

United Nations Statistics Division  
Workshop on Disability Statistics

5<sup>TH</sup>- 6<sup>TH</sup> September 2016

# Definition and Concepts

## **Definition**

A disability is long-standing impairment or illness which affects the development or function of the senses (sight, hearing), speech, mental system,(includes learning, motor skills and behavioral), and body movements (gripping, holding, walking, swimming etc.) which may cause difficulty or the inability to perform basic tasks within a set environment.

# Definition and Concepts cont'd

## *Concepts of disability*

- It is long standing or permanent, regardless of how long ago it manifested itself; if the condition lasts for six months or more and is not of a temporary nature.
- A broken limb or bone is not a long-standing disability since it is temporary but polio is long-standing in spite of the time it was diagnosed.

# Concepts cont'd

- It is accepted that for reliable assessment medical professionals are best suited for diagnosis of certain impairment.

Census Question 50. Was disability ever diagnosed by a medical doctor?

- A disability may influence the aptitude or ease in performing certain tasks.

# Disability Statistics

- Sources of Data

  - Population and Housing Census

  - Household Surveys (Living Conditions, Labor Force)

  - Administrative Sources (National Associations)

# Population Census Disability Coverage

## Section 5

### PERSON QUESTIONNAIRE

- Long Standing Disability  
origin, age acquired
- Type of Disability  
sight, hearing, speech, mobility, body movements,  
gripping, learning, behavioral, other

# Population Census Disability Questions cont'd

- Type of Disability cont'd

medically diagnosed; difficulty learning, remembering, concentrating; dressing, bathing etc., going out alone; other self care; working at a job or business; using customary language;

Use of aids- hearing aid, wheelchair, walker, crutches, adapted car, prosthesis etc.

# Disability Statistics for Population Censuses

- Disabled population can be presented by all variables under demographics, health, education residence, economic activity, training, marital and union status, fertility



# Disability Statistics Reporting for Population Censuses

## Reporting

Population Census and Housing Reports

Demographic Statistics

# Household Surveys -Disability Coverage

- **Survey of Living Conditions (SLC) and Household Income and Expenditure Survey (HIES)**

Disability is not specifically addressed; Surveys only measure illness or injury;

at Question 3.2 type of disability may be captured( only if written in) but only if respondent or interviewer is aware that it must be captured.

# Household Surveys –Disability Coverage cont'd

## **Labor Force Survey**

Section 3, 16 – Past Economic Activity

Disability statistics is captured only for economically NOT ACTIVE population

Section 3, 31 - Determinants of Unemployment, Disability is grouped with Illness therefore limiting disaggregation of the disabled

# Labor Force Survey cont'd

## Reporting

### Labor Force Survey Report – Sex, Age and Area

Data can also be presented by last occupation, length of time stopped working; last employment status, intended economic activity, sources of income, remittances

# Household Surveys-Disability Coverage

## **Core Welfare Indicators**

Disability coverage recorded (Question 108 )for every individual  
Presented by union status; household structure; education; health;  
employment; household tenure; land ownership; household amenities;  
household ability to meet basic needs

# Administrative Sources

Dominica Association of Disabled Persons (DADP)

Records the disabled by sex , age, residence , type of disability  
and place of work