



Disability Rights Commission

DISABILITY RIGHTS COMMISSION

DISABILITY BRIEFING

May 2007

Making rights a reality

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Introduction

Welcome to the May 2007 edition of the DRC Disability Briefing. The Disability Briefing is a compendium of official statistics on disability, produced by the DRC. The Briefing is divided into three sections:

Section One includes core data on disabled people's participation in the labour market using April-June 2006 Labour Force Survey (LFS) data. This section also includes time series analysis using LFS quarterly data back to 1999, to highlight changes and trends over time. Please note revised LFS data for 1998 and 2001 is currently unavailable from the ONS, so this data is not included in the time-series (see background note for further details).

Section Two presents the latest estimates on the disabled population in Britain from the Family Resources Survey (FRS).

Section Three presents a short progress report on research projects undertaken and completed at the DRC over the past year.

If you have any comments on content or additional suggestions for future briefings, please contact Breda Twomey at the DRC by email breda.twomey@drc-gb.org.

Background notes

1. Change from seasonal to calendar quarter in the Labour Force Survey (LFS)

Readers should note that since the publication of the DRC March 2006 Disability Briefing, the structure of the LFS has switched from a seasonal-quarter basis to a calendar-quarter basis. This means that quarterly LFS results referred to in previous Briefings as Spring (March-May), Summer (June-August), Autumn (September-November) and Winter (December-February), are from 2006 structured on the following basis; Quarter 1 (January-March); Quarter 2 (April-June); Quarter 3 (July-September) and Quarter 4 (October-December).

To ensure a consistent time series of data and in order to allow users to make meaningful comparisons over time, we have revised the time series of disability data back to 1998 to reflect the switch. Please note that we are unable to provide a complete time series from April-June 1998 to April-June 2006, as the Office of National Statistics (ONS) are unable to supply revised data for 1998 and 2000.

For further information on the switch, see Madouros, V 'Impact of the switch from seasonal to calendar quarters in the Labour Force Survey', Labour Market Trends, June 2006, pp.191-202

http://www.statistics.gov.uk/articles/labour_market_trends/CQ_article.pdf

2. Population coverage

a. Labour Force Survey (LFS)

As the LFS does not collect disability related information for people over state pension age on a comprehensive basis, all the LFS data provided within the briefing is limited to adults of working age, i.e. men aged 16-64 and women aged 16-59.

b. Family Resources Survey (FRS),

- an adult is defined as anyone aged 16 and over, except for 16 to 18 year olds in full time non-advanced education.

- a child is defined as someone aged under 16, and aged 16 to 18 year olds who is in full-time non advanced education and living at home

2. Definitions of disability used in the LFS

Since spring 1998, the LFS has provided information about disability using the following range of definitions:

Current DDA disabled: Includes people who have a long term health problem or disability which has a substantial and long-term adverse effect on their ability to carry out normal day to day activities.

Work limiting disabled: Includes people who have a long-term health problem or disability which affects the kind or amount of paid work which a person might do.

Long term disabled: Includes people who meet the criteria for either current DDA or work-limiting definitions of disability (or both – as is often the case) are defined as having a current long-term disability.

Clearly, estimates for the different definitions may vary, and it should be noted that the difference between the DDA definition estimates and those based on work-limiting disabilities may be exaggerated due to people not being able to assess the extent to which their work limiting disability would also affect their ability to carry out normal day to day activities. It follows that including all those with current long term disabilities improves the accuracy and comprehensiveness of the estimates.

Throughout this briefing, people who are ‘long term disabled’ will be referred to as ‘All disabled’, unless otherwise specified.

Further information on the disability questions in the LFS is included in the *Technical Note* at the end of this briefing.

3. Definitions of Impairment/health problems used in the LFS

Please note that the LFS data on impairments/health problem used in this Briefing (See **Tables 6, D1, D2, D3, E**) are based on the LFS Health variable. At present, this variable has 17 different health problem/impairment categories. In **Appendix 2** at the end of

this document, we have provided a note to clarify how each impairment category is defined in the Labour Force Survey.

The broad impairment categories used in the time series tables, Tables D, D1, D2, D3 and Table E are modified from the standard LFS main health problem/impairment categories mentioned above.

Definition of disability used in the Family Resources Survey (FRS)

The Family Resources Survey (FRS) disability estimates are based on 'the number of people with a long-standing illness, disability or infirmity, and who have a significant difficulty with day-to-day activities'.

4. LFS data on Benefits

Users of LFS data on benefits in this briefing should note that due to a discontinuity in LFS benefits variable (when child benefit recipients were only included from 2001), all benefits estimates exclude people on child benefits.

Key Facts and Figures

Analysis from the **Apr-June 2006** LFS indicates that:

- There are 6.9 million disabled people of working age in Britain, one fifth of the total working age population. Fifty one per cent (3.5 million) are men and forty eight per cent (3.3 million) are women.
- There has been a gradual increase in the size of the working age disabled population over time, from 6.4 million in 1999 to 6.9 million in 2006 – a growth of eight per cent over a seven year period. Over the same period, the non disabled population increased by 2 per cent.
- Across Britain, there are regional variations in the prevalence of disability. The North East of England and Wales have the highest proportions of disabled people, with one quarter of the local working age population in these regions disabled – 25 per cent and 24 per cent respectively. London, the South East and East of England have lower than average proportions of disabled people at 17 per cent.
- Disability rates increase with age; whilst 9 per cent of adults aged 16-24 are disabled, this increased to 44 per cent in the 50 to retirement age category.
- Many disabled people work or want to work. Half of disabled people of working age, 3.5 million people, are in work and 1.3 million disabled people without a job, want to work.
- Since 1999, disabled people's overall employment rate has increased steadily by 4 percentage points, from 47 per cent to 50 per cent. Despite this, inequalities in the proportions of disabled and non disabled people in work persists, with only half of disabled people in work, compared with over four fifths of the non disabled population in work
- Employment rates vary greatly according to the type of impairment a person has. Disabled people with mental health problems have the lowest employment rates of all impairment categories, at only 21 per cent.

- Disabled people in employment are more likely to work in manual and lower occupations, and less likely to work in managerial, professional and high-skilled occupations.
- At £10.28 per hour, the average gross hourly pay of disabled employees is about 10 per cent less than that of non disabled employees (£11.3 per hour).
- Disabled people are still only half as likely as non disabled people to be qualified to degree level and are twice as likely as non disabled people to have no qualification at all. This pattern of inequality has not changed over time.
- Disabled people continue to experience high rates of unemployment: the unemployment rate for disabled people in 2006 was 9 per cent, compared with 5 per cent for non disabled people.
- Nearly half of the disabled population of working age in Britain are economically inactive. However, one third of inactive disabled people would like to work, compared with just under one quarter of non disabled people.
- According to the LFS, there are 2.4 million disabled people out of work and on state benefits: over one third of the total disabled population of working age.

Section One: Apr-Jun 2006 LFS Core Data

Table 1 Economic status of disabled people in Britain

Great Britain, April -June 2006 LFS, not seasonally adjusted.

Thousands, per cent, £

	All long-term disabled	DDA current disabled	Work limiting disabled	Not disabled
All persons	6,871	5,750	5,245	28,660
Per cent of total population	19.3	16.2	14.8	80.7
Per cent from ethnic minority group	8.9	8.9	9.4	10.8
Per cent women ¹	48.6	49.4	47.8	48.6
Per cent with no qualifications	25	26.4	28.7	11
On state benefits² and not in work	2,443	2,274	2,338	1,227
Per cent of total population	35.6	39.5	44.6	4.3
...would like work and available to start in a fortnight	360	293	323	579
Per cent of total population	5.2	5.1	6.2	2.0
In work	3,465	2,729	2,132	22,986
Per cent	50.4	47.5	40.6	80.2
Self-employed	14.4	14.3	15.5	11.9
Working part-time	29.2	29.8	33.2	23.2
In a permanent job	95.0	95.0	94.3	94.5
Average gross hourly wage (£)	£10.28	£10.4	£11.16	£11.3
ILO unemployed	336	247	287	1,209
ILO unemployment rate (%)	8.8	8.3	11.8	5
... who are unemployed for a year or more (%)	32.4	32.5	34.1	18.6
Inactive	3,071	2,775	2,827	4,465
Per cent of population	44.7	48.3	53.9	15.6
..would like work	937	852	866	1,099
Per cent of total inactive	30.5	30.7	30.6	24.6

Base: All people of working age (men 16-64, women 16-59)

Source: Labour Force Survey

¹ Lower numbers may reflect the fact that women aged 60-64 are not included in the working age population.

Table 2: Economic status of disabled people of working age in England, Scotland and Wales

Great Britain, Apr-Jun 2006, LFS, not seasonally adjusted.

Thousands and per cent

	Great Britain	England	Scotland	Wales
All disabled	6,871	5,796	661	414
Economically Active	3,801	3,266	334	201
Economic Activity Rate (%)	55.3	56.3	50.5	48.5
In employment	3,465	2,979	305	181
Employment rate (%)	50.4	51.4	46.1	43.7
ILO unemployed	336	287	29	20
Unemployment rate (%)	8.8	8.8	8.7	9.8
Economically Inactive	3,071	2,530	327	213
All not disabled	28,660	24,860	2,461	1,339
Economically Active	24,195	20,942	2,132	1,121
Economic Activity Rate (%)	84.4	84.2	86.6	83.7
In employment	22,986	19,905	2,018	1,063
Employment rate (%)	80.2	80.1	82.0	79.4
ILO unemployed	1,209	1,037	115	58
Unemployment rate (%)	5.0	5.0	5.4	5.2
Economically Inactive	4,465	3,918	329	218

Source: Labour Force Survey

Base: All people of working age (men 16-64, women 16-59)

Table 3: Disabled people by age and ethnic group

Great Britain, Apr-June 2006, LFS, not seasonally adjusted.

Thousands and per cent

	All aged 16-59/64	16-24	25-34	35-49	50-59/64
All disabled	6,871 100%	668 100	850 100	2,353 100	3,001 100
White	6,260 91%	603 90	760 89	2,089 89	2,808 94
Mixed	51 0.7%	12 1.8	14 1.6	16 0.7	* *
Asian and Asian British	318 4.6%	27 4.0	41 4.9	132 5.6	117 3.9
Black and Black British	120 1.7%	12 1.7	16 1.9	58 2.5	34 1.1
Chinese	13 0.2%	* *	* *	* *	* *
Other ethnic minority groups	106 1.5%	11 1.6	17 2.0	52 2.2	27 0.9

Per cent

	All aged 16-59/64 = 100%	16-24	25-34	35-49	50-59/64
All disabled	6,871	9.7	12.4	34.2	43.7
White	6,260	9.6	12.1	33.3	44.8
Mixed	51	23.5	27.5	31.3	*
Asian and Asian British	318	8.5	12.9	41.5	36.8
Black and Black British	120	10	13.3	48.3	28.3
Chinese	13	*	*	*	*
Other ethnic minority group	106	10.3	16.1	49.1	25.5

Source: Labour Force Survey

* Sample size too small for a reliable estimate

Table 4: Highest qualification attained and employment rates of disabled and not disabled people

Great Britain, Apr-June 2006, LFS, not seasonally adjusted.

Thousands and per cent

	Disabled		Not disabled	
	Total (000s)	Employment rate (%)	Total (000s)	Employment rate (%)
Total¹	6,871	50.4	28,660	80.2
Degree or equivalent	767	75.7	5,895	89.8
Higher education	497	67.2	2,429	88.6
GCE A Level or equivalent	1,425	59.5	6,890	81.6
GCSE grades A-C or equivalent	1,438	56.0	6,670	78.0
Other qualifications	992	48.7	3,475	77.7
No qualification	1,721	23.2	3,063	60.1

1 – The numbers in this column do not add up to the total as there is a small proportion of disabled people for whom highest qualification is not known.

Table 5: Proportion of disabled and non disabled people with no qualifications by age group

Great Britain, Apr-June 2006, not seasonally adjusted.

Thousands and per cent

	All aged 16-59/64	16-24	25-34	35-49	50-59/64
All persons	4,783 13.5	929 14.2	585 8	1,422 11.2	1,847 20.8
Long-term disabled (percent of all without qualifications)	1,721 36.0	148 15.9	150 25.6	502 35.3	921 49.9
Not disabled (percent of all without qualifications)	3,063 64.0	781 84.1	435 74.4	920 64.7	926 50.1

Table 6: Employment and unemployment rates by main type of impairment: Great Britain, Apr-June 2006

Thousands and per cent

	Number with this as main disability (% of all disabled)	Number in employment and employment rate (% of total)	ILO unemployed and unemployment rate (%)	Number on state benefits and not in work (% of total)
All long-term disabled in GB	6,871 19	3,465 50	336 9	2,425 35
Problems with ...arms, hands¹	397 6	205 52	16 7	137 35
...legs, feet	775 11	356 46	34 9	319 41
...back, neck	1,085 16	532 49	52 9	407 37
Difficulty in seeing	112 2	53 47	* 14	41 36
Difficulty in hearing	108 2	68 63	* *	22 20
Speech impediment	* *	* *	* *	* *
Skin conditions, allergies	102 1	73 72	* *	12 12
Chest, breathing problems	762 11	490 64	42 8	162 21
Heart, blood pressure	787 11	465 59	23 5	211 27
Stomach, liver, kidney, digestion	363 5	220 61	18 8	88 24
Diabetes	415 6	282 68	15 5	68 16
Mental illness	680 10	146 22	43 23	450 66
Epilepsy	146 2	64 44	* 10	68 46
Learning difficulties	179 3	42 23	26 38	107 60
Progressive illness n.e.c.²	329 5	123 37	* *	163 50
Other problems, disabilities	586 9	328 56	28 8	166 28

¹ including arthritis or rheumatism.

² Progressive illness not elsewhere classified (e.g. cancer, multiple sclerosis, symptomatic HIV, Parkinson's disease, muscular dystrophy)

Table 7: Employment and unemployment rates of disabled people by region

Great Britain, April-Jun 2006, not seasonally adjusted

Thousands and per cent

	Total number of disabled (000s) and as a per cent of local population	In employment (000s) and employment rate (%)	ILO unemployed and unemployment rate	On state benefits¹ and not in work (000s and as % of total)
All long-term disabled	6,871 19.3	3,465 50.4	336 8.8	2,443 35.6
North East	383 25.1	172 45.0	15 7.8	161 42.2
North West & Merseyside	873 21.3	391 45	31 7.4	368 42.2
Yorkshire and the Humber	609 19.9	308 50.6	33 9.7	222 36.5
East Midlands	503 19.4	281 55.8	25 8.1	156 31.0
West Midlands	633 19.8	318 50.2	28 8.2	222 35.1
East	550 16.5	312 56.7	25 7.3	156 28.3
London	821 16.9	357 4.4	63 15	330 40.1
South East	853 17.1	510 59.8	47 8.4	221 25.8
South West	571 19.1	329 57.6	20 5.9	162 28.4
Wales	414 23.6	181 43.7	20 9.8	176 42.4
Scotland	661 21.2	305 46.1	29 8.7	270 41

Source: Labour Force Survey

¹ This includes state pension, allowances or National Insurance credits, and excludes child benefit.

Table 8: Disabled people in employment by occupation

Great Britain, April-Jun 2006, not seasonally adjusted

Thousands and per cent

	Total	Disabled	Not disabled
All in employment	26,451	3,465	22,986
	100	100	100
Managers and Senior Officials	4,0445	474	3,571
	15	14	16
Professional occupations	3,473	376	3,097
	13	11	13
Associate Professional and Technical	3,822	438	3,384
	14	13	15
Administrative and Secretarial	3,130	423	2,708
	12	12	12
Skilled Trades Occupations	2,858	378	2,480
	11	11	11
Personal Service Occupations	2,070	318	1,752
	8	9	8
Sales and Customer Service Occupations	2,029	269	1,760
	8	8	8
Process Plant and Machine Operatives	1,988	316	1,671
	8	9	7
Elementary Occupations	2,983	462	2,521
	11	13	11

Table 9: Disabled people in employment by industry sector

Great Britain, April-Jun 2006, LFS, not seasonally adjusted

Thousands and per cent

	Total	Disabled	Not disabled
All in Employment (000s)	26,389 100	3,453 100	22,936 100
Agriculture & fishing	307 1	44 1	263 1
Energy & water	266 1	29 1	236 1
Manufacturing	3,466 13	431 12	3,034 13
Construction	2,142 8	258 7	1,884 8
Distribution hotels & restaurants	4,994 19	656 19	4,338 19
Transport & communication	1,817 7	244 7	1,573 7
Banking finance & insurance etc	4,222 16	466 13	3,756 16
Public admin education & health	7,565 29	1,105 32	6,460 28
Other services	1,606 6	219 6	1,386 6

Source: Labour Force Survey

Table 10: Labour market status of disabled people and benefit¹ receipt

Great Britain, April-Jun 2006 LFS, not seasonally adjusted

Thousands and per cent

	All disabled		Not disabled	
	Number	% of total population	Number	% of total population
Total number	6,871	100	28,660	100
IN WORK				
Total number	3,465	50.4	22,986	80.2
Not on state benefits	2,477	36.0	17,577	61.3
Receiving state benefits	398	5.8	899	3.1
...Receiving sickness/disability benefits	212	3.1	72	0.3
...Receiving Incapacity Benefit (IB)	56	0.8	12	*
NOT IN WORK				
Total number	3,407	49.6	5,674	19.8
Not on state benefits	669	9.7	3,205	11.2
Receiving state benefits	2,443	35.6	1,227	4.3
...and would like work	937	13.6	779	2.7
...and available for work	360	5.2	579	2.0
...and would not like work	1,506	21.9	448	1.6
Receiving sickness/disability benefits	1,801	26.2	150	0.5
...and would like work	604	8.8	58	0.2
...and available for work	155	2.2	18	0.1
...and would not like work	1,197	17.4	91	0.3
Receiving Incapacity Benefit (IB)	1,189	17.3	38	0.1
...and would like work	408	5.9	21	0.1
...and available for work	98	1.4	8	0.03
...and would not like work	782	11.4	17	0.1

¹ This includes state pensions, allowances or National Insurance credits, and excludes child benefit.

Table 11 Average gross hourly pay (£) for disabled and non disabled employees

April-June 2006, LFS, not seasonally adjusted, Great Britain

	(£)
All Disabled	10.28
Men	11.14
Women	9.46
Not Disabled	11.30
Men	12.63
Women	9.87

Source: Labour Force Survey

Revised Time Series 1999-2006 LFS data

Table A: Economic status of disabled people in Britain

April-Jun1999-2006, LFS, not seasonally adjusted

Thousands and per cent

	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
All disabled	6,359	..	6,5137	6,671	6,692	6,792	6,786	6,871
Economically Active	3,308	..	3,348	3,503	3,569	3,665	3,686	3,801
Economic Activity Rate (%)	52.0	..	51.2	52.5	53.3	54.0	54.3	55.3
In employment	2,968	..	3,074	3,224	3,291	3,411	3,406	3,465
Employment rate (%)	46.7	..	47.0	48.3	49.2	50.2	50.2	50.4
ILO unemployed	339	..	274	279	278	254	280	336
Unemployment rate (%)	10.3	..	8.2	8.0	7.8	6.9	7.6	8.8
Economically Inactive	3,051	..	3,189	3,168	3,123	3,127	3,100	3,071
Not disabled	28,027	..	28,237	28,292	28,412	28,457	28,599	28,660
Economically Active	23,707	..	23,926	23,936	23,999	23,972	24,045	24,195
Economic Activity Rate (%)	84.6	..	84.7	84.6	84.5	84.2	84.1	84.4
In employment	22,426	..	22,850	22,820	22,932	22,910	23,014	22,986
Employment rate (%)	80.0	..	80.9	80.7	80.7	80.5	80.5	80.2
ILO unemployed	1,281	..	1,076	1,115	1,067	1,062	1,031	1,209
Unemployment rate (%)	5.4	..	4.5	4.7	4.4	4.4	4.3	5.0
Economically Inactive	4,320	..	4,311	4,356	4,413	4,485	4,554	4,465

Table A.1: Economic status of disabled and non disabled people of working age; ENGLAND

April-Jun1999-2006, LFS, not seasonally adjusted

Thousands and per cent

ENGLAND	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
All Disabled	5,355	..	5,517	5,658	5,666	5,722	5,709	5,796
Economically Active	2,868	..	2,917	3,078	3,077	3,137	3,157	3,266
Economic Activity Rate (%)	53.6	..	52.9	54.4	54.3	54.8	55.3	56.3
In employment	2,587	..	2,688	2,844	2,842	2,927	2,917	2,979
Employment rate (%)	48.3	..	48.7	50.3	50.2	51.2	51.1	51.4
ILO unemployed	282	..	229	234	234	209	240	287
Unemployment rate (%)	9.8	..	7.9	7.6	7.6	6.7	7.6	8.8
Economically Inactive	2,487	..	2,600	2,580	2,589	2,586	2,552	2,530
Not disabled	24,201	..	24,410	24,443	24,572	24,656	24,805	24,860
Economically Active	20,486	..	20,663	20,646	20,703	20,699	20,796	20,942
Economic Activity Rate (%)	84.6	..	84.7	84.5	84.3	84.0	83.8	84.2
In employment	19,418	..	19,774	19,715	19,785	19,804	19,928	19,905
Employment rate (%)	80.2	..	81.0	80.7	80.5	80.3	80.3	80.1
ILO unemployed	1,067	..	889	932	917	896	868	1,037
Unemployment rate (%)	5.2	..	4.3	4.5	4.4	4.3	4.2	5.0
Economically Inactive	3,715	..	3,747	3,797	3,869	3,957	4,008	3,918

Table A.2: Economic status of disabled and non disabled people of working age; SCOTLAND

April-Jun1999-2006, LFS, not seasonally adjusted

Thousands and Per cent

SCOTLAND	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
All disabled	605	..	623	613	629	652	671	661
Economically Active	267	..	281	256	310	333	343	334
Economic Activity Rate (%)	44.2	..	45.2	41.8	49.3	51.1	51.1	50.5
In employment	230	..	251	225	280	305	316	305
Employment rate (%)	38.0	..	40.3	37.7	44.4	46.8	47.1	46.1
ILO unemployed	37	..	31	31	31	28	27	29
Unemployment rate (%)	14.0	..	10.9	12.3	9.9	8.4	8.0	8.7
Economically Inactive	337	..	341	357	319	319	328	327
Not disabled	2,514	..	2,501	2,514	2,497	2,474	2,452	2,461
Economically Active	2,132	..	2,168	2,192	2,155	2,151	2,133	2,132
Economic Activity Rate (%)	84.8	..	86.7	87.2	86.3	87.0	87.0	86.6
In employment	1,993	..	2,042	2,065	2,052	2,025	2,017	2,018
Employment rate (%)	79.3	..	81.6	82.1	82.2	81.9	82.3	82.0
ILO unemployed	139	..	126	127	104	126	116	115
Unemployment rate (%)	6.5	..	5.8	5.8	4.8	5.9	5.4	5.4
Economically Inactive	382	..	333	323	342	322	319	329

Table A.3: Economic status of disabled and non disabled people of working age; WALES

April-Jun 1999-2006, LFS, not seasonally adjusted

Thousands and per cent

WALES	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
All disabled	399	..	398	400	397	418	406	414
Economically Active	172	..	150	169	182	195	186	201
Economic Activity Rate (%)	43.2	..	37.6	42.2	46	46.6	45.7	48.5
In employment	152	..	135	156	169	179	173	181
Employment rate (%)	38.1	..	33.9	38.9	43	42.7	42.6	43.7
ILO unemployed	20	..	15	13	13	16	12	20
Unemployment rate (%)	11.8	..	9.8	7.9	7	8.4	6.7	9.8
Economically Inactive	227	..	248	231	215	223	221	213
Not disabled	1,312	..	1,326	1,334	1,343	1,327	1,343	1,339
Economically Active	1,089	..	1,095	1,098	1,141	1,122	1,116	1,121
Economic Activity Rate (%)	83.0	..	82.6	82.3	85.0	84.5	83.1	83.7
In employment	1,015	..	1,035	1,041	1,095	1,082	1,069	1,063
Employment rate (%)	77.4	..	78.1	78.0	82	81.5	79.6	79.4
ILO unemployed	74	..	60	57	46	40	48	58
Unemployment rate (%)	6.8	..	5.5	5.2	4.0	3.5	4.3	5.2
Economically Inactive	223	..	231	236	201	205	226	218

Table B: Highest Qualifications held by disabled and non disabled people, Great Britain

April-Jun1999-2006, LFS, not seasonally adjusted

Thousands

Disabled	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Total	6,358	..	6,537	6,671	6,692	6,789	6,785	6,870
Degree or equivalent	467	..	526	589	619	670	723	767
Higher education	439	..	434	470	499	513	522	497
GCE A Level or equivalent	1,321	..	1,387	1,416	1,432	1,481	1,400	1,425
GCSE grades A-C or equivalent	1,073	..	1,171	1,255	1,241	1,259	1,355	1,438
Other qualifications	1,062	..	1,038	1,044	1,082	996	1,033	992
No qualification	1,947	..	1,948	1,867	1,788	1,837	1,711	1,721
Don't know	50	..	33	29	31	33	41	29
Not disabled	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Total	28,018	..	28,220	28,278	28,396	28,413	28,573	28,634
Degree or equivalent	4,343	..	4,788	4,884	5,098	5,387	5,566	5,895
Higher education	2,448	..	2,427	2,411	2,480	2,545	2,463	2,429
GCE A Level or equivalent	6,696	..	6,813	7,003	6,947	6,912	6,910	6,890
GCSE grades A-C or equivalent	6,483	..	6,558	6,420	6,422	6,403	6,774	6,670
Other qualifications	3,897	..	3,725	3,725	3,797	3,632	3,445	3,475
No qualification	3,879	..	3,716	3,635	3,463	3,377	3,217	3,063
Don't know	272	..	194	200	189	157	199	212

Table C: Employment Rates by Highest qualification attained by disabled and not disabled people, Great Britain

Apr-June1999-2006, LFS, not seasonally adjusted

	Per cent							
	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
All disabled	46.7	..	47.0	48.3	49.2	50.2	50.2	50.4
Degree or equivalent	73.7	..	74.1	72.9	74.9	75.3	76.0	75.7
Higher education	65.2	..	62.8	65.4	67.9	68.4	71.2	67.2
GCE A Level or equivalent	55.8	..	55.4	57.8	57.9	59.8	59.3	59.5
GCSE grades A-C or equivalent	55.5	..	55.7	56.9	55.5	56.1	55.9	56.0
Other qualifications	47.8	..	46.3	47.6	47.4	50.2	46.3	48.7
No qualification	24.6	..	25.5	23.9	24.9	24.2	23.3	23.2
Not disabled								
	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
All not disabled	80.0	..	81.0	80.7	80.8	80.6	80.5	80.3
Degree or equivalent	89.3	..	90.2	89.7	89.4	89.7	89.6	89.8
Higher education	89.2	..	89.4	88.8	89.2	88.6	88.4	88.6
GCE A Level or equivalent	82.7	..	83.6	82.6	82.6	82.2	82.2	81.6
GCSE grades A-C or equivalent	78.9	..	79.3	79.8	79.5	79.0	79.0	78.0
Other qualifications	77.9	..	78.7	78.5	78.1	77.6	78.0	77.7
No qualification	63.2	..	63.9	63.3	63.2	62.8	61.6	60.1

Table D: Type of broad impairment category reported by disabled people of working age in Britain

Apr-June 1999-2006, LFS, not seasonally adjusted

	Thousands							
	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Total	6,359	..	6,537	6,671	6,692	6,792	6,786	6,781
Musculo-skeletal	2,349	..	2,280	2,289	2,320	2,261	2,198	2,256
Sensory	256	..	239	237	230	246	208	227
Circulation or digestive problems	1,016	..	1,055	1,101	1,083	1,129	1,153	1,149
Chest, Breathing problems, skin conditions or allergies	1,039	..	968	948	962	906	865	864
Diabetes	267	..	319	327	335	388	403	415
Mental health	493	..	560	597	619	657	689	680
Learning difficulties	144	..	132	160	156	163	188	179
Other	775	..	963	984	947	1,005	1,041	1,061

	Per cent							
	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
Musculo-skeletal	36.9	..	34.9	34.3	34.7	33.3	32.4	32.8
Sensory	4.0	..	3.7	3.5	3.4	3.6	3.1	3.3
Circulation or digestive problems	16.0	..	16.1	16.5	16.2	16.6	17.0	16.7
Chest, Breathing problems, skin problems or allergies	16.3	..	14.8	14.2	14.4	13.3	12.8	12.6
Diabetes	4.2	..	4.9	4.8	5.1	5.7	5.9	6.0
Mental health	7.7	..	8.6	8.9	9.3	9.7	10.2	9.9
Learning difficulties	2.3	..	2.0	2.4	2.3	2.4	2.8	2.6
Other	12.2	..	14.7	14.8	14.2	14.8	15.3	15.4

Table D.1: Type of broad impairment category reported by disabled people of working age in ENGLAND

April-Jun1999-2006, LFS, not seasonally adjusted

Thousands

ENGLAND	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Total	5,355	..	5,517	5,658	5,666	5,722	5,709	5,796
Musculo-skeletal	1,984	..	1,908	1,937	1,974	1,899	1,868	1,930
Sensory	218	..	208	207	200	215	177	193
Circulation or digestive problems	836	..	890	945	905	943	961	976
Chest, Breathing problems, skin problems or allergies	887	..	827	811	816	771	722	725
Diabetes	231	..	278	282	286	327	343	353
Mental health	403	..	464	478	509	537	564	543
Learning difficulties	121	..	105	137	132	142	161	151
Other	659	..	819	837	811	860	878	891

Per cent

Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
Musculo-skeletal	37.0	..	34.6	34.2	34.8	33.2	32.7	33.3
Sensory	4.1	..	3.8	3.7	3.5	3.7	3.1	3.3
Circulation or digestive problems	15.6	..	16.1	16.7	16.0	16.5	16.8	16.8
Chest, Breathing problems, skin problems or allergies	16.6	..	15.0	14.3	14.4	13.5	12.7	12.5
Diabetes	4.3	..	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.7	6.0	6.1
Mental health	7.5	..	8.4	8.4	9.0	9.4	9.9	9.4
Learning difficulties	2.3	..	1.9	2.4	2.3	2.5	2.8	2.6
Other	12.3	..	14.8	14.8	14.3	15.0	15.4	15.4

Table D.2: Type of broad impairment category reported by disabled people of working age in SCOTLAND

Apr-June 1998-2005, LFS, not seasonally adjusted

Thousands

SCOTLAND	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Total	605	..	623	613	629	653	671	661
Musculo-skeletal	207	..	213	196	200	215	200	191
Sensory	21	..	19	19	17	19	17	20
Circulation or digestive problems	104	..	105	95	109	114	119	112
Chest, Breathing problems, skin problems or allergies	97	..	86	88	93	84	88	80
Diabetes	24	..	29	25	31	35	40	42
Mental health	57	..	58	77	65	74	83	89
Learning difficulties	15	..	18	16	18	12	16	20
Other	79	..	92	95	93	95	106	105

Per cent

Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
Musculo-skeletal	34.3	..	34.1	31.9	31.8	33.0	29.8	28.9
Sensory	3.4	..	3.1	3.0	2.7	2.9	2.6	3.0
Circulation or digestive problems	17.3	..	16.9	15.5	17.3	17.5	17.7	17.0
Chest, Breathing problems, skin problems or allergies	16.0	..	13.9	14.4	14.8	12.9	13.1	12.1
Diabetes	3.9	..	4.6	4.0	5.0	5.4	5.9	6.3
Mental health	9.5	..	9.4	12.6	10.3	11.3	12.3	13.5
Learning difficulties	2.5	..	2.9	2.6	2.8	1.8	2.4	3.0
Other	13.1	..	14.8	15.5	14.8	14.5	15.8	15.9

Table D.3: Type of broad impairment category reported by disabled people of working age in WALES

April-Jun1999-2006, LFS, not seasonally adjusted

Thousands								
WALES	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Total	399	..	398	400	397	418	406	414
Musculo-skeletal	158	..	159	156	145	146	131	135
Sensory	17	..	12	11	14	15	14	14
Circulation or digestive problems	76	..	60	61	69	72	73	62
Chest, Breathing problems, skin problems or allergies	55	..	54	49	53	50	55	59
Diabetes	12	..	12	20	21	25	21	20
Mental health	33	..	37	42	45	46	43	48
Learning difficulties	*	..	*	*	*	*	11	*
Other	37	..	52	53	43	50	57	65

Per cent								
Total	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
Musculo-skeletal	39.6	..	40.0	39.0	36.5	35.0	32.1	32.6
Sensory	4.3	..	3.0	2.7	3.5	3.5	3.3	3.5
Circulation or digestive problems	19.1	..	15.0	15.3	17.4	17.3	17.9	14.9
Chest, Breathing problems, skin problems or allergies	13.8	..	13.5	12.2	13.3	12.0	13.5	14.2
Diabetes	3.0	..	3.1	5.0	5.4	6.1	5.1	4.8
Mental health	8.2	..	9.4	10.4	11.3	11.0	10.6	11.5
Learning difficulties	*	..	*	*	*	*	*	*
Other	9.3	..	13.1	13.3	10.7	11.9	14.1	15.7

Table E: Employment Rates of broad impairment category. Great Britain

April-Jun1999-2006, LFS, not seasonally adjusted

Thousands

	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Total	46.7	..	47.0	48.3	49.2	50.2	50.2	50.4
Musculo-skeletal	45.0	..	44.8	45.4	47.6	48.5	48.3	48.4
Sensory	57.9	..	55.0	53.1	53.0	57.8	54.8	53.8
Circulation or digestive problems	48.6	..	50.5	53.1	53.4	56.7	57.2	59.5
Chest, Breathing problems, skin problems or allergies	59.4	..	62.0	64.6	65.0	64.1	61.3	65.2
Diabetes	65.5	..	60.3	64.5	66.3	68.1	65.7	67.9
Mental health	16.5	..	20.4	20.4	19.7	20.3	20.8	21.5
Learning difficulties	24.1	..	24.1	22.2	28.0	29.9	24.4	23.2
Other	45.8	..	45.8	49.3	48.5	48.9	51.3	48.6

Table F: Disabled population of working age by region, Great Britain

Apr-June 1999-2006, LFS, not seasonally adjusted

Thousands

All Disabled	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Total	6,359	..	6,537	6,671	6,692	6,792	6,786	6,871
North East	361	..	349	366	381	376	366	383
North West and Merseyside	799	..	836	874	823	838	876	873
Yorkshire and Humberside	594	..	627	618	611	619	617	609
East Midlands	459	..	445	478	477	519	528	503
West Midlands	625	..	640	628	641	651	623	633
Eastern	509	..	539	564	563	539	529	550
London	738	..	783	796	794	772	774	821
South East	754	..	789	781	804	852	842	853
South West	515	..	510	552	571	558	554	571
Wales	399	..	398	400	397	418	406	414
Scotland	605	..	623	613	629	652	671	661

Per cent

All Disabled	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Total	100	..	100	100	100	100	100	100
North East	5.7	..	5.3	5.5	5.7	5.5	5.4	5.6
North West and Merseyside	12.6	..	12.8	13.1	12.3	12.3	12.9	12.7
Yorkshire and Humberside	9.3	..	9.6	9.3	9.1	9.1	9.1	8.9
East Midlands	7.2	..	6.8	7.2	7.1	7.6	7.8	7.3
West Midlands	9.8	..	9.8	9.4	9.6	9.6	9.2	9.2
Eastern	8.0	..	8.2	8.5	8.4	7.9	7.8	8.0
London	11.6	..	12.0	11.9	11.9	11.4	11.4	12.0
South East	11.9	..	12.1	11.7	11.9	12.5	12.4	12.4
South West	8.1	..	7.8	8.3	8.5	8.2	8.2	8.3
Wales	6.3	..	6.1	6.0	5.9	6.1	6.0	6.0
Scotland	9.5	..	9.5	9.2	9.4	9.6	9.9	9.6

Table G: Employment rates for disabled and non-disabled people by region, Great Britain

Apr-June 1999 -2006, LFS, not seasonally adjusted

Per cent

	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
All Disabled								
Total	46.7	..	47.0	48.3	49.2	50.2	50.2	50.4
North East	33.7	..	37.1	36.6	39.9	38.7	40.2	45.0
North West (inc Merseyside)	38.8	..	42.4	43.4	44.8	45.0	45.5	47.2
Yorkshire and Humberside	46.1	..	45.1	47.1	49.5	49.8	50.3	50.6
East Midlands	48.2	..	48.7	51.0	51.8	51.4	52.7	55.8
West Midlands	48.4	..	45.9	50.7	48.2	51.7	49.6	50.2
Eastern	53.9	..	54.6	58.0	55.7	59.1	57.2	56.7
London	45.9	..	46.2	45.5	43.6	44.3	43.3	43.5
South East	59.4	..	60.6	60.6	59.4	60.7	61.7	59.8
South West	57.5	..	54.4	56.9	57.1	56.7	57.3	57.6
Wales	38.1	..	33.9	38.9	42.5	42.7	42.6	43.7
Scotland	38.0	..	40.3	36.7	44.4	46.8	47.1	46.1

Per cent

	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Not disabled								
Total	80.0	..	80.9	80.7	80.7	80.5	80.5	80.2
North East	75.1	..	77.1	78.2	77.2	79.5	79.5	80.3
North West (inc Merseyside)	79.0	..	80.7	79.7	80.6	80.9	80.6	80.3
Yorkshire and Humberside	79.2	..	80.1	79.6	80.3	80.2	80.1	79.7
East Midlands	81.9	..	80.9	82.3	81.3	82.1	82.0	81.5
West Midlands	79.6	..	80.5	79.9	80.1	79.4	80.4	79.6
Eastern	82.4	..	84.0	83.3	83.2	82.6	82.5	80.5
London	76.9	..	76.5	75.8	75.2	74.9	74.3	74.5
South East	83.1	..	83.8	83.4	82.8	82.1	82.2	82.6
South West	82.8	..	84.1	84.1	83.9	82.8	83.4	83.1
Wales	77.4	..	78.1	78.0	81.6	81.5	79.6	79.4
Scotland	79.3	..	81.6	82.1	82.2	81.9	82.3	82.0

Table H: Labour market status and benefit receipt for disabled and non-disabled people, Great Britain

Apr-Jun1999 – 2006, LFS, not seasonally adjusted

Thousands and per cent

	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
All disabled	6,359	..	6,537	6,671	6,692	6,792	6,786	6,871
IN WORK								
Total number	2,968	..	3,074	3,224	3,291	3,411	3,406	3,465
Not on state benefits	2,596	..	2,281	2,305	2,427	2,094	2,438	2,477
Receiving state benefits	372	..	454	506	365	444-	426	398
...Receiving sickness/disability benefits	193	..	194	201	184	168-	206	212
...Receiving Incapacity Benefit (IB)	52	..	48	51	56	57-	59	56
NOT IN WORK								
Total number	3,390	..	3,464	3,447	3,401	3,381	3,380	3,407
Not on benefits	802	..	673	637	678	660	666	669
Receiving state benefits	2,582	..	2,604	2,580	2,432	2,463	2,441	2,443
...and would like work	1,097	..	1,015	1,016	963	873	872	937
...and available to start	375	..	327	338	321	281	306	360
...and would not like work	1,485	..	1,589	1,564	1,469	1,590	1,569	1,506
Receiving sickness/disability benefits	1,914	..	1,888	1,907	1,583	1,863	1,828	1,801
...and would like work	702	..	643	656	552	588	564	604
...and available to start	128	..	129	125	114	122	128	155
...and would not like work	1,211	..	1,244	1,252	1,031	1,275	1,264	1,197
Receiving Incapacity Benefit	1,347	..	1,270	1,278	1,089	1,229	1,221	1,189
...and would like work	516	..	451	457	383	397	391	408
...and available to start	81	..	75	86	68	78	89	98
...and would not like work	830	..	819	821	706	832-	830	782

	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Not disabled	28,027	..	28,292	28,290	28,232	28,457	28,599	28,660
IN WORK								
Total number	22,426	..	22,820	22,820	22,932	22,910	23,014	22,986
Not on state benefits	21,485	..	18,072	17,367	17,842	17,497	17,521	17,577
Receiving state benefits	934	..	1,476	2,020	858	-1,195	1,183	899
...Receiving sickness/ disability benefits	115	..	104	119	86	-84	84	72
...Receiving Incapacity Benefit (IB)	11	..	13	*	10	-*	11	*
NOT IN WORK								
Total number	5,601	..	5,387	5,471	5,479	-5,547	5,585	5,674
Not on state benefits	3,850	..	2,907	2,928	2,991	-3,082	3,150	3,205
Receiving state benefits	1,739	..	1,521	1,471	1,277	1,263	1,230	1,227
...and would like work	1,173	..	956	927	778	746	716	779
...and available to start in next 2 weeks	874	..	682	660	561	550	512	579
...and would not like work	565	..	566	545	499	517	514	448
...Receiving sickness/ disability benefits	196	..	177	179	138	165	168	150
...and would like work	80	..	71	74	54	64	66	58
...and available to start	28	..	25	25	19	29	23	18
...and would not like work	115	..	105	105	83	101	102	91
...Receiving Incapacity Benefit (IB)	44	..	42	43	36	45	42	38
...and would like work	25	..	29	23	22	28	23	21
...and available to start	12	..	12	*	12	15	10	*
...and would not like work	19	..	13	20	14	17	18	17

NOTE: To ensure continuity in the data over time, all benefits data included in this table excludes people on child benefits, as child benefit recipients were only included in the LFS benefit variable from 2001

Table I: Average gross hourly pay (£) for disabled and not disabled employees

Apr-June 1999- 2006 LFS, not seasonally adjusted, Great Britain

(£)

	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
All Disabled	7.33	..	8.33	8.69	9.13	9.42	9.73	10.28
Men	8.22	..	9.38	9.69	10.38	10.58	10.92	11.14
Women	6.36	..	7.2	7.59	7.79	8.14	8.54	9.46
Not disabled	8.39	..	9.26	9.66	9.89	10.5	10.9	11.3
Men	9.53	..	10.43	10.88	11.06	11.82	12.13	12.63
Women	7.16	..	8	8.35	8.62	9.1	9.58	9.87

Section 2: Disability estimates from the Family Resources Survey (FRS) 2003/4- 2005/6

The Family Resources Survey (FRS) provides prevalence estimates for disabled adults and disabled children, including breakdowns by region, age group, gender and ethnicity. These are also available from the Office for Disability Issues (ODI) website and will be updated annually by ODI analysts. See <http://www.officefordisability.gov.uk/publications/research.asp>

Notes for users of the FRS data

1. This estimate covers 'the number of people with a long-standing illness, disability or infirmity, and who have a significant difficulty with day-to-day activities'. It is based on data taken from the Family Resources Survey (FRS).
2. Everyone in this group would meet the definition of disability in the Disability Discrimination Act (DDA); however, these estimates do not reflect the total number of people covered by the DDA as the FRS does not collect this information.
3. The figures are estimates based on a sample survey and are therefore subject to sampling variation. Caution should be exercised in the interpretation of small year-on-year fluctuations and identification of trends should be based on several years of data.
4. The estimates are based on sample counts that have been adjusted for non-response using multi-purpose grossing factors which align the FRS to Government Office Region populations by age and sex. Estimates are subject to sampling error and remaining response bias.

Please note that all the following estimates based on the FRS have been rounded to the nearest 100,000 to ensure sample sizes are robust. Therefore, in some cases, numbers in columns may not add up to the totals.

Disabled people in Britain, including people with limiting long standing illness

Disabled people in Britain by Region

	Millions		
	2003/4	2004/5	2005/6
Britain	10.1	10.1	10.8
North East	0.6	0.5	0.5
North West and Merseyside	1.3	1.4	1.4
Yorkshire and Humber	1.0	1.0	1.0
East Midlands	0.7	0.8	0.8
West Midlands	0.9	0.9	1.0
Eastern	0.9	0.9	0.9
London	1.0	0.9	1.1
South East	1.2	1.2	1.3
South West	0.8	0.9	1.0
Wales	0.7	0.7	0.7
Scotland	1.0	0.9	1.0

Source: Family Resources Survey, Great Britain

Disabled people by age-group

Millions

	2003/04	2004/5	2005/6
All disabled people	10.1	10.1	10.8
Under 16	0.6	0.6	0.7
16-24	0.4	0.4	0.5
25-34	0.7	0.6	0.7
35-44	1.1	1.0	1.2
45-54	1.4	1.4	1.5
55-64	1.9	1.9	2.0
65+	4.1	4.2	4.4

Source: Family Resources Survey, Great Britain

Disabled people by gender

Millions

	2003/4	2004/5	2005/6
All	10.1	10.1	10.8
Male	4.8	4.9	5.2
Female	5.3	5.3	5.7

Source: Family Resources Survey, Great Britain

Disabled people by ethnic group

Millions

	2003/4	2004/5	2005/6
All	10.1	10.1	10.8
White	9.7	9.6	10.2
Non White	0.5	0.6	0.7

Source: Family Resources Survey, Great Britain

Disabled Children, including those with a limiting long standing illness

In the Family Resources Survey (FRS) a **child** is defined as someone aged under 16, and aged 16 to 18 year olds who is in full-time non advanced education and living at home.

Disabled Children by Region

	Millions		
	2003/4	2004/5	2005/6
Britain	0.7	0.7	0.7
North East	-	-	-
North West and Merseyside	0.1	0.1	0.1
Yorkshire and Humber	-	0.1	0.1
East Midlands	0.1	0.1	0.1
West Midlands	0.1	0.1	0.1
Eastern	0.1	-	0.1
London	0.1	0.1	0.1
South East	0.1	0.1	0.1
South West	0.1	-	0.1
Wales	0.1	-	-
Scotland	0.1	0.1	0.1

Source: Family Resources Survey, Great Britain

Disabled Children by age-group

Millions

Age group	2003/4	2004/5	2005/6
All	0.7	0.7	0.7
Less than 5	0.1	0.1	0.1
5 to less than 12	0.3	0.3	0.3
12 to less than 19	0.3	0.3	0.3

Source: Family Resources Survey, Great Britain

Disabled Children by gender

Millions

	2003/4	2004/5	2005/6
All	0.7	0.7	0.7
Male	0.4	0.4	0.4
Female	0.3	0.3	0.3

Source: Family Resources Survey, Great Britain

Section 3 DRC Research Project Update

Secondary analysis of existing data on disabled people's use and experiences of public transport in Great Britain. October 2006

This research report was produced by the Centre for Disability Studies at the University of Leeds, on behalf of the DRC, in October 2006 to investigate the availability of existing data on disabled people's use of public transport to present findings in support of the commission's transport campaign. The research team produced a list of more than 300 potential datasets, together with an initial analysis of their usefulness. The final phase of the research involved more specific investigation of questions and themes on a subset of key datasets for more detailed analysis as particularly relevant to the DRC (e.g. regional differences, changes over time, breakdown by ethnicity and impairment etc.). The report includes a combination of findings and commentary from the various stages of the project.

The full report is available to download from the DRC website: http://www.drc.org.uk/docs/Transport_Campaign_Research_Report.doc

Disability Module in the 2005 British Social Attitudes Survey

The DRC commissioned a module on disability in 2005 British Social Attitudes (BSA) survey undertaken by the National Centre for Social Research (NatCen). The findings from the BSA survey are intended to provide a baseline on attitudes towards disability and disabled people in Great Britain.

An analysis of findings from the disability module have been published in the 23rd BSA report in a chapter entitled "Disabling attitudes? Public perspectives on disabled people" by John Rigg. See: '*British Social Attitudes: the 23rd Report – Perspectives on a changing society*, published by Sage for NatCen. See their website

[:http://www.sagepub.co.uk/booksProdDesc.nav?prodId=Book230670](http://www.sagepub.co.uk/booksProdDesc.nav?prodId=Book230670)

A separate report presenting all the questions and findings from the disability module will be available on the DRC website shortly.

School, my family, my life: Telling it like it is - a study detailing the experiences of disabled children, young people and their families on Great Britain in 2006"

This report draws on the main findings and recommendations from four linked projects (2004–6), funded and published by the Disability Rights Commission (DRC) and carried out by a team from the University of Birmingham, into the experiences of disabled children, young people and their families. This report focuses mainly on the findings from the individual and group case studies of disabled children and young people which made up the fourth and final project. These case studies were gathered in England, Scotland and Wales from a range of mainstream primary and secondary schools, specialist units within mainstream schools, colleges of further education and special schools.

The full report, including executive summary, is available from the DRC website:

http://www.drc.org.uk/library/research/education/my_school_my_family_my_life.aspx

Research commissioned as part of the DRC's Formal Investigation (FI) into Fitness Standards in Teaching, Nursing and Social Work

The DRC launched its Formal Investigation (FI) into Fitness Standards in Teaching, Nursing and Social Work on 22 May 2006.. An interim report was published in November 2006 reporting mainly on the findings of the review of regulatory frameworks. See www.drc-gb.org/fitness

Two research projects commissioned as part of the FI have recently been completed:

(a) research into disabled people's disclosure of information about their impairments or health conditions disclosure; and

(b) research into decision-making around fitness issues.

The FI is currently analyzing responses to the call for written evidence and a series of inquiry panel sessions are being convened to discuss evidence with key organisations in order to develop recommendations. Outputs and further information relating to this FI can be found at: <http://www.drc.org.uk/fitness>.”

Disclosing Disability: Disabled students and practitioners in social work, nursing and teaching

This qualitative research study was commissioned by the Disability Rights Commission as part of its Formal Investigation into Fitness Standards in Social Work, Nursing and Teaching. It explored the process and consequences of disclosing disability from the perspectives of disabled professionals and asked how they felt disclosure could be promoted. The research focused on professionals with unseen disabilities in statutory agencies; however, those with visible disabilities were also included. Sixty professionals (both students and qualified practitioners) across the three professions and from England, Scotland and Wales, volunteered to participate in interviews with the research team. The study reported in February 2007.”

Full report can be found at:

<http://www.drc.org.uk/Docs/DisclosingDisabilityReport07.doc>

Disabled peoples’ experiences of anti-social behaviour and harassment in social housing: a critical review

The Disability Rights Commission has commissioned researchers at Sheffield Hallam University to undertake a critical review of the evidence base on disabled people’s experiences of harassment and anti social behaviour within the social housing context in Britain. In examining the evidence this study will consider the position of disabled people both as victims of anti-social behaviour and as alleged perpetrators.

The final report will be available from the DRC website in June 2007.

Appendix 1 Technical Note

The Labour Force Survey Questions on Disability

The focus of and number of questions in the health and disability module of the LFS changed in the spring 1997 to reflect the provisions of the Disability Discrimination Act 1995 (DDA). Since spring 1997 all working age LFS respondents have been asked:

- Do you have any health problems or disabilities that you expect will last more than a year?
If they answer 'yes' to this question, they are also asked to say what kind(s) of health problem or disability(ies) they have, based on a list read to them by the interviewer.

If they then answer '**yes**' to the following question:

- Does this (do these) health problem(s) or disability(ies) (when taken singly or together) substantially limit your ability to carry out normal day to day activities?

OR

- They said that they had the following health problems: progressive illnesses not included elsewhere (e.g. cancer, multiple sclerosis, symptomatic HIV, Parkinson's disease, muscular dystrophy)

Then they are defined as having a **current DDA disability**.

People whose health problem(s) or disability(ies) are expected to last more than a year are also asked the following questions:

- 'Does this health problem affect the KIND of work that you might do?'
- '..... or the AMOUNT of paid work you might do?'

If the respondent fulfils either of these criteria they are defined as having a **work-limiting disability**.

Those people who meet the criteria for either current DDA or work-limiting definitions of disability (or both – as is usually the case) are defined as having a **current long-term disability**.

Appendix 2 LFS Impairment/Health problem classification

We thought it might be useful to include notes used by the LFS when asking questions on different health problem/impairment, in order to clarify for users what is included in each of the LFS impairment categories. For further information, please see Labour Force Survey User Guide Volume 3 on http://www.statistics.gov.uk/downloads/theme_labour/LFSUG_Vol3_2003.pdf

Difficulty in seeing - should not be considered a disability if it is effectively compensated for by wearing glasses or contact lenses.

Difficulty in hearing - should be considered without the use of a hearing aid

Severe disfigurement - excludes those arising from tattooing or body piercing but would include scars, birthmarks, limb or postural deformation or disease of the skin.

Chest or breathing problem, asthma, bronchitis - excludes hay fever (seasonal allergic rhinitis) except where it aggravates the effects of an existing condition

Learning difficulties - specific learning difficulties include conditions such as dyslexia or dyscalculia; severe learning difficulties covers mental impairments or mental handicap

Mental illness - includes a wide range of conditions related to mental functioning but should be a clinically well recognised illness. Mental illness that should not be included are; the tendency to commit arson or to steal, the tendency to physically or sexually abuse others, exhibitionism or voyeurism are not included.

Progressive illness - should be recorded if there is some effect on the respondent's normal day to day activities, even if it is minor at the time of interview. If the respondent has been diagnosed with a progressive illness, but they are not suffering from any

symptoms which affect their activities yet, then they should not be included.

Addiction to or dependency on alcohol, nicotine, drugs or other substance (unless resulting from the substance being prescribed for the respondent) should not be included.

Further information:

If you have any queries relating to the content of this briefing, please contact Breda Twomey by email Breda.Twomey@drc-gb.org.