



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	120*

* 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	148	120	55	65
Africa	36	32	8	24
America, North	25	25	15	10
America, South	7	6	3	3
Asia	32	28	12	16
Europe	26	14	8	6
Oceania	22	15	9	6
Almaty Meeting Countries	23	10	8	2

Almaty, Kazakhstan, 6-8 June 2017



Types of questions on disability used

Country	Question Type	Age coverage
Albania	WG	Not indicated
Bosnia & Herz.	WG	Not indicated
Bulgaria	Generic	Not indicated
Croatia	WG [?]	Not indicated
Georgia	WG [?]	Not indicated [?]
Kazakhstan	Generic	Not indicated
Moldova	WG [?]	Not indicated [?]
Montenegro	WG [?]	Not indicated
Romania	WG [?]	5+
Serbia	WG [?]	Not indicated

[?]



Type of questions on disability

- ❑ Generic question about limitations in performing everyday activities – Bulgaria, Kazakhstan
- ❑ Washington Group type of questions – Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Georgia, Moldova, Montenegro, Romania, Serbia



Type of questions on disability

- ❑ Causes of difficulty/disability
 - Bosnia & Herz., Croatia, Montenegro, Romania
- ❑ Use of assistive devices for walking
 - Montenegro, Serbia
- ❑ Need of assistance of another person
 - Bosnia & Herz., Croatia
- ❑ Use of assistance of another person
 - Croatia, Moldova, Romania



Type of questions on disability

- ❑ Providing information voluntary
 - Georgia, Serbia

- ❑ Identifying person providing information
 - Bosnia & Herz., Croatia, Moldova, Serbia

- ❑ Medical certification of the disability
 - Bulgaria



Generic question about limitations in performing everyday activities

Bulgaria

During the last 6 months, have you been limited in performing your everyday activities due to health problems?

No

Yes, but not to a great extent

Yes, to a great extent

Assigned by medical commission percentage of reduced working capacity?

No

Up to 50%

From 50% to 70% (III Group)

From 71% to 90% (II Group)

Over 90% (I Group)

Assigned by children medical commission reduced capacity for social adaptation?

No

Up to 50%

From 50% to 90%

Over 90%



Generic question about limitations in performing everyday activities

Kazakhstan

Do you have any difficulties with walking, hearing, eye problems, or speech?

- Yes, sometimes
- Yes, often
- No



Washington Group-type questions

Albania: Do you have difficulties in:

Seeing? None Some A lot Completely unable	Remembering, concentrating, or making decisions None Some A lot Completely unable
Hearing? None Some A lot Completely unable	Daily self-care (wearing, eating, washing, etc.) None Some A lot Completely unable
Walking or climbing stairs? None Some A lot Completely unable	Communicating (to understand others or vice-versa give and take information) None Some A lot Completely unable



Washington Group-type questions

Bosnia & Herzegovina: Does the person experience any difficulties in performing basic activities at home, at work, or at school :

Difficulty seeing, even with the use of glasses?

- No difficulties
- Has, minor
- Has, greater
- Fully disabled

Hearing, even with the use of hearing aids

- No difficulties
- Has, minor
- Has, greater
- Fully disabled

Walking or climbing stairs

- No difficulties
- Has, minor
- Has, greater
- Fully disabled

Remembering or concentrating

- No difficulties
- Has, minor
- Has, greater
- Fully disabled

Dressing or bathing

- No difficulties
- Has, minor
- Has, greater
- Fully disabled

Communication (understanding other people)

- No difficulties
- Has, minor
- Has, greater
- Fully disabled



Washington Group-type questions

Croatia:

Does the person have difficulties in performing activities of everyday living due to a long-term illness, disability, or old age?

Yes

No

Type of difficulty?

- Seeing difficulty
- Hearing or speaking difficulty
- Difficulties of remembering, concentrating or communicating with other people
- Mobility difficulties
- Other difficulty

Physical mobility of the person

- Fully mobile
- Permanently limited mobility aided by cane, crutches, or walking frame
- Permanently limited mobility aided by wheelchair
- Permanently immobile
- Other



Washington Group-type questions

Georgia:

From the listed items, do you have any health-related problem, which interferes you in your daily activity?

- Seeing
- Hearing
- Walking or climbing steps
- Remembering or concentrating
- Communicating
- Self-care

Disability status?

- No
- Clearly expressed (I Group)
- Significantly expressed (II Group)
- Moderately expressed (III Group)
- Child with disabilities



Washington Group-type questions

Moldova:

Indicate which of the difficulties below the person may have carried out in daily activities

Person has:

Difficulty seeing, even if wearing glasses?

No, no difficulty

Yes, some difficulty

Yes, a lot of difficulty

Cannot do at all

Helping equipment

Difficulty hearing, even if using a hearing aid?

No, no difficulty

Yes, some difficulty

Yes, a lot of difficulty

Cannot do at all

Helping equipment

Difficulty walking or climbing steps?

Difficulty remembering or concentrating?

No, no difficulty

Yes, some difficulty

Yes, a lot of difficulty

Cannot do at all

Helping equipment

Difficulty (with self-care such as) washing all over or dressing?

No, no difficulty

Yes, some difficulty

Yes, a lot of difficulty

Cannot do at all

Helping equipment

Using his/her (customary) language, does he/she have difficulty



Washington Group-type questions

Montenegro: Does the person have difficulty or disability in performing every day's activities because of long-term illness, invalidity or old age?

- **Yes**
- **No**
- **Does not want to answer**

Type of difficulties or disability that the person has?

- Disability difficulty with moving (walking, climbing steps, etc.)
- Hearing although is using hearing aids
- Seeing although is using glasses
- **Cognition (remembering, concentration, communication, etc.)**
- Other difficulties



Washington Group-type questions

Romania:

Does the person encounter any difficulties in carrying out his/her daily activities (at school, at work, at home, etc.)

Eyesight difficulties

No difficulties

Not too significant

Significant

Complete difficulty

Hearing difficulties

No difficulties

Not too significant

Significant

Complete difficulty

Difficulty to walk, to climb stairs

No difficulties

Not too significant

Significant

Complete difficulty

Memory or concentration difficulties

No difficulties

Not too significant

Significant

Complete difficulty

Self-care difficulties

No difficulties

Not too significant

Significant

Complete difficulty

Communication difficulties

No difficulties

Not too significant

Significant

Complete difficulty



Washington Group-type questions

Serbia:

Does this person, and to which extent, have difficulties in accomplishing everyday activities at home/school/work due to some problem with:

Seeing

- No, no difficulty
- Yes, some difficulty
- Yes, a lot of difficulty
- Yes, completely prevented

Does not want to answer

Hearing

- No, no difficulty
- Yes, some difficulty
- Yes, a lot of difficulty
- Yes, completely prevented

Does not want to answer

Walking or climbing the stairs

- No, no difficulty
- Yes, some difficulty
- Yes, a lot of difficulty
- Yes, completely prevented

Remembering/concentrating

- No, no difficulty
- Yes, some difficulty
- Yes, a lot of difficulty
- Yes, completely prevented

Does not want to answer

Independence with clothing/feeding/maintaining personal hygiene

- No, no difficulty
- Yes, some difficulty
- Yes, a lot of difficulty
- Yes, completely prevented

Does not want to answer

Communication (speaking, mutual understanding of people with the environment)



Use of Washington Group questions

Country	Modification(s)
Albania	Seeing does not include “even if wearing glasses” Hearing does not include “even if using a hearing aid”
Bosnia & Herzegovina	<u>Introduction:</u> “Does the person experience any difficulties in performing basic activities at home, at work, or at school” Self-care includes only: Dressing or bathing
Georgia	<u>Introduction:</u> From the listed items, do you have any health-related problem, which interferes you in your daily activity?



Use of Washington Group questions

Country	Modification(s)
Croatia	<p><u>Screeners:</u> Does the person have difficulties in performing activities of everyday living due to a long-term illness, disability, or old age?</p> <p>Yes</p> <p>No</p> <p><u>Combined categories:</u> Difficulties of remembering, concentrating or communicating with other people</p> <p><u>Extra question:</u> Physical mobility of the person</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Fully mobile- Permanently limited mobility aided by cane, crutches, or walking frame- Permanently limited mobility aided by wheelchair- Permanently immobile- Other



Use of Washington Group questions

Country	Modification(s)
Moldova	<p><u>Introduction:</u> Indicate which of the difficulties below the person may have in carrying out daily activities</p> <p><u>Extra response category:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Cannot do at all- Helping equipment
Romania	<p><u>Introduction:</u> Does the person encounter any difficulties in carrying out his/her daily activities (at school, at work, at home, etc.)</p> <p>Seeing does not include “even if wearing glasses” Hearing does not include “even if using a hearing aid”</p>



Use of Washington Group questions

Country	Modification(s)
Montenegro	<p>Introductory screener: Does the person have difficulty or disability in performing every day's activities because of long-term illness, invalidity or old age?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Yes- No- <u>Does not want to answer</u> - <u>Combined categories:</u> Difficulties of remembering, concentrating or communicating with other people



Use of Washington Group questions

Country	Modification(s)
Serbia	<p><u>Introduction:</u> Does this person, and to which extent, have difficulties in accomplishing everyday activities at home/school/work due to some problem with:</p> <p>Seeing does not include "even if wearing glasses" Hearing does not include "even if using a hearing aid"</p> <p><u>Extra response category:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Yes, completely prevented- Does not want to answer



Some observations on type of questions used

- ❑ Almost all of the countries have used WG questions
 - Only two asked a generic question
- ❑ Still some differences in questions in terms of:
 - Questions in context of difficulties that limit daily activities
 - Use of and wording of screener
 - Response categories
- ❑ Information on the cause of disability
- ❑ Information on medical evaluation of the disability
- ❑ Information on the need for and use of assistance of another person



Some observations on type of questions used

- Information on who provided responses
- Instructions on voluntary response