The United Nations Disability Statistics Data Portal: What have we learned so far?

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Persons with disabilities in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development gives high consideration to persons with disabilities in the context of development.

Targeted actions

The principle of leaving no one behind and reaching the furthest behind

- Inclusiveness
- Reduced inequalities
- Empowerment
- Dignity for all

Follow-up and review of progress on implementation: ensuring no one is left behind

- The 2030 Agenda commits to enhancing capacity-building support to developing countries to increase significantly the availability of high-quality, timely and reliable data disaggregated by […] disability
Disability statistics was an item for formal discussion and decision at the 49th Session of the United Nations Statistical Commission in 2018.

The Commission:

- Noted significant differences within and among countries in disability estimates
- Called on UNSD to compile and analyze national information in order to understand the observed differences
- Endorsed the revision of the United Nations Guidelines and Principles for the Development of Disability Statistics
- Called for a harmonized and coordinated approach for national capacity building that takes into account short- and long-term statistical development needs of the countries
Compiling official statistics on disability

UNSD compiled recent data/metadata from 103 countries/areas

UNSD developed a data portal to disseminate data for a wider audience through UNSD’s website

United Nations Disability Statistics Data Portal
accessible via:
Data compiled by geographical region

World
Total number of responding countries: 103

Europe: 32
Africa: 18
Asia: 35
America, North: 8
America, South: 10
Data compiled by geographical region, source

World
Total number of responding countries: 103 (71, 68, 52)
Data source: census, surveys, admin sources

America, North: 8 (6, 3, 3)
America, South: 10 (10, 8, 9)
Africa: 18 (16, 12, 2)
Europe: 32 (14, 24, 19)
Asia: 35 (25, 21, 19)
Information on prevalence, socio-demographic and economic characteristics, living arrangements and living conditions

- Prevalence*
- Type of disability*
- Marital status
- Educational characteristics (literacy, attendance, attainment)*
- Economic characteristics (usual status, occupation, status in employment)*
- Living arrangements (household vs. institution*, type and size of household)
- Quality of amenities available to the housing unit (drinking water supply*, bathing facilities, type of toilet*, lighting for housing unit)

*: already disseminated
**Availability of data on UN Disability Statistics Data Portal by topic**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Population by disability status, type of disability, age and sex</th>
<th># of countries:</th>
<th>Some data available</th>
<th>Data disseminated</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>79</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Population by [...] disability status, literacy status, age and sex</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>27</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Population by [...] disability status, school attendance, age and sex</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>30</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Population by [...] disability status, educational attainment, age and sex</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>28</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Population by [...] disability status, economic activity status, age and sex</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>15</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Economically active population, by disability status, main status in employment, age and sex</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>13</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Economically active population, by disability status, main occupation, age and sex</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>13</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Population by disability status, whether living in household or institution, age and sex</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>19</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Population in households by disability status, main source of drinking water supply of housing unit</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>10</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Population in households by disability status, type of toilet for housing unit</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>10</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Filters

Country: Canada

### Total population

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sex</th>
<th>Numbers in 1000</th>
<th>Proportion by Sex</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>27,516</td>
<td>50.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>13,957</td>
<td>49.3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Population with disability

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sex</th>
<th>Numbers in 1000</th>
<th>Proportion by Sex</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>3,776</td>
<td>55.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>2,077</td>
<td>45.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Disability prevalence

- Total country: Male 13.7%, Female 14.9%, Male 12.5%
- Urban: Male -%, Female -%, Male -%
- Rural: Male -%, Female -%, Male -%

### Disability - by type

- Total
- Seeing
- Hearing
- Walking
- Dexterity
- Flexibility
- Learning
- Mental health
- Memory
- Pain
- Developmental

### Metadata

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Metadata Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Source</td>
<td>Canadian Survey on Disability, 2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reference</td>
<td>2012</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Prevalence of disability by types of disabilities and sex in Albania
Proportion of persons by disability status, activity status, and sex in Bosnia and Herzegovina

% Economically active

With disabilities
- Female: 8.7
- Male: 22.6

Without disabilities
- Female: 38.9
- Male: 59.7

Source: Census of Population, Households and Dwellings in BiH 2013
Glimpse into other on-going work related to the observed rates
Disability questions by region (# and %)

World
Total number of countries [104]
using WG-like questions and other questions: 54 (52%), 50 (48%)

Africa [31]: 7 (22%), 24 (77%)

Caribbean [19]: 15 (79%), 4 (21%)

Latin America [15]: 10 (67%), 5 (33%)

Arabic-speaking [11]: 6 (55%), 5 (45%)

North and Central Asia
W. Balkan States[11]: 10 (91%), 1 (9%)

East/South Asia [17]: 6 (35%), 11 (65%)
### Disability questions by region (# and %)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>List of impairments</th>
<th>Generic qn/screener and list of impairments</th>
<th>Generic qn/screener and list of impairments and medical conditions</th>
<th>Generic qn on long-standing (difficulty/problem) illness, disability or infirmity that limits carrying out day-to-day activities and WG-like questions</th>
<th>Questions on difficulty or permanent limitations and WG-like questions and/or impairments and medical conditions</th>
<th>WG-like questions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Africa</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arabic-speaking</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Caribbean</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>7</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>East/South Asia</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>7</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>9</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Latin America</td>
<td></td>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North and Central Asia, West Balkan States</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
<td>7</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>9</strong></td>
<td><strong>27</strong></td>
<td><strong>14</strong></td>
<td><strong>10</strong></td>
<td><strong>9</strong></td>
<td><strong>35</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Conclusions: Lessons learned so far

- Many countries are collecting data on disability than ever before → high response rate!
- A lot of data are available for national needs
- Many countries are exploiting multiple sources of data
- Harmonized data sets for cross-country comparability are available
Conclusions: Next steps

More should be done to learn about the differences among countries in the rates of disability based on similar questions.

On-going work on the development of international guidelines on disability to benefit from analyses of the data.

Tuning up for the next issue of UNSD’s publication *World’s Women* for some analysis on disability.

UNSD’s looking for partnerships for the Global Disability Statistics Programme.
Thank you!