United Nations Statistics Division
Workshop on Disability Statistics

5TH- 6TH 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.