>16</sup> Excludes 'Don't know' and 'Not stated'.

<sup>17</sup> Multiple responses allowed.

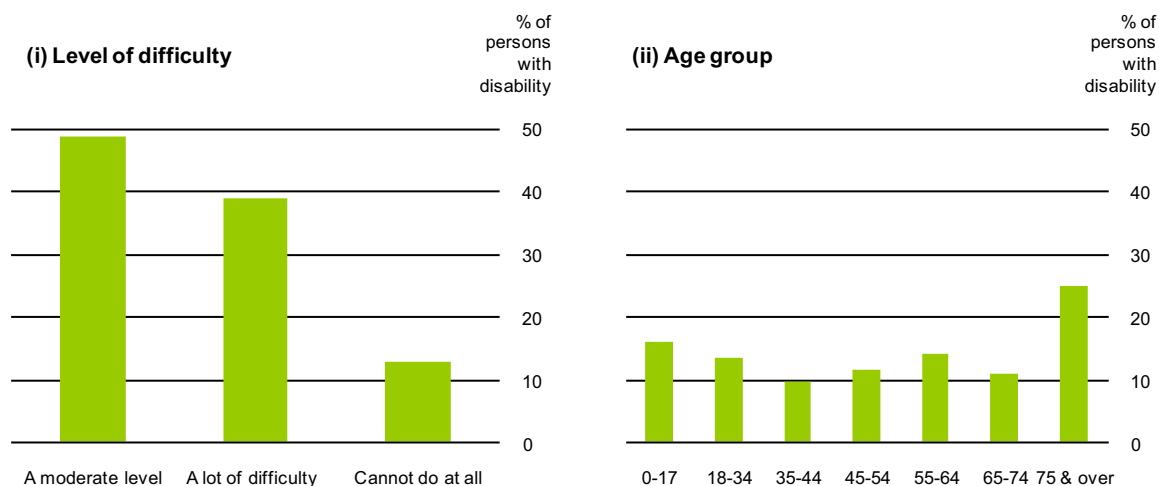
## E Remembering and concentrating

**Table E.1 Persons with a Remembering and concentrating disability: level of difficulty by sex and age group**

Age group	% of sex/age group			Total	Persons
	A moderate level	A lot of difficulty	Cannot do at all		
<b>Persons</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>113,000</b>
Males	48	42	10	100	55,300
Females	49	36	15	100	57,700
0-17	43	47	10	100	17,800
18-34	51	36	13	100	15,000
35-44	53	36	11	100	11,000
45-54	52	40	8	100	12,900
55-64	59	37	4	100	15,800
65-74	55	36	8	100	12,300
75 & over	39	37	24	100	28,200

Just under half of persons with a Remembering and concentrating disability reported “A moderate level” of difficulty, with 39% reporting “A lot of difficulty” and 13% reporting “Cannot do at all”. A quarter of those with a Remembering and concentrating disability were in the oldest age group, 75 and over. This group reported higher levels of difficulty than any other age group with just under a quarter of those aged 75 and over saying they “Cannot do at all” (see Table E.1 and Graph E.2).

**Graph E.2 Persons with a Remembering and concentrating disability: level of difficulty and age group**



**Table E.3 Persons with a Remembering and concentrating disability: sex by age group**

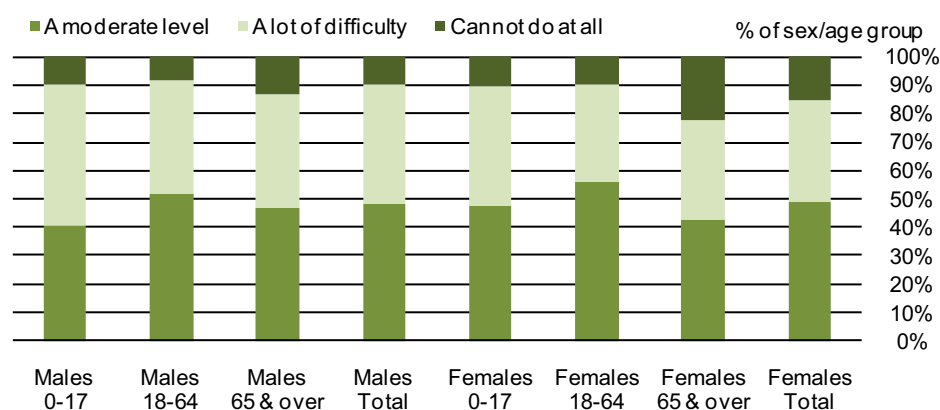
Age group	% of sex		
	Males	Females	Persons
0-17	21	10	16
18-34	15	12	13
35-44	10	9	10
45-54	12	11	11
55-64	15	13	14
65-74	10	12	11
75 & over	17	33	25
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>
Persons	55,300	57,700	113,000

Males with a Remembering and concentrating disability tended to be younger than females, with a fifth of males with this disability aged 0-17 compared with 10% of females. One-third of all females with a Remembering and concentrating disability were aged 75 and over (see Table E.3).

Females reported higher levels of difficulty than males overall with 15% of all females reporting "Cannot do at all" compared with 10% of males. This difference was most marked among the 65 and over age group where 22% of females in this age group reported "Cannot do at all" compared with 13% of males (see Table E.4 and Graph E.5).

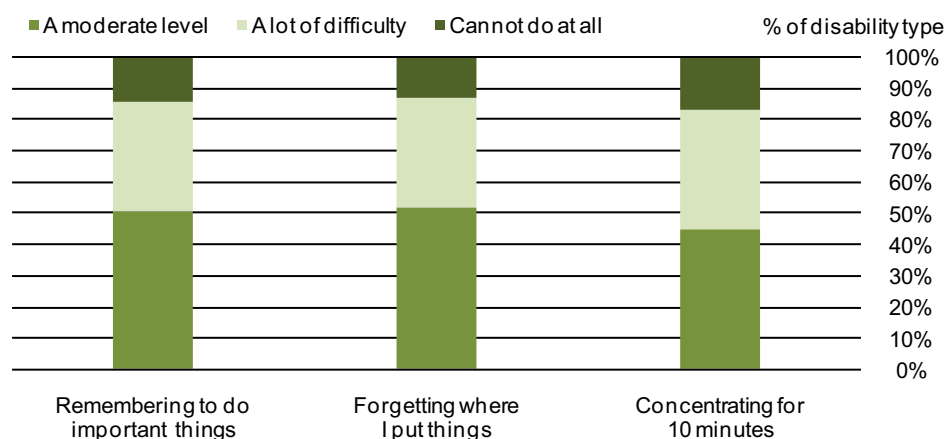
**Table E.4 Persons with a Remembering and concentrating disability: level of difficulty by sex and age group**

Sex	% of sex/age group			Total	Persons
	A moderate level	A lot of difficulty	Cannot do at all		
<b>Males</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>55,300</b>
0-17	40	50	10	100	11,900
18-64	52	40	8	100	28,900
65 & over	47	39	13	100	14,600
<b>Females</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>57,700</b>
0-17	47	42	10	100	6,000
18-64	56	34	10	100	25,800
65 & over	42	35	22	100	25,900

**Graph E.5 Profile of Remembering and concentrating disability: level of difficulty by sex and age group**

**Table E.6 Persons with specific remembering and concentrating difficulties: level of difficulty by type of disability**

Type of disability	% of disability type			Total	Persons
	A moderate level	A lot of difficulty	Cannot do at all		
Remembering to do important things	50	36	14	100	77,600
Forgetting where I put things	52	35	13	100	85,800
Concentrating for 10 minutes	45	38	17	100	77,900
<b>Persons with a remembering and concentrating disability</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>113,000</b>

**Graph E.7 Profile of specific remembering and concentrating difficulties: level of difficulty by type of disability**

Similar levels of difficulty were reported for all three specific remembering and concentrating disabilities, with “Concentrating for 10 minutes” having slightly higher levels of difficulty reported than the other types at 17% compared with 13-14% for the other specific disabilities (see Table E.6 and Graph E.7). There was little variation in the distribution of males and females across the three specific disability types (see Table E.8).

**Table E.8 Persons with specific remembering and concentrating difficulties: sex by type of disability**

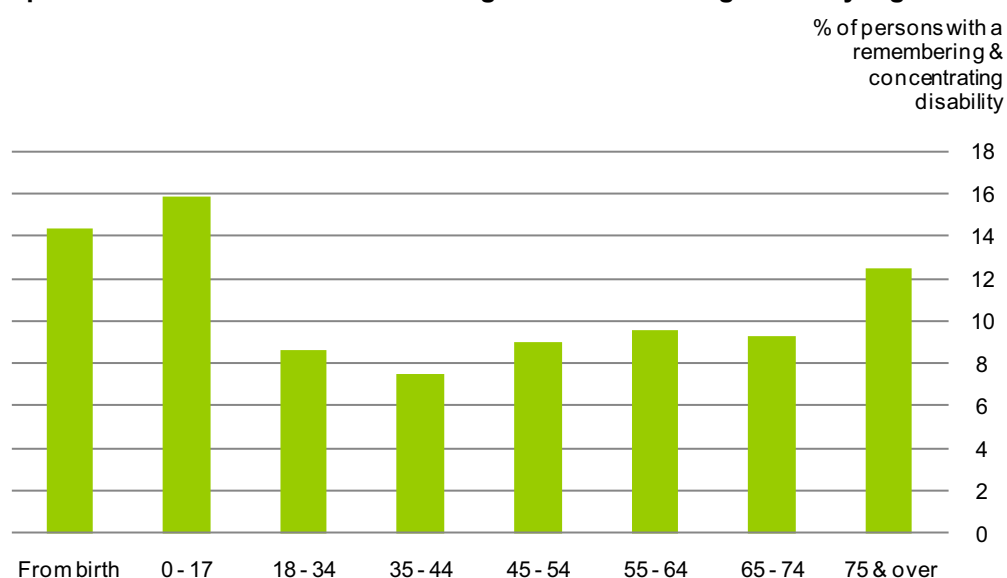
Type of disability	% of disability type			Persons
	Males	Females	Total	
Remembering to do important things	48	52	100	77,600
Forgetting where I put things	47	53	100	85,800
Concentrating for 10 minutes	51	49	100	77,900
<b>Persons with remembering and concentrating disability</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>113,000</b>

**Table E.9 Persons with specific remembering and concentrating difficulties: age group by type of disability**

% of persons in age group with specific remembering & concentrating disability

Age group	Remembering to do important things	Forgetting where I put things	Concentrating for 10 minutes	Remembering and concentrating disability <sup>18</sup>	Persons
0-17	66	55	87	100	17,800
18-34	63	65	76	100	15,000
35-44	68	69	72	100	11,000
45-54	69	76	65	100	12,900
55-64	60	83	57	100	15,800
65-74	63	84	52	100	12,300
75 & over	81	90	69	100	28,200
<b>Total</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>113,000</b>

Table E.9 shows how the specific disabilities are distributed by age group. Those in the younger age groups are more likely to have a problem with concentrating than with remembering or forgetting things. Among those aged 0-17 with a Remembering and concentrating difficulty 87% reported difficulties in "Concentrating for 10 minutes", 66% had difficulty "Remembering to do important things" and 55% had difficulty due to "Forgetting where I put things". Among older age groups "Remembering to do important things" and "Forgetting where I put things" were more frequently reported than concentrating difficulties. Among those aged 75 and over 90% had difficulties due to forgetting where they had put things and 81% had difficulty remembering to do important things (see Table E.9).

**Graph E.10 Persons with a remembering and concentrating disability: age of onset<sup>19</sup>**

One in seven (14%) of persons with a Remembering and concentrating disability had their disability from birth. A further 16% began to be affected by their disability while aged 0-17, while 12% acquired their disability aged 75 or over (see Graph E.10).

<sup>18</sup> The individual percentages sum to more than 100 as persons may have reported more than one specific type of remembering and concentrating disability.

<sup>19</sup> Excludes 'Unknown' and 'Not stated'.

**Table E.11 Persons using and needing aids for their Remembering and concentrating disability**

% of persons with remembering and concentrating disability<sup>20</sup>

Aid for remembering and concentrating disability	Use aid	Need aid
Medication	25	4
Products or technology such as automated reminders or calendars	17	10
<b>Persons using / needing any aid</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>12</b>

**Table E.12 Persons using and needing aids by level of difficulty**

%

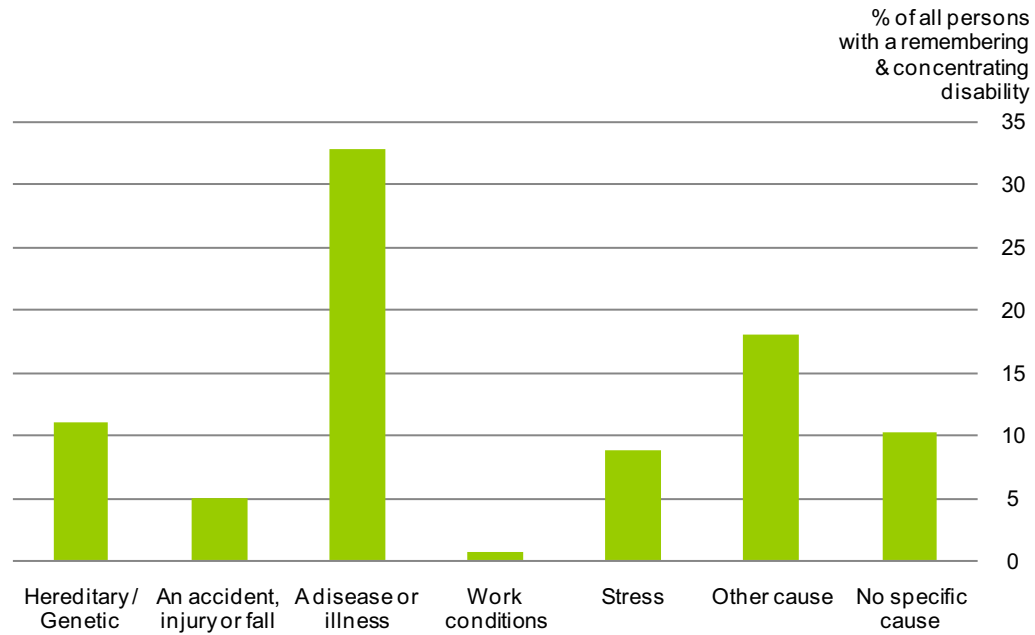
	A moderate level	A lot of difficulty	Cannot do at all	Total	Persons
<b>Persons with a remembering and concentrating disability</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>113,000</b>
Persons using any aid	45	42	13	100	43,100
Persons needing any aid	37	53	11	100	13,500
Persons not needing or using any aid	53	35	12	100	59,800

Overall, 38% of persons with a Remembering and concentrating disability used one of the aids listed in Table E.11 and 12% expressed a need for at least one of these aids. Medication was the more commonly used aid, used by 25% of persons with this disability while 17% used products such as automated reminders. The level of need expressed for medication was lower at 4% of persons with a Remembering and concentrating disability while 10% expressed a need for products or technology such as automated reminders (see Table E.11).

Persons needing aids reported higher levels of difficulty. Almost two-thirds reported “A lot of difficulty” or “Cannot do at all” compared with 47% of those neither using nor needing aids and 55% of those using aids (see Table E.12).

<sup>20</sup> The percentages do not sum to the total as persons may have reported use of or need for more than one aid.

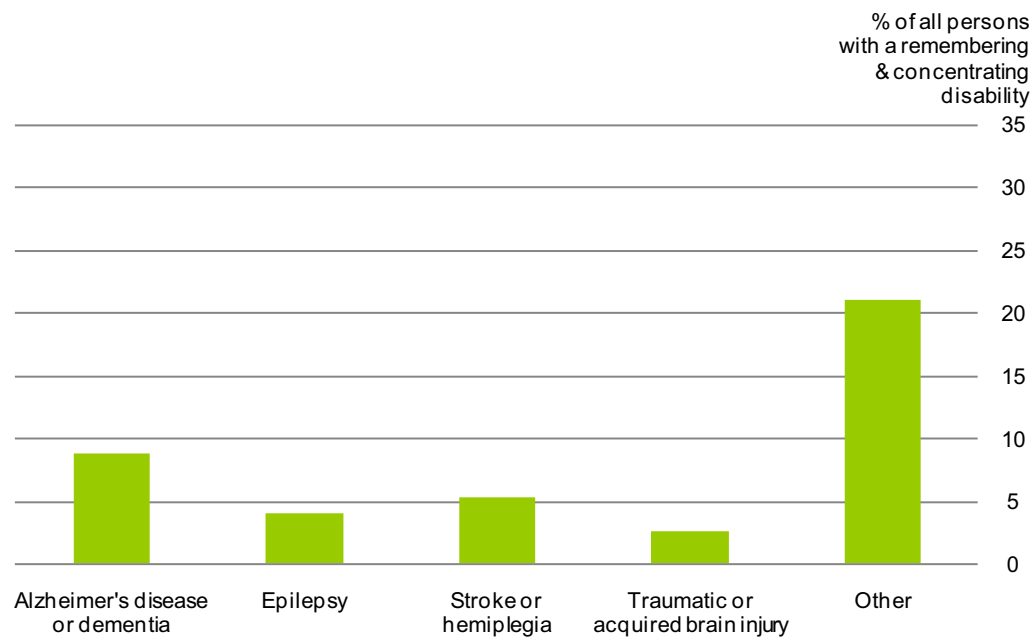
**Graph E.13 Causes of Remembering and concentrating disability<sup>21,22</sup>**



One-third of persons with a Remembering and concentrating disability reported that their disability was caused by a disease or illness, with 11% reporting a hereditary or genetic condition and 9% reporting stress. Persons reporting that their disability was due to a cause other than those listed here amounted to 18% of all persons with this disability type (see Graph E.13).

Alzheimer’s disease or dementia was identified as their main illness by 9% of all those with a Remembering and concentrating disability, followed by stroke or hemiplegia at 5% (see Graph E.14).

**Graph E.14 Illnesses reported as the cause of Remembering and concentrating disability<sup>21,22</sup>**



<sup>21</sup> Excludes 'Don't know' and 'Not stated'.

<sup>22</sup> Multiple responses allowed.

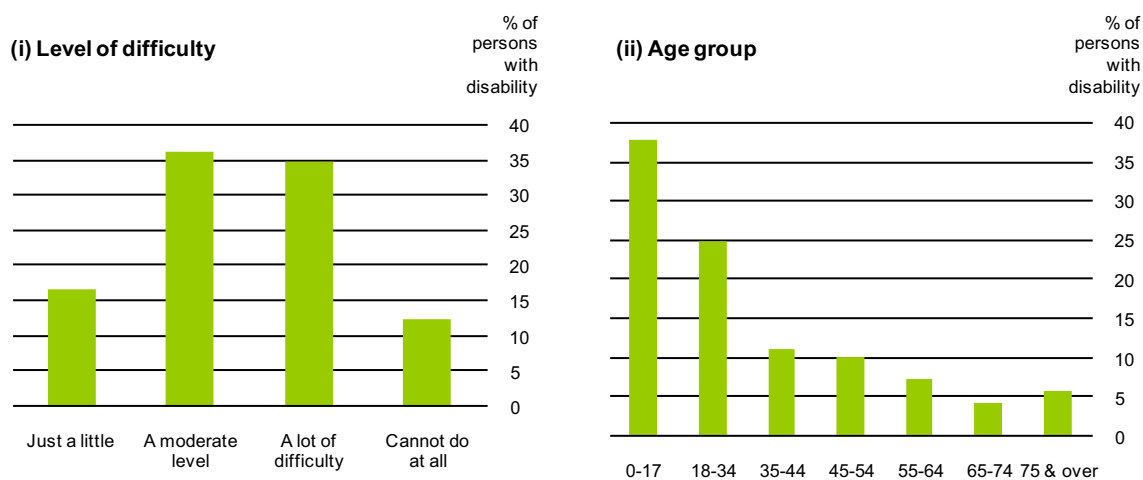
## F Intellectual and learning

**Table F.1 Persons with an Intellectual and learning disability: level of difficulty by sex and age group**

Age group	% of sex/age group				Total	Persons
	Just a little	A moderate level	A lot of difficulty	Cannot do at all		
<b>Persons</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>71,600</b>
Males	16	37	36	11	100	43,500
Females	18	34	33	14	100	28,100
0-17	14	41	39	6	100	26,900
18-34	14	37	34	15	100	17,700
35-44	19	34	30	17	100	7,900
45-54	19	31	34	16	100	7,100
55-64	26	31	28	15	100	5,100
65-74	26	30	32	13	100	2,800
75 & over	22	21	29	28	100	4,100

Persons with Intellectual and learning disabilities were predominantly young with 38% aged 0-17 and a further 25% aged 18-34. They were also more likely to be male, overall 61% of those reporting this type of disability were male. The 0-17 age group had a much lower proportion (6%) reporting the highest difficulty category "Cannot do at all" than older age groups. The 75 and over age group had the highest proportion reporting this level of difficulty at 28% (see Tables F.1, F.3, and Graph F.2).

**Graph F.2 Persons with an Intellectual and learning disability by level of difficulty and age group**



**Table F.3 Persons with an Intellectual and learning disability: sex by age group**

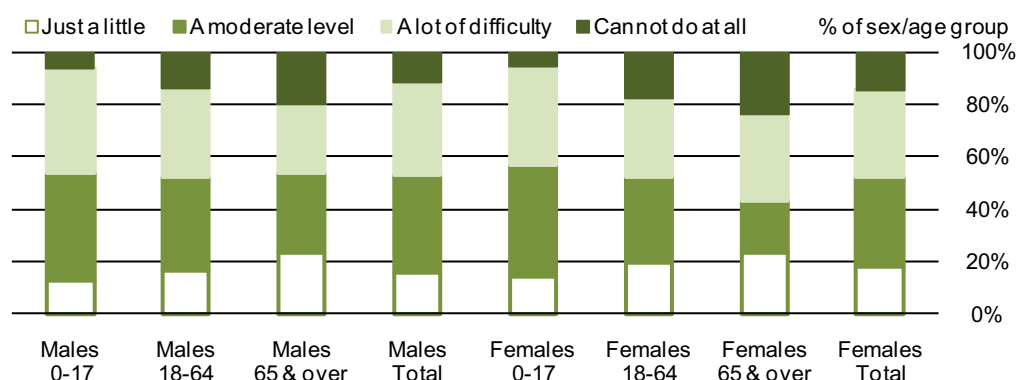
Age group	% of sex		
	Males	Females	Persons
0-17	41	32	38
18-34	25	25	25
35-44	11	11	11
45-54	9	12	10
55-64	7	8	7
65-74	4	3	4
75 & over	4	9	6
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>
Persons	43,500	28,100	71,600

The concentration of persons reporting an Intellectual or learning disability in the younger age groups was more pronounced for males than females, with 41% of males with this disability in the 0-17 age group compared with 32% of females. There was a higher proportion of females (9%) than males (4%) in the oldest age group of 75 and over (see Table F.3).

Of the 65 and over age group both males and females tended to report a more even spread of difficulty levels than other age groups who reported "Moderate" and "A lot of difficulty" in roughly equal proportions with smaller proportions reporting "Just a little" and "Cannot do at all" (see Table F.4 and Graph F.5).

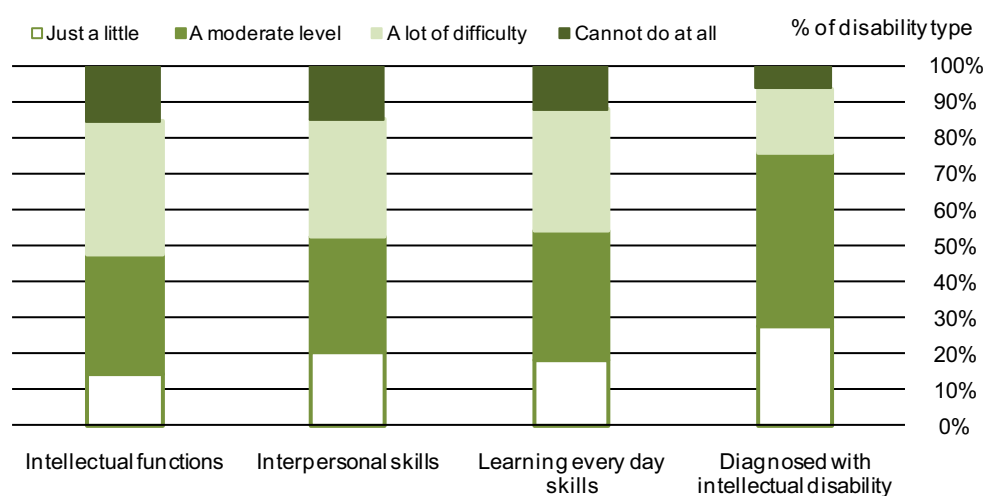
**Table F.4 Persons with an Intellectual and learning disability: level of difficulty by sex and age group**

Sex	% of sex/age group				Total	Persons
	Just a little	A moderate level	A lot of difficulty	Cannot do at all		
<b>Males</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>43,500</b>
0-17	13	41	40	6	100	17,900
18-64	16	36	34	14	100	22,200
65 & over	24	30	27	20	100	3,400
<b>Females</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>28,100</b>
0-17	15	42	38	5	100	9,100
18-64	19	33	30	18	100	15,500
65 & over	23	20	33	24	100	3,500

**Graph F.5 Profile of Intellectual and learning disability: level of difficulty by sex and age group**

**Table F.6 Persons with specific intellectual and learning difficulties: level of difficulty by type of disability**

Type of disability	% of disability type				Total	Persons
	Just a little	A moderate level	A lot of difficulty	Cannot do at all		
Intellectual functions	15	33	37	15	100	27,700
Interpersonal skills	20	32	32	15	100	22,300
Learning everyday skills	18	35	34	12	100	55,000
Diagnosed with intellectual disability <sup>23</sup>	28	48	18	6	100	50,400
<b>Persons with intellectual and learning disability</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>71,600</b>

**Graph F.7 Profile of specific intellectual and learning difficulties: level of difficulty by type of disability**

The majority (70%) of those with an Intellectual and learning disability had been diagnosed as such, and 77% reported difficulty with Learning everyday skills. Smaller proportions reported problems with Intellectual functioning (39%) and Interpersonal skills (31%) (see Table F.9)

Persons reporting that they had been diagnosed with an Intellectual disability tended to report lower levels of difficulty than those reporting the other Intellectual and learning disability types, with 28% reporting a diagnosis of "Mild" corresponding to the difficulty level "Just a little" and 48% reporting "Moderate" corresponding to "A moderate level"<sup>23</sup> (see Table F.6 and Graph F.7).

**Table F.8 Persons with specific intellectual and learning difficulties: sex by type of disability**

Type of disability	% of disability type			
	Males	Females	Total	Persons
Intellectual functions	56	44	100	27,700
Interpersonal skills	62	38	100	22,300
Learning every day skills	61	39	100	55,000
Diagnosed with intellectual disability	60	40	100	50,400
<b>Persons with intellectual and learning disability</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>71,600</b>

<sup>23</sup> The classifications for responses to this question were different to those of the other level of difficulty questions as they referred to diagnosis. The categories to this question and the other level of difficulty question correspond as follows: "Just a little" = "Mild"; "A moderate level" = "Moderate"; "A lot of difficulty" = "Severe"; "Cannot do at all" = "Profound".

For the specific types of intellectual and learning disabilities the ratio of males to females was broadly similar. Among those with an intellectual functioning disability there were higher proportions of females (44%) than for the other specific disability types (40% or lower)(see Table F.8).

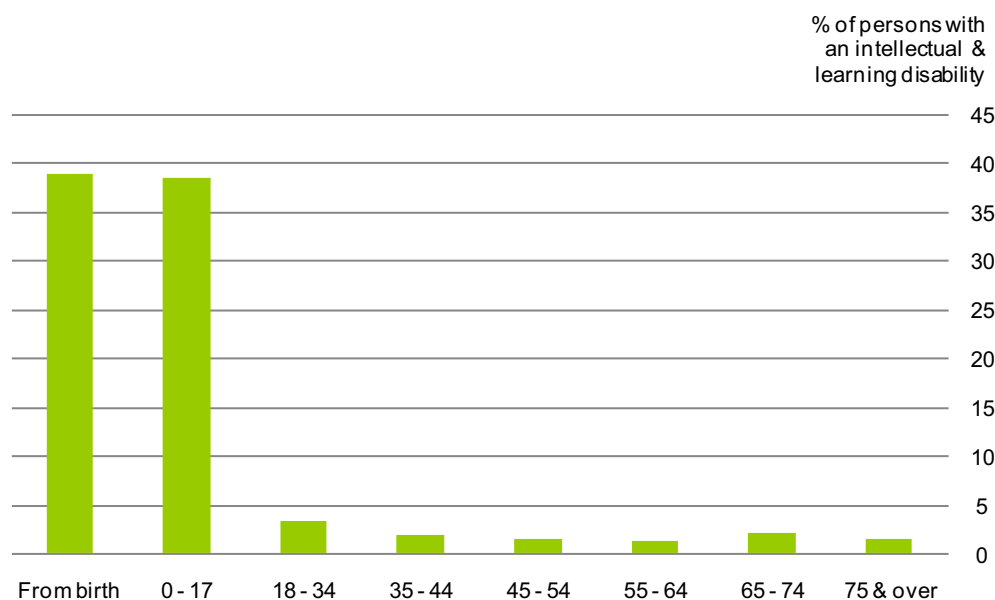
**Table F.9 Persons with specific intellectual and learning difficulties: age group by type of disability**

% of persons in age group with specific intellectual & learning disability

Age group	Intellectual functions	Interpersonal skills	Learning every day skills	Diagnosed with intellectual disability	Intellectual & learning disability <sup>24</sup>	Persons
0-17	27	32	83	79	100	26,900
18-34	47	31	75	79	100	17,700
35-44	47	34	73	69	100	7,900
45-54	44	27	72	57	100	7,100
55-64	40	29	73	49	100	5,100
65-74	41	20	65	38	100	2,800
75 & over	53	40	77	49	100	4,100
<b>Total</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>71,600</b>

Among all age groups there were high proportions who reported difficulties with learning everyday skills. Among young people with an Intellectual and learning disability 79% were diagnosed with an intellectual disability and 83% had difficulty learning everyday skills. Those in the older age groups were more likely to report difficulties with Intellectual functioning than the younger age groups (see Table F.9).

**Graph F.10 Persons with an Intellectual and learning disability: age of onset<sup>25</sup>**



More than three-quarters of persons reporting an Intellectual and learning disability had their disability from birth or began to be affected by it in the 0-17 age group (see Graph F.10).

<sup>24</sup> The individual percentages sum to more than 100 as persons may have reported more than one specific type of intellectual and learning disability.

<sup>25</sup> Excludes 'Unknown' and 'Not stated'.

**Table F.11 Persons using and needing aids for their Intellectual and learning disability**% of persons with intellectual and learning disability<sup>26</sup>

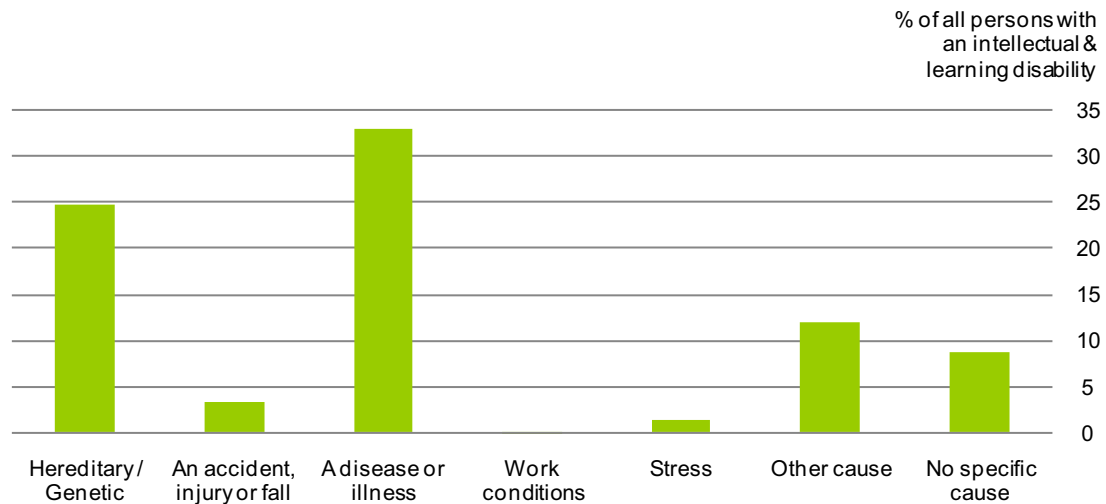
Aid for intellectual and learning disability	Use aid	Need aid
Additional special teaching	28	3
Special needs assistant	16	5
Occupational therapy	23	13
Speech and language therapy	21	12
Psychology service	27	11
Physiotherapy, instructor or educator	15	9
Screen reading software	16	15
General products and technology for education	18	15
<b>Persons using / needing any aid</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>35</b>

Overall 60% of persons with an Intellectual and learning disability used at least one aid and 35% needed at least one aid. The most commonly used aids for Intellectual and learning disabilities were additional special teaching (28%), psychology service (27%) and occupational therapy (23%). The aids most in demand were screen reading software and general educational products and technology at 15% each (see Table F.11).

**Table F.12 Persons using and needing aids by level of difficulty**

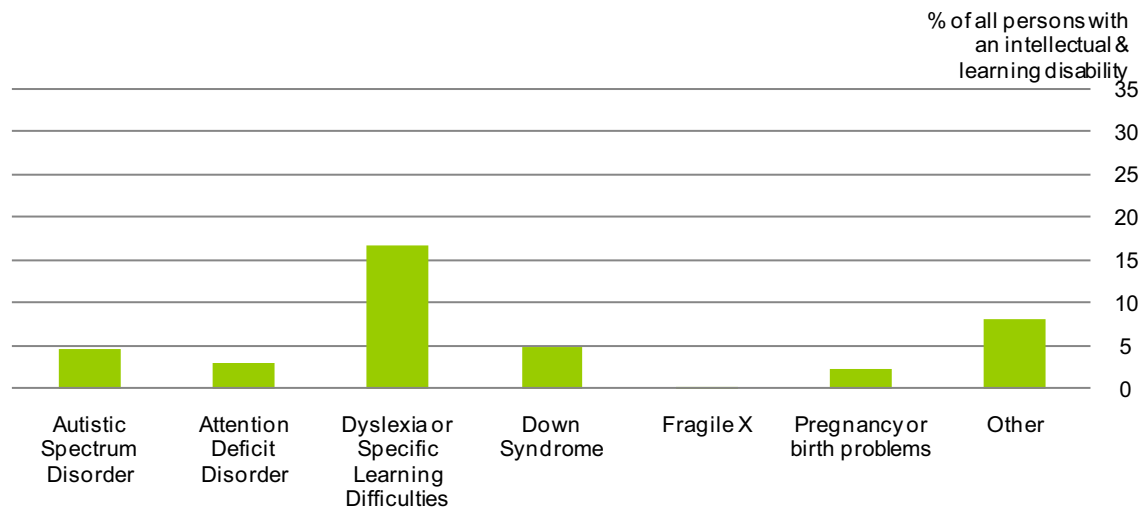
					%	
	Just a little	A moderate level	A lot of difficulty	Cannot do at all	Total	Persons
<b>Persons with an intellectual and learning disability</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>71,600</b>
Persons using any aid	12	38	39	11	100	42,900
Persons needing any aid	10	33	44	13	100	25,300
Persons not needing or using any aid	29	34	23	13	100	18,800

<sup>26</sup> The percentages do not sum to the total as persons may have reported use of or need for more than one aid.

**Graph F.13 Causes of Intellectual and learning disability<sup>27,28</sup>**

Around one-third of persons with an Intellectual and learning disability reported that a disease or illness caused their disability, and a quarter reported that their disability was due to a hereditary or genetic condition (see Graph F.13).

Dyslexia or Specific Learning Difficulties was reported as the main illness causing their disability by 17% of all persons with an Intellectual and learning disability. The next most frequently reported illnesses were Autistic Spectrum Disorder and Down Syndrome at 5% each. Around 8% reported that their disability was due to an illness other than the specific ones listed (see Graph F.14).

**Graph F.14 Illnesses reported as the cause of Intellectual and learning disability<sup>27,28</sup>**

<sup>27</sup> Excludes 'Don't know' and 'Not stated'.

<sup>28</sup> Multiple responses allowed.

## G Emotional, psychological and mental health

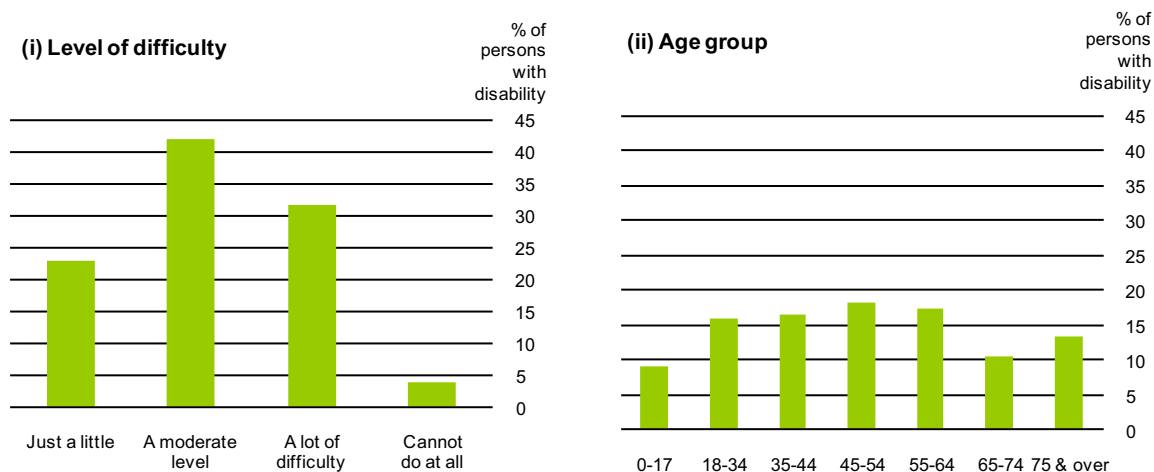
**Table G.1 Persons with an Emotional, psychological and mental health disability: level of difficulty by sex and age group**

Age group	% of sex/age group				Total	Persons
	Just a little	A moderate level	A lot of difficulty	Cannot do at all		
<b>Persons</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>110,600</b>
Males	23	42	32	3	100	51,600
Females	22	42	32	4	100	59,000
0-17	30	40	27	3	100	9,900
18-34	23	41	34	3	100	17,400
35-44	19	45	34	2	100	18,200
45-54	17	46	35	2	100	20,000
55-64	23	42	33	2	100	19,100
65-74	25	39	30	5	100	11,500
75 & over	28	38	25	9	100	14,500

Among persons reporting an Emotional, psychological and mental health disability, the youngest and oldest age groups had the highest proportions reporting the lowest level of difficulty with 30% of the 0-17 age group and 28% of the 75 and over age group reporting “Just a little”. Overall, two-thirds of persons with this disability type reported “Just a little” (23%) or “A moderate level” (42%), and this pattern remained fairly stable by age group with between 63-70% reporting one of these two levels of difficulty in all age groups. The 75 and over age group had the highest proportion reporting “Cannot do at all” at 9% while overall 4% of persons with an Emotional, psychological and mental health disability reported this level of difficulty (see Table G.1).

Persons aged 0-17 represented the lowest proportion of those with an Emotional, psychological and mental health disability at 9%, while the proportions in the 18-64 age groups were evenly distributed across the age groups with 16-18% in each age group. The two oldest age groups represented lower proportions of persons with this disability at 10% for the 64-75 age group and 13% for the 75 and over age group (see Graph G.2 and Table G.3).

**Graph G.2 Persons with an Emotional, psychological and mental health disability: level of difficulty and age group**



**Table G.3 Persons with an Emotional, psychological and mental health disability: sex by age group**

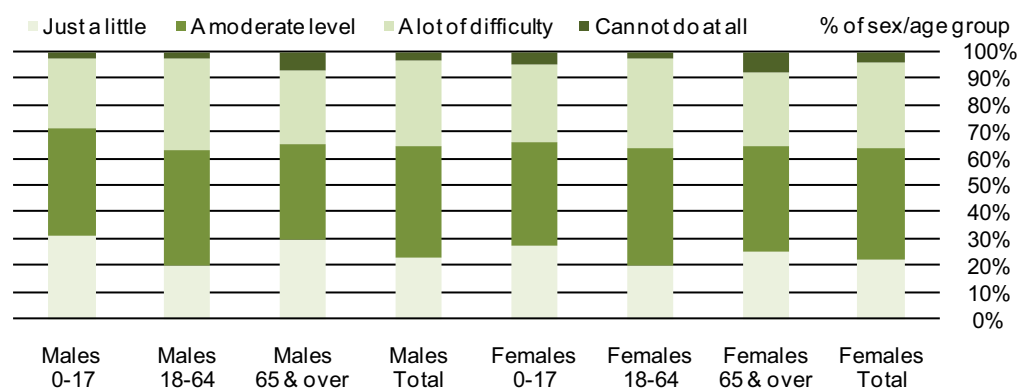
Age group	% of sex		
	Males	Females	Persons
0-17	12	6	9
18-34	17	15	16
35-44	16	17	16
45-54	19	18	18
55-64	19	16	17
65-74	9	11	10
75 & over	9	17	13
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>
Persons	51,600	59,000	110,600

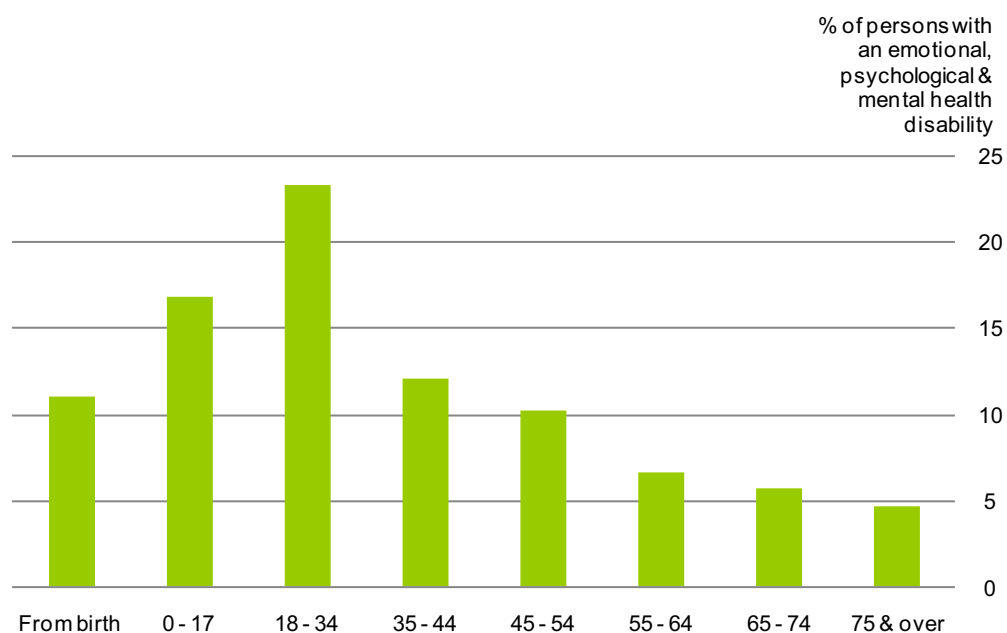
There was a higher percentage of males with an Emotional, psychological and mental health disability in the 0-17 age group than females, at 12% of males with this disability type compared with 6% for females. Correspondingly there were higher proportions of females with this disability in the older age groups, in particular, 17% of females were aged 75 and over compared with 9% of males (see Table G.3).

The 65 and over age group reported the highest level of difficulty for both males and females with 8% of females in this age group compared with 4% of all females and 7% of males aged 65 and over, compared with 3% of all males (see Table G.4 and Graph G.5).

**Table G.4 Persons with an Emotional, psychological or mental health disability: level of difficulty by sex and age group**

Sex	% of age group				Total	Persons
	Just a little	A moderate level	A lot of difficulty	Cannot do at all		
<b>Males</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>51,600</b>
0-17	31	41	26	2	100	6,300
18-64	20	43	34	3	100	36,000
65 & over	30	36	28	7	100	9,300
<b>Females</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>59,000</b>
0-17	28	39	29	5	100	3,600
18-64	21	43	34	2	100	38,700
65 & over	25	40	27	8	100	16,700

**Graph G.5 Profile of Emotional, psychological or mental health disability: level of difficulty by sex and age group**

**Graph G.6 Persons with an Emotional, psychological and mental health disability: age of onset<sup>29</sup>**

Just over 23% of persons with an Emotional, psychological and mental health disability began to be affected by their disability between the ages of 18 and 34, while 11% had been affected from birth and almost 18% between the ages of 0-17. Just under 5% acquired their disability over the age of 75 (see Graph G.6).

**Table G.7 Persons using and needing aids for their Emotional, psychological and mental health disability**

% of persons with emotional, psychological or mental health disability<sup>30</sup>

Aid for emotional, psychological and mental health disability	Use aid	Need aid
Support group, drop-in centre or helpline	19	14
Medical services, e.g. GP / community nurse	77	2
Social services e.g. social worker	15	10
Occupational therapist	13	12
Counselling	25	15
Psychotherapist	9	9
Psychologist	16	10
Psychiatrist	32	7
Medication	69	2
Addiction services	4	3
Exercise programme or relaxation therapies/techniques	29	17
Physiotherapy	15	10
<b>Persons using / needing any aid</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>39</b>

Overall 90% of those with an Emotional, psychological and mental health disability used at least one aid (the highest proportion reporting use of aids for any of the nine disability types) and 39% needed at least one.

<sup>29</sup> Excludes 'Unknown' and 'Not stated'.

<sup>30</sup> The percentages do not sum to the total as persons may have reported use of or need for more than one aid.

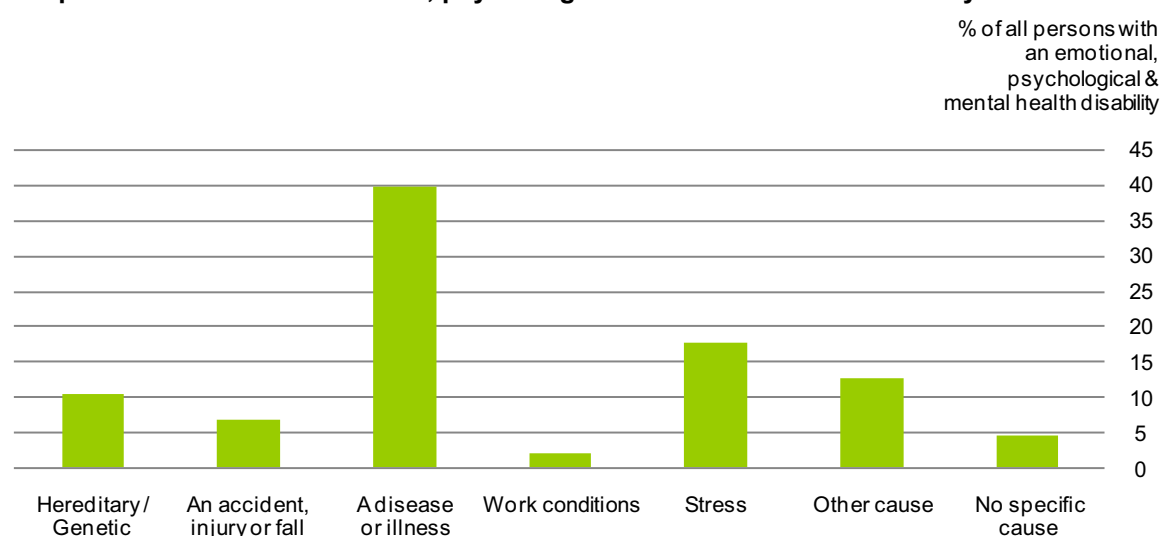
By far the most commonly used aids by persons with an Emotional, psychological and mental health disability were medical services (77%) and medication (69%), followed by psychiatrist (32%), exercise or relaxation therapies (29%) and counselling (25%). Exercise or relaxation therapies were the aid most in demand at 17% followed by counselling at 15% and support group, drop-in centre or helpline at 14% (see Table G.7).

**Table G.8 Persons using and needing aids by level of difficulty**

	Just a little	A moderate level	A lot of difficulty	Cannot do at all	%	
					Total	Persons
<b>Persons with an emotional, psychological and mental health disability</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>110,600</b>
Persons using any aid	20	43	34	4	100	99,400
Persons needing any aid	19	41	37	3	100	43,000
Persons not needing or using any aid	56	28	11	5	100	7,900

A disease or illness was reported as the cause of their disability by almost 40% of all persons with an Emotional, psychological and mental health disability, and stress was the next most frequently reported, at 18%. Just 2% reported that work conditions caused their disability (see Graph G.9).

**Graph G.9 Causes of Emotional, psychological and mental health disability<sup>31,32</sup>**

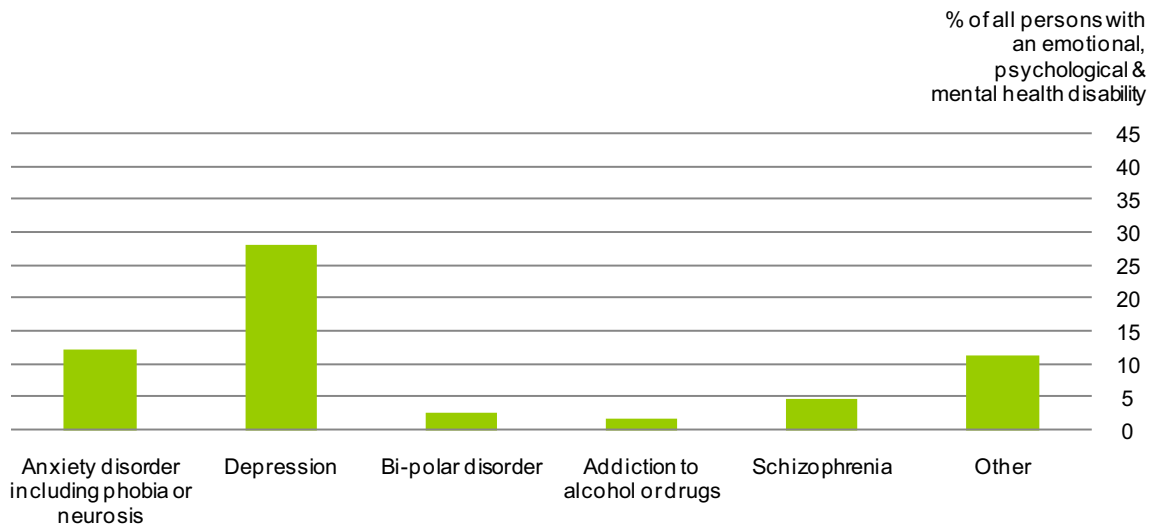


Depression was the most frequently reported illness at 28% of all those with an Emotional, psychological and mental health disability, and anxiety disorders were reported by 11% of persons with this disability type (see Graph G.10).

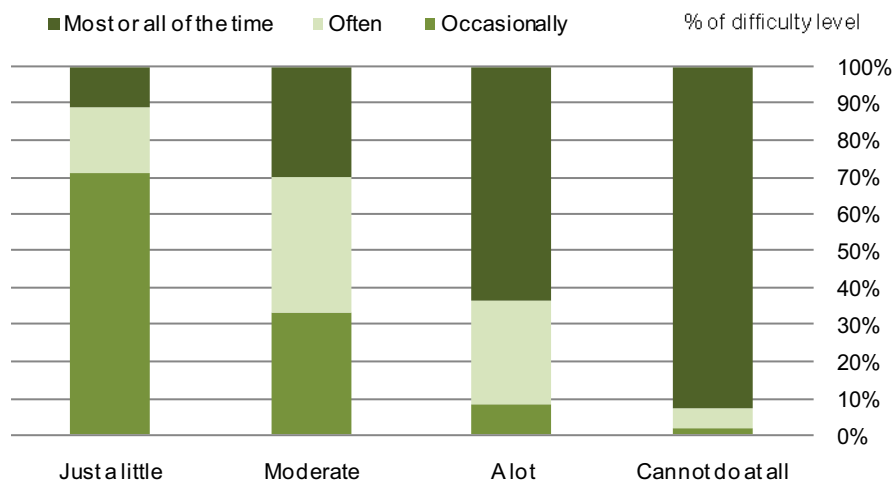
<sup>31</sup> Excludes 'Don't know' and 'Not stated'.

<sup>32</sup> Multiple responses allowed.

**Graph G.10 Illnesses reported as the cause of Emotional, psychological and mental health disability<sup>31,32</sup>**



**Graph G.11 Frequency of Emotional, psychological and mental health disability by level of difficulty**



There was a strong association between level of difficulty reported and frequency of occurrence of the disability for persons with an Emotional, psychological and mental health disability, with 93% of those reporting “Cannot do at all” also reporting that their disability was present most or all of the time, compared with 11% of those reporting “Just a little” (see Graph G.11 and Detailed Table 20.7).

## H Pain

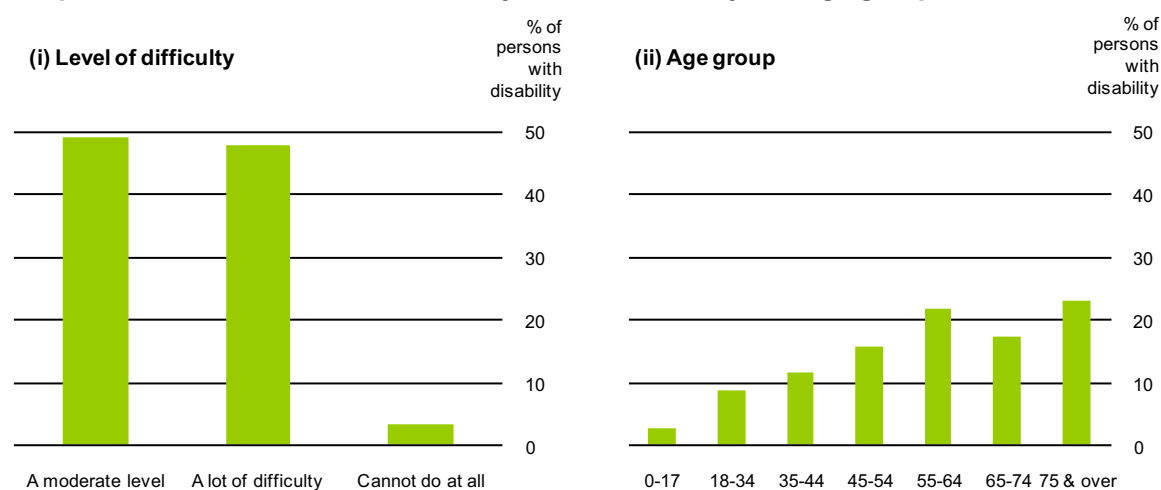
**Table H.1 Persons with Pain disability: level of difficulty by sex and age group**

Age group	% of sex/age group			Total	Persons
	A moderate level	A lot of difficulty	Cannot do <sup>33</sup> at all		
<b>Persons</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>152,800</b>
Males	51	46	3	100	65,400
Females	48	49	3	100	87,400
0-17	66	31	3	100	3,700
18-34	53	43	4	100	13,200
35-44	47	52	2	100	17,400
45-54	47	50	3	100	24,100
55-64	45	51	3	100	33,100
65-74	49	48	3	100	26,300
75 & over	53	44	3	100	35,100

Overall, just under half (49%) of persons with a Pain disability reported a moderate level of difficulty, and 48% reported “A lot of difficulty”. Just 3% reported “Cannot do at all” (referring to inability to carry out everyday activities due to their Pain disability<sup>33</sup>). Persons aged 0-17 reported “A moderate level” in a higher proportion (66%) than older age groups who ranged from 45% reporting “A moderate level” for the 55-64 age group to 53% for both the 18-34 and 75 and over age groups (see Table H.1).

The 75 and over age group represented the highest proportion of persons with a Pain disability at 23% with a further 22% aged 55-64, while the 0-17 age group represented just 2% of all those with a Pain disability (see Graph H.2).

**Graph H.2 Persons with Pain disability: level of difficulty and age group**



<sup>33</sup> See wording of Question H1 of the NDS questionnaire in Appendix B.

**Table H.3 Persons with Pain disability: sex by age group**

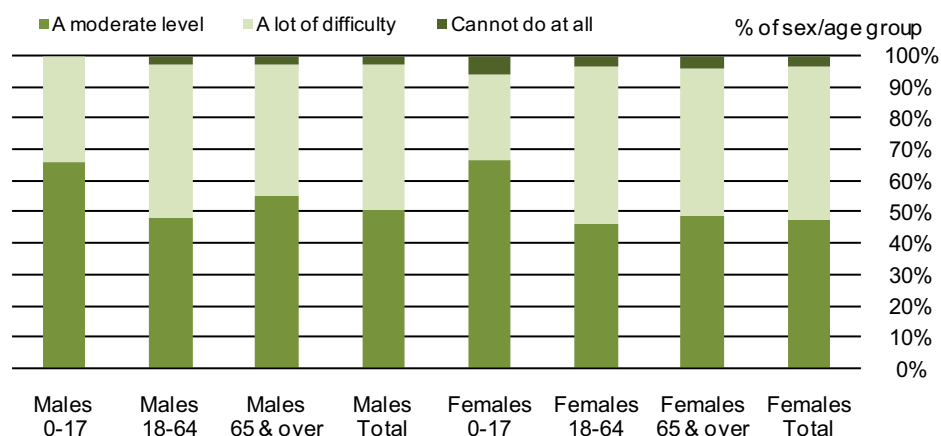
Age group	% of sex		
	Males	Females	Persons
0-17	3	2	2
18-34	8	9	9
35-44	12	11	11
45-54	17	15	16
55-64	26	19	22
65-74	17	17	17
75 & over	17	28	23
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>
Persons	65,400	87,400	152,800

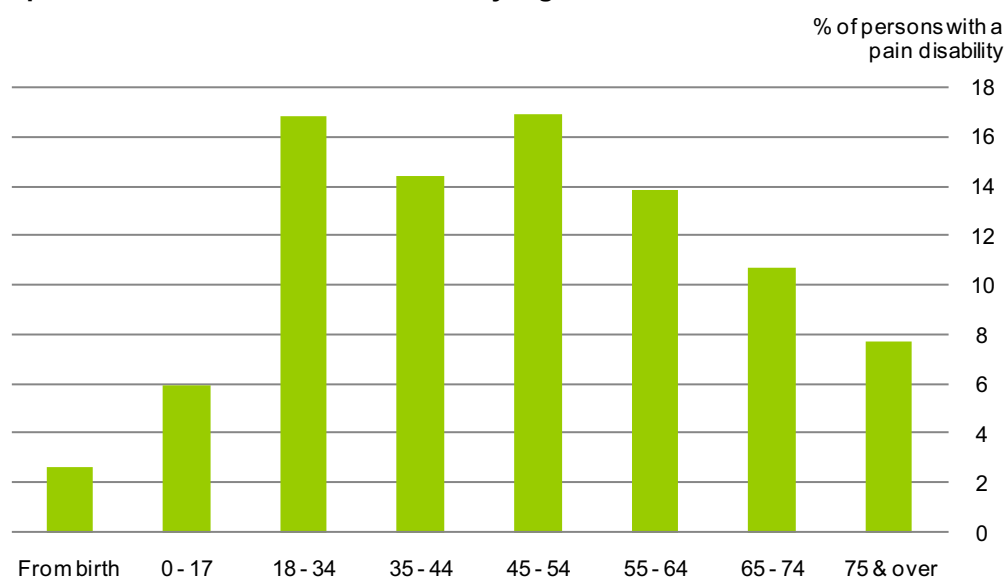
The 75 and over age group represented a much higher proportion of females with a Pain disability than males at 28% of females compared with 17% of males. The highest proportion of males occurred in the 55-64 age group with 26% of males with a Pain disability. Overall more females than males reported a Pain disability (see Table H.3)

Young people aged 0-17 with a Pain disability were more likely to report moderate levels of difficulty than the other age groups, this was true for both males and females (see Table H.4 and Graph H.5).

**Table H.4 Persons with Pain disability: level of difficulty by sex and age group**

Sex	% of sex/age group			Total	Persons
	A moderate level	A lot of difficulty	Cannot do at all		
<b>Males</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>65,400</b>
0-17	66	34	-	100	1,900
18-64	48	49	3	100	41,100
65 & over	55	42	3	100	22,400
<b>Females</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>87,400</b>
0-17	66	28	6	100	1,800
18-64	46	51	3	100	46,600
65 & over	48	48	4	100	39,900

**Graph H.5 Profile of Pain disability: level of difficulty by sex and age group**

**Graph H.6 Persons with a Pain disability: age of onset<sup>34</sup>**

Less than 3% of persons with a Pain disability had been affected from birth and a further 6% began to be affected by their disability in the 0-17 age group. The proportions of persons acquiring their disability in adulthood were higher with 17% reporting that their disability began in the 18-34 age groups and the same proportion reporting an age of onset in the 45-54 age group. Just under 8% of those with a Pain disability began to be affected aged 75 or over (see Graph H.6).

**Table H.7 Persons using and needing aids for their Pain disability**

Aid for pain disability	% of persons with pain disability <sup>35</sup>	
	Use aid	Need aid
Transcutaneous electrical nerve stimulation (TENS)	7	9
Acupuncture	10	12
Acupressure	3	10
Pain management	48	10
Massage	18	19
Chiropractic	9	7
Heated pads or muscle stimulator	29	16
Alternative medicine	12	14
<b>Persons using / needing any aid</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>37</b>

Just over two-thirds (67%) of all persons with a Pain disability used at least one aid, and 37% needed at least one aid. Pain management was the most frequently used aid at 48% followed by heated pads or muscle stimulators at 29%. Massage was the aid most needed at 19% of those with a Pain disability followed by heated pads or muscle stimulators at 16% (see Table H.7).

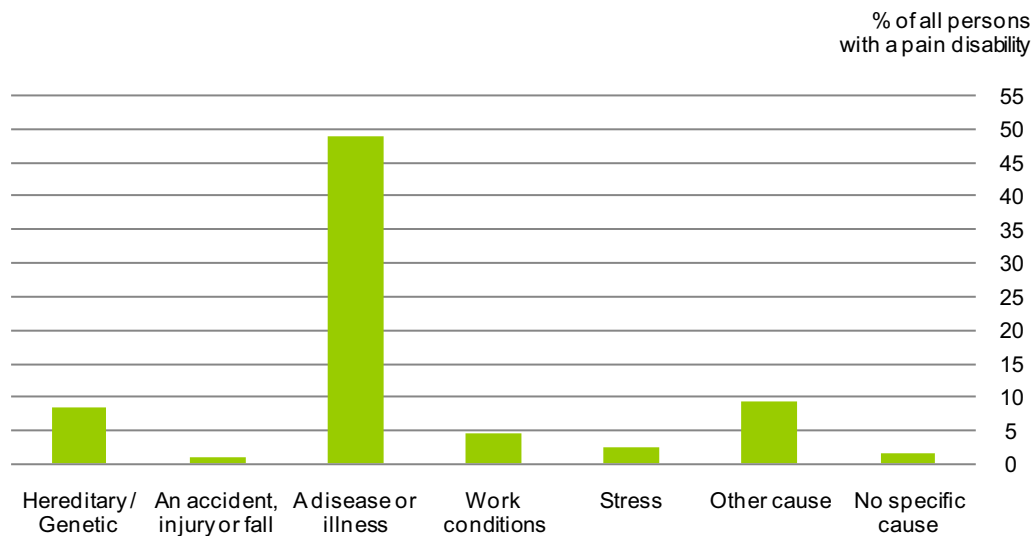
Persons using or needing aids reported having “A lot of difficulty” in higher proportions than those not using or needing any aids (see Table H.8).

<sup>34</sup> Excludes ‘Unknown’ and ‘Not stated’.

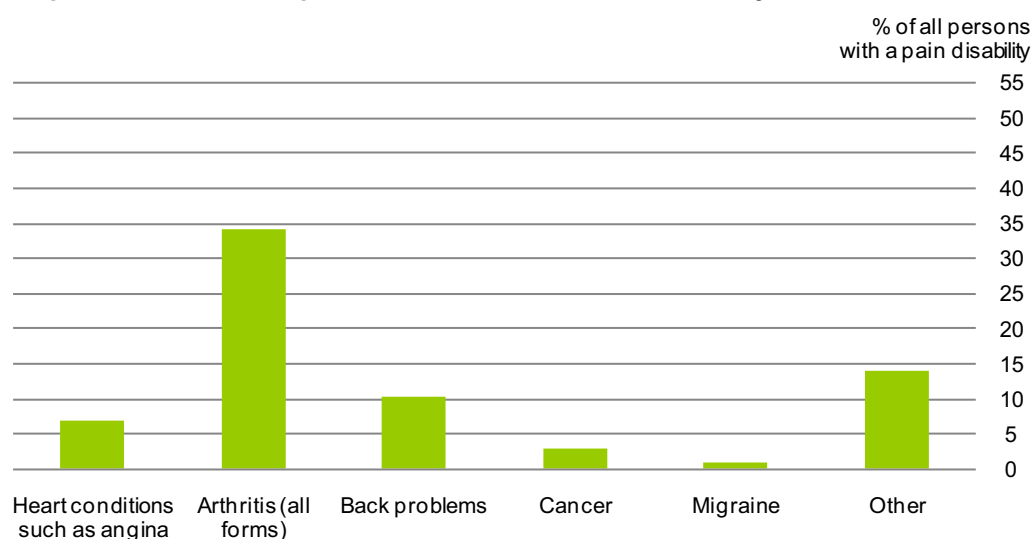
<sup>35</sup> The percentages do not sum to the total as persons may have reported use of or need for more than one aid.

Table H.8 Persons using and needing aids by level of difficulty

				%	
	A moderate level	A lot of difficulty	Cannot do at all	Total	Persons
<b>Persons with pain disability</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>152,800</b>
Persons using any aid	45	52	3	100	102,300
Persons needing any aid	43	53	3	100	57,200
Persons not needing or using any aid	63	34	3	100	33,500

Graph H.9 Causes of Pain disability<sup>36,37</sup>

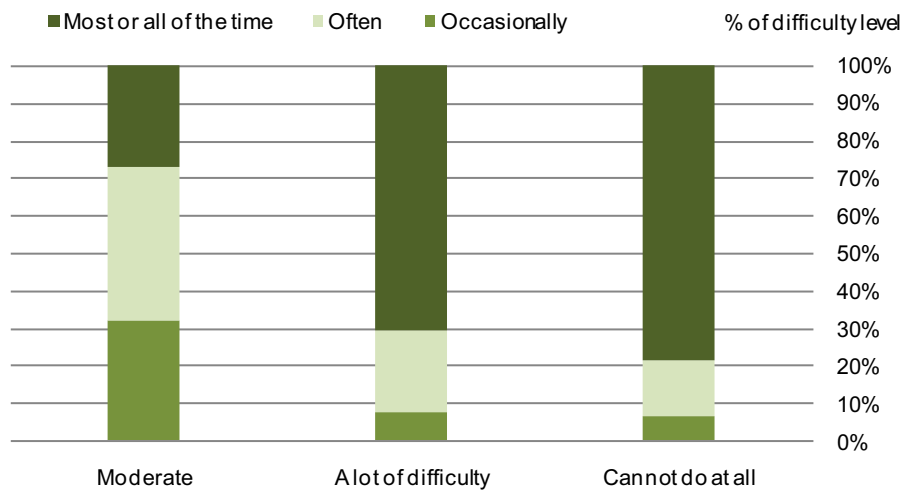
Just under half (49%) of those with a Pain disability reported that their disability was caused by a disease or illness, and 18% reported that their disability was due to an accident, injury or fall (see Graph H.9). Arthritis was the most commonly reported illness at 34% of all those with a Pain disability, back problems were reported by 10% and heart conditions by 7% (see Graph H.10).

Graph H.10 Illnesses reported as the cause of Pain disability<sup>36,37</sup>

<sup>36</sup> Excludes 'Don't know' and 'Not stated'.

<sup>37</sup> Multiple responses allowed.

Graph H.11 Frequency of Pain disability by level of difficulty



The majority of those reporting “A lot of difficulty” or “Cannot do at all” also reported that their disability was present most or all of the time, at 71% at 79% respectively, compared with 27% of those reporting a moderate level of difficulty. Those reporting a moderate level of difficulty broadly reported the frequency of pain in equal proportions with 32% reporting that their disability was present occasionally and 41% reporting “Often” compared with the other difficulty levels (see Graph H.11 and Detailed Table 21.7).

## I Breathing

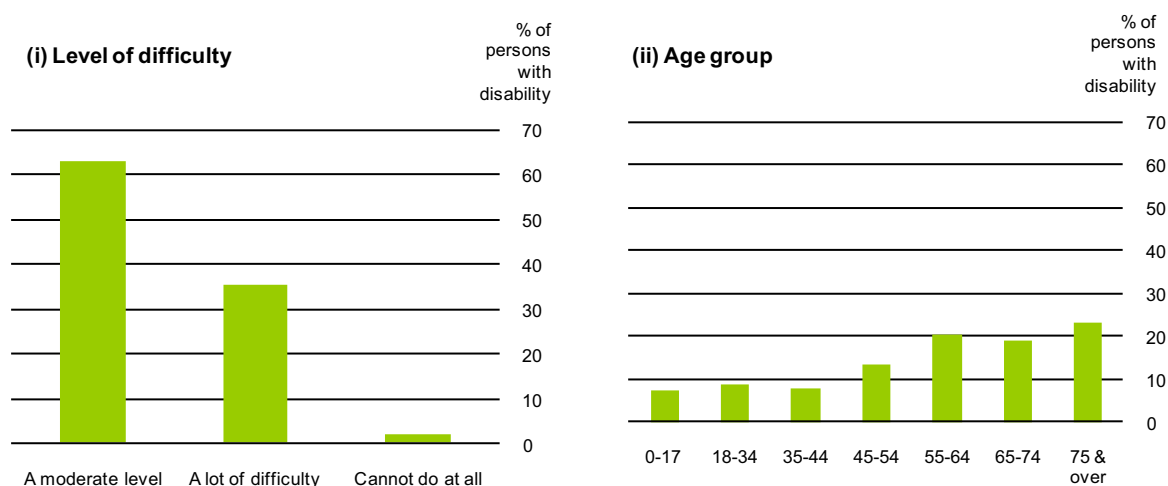
**Table I.1 Persons with a Breathing disability: level of difficulty by sex and age group**  
% of sex/age group

Age group	A moderate level	A lot of difficulty	Cannot do at all <sup>38</sup>	Total	Persons
<b>Persons</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>71,500</b>
Males	63	35	2	100	35,400
Females	63	36	2	100	36,100
0-17	80	20	-	100	5,500
18-34	75	24	-	100	6,200
35-44	74	25	1	100	5,500
45-54	61	38	1	100	9,500
55-64	59	38	3	100	14,600
65-74	55	42	3	100	13,500
75 & over	59	38	2	100	16,600

Almost two-thirds (63%) of those reporting a Breathing disability described themselves as having a moderate level of difficulty with 35% reporting a lot of difficulty and 2% “Cannot do at all” (referring to inability to carry out everyday activities due to their Breathing disability<sup>38</sup>). This pattern was consistent for males and females. The 0-17 age group had higher proportions reporting a moderate level of difficulty at 80% and the 18-34 age group 75%. Neither of these age groups reported the “Cannot do at all” level of difficulty (see Table I.1).

Those with a Breathing difficulty were mainly in the older age groups with almost two-thirds aged 55 and over. Almost a quarter, (23%) were aged 75 and over, and 19% and 20% were in the 65-74 and 55-64 age groups respectively (see Graph I.2).

**Graph I.2 Persons with a Breathing disability: level of difficulty and age group**



<sup>38</sup> See wording of Question I1 of the NDS questionnaire in Appendix B.

Table I.3 Persons with a Breathing disability by age group and sex

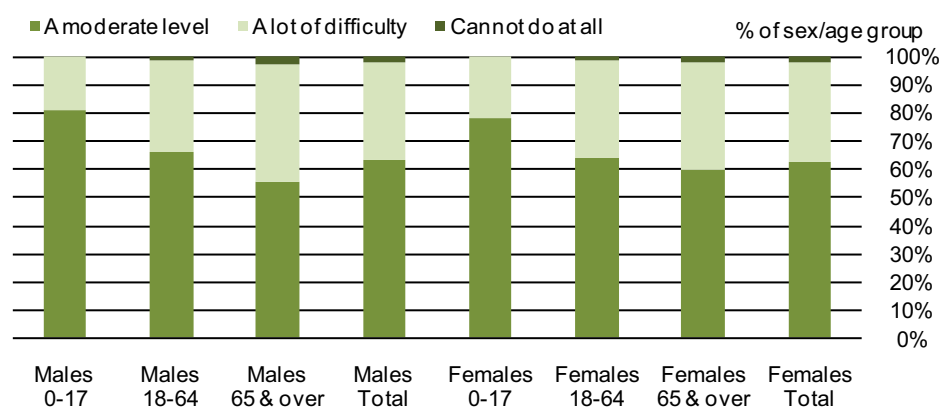
Age group	% of sex		
	Males	Females	Persons
0-17	9	6	8
18-34	9	8	9
35-44	8	8	8
45-54	14	13	13
55-64	24	17	20
65-74	19	19	19
75 & over	17	29	23
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>
Persons	35,400	36,100	71,500

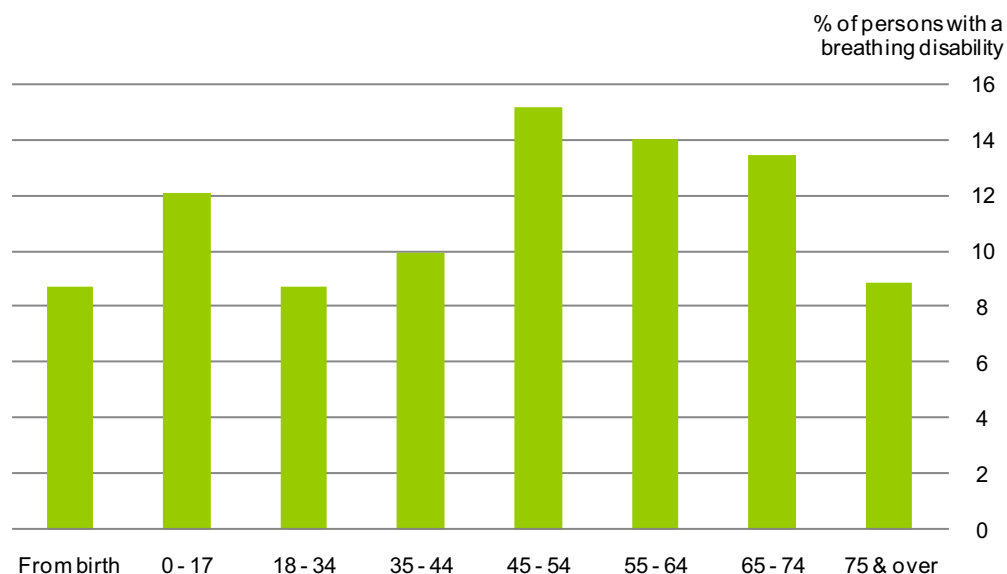
Females with a Breathing disability were more concentrated in the 75 and over age group, while males had a slightly younger age profile. Among females with this disability, almost half (48%) were aged 65 and over, with 29% aged 75 and over and 19% aged 65-74. Among males just over one-third (36%) were aged 65 and over while 24% were aged 55-64. The 0-17 age group represented 9% of males with a Breathing disability and 6% of females (see Table I.3). The distribution of males and females with a Breathing disability by level of difficulty was similar. When examined by age it can be seen that younger people experienced lower levels of difficulty with 81% of males and 78% of females reporting "A moderate level" compared with 63% overall for both males and females (see Table I.4 and Graph I.5).

Table I.4 Persons with a Breathing disability: level of difficulty by sex and age group

Sex	% of sex/age group				Total	Persons
	A moderate level	A lot of difficulty	Cannot do at all			
<b>Males</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>35,400</b>	
0-17	81	19	-	100	3,300	
18-64	66	33	2	100	19,400	
65 & over	55	42	3	100	12,700	
<b>Females</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>36,100</b>	
0-17	78	22	-	100	2,200	
18-64	64	34	2	100	16,600	
65 & over	59	39	2	100	17,400	

Graph I.5 Profile of Breathing disability: level of difficulty by sex and age group



**Graph I.6 Persons with a Breathing disability: age of onset<sup>39</sup>**

Just over 20% of all those with a Breathing disability had been affected since childhood with almost 9% having their disability from birth and 12% acquiring it while aged between 0-17. Around 9% began to be affected while aged 75 and over. Persons with an age of onset between 45 and 54 years of age represented the highest proportion at 15% (see Graph I.6).

**Table I.7 Persons using and needing aids for their Breathing disability**

Aid for breathing disability	Use aid	Need aid
Nebulisers	42	8
Oxygen concentrator or cylinder, or liquid oxygen	10	6
Home ventilator	12	6
Training in breathing techniques	19	13
Humidifier	6	14
<b>Persons using / needing any aid</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>26</b>

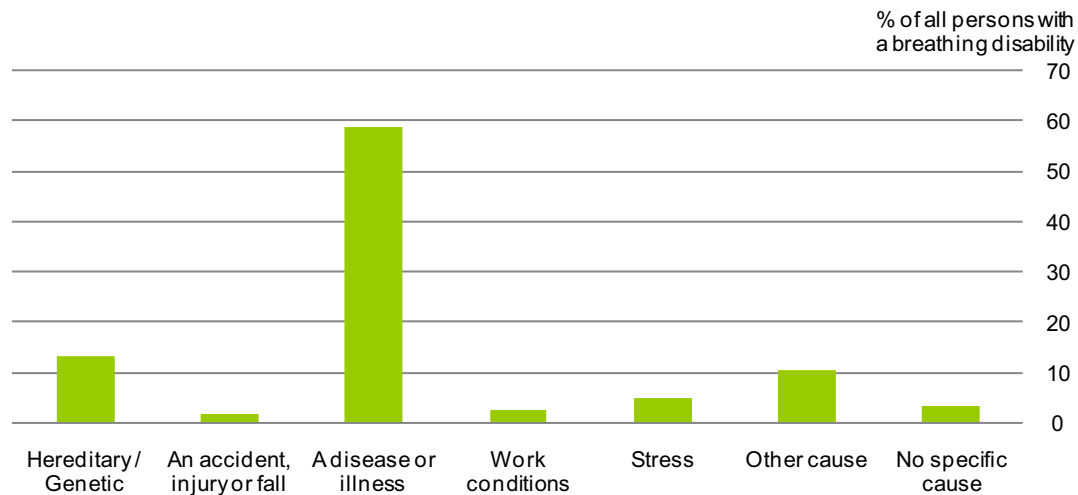
More than half (56%) of persons with a Breathing disability used at least one aid, and 26% expressed a need for at least one aid. The most commonly used aids were nebulisers, used by 42% of those with a Breathing disability followed by training in breathing techniques (19%) which was the aid for which there was second highest demand at 13%. The highest demand was for humidifiers at 14% (see Table I.7).

**Table I.8 Persons using and needing aids by level of difficulty**

				%	
	A moderate level	A lot of difficulty	Cannot do at all	Total	Persons
<b>Persons with a breathing disability</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>71,500</b>
Persons using any aid	56	41	3	100	39,900
Persons needing any aid	49	49	2	100	18,800
Persons not needing or using any aid	76	24	1	100	23,900

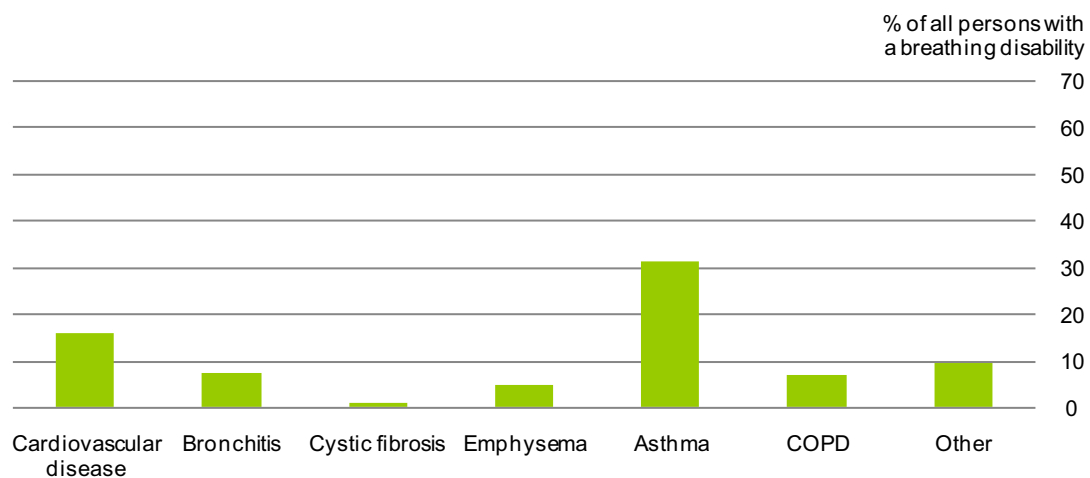
<sup>39</sup> Excludes 'Unknown' and 'Not stated'.

<sup>40</sup> The percentages do not sum to the total as persons may have reported use of or need for more than one aid.

**Graph I.9 Causes of Breathing disability<sup>41,42</sup>**

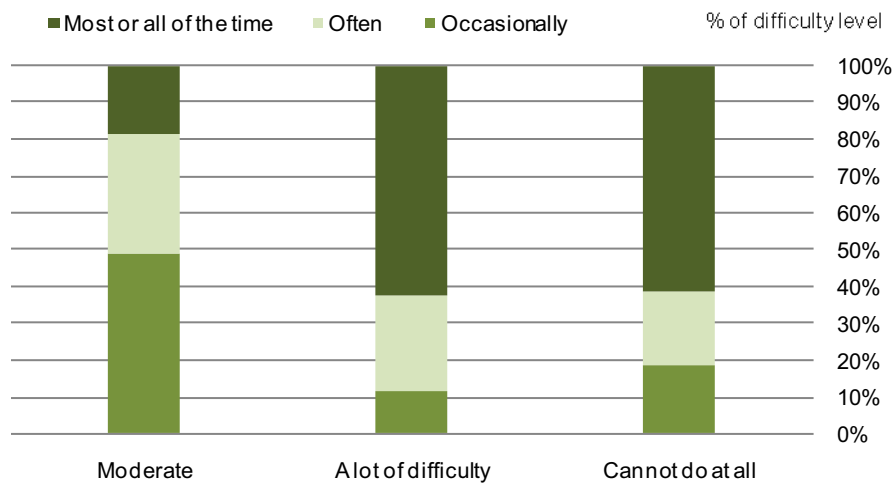
A disease or illness was reported by 59% of people with a Breathing disability as the cause of their disability, and 13% reported a hereditary or genetic condition (see Graph I.9).

Asthma was the most frequently reported illness at 31% of all those with a Breathing disability followed by cardiovascular disease at 16% (see Graph I.10).

**Graph I.10 Illnesses reported as the cause of Breathing disability<sup>41,42</sup>**

<sup>41</sup> Excludes 'Don't know' and 'Not stated'.

<sup>42</sup> Multiple responses allowed.

**Graph I.11 Frequency of Breathing disability by level of difficulty**

Over 60% of those reporting “A lot of difficulty” or “Cannot do at all” also reported that their Breathing disability affected them most or all of the time. Half of those reporting a moderate level of difficulty stated that their disability was present occasionally, with a further 32% reporting its frequency as “Often” and 19% as “Most or all of the time” (see Graph I.11 and Detailed Table 22.7).