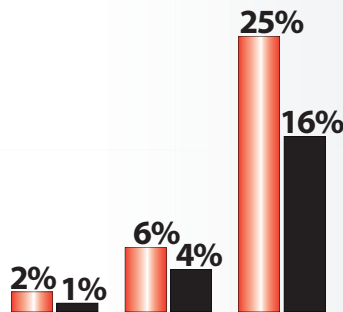
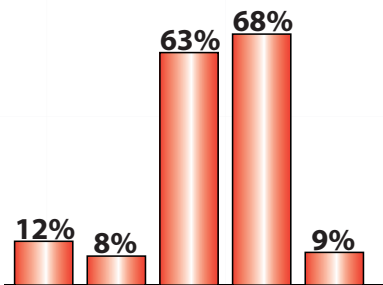
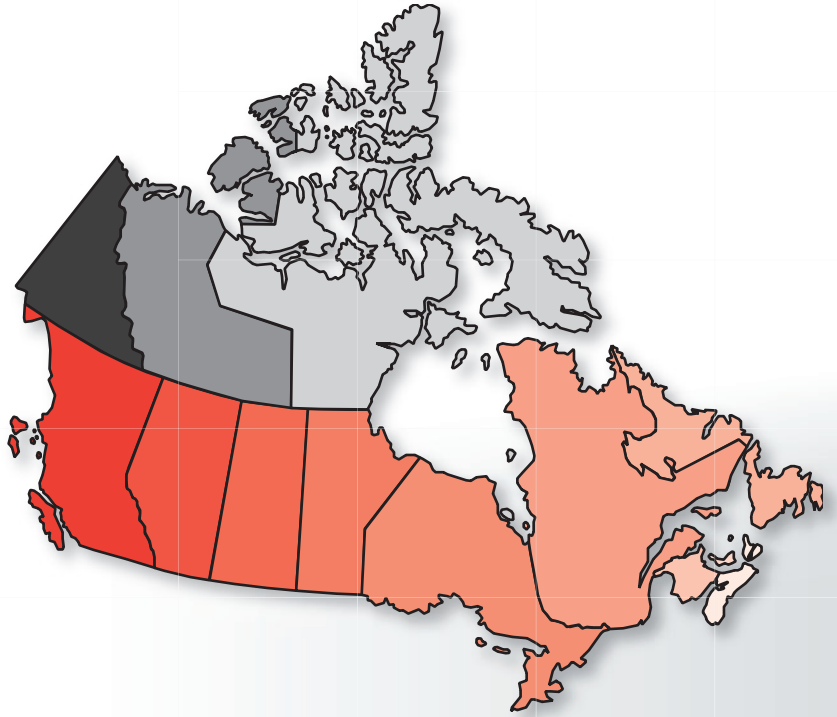




# Disability in Canada

## A 2001 Profile



Human Resources  
Development Canada

Développement des  
ressources humaines Canada

Canada  
SDDP-048-12-03

This report was prepared by the Office for Disability Issues, Human Resources Development Canada. It may be accessed in the internet at <http://www.hrdc-drhc.gc.ca/bcph.odi>.

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## SUMMARY

In 2001, the Government of Canada sponsored a major national survey of persons with disabilities—the Participation and Activity Limitation Survey (PALS). PALS gathered information on children (aged 14 and under) and adults (aged 15 and over) in Canada who have a disability—that is, an activity limitation or a participation restriction associated with a physical or mental condition or a health problem.

The purpose of this report is to make available to Canadians some of the key PALS findings in one plain language, accessible document. It is intended as a resource tool for the broad community interested in disability issues by painting a national picture of disability in Canada.<sup>1</sup>

PALS provides a comprehensive national picture of many of the ways in which disability affects the lives of Canadians with disabilities. This report reviews some of the most important differences in the rates and types of disabilities occurring at different ages. While the overall rate of disability in Canada is 12.4%, it increases from 1.6% among pre-school age children to 53.3% among adults aged 75 and older. PALS also shows how various types of disabilities are more likely at different ages. For example, learning disabilities are prominent during the school years and early adulthood, but are less commonly noted among seniors. In contrast, disabilities associated with mobility or agility problems are very common in the adult population but especially so among seniors.

The report uses information from PALS to examine a few of the central issues that affect Canadians with disabilities at different points in the life cycle. While the nature of roles varies by age—ranging from attending school, to working in paid employment, to community involvement—PALS shows that persons with disabilities face obstacles to full participation in Canadian society. PALS demonstrates the income challenges faced by all persons with disabilities, but especially by those of working age and families of children with disabilities. For example, during the working-age years (15-64), persons with disabilities are almost twice as likely to experience low income as others (26.6% versus 13.9%). Employment is also a great challenge, with employment rates

<sup>1</sup> People living in institutions and people residing in Yukon, the Northwest Territories, Nunavut and on First Nations reserves were excluded from the survey. These exclusions restrict the analysis that can be provided in this report. Limited information about disabilities in the three Territories and among First Nations people is available from other sources including the Canadian Community Health Survey and the Aboriginal Peoples Survey.

ranging from 45.7% for youth with disabilities to 51.2% among core-working ages, to 27.3% among older workers with disabilities. These rates are all substantially lower than those of persons without disabilities. An issue affecting all ages is access to the supports—whether help with everyday activities, assistive devices, transportation or more specialized forms of assistance—that people with disabilities need in order to participate in the community. For example, about 65% of persons with disabilities aged 15 and over who need help with everyday activities have all they need. For parents of children with disabilities who need help with their family responsibilities, only 32% have access to all the supports they need.

Since PALS contains much more information than is provided in this report, the report concludes with a brief reflection on possible future analyses based on PALS.

# SECTION 1

## Overview

*“Accessibility of information must also include access to statistics. Indeed, no adequate program planning or improvement can take place without basic statistics as to the population being served.” (Obstacles: Report of the Special Committee on the Disabled and the Handicapped, 1981, p.130)*

## ■ Introduction

In 2001, the Government of Canada sponsored a major national survey of persons with disabilities—the Participation and Activity Limitation Survey (PALS). PALS gathered information on children (aged 14 and under) and adults (aged 15 and over) in Canada who have a disability—that is, an activity limitation or a participation restriction associated with a physical or mental condition or a health problem.<sup>2</sup>

Before PALS, detailed data on persons with disabilities were last collected back in 1991,<sup>3</sup> by the Health and Activity Limitation Survey (HALS). The availability of PALS information therefore represents a major milestone. PALS data help to fill important gaps in the knowledge base on disability. Current data is an essential requirement to identify issues facing persons with disabilities and to help design effective practices and solutions. PALS data will help researchers, governments, non-governmental organizations and others to conduct disability-related research and to plan programs and services for Canadians with disabilities.

## ■ Purpose of the Report

The purpose of this report is to make available to Canadians some of the key PALS findings in one plain language, accessible document. It is intended as a resource tool to assist the broad community interested in disability issues by painting a national picture of disability in Canada.

This report pulls together highlights from the four sets of PALS data that have been released by Statistics Canada to date.<sup>4</sup> It also includes some information from the fifth and final data set which will

<sup>2</sup> People living in institutions and people residing in Yukon, the Northwest Territories, Nunavut and on First Nations reserves were excluded from the survey. These exclusions restrict the analysis that can be provided in this report.

<sup>3</sup> PALS provides some of the most up-to-date, comprehensive information on persons with disabilities in Canada and the issues facing them. There are, however, other important data sources. They include other national surveys, such as the Canadian Community Health Survey; databases maintained by provincial, territorial and municipal governments; information collected by disability organizations; databases maintained by health and disability insurers; and academic research. All are rich sources for those interested in disability research and issues.

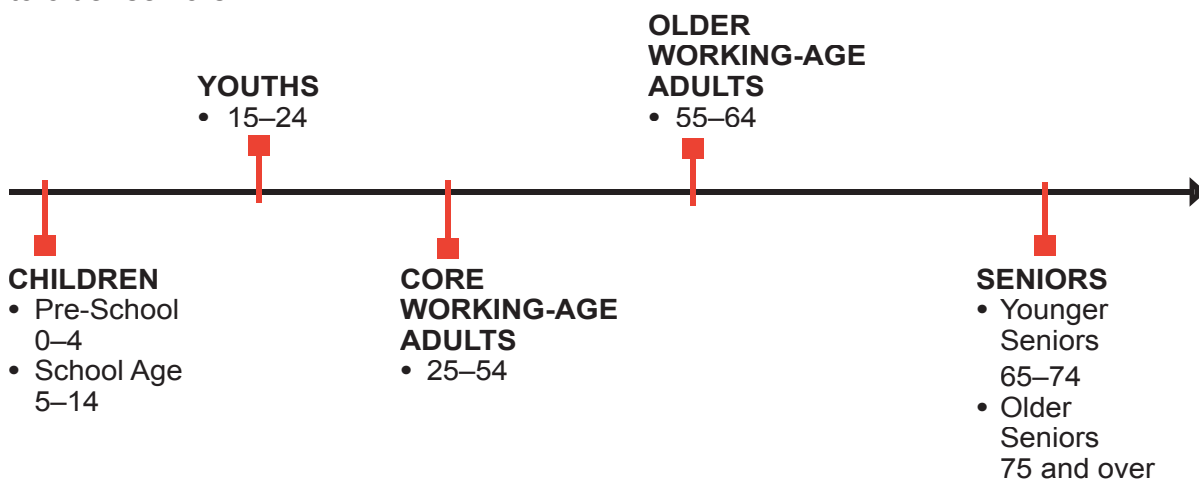
<sup>4</sup> All PALS releases are available on Statistics Canada's web site, at <http://www.statcan.ca/cgi-bin/downpub/freepub.cgi?subject=2966#2966>. Data tables on the Statistics Canada website provide both national and provincial-level information.

be released at the same time as publication of this report. The first set of data, published in December 2002, gave information on the number of children (aged 0 to 14) and adults (aged 15 and up) with disabilities by age and sex in each province, as well as information on type and severity of disability. Statistics Canada released additional data sets in March, July and September 2003. The final release occurring in December 2003 will complete the release of PALS data.

The Government's responses to the issues revealed by the PALS data are not discussed in this report. For information on Government of Canada policies and programs addressing the needs of persons with disabilities, readers may refer to other Government publications including *Advancing the Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities: Bridging the Gap* and the *Persons with Disabilities Online* internet site (<http://www.pwd-online.ca/en/home.jsp>).

## ■ Structure of the Report

This report is structured using a life-cycle approach. It presents PALS data for different age groups, ranging from preschool children to older seniors.



The rationale for using this approach is that across age groups, the rates and most common types of disabilities differ. As well, different issues and life transitions affect people with disabilities at different ages. Using a life-cycle approach helps to identify and explain these differences.

There are eight main sections in this report. Following this overview, Section 2 presents a national profile of disability using three maps to show disability rates, types and severity across the country. Sections 3 to 7 summarize the data for each age group, highlighting the prevalence, severity and major types of disability for each group. These sections also present data on some of the key issues for each age group. For example, Section 3 on children with disabilities emphasizes data concerning the impact of caregiving on families. Section 5 on core working-age adults with disabilities highlights data on the labour force. Each section contains a personal story illustrating some of the issues revealed by the statistical data. These stories are based on the lives of actual Canadians with disabilities.<sup>5</sup>

Section 8, the conclusion, provides a brief summary of the PALS findings and considers further ways in which PALS might be used. Finally, there are three appendices with additional information. Appendix A contains background information on PALS and key concepts for understanding it, and suggests other sources of disability information. Appendices B and C contain tables of aggregate data on children and adults respectively.

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## SECTION 2

### Disability in Canada

Data on disability can be presented in many ways and according to many themes. The PALS data in this report are organized primarily by age, but another important perspective comes from examining disability rates across the country. This section provides a profile of disability across Canada using three thematic maps that show rates of disability, severity of disability and types of disability.<sup>6</sup>

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<sup>5</sup> Researchers often turn to qualitative forms of evidence such as personal narratives to help in formulating research questions, to interpret statistical results or as an entirely independent method of inquiry. In the current report, the stories are meant to illustrate a few of the key issues revealed by the statistics. Readers are cautioned not to generalize from the experience of the very limited number of individuals and families presented.

<sup>6</sup> This section is modeled after the Atlas of Literacy and Disability. (2003) Marcia Rioux, Ezra Zubrow, Mary Stutt Bunch and Wendy Miller. Toronto: Canadian Abilities Foundation.

Maps are a unique tool for understanding large, complex data sets. Using maps to present disability information makes it possible to show a common picture of disability across Canada, while at the same time highlighting areas where there are important differences.



## ■ Glossary of key terms

**Disability:** PALS considers people to have a disability if they have a physical or mental condition or a health problem that restricts their ability to perform activities that are normal for their age in Canadian society. This approach is based on the one suggested by the World Health Organization.

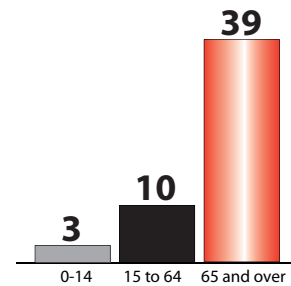
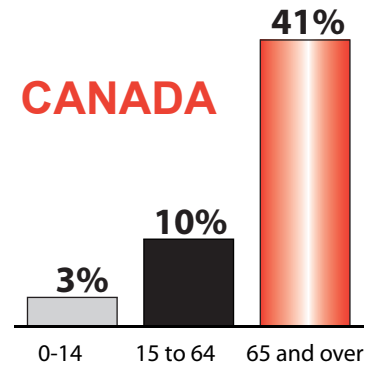
**Rate:** Rates of disability are expressed as a percentage of the total population. Since this report is primarily organized according to age, most rates are given for a certain age group, for example, persons aged 0 to 14.

**Severity:** Statistics Canada constructed an index to measure severity of disability based on the intensity and frequency of the activity limitations reported. Since the survey questions differed depending on the survey respondent's age, there are separate severity ratings for children under 5 and for children aged 5 to 14 and for adults 15 years and over. For adults and for children aged 5 to 14 severity is classified into four groups (mild, moderate, severe and very severe), whereas for children under 5 it is divided into two groups (mild to moderate and severe to very severe).

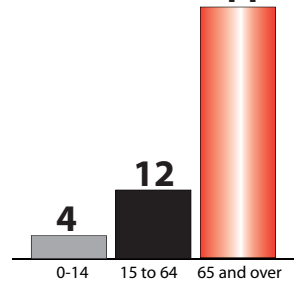
**Type of Disability:** PALS survey questions allow the identification of different types of disabilities based on the nature of the activity limitation. For children 0 to 4, 5 types of disabilities are identified, for children 5 to 14, PALS distinguishes 10 types and for adults 15 and over, 11 types of disabilities are identified. Hearing and seeing disabilities can be identified for all ages but the remaining types vary for the three age groups. For all age groups, the type of disability may be identified as “unknown” if none of the specific types apply. On PALS, people could report more than one type of disability and most survey respondents did have more than one type.

## Disability Rates by Age, Canada and Provinces

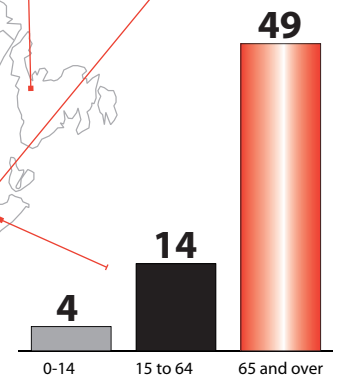
While the overall percentage of persons with disabilities in Canada is 12.4%— a figure that includes everyone from age 0 and up— rates of disability vary across age groups. Overall, seniors have the highest rate of disability in Canada— a rate four times higher than that of the working age and more than ten times higher than that of children (41% vs. 10% and 3%, respectively). Disability rates vary among the provinces, yet in every province the pattern of highest rates among seniors and lowest rates among children holds.



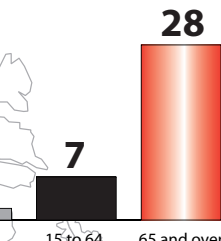
### Newfoundland & Labrador



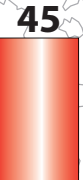
### Prince Edward Island



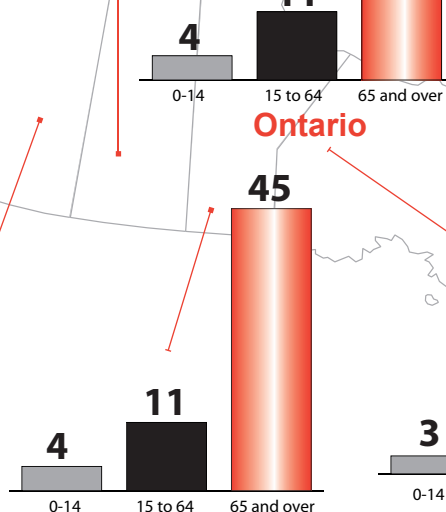
### Nova Scotia



### Quebec



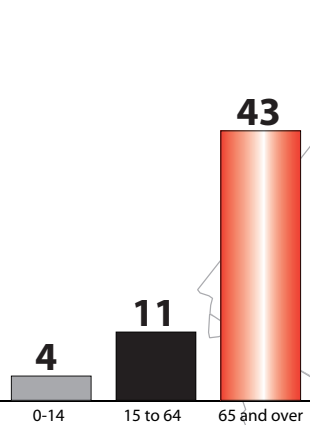
### Ontario



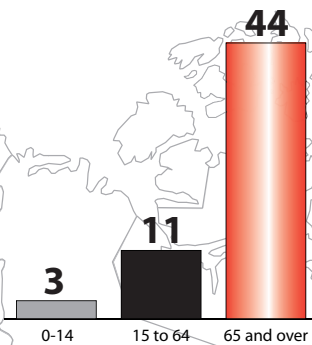
### Manitoba



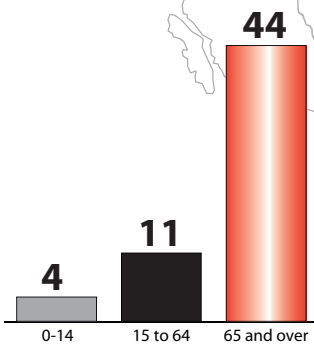
### New Brunswick



### British Columbia



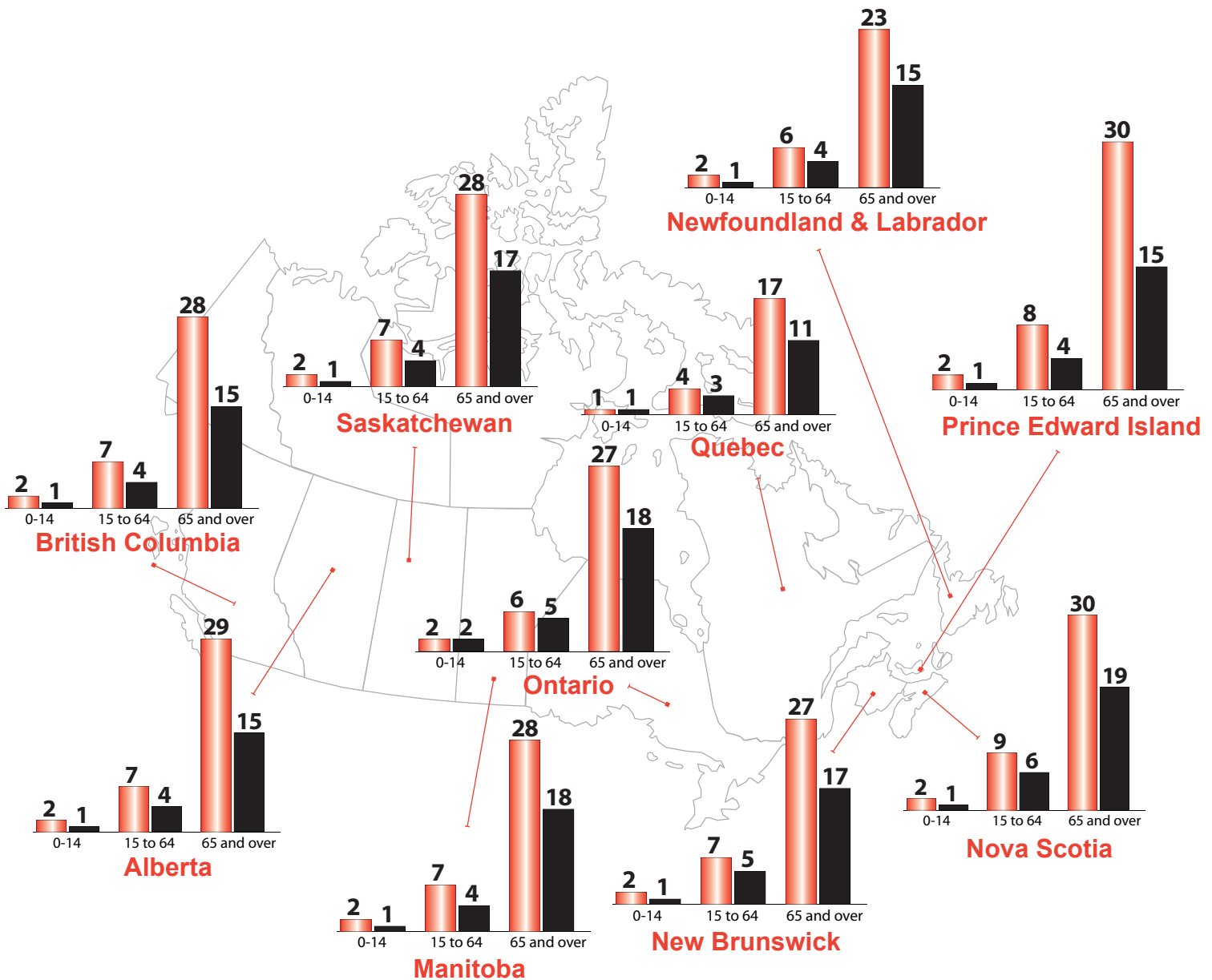
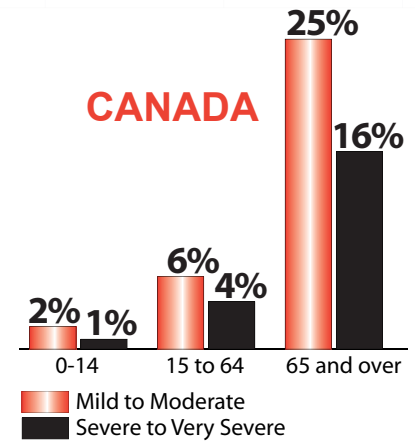
### Saskatchewan



### Alberta

## Severity of Disability by Age, Canada and Provinces

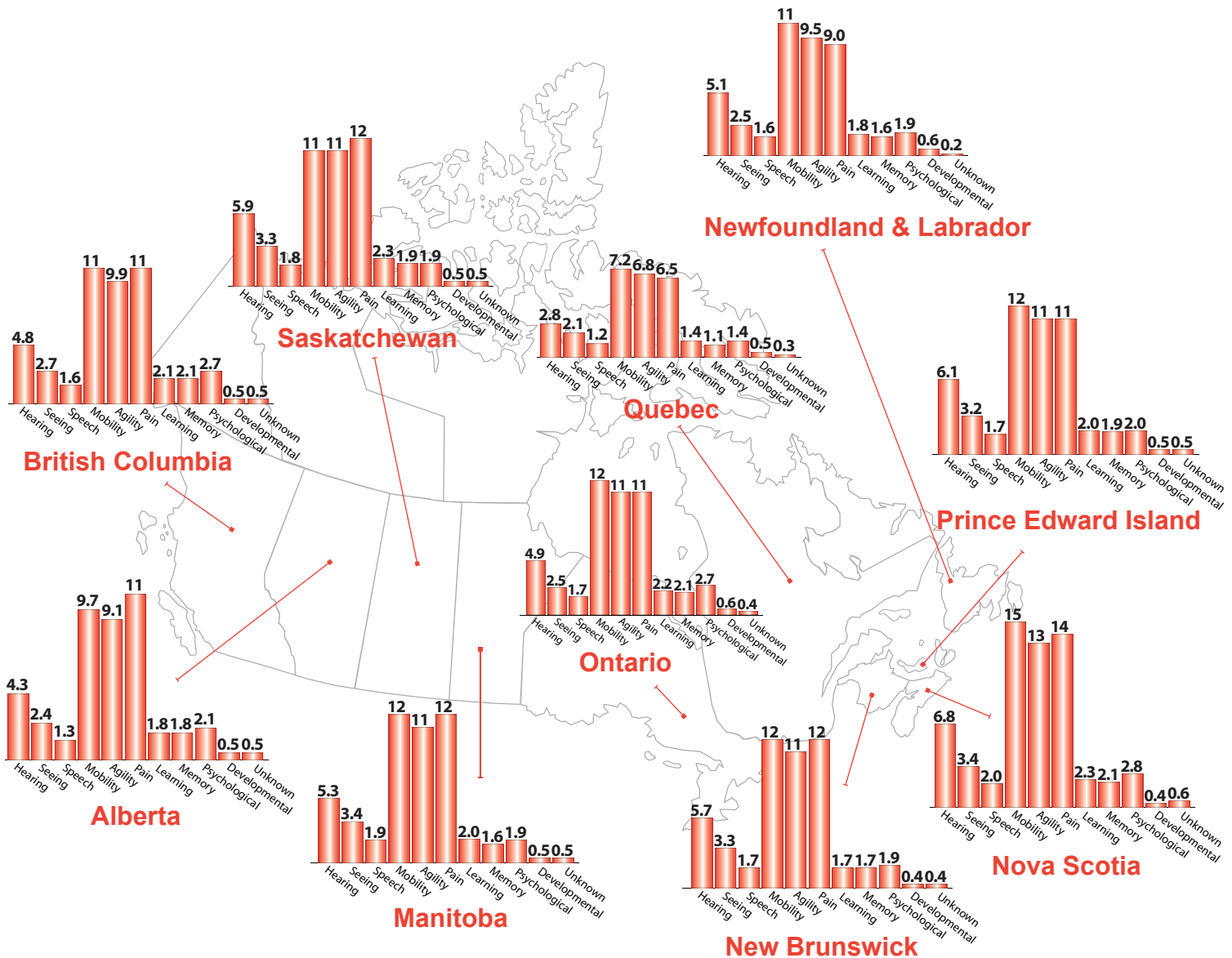
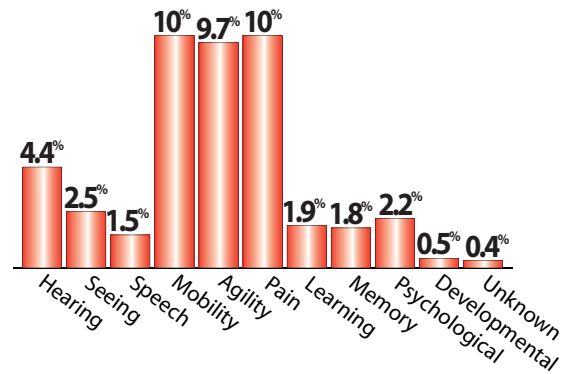
Nationally and in every province, the majority of Canadians with disabilities have mild to moderate disabilities. Overall, children with disabilities are slightly more likely to experience severe to very severe disabilities than are working age persons or seniors with disabilities. However, this pattern varies among the provinces— in some provinces, seniors or working age adults have the highest rates of severe to very severe disabilities.



## ■ Type of Disability for Adults 15 and Over, Canada and Provinces

Nationally and in every province, mobility, agility, and pain-related disabilities are the most common types of disabilities. The next most common are hearing disabilities, with 4% reporting a hearing limitation nationally, and between 3% to 7% at the provincial level. About 1% of the population overall have psychological disabilities while 2% have learning and 2% have memory-related disabilities, with only small variations by province. Respondents could report more than one type of disability.

### CANADA



**■ PRESCHOOL CHILDREN (0 TO 4)**

*Jordan was three years old at the time of the PALS survey. His parents, Brad and Cynthia, always knew there was something different about his development. He did not babble in his crib, make eye contact or react to sound. The doctor reassured them that children develop differently and that Jordan was hearing well. But at 28 months, Jordan was diagnosed with an unspecified pervasive developmental disorder and later, at just over three, with autism.*

*Jordan is a happy, affectionate boy with a brilliant smile. Academically, he is ahead of his peers. But he and his family face many day-to-day challenges. Jordan gets upset with small changes in routine and has difficulty communicating his feelings. He wakes up in the night and is very active during the day. His parents must be constantly vigilant because he has no sense of danger. Jordan's parents feel there are many activities they cannot attend because they would require support for their son in order to do so. Jordan needs to learn many social, behavioural and communication skills, something his parents work on constantly. He has received intensive behavioural intervention therapy for two years, though never the recommended number of hours.*

*All of this has been difficult for Jordan, but he shows real perseverance. So do his parents. Cynthia never returned to work outside the home after Jordan's birth; now she spends her time caring for her son and advocating on his behalf. She and Brad believe that Jordan would not receive the supports he needs without their advocacy. These supports are crucial as Jordan begins to function in the environment where he will spend much of his time in the next few years—school.*

| <b>Quick Facts: Children 0–4</b>                                   |  |         |         |
|--|--|---------|---------|
|  | Total  | Male    | Females |
| Total population 0–4   | 1,641,680                                      | 841,640 | 800,040 |
| Population with disabilities                                       | 26,210   | 16,030  | 10,180  |
| Percentage with disabilities                                       | 1.6%   | 1.9%    | 1.3%    |
| Population with severe to very severe disabilities                 | 0.7%   | 0.8%    | 0.5%    |
| Developmental Delay  | 1.1%   | 1.4%    | 0.8%    |
| Chronic Conditions   | 1.0%   | 1.2%    | 0.8%    |
| Hearing  | 0.2%   | 0.2%    | 0.2%    |
|  |  |         |         |
| Family income (% of income of family without disabilities)         | \$54,660 (86.2%)                               |         |         |
| Families where parents' work is affected                           | 16,210 (62% of all families with disabilities) |         |         |
| Families where parents need more help with family responsibilities | 10,000 (75% of those who need assistance)      |         |         |

## ■ Demographic Profile

In the total population of 180,930 children with disabilities, only 26,210 are preschoolers (0–4).

In this age group, 57.5% have mild to moderate disabilities and 42.5% have severe to very severe disabilities. Nearly half of preschoolers with disabilities (49.1%) have more than one type of disability.

At this stage of life it is often difficult to precisely identify types of disability, as Jordan's story shows. Disability can often be described only as a delay in development. For this reason, while PALS identifies more types of disability for other age groups, it identifies only five for children aged 0 to 4: hearing, vision, chronic health conditions, developmental delay and disability of an unknown nature.

Developmental delay is the most common type of disability among preschool children. In 2001, 68% of preschoolers with disabilities had a developmental delay. Within this group, 59% had a delay in intellectual development, 54% a delay in physical development and 38% another type of delay, such as speech difficulty.

In the 0–4 age group, chronic health conditions cause activity limitations for 62.6% of those with disabilities. Chronic conditions identified in PALS include asthma or severe allergies, complex medical care needs, cerebral palsy, autism, heart condition or disease and spina bifida as well as other conditions.

Disability of an unknown nature is observed more often in this age group than among school-age children (8.9% compared to 3.2%). As noted above, it can be difficult to specify the type of disability with very young children.

### ■ Child Care

Approximately 20% of parents of pre-school children with disabilities report that their child has been refused daycare or babysitting services due to their condition. This percentage does not vary significantly between children with mild to moderate and severe to very severe disabilities.

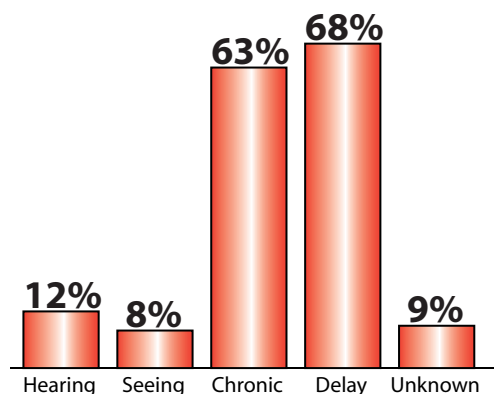
## ■ SCHOOL-AGE CHILDREN (5 TO 14)

**M**arlo is a friendly 14-year-old who attends her local high school and who loves chips and dip. She also has multiple congenital disabilities, including severe cerebral palsy, visual difficulties and developmental disabilities. She needs help with all activities of daily living, including eating and dressing, and she must be repositioned every two hours during the night. Her mother has been injured from constantly lifting her.

Marlo uses a wheelchair and has learned to move in a specialized walker, but her parents need to retrofit their van with a lift to move her in and out. As well, the family lives in a two-storey home and needs a stairlift to take Marlo up and down from her bedroom. The family has been trying to obtain financial assistance to cover the costs associated with van retrofitting and home renovations as they cannot afford to pay for the work. Access to these supports would make a big difference in Marlo's quality of life and that of her family.

Marlo's parents would like to continue to support her at home. Her mother mentions that caregivers need more help and suggests that more families should be allowed to manage the funds allocated for their family member's support.

1. Type of disability for children aged 0 to 4, Canada, 2001



| <b>Quick Facts: Children 5–14</b>                                  |  |           |           |
|--|--|-----------|-----------|
|  | Total  | Males     | Females   |
| Total population 5–14  | 3,904,330  | 1,997,520 | 1,906,810 |
| Population with disabilities                                       | 154,710  | 97,180    | 57,530    |
| Percentage with disabilities                                       | 4.0%   | 4.9%      | 3.0%      |
| Population with severe to very severe disabilities                 | 1.7%   | 2.2%      | 1.2%      |
| Chronic conditions   | 2.6%   | 3.3%      | 1.9%      |
| Learning   | 2.6%   | 3.4%      | 1.7%      |
| Speech   | 1.7%   | 2.3%      | 1.1%      |
|  |  |           |           |
| Children going to school   | 147,220 (96.3% of children with disabilities)              |           |           |
| Family income (% of income of family without disabilities)         | \$66,138 (91.8%)   |           |           |
| Families where parents' work is affected                           | 83,720 (54% of all families of children with disabilities) |           |           |
| Families where parents need more help with family responsibilities | 34,000 (66% of those who need assistance)                  |           |           |

## ■ Demographic Profile

The majority of all children with disabilities are of school age. An estimated 4% of children in this age group in Canada have disabilities. This means that 154,720 children aged 5-14 have disabilities.

Of these children, 32.1% have mild disabilities, 25.2% moderate and 25.5% severe. The remaining 17.2% have very severe disabilities. Among school-age children with disabilities, 71.8% have more than one type of disability.

PALS specifies only five types of disability for children aged 0 to 4, but ten types for children 5 and up. Developmental delay is replaced by more specific types of disability, such as learning disabilities, psychological conditions, developmental disabilities and disorders, and disabilities related to speech, mobility and dexterity.

Among school-age children with disabilities, activity limitations caused by chronic conditions are the most common type of disability,

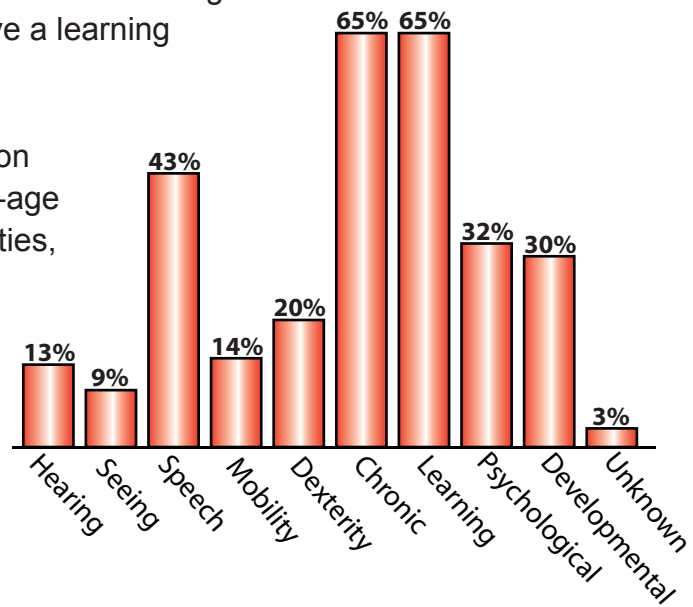


**2. Type of disability for children aged 5 to 14, Canada, 2001**

affecting 65.3%. Many other disabilities are identified as children enter school. Learning disabilities closely follow chronic conditions as the second most common type of disability in this age group. In 2001, 64.9% of school-age children with disabilities had learning disabilities. Boys are more likely than girls to have a learning disability (68.9% compared to 58%).

Speech-related disability is the third most common type in this age group, affecting 43.3% of school-age children with disabilities. As with learning disabilities, boys are more likely than girls to have this type of disability.

Nearly 32% of school-age children with disabilities have psychological, emotional or behavioural disabilities. Developmental disability affects nearly 29.8% of school-age children with disabilities.



**Education**

For school-age children with disabilities, a key issue is access to the education system. PALS indicates that 96.3% of children with disabilities aged 5 to 14 go to school. Of these, 65.1% attend a regular school, 26.1% attend a regular school with special education classes, 6.4% attend a special education school and 2.3% state that they attend some other type of school. Of those attending regular school, 62.4% attend only regular classes, 29.1% have a mix of regular and special education classes, and 8.5% attend only special education classes.

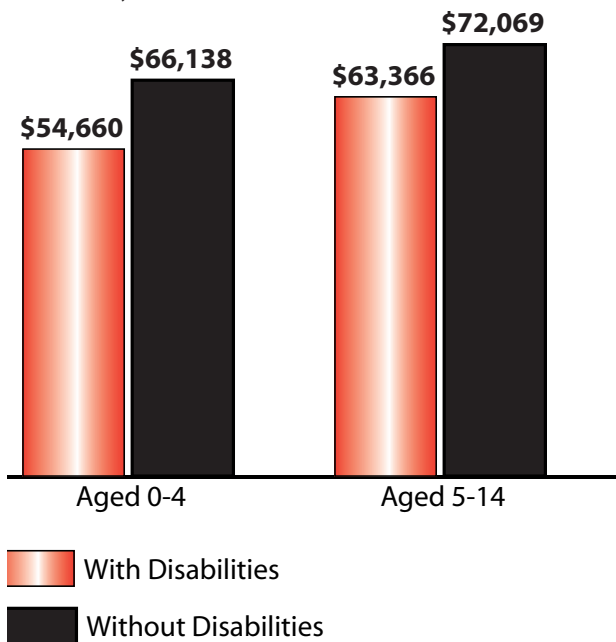
**IMPACT OF DISABILITY ON FAMILIES (ALL CHILDREN)**

PALS makes it possible to examine many of the impacts a child’s disability has on the family. Income, employment and the parents’ need for help with housecleaning or meal preparation, family responsibilities and time off for personal activities are key areas affected.

## ■ Impact on Family's Income

The average household income for children with disabilities in the 0–4 age group is \$54,660, significantly lower than for their peers without disabilities (\$66,138). Children with disabilities in the 5–14 age group have an average household income of \$63,366, higher than that of younger children with disabilities. However, it is again lower than the figure for school-age children without disabilities (\$72,069).

**3.** Average household income of children by age, Canada, 2001



PALS also shows that a higher proportion of families of children with disabilities have an income of \$29,999 or less. In the 0–4 age group, 26% of households with children with disabilities have an income of \$29,999 or less, compared to about 21% of households with non-disabled children. In the 5–14 age group, 24% of households having children with disabilities have an income of \$29,999 or less, compared to 18% of households with non-disabled children. Among preschool children with disabilities, 25.3% have a family income below Statistics Canada's low income cut-off (LICO),<sup>7</sup> compared to 19.7% of preschool children without disabilities. The corresponding rates of low income for school-age children are 24.4% and 17.5%.

At the other end of the scale, a lower proportion of households of children with disabilities have an income of \$50,000 or more. Among children with disabilities, 49% in the 0–4 age group and 53% in the 5–14 age group have household incomes of \$50,000 or more. The figures for non-disabled children are 57% and 61% respectively.

## ■ Impact on Family's Employment

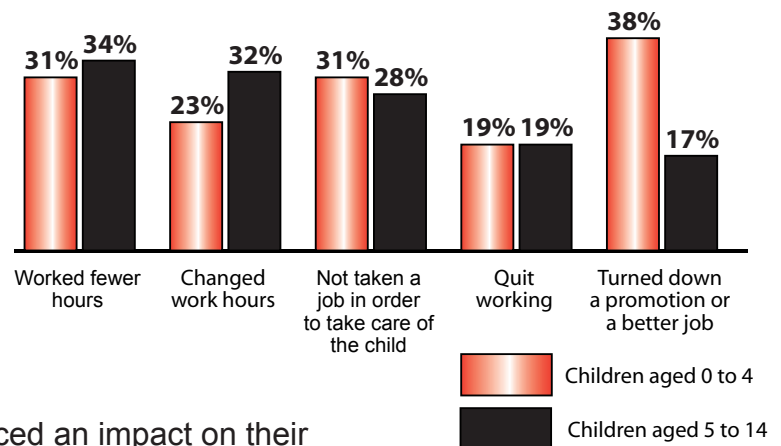
The majority of families of children with disabilities report that their child's condition has affected the family's employment situation. Nearly 62% of families with preschool children with disabilities report that their employment has been affected. Among families with school-age children with disabilities, 54% report effects.

<sup>7</sup> Based on Statistics Canada's pre-tax low income cut off (pre-tax LICO). The LICO is the threshold below which a family is likely to spend 20% more of its income on food, shelter and clothing than an average family of that size living in communities of similar size. Statistics Canada states that LICO is not to be considered a poverty line.

**4. Impact of child's condition on the family's employment situation, Canada, 2001**

These effects follow different patterns in families depending on the child's age. For example, while 17.1% of families of school-age children turned down a promotion or a better job, the figure is more than double for families of preschool children. Conversely, more families of school-age children changed their work hours compared to families of preschool children (31.6% compared to 22.8%).

The more severe a child's disability, the greater the impact on the family's employment situation. Among children with mild to moderate disabilities, about 54% of preschoolers and 40% of school-age children have family members who experienced an impact on their employment situation. In contrast, among children with severe to very severe disabilities, the figures are 72% and 73% respectively.



Mothers most often experience impacts on employment. For example, among the families of school-age children whose employment situation was affected, in about 70% of cases the mother experienced impacts. In about 14% of cases both the mother and father were affected. In only 11% of cases did fathers alone experience impacts on their employment.

**■ Impact on Housework, Family Responsibilities and Personal Activities**

Childhood disability creates additional demands on parents that, in turn, affects their ability to meet other family responsibilities. Nonetheless, nearly 60% of parents of pre-school children and almost 80% of parents of school age children with disabilities do not need additional help with housework and family responsibilities or time off for personal activities or their extra needs are being met. Among preschool children with disabilities, about 40% have parents who need help with housework and family responsibilities, and time off for personal activities because of their child's condition but who do not get all the help they need. For school-age children, about 20% of parents do not get all the help they need.

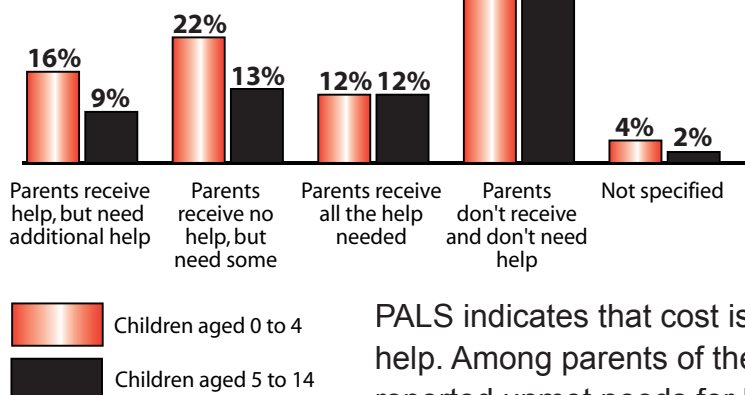
Overall, parents of preschool children are more likely to report receiving help but needing additional help in these areas than parents of school-age children (16% compared to 9%). Parents of preschool children are also more likely to report receiving no help but needing some (22% compared to 13%).

Parents of children with severe to very severe disabilities are more likely to report unmet needs than are parents of children with mild to moderate disabilities. In all, 7,580 preschool children with severe to very severe disabilities have parents who need help with housework and family responsibilities and time off for personal activities. Yet 78% of those

parents said they do not get all the help they need. That figure is 72% for the 5,690 preschool children with mild to moderate disabilities whose parents need help.

The situation is similar for school-age children. In this group, 38,730 with severe to very severe disabilities have parents who need help. But 69% of these parents indicated that they do not get all the help they need. The figure falls to 55% for school-age children with mild to moderate disabilities whose parents need help.

**5. Parents of children with disabilities — Access to help with housework, family responsibilities, and time off for personal activities, Canada, 2001**



PALS indicates that cost is a major factor preventing parents from getting help. Among parents of the school-age children with disabilities who reported unmet needs for help, 71% cited cost as a reason for their unmet needs.

**Other Information**

The tables in Appendix B present more detailed data on children with disabilities.

Besides the topics covered here, PALS provides information on the following: needs and unmet needs for aids; devices; personal care; help with everyday activities and health services; out-of-pocket expenses; leisure and recreation activities; transportation; and special services needed and unmet special needs in school.

## SECTION 4

### YOUTHS (AGED 15 TO 24)

**P**aul, 17, was born with a genetic neurological disorder called tuberous sclerosis complex (TSC) that causes a developmental disability and a seizure condition. He struggles to articulate his thoughts and has difficulty with new situations, changes to routine and loud noises. Like many teenagers, Paul enjoys motorized vehicles, video games, live music and movies. He has a big heart and approaches people with affection. Paul can attend school until he is 21 but Lucinda, his mother, worries about what he will do afterwards.

Concerned about Paul's future, Lucinda approached Parks Canada to find him a summer job at the local waterway. She thought the job would be a good fit, since Paul loves boats and can recite the make and model of most engines. Paul was hired. While he was given the same work as other summer students, some adjustments were made to accommodate him. He worked with a job coach who helped him get to the locks and assisted him on the job. He followed a routine, with regular duties such as inspecting the grounds, picking up litter, cleaning the washrooms greeting visitors and operating the locks, all while proudly wearing his Parks Canada uniform.

When he first started, Paul would not go near the noisy tractor—later, he was driving it. The job taught him valuable work skills, to be more comfortable in different situations, helped him to work on his hand-eye coordination and motor skills and made him some new friends. The experience was also one of acceptance and self-discovery for Parks Canada employees, whose initial expectations were transformed by getting to know Paul and seeing his achievements.

| Quick Facts: Youth 15–24                            |  |           |           |
|---|--|-----------|-----------|
|   | Total  | Males     | Females   |
| Total population 15–24                              | 3,883,690  | 1,980,020 | 1,903,670 |
| Population with disabilities                        | 151,030  | 74,500    | 76,530    |
| Percentage with disabilities                        | 3.9%   | 3.8%      | 4.0%      |
| Population with severe to very severe disabilities  | 1.2%   | 1.2%      | 1.2%      |
| Pain  | 2.0%   | 1.6%      | 2.4%      |
| Learning  | 1.7%   | 2.0%      | 1.4%      |
| Mobility  | 1.6%   | 1.4%      | 1.9%      |
| Youths with disabilities who are full-time students |  |           |           |
|   | 48% (versus 57% of youths without disabilities)            |           |           |
| Employment rate                                     |  |           |           |
|   | 45.7% (versus 56.6% of youths without disabilities)        |           |           |
| Household income                                    |  |           |           |
|   | \$67,815 (versus \$73,111 for youths without disabilities) |           |           |
| Require additional help with everyday activities    |  |           |           |
|   | 24,950 (33.4% of all those who need help)                  |           |           |

## ■ Demographic Profile

Of the total working-age population with disabilities, 151,030 are youths between the ages of 15 and 24.

The majority of these youths (69.3%) have mild to moderate disabilities, 20% have severe and 11% very severe. Among youths with disabilities, 32.7% have one disability, 20% have two and 47.2% have three or more.

Foreshadowing the high rate of pain-related disability among older adults, pain is the most common type in this age group, affecting 50.9% of youths with disabilities. Young women with disabilities are more likely to have pain-related limitations than their male counterparts (59% compared to 42.6%).

Following pain, learning and mobility disabilities are the most common types within this age group, affecting 44.2% and 42% respectively.

The rate of developmental disabilities like the one in Paul’s story is higher for youths than for the rest of the working-age population, with 17% of youths reporting them. As well, 23% of youths with disabilities have psychological disabilities. Taken together with the high rates of developmental and learning disabilities, this makes “invisible” disabilities a significant issue for this age group.

## Education

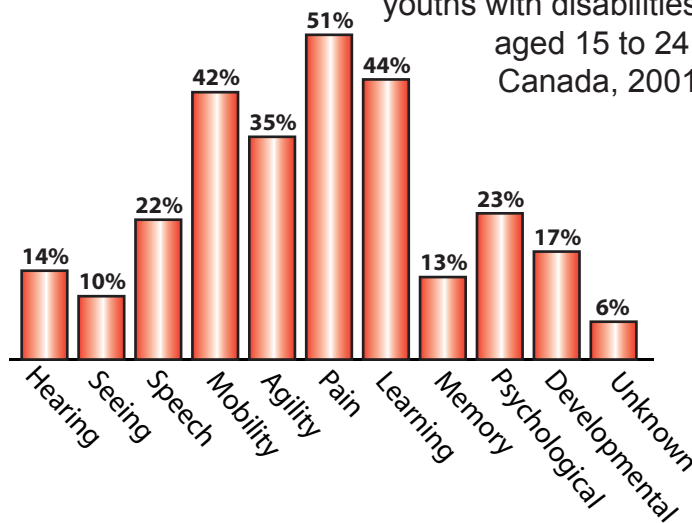
Many youths have less than a high-school education because they are still completing their schooling. In fact, 48% of youths with disabilities, and 57% of youths without disabilities, are full-time students. Nonetheless, a greater proportion of youths with disabilities have less than a high-school education than do their counterparts without disabilities (51% compared to 42.2%). This figure suggests that youths with disabilities take longer or have more difficulty completing high school.

After high school, youths with disabilities are somewhat less likely to complete post-secondary education than youths without disabilities. The difference ranges from a nearly equal likelihood of completing a trade certificate (4.2% compared to 4.6%) to a less than half likelihood of completing university (3.2% compared to 6.8%).

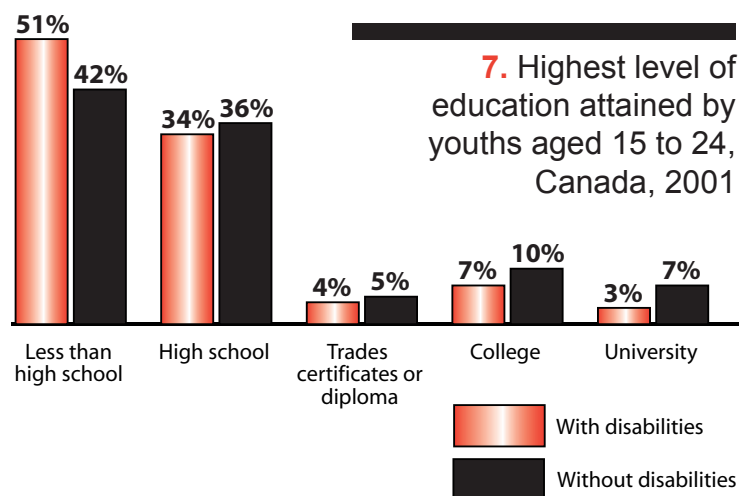
## Employment

Labour-force participation statistics show that youths with disabilities face challenges in making the transition from school to the labour market. 45.7% of youths with disabilities are employed, compared to 56.6% of youths without disabilities.<sup>8</sup> Youths with disabilities are more likely to be unemployed than youths without disabilities

6. Type of disability for youths with disabilities aged 15 to 24, Canada, 2001

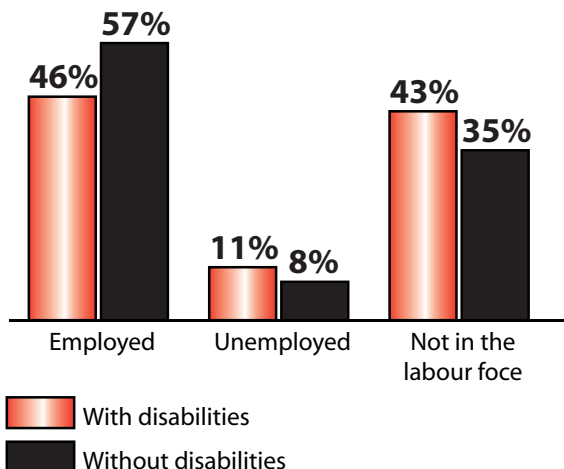


7. Highest level of education attained by youths aged 15 to 24, Canada, 2001



<sup>8</sup> For purposes of labour force statistics individuals are considered to be employed (having a full-time or part-time job); unemployed (not working for pay but available and actively looking for such work); or not in the labour force (not working for pay and not available to do such work).

**8. Labour-force activity for youths aged 15 to 24, Canada, 2001**



(11.2% compared to 8.5%). 43.1% of youths with disabilities are not in the labour force, compared to 34.9% for youths without disabilities. As noted above, many youths with and without disabilities are in school and therefore are less likely to be available for work.

The difficulties faced by youths with disabilities in the transition to employment are also apparent in the labour-force participation rates of young people no longer in school. Among youths with disabilities, 53.0% who are out of school are employed and 13.7% are unemployed. In contrast, among youths without disabilities who are no longer students, 72.3% are employed and 9.1% are unemployed.

**■ Social Participation**

Youths with disabilities participate in many aspects of the community other than education and work. Leisure activities such as visiting family and friends, playing sports, taking part in hobbies outside the home, shopping, attending sports or cultural events and visiting museums and libraries are important to youths with disabilities. Some 53% of youths with disabilities indicated that they wanted to do more of these activities but were prevented by obstacles such as the need for specialized aids or equipment (2.9%), the need for someone’s assistance (11.5%), inaccessible transportation (12.3%), no available facilities (9.3%), inaccessible facilities or equipment (5.7%) and cost (24.9%).<sup>9</sup>

**■ Other Information**

The tables in Appendix C present more detailed data on youths with disabilities.

Besides the topics covered here, PALS provides information on the following: availability of aids, supports and accessible devices for attending school; out-of-pocket expenses; health; underlying conditions; needs and unmet needs for help with daily activities; and household and individual income.

<sup>9</sup> Individuals could indicate more than one obstacle.



## SECTION 5

### CORE WORKING-AGE ADULTS (AGED 25 TO 54)

Joe is a 45-year-old man who truly enjoys and derives pride from working. Over two decades, Joe suffered two serious accidents that resulted in physical disabilities. More recently he was seriously injured in a car accident on his way home from his job as a highway flagger and was hospitalized for almost two months. Because he was unable to work, Joe received Employment Insurance disability benefits and his wife also returned to work. Joe could still not return to work when his EI benefits ran out. His relatives assisted Joe and his wife financially and they paid their bills as much as they could. This was a very hard time—creditors were pressing them for payments. Sometimes they wouldn't answer the phone if they didn't know who was calling.

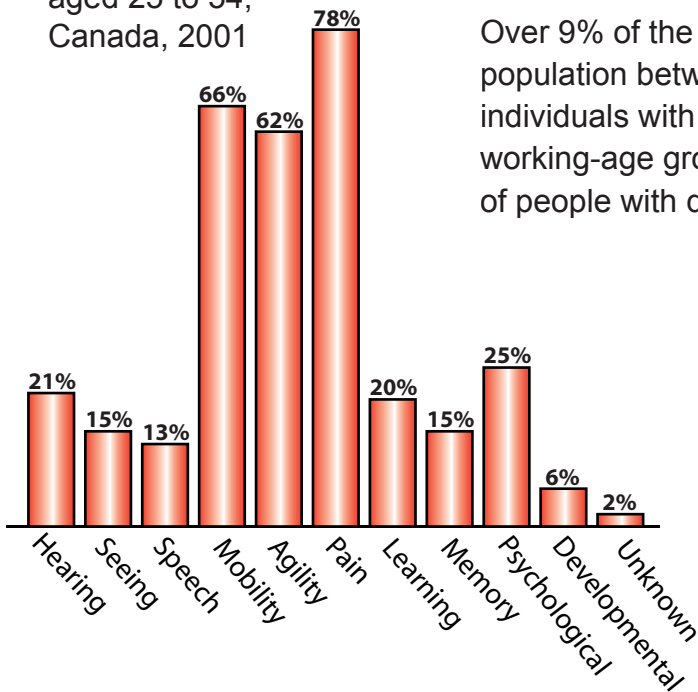
Following a period of rehabilitation, Joe applied for a 10-week skills training program provided by the Canadian Council on Rehabilitation and Work. After completing the course, Joe was offered a job that he could do with his disabilities. On the day he started his new job, Joe wrote to his CCRW counsellor. "I am a self-professed workaholic... Yesterday was the first day in over ten months in which I returned to the workforce. What a happy day for me. I can't begin to tell you how much it means to me to be able to work again, to help my wife support our family."

Joe is still not able to work full-time, he still faces health complications from his accident, and he and his family are only slowly getting back on their feet financially—an unexpected car repair can be a big problem. But Joe tries to focus on the things that he can do rather than those that he cannot.

**Quick Facts: Adults 25–54**

|  | Total   | Males     | Females   |
|--|---|-----------|-----------|
| Total population 25–54                             | 13,167,760  | 6,463,150 | 6,704,610 |
| Population with disabilities                       | 1,206,660   | 555,420   | 651,240   |
| Percentage with disabilities                       | 9.2%  | 8.6%      | 9.7%      |
| Population with severe to very severe disabilities | 3.8%  | 3.4%      | 4.3%      |
| Pain   | 7.1%  | 6.2%      | 8.0%      |
| Mobility   | 6.0%  | 5.1%      | 7.0%      |
| Agility  | 5.7%  | 5.1%      | 6.3%      |
| Completed post-secondary education                 | 46% (versus 57% of those without disabilities)            |           |           |
| Employment rate                                    | 51.2% (versus 82.3% of those without disabilities)        |           |           |
| Household income                                   | \$52,835 (versus \$72,951 for those without disabilities) |           |           |
| Require additional help with everyday activities   | 290,190 (39.9% of those who need help)                    |           |           |

**9. Type of disability for adults with disabilities aged 25 to 54, Canada, 2001**



**Demographic Profile**

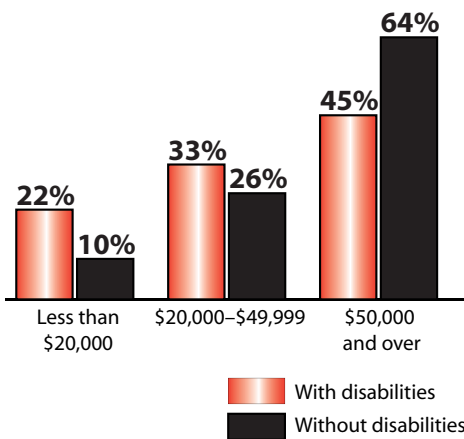
Over 9% of the core working-age population in Canada--the population between 25 and 54--have disabilities. With 1,206,660 individuals with disabilities falling between these ages, the core working-age group is a large segment (33.5%) of the total population of people with disabilities.

Of core working-age adults with disabilities, 42% have severe to very severe disabilities (28% severe, 14% very severe).

The three most frequently reported types of disability in this age group are disabilities related to pain, mobility and agility. Pain-related disabilities affect 77.9% of core working-age adults with disabilities. Mobility and agility disabilities affect 65.9% and 62.3%. "Invisible" disabilities, such as psychological disabilities, learning disabilities and memory disabilities,

affect a significant proportion of this group (24.8%, 20.2% and 14.6% respectively).

**10. Household income for adults aged 25 to 54, Canada, 2001**



**Income**

PALS data show that core working-age adults with disabilities have a much lower average household income than those without (\$52,835 compared to \$72,951).

Adults with disabilities in this age group are more than twice as likely to have a household income of \$20,000 or less than their counterparts without disabilities (22.4% compared to 10.2%). As well, adults with disabilities in this group are more likely to live in households with an income below Statistics Canada's low income cut-off (LICO)<sup>10</sup> (27.9% compared to 12.7%). At the other end of the spectrum, just 44.9% of these adults with disabilities have a household income of \$50,000 or more, compared to 64.1% of their counterparts without disabilities.

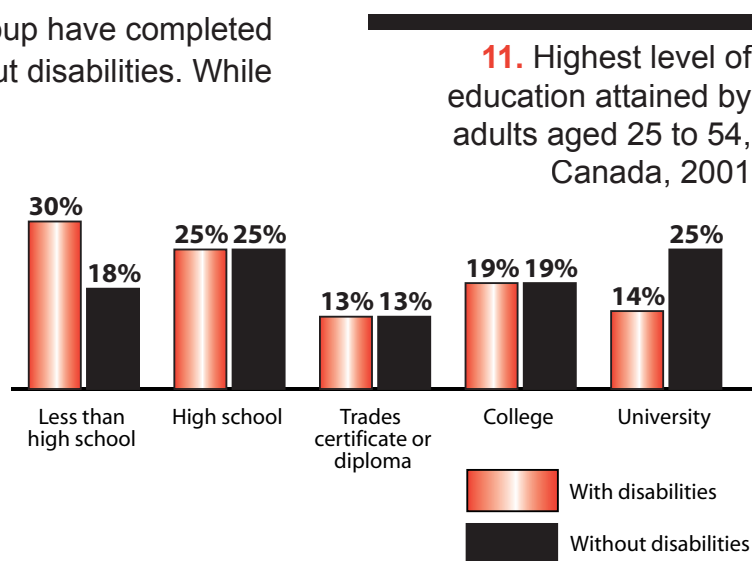
<sup>10</sup> Based on Statistics Canada's pre-tax LICO.

PALS shows that among adults with and without disabilities, men have higher individual incomes than women. Women are also more likely to report being without income. For adults with and without disabilities, the income gap between men and women is greater in the working-age groups, reflecting men's greater success in the labour market.

For those with disabilities who are not employed, adequate income is a critical issue. Among persons with disabilities aged 25-54 who are employed, about 33% have individual incomes below \$20,000 whereas among those who are not working, 71% have individual incomes below \$20,000.

## ■ Education

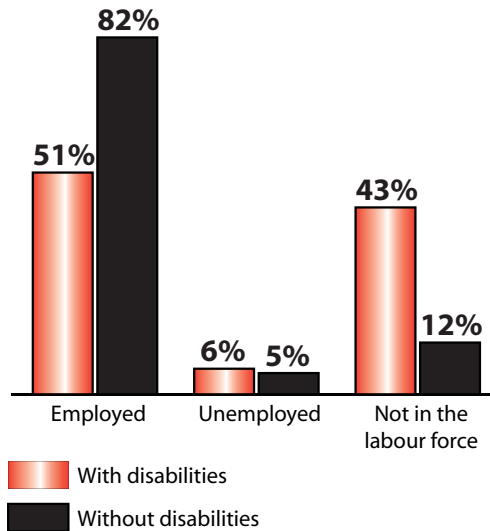
PALS shows that core working-age adults with disabilities are more likely to have lower levels of education than those without. Just 13.9% of adults with disabilities in this age group have completed university, compared to 24.8% of adults without disabilities. While core working-age adults with and without disabilities are equally likely to have completed community college, a trade certificate or diploma, or high school, those with disabilities are more likely to have less than a high school education (29.5% compared to 18.2% of those without disabilities).



## ■ Employment

For people with and without disabilities, the highest employment rates occur in the core working-age group. Yet adults with disabilities in this group are much less likely than their peers without disabilities to be employed. According to PALS, 51.2% of core working-age adults with disabilities are employed, compared to 82.3% of those without. As well, adults with disabilities in this age group are much more likely to be out of the labour force than those without disabilities (42.7% compared to 12.5%). 6.2% of those with disabilities are unemployed, a slightly greater proportion than in the non-disabled population (5.2%).

**12. Labour-force activity for adults aged 25 to 54, Canada, 2001**



In the population with and without disabilities, men are more likely than women to be employed, while women are more likely to be out of the labour force. 46.3% of core working-age women with disabilities are out of the labour force as compared to 38.4% of core working-age men with disabilities. Within this age group, both for those with and without disabilities, men are more likely to be unemployed than women (5.6% of men, 4.8% of women without disabilities and 6.9% of men, 5.5% of women with disabilities).

PALS data also indicate that working-age persons with severe to very severe disabilities are much less likely to be employed than are their age peers with mild to moderate disabilities. While many persons with disabilities enter this age group already having a disability, others, as illustrated

by Joe’s story, develop disabilities at this age and seek re-entry to the labour market.

Men with disabilities in the core working-age group have an average employment income of \$34,536, compared to \$44,312 for men without disabilities. For women with disabilities in this group, average employment income is even lower--\$23,302, compared to \$28,697 for women without disabilities.

**■ Disability Supports**

Working-age adults with disabilities may require assistance with everyday activities such as cooking, shopping or looking after finances and the use of various assistive aids and devices like wheel chairs, computers or talking books as a result of their disabilities. Of those adults aged 25-54 who indicated a need for assistance with everyday activities, 61.1% said that they have all they need, 30.8% receive some assistance but need more, and 8.1% who need assistance indicate that they are receiving none. Of those receiving help, 74.6% receive it from family living with them, 35.0% receive help from other family members, 26.2% from friends and neighbours and 13.5% from organizations or agencies (people can receive help from more than one source). Among those who indicate a need for

the use of assistive aids or devices 51.6% said that they have all they need, 34.5% have some aids but need more, and 13.8% who need assistive aids or devices indicate that they have none.

## ■ Other Information

The tables in Appendix C present more detailed data on working-age adults with disabilities.

Besides the topics covered here, PALS provides information on many others, including sources of support, out-of-pocket expenses, volunteer activity, leisure and recreation, health, nature of condition and age of onset. PALS data also permit a more detailed exploration of labour-force participation, including the need for and availability of work-related accommodations for those who are employed, unemployed and not in the labour force.

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**M**arthe is a highly intelligent, creative 61-year-old who enjoys fine arts, reading, socializing and concerts. She has suffered from depression for many years.

Having lived alone since she was 24, Marthe has supported herself as a self-employed translator for over 25 years. Over the years she has learned to deal better with the stress associated with depression, but she still has very difficult times. Mostly she has difficulty dealing with the uncertainty of self-employment. Because of the nature of her disability, Marthe sometimes cannot work or can work only for short periods.

With her modest but irregular income, Marthe occasionally finds herself worrying about whether she will be able to pay her rent or her telephone (which she needs for her work). Occasionally she is unable to pay for her expensive medication. As a result, her condition worsens and she is less able to focus on her work. Marthe survives by taking one day at a time. She feels that being self-employed means that she “falls through the cracks” between programs that might otherwise help her secure the supports she needs.

## SECTION 6

### OLDER WORKING-AGE ADULTS (AGED 55 TO 64)

| Quick Facts: Adults 55–64                          |   |           |           |
|--|---|-----------|-----------|
|  | Total   | Males     | Females   |
| Total population 55–64                             | 2,806,900   | 1,378,550 | 1,428,350 |
| Population with disabilities                       | 610,800   | 291,100   | 319,700   |
| Percentage with disabilities                       | 21.8%   | 21.1%     | 22.4%     |
| Population with severe to very severe disabilities | 9.8%  | 9.7%      | 10.0%     |
| Pain   | 16.8%   | 16.3%     | 17.4%     |
| Mobility   | 16.4%   | 14.2%     | 18.5%     |
| Agility  | 15.3%   | 14.1%     | 16.3%     |
| Completed post-secondary education                 | 34% (versus 43% for those without disabilities)           |           |           |
| Employment rate                                    | 27.3% (versus 56.2% for those without disabilities)       |           |           |
| Household income                                   | \$50,656 (versus \$69,393 for those without disabilities) |           |           |
| Require additional help with everyday activities   | 130,650 (34.5% of those who need help)                    |           |           |

## ■ Demographic Profile

Among older working-age adults, 21.8%, or 610,800 individuals, have a disability.

Older working-age adults with disabilities are a significant part of the disabled population, accounting for about 17% of Canadians with disabilities. Their high rate of disability is due to the health risks associated with aging and, in some cases, to longer exposure to the risk of injury at work or in other settings.

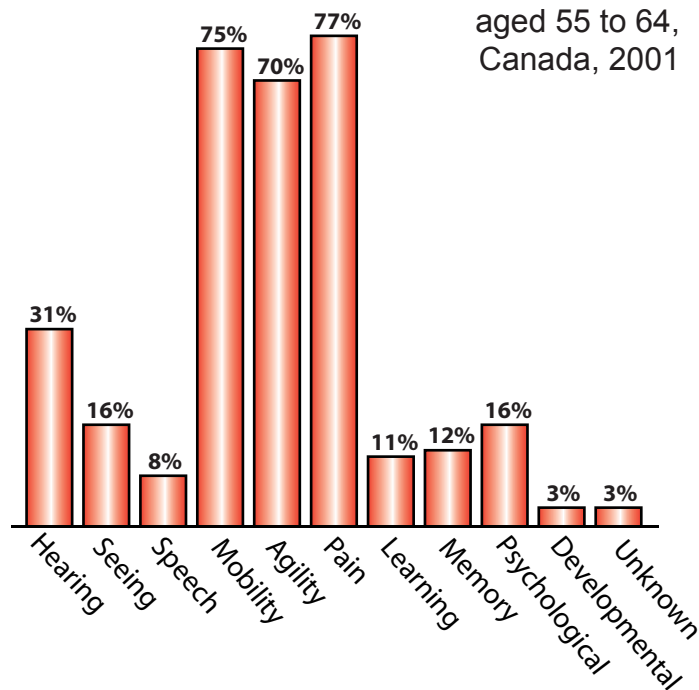
Among older working-age adults with disabilities, 55% have mild to moderate disabilities and 45% have severe to very severe disabilities.

Pain is the most common type of disability in this group, reported by 77%. One reason is that many older workers have chronic pain arising from repetitive or heavy work.

For older adults, disabilities related to mobility and agility are nearly as common as those related to pain, affecting 75% and 70% of individuals with disabilities respectively. Sensory disabilities are also more common at this age than at younger ages, with 31% of older working-age adults with disabilities experiencing hearing disabilities and 16% seeing disabilities.

At this age, those who were never significantly attached to the labour force are unlikely to enter it now. For those who have worked but have become disabled at this age, return to work is a critical issue. Some in this group mainly need assistance with the transition to retirement, however, for such individuals, the risk of poverty is real. For example, among those in this age group with disabilities who are not working, 65% have individual incomes below \$20,000, whereas among those who are employed, about 37% have individual incomes below \$20,000.

**13.** Type of disability for adults with disabilities aged 55 to 64, Canada, 2001



## Income

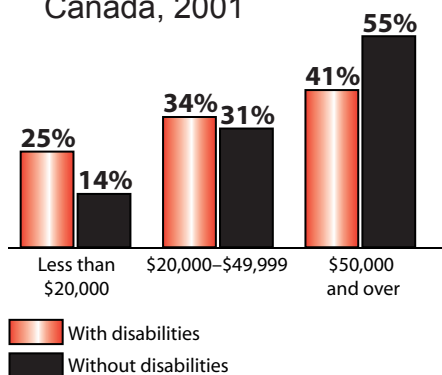
At \$50,656, the average household income of older working-age adults with disabilities is significantly lower than that of their peers without disabilities (\$69,393).

Fully 24.6% of adults in this age group have a household income of \$20,000 or less, compared to 13.7% of those without disabilities. Nearly twice as many older adults with disabilities as without have an income below Statistics Canada’s low income cut-off (LICO)<sup>11</sup> (23.8% compared to 12.4%). At the other end of the spectrum, 40.8% of older adults with disabilities have a household income of \$50,000 or more, compared to 55.1% of those without disabilities.

For people with disabilities, their available income often means that they cannot afford the assistive goods and services they need—the most frequent reason given in PALS for not having needed aids and help is cost. For example, as Marthe’s story shows, cost can be a barrier to getting medication. Marthe’s situation is not unique.

<sup>11</sup> Based on Statistics Canada’s pre-tax LICO.

**14. Household income for adults aged 55 to 64, Canada, 2001**

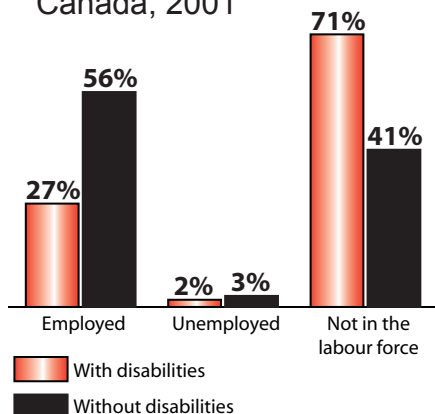


Although working-age women with disabilities are the most likely to report regular medication use, they are also the most likely to report being unable to get medication because of the cost.

**■ Employment**

The employment rate for older adults with disabilities (27.3%) is much lower than the rate for both youths (45.7%) and core working-age adults (51.2%) with disabilities. The employment rate for older adults with disabilities is also considerably lower than the rate for those without disabilities, 56.2% of whom are employed. A slightly lower proportion of persons with disabilities than persons without disabilities in this age group are unemployed (1.8% compared to 3.1%).

**15. Labour-force activity for adults aged 55 to 64, Canada, 2001**



Within the population of persons with disabilities, older adults are far more likely to be out of the labour force (70.8%) than youths (43.1%) and core working-age adults (42.7%).<sup>12</sup> However, in the population as a whole, older adults are more likely than younger ones to be out of the labour force, partly because this age group is at or nearing retirement. Even so, older adults with disabilities are far more likely to be out of the labour force than those without disabilities (40.7%).

Average individual earnings for older adults with disabilities are more than \$10,000 less than for their peers without disabilities (\$26,672 compared to \$38,128). Women with disabilities fare much worse than men with disabilities in this age group, with individual earnings only half as high (\$16,406 compared to \$33,475).

**■ Other Information**

The tables in Appendix C present more detailed data on older working-age adults with disabilities.

Besides the topics covered here, PALS provides information on many others, including the need for and access to disability supports, out-of-pocket expenses, sources of income, age of onset, health, volunteer activity, recreation and leisure activities.

<sup>12</sup> For purposes of labour force statistics individuals are considered to be employed (having a full-time or part-time job); unemployed (not working for pay but available and actively looking for such work); or not in the labour force (not working for pay and not available to do such work).



## ■ YOUNGER SENIORS (65 TO 74)

### SENIORS (AGED 65 AND OVER)

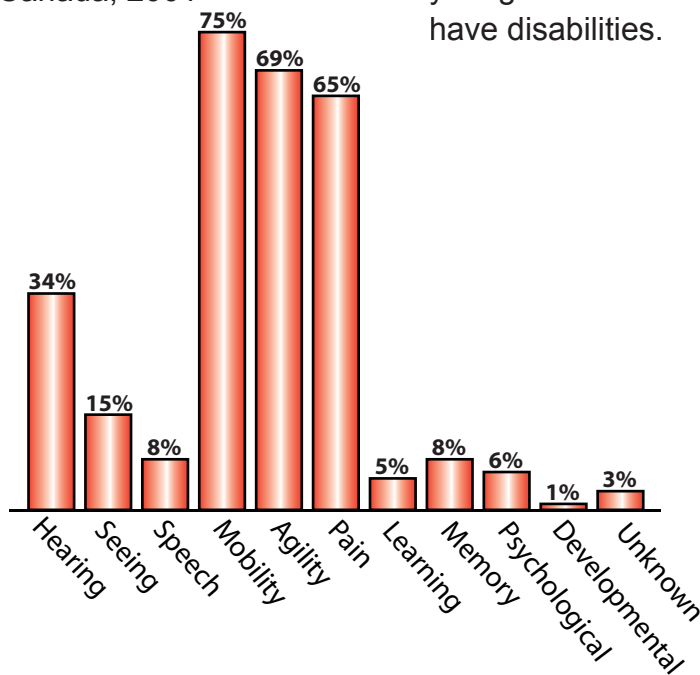
**M**ary is a 68-year-old grandmother. At 16 she had an accident that severed her optic nerves, leading to total blindness. Mary lives a full and active life. She retired from her job as a rehabilitation teacher of the blind to stay home with her two children and run the household. She enjoys a wide range of recreational, social and community activities including walking, tandem biking, going to church, and participating in a choir, a seniors' group and a bridge league. She also volunteers as a Braille teacher to a blind boy and speaks to students and other groups about blindness.

Mary's situation changed over the years as she gradually adapted to her disability. She has received assistance along the way from sources such as the Canadian National Institute for the Blind and the Assistive Devices Program. Her 73-year-old husband, now retired from teaching, helps by reading print material to her, taking her shopping and driving her to activities. Her daughter and a close friend join her for walks. As long as Mary has a sighted guide with a car, her condition poses no major problems.

Mary has an adequate income and is fairly well supplied with the aids she needs. She would, however, like some coaching on how to use her computer more efficiently.

| Quick Facts: Adults 65–74                          |  |         |           |
|--|--|---------|-----------|
|  | Total  | Males   | Females   |
| Total population 65–74                             | 2,082,750  | 980,210 | 1,102,540 |
| Population with disabilities                       | 649,170  | 296,310 | 352,860   |
| Percentage with disabilities                       | 31.2%  | 30.2%   | 32.0%     |
| Population with severe to very severe disabilities | 10.5%  | 9.1%    | 11.7%     |
| Mobility   | 23.3%  | 20.3%   | 26.1%     |
| Agility  | 21.5%  | 19.0%   | 23.6%     |
| Pain   | 20.4%  | 18.3%   | 22.3%     |
| Household income                                   | \$52,813 (versus \$50,003 for those without disabilities)  |         |           |
| Require additional help with everyday activities   | 132,230 (34.3% of those who need help)                     |         |           |
| Require additional assistive aids or devices       | 97,870 (33.4% of those who need assistive aids or devices) |         |           |

**16.** Type of disability for seniors with disabilities aged 65 to 74, Canada, 2001



**Demographic Profile**

Within the total population of seniors with disabilities, 44.7% are younger seniors. A total of 649,180 individuals aged 65 to 74 have disabilities.

In this group, 39.8% have mild disabilities, 26.7% have moderate, 23.4% severe and 10.2% very severe. The majority (61.5%) have three or more disabilities.

Physical disabilities predominate at this age. Mobility, agility and pain are the three most common types. Among younger seniors with disabilities, 75% report mobility disabilities, 69% agility disabilities and 65% pain-related disabilities.

**OLDER SENIORS (75 AND OVER)**

*Claude, 87, has several chronic conditions, including heart disease and arthritis. He is struggling to care for his wife, Marie, who at 83 has Alzheimer’s disease. Her condition and health are deteriorating and she has progressed to the palliative stage. Claude has promised to let Marie die at home.*

*While caring for his wife, Claude has experienced different levels of service. About five years ago the home care program he was using cut its service from five to three hours a week of homemaking help. Marie also attended an adult day program to give Claude a break until she could no longer perform basic daily activities, such as eating unassisted. Marie is getting some help from a palliative care program, but Claude is exhausted from the years of caregiving and his own failing health.*

| <b>Quick Facts: Adults 75 and over</b>             |   |         |         |
|--|---|---------|---------|
|  | Total   | Males   | Females |
| Total population 75 and over                       | 1,504,660   | 593,770 | 910,890 |
| Population with disabilities                       | 802,670   | 309,570 | 493,100 |
| Percentage with disabilities                       | 53.3%   | 52.2%   | 54.1%   |
| Population with severe to very severe disabilities | 23.6%   | 22.3%   | 24.5%   |
| Mobility   | 42.9%   | 37.8%   | 46.2%   |
| Agility  | 39.8%   | 36.6%   | 41.9%   |
| Pain   | 30.7%   | 27.8%   | 32.6%   |
|  |   |         |         |
| Household income                                   | \$41,761 (versus \$42,251 for those without disabilities)   |         |         |
| Require additional help with everyday activities   | 187,800 (31.8% of those who need help)                      |         |         |
| Require additional assistive aids or devices       | 138,800 (29.2% of those who need assistive aids or devices) |         |         |

## ■ Demographic Profile

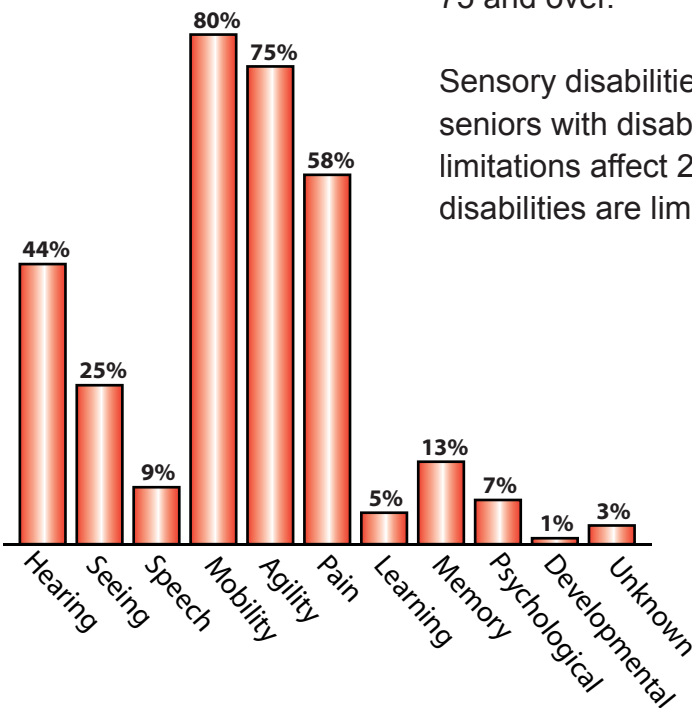
As people age, disabilities become more frequent and more chronic. It is therefore not surprising that disability rates are highest among older seniors aged 75 and over.

While 9% of core working-age adults and 31.2% of younger seniors have disabilities, more than half of older seniors do (53.3%). People over 75 make up only 5.5% of the total population but over 22% of the population with disabilities.

Overall, there are 802,670 older seniors with disabilities in Canada. Women with disabilities outnumber men in this age group (493,100 compared to 309,570), partly because of women's longer lifespan and partly because they experience a higher rate of chronic conditions.

In this group 32.4% have mild disabilities, 23.4% have moderate, 27.3% severe and 16.9% very severe. As with younger seniors, the majority (66.3%) have three or more disabilities.

**17.** Type of disability for seniors with disabilities aged 75 and over, Canada, 2001



Older seniors most commonly experience the same three types of disability as younger seniors--mobility, agility and pain. However, while 23.3% of all adults aged 65 to 74 report mobility problems, the rate climbs to 42.9% (80% of those with disabilities) for those 75 and over.

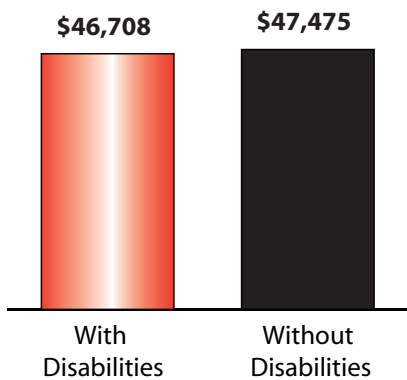
Sensory disabilities also affect a significant percentage of older seniors with disabilities. Hearing limitations affect 44% and seeing limitations affect 25%. As well, about 13% of older seniors with disabilities are limited by memory problems or periods of confusion.

**INCOME (ALL SENIORS)**

In other age groups there is a notable difference between the average household income of people with and without disabilities. But for seniors, average household income is only slightly less for those with disabilities than for those without (\$46,708 compared to \$47,475).

Among seniors with disabilities, 18.3% live in households with incomes below the low income cut-off (LICO),<sup>13</sup> compared to 14.4% of seniors without disabilities. While 11% of senior men with disabilities live in households with incomes below the LICO, fully 23.5% of senior women with disabilities do. The higher rate of low income for senior women arises from their lower individual incomes and their greater likelihood of living alone.

**18.** Average household income for seniors aged 65 and over, Canada, 2001



The income situation for seniors with disabilities is generally better than for working-age adults with disabilities. Seniors (both those with and without disabilities) benefit from Canada's income support programs for seniors (e.g., Old Age Security, the Guaranteed Income Supplement, provincial/territorial top-ups). Government programs are the largest source of income for seniors with disabilities in Canada, providing 56% of their income, while 39% comes from other sources and 5% from employment. Government programs provide an even higher proportion of income to seniors with severe and very severe disabilities, at 61% and 59% respectively.

<sup>13</sup> Based on Statistics Canada's pre-tax LICO.

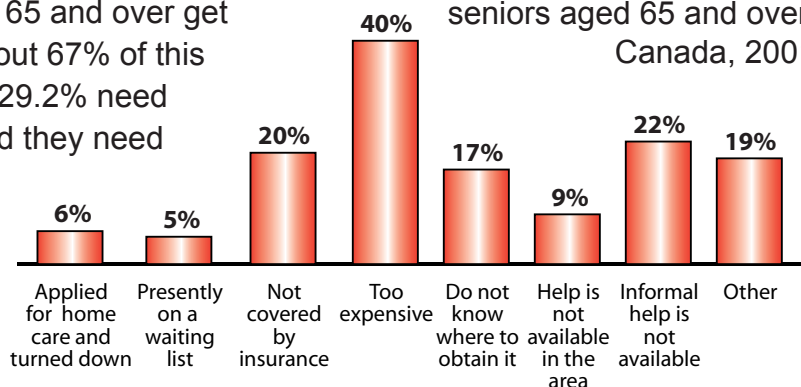
## ■ HELP WITH EVERYDAY ACTIVITIES (ALL SENIORS)

According to PALS, 978,090 people aged 65 and over get or need help with everyday activities.<sup>14</sup> About 67% of this population get all the help they need, but 29.2% need more help than they get. Finally, 3.6% said they need help but get none. Older seniors are slightly more likely to have all the help they need than younger seniors (68.3% versus 65.7%).

Seniors with disabilities do not get all the help they need for a variety of reasons.<sup>15</sup> Among seniors reporting unmet needs, cost was cited most often: 40.3% said help is too expensive, and 19.8% said the cost of help is not covered by their insurance plan. For 21.6%, informal help from family or friends is not available. As well, 17.4% reported that they do not know where to get help.

As with the other age groups, family members are the most common support to seniors with disabilities who require assistance. However, younger seniors with disabilities who receive help are more likely to receive it from family members living with them than are older seniors (63.3% versus 45.7%) while older seniors are more likely to receive help from family members living elsewhere than are younger seniors (50.5% versus 43.6%). Among younger seniors receiving help, 20.7% receive help from agencies or organizations, while 37.5% of older seniors receive help from these formal sources.

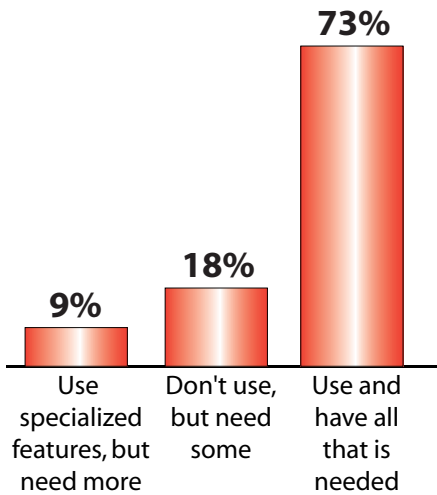
**19.** Types of difficulties when arranging for help with everyday activities, seniors aged 65 and over, Canada, 2001



<sup>14</sup> Respondents got help with one or more of nine activities: (1) meal preparation, (2) daily housework, (3) heavy household chores, (4) getting to appointments and running errands, (5) looking after personal finances, (6) child care, (7) personal care, (8) moving about inside the residence and (9) specialized nursing care and medical treatment at home.

<sup>15</sup> Respondents could report more than one reason for unmet needs for help.

**20.** Use of and need for specialized features in the home for seniors aged 65 and over, Canada, 2001



## ■ SPECIAL FEATURES IN THE HOME (ALL SENIORS)

Special features in the home include handrails, visual alarms, audio warning devices, adapted bathrooms and modifications that enable a person to enter or leave the home, such as ramps.

According to PALS, seniors with disabilities aged 65 and over are far more likely to have obtained all the special features they need than adults aged 15 to 64 (73% compared to 49%). Nevertheless, 9% of seniors with disabilities have specialized features but need more and 18% don't currently have specialized features but need some.

## ■ Volunteering

While seniors with disabilities are less likely to volunteer than are working-age persons with disabilities, many of them continue to contribute to their communities by volunteering in various capacities. For example, 10.0% of seniors with disabilities have helped to organize or supervise activities or events for an organization; 7.7% have canvassed, campaigned or fund raised as an unpaid volunteer; 8.3% have served as an unpaid member of a board or committee; and 19.0% have given other help to schools, religious organizations and community organizations.

## ■ Other Information

The tables in Appendix C present more detailed data on seniors with disabilities.

Besides the topics covered here, PALS provides information on many others, including health, access to medication, out-of-pocket expenses, recreation and leisure and living arrangements.

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## SECTION 8

### CONCLUSION

This report has used information from PALS to examine a few of the central issues that affect Canadians with disabilities at different points in the life cycle. While the nature of roles varies by age—ranging from attending school, to working in paid employment, to community involvement—PALS shows that persons with disabilities face obstacles to full participation in Canadian society. PALS demonstrates the income challenges faced by all persons with disabilities, but especially by those of working age and families of children with disabilities. For example, during the working-age years 15-64, persons with disabilities are almost twice as likely to experience low-income as others (26.6% versus 13.9%). Employment is also a great challenge, with employment rates ranging from 45.7% for youths with disabilities to 51.2% among core-working ages, to 27.3% among older workers with disabilities. These rates are all substantially lower than those of persons without disabilities. As well, 51.3% of working age persons with disabilities are not in the labour force at all versus only 20.6% of those without disabilities. An issue affecting all ages is access to the supports—whether help with everyday activities, assistive devices, transportation or more specialized forms of assistance—that people with disabilities need in order to participate in the community. For example, about 65% of persons with disabilities aged 15 and over who need help with everyday activities have all they need. For parents of children with disabilities who need help with their family responsibilities, only 32% have access to all the supports they need.

By presenting PALS data using a life-cycle approach, this report has tried to show how disability interacts with different life experiences at different ages and stages of life. Of course, age is not the only source of differences. A continuing challenge is to better understand differences arising from other factors, such as socio-economic status, gender, Aboriginal status and ethnicity. Future analyses of PALS and other national surveys will be able to explore such factors in detail.

No single report can do justice to the many insights provided by a comprehensive survey such as PALS. While it is hoped that the information provided here will be of value to members of the disability community, researchers, analysts and policy makers who are concerned about disability issues in Canada, there are many more questions that can be explored using PALS. For example, most of the analyses presented here could be repeated based on type of disability in order to understand issues specific to each type. Research could explore more systematically how the impact of disability varies for people with mild, moderate, severe or very severe disabilities.

# Participation and Activity

| CANADA   | PRESCHOOL CHILDREN (0–4)   | SCHOOL-AGE CHILDREN (5–14)  | YOUTHS (15–24)  |
|--|--|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ 12.4 % of Canadians have disabilities—one in eight</li> <li>■ A total of 3,601,000 with disabilities</li> </ul> <p><b>CHILDREN 0–14</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ 3.3% of children have disabilities</li> <li>■ A total of 181,000 with disabilities</li> </ul> <p><b>ADULTS 15–64</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ 9.9% of adults 15-64 have disabilities</li> <li>■ A total of 1,968,000 with disabilities</li> </ul> <p><b>ADULTS 65 and over</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ 40.5% of adults 65 and over have disabilities</li> <li>■ A total of 1,452,000 with disabilities</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ 1.6% of pre-school children have disabilities</li> <li>■ A total of 26,210 children 0-4 with disabilities</li> <li>■ 57.5% (15,080) have mild to moderate disabilities</li> <li>■ 42.5% (11,130) have severe to very severe disabilities</li> <li>■ Three most common types of disabilities: developmental delay, chronic conditions, hearing</li> </ul> <p>Key issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Initial identification of condition and determination of needed supports</li> <li>■ 75% of parents who need help due to their child's condition don't have all they need</li> <li>■ 25.3% of families of children aged 0-4 with disabilities have low income <sup>a</sup></li> <li>■ 62% of families experience impacts on employment</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ 4% of school-age children have disabilities</li> <li>■ A total of 154,720 children 5-14 with disabilities</li> <li>■ 57.3% (88,690) have mild to moderate disabilities</li> <li>■ 42.7% (66,030) have severe to very severe disabilities</li> <li>■ Three most common types of disabilities: chronic conditions, learning, speech</li> </ul> <p>Key issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Enrolment in school and availability of necessary supports</li> <li>■ 65% of parents who need help due to their child's condition don't have all they need</li> <li>■ 24.4% of families of children aged 5-14 with disabilities have low income <sup>a</sup></li> <li>■ 54% of families experience impacts on employment</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ 3.9% of youths have disabilities</li> <li>■ A total of 151,030 youths have disabilities</li> <li>■ 69.3% (104,720) have mild to moderate disabilities</li> <li>■ 30.7% (46,310) have severe to very severe disabilities</li> <li>■ Three most common types of disabilities: pain, learning, mobility</li> </ul> <p>Key issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Completion of high school, access to post-secondary education and a successful initial transition from school into work or life in the community</li> <li>■ 48% of youths with disabilities are full-time students versus 57% of other youths</li> <li>■ 45.7% of youths with disabilities are employed versus 56.6% of other youths</li> <li>■ 53% of youths with disabilities are prevented from doing at least some desired leisure activities</li> </ul> |

The Participation and Activity Limitation Survey (PALS) was conducted by Statistics Canada in 2001.

<sup>a</sup> Low-income figures based on Statistics Canada, pre-tax Low-income Cut Off (LICO).



# Limitation Survey Overview

| CORE WORKING-AGE ADULTS (25–54)  | OLDER WORKING-AGE ADULTS (55–64)  | YOUNGER SENIORS (65–74)   | OLDER SENIORS (75 and over)   |
|--|---|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ 9.2% of core working-age adults have disabilities</li> <li>■ A total of 1,206,660 core working-age adults with disabilities</li> <li>■ 58% (702,110) have mild to moderate disabilities</li> <li>■ 42% (504,550) have severe to very severe disabilities</li> <li>■ Three most common types of disabilities: pain, mobility, agility</li> </ul> <p>Key issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Finding or keeping a job; for those with new disabilities, early interventions to permit return to work</li> <li>■ 39.4% who need help with everyday activities don't have all they need</li> <li>■ 51.2% of those with disabilities are employed versus 82.3% of others</li> <li>■ 42.7% of those with disabilities are not in the labour force versus 12.5% of others</li> <li>■ 27.9% of those with disabilities experience low-income versus 10.2% of others<sup>a</sup></li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ 21.8% of older working-age adults have disabilities</li> <li>■ A total of 610,800 older working-age adults with disabilities</li> <li>■ 55% (335,120) have mild to moderate disabilities</li> <li>■ 45% (275,680) have severe to very severe disabilities</li> <li>■ Three most common types of disabilities: pain, mobility, agility</li> </ul> <p>Key issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Maintaining employment or an adequate alternative source of income; possible early retirement</li> <li>■ 34.5% who need help with everyday activities don't have all they need</li> <li>■ 27.3% of those with disabilities are employed versus 56.2% of others</li> <li>■ 70.8% of those with disabilities are not in the labour force versus 40.7% of others</li> <li>■ 23.8% of those with disabilities experience low-income versus 12.4% of others<sup>a</sup></li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ 31.2% of younger seniors have disabilities</li> <li>■ A total of 649,180 younger seniors with disabilities</li> <li>■ 66.5% (431,180) have mild to moderate disabilities</li> <li>■ 33.6% (218,000) have severe to very severe disabilities</li> <li>■ Three most common types of disabilities: mobility, agility, pain</li> </ul> <p>Key issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Transition from work to retirement; Those with new or increasing disabilities need to find and establish eligibility for the supports needed to maintain desired lifestyles</li> <li>■ 34.3% who need help with everyday activities don't have all they need</li> <li>■ 33.4% who need assistive aids or devices don't have all they need</li> <li>■ Principal reason for not getting needed help is cost.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ 53.3 % of older seniors have disabilities</li> <li>■ A total of 802,670 older seniors with disabilities</li> <li>■ 55.8% (447,660) have mild to moderate disabilities</li> <li>■ 44.2% (355,010) have severe to very severe disabilities</li> <li>■ Three most common types of disabilities: mobility, agility, pain</li> </ul> <p>Key issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Maintaining community participation; obtaining necessary assistance to stay at home; for some, experiencing a loss of independence. Seniors with disabilities are often caregivers themselves</li> <li>■ 31.8% who need help with everyday activities don't have all they need</li> <li>■ 29.2 % who need assistive aids or devices don't have all they need</li> <li>■ Family members are principal source of assistance</li> </ul> |

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## APPENDIX A

### INFORMATION ON PALS

Readers are encouraged to consider how the information in PALS can be explored in other ways so that its full potential can be realized.

#### ■ Description of PALS

The Participation and Activity Limitation Survey is a national post-censal survey of persons with disabilities. A post-censal survey uses the census to identify its target population and construct a representative sample. Funded by Human Resources Development Canada, PALS was conducted by Statistics Canada in the fall of 2001, following the spring 2001 census.

PALS gathered information on children (aged 14 and under) and adults (aged 15 and over) in Canada who have a disability--that is, an activity limitation or a participation restriction associated with a physical or mental condition or a health problem. This definition of disability is discussed in more detail below.

About 43,000 people (35,000 adults and 8,000 children) with disabilities were selected to participate in PALS. The population covered by the survey included people living in private households and some collective (non-institutional) households in the ten provinces. People living in institutions and people residing in Yukon, the Northwest Territories, Nunavut and on First Nations reserves were excluded from the survey.<sup>16</sup>

PALS used two separate questionnaires, one for children with disabilities up to the age of 14 and one for adults with disabilities aged 15 and over. Most adult questionnaires were completed directly with the person with disabilities; interviews for the children's questionnaires were conducted with the child's parents or guardians.

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<sup>16</sup> The Aboriginal Peoples Survey (2001), the census and the Canadian Community Health Survey all provide information about disability among Aboriginal people.

PALS collected detailed information in a number of areas:

- the demographic and socio-economic situation of persons with disabilities;
- the prevalence, type and severity of various disabilities;
- the need for and access to disability supports (e.g., specialized equipment and aids, specialized services, medications, assistance with completing everyday activities);
- out-of-pocket expenses related to disability;
- health;
- employment;
- education;
- income;
- housing;
- transportation; and
- participation in community activities

## ■ History of PALS/HALS

Before PALS there were two other post-censal surveys of persons with disabilities in Canada. The first, the Health and Activity Limitation Survey (HALS), was conducted in 1986, following the 1986 census. HALS was run a second time in the fall of 1991, immediately after the 1991 census. No survey was done after the 1996 census.

The ten years between HALS 1991 and PALS 2001 provided time to develop a new survey strategy, one that would better reflect the reality of persons with disabilities, better identify the population of persons with disabilities and better meet the need for more detailed information. Consequently, there are several important differences between HALS and PALS. These differences are not discussed here.<sup>17</sup> However, it is important to note that, because of the major changes in survey methodology and questionnaire content, comparisons cannot be made between data from the 1986 and 1991 HALS and the 2001 PALS.

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<sup>17</sup> Differences between HALS and PALS are discussed in a detailed report, *A New Approach to Disability Data: Changes between the 1991 Health and Activity Limitation Survey (HALS) and the 2001 Participation and Activity Limitation Survey (PALS)*, published by Statistics Canada in December 2002. The report is available on Statistics Canada's web site, at <http://www.statcan.ca/english/freepub/89-578-XIE/free.htm>

## ■ Concepts of Disability<sup>18</sup>

In the past, surveys have faced a major challenge—that there are many ways of understanding and defining disability, both within and outside Canada.

The *biomedical perspective* sees disability as a disease, disorder, medical condition or biological “abnormality” within the individual. The *functional perspective* understands disability as a restriction in ability to perform certain standard tasks in a way considered ‘normal.’ The *social/environmental perspective* presents disability as the result of barriers in the social environment that prevent persons with disabilities from participating fully in community, work and learning. Finally, the *human rights perspective* focuses on respect for human dignity and on protection against discrimination and exclusionary practices in the private and public spheres.

In the early 1980s, for HALS, Statistics Canada chose to adopt the World Health Organization’s 1980 model of disability, the International Classification of Impairment, Disability and Handicap (ICIDH). The ICIDH defined disability as a limitation in daily activities resulting from an impairment associated with physical or mental conditions or health problems.

The ICIDH was revised between 1991 and 2001 after coming under criticism for its linear causal explanation of disability as a direct consequence of a disease or a trauma and for ignoring environmental factors. Newly named the International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health (ICF), the revised framework was officially launched in 2001. PALS 2001 uses the ICF framework. It therefore views disability as the interrelationship between body functions, activities and social participation, while recognizing that the environment provides either barriers or facilitators. The change of the post-censal survey’s name from “*Health and Activity Limitation Survey*” to “*Participation and Activity Limitation Survey*” underscores both the updated view of disability and the major changes to the survey.

This new understanding of disability is closest to the functional perspective described above. Under PALS, persons with disabilities

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<sup>18</sup> See *Defining Disability: A Complex Issue* for a detailed discussion of conceptual models of disability and their relationship to government policies and programs. The report is available at <http://www.drhc-hrdc.gc.ca/bcph-odi/>.

**Table A1 Statistics Canada Disability Filter Questions**

|                          |   |                |
|--------------------------|---|----------------|
| <b>1</b>                 | Does this person have any difficulty hearing, seeing, communicating, walking, climbing stairs, bending, learning or doing any similar activities? |                |
|                          | <input type="checkbox"/>  | Yes, sometimes |
|                          | <input type="checkbox"/>  | Yes, often     |
|                          | <input type="checkbox"/>  | No             |
| <b>2</b>                 | Does a physical condition or mental condition or health problem reduce the amount or the kind of activity this person can do:                     |                |
|                          | At home?  |                |
|                          | <input type="checkbox"/>  | Yes, sometimes |
|                          | <input type="checkbox"/>  | Yes, often     |
|                          | <input type="checkbox"/>  | No             |
|                          | At work or at school?   |                |
|                          | <input type="checkbox"/>  | Yes, sometimes |
|                          | <input type="checkbox"/>  | Yes, often     |
|                          | <input type="checkbox"/>  | No             |
|                          | <input type="checkbox"/>  | Not applicable |
|                          | In other activities, for example, transportation or leisure?  |                |
|                          | <input type="checkbox"/>  | Yes, sometimes |
|                          | <input type="checkbox"/>  | Yes, often     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | No  |                |

are those who report difficulty with daily living activities, or who indicate that a physical or mental condition or a health problem reduces the kind or amount of activity they can do.

Respondents' answers to the PALS disability questions reflect their own perceptions and are therefore subjective. For example, individuals who report having pain but do not associate it with any activity limitation are not considered to have a pain-related disability. Children's activity limitations are identified by their parent or guardian and are not necessarily diagnosed by a health care professional.

Identification of a developmental delay is therefore based on the parent or guardian's perception of the child's development. This method of identifying disability differs from that used by many government programs. Programs often require an independent professional assessment of disability or impose other criteria to meet specific program objectives.

While direct comparisons between HALS and PALS are not possible, the good news is that the disability filter questions used to select people for inclusion in the PALS sample (see Table 1) are now the standard for identifying persons with disabilities in Statistics Canada surveys. A major objective of the PALS revision was to harmonize the definition of disability in Statistics Canada's social surveys--including those on labour, health, education and Aboriginal people--to create a comprehensive database on persons with disabilities. This harmonization will make it easier to compare information on persons with disabilities from one survey to another.

## ■ Other Sources of PALS 2001 Information

Besides this report, a number of other resources use PALS data and make it available. As mentioned in Section 1, one source is Statistics Canada's web site.<sup>19</sup>

*Advancing the Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities*, the first federal report on disability, published in December 2002, uses PALS data to present a profile of disability in Canada.<sup>20</sup> The next federal report in 2004 will likewise integrate PALS data.

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<sup>19</sup> At <http://www.statcan.ca/cgi-bin/downpub/freepub.cgi?subject=2966#2966>

<sup>20</sup> Available on the Human Resources Development Canada web site, at <http://www.hrdc-drhc.gc.ca/hrib/sdd-dds/odi/documents/AIPD/fdr000.shtml>

<sup>21</sup> Hard-copy information sheets, produced in English and French, are sent to the users on CCSD's distribution list. The sheets are also available in alternative formats and on CCSD's Disability Research Information Page, at <http://www.ccsd.ca/drip/>

The disability information sheets produced by the Canadian Council on Social Development (CCSD), with financial support from Human Resources Development Canada, contain some PALS data.<sup>21</sup> These information sheets are designed for a range of users, including governments, the disability community (organizations and individuals), non-profit groups, social policy organizations, service providers, students and academics. To date CCSD has released 12 information sheets. Sheet #11 provides PALS statistics on medication use by adults with disabilities. Sheet #12 presents PALS data on the Medical Expense Tax Credit and the difficulties people with disabilities have with local transit.

The *Atlas of Literacy and Disability*, published by the Canadian Abilities Foundation in 2003, contains maps that show at a glance the relationship between literacy and disability in Canada.<sup>22</sup> The atlas, developed for use by policy-makers, program developers and literacy and disability organizations, uses PALS as one of its statistical sources.

## ■ Final PALS Release

This report uses data from the four PALS releases available at the time of writing including a few items from the fifth and final release which is being made available at the same time this report is published. The final PALS release presents a range of information on adults with disabilities, including leisure and recreation, out-of-pocket costs, age and onset of disability, cause of condition, perception of general health and 2001 census variables. It presents similar findings for children, also adding information on children's education, parents' child-care arrangements and the age at which a child's condition was suspected and diagnosed.

## ■ Microdata File

A final PALS development is the launch of a microdata file for public use in the winter of 2004. The data file will be in CD-ROM format with an accompanying dictionary and will include all PALS data that can be released to the public.<sup>23</sup> The microdata file will enable researchers and others to produce their own reports and analyses of PALS data.<sup>24</sup>

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<sup>22</sup> Marcia H. Rioux et al., *Atlas of Literacy and Disability* (Toronto: Canadian Abilities Foundation, 2003).

<sup>23</sup> Data cannot be released if identifying information could breach anonymity.

<sup>24</sup> The cost of the microdata file has not yet been determined.

# APPENDIX B

## TABLES FOR CHILDREN

### ■ Notes for all tables:

- The population excludes persons living in institutions, on First Nations reserves and in Yukon, the Northwest Territories and Nunavut.
- For each table the sum of the values for each category may differ from the total because of rounding.
- E: Use with caution (these estimates are less reliable due to small sample sizes).
- N/A: "Not applicable."

**Table B.1 Children with disabilities, by age and sex, Canada, 2001**

| Age Groups      | Total   | % of Total Population | Males   | % of Total Population | Females | % of Total Population |
|-----------------|---------|-----------------------|---------|-----------------------|---------|-----------------------|
| Total aged 0-14 | 180,930 | 3.3%                  | 113,220 | 4.0%                  | 67,710  | 2.5%                  |
| Aged 0-4        | 26,210  | 1.6%                  | 16,030  | 1.9%                  | 10,180  | 1.3%                  |
| Aged 5-14       | 154,720 | 4.0%                  | 97,180  | 4.9%                  | 57,530  | 3.0%                  |

**Source:** Statistics Canada (December 2002), *A Profile of Disability in Canada, 2001—Tables (2001 Participation and Activity Limitation Survey)*, catalogue no. 89-579-XIE, Government of Canada.



**Table B.2 Type of disability for children, by age and sex, Canada, 2001**

| Type of Disability <sup>a</sup>  | Age Groups             | Total          | %            | Males         | %            | Females       | %            |
|----------------------------------|------------------------|----------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|
| <b>Chronic<sup>b</sup></b>       | <b>Total aged 0-14</b> | <b>117,510</b> | <b>64.9%</b> | <b>75,460</b> | <b>66.6%</b> | <b>42,050</b> | <b>62.1%</b> |
|                                  | Aged 0-4               | 16,400         | 62.6%        | 10,170        | 63.4%        | 6,230         | 61.2%        |
|                                  | Aged 5-14              | 101,110        | 65.4%        | 65,290        | 67.2%        | 35,820        | 62.3%        |
| <b>Delay<sup>d</sup></b>         | <b>Total aged 0-14</b> | <b>17,820</b>  | <b>N/A</b>   | <b>11,500</b> | <b>N/A</b>   | <b>6,320</b>  | <b>N/A</b>   |
|                                  | Aged 0-4               | 17,820         | 68.0%        | 11,500        | 71.7%        | 6,320         | 62.1%        |
|                                  | Aged 5-14              | N/A            | N/A          | N/A           | N/A          | N/A           | N/A          |
| <b>Developmental<sup>c</sup></b> | <b>Total aged 0-14</b> | <b>46,180</b>  | <b>N/A</b>   | <b>31,920</b> | <b>N/A</b>   | <b>14,260</b> | <b>N/A</b>   |
|                                  | Aged 0-4               | N/A            | N/A          | N/A           | N/A          | N/A           | N/A          |
|                                  | Aged 5-14              | 46,180         | 29.8%        | 31,920        | 32.8%        | 14,260        | 24.8%        |
| <b>Dexterity<sup>c</sup></b>     | <b>Total aged 0-14</b> | <b>31,410</b>  | <b>N/A</b>   | <b>21,300</b> | <b>N/A</b>   | <b>10,110</b> | <b>N/A</b>   |
|                                  | Aged 0-4               | N/A            | N/A          | N/A           | N/A          | N/A           | N/A          |
|                                  | Aged 5-14              | 31,410         | 20.3%        | 21,300        | 21.9%        | 10,110        | 17.6%        |
| <b>Hearing<sup>b</sup></b>       | <b>Total aged 0-14</b> | <b>23,750</b>  | <b>13.1%</b> | <b>14,230</b> | <b>12.6%</b> | <b>9,520</b>  | <b>14.1%</b> |
|                                  | Aged 0-4               | 3,160 E        | 12.1%        | 1,590 E       | 9.9%         | 1,570 E       | 15.4%        |
|                                  | Aged 5-14              | 20,590         | 13.3%        | 12,630        | 13.0%        | 7,950         | 13.8%        |
| <b>Learning<sup>c</sup></b>      | <b>Total aged 0-14</b> | <b>100,360</b> | <b>N/A</b>   | <b>67,000</b> | <b>N/A</b>   | <b>33,360</b> | <b>N/A</b>   |
|                                  | Aged 0-4               | N/A            | N/A          | N/A           | N/A          | N/A           | N/A          |
|                                  | Aged 5-14              | 100,360        | 64.9%        | 67,000        | 68.9%        | 33,360        | 58.0%        |
| <b>Mobility<sup>c</sup></b>      | <b>Total aged 0-14</b> | <b>21,150</b>  | <b>N/A</b>   | <b>12,240</b> | <b>N/A</b>   | <b>8,910</b>  | <b>N/A</b>   |
|                                  | Aged 0-4               | N/A            | N/A          | N/A           | N/A          | N/A           | N/A          |
|                                  | Aged 5-14              | 21,150         | 13.7%        | 12,240        | 12.6%        | 8,910         | 15.5%        |
| <b>Psychological<sup>c</sup></b> | <b>Total aged 0-14</b> | <b>49,140</b>  | <b>N/A</b>   | <b>33,650</b> | <b>N/A</b>   | <b>15,490</b> | <b>N/A</b>   |
|                                  | Aged 0-4               | N/A            | N/A          | N/A           | N/A          | N/A           | N/A          |
|                                  | Aged 5-14              | 49,140         | 31.8%        | 33,650        | 34.6%        | 15,490        | 26.9%        |
| <b>Seeing<sup>b</sup></b>        | <b>Total aged 0-14</b> | <b>16,600</b>  | <b>9.2%</b>  | <b>9,640</b>  | <b>8.5%</b>  | <b>6,970</b>  | <b>10.3%</b> |
|                                  | Aged 0-4               | 2,090 E        | 8.0%         | 1,020 E       | 6.4%         | 1,060 E       | 10.4%        |
|                                  | Aged 5-14              | 14,510         | 9.4%         | 8,610         | 8.9%         | 5,900         | 10.3%        |
| <b>Speech<sup>c</sup></b>        | <b>Total aged 0-14</b> | <b>66,940</b>  | <b>N/A</b>   | <b>45,290</b> | <b>N/A</b>   | <b>21,650</b> | <b>N/A</b>   |
|                                  | Aged 0-4               | N/A            | N/A          | N/A           | N/A          | N/A           | N/A          |
|                                  | Aged 5-14              | 66,940         | 43.3%        | 45,290        | 46.6%        | 21,650        | 37.6%        |
| <b>Unknown<sup>b</sup></b>       | <b>Total aged 0-14</b> | <b>7,280</b>   | <b>4.0%</b>  | <b>3,780</b>  | <b>3.3%</b>  | <b>3,500E</b> | <b>5.2%</b>  |
|                                  | Aged 0-4               | 2,340 E        | 8.9%         | 1,550 E       | 9.7%         | 790 E         | 7.8%         |
|                                  | Aged 5-14              | 4,940 E        | 3.2%         | 2,230 E       | 2.3%         | 2,720 E       | 4.7%         |

Source: Statistics Canada (December 2002), *A Profile of Disability in Canada, 2001--Tables (2001 Participation and Activity Limitation Survey)*, catalogue no. 89-579-XIE, Government of Canada.

<sup>a</sup> The sum of the categories is greater than the population with disabilities because individuals could report more than one type of disability.

<sup>b</sup> Applies to all children 14 and under.

<sup>c</sup> Applies to children aged 5-14.

<sup>d</sup> Applies to children aged 0-4.

**Table B.3 Severity of disability for children, by age, Canada, 2001**

| Age Groups             | Total          | Severity of Disability |              |                  |                  |                  |                  |
|------------------------|----------------|------------------------|--------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
|                        |                | Mild to moderate       | %            | Mild             | %                | Moderate         | %                |
| <b>Total aged 0-14</b> | <b>180,930</b> | <b>103,770</b>         | <b>57.4%</b> | <b>49,730</b>    | <b>27.5%</b>     | <b>38,960</b>    | <b>21.5%</b>     |
| Aged 0-4               | 26,210         | 15,080                 | 57.5%        | N/A <sup>a</sup> | N/A <sup>a</sup> | N/A <sup>a</sup> | N/A <sup>a</sup> |
| Aged 5-14              | 154,720        | 88,690                 | 57.3%        | 49,730           | 32.1%            | 38,960           | 25.2%            |
| Age Groups             | Total          | Severity of Disability |              |                  |                  |                  |                  |
|                        |                | Severe to very severe  | %            | Severe           | %                | Very severe      | %                |
| <b>Total aged 0-14</b> |                | <b>77,160</b>          | <b>42.6%</b> | <b>39,480</b>    | <b>21.8%</b>     | <b>26,550</b>    | <b>14.7%</b>     |
| Aged 0-4               |                | 11,130                 | 42.5%        | N/A <sup>a</sup> | N/A <sup>a</sup> | N/A <sup>a</sup> | N/A <sup>a</sup> |
| Aged 5-14              |                | 66,030                 | 42.7%        | 39,480           | 25.5%            | 26,550           | 17.2%            |

**Source:** Statistics Canada (December 2002), *A Profile of Disability in Canada, 2001—Tables (2001 Participation and Activity Limitation Survey)*, catalogue no. 89-579-XIE, Government of Canada.

<sup>a</sup> The severity scale for children aged 0-4 is divided into two groups only: mild to moderate and severe to very severe.

**Table B.4 Help with everyday activities received by children aged 5 to 14, by severity of disability, Canada, 2001**

|  | Severity of Disability |       |                  |                |                       |       |
|--|------------------------|-------|------------------|----------------|-----------------------|-------|
|  | Total                  | %     | Mild to moderate | %              | Severe to very severe | %     |
| <b>Total aged 5-14</b>   | <b>154,720</b>         |       | <b>88,690</b>    |                | <b>66,030</b>         |       |
| Total receiving help with everyday activities <sup>a</sup>               | 39,160                 | 25.3% | 7,640            | 8.6%           | 31,520                | 47.7% |
| <b>Received help because of child's condition:</b>                       |                        |       |                  |                |                       |       |
| Yes, help received due to condition                                      | 34,920                 | 22.6% | 5,270            | 5.9%           | 29,660                | 44.9% |
| No, help not received due to condition                                   | 3,450 E                | 2.2%  | 2,010 E          | 2.3%           | 1,440 E               | 2.2%  |
| Not specified whether help received due to condition or not <sup>b</sup> | 780 E                  | 0.5%  | X <sup>c</sup>   | X <sup>c</sup> | 420 E                 | 0.6%  |

**Source:** Statistics Canada (July 2003), *Children with Disabilities and Their Families—Tables (2001 Participation and Activity Limitation Survey)*, catalogue no. 89-586-XIE, Government of Canada.

<sup>a</sup> "Help with everyday activities" refers to help the child receives with personal care (bathing, dressing or feeding) and moving about within the home.

<sup>b</sup> Respondents did not provide an answer, refused to answer or did not know the answer to one or more of the questions related to help with everyday activities.

<sup>c</sup> Data is suppressed to meet confidentiality requirements of the *Statistics Act*.

| <b>Table B.5 Household income of children, by disability status and age, Canada, 2001</b> |                         |          |                                   |          |                                      |          |
|---|-------------------------|----------|-----------------------------------|----------|--------------------------------------|----------|
| <b>Total aged 0-14</b>  | <b>Total Population</b> | <b>%</b> | <b>Children with Disabilities</b> | <b>%</b> | <b>Children without Disabilities</b> | <b>%</b> |
| Total households <sup>a-b</sup>   | 5,546,010               |          | 180,930                           |          | 5,365,090                            |          |
| Less than \$20,000 <sup>c</sup>   | 656,300                 | 11.8%    | 25,450                            | 14.1%    | 630,860                              | 11.8%    |
| \$20,000 - \$59,999   | 2,174,710               | 39.2%    | 78,040                            | 43.1%    | 2,096,660                            | 39.1%    |
| \$60,000– more  | 2,713,950               | 48.9%    | 76,400                            | 42.2%    | 2,637,550                            | 49.2%    |
| Average household income  | \$70,018                |          | \$62,105                          |          | \$70,283                             |          |
| Median household income   | \$58,989                |          | \$53,038                          |          | \$59,182                             |          |
| <b>Total aged 0-4</b>   | <b>Total Population</b> | <b>%</b> | <b>Children with Disabilities</b> | <b>%</b> | <b>Children without Disabilities</b> | <b>%</b> |
| Total households <sup>a-b</sup>   | 1,641,680               |          | 26,210                            |          | 1,615,480                            |          |
| Less than \$20,000 <sup>c</sup>   | 226,320                 | 13.8%    | 3,750                             | 14.3%    | 222,570                              | 13.8%    |
| \$20,000 - \$59,999   | 662,650                 | 40.4%    | 12,500                            | 47.7%    | 650,150                              | 40.2%    |
| \$60,000– more  | 752,570                 | 45.8%    | 9,820                             | 37.5%    | 742,750                              | 46.0%    |
| Average household income  | \$65,956                |          | \$54,660                          |          | \$66,138                             |          |
| Median household income   | \$55,937                |          | \$49,180                          |          | \$56,082                             |          |
| <b>Total aged 5-14</b>  | <b>Total Population</b> | <b>%</b> | <b>Children with Disabilities</b> | <b>%</b> | <b>Children without Disabilities</b> | <b>%</b> |
| Total households <sup>a-b</sup>   | 3,904,330               |          | 154,720                           |          | 3,749,610                            |          |
| Less than \$20,000 <sup>c</sup>   | 429,980                 | 11.0%    | 21,700                            | 14.0%    | 408,290                              | 10.9%    |
| \$20,000 - \$59,999   | 1,512,060               | 38.7%    | 65,540                            | 42.4%    | 1,446,510                            | 38.6%    |
| \$60,000 - more   | 1,961,380               | 50.2%    | 66,580                            | 43.0%    | 1,894,800                            | 50.5%    |
| Average household income  | \$71,726                |          | \$63,366                          |          | \$72,069                             |          |
| Median household income   | \$60,273                |          | \$53,691                          |          | \$60,517                             |          |

**Sources:**

1. Statistics Canada (July 2003), *Children with Disabilities and Their Families--Tables (2001 Participation and Activity Limitation Survey)*, catalogue no. 89-586-XIE, Government of Canada.

2. Statistics Canada (September 2003), *2001 Participation and Activity Limitation Survey Special Tabulation*.

<sup>a</sup> Totals include "not specified" responses (not shown in table)

<sup>b</sup> Refers to total households of children with disabilities.

<sup>c</sup> Includes no income or loss.

**Table B.6 Parents' access to help with housework and family responsibilities, and to time off for personal activities, by child's severity of disability and age, Canada, 2001**

|                                       | Severity of Disability |       |                  |       |                       |       |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------|-------|------------------|-------|-----------------------|-------|
|                                       | Total                  | %     | Mild to moderate | %     | Severe to very severe | %     |
| <b>Total aged 0-14<sup>a</sup></b>    | <b>180,930</b>         |       | <b>103,770</b>   |       | <b>77,160</b>         |       |
| Parents get help but need more        | 17,400                 | 9.6%  | 3,390 E          | 3.3%  | 14,010                | 18.2% |
| Parents get no help but need some     | 26,570                 | 14.7% | 7,880            | 7.6%  | 18,700                | 24.2% |
| Parents get all the help needed       | 21,090                 | 11.7% | 7,490            | 7.2%  | 13,600                | 17.6% |
| Parents don't get and don't need help | 111,430                | 61.6% | 82,040           | 79.1% | 29,380                | 38.1% |
| <b>Total aged 0-4<sup>a</sup></b>     | <b>26,210</b>          |       | <b>15,080</b>    |       | <b>11,130</b>         |       |
| Parents get help but need more        | 4,210                  | 16.1% | 1,370            | 9.1%  | 2,840                 | 25.5% |
| Parents get no help but need some     | 5,790                  | 22.1% | 2,740            | 18.2% | 3,050                 | 27.4% |
| Parents get all the help needed       | 3,270                  | 12.5% | 1,580            | 10.5% | 1,690                 | 15.2% |
| Parents don't get and don't need help | 11,960                 | 45.6% | 8,720            | 57.8% | 3,240                 | 29.1% |
| <b>Total aged 5-14<sup>a</sup></b>    | <b>154,720</b>         |       | <b>88,690</b>    |       | <b>66,030</b>         |       |
| Parents get help but need more        | 13,190                 | 8.5%  | 2,020 E          | 2.3%  | 11,170                | 16.9% |
| Parents get no help but need some     | 20,780                 | 13.4% | 5,140            | 5.8%  | 15,650                | 23.7% |
| Parents get all the help needed       | 17,820                 | 11.5% | 5,910            | 6.7%  | 11,910                | 18.0% |
| Parents don't get and don't need help | 99,470                 | 64.3% | 73,320           | 82.7% | 26,140                | 39.6% |

**Sources:**

1. Statistics Canada (July 2003), *Children with Disabilities and Their Families--Tables (2001 Participation and Activity Limitation Survey)*, catalogue no. 89-586-XIE, Government of Canada.
2. Statistics Canada (September 2003), *2001 Participation and Activity Limitation Survey Special Tabulation*.

<sup>a</sup> Totals include "not specified" responses (not shown in table)

# APPENDIX C

## TABLES FOR ADULTS

### ■ Notes for all tables:

- The population excludes persons living in institutions, on First Nations reserves and in Yukon, the Northwest Territories and Nunavut.
- For each table the sum of the values for each category may differ from the total because of rounding.
- E: Use with caution. (these estimates are less reliable due to small sample sizes).

| Age Groups                    | Total            | % of Total Population | Males            | % of Total Population | Females          | % of Total Population |
|-------------------------------|------------------|-----------------------|------------------|-----------------------|------------------|-----------------------|
| <b>Total aged 15 and over</b> | <b>3,420,340</b> | <b>14.6%</b>          | <b>1,526,900</b> | <b>13.4%</b>          | <b>1,893,440</b> | <b>15.7%</b>          |
| <b>Total aged 15-64</b>       | <b>1,968,490</b> | <b>9.9%</b>           | <b>921,020</b>   | <b>9.4%</b>           | <b>1,047,470</b> | <b>10.4%</b>          |
| Aged 15-24                    | 151,030          | 3.9%                  | 74,500           | 3.8%                  | 76,530           | 4.0%                  |
| Aged 25-54                    | 1,206,660        | 9.2%                  | 555,420          | 8.6%                  | 651,240          | 9.7%                  |
| Aged 55-64                    | 610,800          | 21.8%                 | 291,100          | 21.1%                 | 319,700          | 22.4%                 |
| <b>Total aged 65 and over</b> | <b>1,451,840</b> | <b>40.5%</b>          | <b>605,880</b>   | <b>38.5%</b>          | <b>845,970</b>   | <b>42.0%</b>          |
| Aged 65-74                    | 649,180          | 31.2%                 | 296,310          | 30.2%                 | 352,860          | 32.0%                 |
| Aged 75 and over              | 802,670          | 53.3%                 | 309,570          | 52.1%                 | 493,100          | 54.1%                 |

**Source:** Statistics Canada (December 2002), *A Profile of Disability in Canada, 2001--Tables (2001 Participation and Activity Limitation Survey)*, catalogue no. 89-579-XIE, Government of Canada.

**Table C.2 Type of disability for adults, by age and sex, Canada, 2001**

| Type of Disability <sup>a</sup> | Age Groups                    | Total            | %            | Male             | %            | Female           | %            |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------|--------------|------------------|--------------|------------------|--------------|
| Agility                         | <b>Total aged 15 and over</b> | <b>2,276,980</b> | <b>66.6%</b> | <b>951,200</b>   | <b>62.3%</b> | <b>1,325,780</b> | <b>70.0%</b> |
|                                 | Aged 15-64                    | 1,230,670        | 62.5%        | 547,510          | 59.4%        | 683,160          | 65.2%        |
|                                 | Aged 65 and over              | 1,046,310        | 72.1%        | 403,690          | 66.6%        | 642,620          | 76.0%        |
| Developmental                   | <b>Total aged 15 and over</b> | <b>120,140</b>   | <b>3.5%</b>  | <b>73,790</b>    | <b>4.8%</b>  | <b>46,350</b>    | <b>2.4%</b>  |
|                                 | Aged 15-64                    | 109,060          | 5.5%         | 66,030           | 7.2%         | 43,030           | 4.1%         |
|                                 | Aged 65 and over              | 11,080 E         | 0.8%         | 7,760 E          | 1.3%         | 3,320 E          | 0.4%         |
| Hearing                         | <b>Total aged 15 and over</b> | <b>1,038,140</b> | <b>30.4%</b> | <b>574,350</b>   | <b>37.6%</b> | <b>463,780</b>   | <b>24.5%</b> |
|                                 | Aged 15-64                    | 462,980          | 23.5%        | 262,980          | 28.6%        | 200,000          | 19.1%        |
|                                 | Aged 65 and over              | 575,160          | 39.6%        | 311,370          | 51.4%        | 263,790          | 31.2%        |
| Learning                        | <b>Total aged 15 and over</b> | <b>451,420</b>   | <b>13.2%</b> | <b>246,470</b>   | <b>16.1%</b> | <b>204,950</b>   | <b>10.8%</b> |
|                                 | Aged 15-64                    | 377,410          | 19.2%        | 206,030          | 22.4%        | 171,380          | 16.4%        |
|                                 | Aged 65 and over              | 74,000           | 5.1%         | 40,440           | 6.7%         | 33,560           | 4.0%         |
| Memory                          | <b>Total aged 15 and over</b> | <b>420,750</b>   | <b>12.3%</b> | <b>209,810</b>   | <b>13.7%</b> | <b>210,930</b>   | <b>11.1%</b> |
|                                 | Aged 15-64                    | 267,700          | 13.6%        | 133,800          | 14.5%        | 133,890          | 12.8%        |
|                                 | Aged 65 and over              | 153,050          | 10.5%        | 76,010           | 12.5%        | 77,040           | 9.1%         |
| Mobility                        | <b>Total aged 15 and over</b> | <b>2,451,570</b> | <b>71.7%</b> | <b>976,270</b>   | <b>63.9%</b> | <b>1,475,290</b> | <b>77.9%</b> |
|                                 | Aged 15-64                    | 1,320,170        | 67.1%        | 553,200          | 60.1%        | 766,970          | 73.2%        |
|                                 | Aged 65 and over              | 1,131,400        | 77.9%        | 423,070          | 69.8%        | 708,330          | 83.7%        |
| Pain                            | <b>Total aged 15 and over</b> | <b>2,376,730</b> | <b>69.5%</b> | <b>1,001,120</b> | <b>65.6%</b> | <b>1,375,610</b> | <b>72.7%</b> |
|                                 | Aged 15-64                    | 1,489,460        | 75.7%        | 656,770          | 71.3%        | 832,700          | 79.5%        |
|                                 | Aged 65 and over              | 887,270          | 61.1%        | 344,360          | 56.8%        | 542,910          | 64.2%        |
| Psychological                   | <b>Total aged 15 and over</b> | <b>522,950</b>   | <b>15.3%</b> | <b>223,390</b>   | <b>14.6%</b> | <b>299,550</b>   | <b>15.8%</b> |
|                                 | Aged 15-64                    | 429,350          | 21.8%        | 183,920          | 20.0%        | 245,430          | 23.4%        |
|                                 | Aged 65 and over              | 93,590           | 6.4%         | 39,470           | 6.5%         | 54,120           | 6.4%         |
| Seeing                          | <b>Total aged 15 and over</b> | <b>594,350</b>   | <b>17.4%</b> | <b>225,890</b>   | <b>14.8%</b> | <b>368,450</b>   | <b>19.5%</b> |
|                                 | Aged 15-64                    | 290,810          | 14.8%        | 124,050          | 13.5%        | 166,750          | 15.9%        |
|                                 | Aged 65 and over              | 303,540          | 20.9%        | 101,840          | 16.8%        | 201,700          | 23.8%        |
| Speech                          | <b>Total aged 15 and over</b> | <b>362,720</b>   | <b>10.6%</b> | <b>189,690</b>   | <b>12.4%</b> | <b>173,030</b>   | <b>9.1%</b>  |
|                                 | Aged 15-64                    | 240,160          | 12.2%        | 121,060          | 13.1%        | 119,100          | 11.4%        |
|                                 | Aged 65 and over              | 122,560          | 8.4%         | 68,630           | 11.3%        | 53,930           | 6.4%         |
| Unknown                         | <b>Total aged 15 and over</b> | <b>96,180</b>    | <b>2.8%</b>  | <b>50,010</b>    | <b>3.3%</b>  | <b>46,170</b>    | <b>2.4%</b>  |
|                                 | Aged 15-64                    | 53,550           | 2.7%         | 28,280           | 3.1%         | 25,280           | 2.4%         |
|                                 | Aged 65 and over              | 42,620           | 2.9%         | 21,730 E         | 3.6%         | 20,890 E         | 2.5%         |

Source: Statistics Canada (December 2002), *A Profile of Disability in Canada, 2001--Tables (2001 Participation and Activity Limitation Survey)*, catalogue no. 89-579-XIE, Government of Canada.

<sup>a</sup> The sum of the categories is greater than the population with disabilities because individuals could report more than one type of disability.

| <b>Table C.3 Severity of disability for adults, by age and sex, Canada, 2001</b> |                  |                               |              |                 |              |                |              |                    |              |
|--|------------------|-------------------------------|--------------|-----------------|--------------|----------------|--------------|--------------------|--------------|
|  |                  | <b>Severity of Disability</b> |              |                 |              |                |              |                    |              |
|  |                  | <b>Mild</b>                   |              | <b>Moderate</b> |              | <b>Severe</b>  |              | <b>Very Severe</b> |              |
| <b>Men and Women</b>   | <b>Total</b>     | <b>Total</b>                  | <b>%</b>     | <b>Total</b>    | <b>%</b>     | <b>Total</b>   | <b>%</b>     | <b>Total</b>       | <b>%</b>     |
| <b>Total aged 15 and over</b>  | <b>3,420,340</b> | <b>1,165,470</b>              | <b>34.1%</b> | <b>855,330</b>  | <b>25.0%</b> | <b>919,310</b> | <b>26.9%</b> | <b>480,220</b>     | <b>14.0%</b> |
| Aged 15-64   | 1,968,490        | 647,380                       | 32.9%        | 494,580         | 25.1%        | 548,060        | 27.8%        | 278,470            | 14.1%        |
| Aged 65 and over   | 1,451,840        | 518,090                       | 35.7%        | 360,750         | 24.8%        | 371,260        | 25.6%        | 201,750            | 13.9%        |
| <b>Men</b>   |                  |                               |              |                 |              |                |              |                    |              |
| <b>Total aged 15 and over</b>  | <b>1,526,900</b> | <b>555,110</b>                | <b>36.4%</b> | <b>375,380</b>  | <b>24.6%</b> | <b>383,570</b> | <b>25.1%</b> | <b>212,830</b>     | <b>13.9%</b> |
| Aged 15-64   | 921,020          | 316,760                       | 34.4%        | 228,800         | 24.8%        | 245,040        | 26.6%        | 130,420            | 14.2%        |
| Aged 65 and over   | 605,880          | 238,350                       | 39.3%        | 146,580         | 24.2%        | 138,530        | 22.9%        | 82,410             | 13.6%        |
| <b>Women</b>   |                  |                               |              |                 |              |                |              |                    |              |
| <b>Total aged 15 and over</b>  | <b>1,893,440</b> | <b>610,360</b>                | <b>32.2%</b> | <b>479,950</b>  | <b>25.3%</b> | <b>535,740</b> | <b>28.3%</b> | <b>267,390</b>     | <b>14.1%</b> |
| Aged 15-64   | 1,047,470        | 330,620                       | 31.6%        | 265,780         | 25.4%        | 303,020        | 28.9%        | 148,050            | 14.1%        |
| Aged 65 and over   | 845,970          | 279,740                       | 33.1%        | 214,170         | 25.3%        | 232,730        | 27.5%        | 119,340            | 14.1%        |

**Source:** Statistics Canada (December 2002), *A Profile of Disability in Canada, 2001—Tables (2001 Participation and Activity Limitation Survey)*, catalogue no. 89-579-XIE, Government of Canada.

**Table C.4 Average<sup>a</sup> and median<sup>b</sup> household income, by disability status, age and sex, Canada, 2001**

| Total Men and Women    |         | Total Population | Adults with Disabilities | Adults without Disabilities |
|------------------------|---------|------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Total aged 15 and over | Average | \$67,027         | \$50,330                 | \$69,874                    |
|                        | Median  | \$55,949         | \$37,932                 | \$59,189                    |
| Aged 15-64             | Average | \$70,612         | \$53,000                 | \$72,548                    |
|                        | Median  | \$60,468         | \$44,334                 | \$62,082                    |
| Aged 15-24             | Average | \$72,751         | \$63,815                 | \$73,111                    |
|                        | Median  | \$62,437         | \$51,068                 | \$62,872                    |
| Aged 25-54             | Average | \$71,109         | \$52,835                 | \$72,951                    |
|                        | Median  | \$61,623         | \$45,000                 | \$63,113                    |
| Aged 55-64             | Average | \$65,322         | \$50,656                 | \$69,393                    |
|                        | Median  | \$51,561         | \$40,480                 | \$54,600                    |
| Aged 65 and over       | Average | \$47,165         | \$46,708                 | \$47,475                    |
|                        | Median  | \$33,383         | \$31,218                 | \$35,098                    |
| Men                    |         | Total Population | Adults with Disabilities | Adults without Disabilities |
| Total aged 15 and over | Average | \$68,897         | \$50,770                 | \$71,696                    |
|                        | Median  | \$58,437         | \$40,408                 | \$60,980                    |
| Aged 15-64             | Average | \$71,862         | \$53,088                 | \$73,800                    |
|                        | Median  | \$62,000         | \$45,940                 | \$63,532                    |
| Aged 15-24             | Average | \$74,306         | \$67,773                 | \$74,561                    |
|                        | Median  | \$64,317         | \$55,666                 | \$64,529                    |
| Aged 25-54             | Average | \$71,572         | \$52,446                 | \$73,367                    |
|                        | Median  | \$62,398         | \$45,830                 | \$63,971                    |
| Aged 55-64             | Average | \$69,712         | \$50,552                 | \$74,821                    |
|                        | Median  | \$56,600         | \$44,604                 | \$59,902                    |
| Aged 65 and over       | Average | \$50,390         | \$47,250                 | \$52,353                    |
|                        | Median  | \$37,597         | \$34,306                 | \$39,153                    |
| Women                  |         | Total Population | Adults with Disabilities | Adults without Disabilities |
| Total aged 15 and over | Average | \$65,259         | \$49,976                 | \$68,103                    |
|                        | Median  | \$53,418         | \$35,984                 | \$57,000                    |
| Aged 15-64             | Average | \$69,389         | \$52,923                 | \$71,307                    |
|                        | Median  | \$58,926         | \$42,934                 | \$60,698                    |
| Aged 15-24             | Average | \$71,134         | \$59,955                 | \$71,600                    |
|                        | Median  | \$60,402         | \$48,000                 | \$60,811                    |
| Aged 25-54             | Average | \$70,663         | \$53,166                 | \$72,544                    |
|                        | Median  | \$60,936         | \$44,294                 | \$62,521                    |
| Aged 55-64             | Average | \$61,088         | \$50,751                 | \$64,069                    |
|                        | Median  | \$47,340         | \$37,962                 | \$50,000                    |
| Aged 65 and over       | Average | \$44,642         | \$46,318                 | \$43,431                    |
|                        | Median  | \$30,207         | \$28,310                 | \$31,312                    |

Source: Statistics Canada (September 2003), 2001 Participation and Activity Limitation Survey Special Tabulation.

<sup>a</sup> Arithmetic average of all household incomes.

<sup>b</sup> The household income found in the middle of the range from lowest to highest incomes.



**Table C.5 Average<sup>a</sup> and median<sup>b</sup> individual earnings by disability status, age and sex, Canada, 2001**

| Total Men and Women    |         | Total Population | Adults with Disabilities | Adults without Disabilities |
|------------------------|---------|------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Total aged 15 and over | Average | \$31,731         | \$26,760                 | \$32,085                    |
|                        | Median  | \$25,082         | \$21,657                 | \$25,992                    |
| Aged 15-24             | Average | \$10,169         | \$9,082                  | \$10,203                    |
|                        | Median  | \$6,700          | \$6,200                  | \$6,715                     |
| Aged 25-54             | Average | \$36,317         | \$28,804                 | \$36,837                    |
|                        | Median  | \$30,000         | \$25,000                 | \$30,597                    |
| Aged 55-64             | Average | \$36,509         | \$26,672                 | \$38,128                    |
|                        | Median  | \$27,230         | \$20,000                 | \$28,500                    |
| Men                    |         | Total Population | Adults with Disabilities | Adults without Disabilities |
| Total aged 15 and over | Average | \$38,267         | \$32,385                 | \$38,677                    |
|                        | Median  | \$31,041         | \$28,157                 | \$31,500                    |
| Aged 15-24             | Average | \$11,373         | \$9,381                  | \$11,431                    |
|                        | Median  | \$7,314          | \$6,000                  | \$7,400                     |
| Aged 25-54             | Average | \$43,715         | \$34,536                 | \$44,312                    |
|                        | Median  | \$38,000         | \$31,000                 | \$38,000                    |
| Aged 55-64             | Average | \$45,086         | \$33,475                 | \$47,081                    |
|                        | Median  | \$34,412         | \$27,230                 | \$35,000                    |
| Women                  |         | Total Population | Adults with Disabilities | Adults without Disabilities |
| Total aged 15 and over | Average | \$24,507         | \$20,821                 | \$24,776                    |
|                        | Median  | \$20,000         | \$15,500                 | \$20,000                    |
| Aged 15-24             | Average | \$8,884          | \$8,806                  | \$8,886                     |
|                        | Median  | \$6,000          | \$6,500                  | \$6,000                     |
| Aged 25-54             | Average | \$28,326         | \$23,302                 | \$28,697                    |
|                        | Median  | \$25,000         | \$19,136                 | \$25,000                    |
| Aged 55-64             | Average | \$24,695         | \$16,406                 | \$25,977                    |
|                        | Median  | \$20,000         | \$13,000                 | \$21,220                    |

Source: Statistics Canada (September 2003), 2001 Participation and Activity Limitation Survey Special Tabulation.

<sup>a</sup> Arithmetic average of all individual earnings.

<sup>b</sup> The individual earnings found in the middle of the range from lowest to highest earnings.

Table C.6 Highest level of education attained by disability status, age and sex, Canada, 2001

|                        | Total Men & Women                   |  | Total             |       | Less than high school        |       | High school <sup>b</sup>       |       | Trade certificate or diploma        |       | College <sup>c</sup>       |       | University        |       |
|------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|-------------------|-------|------------------------------|-------|--------------------------------|-------|-------------------------------------|-------|----------------------------|-------|-------------------|-------|
|                        |                                     |  | Count             | %     | Count                        | %     | Count                          | %     | Count                               | %     | Count                      | %     | Count             | %     |
| Total aged 15 and over | <b>Total population<sup>a</sup></b> |  | <b>19,858,340</b> |       | <b>5,246,090</b>             |       | <b>5,253,600</b>               |       | <b>2,220,020</b>                    |       | <b>3,269,080</b>           |       | <b>3,865,470</b>  |       |
|                        | With disabilities                   |  | 1,968,490         | 37.0% | 728,560                      | 23.0% | 453,030                        | 23.0% | 248,180                             | 12.6% | 310,900                    | 15.8% | 224,040           | 11.4% |
|                        | Without disabilities                |  | 17,889,850        |       | 4,517,530                    | 25.3% | 4,800,570                      | 26.8% | 1,971,840                           | 11.0% | 2,958,180                  | 16.5% | 3,641,430         | 20.4% |
| Aged 15-24             | <b>Total population<sup>a</sup></b> |  | <b>3,883,700</b>  |       | <b>1,652,420</b>             |       | <b>1,407,140</b>               |       | <b>178,640</b>                      |       | <b>384,010</b>             |       | <b>260,480</b>    |       |
|                        | With disabilities                   |  | 151,030           | 51.0% | 76,950                       | 34.3% | 51,780                         | 34.3% | 6,350                               | 4.2%  | 10,250                     | 6.8%  | 4,800             | 3.2%  |
|                        | Without disabilities                |  | 3,732,670         | 42.2% | 1,575,470                    | 36.3% | 1,355,360                      | 36.3% | 172,290                             | 4.6%  | 373,760                    | 10.0% | 255,680           | 6.8%  |
| Aged 25-54             | <b>Total population<sup>a</sup></b> |  | <b>13,167,750</b> |       | <b>2,534,280</b>             |       | <b>3,277,610</b>               |       | <b>1,688,850</b>                    |       | <b>2,531,300</b>           |       | <b>3,133,880</b>  |       |
|                        | With disabilities                   |  | 1,206,660         | 29.5% | 356,020                      | 24.6% | 296,340                        | 24.6% | 153,700                             | 12.7% | 231,630                    | 19.2% | 167,350           | 13.9% |
|                        | Without disabilities                |  | 11,961,090        | 18.2% | 2,178,260                    | 24.9% | 2,981,270                      | 24.9% | 1,535,150                           | 12.8% | 2,299,670                  | 19.2% | 2,966,530         | 24.8% |
| Aged 55-64             | <b>Total population<sup>a</sup></b> |  | <b>2,806,900</b>  |       | <b>1,059,370</b>             |       | <b>568,840</b>                 |       | <b>352,520</b>                      |       | <b>353,770</b>             |       | <b>471,110</b>    |       |
|                        | With disabilities                   |  | 610,800           | 48.4% | 295,580                      | 17.2% | 104,900                        | 17.2% | 88,120                              | 14.4% | 69,020                     | 11.3% | 51,890            | 8.5%  |
|                        | Without disabilities                |  | 2,196,100         | 34.8% | 763,790                      | 21.1% | 463,940                        | 21.1% | 264,400                             | 12.0% | 284,750                    | 13.0% | 419,220           | 19.1% |
| Men                    | <b>Total</b>                        |  | <b>Total</b>      |       | <b>Less than high school</b> |       | <b>High school<sup>b</sup></b> |       | <b>Trade certificate or diploma</b> |       | <b>College<sup>c</sup></b> |       | <b>University</b> |       |
|                        |                                     |  | Count             | %     | Count                        | %     | Count                          | %     | Count                               | %     | Count                      | %     | Count             | %     |
| Total aged 15 and over | <b>Total population<sup>a</sup></b> |  | <b>9,821,710</b>  |       | <b>2,722,690</b>             |       | <b>2,472,490</b>               |       | <b>1,383,950</b>                    |       | <b>1,361,800</b>           |       | <b>1,877,820</b>  |       |
|                        | With disabilities                   |  | 921,020           | 38.7% | 356,050                      | 21.5% | 198,190                        | 21.5% | 150,750                             | 16.4% | 121,960                    | 13.2% | 91,340            | 9.9%  |
|                        | Without disabilities                |  | 8,900,690         | 26.6% | 2,366,640                    | 25.6% | 2,274,300                      | 25.6% | 1,233,200                           | 13.9% | 1,239,840                  | 13.9% | 1,786,480         | 20.1% |
| Aged 15-24             | <b>Total population<sup>a</sup></b> |  | <b>1,980,020</b>  |       | <b>891,840</b>               |       | <b>716,800</b>                 |       | <b>101,300E</b>                     |       | <b>166,640E</b>            |       | <b>102,940E</b>   |       |
|                        | With disabilities                   |  | 74,500            | 54.4% | 40,510                       | 34.3% | 25,590                         | 34.3% | 3,080 E                             | 4.1%  | 3,580 E                    | 4.8%  | 1,270 E           | 1.7%  |
|                        | Without disabilities                |  | 1,905,520         | 44.7% | 851,330                      | 36.3% | 691,210                        | 36.3% | 98,220                              | 5.2%  | 163,060                    | 8.6%  | 101,670           | 5.3%  |
| Aged 25-54             | <b>Total population<sup>a</sup></b> |  | <b>6,463,150</b>  |       | <b>1,332,980</b>             |       | <b>1,528,120</b>               |       | <b>1,049,950</b>                    |       | <b>1,046,230</b>           |       | <b>1,504,560</b>  |       |
|                        | With disabilities                   |  | 555,430           | 32.1% | 178,150                      | 24.3% | 134,890                        | 24.3% | 90,370                              | 16.3% | 87,980                     | 15.8% | 62,940            | 11.3% |
|                        | Without disabilities                |  | 5,907,720         | 19.5% | 1,154,830                    | 23.6% | 1,393,230                      | 23.6% | 959,580                             | 16.2% | 958,250                    | 16.2% | 1,441,620         | 24.4% |
| Aged 55-64             | <b>Total population<sup>a</sup></b> |  | <b>1,378,550</b>  |       | <b>497,870</b>               |       | <b>227,570</b>                 |       | <b>232,700</b>                      |       | <b>148,920</b>             |       | <b>270,310</b>    |       |
|                        | With disabilities                   |  | 291,100           | 47.2% | 137,390                      | 13.0% | 37,710                         | 13.0% | 57,300                              | 19.7% | 30,400                     | 10.4% | 27,130            | 9.3%  |
|                        | Without disabilities                |  | 1,087,450         | 33.1% | 360,480                      | 17.5% | 189,860                        | 17.5% | 175,400                             | 16.1% | 118,520                    | 10.9% | 243,180           | 22.4% |

| Women                               | Total             | Less than high school |        | High school <sup>b</sup> |        | Trade certificate or diploma |       | College <sup>c</sup> |        | University       |       |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|--------|--------------------------|--------|------------------------------|-------|----------------------|--------|------------------|-------|
|                                     |                   | Count                 | %      | Count                    | %      | Count                        | %     | Count                | %      | Count            | %     |
| <b>Total population<sup>a</sup></b> | <b>10,036,630</b> | <b>2,523,400</b>      |        | <b>2,781,100</b>         |        | <b>836,060</b>               |       | <b>1,907,280</b>     |        | <b>1,987,650</b> |       |
| With disabilities                   | 1,047,470         | 372,510               | 35.6%  | 254,840                  | 24.3%  | 97,420                       | 9.3%  | 188,940              | 18.0%  | 132,700          | 12.7% |
| Without disabilities                | 8,989,160         | 2,150,890             | 23.9%  | 2,526,260                | 28.1%  | 738,640                      | 8.2%  | 1,718,340            | 19.1%  | 1,854,950        | 20.6% |
| <b>Total population<sup>a</sup></b> | <b>1,903,670</b>  | <b>760,600</b>        |        | <b>690,330</b>           |        | <b>77,340E</b>               |       | <b>217,370</b>       |        | <b>157,530E</b>  |       |
| With disabilities                   | 76,530            | 36,450                | 47.6%  | 26,190                   | 34.2%  | 3,270 E                      | 4.3%  | 6,670                | 8.7%   | 3,530 E          | 4.6%  |
| Without disabilities                | 1,827,140         | 724,150               | 39.60% | 664,140                  | 36.30% | 74,070                       | 4.10% | 210,700              | 11.50% | 154,000          | 8.40% |
| <b>Total population<sup>a</sup></b> | <b>6,704,600</b>  | <b>1,201,300</b>      |        | <b>1,749,500</b>         |        | <b>638,900</b>               |       | <b>1,485,070</b>     |        | <b>1,629,320</b> |       |
| With disabilities                   | 651,230           | 177,870               | 27.3%  | 161,460                  | 24.8%  | 63,330                       | 9.7%  | 143,650              | 22.1%  | 104,410          | 16.0% |
| Without disabilities                | 6,053,370         | 1,023,430             | 16.9%  | 1,588,040                | 26.2%  | 575,570                      | 9.5%  | 1,341,420            | 22.2%  | 1,524,910        | 25.2% |
| <b>Total population<sup>a</sup></b> | <b>1,428,350</b>  | <b>561,500</b>        |        | <b>341,280</b>           |        | <b>119,820</b>               |       | <b>204,840</b>       |        | <b>200,790</b>   |       |
| With disabilities                   | 319,700           | 158,190               | 49.5%  | 67,200                   | 21.0%  | 30,820                       | 9.6%  | 38,620               | 12.1%  | 24,760           | 7.7%  |
| Without disabilities                | 1,108,650         | 403,310               | 36.4%  | 274,080                  | 24.7%  | 89,000                       | 8.0%  | 166,220              | 15.0%  | 176,030          | 15.9% |

Source: Statistics Canada (September 2003), *Education, Employment and Income of Adults with and without Disabilities- Tables (2001 Participation and Activity Limitation Survey)*, catalogue no. 89-587-XIE, Government of Canada.

<sup>a</sup> Totals include "not specified" responses (not shown in table)

<sup>b</sup> Includes persons who have attended courses at post-secondary institutions and who may or may not have a high-school graduation certificate. Excludes persons with a post-secondary certificate, diploma or degree. Examples of post-secondary institutions include community colleges, institutes of technology, CEGEPs, private trade schools, private business colleges and schools of nursing.

<sup>c</sup> Includes non-degree-granting institutions such as community colleges, CEGEPs, private business colleges and technical institutes.

**Table C.7 Labour-force activity by disability status, age and sex, Canada, 2001  
(excluding full-time students)**

| Total Men and Women     |                           | Total adults        | %        | Adults with Disabilities        | %        | Adults without Disabilities        | %        |
|-------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------|----------|---------------------------------|----------|------------------------------------|----------|
| <b>Total aged 15-64</b> | <b>Total <sup>a</sup></b> | <b>17,135,540</b>   |          | <b>1,832,250</b>                |          | <b>15,303,290</b>                  |          |
|                         | Employed                  | 12,763,570          | 74.9%    | 764,670                         | 43.7%    | 11,998,900                         | 78.4%    |
|                         | Unemployed                | 863,150             | 5.1%     | 81,460                          | 4.7%     | 781,690                            | 5.1%     |
|                         | Not in labour force       | 3,424,560           | 20.1%    | 902,180                         | 51.6%    | 2,522,380                          | 16.5%    |
| <b>Aged 15-24</b>       | <b>Total <sup>a</sup></b> | <b>1,661,670</b>    |          | <b>67,010</b>                   |          | <b>1,594,660</b>                   |          |
|                         | Employed                  | 1,186,180           | 71.6%    | 33,250                          | 53.0%    | 1,152,930                          | 72.3%    |
|                         | Unemployed                | 153,600             | 9.3%     | 8,600                           | 13.7%    | 145,000                            | 9.1%     |
|                         | Not in labour force       | 317,580             | 19.2%    | 20,950                          | 33.4%    | 296,630                            | 25.7%    |
| <b>Aged 25-54</b>       | <b>Total <sup>a</sup></b> | <b>12,677,460</b>   |          | <b>1,156,630</b>                |          | <b>11,520,830</b>                  |          |
|                         | Employed                  | 10,192,000          | 80.7%    | 575,060                         | 51.7%    | 9,616,940                          | 83.5%    |
|                         | Unemployed                | 631,830             | 5.0%     | 62,480                          | 5.6%     | 569,350                            | 4.9%     |
|                         | Not in labour force       | 1,808,830           | 14.3%    | 474,500                         | 42.7%    | 1,334,330                          | 11.6%    |
| <b>Aged 55-64</b>       | <b>Total <sup>a</sup></b> | <b>2,796,410</b>    |          | <b>608,610</b>                  |          | <b>2,187,800</b>                   |          |
|                         | Employed                  | 1,385,400           | 50.2%    | 156,360                         | 27.3%    | 1,229,040                          | 56.2%    |
|                         | Unemployed                | 77,720              | 2.8%     | 10,380                          | 1.8%     | 67,340                             | 3.1%     |
|                         | Not in labour force       | 1,298,150           | 47.0%    | 406,730                         | 70.9%    | 891,420                            | 40.7%    |
| <b>Men</b>              |                           | <b>Total Adults</b> | <b>%</b> | <b>Adults with Disabilities</b> | <b>%</b> | <b>Adults without Disabilities</b> | <b>%</b> |
| <b>Total aged 15-64</b> | <b>Total <sup>a</sup></b> | <b>8,489,730</b>    |          | <b>854,270</b>                  |          | <b>7,635,460</b>                   |          |
|                         | Employed                  | 6,808,400           | 80.5%    | 389,260                         | 47.6%    | 6,419,140                          | 84.1%    |
|                         | Unemployed                | 486,400             | 5.8%     | 41,880                          | 5.1%     | 444,520                            | 5.8%     |
|                         | Not in labour force       | 1,157,510           | 13.7%    | 385,950                         | 47.2%    | 771,560                            | 10.1%    |
| <b>Aged 15-24</b>       | <b>Total <sup>a</sup></b> | <b>884,470</b>      |          | <b>33,340</b>                   |          | <b>851,130</b>                     |          |
|                         | Employed                  | 641,920             | 72.8%    | 14,940                          | 48.4%    | 626,980                            | 73.7%    |
|                         | Unemployed                | 95,600              | 10.8%    | 4,780                           | 15.5%    | 90,820                             | 10.7%    |
|                         | Not in labour force       | 144,470             | 16.4%    | 11,160                          | 36.2%    | 133,310                            | 15.7%    |
| <b>Aged 25-54</b>       | <b>Total <sup>a</sup></b> | <b>6,232,330</b>    |          | <b>530,810</b>                  |          | <b>5,701,520</b>                   |          |
|                         | Employed                  | 5,352,240           | 86.1%    | 284,410                         | 55.5%    | 5,067,830                          | 88.9%    |
|                         | Unemployed                | 338,940             | 5.5%     | 31,590                          | 6.2%     | 307,350                            | 5.4%     |
|                         | Not in labour force       | 522,180             | 8.4%     | 196,050                         | 38.3%    | 326,130                            | 5.7%     |
| <b>Aged 55-64</b>       | <b>Total <sup>a</sup></b> | <b>1,372,930</b>    |          | <b>290,120</b>                  |          | <b>1,082,810</b>                   |          |
|                         | Employed                  | 814,250             | 60.0%    | 89,920                          | 32.8%    | 724,330                            | 66.9%    |
|                         | Unemployed                | 51,870              | 3.8%     | 5,520                           | 2.0%     | 46,350                             | 4.3%     |
|                         | Not in labour force       | 490,860             | 36.2%    | 178,730                         | 65.2%    | 312,130                            | 28.8%    |

**Table C.7 Continued . . .**

| Women                   |                          | Total Adults     | %     | Adults with Disabilities | %     | Adults without Disabilities |       |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|------------------|-------|--------------------------|-------|-----------------------------|-------|
| <b>Total aged 15-64</b> | <b>Total<sup>a</sup></b> | <b>8,645,810</b> |       | <b>977,980</b>           |       | <b>7,667,830</b>            |       |
|                         | Employed                 | 5,955,180        | 69.3% | 375,410                  | 40.3% | 5,579,770                   | 72.8% |
|                         | Unemployed               | 376,740          | 4.4%  | 39,570                   | 4.2%  | 337,170                     | 4.4%  |
|                         | Not in labour force      | 2,267,050        | 26.4% | 516,240                  | 55.4% | 1,750,810                   | 22.8% |
| <b>Aged 15-24</b>       | <b>Total<sup>a</sup></b> | <b>777,200</b>   |       | <b>33,670</b>            |       | <b>743,530</b>              |       |
|                         | Employed                 | 544,260          | 70.2% | 18,310                   | 57.4% | 525,950                     | 70.7% |
|                         | Unemployed               | 57,980           | 7.5%  | 3,810                    | 11.9% | 54,170                      | 7.3%  |
|                         | Not in labour force      | 173,110          | 22.3% | 9,790                    | 30.7% | 163,320                     | 22.0% |
| <b>Aged 25-54</b>       | <b>Total<sup>a</sup></b> | <b>6,445,140</b> |       | <b>625,830</b>           |       | <b>5,819,310</b>            |       |
|                         | Employed                 | 4,839,760        | 75.4% | 290,650                  | 48.4% | 4,549,110                   | 78.2% |
|                         | Unemployed               | 292,890          | 4.6%  | 30,890                   | 5.1%  | 262,000                     | 4.5%  |
|                         | Not in labour force      | 1,286,650        | 20.0% | 278,450                  | 46.4% | 1,008,200                   | 17.3% |
| <b>Aged 55-64</b>       | <b>Total<sup>a</sup></b> | <b>1,423,480</b> |       | <b>318,490</b>           |       | <b>1,104,990</b>            |       |
|                         | Employed                 | 571,150          | 40.7% | 66,440                   | 22.2% | 504,710                     | 45.7% |
|                         | Unemployed               | 25,860           | 1.8%  | 4,870                    | 1.6%  | 20,990                      | 1.9%  |
|                         | Not in labour force      | 807,290          | 57.5% | 228,000                  | 76.2% | 579,290                     | 52.4% |

Source: Statistics Canada (September 2003), 2001 Participation and Activity Limitation Survey Special Tabulation.

<sup>a</sup>Totals include "not specified" responses (not shown in table)

**Table C.8 Use of and need for assistive aids and devices for adults with disabilities, by age and sex, Canada, 2001**

|                                  | Total men and women |       | Men            |       | Women          |       |
|----------------------------------|---------------------|-------|----------------|-------|----------------|-------|
|                                  | Count               | %     | Count          | %     | Count          | %     |
| <b>Total - 15 and over</b>       |                     |       |                |       |                |       |
| <b>Total</b>                     | 1,604,610           |       | 709,020        |       | 895,590        |       |
| Use aids, but need more          | 459,930             | 28.7% | 198,180        | 28.0% | 261,750        | 29.2% |
| Don't use, but need some         | 164,600             | 10.3% | 74,170         | 10.5% | 90,430         | 10.1% |
| Have all aids and devices needed | 980,080             | 61.1% | 436,660        | 61.6% | 543,420        | 60.7% |
| <b>15 to 64</b>                  |                     |       |                |       |                |       |
| <b>Total</b>                     | <b>836,460</b>      |       | <b>387,200</b> |       | <b>449,260</b> |       |
| Use aids, but need more          | 277,410             | 33.2% | 125,850        | 32.5% | 151,560        | 33.7% |
| Don't use, but need some         | 110,440             | 13.2% | 52,100         | 13.5% | 58,350         | 13.0% |
| Have all aids and devices needed | 448,610             | 53.6% | 209,260        | 54.0% | 239,350        | 53.3% |
| <b>15 to 24</b>                  |                     |       |                |       |                |       |
| <b>Total</b>                     | 54,240              |       | 28,350         |       | 25,890         |       |
| Use aids, but need more          | 15,340              | 28.3% | 8,390          | 29.6% | 6,940          | 26.8% |
| Don't use, but need some         | 9,720               | 17.9% | 5,510          | 19.4% | 4,220          | 16.3% |
| Have all aids and devices needed | 29,180              | 53.8% | 14,450         | 51.0% | 14,730         | 56.9% |
| <b>25 to 54</b>                  |                     |       |                |       |                |       |
| <b>Total</b>                     | 510,120             |       | 230,000        |       | 280,120        |       |
| Use aids, but need more          | 176,160             | 34.5% | 77,250         | 33.6% | 98,920         | 35.3% |
| Don't use, but need some         | 70,540              | 13.8% | 33,950         | 14.8% | 36,590         | 13.1% |
| Have all aids and devices needed | 263,420             | 51.6% | 118,800        | 51.7% | 144,620        | 51.6% |
| <b>55 to 64</b>                  |                     |       |                |       |                |       |
| <b>Total</b>                     | 272,100             |       | 128,860        |       | 143,250        |       |
| Use aids, but need more          | 85,910              | 31.6% | 40,210         | 31.2% | 45,700         | 31.9% |
| Don't use, but need some         | 30,180              | 11.1% | 12,640         | 9.8%  | 17,540         | 12.2% |
| Have all aids and devices needed | 156,010             | 57.3% | 76,010         | 59.0% | 80,000         | 55.8% |
| <b>65 and over</b>               |                     |       |                |       |                |       |
| <b>Total</b>                     | <b>768,150</b>      |       | <b>321,810</b> |       | <b>446,330</b> |       |
| Use aids, but need more          | 182,520             | 23.8% | 72,340         | 22.5% | 110,180        | 24.7% |
| Don't use, but need some         | 54,150              | 7.0%  | 22,070         | 6.9%  | 32,080         | 7.2%  |
| Have all aids and devices needed | 531,470             | 69.2% | 227,400        | 70.7% | 304,070        | 68.1% |
| <b>65 to 74</b>                  |                     |       |                |       |                |       |
| <b>Total</b>                     | 293,210             |       | 139,850        |       | 153,360        |       |
| Use aids, but need more          | 68,930              | 23.5% | 27,230         | 19.5% | 41,700         | 27.2% |
| Don't use, but need some         | 28,940              | 9.9%  | 13,810         | 9.9%  | 15,130         | 9.9%  |
| Have all aids and devices needed | 195,330             | 66.6% | 98,810         | 70.7% | 96,520         | 62.9% |
| <b>75 and over</b>               |                     |       |                |       |                |       |
| <b>Total</b>                     | 474,940             |       | 181,970        |       | 292,970        |       |
| Use aids, but need more          | 113,590             | 23.9% | 45,110         | 24.8% | 68,480         | 23.4% |
| Don't use, but need some         | 25,210              | 5.3%  | 8,260          | 4.5%  | 16,950         | 5.8%  |
| Have all aids and devices needed | 336,140             | 70.8% | 128,590        | 70.7% | 207,550        | 70.8% |

**Source:** Statistics Canada (March 2003), *Disability Supports in Canada — Tables (2001 Participation and Activity Limitation Survey)*, catalogue no. 89-581-XIE, Government of Canada.

**Table C.9 Use of and need for help with everyday activities for adults with disabilities, by age and sex, Canada, 2001**

|                                   | Total men and women |       | Men            |       | Women            |       |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------|-------|----------------|-------|------------------|-------|
|                                   | Count               | %     | Count          | %     | Count            | %     |
| <b>Total - 15 and over</b>        |                     |       |                |       |                  |       |
| <b>Total</b>                      | <b>2,176,530</b>    |       | <b>814,630</b> |       | <b>1,361,900</b> |       |
| Receive help, but need more       | 640,280             | 29.4% | 224,410        | 27.5% | 415,870          | 30.5% |
| Don't receive help, but need some | 125,620             | 5.8%  | 49,390         | 6.1%  | 76,220           | 5.6%  |
| Receive all the help needed       | 1,410,630           | 64.8% | 540,830        | 66.4% | 869,800          | 63.9% |
| <b>15 to 64</b>                   |                     |       |                |       |                  |       |
| <b>Total</b>                      | <b>1,198,440</b>    |       | <b>465,170</b> |       | <b>733,260</b>   |       |
| Receive help, but need more       | 355,150             | 29.6% | 128,160        | 27.6% | 226,980          | 31.0% |
| Don't receive help, but need some | 90,630              | 7.6%  | 34,380         | 7.4%  | 56,250           | 7.7%  |
| Receive all the help needed       | 752,660             | 62.8% | 302,630        | 65.1% | 450,030          | 61.4% |
| <b>15 to 24</b>                   |                     |       |                |       |                  |       |
| <b>Total</b>                      | <b>74,710</b>       |       | <b>34,750</b>  |       | <b>39,960</b>    |       |
| Receive help, but need more       | 22,700              | 30.4% | 10,490         | 30.2% | 12,210           | 30.6% |
| Don't receive help, but need some | 2,250               | 3.0%  | 1,150          | 3.3%  | 1,100            | 2.8%  |
| Receive all the help needed       | 49,760              | 66.6% | 23,110         | 66.5% | 26,660           | 66.7% |
| <b>25 to 54</b>                   |                     |       |                |       |                  |       |
| <b>Total</b>                      | <b>745,110</b>      |       | <b>278,990</b> |       | <b>466,120</b>   |       |
| Receive help, but need more       | 229,850             | 30.8% | 84,170         | 30.2% | 145,680          | 31.3% |
| Don't receive help, but need some | 60,330              | 8.1%  | 20,920         | 7.5%  | 39,420           | 8.5%  |
| Receive all the help needed       | 454,930             | 61.1% | 173,900        | 62.3% | 281,020          | 60.3% |
| <b>55 to 64</b>                   |                     |       |                |       |                  |       |
| <b>Total</b>                      | <b>378,620</b>      |       | <b>151,440</b> |       | <b>227,180</b>   |       |
| Receive help, but need more       | 102,600             | 27.1% | 33,500         | 22.1% | 69,100           | 30.4% |
| Don't receive help, but need some | 28,050              | 7.4%  | 12,310         | 8.1%  | 15,740           | 6.9%  |
| Receive all the help needed       | 247,970             | 65.5% | 105,620        | 69.7% | 142,340          | 62.7% |
| <b>65 and over</b>                |                     |       |                |       |                  |       |
| <b>Total</b>                      | <b>978,090</b>      |       | <b>349,460</b> |       | <b>628,630</b>   |       |
| Receive help, but need more       | 285,140             | 29.2% | 96,250         | 27.5% | 188,890          | 30.0% |
| Don't receive help, but need some | 34,990              | 3.6%  | 15,020E        | 4.3%  | 19,970           | 3.2%  |
| Receive all the help needed       | 657,970             | 67.3% | 238,190        | 68.2% | 419,770          | 66.8% |
| <b>65 to 74</b>                   |                     |       |                |       |                  |       |
| <b>Total</b>                      | <b>386,070</b>      |       | <b>144,430</b> |       | <b>241,640</b>   |       |
| Receive help, but need more       | 112,970             | 29.3% | 40,400         | 28.0% | 72,570           | 30.0% |
| Don't receive help, but need some | 19,260              | 5.0%  | 7,540          | 5.2%  | 11,720           | 4.9%  |
| Receive all the help needed       | 253,830             | 65.7% | 96,490         | 66.8% | 157,340          | 65.1% |
| <b>75 and over</b>                |                     |       |                |       |                  |       |
| <b>Total</b>                      | <b>592,020</b>      |       | <b>205,030</b> |       | <b>386,990</b>   |       |
| Receive help, but need more       | 172,160             | 29.1% | 55,850         | 27.2% | 116,320          | 30.1% |
| Don't receive help, but need some | 15,720              | 2.7%  | 7,470          | 3.6%  | 8,250            | 2.1%  |
| Receive all the help needed       | 404,130             | 68.3% | 141,710        | 69.1% | 262,430          | 67.8% |

Source: Statistics Canada (March 2003), *Disability Supports in Canada--Tables (2001 Participation and Activity Limitation Survey)*, catalogue no. 89-581-XIE, Government of Canada.

**Table C.10 Use of and need for specialized features in the home for adults with disabilities, by age and sex, Canada, 2001**

|  | Total Men and Women | %     | Men            | %     | Women          | %     |
|--|---------------------|-------|----------------|-------|----------------|-------|
| <b>Total aged 15 and over</b>          |                     |       |                |       |                |       |
| <b>Total</b>                           | <b>483,030</b>      |       | <b>169,650</b> |       | <b>313,370</b> |       |
| Use specialized features but need more | 53,790              | 11.1% | 19,690         | 11.6% | 34,100         | 10.9% |
| Don't use but need some                | 125,780             | 26.0% | 44,050         | 26.0% | 81,730         | 26.1% |
| Use and have all that is needed        | 303,450             | 62.8% | 105,910        | 62.4% | 197,540        | 63.0% |
| <b>Aged 15 to 64</b>                   |                     |       |                |       |                |       |
| <b>Total</b>                           | <b>209,580</b>      |       | <b>87,640</b>  |       | <b>121,950</b> |       |
| Use specialized features but need more | 29,660              | 14.2% | 13,140         | 15.0% | 16,530 E       | 13.6% |
| Don't use but need some                | 77,160              | 36.8% | 30,600         | 34.9% | 46,560         | 38.2% |
| Use and have all that is needed        | 102,760             | 49.0% | 43,900         | 50.1% | 58,860         | 48.3% |
| <b>Aged 65 and over</b>                |                     |       |                |       |                |       |
| <b>Total</b>                           | <b>273,440</b>      |       | <b>82,020</b>  |       | <b>191,430</b> |       |
| Use specialized features but need more | 24,130              | 8.8%  | 6,560 E        | 8.0%  | 17,570 E       | 9.2%  |
| Don't use but need some                | 48,630              | 17.8% | 13,460         | 16.4% | 35,170         | 18.4% |
| Use and have all that is needed        | 200,680             | 73.4% | 62,000         | 75.6% | 138,680        | 72.4% |

**Source:** Statistics Canada (March 2003), *Disability Supports in Canada — Tables (2001 Participation and Activity Limitation Survey)*, catalogue no. 89-581-XIE, Government of Canada.



**Table C.11 Prevented from or have difficulty travelling locally by specialized transportation, by age and sex, Canada, 2001**

|                                       | Total Men and Women | %     | Men              | %     | Women            | %     |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------|-------|------------------|-------|------------------|-------|
| <b>Total aged 15 and over</b>         |                     |       |                  |       |                  |       |
| <b>Total adults with disabilities</b> | <b>3,420,340</b>    |       | <b>1,526,900</b> |       | <b>1,893,440</b> |       |
| Prevented from travelling             | 134,800             | 3.9%  | 49,850           | 3.3%  | 84,950           | 4.5%  |
| Travel but have difficulty            | 179,280             | 5.2%  | 64,710           | 4.2%  | 114,570          | 6.1%  |
| Travel and have no difficulty         | 869,740             | 25.4% | 356,860          | 23.4% | 512,880          | 27.1% |
| Other <sup>a</sup>                    | 2,236,510           | 65.4% | 1,055,470        | 69.1% | 1,181,040        | 62.4% |
| <b>Aged 15 to 64</b>                  |                     |       |                  |       |                  |       |
| <b>Total</b>                          | <b>1,968,490</b>    |       | <b>921,020</b>   |       | <b>1,047,470</b> |       |
| Prevented from travelling             | 76,360              | 3.9%  | 30,640           | 3.3%  | 45,720           | 4.4%  |
| Travel but have difficulty            | 114,030             | 5.8%  | 42,490           | 4.6%  | 71,540           | 6.8%  |
| Travel and have no difficulty         | 505,030             | 25.7% | 225,340          | 24.5% | 279,690          | 26.7% |
| Other <sup>a</sup>                    | 1,273,070           | 64.7% | 622,560          | 67.6% | 650,510          | 62.1% |
| <b>Aged 65 and over</b>               |                     |       |                  |       |                  |       |
| <b>Total</b>                          | <b>1,451,840</b>    |       | <b>605,880</b>   |       | <b>845,970</b>   |       |
| Prevented from travelling             | 58,450              | 4.0%  | 19,220           | 3.2%  | 39,230           | 4.6%  |
| Travel but have difficulty            | 65,250              | 4.5%  | 22,220 E         | 3.7%  | 43,030           | 5.1%  |
| Travel and have no difficulty         | 364,710             | 25.1% | 131,530          | 21.7% | 233,180          | 27.6% |
| Other <sup>a</sup>                    | 963,440             | 66.4% | 432,910          | 71.5% | 530,520          | 62.7% |

**Source:** Statistics Canada (March 2003), *Disability supports in Canada--Tables (2001 Participation and Activity Limitation Survey)*, catalogue no. 89-581-XIE, Government of Canada.

<sup>a</sup> Includes persons who did not travel locally by specialized bus services or local transportation and were not prevented from doing so, and those who did not provide a response to one or more of the local travel questions.

**Table C.12 Persons with disabilities, unpaid volunteer activities by age, Canada, 2001**

|   | 15-24   |                | 25-54     |                | 55-64   |                | 65 and over |                |
|---|---------|----------------|-----------|----------------|---------|----------------|-------------|----------------|
|   | Count   | % <sup>a</sup> | Count     | % <sup>a</sup> | Count   | % <sup>a</sup> | Count       | % <sup>a</sup> |
| <b>Total Population</b>   | 151,030 |                | 1,206,660 |                | 610,800 |                | 1,451,640   |                |
| Organize or supervise activities or events  | 29,380  | 19.5%          | 229,140   | 19.0%          | 102,580 | 16.8%          | 145,230     | 10.0%          |
| Canvass, campaign or fund raise   | 21,620  | 14.3%          | 151,450   | 12.6%          | 64,830  | 10.6%          | 111,410     | 7.7%           |
| Serve as a board or committee member  | 9,820   | 6.5%           | 154,170   | 12.8%          | 73,320  | 12.5%          | 120,190     | 8.3%           |
| Consulting, executive office or administrative work   | 9,330   | 6.2%           | 113,840   | 9.4%           | 40,950  | 6.7%           | 65,420      | 9.7%           |
| Provide information, educate, lobby or influence public opinion                                 | 11,310  | 7.5%           | 114,490   | 9.5%           | 32,780  | 5.4%           | 73,780      | 5.1%           |
| Teach, coach, provide care or friendly visits through an organization                           | 21,840  | 14.5%          | 157,350   | 13.0%          | 60,480  | 9.9%           | 105,270     | 7.3%           |
| Collect, serve or deliver food or other goods through an organization                           | 12,130  | 8.0%           | 77,960    | 6.5%           | 46,840  | 7.7%           | 88,430      | 8.7%           |
| Any other volunteer activities including help to schools, religious and community organizations | 35,600  | 23.6%          | 269,720   | 22.4%          | 114,820 | 18.9%          | 275,520     | 19.0%          |

**Source:** Statistics Canada (December 2003), *2001 Participation and Activity Limitation Survey Special Tabulation*.

<sup>a</sup> Percentages should not be summed because individuals could report more than one type of volunteer activity.

