



# Disability Statistics Measurement in National Population and Housing Censuses

## Uganda's Experience

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# Presentation Outline



- Background
- Census questions
- Measuring disability



# Censuses in Uganda



- Uganda conducted its first scientific census in 1948.
- Subsequent censuses were conducted in 1959, 1969, 1980, 1991, 2002 and 2014.

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# Disability questions in the Census. Why?



- **1991:** Govt, NGO's and other stakeholders wanted to know the total number of PWD's in the country, the cause of disability and any rehabilitation measures received.
- **2002:** Govt, NGO's and other stakeholders wanted to know the total number of PWD's in the country, multiple disability, types of disability, causes and any rehabilitation measures received.

# Disability questions in the Census. Why?



- **2014:** Govt, NGO's and other stakeholders wanted to know the level of provision of social services (service delivery)
- There was need to collect information on children with disabilities, include “little people”, albinos among the PWDs – Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development

# Disability questions in the Census. Why?



- **2014 cont:** requests by Disabled Peoples' Organisations to count "how many are we". Other stakeholders include
- National Disability Council
- Mental Health Uganda
- Deaf- Blind Association
- Epilepsy International, etc
- MGLSD, NUDIPU - Annual reporting on the CPRD

## 1 -The 1948 Census

- Disability questions: there was only one question specifically for the blind (infirmity).
- In instances where a person was partially blind or had a sight difficulty, he/she was not considered to have a disability (infirmity)
- According to the instructions for census enumerators, blindness was defined as *“The test of blindness is whether a person can count with both eyes open five fingers at an arms’ length. Partial blindness should not be included.”*

## 2 - The 1991 Census

- *Is anyone who was in the household on the census night disabled? Yes or No?*
- *If Yes, Write: Person Number*
- By “disabled” we mean any condition which prevents a person from living a normal social and working life
- Coverage: excluded non household population



Coding categories

i. Blind

ii. mentally ill

iii. deaf and dumb

iv. polio

v. amputee

vi. leprosy

vii. cripple

viii. lame

ix. epilepsy

x. mentally retarded

xi. other (specify).

**Prevalence  
rate was**

**1.2%**

## 3 - The 2002 Census

- Does (NAME) have any difficulty in moving in moving, seeing, hearing, speaking or learning which has lasted or is expected to last 6 months or more? (If “YES”, write codes for at most 2 major difficulties)
- *By “Disabled” we mean any physical (or mental?) conditions that limit full participation of an individual in family and community activities. Some disabled persons are, economically active and are working.*

# Disability questions in Censuses

10	None
11	Limited use of legs
12	Loss of leg(s)
13	Limited use of arms
14	Loss of arm(s)
15	Serious problem with back spine
16	Hearing difficulty
17	Unable to hear (Deafness)
18	Sight difficulty
19	Blindness
20	Speech impairment
21	Unable to speak (mute)
22	Mental retardation
23	Mental illness (strange behaviour)
24	Epileptic
25	Rheumatism
26	Others (specify)

**Prevalence  
rate was  
3.5%**

## 4 - The 2014 Census

- P14 Does (NAME) have difficulty **seeing** even if he/she is wearing glasses?
- P15 Does (NAME) have difficulty **hearing** even if he/she is using a hearing aid?
- P16 Does (NAME) have difficulty **walking or climbing steps?**
- P17 Does (NAME) have difficulty in **remembering or concentrating?**

NB WG leading question : Because of a health problem...does (NAME) have any difficulty....was removed on the basis that disability is not a health problem, according to the Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development..

# Disability questions in Censuses

## Codes for disability

- 1 No, no difficulty
- 2 Yes - some difficulty
- 3 Yes – a lot of difficulty
- 4 Cannot do at all
- 7 Not applicable
- 8 Don't know

**Prevalence  
rate was  
13%**

Comparison of the 2014 Census is made with the 2011 Uganda Demographic and Health survey where the 6 WG questions were included



## Defining disability during analysis – work in progress

- **Two definitions**
- i) A person is defined having a disability if he/she is aged 2 years + reported that he has a difficulty
- ii) Using the WG definition
- Any person aged 5 years + and fulfills any of the following

Any person with any domain for “cannot do at all”

or

Any person with any domain for “a lot of difficulty”

or

Any person with at least two domains for “some difficulty”

## Results

(All persons aged 5 years +)

Any disability/difficulty	13.3%
Disability based on at least two domains	5.6%



## Comparison of 2014 Census Results to the 2011 Uganda Demographic and Health Survey

Disability Prevalence for all persons aged 5 yrs +		
	2011 UDHS	2014 Census
<u>Any difficulty</u>		
6 WG questions	18.1%	-
4 questions (short set)	17.1%	13%
<u>Disability based on 2 domains</u>		
6 WG questions	8.5%	-
4 questions (short set)	7.8%	5.6%

Census  
2014



**THANK YOU**

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