



Questions used to identify persons with disabilities: Overview of 2010 census round

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Collection of data on disability by census round

- National efforts to collect data on disability in both developed and developing countries have continuously increased over time

Countries that asked question on disability in census

Census round	Number of countries
1970	19
1980	36
1990	80
2000	103
2010	112*

* Based on questionnaires available to UNSD



2010 census questions on disability

	Total number of countries reviewed	Question on topic of disability	Use of Washington Group Questions	Other questions
Total countries	141	112	48	64
Africa	33	29	5	24
America, North	25	25	15	11
America, South	7	6	3	5
Asia	31	27	12	11
Europe	24	11	4	7
Oceania	22	15	9	6



Questions on disability in Caribbean region

	Participation	Impairments	Activity limitations	WG
Anguilla		1		1
Antigua and Barbuda				1
Aruba		1		1
Bahamas		1		
Barbados		1		
Belize				1
Bermuda	1/2	1	1/2	
British Virgin Islands				1
Cayman Islands		1		
Curacao		1		1
Grenada				1
Guyana	1	1		1
Jamaica				1
Montserrat		1		1
Saint Lucia				1
Sint Marteen		1		1
St. Kitts and Nevis				1
Suriname				1
Trinidad and Tobago		1	1	1
		11	2	15



Type of questions used in Caribbean region

- ❑ Generic question on presence of long-standing (difficulty/problem) illness, disability or infirmity that limits carrying out data-to-day activities followed by WG questions: Guyana, Montserrat, Trinidad and Tobago
- ❑ Screener about whether household members have disabilities followed by list of impairments and WG question – Anguilla, Aruba, Cayman Is**, Curacao, Sint Marteen
- ❑ Screener about whether household members have disabilities followed by list of impairments and medical conditions – Bahamas, Barbados, Bermuda

**Not asked WG question



Type of questions used in Caribbean region

- ❑ Washington Group – Anguilla, Antigua and Barbuda, Aruba, Belize, British Virgin Is, Curacao, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, Montserrat, Saint Lucia, Sin Marteen, St. Kitts and Nevis, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago

- All with some modifications



Generic question on long-standing illness, disability or infirmity

Guyana - 2012	Montserrat - 2011	Trinidad & Tobago
Do you have any long-standing difficulty/problem that prevents you from performing any activity?	Do you/does (....) have a longstanding illness or disability or infirmity that limits you/him/her from carrying out normal day-to-day activities? By longstanding I mean anything that has troubled you/him/her over a period of time (six months or more), or that is likely to affect you/him/her over a period of time?	Does N suffer from any long standing disability? Y/N
Followed by WG-type questions if response is "Yes"		



Screeners on household members with disabilities and list of impairments

Anguilla - 2011	Aruba - 2010	Cayman Is - 2010
Do(es) suffer from any long-standing impairment(s)/disability(ies) that is (are) either physical or mental?	(1) Do you have a handicap? (2) What type of handicap do you have?	Does .. Have any of the following disabilities or impairments that limits his/her activities compared with most people of the same age?
Partial or total loss of sight even with glasses/contacts Partial or total loss of hearing Incomplete use of leg, feet Incomplete use of arms/fingers Slow development/learning difficulties Partial or total loss of speech Behavioural problems/ mental impairment Other – specify Not stated No condition	Motor dysfunction (moving) Visual handicap (seeing) Auditory handicap (hearing) Organ handicap Light mental handicap Severe mental handicap Other	Sight Hearing Speech Upper limb (arm) Lower limb (legs) Neck and spine Learning disability Mental illness Other None DK/NS



Screeners, question on type and list of activity limitations

Bahamas - 2010

1) Do you have a long-term disability?
(Choose one only - main disability)

2) What type of disability do you have?

Sight only (totally blind, legally blind)

Hearing only (partially or totally deaf, use of hearing aids)

Speech/communication only

Learning/intellectual (e.g. slowness or difficulty learning)

Autism

Mobility/moving (due to absent or impaired limb)

Mobility/moving (due to localized, paraplegic, quad, paralysis)

Gripping (unable to use fingers to grip or handle objects)

Mental disorders

Multiple disabilities (any combination of the above disabilities)

Other

DK

NS



Screener, activity and participation limitations

Bahamas - 2010

(1) Does this disability limit your ability to carry out any activities? Y/N; (2) Which of the following activities are affected by your disability?

Moving/mobility (within the home)
Moving/mobility (outside the home)
School/education
Employment
Social events
Family/home life
Other
NS



Washington Group domains

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	WG Questions	Essential domains				Additional domains			
		Walking	Seeing	Hearing	Cognition	Self care	Communication	Upper body functioning	Psychological functioning
All regions (countries)	48	46	45	46	44	27	25	15	7
Africa	5	4	4	4	4	3	2	1	1
America, North	15	15	15	15	15	13	13	10	5
America, South	3	3	3	3	3	1	2	2	1
Asia	12	11	11	11	9	4	4	1	0
Europe	4	4	4	4	4	3	3	0	0
Oceania	9	9	8	9	9	3	1	1	0



Use of Washington Group questions

□ WG domains

- Walking, seeing, hearing, cognition, communication (15) - Anguilla, Antigua and Barbuda, Aruba, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Bermuda, British Virgin Is, Cayman Is, Curacao, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, Montserrat, Saint Lucia, Sint Marteen, St. Kitts and Nevis, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago
- Self-care (13) – Anguilla, Antigua and Barbuda, Aruba, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Bermuda, British Virgin Is, Cayman Is, Curacao, Grenada, Jamaica, Saint Lucia, Sint Marteen, St. Kitts and Nevis, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago



Use of Washington Group questions

□ WG domains

- Upper body (12) – Anguilla, Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Bermuda, British Virgin Is, Cayman Is, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, Montserrat, Saint Lucia, St. Kitts and Nevis, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago
- Psychological (6) – Anguilla, Belize, BVI, Guyana, Montserrat, Saint Kitts & Nevis



Use of Washington Group questions

Country	Modification(s)
Aruba	Because of a physical, mental or emotional health condition, do you have difficulty communicating?
Belize	(1) added domain of "other"; (2) separate categories for learning and behavioural disorders ; (3) response category: dk/ns
British Virgin Is	(1) Hearing does not include use of hearing aid; (2) [a] Behavioral-mental retardation, [b] Learning or understanding
Curacao	(1) asked if respondent has problems instead of difficulty; (2) communicating due to a physical, mental or emotional problem
Grenada	Respond only if you have a permanent or where the disability has been continuous for six months or more



Use of Washington Group questions

Country	Modification(s)
Guyana	Which of the following activities do you/does ... have difficulties with? (1) seeing (even if wearing glasses), (2) hearing (even if wearing a hearing aid), (3) talking/speaking, (4) moving/mobility (walking, standing, climbing), (5) body movements (reaching, gripping, holding, kneeling), (6) learning/understanding, (7) mental functioning (behavioral, emotional), (8) other
Jamaica	Respond only if you have a permanent or where the disability has been continuous for six months or more
Montserrat	Thinking or mode or behaviour
Saint Lucia	Respond only if you have a permanent or where the disability has been continuous for six months or more
Sin Marteen	(1) asked if respondent has problems instead of difficulty; (2) communicating due to a physical, mental or emotional problem



Use of Washington Group questions

Country	Modification(s)
St. Kitts & Nevis	Respond only if you have a permanent or where the disability has been continuous for six months or more
Suriname	[A] Does this person have difficulties/problems with:... [B] (1) No difficulties/problems , (2) Some difficulty, (3) Lots of difficulty, (4) Cannot do this at all, (5) Not applicable because of age, (7) Don't know, (9) No answer
Trinidad and Tobago	(1) Does the long standing disability prevent N from doing any of the following? i-seeing even if wearing glasses; ii-hearing even if using hearing aid; iii-walking, climbing stairs (moving/being mobile); iv-remembering or concentrating (learning); v-gripping; vi-speaking and understanding because of a physical, mental or emotional health condition; (2) 3 categories: a. Yes - some difficulty b. Yes - a lot of difficulty c. Cannot do at all



Type of questions used in Caribbean region

- Type of questions used in Caribbean region differ in terms of:
 - Type of question
 - Number of items included in the question
 - Number of questions asked
 - Use of time reference
 - Use of a (wording of) screener
 - Response categories
 - Type of respondent