

Approaches Used to Measure Disability – Montserrat Experience

Background

- Data collected primarily through Censuses (1991,2001,2011)
- Reduced number of questions between 2001 and 2011. Poor response in 2001 and pretest in 2010.
- 1 core question adapted WG core set of recommended questions
- No additional surveys to collect disability statistics
- Very limited data on disability statistics – (developing area)
- Little or no focus on the collection of disability statistics in the past
- Challenges in reporting disability statistics

Question Used

- Disability Status - provides information on persons with a disability of any type.
- Definition - A disability is a long-standing condition, which has lasted more than six months or is expected to last more than one year. The conditions can hamper or reduce the individual's ability to carry out day-to-day activities and require daily living adaptations.

Question Used cont'd

- **Disability Type** we seek to identify the type of disability, whether the condition was diagnosed by a medical doctor and information on the origin or cause of the disability.

Domains of functioning

- **Eyesight (even with glasses/contact lenses):** This occurs when the individual does not have normal vision even if eyeglasses or contact lenses are worn.
- **Hearing (even with hearing aid):** This relates to persons who are completely deaf, or cannot hear in one or both ears even if hearing aid is worn.
- **Walking or climbing stairs:** These individuals use walking sticks or other walking aids.
- **Upper body functions:** This relates to cases where individuals encounter difficulties lifting, reaching and carrying objects.
- **Remembering or learning:** These individuals suffer from dyslexia; cannot pay attention, learn and retain information, solve problems, etc.
- **Communicating or Speaking:** This relates to communication with other persons that is, generating, sending, receiving and understanding messages.
- **Thinking or mood or Behaviour:** individuals who have mental health problems or illnesses are included here.
- **Other:** Any other disability not mentioned above, for example if the person is dependent on people to take care of him or her (self care).

Question Used cont'd

Disability Origin - Ask the respondent what was the cause or origin of the condition

- From birth
- Illness/Disease
- Accident/Injury
- Old Age

Results Obtained – Disability Status by age and sex

	0-4	5-12	13-19	20-39	40-59	60+	Total
Male	0	0	5	14	47	82	148
Female	0	2	2	3	26	91	124

Administrative Data

- Newly formed Disability Association – created in 2012. 20 registered members. Registration data is shared with SDM
- MoH&SS has very limited data based on access to social programs
- Medical Records also has limited data – data captured on admittance to Hospital

Conclusion

- Ageing Population – additional surveys required to collect disability statistics
- Challenges with main source
- Growing national interest
- Common methodology across units of Interest
- Improvement in the IT infrastructure across units of interest
- Develop capacity in the measurement of disability statistics