

DISABILITY IN THE ARAB REGION

AN OVERVIEW



ESCWA

United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia



League of Arab States

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Economic and Social Commission of Western Asia (ESCWA)
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2014

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“ One measure of civilization is how well we treat the most vulnerable members of our society. ”

Dr. William H. Foege, Senior Fellow, Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation

Disability is an intrinsic aspect of the human condition and most people will experience disability at some point in their lives. Globally, one billion people—or 15 per cent of the world population—are estimated to be living with disability. By contrast, Arab countries report comparatively low prevalence of disability, ranging from 0.4 to 4.9 per cent of the population, which evidences widespread differences and difficulties in data collection, research and analysis.

In response to this and on the occasion of the conclusion of the Arab Decade for Persons with Disabilities (2004-2013), adopted during the Arab Summit in 2004, the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) together with the League of Arab States collected baseline information on disability in the Arab region. The results of this baseline study are presented in the following report, making it the first publication to bring together statistical data on the situation of persons with disabilities and information on the institutional and legal frameworks on disability for all 22 Arab countries.

The present report is divided into two sections. The first part summarizes a selected number of regional trends related to disability, including disability prevalence, institutional and legal frameworks on disability, and access to education and employment. The second part, which represents the core of this report, presents a compilation of statistical data on persons with disabilities and qualitative information on institutional and legal frameworks.

This report was written by Alexandra Heinsjo-Jackson, Associate Social Affairs Officer, Inclusive Social Development Section, and Lubna Ismail, Research Assistant, Inclusive Social Development Section, under the supervision of Gisela Nauk, Chief, Inclusive Social Development Section, Social Development Division, and the overall guidance of Frederico Neto, Director, Social Development Division, ESCWA. The report was reviewed by Mr. Tarek El-Nabulsi, Head of Coordination and Follow up for Social Development and Policies Division, Technical Secretariat of the Council of Arab Social Affairs Ministers, League of Arab States. The ESCWA team and the League of Arab States are grateful to the national statistical offices and government focal points who collected complex information across institutional boundaries within their respective countries. In addition, the participants of the *Conference on the Arab Decade for Persons with Disabilities and Beyond* held in Cairo on 30-31 October 2013 provided important insights and inputs to the present report. This study also benefited from substantial contributions from Katharine Brooks and Sarah Slan, as well as comments and support from Aiko Akiyama, Diane Alméras, Eva Maria Bille, Nadine Chalak, Nawaf Kabbara, Marwan Khawaja, Salwa Mohamed, Chol O Han, Matthew Perkins, Juraj Riecan, Tanja Sejersen and Zeina Sinno. The team also gratefully acknowledges the Social Development Division in the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), in particular its publication *Disability at a Glance 2012: Strengthening the Evidence Base in Asia and the Pacific*, which provided inspiration for the structure and content of the present report.

The views expressed in this report are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the United Nations. Feedback from readers is welcome and suggestions may be sent to sps-escwa@un.org.

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ABBREVIATIONS

CBD	Currently being developed
CRPD	Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities
ECLAC	United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean
ESCAP	United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific
ESCWA	United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia
GNI	Gross national income
HDI	Human Development Index
ICF	International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health
OECD	Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development
PPP	Purchasing power parity
UN	United Nations
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
WHO	World Health Organization
–	Indicates that the item is not applicable
..	Indicates that data is not available
N	No
Y	Yes

“ [D]isability is an evolving concept and ... results from the interaction between persons with impairments and attitudinal and environmental barriers that hinders their full and effective participation in society on an equal basis with others. ”

UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (Preamble, paragraph (e))

Disability is a complex and evolving concept. Historically, it has been viewed from a medical perspective, whereby it was understood as a deviation from an imagined human norm. According to this medical model, disability was defined exclusively according to a person's impairments and the focus lay on preventing, treating and managing these impairments. Over recent years, and prompted largely by the self-organization of persons with disabilities, this medical model has gradually given way to new understandings of disability. Today, disability is considered to be part of the human condition rather than a deviation from the norm, and a result of the interaction between persons with particular mental, health or other conditions and their environment, rather than a product of their impairments alone. According to this latter approach, interventions should focus not only on people's impairments but also on dismantling the attitudinal, environmental and other barriers that hinder persons with disabilities from fully participating in society.

This evolution in the understanding of disability has driven substantial policy change over recent years. At the regional level, Arab countries¹ declared the Arab Decade for Persons with Disabilities (2004-2013) at the 2004 Arab Summit in Tunis. This decade marked a milestone for the Arab world, as it established for the first time a set of regionally agreed principles and objectives

to guide national efforts on disability. Two years later, the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) formalized the new concept of disability and now provides States Parties with a comprehensive framework for protecting, promoting and advancing the rights of persons with disabilities. As of April 2014, the CRPD had at the global level 158 signatories and 145 ratifications and accessions.²

Together, all of these developments have had significant implications for Arab countries. Governments have devised new laws, strategies and policies in order to reflect changing conceptualizations of disability and to implement the provisions of the CRPD and the Arab Decade for Persons with Disabilities. And while significant progress has been made in this regard, it is clear that governments have also faced a number of implementation challenges. Measures to ensure accessibility of the built environment and equal access to services, for example, can at times require substantial expertise and financial resources, an issue that is made all the more complex in a region where several countries face severe capacity constraints. Defining disability is a particularly challenging task for governments, as it means casting an evolving concept into legal language, which must be both precise and inclusive in order to design appropriate policy approaches and to determine eligibility for disability-related support. Furthermore, reliable and comparable data on disability—a prerequisite for the formulation, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of evidence-based policies—is limited in the Arab region.

It is in this context that ESCWA and the League of Arab States conducted this baseline study on disability in the Arab region. The study included two parallel data collection processes, which were conducted between May and September 2013.

¹ The Arab region is understood in this report to be comprised of the following countries: Algeria, Bahrain, the Comoros, Djibouti, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Mauritania, Morocco, Oman, Palestine, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, the Sudan, the Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, the United Arab Emirates and Yemen.

² UN, 2014.

Firstly, quantitative data on persons with disabilities was collected from national census and household survey data for a range of indicators, including disability prevalence, age distribution, marital status, geographical location, educational attainment and economic activity. For comparative purposes, data was also collected wherever possible on the total population for the same indicators and from the same statistical source. This data was then sent to focal points in national statistical offices for verification. Secondly, designated government focal points worked with the team to collect information on the institutional and legal infrastructures on disability in Arab countries. In total, ESCWA and the League of Arab States received responses from 19 out of 22 Arab countries for the data verification process and from 16 countries for the legal and institutional survey. The results of these two data collection processes are presented in a set of country profiles, which form Section III of this report.

DISABILITY PREVALENCE RATES: A CHALLENGE OF DEFINITION AND MEASUREMENT

Measuring disability prevalence is a complex challenge, especially in developing countries. Results depend to a large extent on the method of data collection as well as on the definition of disability that is applied. Surveys (especially dedicated surveys) often provide more detailed data on persons with disabilities as they allow for the inclusion of more numerous and more in-depth questions. In addition, as they often use nuanced questions and broad definitions of disability that focus on a wide range of limitations and restrictions, such surveys also tend to generate higher and more accurate disability prevalence rates.³ Population censuses are also commonly used for collecting disability-related data. The advantages of censuses are that they cover entire populations and are conducted at regular intervals, and thus allow for the monitoring of trends over time. However, as censuses only include a limited number of questions on disability and are often based on more narrow interpretations of disability, they tend to produce lower prevalence rates that only reflect a sub-population of persons with more severe impairments.⁴

Given the widespread use of censuses for measuring disability in the Arab world, these trends – along with other factors such as the presence of social stigma, which may discourage people from reporting disabilities – may help to explain the remarkably low disability prevalence found in Arab countries. According to available data, disability prevalence ranges from 0.4 per cent in Qatar to 4.9 per cent in the Sudan (see **Figure 1**). Of the 18 countries for which data is available,⁵ 15 report disability prevalence under 3 per cent

and half report rates under 2 per cent. Such figures contrast sharply with those of other regions as well as with global averages. In Latin America and the Caribbean, for example, average disability prevalence is estimated at 12.4 and 5.4 per cent respectively,⁶ whereas the World Health Organization (WHO) and World Bank estimate that approximately 15 per cent of the world population lives with disability.⁷ Moreover, disability prevalence in Arab countries is remarkably low given the widespread occurrence of risk factors and disability causes in the region, including consanguinity, communicable and chronic diseases, road traffic accidents and armed conflict.⁸

³ WHO and World Bank, 2011, pp. 22-23; ESCAP, 2012, pp. 11-13.

⁴ WHO and ESCAP, 2008, p. 35; ESCAP, 2012, p. 12.

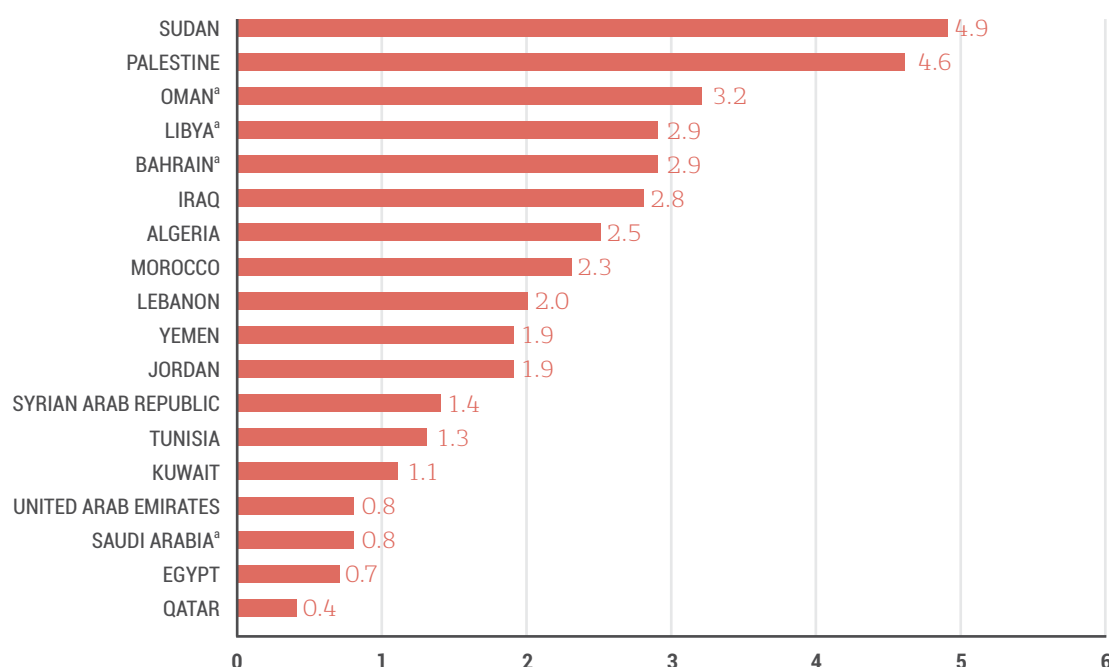
⁵ Nineteen countries responded to the data verification process conducted by ESCWA. One country reported that data on persons with disabilities was not currently available.

⁶ ECLAC, 2012, p. 184.

⁷ WHO and World Bank, 2011, p. 44.

⁸ See e.g. World Bank, 2005, p. 10.

Figure 1. Disability prevalence in the Arab region (% of total population)



SOURCES: ESCWA, based on data verified by national statistical offices from the following sources:

Algeria: Office National des Statistiques et al. (2006); **Bahrain:** Central Informatics Organization (2010b); **Egypt:** Central Agency for Public Mobilization and Statistics (2006); **Iraq:** Central Organization for Statistics and Information Technology et al. (2007); **Jordan:** Department of Statistics (2010); **Kuwait:** Central Statistical Bureau (2011); **Lebanon:** Central Administration of Statistics et al. (2004); **Libya:** Pan Arab Project for Family Health and the National Centre for Infectious and Chronic Disease Control (2007); **Morocco:** Haut-Commissariat au Plan (2004); **Oman:** National Center for Statistics and Information (2010); **Palestine:** Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (2007); **Qatar:** Qatar Statistics Authority (2010); **Saudi Arabia:** Central Department of Statistics and Information (2004); **Sudan:** Central Bureau of Statistics (2008); **Syrian Arab Republic:** Central Bureau of Statistics (2007); **Tunisia:** National Institute of Statistics (2009); **United Arab Emirates:** National Bureau of Statistics (2005); **Yemen:** Central Statistical Organization (2004).

NOTE: ^a Data pertains to nationals only

Thus, existing disability prevalence rates in Arab countries must be taken with a grain of salt. Reliability and comparability of data across countries is limited not only by the use of varying data collection methods, but also, especially, by the use of different definitions of disability. Even where countries use the same general method of data collection, cross-country comparisons are highly challenging due to a lack of coherence in typologies and classifications of disability. In other words, comparability of data is limited in the Arab region since countries use different categories and terminology to describe different types of disabilities. In order to illustrate this issue, **Table 1** presents the classifications that a number of Arab countries use to describe disabilities related to mobility and movement-related body structures. The list shows that few countries use the same terminology when collecting data on types of disability, with some countries focusing on people's impairments (such as 'paralysis' or 'loss of leg') and others basing their classifications on limitations and difficulties in functioning (such as 'difficulty in movement' or 'difficulty in walking').

⁹ WHO, 2001, p. 3.

¹⁰ Ibid., p. 8.

The International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health (ICF) represents the central framework for promoting coherent and accurate terminology and classifications related to disability. Developed by WHO, the ICF is a classification system that provides common, standard and comprehensive language to describe health and health-related conditions.⁹ Under this framework, disability is understood according to two main components: (i) impairments in body functions (such as seeing and hearing) and in body structures (such as the structure of the eyes and ears); as well as (ii) activity limitations and participation restrictions (such as dressing and eating). Moreover, the ICF defines a set of contextual factors (such as physical geography and societal attitudes), which interact with the above components and serve to impact—positively or negatively—on a person's functioning and disability.¹⁰ **Table 2** provides a list of categories according to the different components of the ICF.

Table 1. Classifications of disabilities related to mobility and movement-related body structures in the Arab region

BAHRAIN	▶ Physical/locomotor difficulty
EGYPT	▶ Infantile paralysis
	▶ Loss of one/both legs
	▶ Loss of one/both hands
	▶ Total/partial paralysis
IRAQ	▶ Limp/walking disability/locomotor disability
JORDAN	▶ Locomotor
KUWAIT	▶ Difficulty in body movement
	▶ Difficulty in movement
	▶ Difficulty in grasping and moving objects
LEBANON	▶ Locomotor disability
LIBYA	▶ Movement
MOROCCO	▶ Locomotor
OMAN	▶ Movement of the upper body
	▶ Walking/climbing up steps
PALESTINE	▶ Movement
QATAR	▶ Movement
SAUDI ARABIA	▶ Paralysis
SUDAN	▶ Limited use of hand
	▶ Limited use of leg
	▶ Loss of hand
	▶ Loss of leg
SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC	▶ Physical disability
TUNISIA	▶ Physical disability
UNITED ARAB EMIRATES	▶ Difficulties in body movement
	▶ Locomotor and movement difficulties
	▶ Difficulties in grasping and holding objects
YEMEN	▶ Difficulty in grasping objects
	▶ Difficulty in walking
	▶ Difficulty in movement

SOURCES: Bahrain: Central Informatics Organization (2010b); Egypt: Central Agency for Public Mobilization and Statistics (2006); Iraq: Central Organization for Statistics and Information Technology et al. (2007); Jordan: Department of Statistics (2010); Kuwait: Central Statistical Bureau (2011); Lebanon: Central Administration of Statistics et al. (2004); Libya: Pan Arab Project for Family Health and the National Centre for Infectious and Chronic Disease Control (2007); Morocco: Haut-Commissariat au Plan (2004); Oman: National Center for Statistics and Information (2010); Palestine: Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (2007); Qatar: Qatar Statistics Authority (2010); Saudi Arabia: Central Department of Statistics and Information (2004); Sudan: Central Bureau of Statistics (2008); Syrian Arab Republic: Central Bureau of Statistics (2007); Tunisia: National Institute of Statistics (2009); United Arab Emirates: National Bureau of Statistics (2005); Yemen: Central Statistical Organization (2004).

NOTE: These classifications are taken from the official data sources and thus may not reflect UN terminology.

Table 2. List of ICF categories (one-level classification)

SOURCE: WHO (2001).

BODY FUNCTIONS	▶ Mental functions
	▶ Sensory functions & pain
	▶ Voice & speech functions
	▶ Functions of the cardiovascular, haematological, immunological & respiratory systems
	▶ Functions of the digestive, metabolic & endocrine systems
	▶ Genitourinary & reproductive functions
	▶ Neuromusculoskeletal & movement-related functions
	▶ Functions of the skin & related structures
BODY STRUCTURES	▶ Structures of the nervous system
	▶ The eye, ear & related structures
	▶ Structures involved in voice & speech
	▶ Structures of the cardiovascular, immunological & respiratory systems
	▶ Structures related to the digestive, metabolic & endocrine systems
	▶ Structures related to the genitourinary & reproductive systems
	▶ Structures related to movement
	▶ Skin & related structures
ACTIVITIES & PARTICIPATION	▶ Learning & applying knowledge
	▶ General tasks & demands
	▶ Communication
	▶ Mobility
	▶ Self-care
	▶ Domestic life
	▶ Interpersonal interactions & relationships
	▶ Major life areas
▶ Community, social & civic life	
ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS	▶ Products & technology
	▶ Natural environment & human-made changes to environment
	▶ Support & relationships
	▶ Attitudes
	▶ Services, systems & policies

MAPPING THE INSTITUTIONAL AND LEGAL FRAMEWORKS IN THE ARAB REGION

“ [P]ersons with disabilities should have the opportunity to be actively involved in decision-making processes about policies and programmes, including those directly concerning them. ”

UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (Preamble, paragraph (o))

Significant developments have taken place over recent years with regards to the institutional and legal frameworks on disability in Arab countries. The signature and ratification status of the CRPD is high in the region; 15 countries have signed and 18 have ratified or acceded to the CRPD since it was opened for signature in 2007.¹¹ Moreover, seven Arab countries have signed and eight have ratified or acceded to the Optional Protocol,¹² which allows individuals or groups to submit complaints regarding breaches of CRPD provisions by States Parties. While collective efforts will be required to sustain this momentum, such trends reflect the strong and growing political commitment of Arab governments to better protect and promote the rights of persons with disabilities.

Regarding the implementation of the CRPD and Optional Protocol, it is worth noting that most countries in the Arab region have established national coordination mechanisms on disability, mainly in the form of national disability councils. In many of these cases, persons with disabilities are directly involved in the mechanism, which represents a significant trend given the critical importance of actively involv-

ing persons with disabilities in policy- and decision-making processes. A majority of Arab countries have also established focal points for disability-related matters in line ministries and other governmental institutions. On the level of national legal frameworks, most Arab countries have included articles on disability in their constitutions. Moreover, comprehensive disability laws exist in most of the region, with Iraq as the most recent country to adopt a new law on disability in September 2013. Half of Arab countries report that they have or are developing a national strategy or plan on disability (see **Table 3**).

In sum, overarching institutional and legislative frameworks on disability have expanded significantly in the Arab region over recent years. While further research is needed into the content, implementation and effectiveness of these institutions and laws, their establishment nevertheless represents an important development in national efforts to protect and promote the rights of persons with disabilities.

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The Arab countries that have signed the CRPD as of April 2014 are: Algeria, Bahrain, the Comoros, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Oman, Qatar, the Sudan, the Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, the United Arab Emirates and Yemen. The Arab countries that have ratified or acceded to the CRPD as of April 2014 are: Algeria, Bahrain, Djibouti, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Mauritania, Morocco, Oman, Palestine, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, the Sudan, the Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, the United Arab Emirates and Yemen.

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The Arab countries that have signed the Optional Protocol as of April 2014 are: Algeria, Jordan, Lebanon, Qatar, Tunisia, the United Arab Emirates and Yemen. The Arab countries that have ratified or acceded to the Optional Protocol as of April 2014 are: Djibouti, Mauritania, Morocco, Saudi Arabia, the Sudan, the Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia and Yemen.

Table 3. Overarching institutional and legal frameworks for disability in the Arab region

	National coordination mechanism for disability in the government	Direct involvement of persons with disabilities in the mechanism	Focal point(s) for disability in line ministries or other governmental institutions	Articles on disability included in the constitution	Overarching or general disability law	National disability strategy or plan
ALGERIA	Y	Y	..	Y	Y	..
BAHRAIN	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
COMOROS	..	..	..	..	..	..
DJIBOUTI	..	..	..	..	..	..
EGYPT	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N
IRAQ	N	-	Y	Y	Y	N
JORDAN	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
KUWAIT	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	..
LEBANON	Y	Y	N	N	Y	CBD
LIBYA	..	..	..	..	..	..
MAURITANIA	..	..	..	..	..	..
MOROCCO	Y	Y	CBD	Y	Y	Y
OMAN	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	CBD
PALESTINE	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
QATAR	N	-	Y	N	Y	Y
SAUDI ARABIA	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
SOMALIA	..	..	..	..	..	..
SUDAN	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC	..	..	..	..	..	..
TUNISIA	Y	Y	Y	CBD	Y	Y
UNITED ARAB EMIRATES	N	-	Y	N	Y	N
YEMEN	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	CBD

SOURCE: ESCWA, based on data collected from government focal points through the ESCWA Questionnaire on the Implementation of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the Arab Decade for Persons with Disabilities (2013).

ABBREVIATIONS: Y, Yes; N, No; -, Not applicable; **CBD**, Currently being developed.

BREAKING THE CYCLE OF EXCLUSION: ACCESS TO EMPLOYMENT AND EDUCATION

“ States Parties recognize the right of persons with disabilities to work, on an equal basis with others; this includes the right to the opportunity to gain a living by work freely chosen or accepted in a labour market and work environment that is open, inclusive and accessible to persons with disabilities. ”

UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (Article 27, paragraph 1)

Poverty and disability are often inextricably linked to form a mutually reinforcing cycle of vulnerability. People living in poverty are more likely to have or to incur disabilities as they have limited access to quality health care and are more exposed to risk factors such as malnutrition and poor sanitation. At the same time, persons with disabilities often face substantial barriers in finding employment and accessing education, which in turn increases their vulnerability.¹³

While data on income levels among persons with disabilities is scant in the region, available data on economic activity and educational attainment can provide important insight into the scale of deprivation experienced by persons with disabilities in Arab countries. Moreover, it is crucial to study these trends as access to employment and education also represent fundamental human rights, which are key to enabling equal participation of persons with disabilities in social and economic life.

It is clear that governments have made significant steps to develop their legislative frameworks regarding access to labour markets and education. National laws on employment for persons with disabilities, for example, are prevalent throughout the Arab region and are reported in a vast majority of countries. In addition, a large number of Arab countries have also instituted employment quotas for persons with disabilities, mainly in the public sector, but also, increasingly, in the private sector (see **Table 4**).¹⁴

However, when looking at the impact of these institutional and legal reforms on economic activity and employment rates, the picture becomes far more mixed.

High disparities in economic activity and employment rates can be found when comparing data on persons with disabilities with data on total populations (see **Figure 2**). In almost all countries where data is readily available, persons with disabilities report substantially lower levels of employment than their peers without disabilities. In some cases, employment rates for persons with disabilities are half or even one third that of the total population. Good practices in other countries demonstrate that these rates are far from what is achievable; Germany, Iceland, Luxembourg, Mexico and Sweden report employment rates for persons with disabilities of at least two thirds that of their total populations.¹⁵

The trends found in Arab countries concur with findings in scholarly research from other regions. A recent study by the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) finds that employment rates are significantly lower for persons with disabilities than for the total population in a number of

¹³ For more information on the relationship between poverty and disability, see e.g. Braithwaite and Mont, 2008; Elwan, 1999; ESCWA, 2013; ESCWA, 2010a; Groce et al., 2011; Mitra et al., 2011; WHO and World Bank, 2011.

¹⁴ See also ESCWA, 2010b.

¹⁵ OECD, 2010, p. 51.

Table 4. National employment quotas for persons with disabilities in the Arab region

ALGERIA	One per cent for each employer SOURCE: Law No. 02-09 on the Protection and Promotion of Persons with Disabilities (2002), Chapter 3, Article 27
BAHRAIN	Two per cent for employers that employ 50 people or more^a SOURCE: Law No. 74 on the Welfare, Rehabilitation and Employment of Persons with Disabilities (2006), Article 11
COMOROS	..
DJIBOUTI	..
EGYPT	Five per cent for employers that employ 50 people or more SOURCE: Law No. 39 on the Rehabilitation of Disabled Persons (1975), amended by Law No. 49 (1982), Chapter 1, Article 9
IRAQ	Five per cent for the public sector; one person with disability for mixed sector companies that employ 30 to 60 people; at least three per cent for mixed sector companies that employ over 60 people SOURCE: Law No. 38 on the Welfare of Persons with Disabilities and Special Needs (2013), Article 16
JORDAN	One person with disability for public and private entities that employ between 25 and 50 people; four per cent for public and private entities that employ more than 50 people SOURCE: Law No. 31 on the Rights of Disabled Persons (2007), Article 4/3
KUWAIT	Four per cent of all Kuwaiti national employees for public, private and oil entities that employ at least 50 Kuwaiti nationals SOURCE: Law No. 8 on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (2010), Chapter 4, Article 14
LEBANON	Three per cent for the public sector; one person with disability for private companies that employ 30 to 60 people; three per cent for private companies that employ over 60 people SOURCE: Law No. 220 on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (2000), Section 8, Articles 73-74
LIBYA	..
MAURITANIA	..
MOROCCO	Seven per cent for the public sector SOURCE: Prime Ministerial Decision No. 3.130.00 on Determining the Number of Posts Allocated to Disabled Persons and the Percentage of those Posts in State Departments and other Relevant Bodies (2000), Article 2

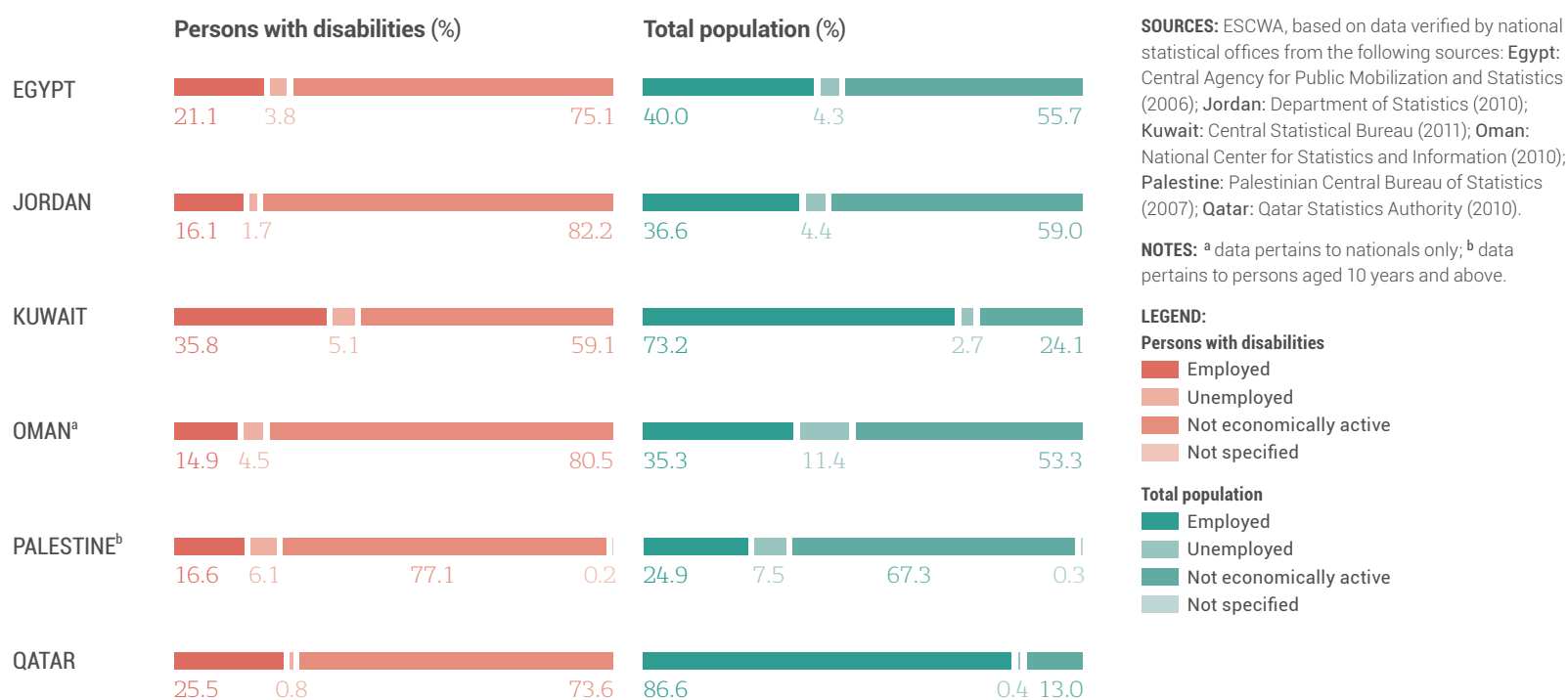
Table 4 (cont'd). National employment quotas for persons with disabilities in the Arab region

OMAN	<p>No specific quota is defined, but the law stipulates that public and private companies that employ 50 people or more must allocate a percentage of posts to persons with disabilities, which is determined according to the number of vacant posts</p> <p>SOURCE: Sultanate Decree No. 63 on the Law on Care and Rehabilitation of the Disabled (2008), Section 2, Article 9; Sultanate Decree No. 35 on the Labour Law (2003), Article 17</p>
PALESTINE	<p>Five per cent for government and non-government organizations</p> <p>SOURCE: Law No. 4 Concerning the Rights of the Disabled (1999), Chapter 2, Article 10, 4c</p>
QATAR	<p>At least two per cent for the public sector; at least two per cent with a minimum of one person with disability for private sector employers that employ 25 people or more^b</p> <p>SOURCE: Law No. 2 on Persons with Disabilities (2004), Article 5</p>
SAUDI ARABIA	<p>Four per cent for companies that employ 25 people or more</p> <p>SOURCE: Royal Decree No. M/51, Labour Law (2005) Section 2, Chapter 2, Article 28</p>
SOMALIA	..
SUDAN	<p>Two per cent for government entities</p> <p>SOURCE: National Civil Service Law (2007), Section 4, Article 24/7</p>
SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC	<p>Two per cent for the public sector</p> <p>SOURCE: Labour Law No. 17 (2010), Article 136</p>
TUNISIA	<p>One per cent of posts for the public sector; one per cent for public and private institutions that employ 100 people or more</p> <p>SOURCE: Directive No. 83 on the Advancement and Protection of Persons with Disabilities (2005), Articles 29-30</p>
UNITED ARAB EMIRATES	<p>No specific quota is defined, but the law stipulates that a number of posts are reserved for the disabled in the civil service, which is determined by the Civil Service Board^c</p> <p>SOURCE: Civil Service Law No. 21 (2001)</p>
YEMEN	<p>Five per cent of total vacancies in public and private sectors</p> <p>SOURCE: Prime Ministerial Decision No. 284 (2002) on the Executive Rules of Law No. 61 on the Care and Rehabilitation of the Disabled (1999)</p>

SOURCE: ESCWA, based on data collected from government focal points through the ESCWA Questionnaire on the Implementation of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the Arab Decade for Persons with Disabilities (2013).

NOTES: ^a according to the questionnaire response from the government focal point, this quota will be replaced by other measures; ^b according to the questionnaire response from the government focal point, a new quota is currently being developed; ^c according to the questionnaire response from the government focal point, the Emirate of Abu Dhabi has introduced a 2 per cent quota for local public institutions.

Figure 2. Distribution of persons with disabilities and total population (15+ years) by economic activity for selected Arab countries (%)



OECD countries such as Ireland, Poland and the United States of America, and that these employment gaps tend to be higher for persons with certain types of disabilities, such as those with mental health conditions.¹⁶ Another study of employment rates for persons with disabilities in 15 developing countries comes to similar conclusions.¹⁷ More specifically, it finds that employment rates are significantly lower for persons with disabilities in nine countries, with the largest gaps being reported for persons with multiple disabilities.

¹⁶ Ibid., pp. 50-51.
¹⁷ Mizunoya and Mitra, 2013.

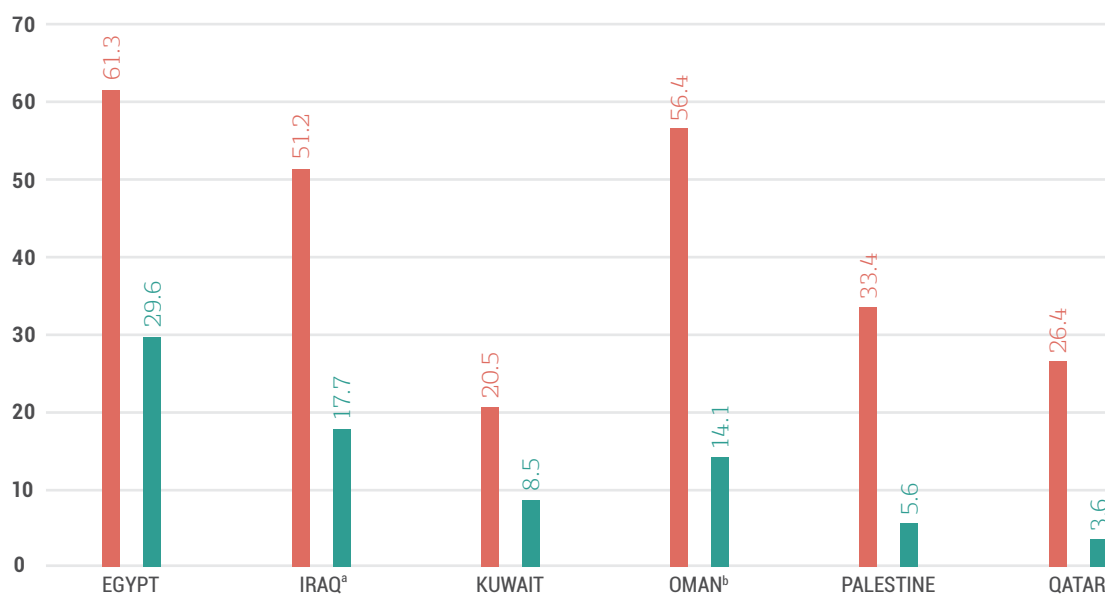
66 States Parties shall ensure that ...children with disabilities are not excluded from free and compulsory primary education, or from secondary education, on the basis of disability. 99

UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (Article 24, paragraph 2)

Similarly, while laws and regulations on education for persons with disabilities are widespread in the Arab region, available data suggests that these frameworks have limited impact on the ground. For those Arab countries where comparable data on educational attainment is available, the proportion of persons who are considered illiterate is substantially higher for persons with disabilities than for total populations (see **Figure 3**). Moreover, educational attainment rates, especially at secondary and tertiary levels, tend to be significantly lower for persons with disabilities than for total populations.

These trends in educational attainment data also accord with previous findings by scholars and international organizations. In its research on the Middle East and North Africa, for example, the World Bank finds that education systems “continue to exclude the majority of the disabled school-aged population at the primary

Figure 3. Differentials in illiteracy for persons with disabilities and total populations (10+ years) according to educational attainment data for selected Arab countries (%)



SOURCES: ESCWA, based on data verified by national statistical offices from the following sources: **Egypt:** Central Agency for Public Mobilization and Statistics (2006); **Iraq:** Central Organization for Statistics and Information Technology et al. (2007); **Kuwait:** Central Statistical Bureau (2011); **Oman:** National Center for Statistics and Information (2010); **Palestine:** Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (2007); **Qatar:** Qatar Statistics Authority (2010).

NOTES: ^a percentages for Iraq are calculated as follows: for persons with disabilities - total number of persons with disabilities (6+ years) classified as illiterate divided by the total number of persons with disabilities (all ages); for total population - total number of persons (6+ years) classified as illiterate divided by the total population (all ages); and ^b data pertains to nationals only and to persons aged 15+ years.

LEGEND:

■ Persons with disabilities
■ Total population

level and almost the entirety of this population at the university level".¹⁸ Similarly, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) concludes that although in principle all children have the same right to an education, children with disabilities are often denied this right in practice.¹⁹

Gender gaps are very visible in the available data on economic activity and educational attainment. **Table 5** presents employment rates for persons with disabilities and total populations disaggregated by sex for those Arab countries where comparable data is available. According to this table, gender gaps in employment rates exist both for persons with disabilities and total populations. The magnitude of this gap varies among countries, with some reporting employment rates that are three to four times higher for men than for women.

Since employment rates for women are also rather low among total populations, the additional disadvantage experienced by women as a result of their disability can be visualized by

calculating employment ratios. Employment ratios for the same five countries are presented in **Figure 4**. Employment ratios are a helpful tool for exploring the extent to which persons with disabilities are integrated into the labour market relative to total populations.²⁰ The ratios below have been calculated for persons with disabilities by dividing the employment rate of women with disabilities by that of men with disabilities. Similarly for the total population, the ratios have been calculated by dividing the overall employment rate for women by the overall employment rate for men. A ratio close to one indicates that there is relative parity between men and women in accessing employment, while a ratio close to zero suggests that women have very limited access to employment opportunities relative to men.

For four out of the five countries presented, employment ratios are lower for persons with disabilities than for total populations. In other words, the data for Kuwait, Oman, Palestine and Qatar suggests that the gender gap in employ-

¹⁸ World Bank, 2005, p. ii.

¹⁹ UNICEF, 2013, p. 27.

²⁰ See e.g. Mizunoya and Mitra, 2013; WHO and World Bank, 2011, p. 236.

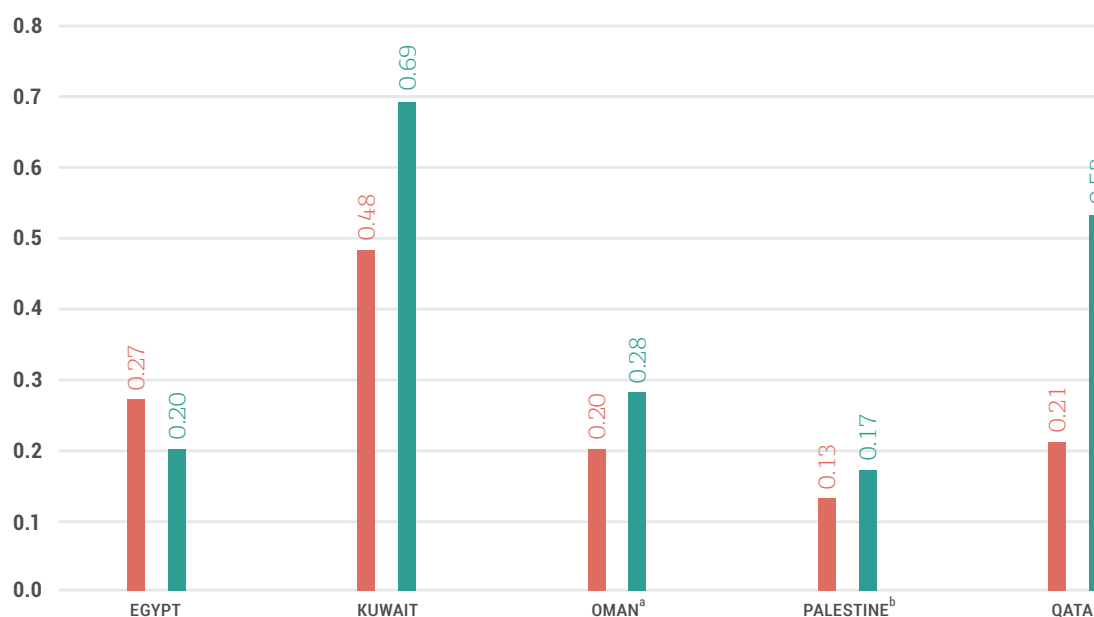
Table 5. Employment rates of persons with disabilities and total populations (15+ years) by sex for selected Arab countries

	Persons with disabilities (%)		Total population (%)	
	Female	Male	Female	Male
EGYPT	7.5	28.4	12.9	66.1
KUWAIT	21.6	45.4	58.1	84.0
OMAN ^a	4.8	23.7	15.5	54.7
PALESTINE ^b	3.6	28.7	7.1	42.4
QATAR	8.1	38.9	50.8	95.8

SOURCES: ESCWA, based on data verified by national statistical offices from the following sources: **Egypt:** Central Agency for Public Mobilization and Statistics (2006); **Kuwait:** Central Statistical Bureau (2011); **Oman:** National Center for Statistics and Information (2010); **Palestine:** Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (2007); **Qatar:** Qatar Statistics Authority (2010).

NOTES: ^a data pertains to nationals only; ^b data pertains to persons aged 10 years and above.

Figure 4. Employment ratios for persons with disabilities and total populations (15+ years) for selected Arab countries



SOURCES: ESCWA, based on data verified by national statistical offices from the following sources: **Egypt:** Central Agency for Public Mobilization and Statistics (2006); **Kuwait:** Central Statistical Bureau (2011); **Oman:** National Center for Statistics and Information (2010); **Palestine:** Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (2007); **Qatar:** Qatar Statistics Authority (2010).

NOTES: ^a data pertains to nationals only; ^b data pertains to persons aged 10 years and above.

LEGEND:

- Persons with disabilities
- Total population

ment rates is higher for persons with disabilities relative to the total population. The data for Egypt indicates an opposing trend, whereby the gender gap appears to be slightly lower for persons with disabilities than for the total population.

In sum, the data presented above suggests that, despite enabling legislation, persons with disabilities in the Arab region experience more limited access to employment opportunities and quality education than their peers without disabilities. It is particularly noteworthy that

while employment quotas are widespread in the Arab region, employment rates of persons with disabilities remain remarkably low in comparison to total populations. Moreover, certain groups, such as women with disabilities, appear to face additional barriers, especially in accessing employment. However, further research and disaggregated data, especially by age (given its impact on economic activity rates) but also other factors such as geographical location, are needed in order to derive more detailed policy recommendations from these observations.

CONCLUDING REMARKS

This summary has served to highlight a number of key trends with regards to disability in the Arab region. For one, disability prevalence rates vary widely across Arab countries, but overall are remarkably low especially in comparison to global and other regional averages. These remarkable regional variations in disability prevalence merit further analysis, especially as a number of countries that use the short set of questions developed by the Washington Group on Disability Statistics²¹ report relatively low disability prevalence. Secondly, significant steps have been taken to strengthen national institutions and laws related to disability, which are now widely established throughout the region. However, despite these developments, available data also indicates that persons with disabilities, and especially women with disabilities, continue to experience marginalization and more limited opportunities in accessing decent work opportunities and quality education in comparison to their peers without disabilities.

What are the policy implications of these findings? Firstly, further efforts are needed to promote reliability and comparability of disability-related data in the Arab region. In particular, countries should further harmonize and strengthen their data collection methodologies, especially censuses, with the aim of producing more accurate, detailed and comparable data on persons with disabilities. This should include the adoption of standard questions such as the short set of questions developed by the Washington Group on Disability Statistics, and ensuring that censuses and surveys are complemented by effective communication strategies that raise awareness and combat the social stigma that discourages people from reporting their disabilities. Countries should also work

towards aligning their definitions of disability—including classifications of disability types—with internationally agreed guidelines and standards, such as the CRPD and the ICF. Secondly, governments should continue their efforts to harmonize domestic legislation with the CRPD, and ensure that these laws are effectively enforced. Finally, further efforts are needed to ensure the full inclusion of persons with disabilities in labour markets and education systems, while giving particular attention to groups at risk of heightened discrimination and access barriers, including women with disabilities. To this end, governments must among other things ensure the effective implementation of employment quotas and anti-discrimination laws, which should be coupled with adequate enforcement mechanisms, including appropriate sanctions and incentive schemes.

While this study has focused on particular dimensions of inclusion, such as employment and education, it is also crucial that these efforts be framed within a system-wide approach aimed at protecting and promoting the full spectrum of human rights enshrined in the CRPD and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. In other words, specific measures to promote inclusion and accessibility in for example schools and the workplace, should take place as part of a wider, holistic and rights-based framework for disability that is applied across government institutions, including such issues as access to the justice system and broader aspects of social safety nets, such as child protective services.

Furthermore, additional focus on the implementation and impact of laws and policies is also necessary. The results of this study show that institutions and laws on disability have expanded substantially over recent years.

²¹ Available from http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/washington_group/WG_Short_Measure_on_Disability.pdf (accessed 12 December 2013).

However, beyond the political intentions and provisions reflected in the legal and institutional frameworks of Arab countries, it is also crucial to monitor their impact on the ground. While available disability-related data help us to discern certain general trends, they are nevertheless insufficient indicators of policy impact and social change from a bottom-up perspective. As such, the development of adequate indicators of policy impact and the strengthening of monitoring and evaluation mechanisms are primary tasks that deserve priority attention in the region's continued efforts on disability.

It is today widely recognized that the inclusion of persons with disabilities represents a key component for the success of development objectives, including the Millennium Development Goals and the post-2015 development agenda. Failure to do so means that large segments of the population, all with vast potential, are effectively excluded from contributing to the socio-economic development of their societies. Looking forward, governments and other stakeholders should build on current momentum and strengthen their efforts to ensure that persons with disabilities have the opportunities and support needed in order to realize their rights to participate in and contribute to society on an equal basis with others.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The following country profiles have been compiled based on data collected by ESCWA and the League of Arab States between May and September 2013. Data on persons with disabilities was collected for a range of selected quantitative indicators from national censuses and household survey data. Comparable data on the total population was also collected wherever possible for indicators related to geographical location, marital status, educational attainment and economic activity. Data was then sent to designated focal points in the national statistical offices of all 22 Arab countries for verification. Additional data was collected from the same year as the source for the data on persons with disabilities for the following socio-economic indicators: Human Development Index (HDI), life expectancy at birth and gross national income (GNI).²² Qualitative information on institutions and laws (presented on the second page of each country profile) was collected through a questionnaire,²³ which ESCWA and the League of Arab States distributed to their respective government focal points.

The main purpose of the country profiles is to present a picture of the situation of persons with disabilities, not in isolation, but in the context of the societies in which they live. As such, comparability of data between persons with disabilities and total populations represented a key priority during the study. In order to facilitate such comparability, certain statistical principles had to be observed during the data collection process.

Firstly, in cases where competing sources of quantitative data and conflicting information were encountered, ESCWA selected the source

that (i) provides the most comprehensive data on the set of selected quantitative indicators; and (ii) includes the most recent data on both persons with disabilities and the total population. **In some countries, the only source that provides comparable data on both persons with disabilities and the total population may date from several years back. While more recent data on disability may be available for some countries, ESCWA selected this data in order to better reflect the situation of persons with disabilities in their societies.**

Secondly, in those limited cases where data on persons with disabilities and total populations were not available from the same source, tables on total populations were left blank. In other words, data on total populations in these cases may be available from other sources, but has been omitted from this study as it would be of limited use for comparative purposes. In only one case, Syria, did we choose to present data on both persons with disabilities and on the total population even though they do not stem from the same source, and readers should be aware of their limited comparability. In addition, no data was available for four countries (the Comoros, Djibouti, Mauritania and Somalia), and therefore these country profiles are also presented as blank.

Finally, it is important to note that the terminology and categories presented in the country profiles have been taken directly from official country data sources and as such do not necessarily reflect recommended UN terminology, as enshrined in, for example, the ICF (see **Table 2**).

²² GNI is calculated in per capita terms, in 2005 international dollars at purchasing power parity (PPP).

²³ The format of this questionnaire was adapted from a questionnaire developed by the Economic Commission for Latin American and the Caribbean (ECLAC) Sub-Regional Headquarters for the Caribbean (see Ebbeson et al., 2011, pp. 60-72).

SOCIO-ECONOMIC INDICATORS

SOURCE: UNDP

HDI

0.685

Life expectancy at birth

72.0

GNI per capita

6,927

Persons with disabilities¹



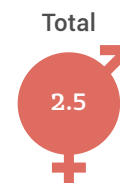
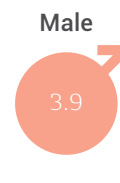
Female
.. (22.2%)
Male
.. (77.8%)

Total population¹

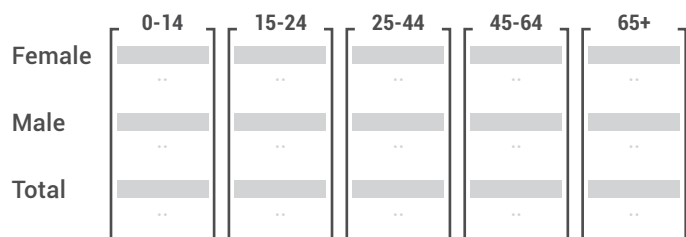


Female
.. (49.6%)
Male
.. (50.4%)

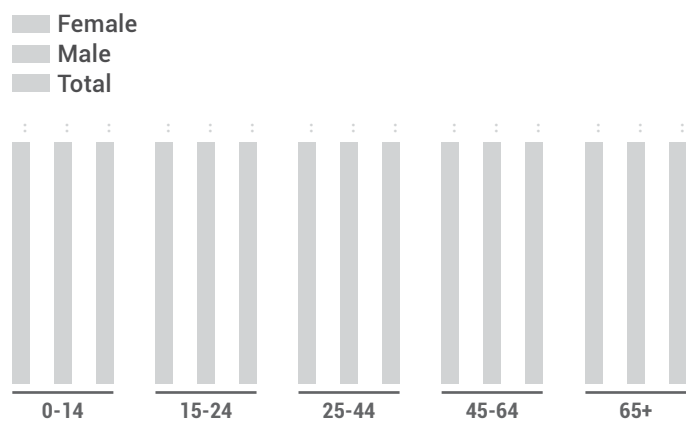
Disability prevalence (%)



Age distribution of persons with disabilities (%)

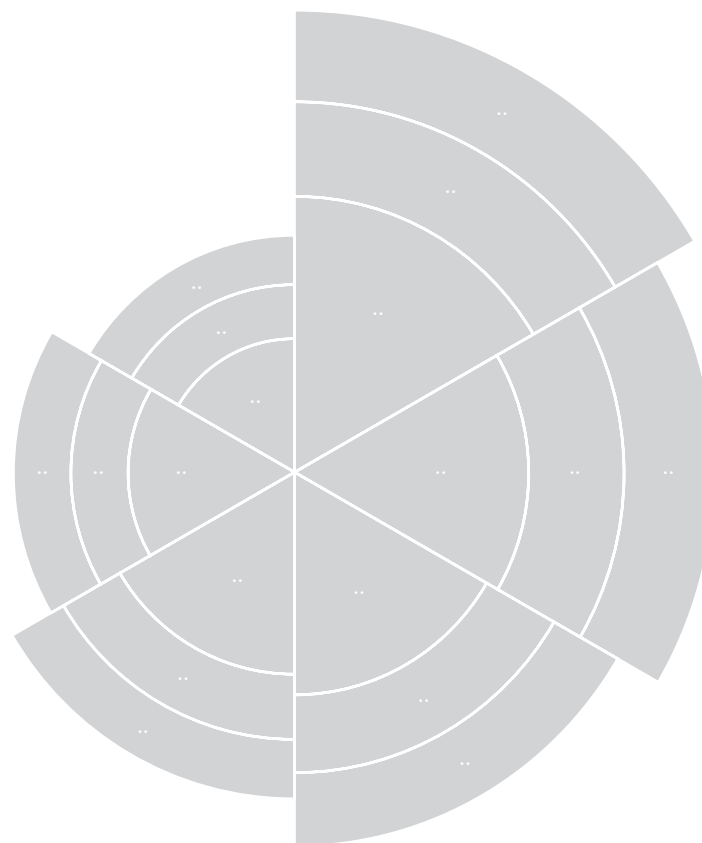


Age-specific disability prevalence (%)



Type of disability/difficulty (%)

Female Male Total



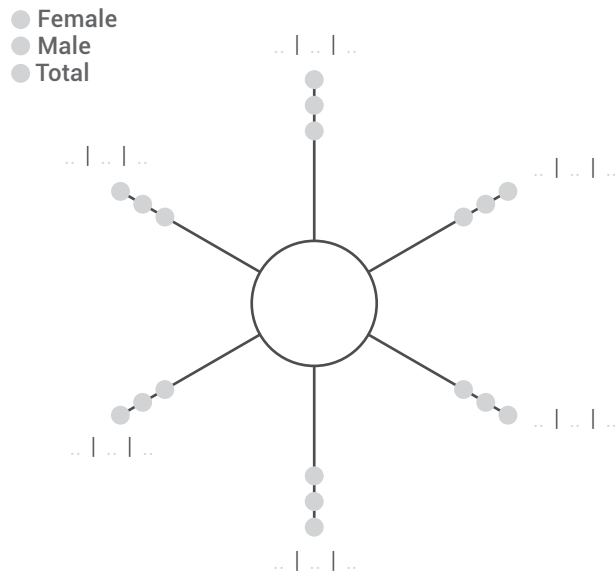
Cause of disability/difficulty (%)

	Female	Male	Total
Congenital/hereditary	28.5
Birth/labour related	2.0
Infectious/viral disease	14.2
Psychological/physical violence	7.9
Old age	12.5
Accident	16.7
Other	12.7
Not specified	5.6



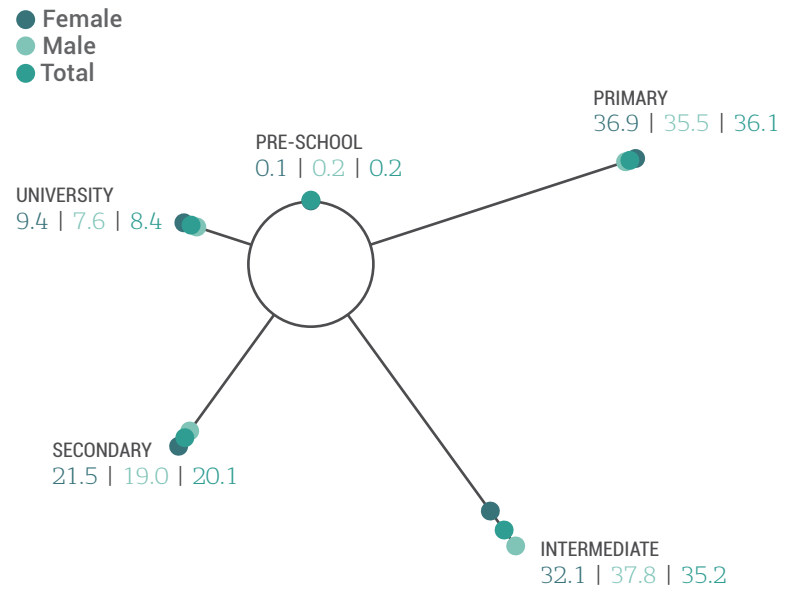
BY EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

Persons with disabilities (%)



Total population (%)

Age: 6+ years



BY ECONOMIC ACTIVITY

Persons with disabilities (%)

Female



Male



Total



Total population (%)

Female



Male



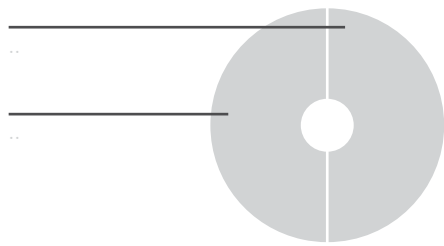
Total



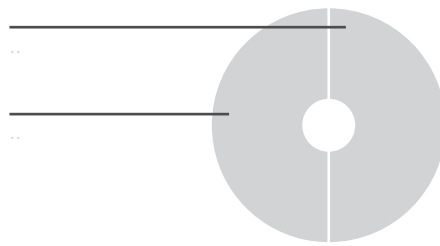
BY GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION

Persons with disabilities (%)

Female



Male



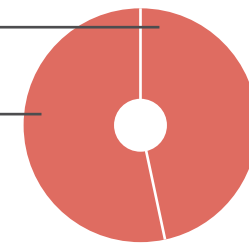
Total

RURAL

46.6

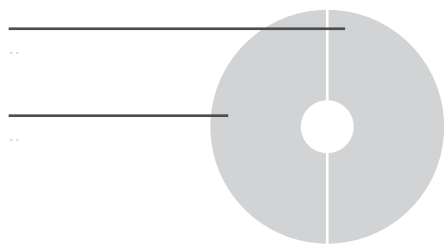
URBAN

53.4

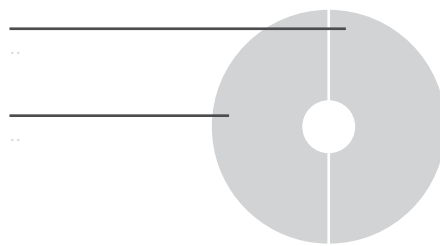


Total population (%)

Female



Male



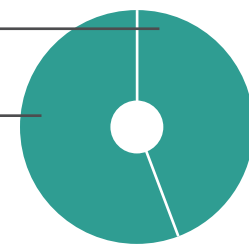
Total

RURAL

44.2

URBAN

55.8



BY MARITAL STATUS

Persons with disabilities (%)

Female



Male



Total



Total population (%)

Age: 15+ years

Female



Male



Total



All data categories are as provided by Algeria.

FOOTNOTE

1 Data on the total number of persons with disabilities and total number of population is not available in the source.

Data on the sample size is available from the indicated source.

SOURCE

Office National des Statistiques et al. (2006).

Signature/ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities & its optional protocol

CONVENTION

 Signed 30.3.2007	 Ratified/acceded 4.12.2009
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OPTIONAL PROTOCOL

 Signed 30.3.2007	 Ratified/acceded No
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SOURCE:
UN (2014).

National institutional framework for disability/persons with disabilities

NATIONAL COORDINATION MECHANISM

-  **Name**
National Council for Persons with Disabilities
-  **Year established**
2006
-  **Chair**
Minister of National Solidarity or his representative
-  **Persons with disabilities represented?**
Yes

ADDITIONAL MECHANISMS

-  ..

National definition of disability/persons with disabilities

“ Every person, regardless of age and sex, who suffers from one or more than one disability—congenital or hereditary or acquired—that impairs his ability to do one or more of the basic daily personal and social functions as a result of injury to their mental and/or locomotor and/or sensory functions.”

(Law No. 02-09 on the Protection and Promotion of Persons with Disabilities, 2002)

National legislative framework for disability/persons with disabilities (year of adoption)

Articles on disability included in the constitution?	General/overarching national disability law	National disability strategy/plan
Yes	Law No. 02-09 on the Protection and Promotion of Persons with Disabilities (2002)	..

SOURCE:
ESCWA, based on data collected from government focal points through the ESCWA Questionnaire on the Implementation of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the Arab Decade for Persons with Disabilities (2013).

SOCIO-ECONOMIC INDICATORS

SOURCE: UNDP

HDI

0.794

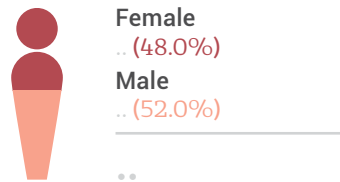
Life expectancy at birth

74.9

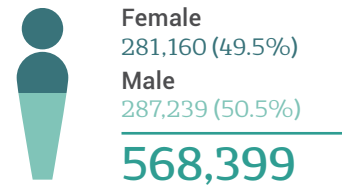
GNI per capita

19,137

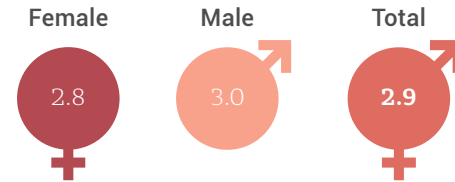
Persons with disabilities²



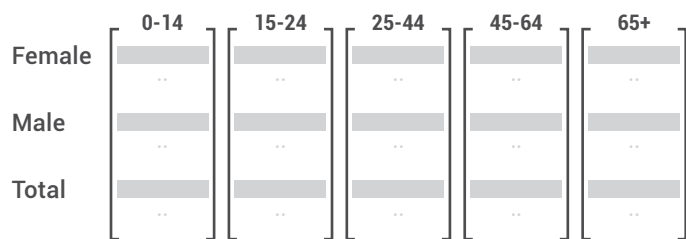
Total population



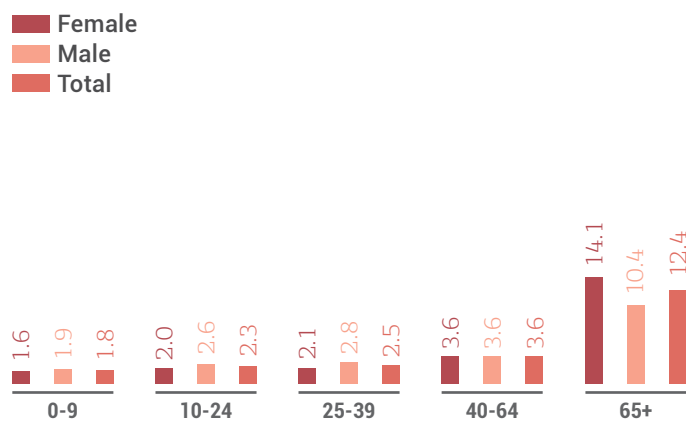
Disability prevalence (%)



Age distribution of persons with disabilities (%)



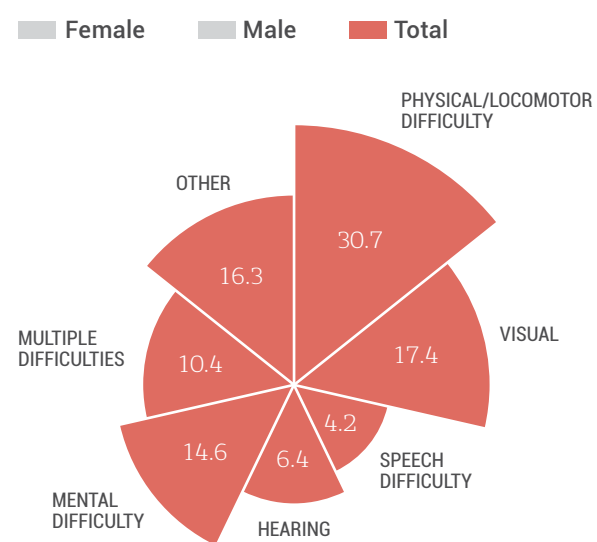
Age-specific disability prevalence (%)



Cause of disability/difficulty (%)

	Female	Male	Total
Accident	5.4	12.1	8.9
Disease	41.0	31.7	36.1
Since birth	26.4	32.1	29.3
Hereditary	10.7	8.3	9.5
Other	16.6	15.8	16.2

Type of disability/difficulty (%)



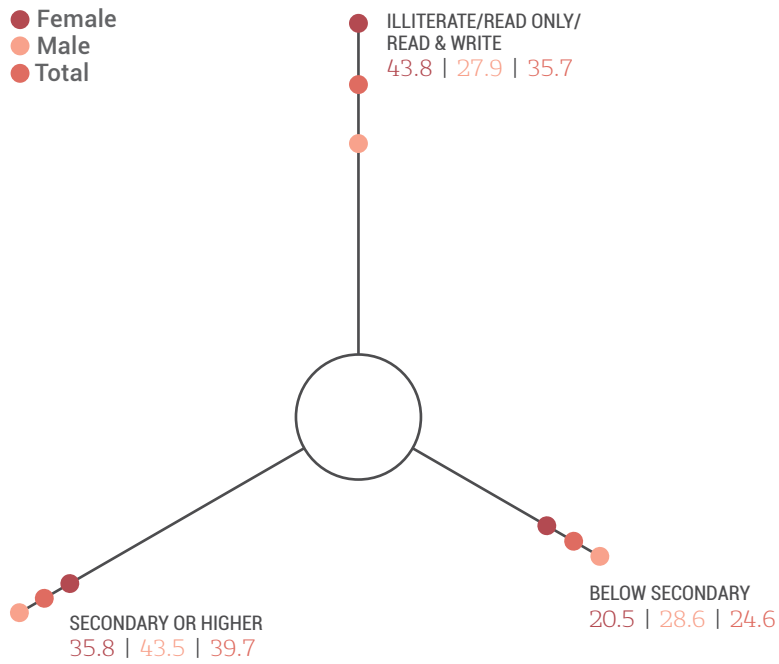


BY EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

Persons with disabilities (%)

Age: 10+ years

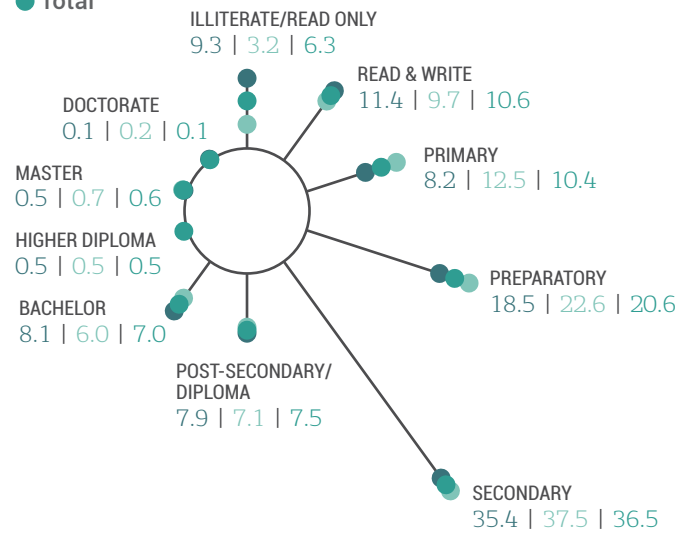
- Female
- Male
- Total



Total population (%)

Age: 10+ years

- Female
- Male
- Total



BY ECONOMIC ACTIVITY

Persons with disabilities (%)

Age: 15+ years

Female



Male



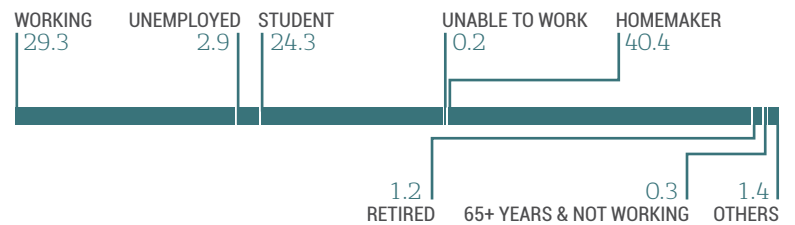
Total



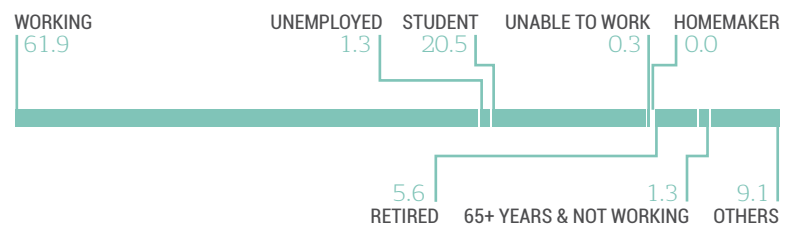
Total population (%)

Age: 15+ years

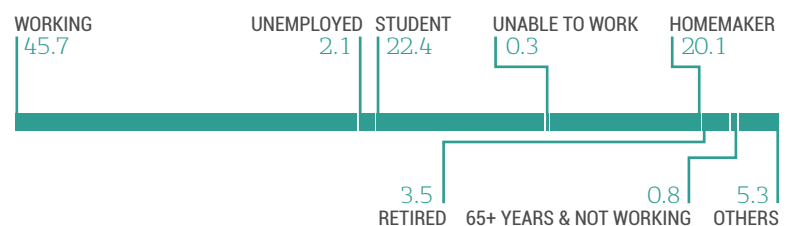
Female



Male



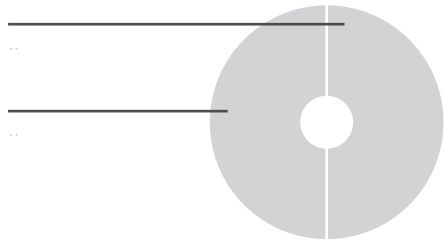
Total



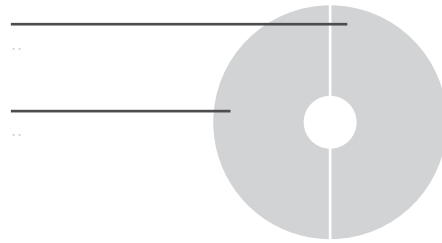
BY GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION

Persons with disabilities (%)

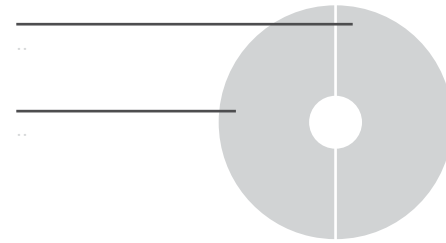
Female



Male

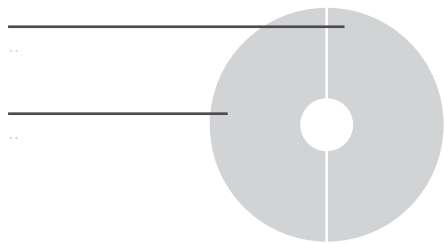


Total

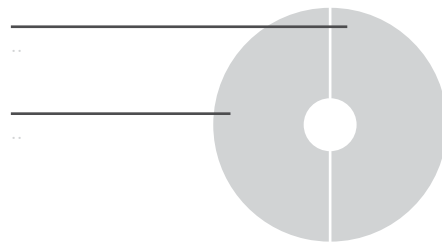


Total population (%)

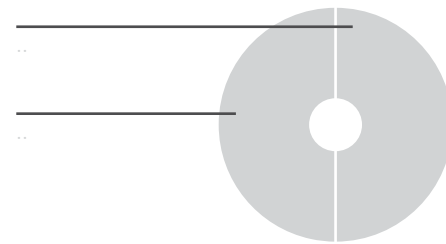
Female



Male



Total



BY MARITAL STATUS

Persons with disabilities (%)

Age: 15+ years

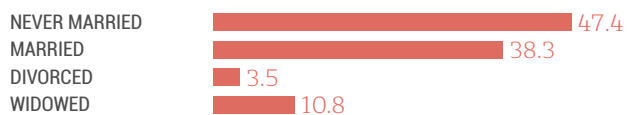
Female



Male



Total



Total population (%)

Age: 15+ years

Female



Male



Total



All data categories are as provided by Bahrain.

FOOTNOTES

- 1 All data pertains to nationals only.
- 2 Data on the total number of persons with

disabilities is not available in the source. Data on the sample size is available from the indicated source.

SOURCES

Data on persons with disabilities is from Central Informatics Organization (2010b); data on total population is from Central Informatics Organization (2010a).

Signature/ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities & its optional protocol

CONVENTION

 Signed 25.6.2007	 Ratified/acceded 22.9.2011
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OPTIONAL PROTOCOL

 Signed No	 Ratified/acceded No
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SOURCE:
UN (2014).

National institutional framework for disability/persons with disabilities

NATIONAL COORDINATION MECHANISM

-  **Name**
High Commission for the Welfare of Persons with Disabilities
-  **Year established**
2007
-  **Chair**
Minister of Social Development
-  **Persons with disabilities represented?**
Yes

ADDITIONAL MECHANISMS

-  System of focal points for disability related matters in line ministries or other governmental institutions

National definition of disability/persons with disabilities

“ A disabled person is a person who suffers from a shortage of physical or sensory or mental capacities as a result of illness or accident or congenital or hereditary factors that led to a total or partial inability to work or to continue working or to progress in their career, and weakened their capacity to perform other basic functions in life, and the person needs care and rehabilitation in order to be integrated or reintegrated into society. ”

(Law No. 74 on the Welfare, Rehabilitation and Employment of Persons with Disabilities, 2006)

National legislative framework for disability/persons with disabilities (year of adoption)

Articles on disability included in the constitution?	General/overarching national disability law	National disability strategy/plan
Yes	Law No. 74 on the Welfare, Rehabilitation and Employment of Persons with Disabilities (2006) ¹	National Strategy for Persons with Disabilities and Its Implementation Plan (2012-2016)

SOURCE:
ESCWA, based on data collected from government focal points through the ESCWA Questionnaire on the Implementation of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the Arab Decade for Persons with Disabilities (2013).

FOOTNOTE:
¹ The law is currently being amended.

COMOROS

SOCIO-ECONOMIC INDICATORS¹

SOURCE: UNDP

HDI

0.429

Life expectancy at birth

61.5

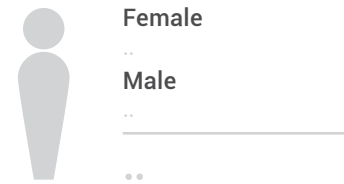
GNI per capita

986

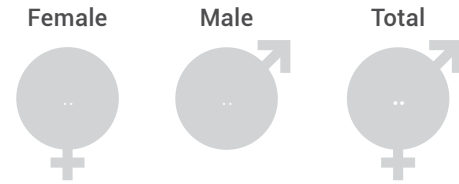
Persons with disabilities



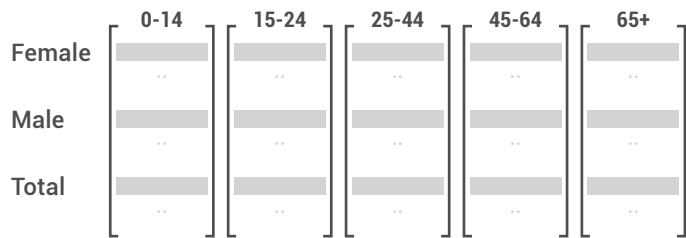
Total population



Disability prevalence (%)

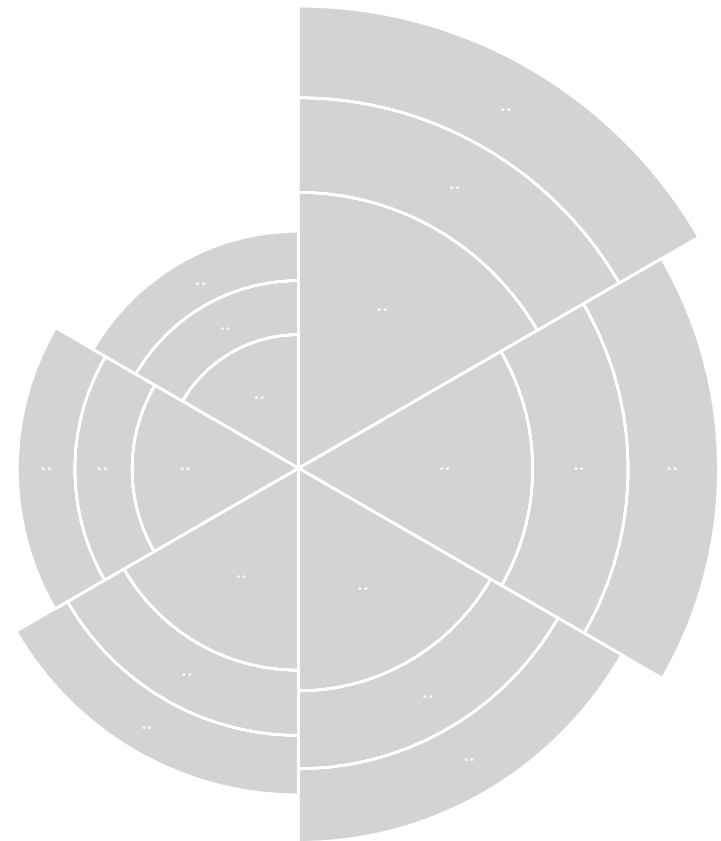


Age distribution of persons with disabilities (%)

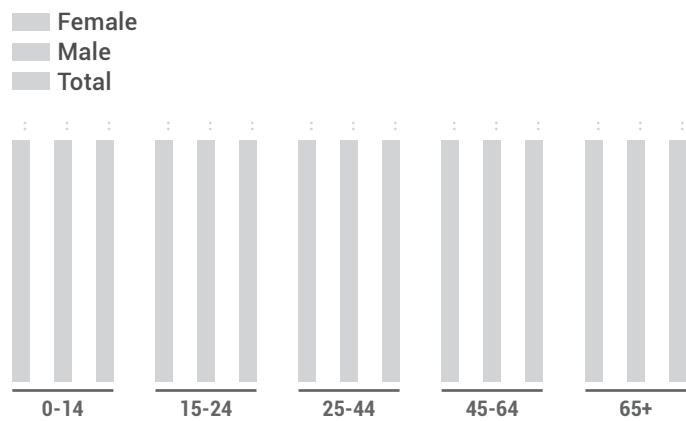


Type of disability/difficulty (%)

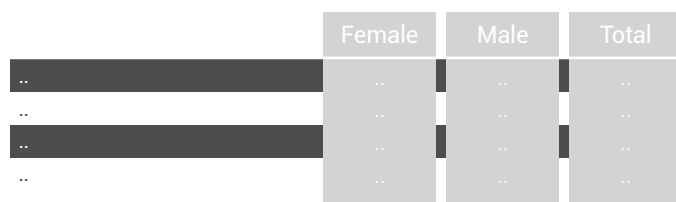
Female Male Total



Age-specific disability prevalence (%)



Cause of disability/difficulty (%)

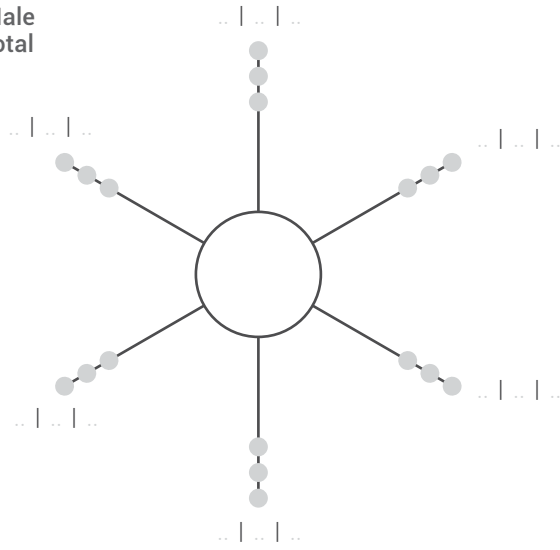




BY EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

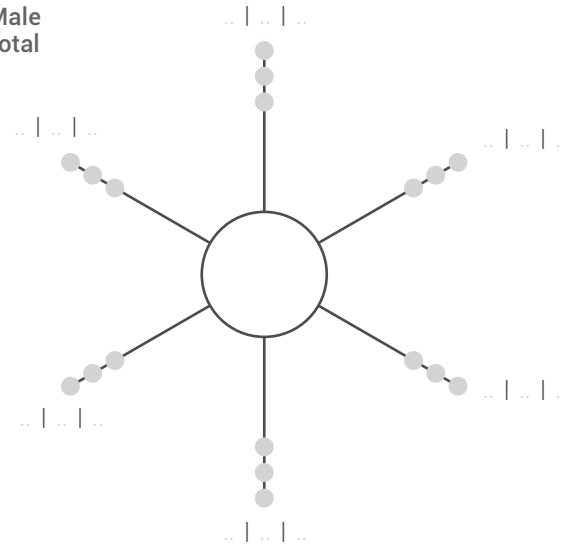
Persons with disabilities (%)

- Female
- Male
- Total



Total population (%)

- Female
- Male
- Total



BY ECONOMIC ACTIVITY

Persons with disabilities (%)

Female



Male



Total



Total population (%)

Female



Male



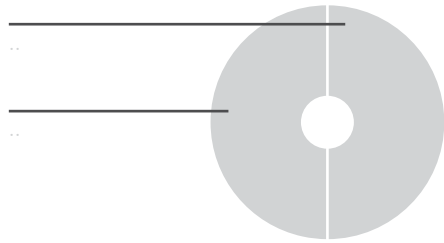
Total



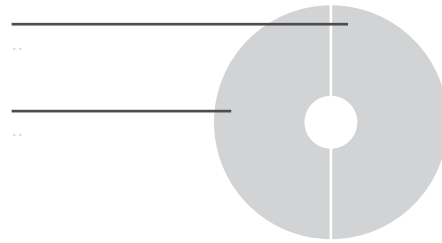
BY GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION

Persons with disabilities (%)

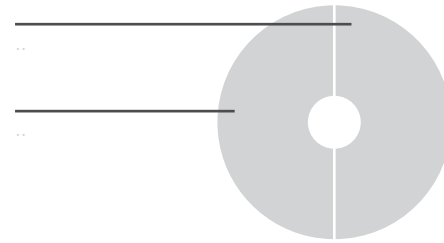
Female



Male

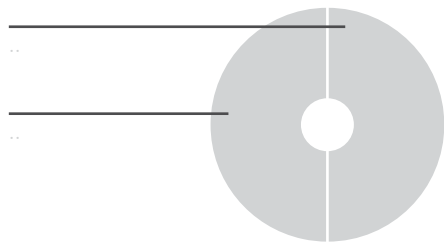


Total

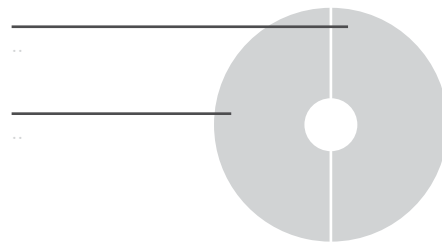


Total population (%)

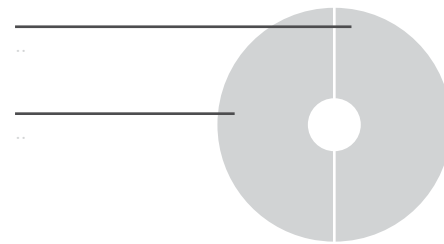
Female



Male



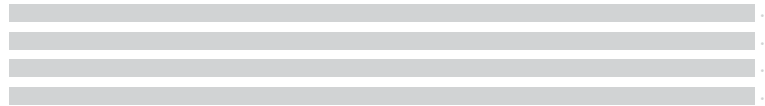
Total



BY MARITAL STATUS

Persons with disabilities (%)

Female



Male

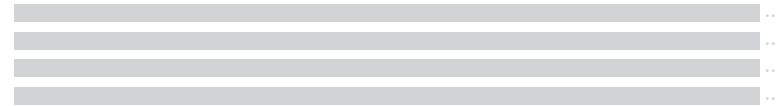


Total



Total population (%)

Female



Male



Total



FOOTNOTE

¹ Data for these three indicators is from 2012.

Signature/ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities & its optional protocol

CONVENTION

 **Signed**
26.9.2007

 **Ratified/acceded**
No

OPTIONAL PROTOCOL

 **Signed**
No

 **Ratified/acceded**
No

SOURCE:
UN (2014).

National institutional framework for disability/persons with disabilities

NATIONAL COORDINATION MECHANISM

 **Name**

..

 **Year established**

..

 **Chair**

..

 **Persons with disabilities represented?**

..

ADDITIONAL MECHANISMS

 ..

National definition of disability/persons with disabilities

“ .. ”

National legislative framework for disability/persons with disabilities (year of adoption)

Articles on disability included in the constitution?

..

General/overarching national disability law

..

National disability strategy/plan

..

SOURCE:

..

DJIBOUTI

SOCIO-ECONOMIC INDICATORS¹

SOURCE: UNDP

HDI

0.445

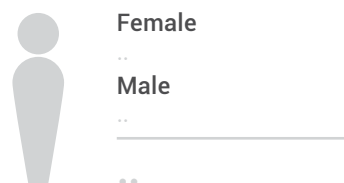
Life expectancy at birth

58.3

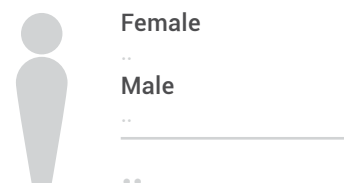
GNI per capita

2,350

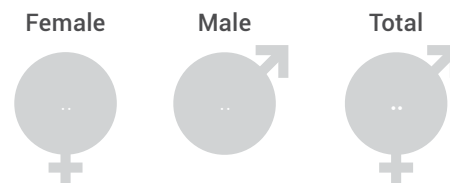
Persons with disabilities



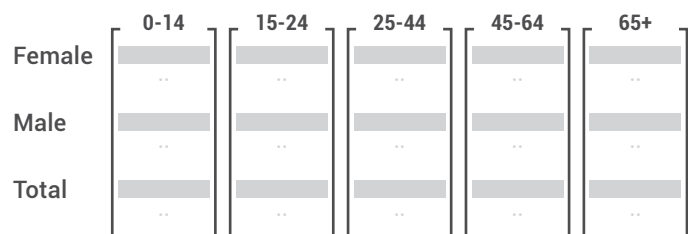
Total population



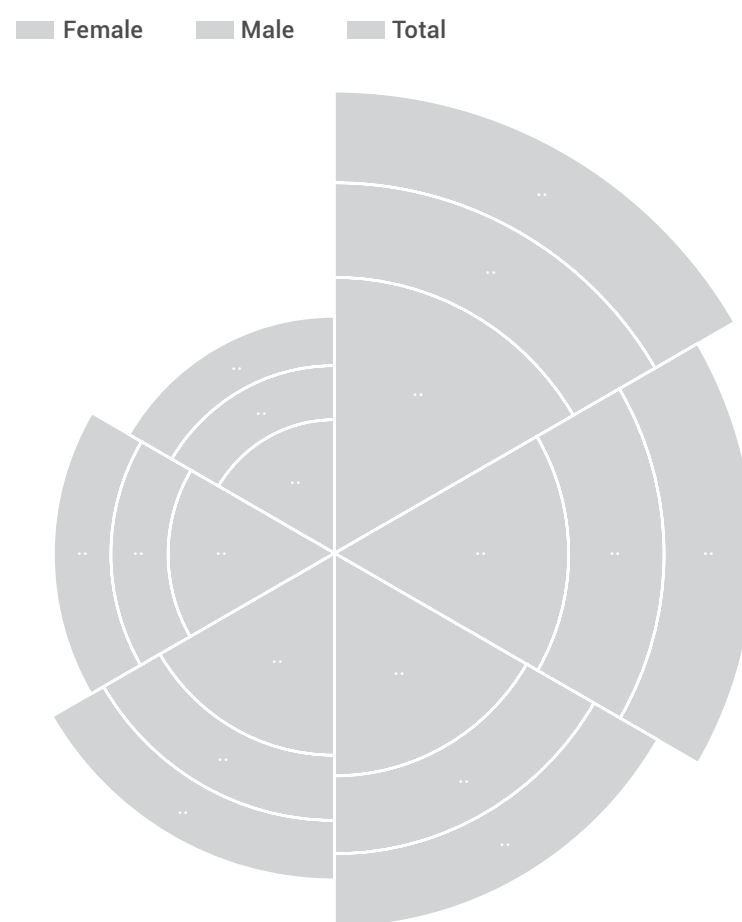
Disability prevalence (%)



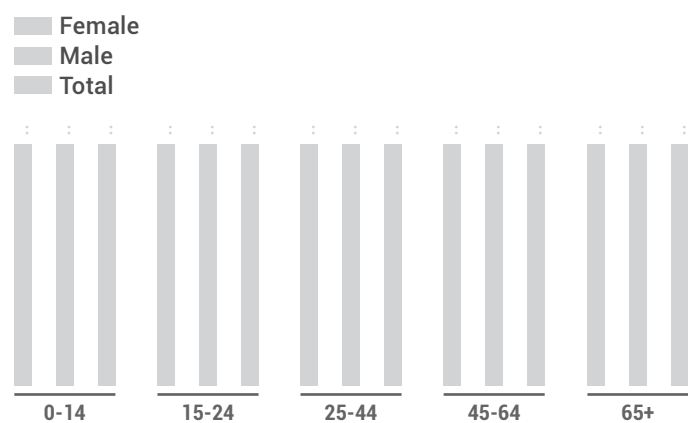
Age distribution of persons with disabilities (%)



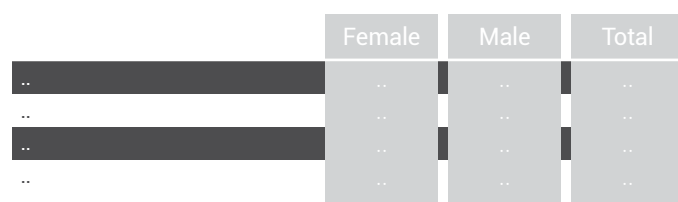
Type of disability/difficulty (%)



Age-specific disability prevalence (%)



Cause of disability/difficulty (%)

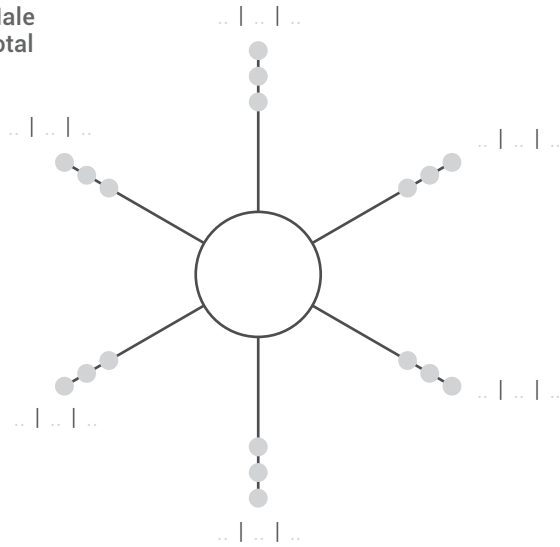




BY EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

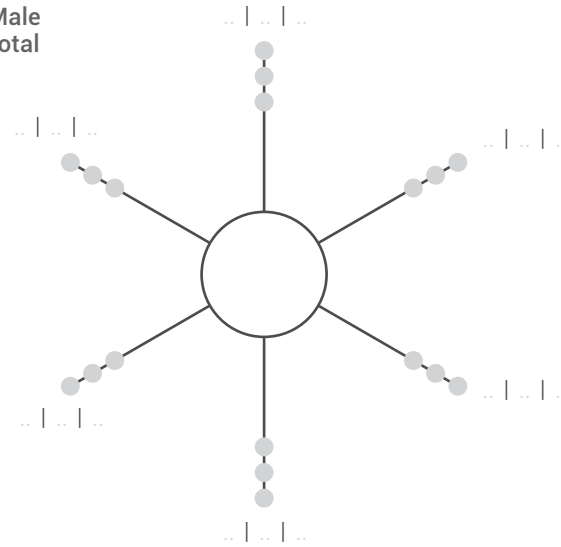
Persons with disabilities (%)

- Female
- Male
- Total



Total population (%)

- Female
- Male
- Total



BY ECONOMIC ACTIVITY

Persons with disabilities (%)

Female



Male



Total



Total population (%)

Female



Male



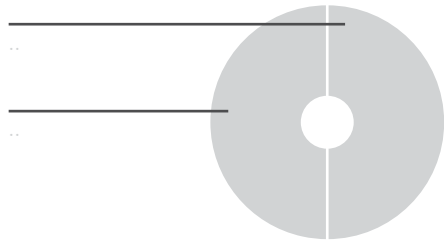
Total



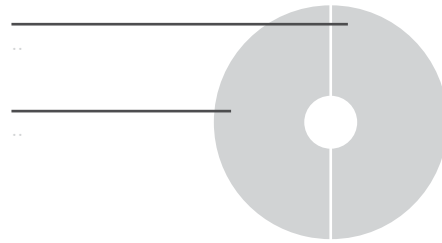
BY GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION

Persons with disabilities (%)

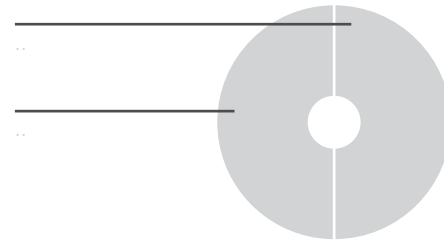
Female



Male

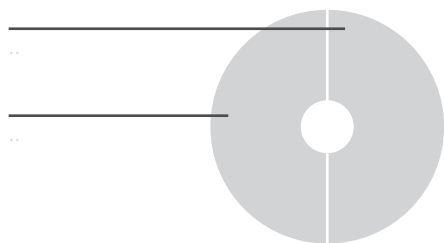


Total

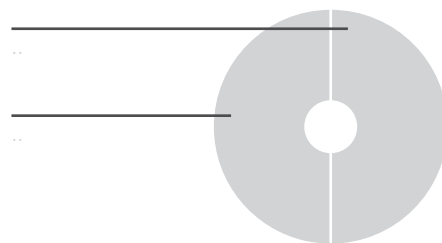


Total population (%)

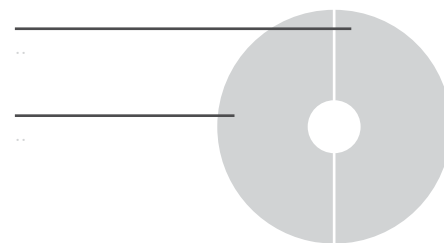
Female



Male



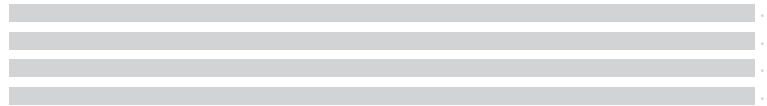
Total



BY MARITAL STATUS

Persons with disabilities (%)

Female



Male

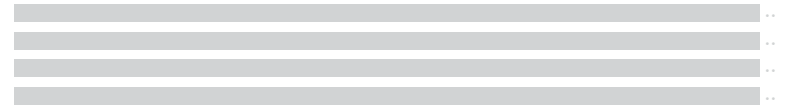


Total



Total population (%)

Female



Male



Total



FOOTNOTE

¹ Data for these three indicators is from 2012.

Signature/ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities & its optional protocol

CONVENTION

 **Signed**
No

 **Ratified/acceded**
18.6.2012

OPTIONAL PROTOCOL





 **Signed**
No

 **Ratified/acceded**
18.6.2012

SOURCE:
UN (2014).

National institutional framework for disability/persons with disabilities

NATIONAL COORDINATION MECHANISM

-  **Name**
..
-  **Year established**
..
-  **Chair**
..
-  **Persons with disabilities represented?**
..

ADDITIONAL MECHANISMS

-  ..

National definition of disability/persons with disabilities

“ .. ”

National legislative framework for disability/persons with disabilities (year of adoption)

Articles on disability included in the constitution?	General/overarching national disability law	National disability strategy/plan
..

SOURCE:
..



SOCIO-ECONOMIC INDICATORS

SOURCE: UNDP

HDI

0.633

Life expectancy at birth

71.9

GNI per capita

4,737

Persons with disabilities



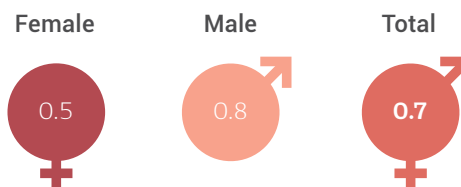
Female
170,360 (35.8%)
Male
305,216 (64.2%)
475,576

Total population

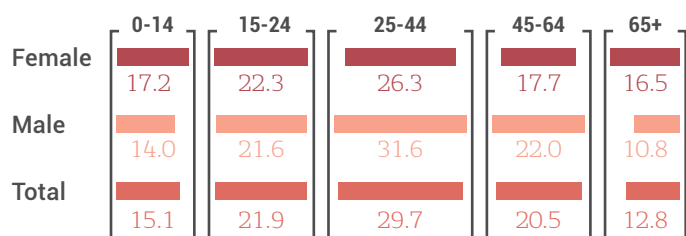


Female
35,578,975 (48.9%)
Male
37,219,056 (51.1%)
72,798,031

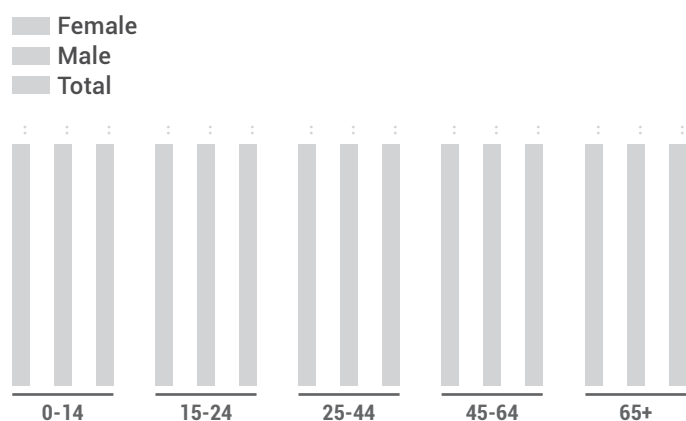
Disability prevalence (%)



Age distribution of persons with disabilities (%)¹



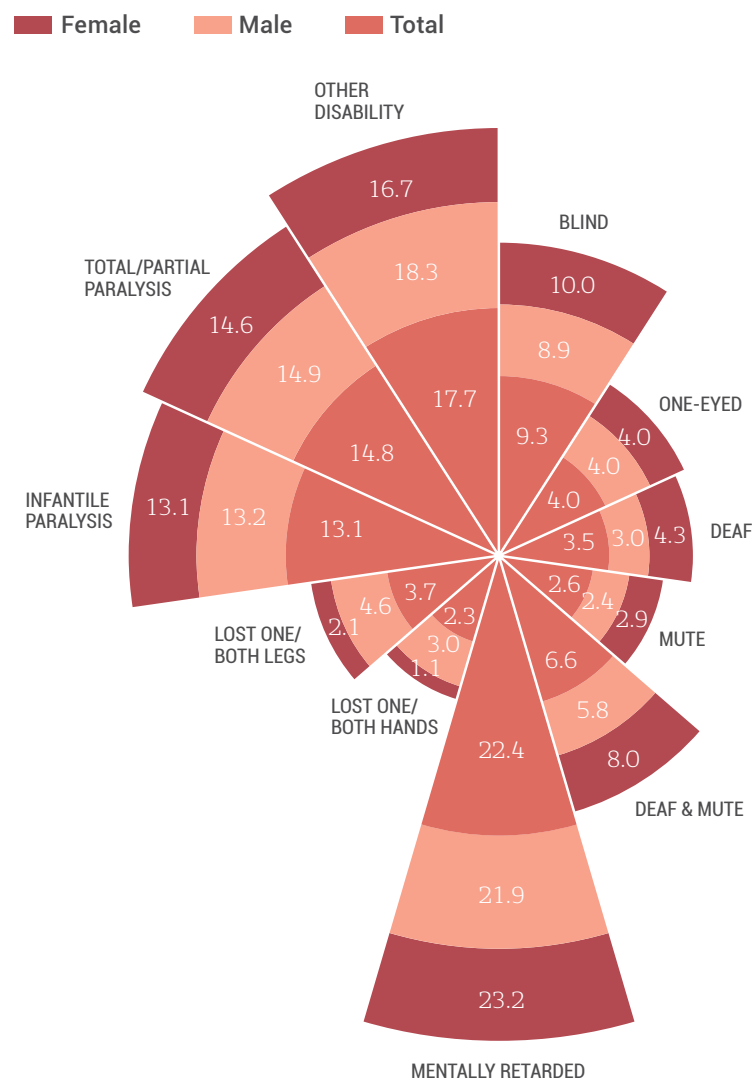
Age-specific disability prevalence (%)



Cause of disability/difficulty (%)

	Female	Male	Total
Congenital	54.6	50.4	51.9
Birth-related conditions	5.8	5.2	5.4
Epidemic disease	6.6	6.8	6.8
Other diseases	6.8	7.0	6.9
Physical/psychological abuse	1.6	2.0	1.8
Injury/accident	7.2	17.6	13.9
Old age	13.6	7.1	9.4
Other	3.7	4.1	3.9

Type of disability/difficulty (%)



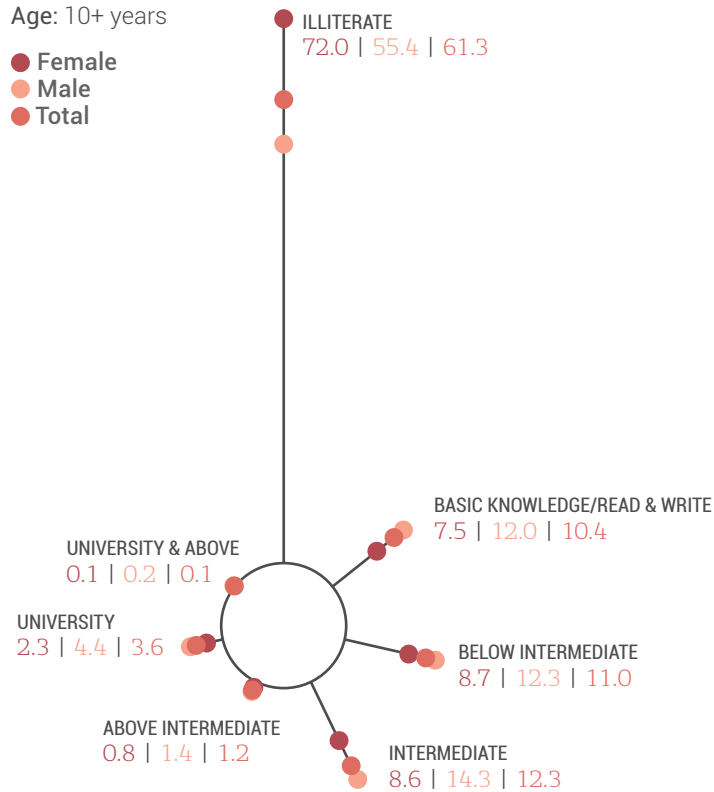


BY EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

Persons with disabilities (%)

Age: 10+ years

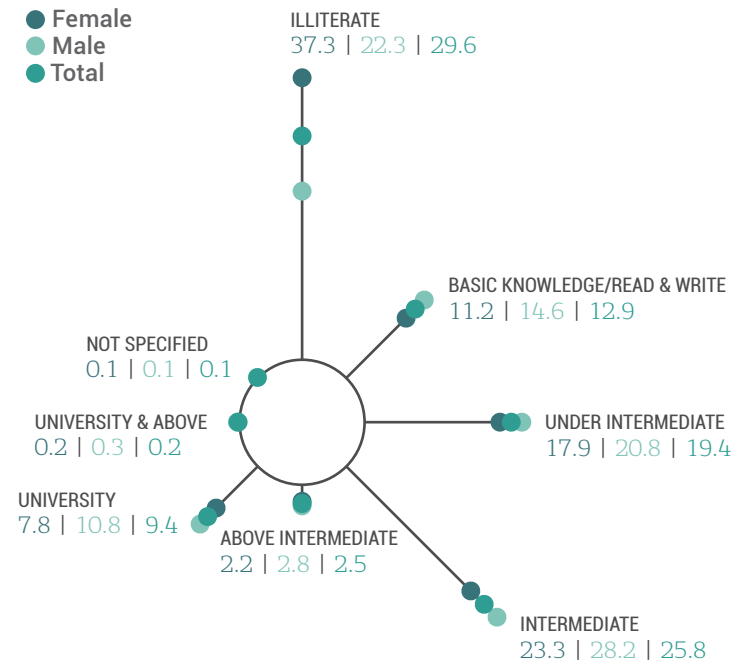
- Female
- Male
- Total



Total population (%)

Age: 10+ years

- Female
- Male
- Total

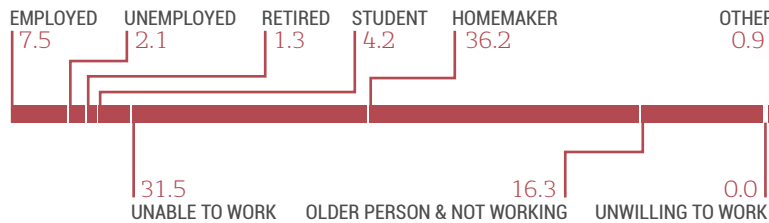


BY ECONOMIC ACTIVITY

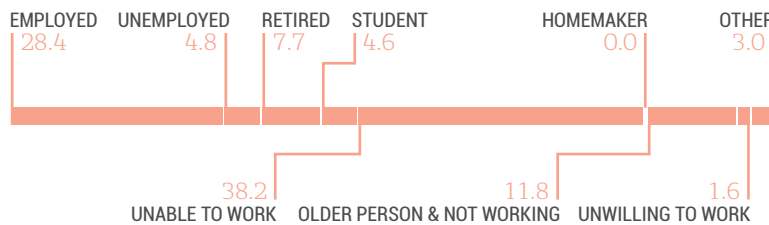
Persons with disabilities (%)

Age: 15+ years

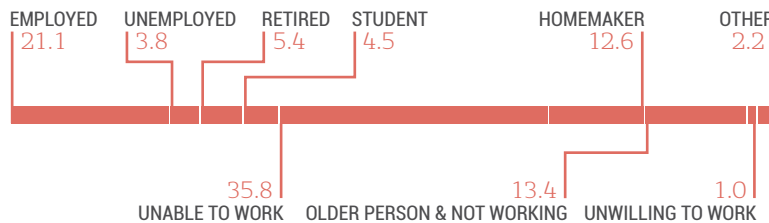
Female



Male



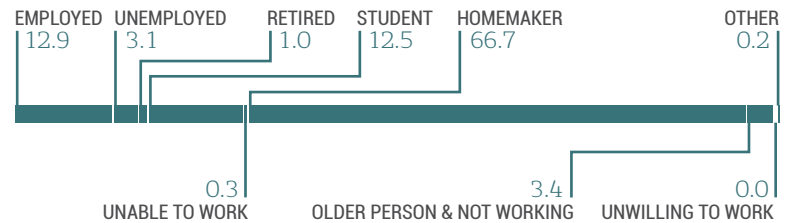
Total



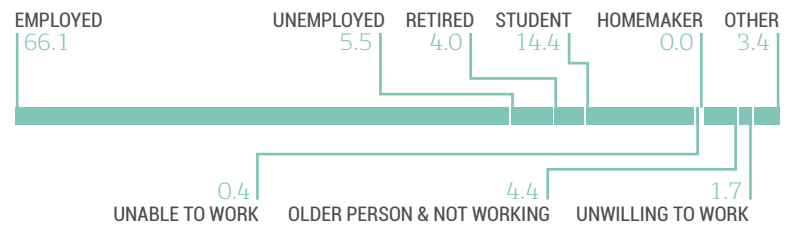
Total population (%)

Age: 15+ years

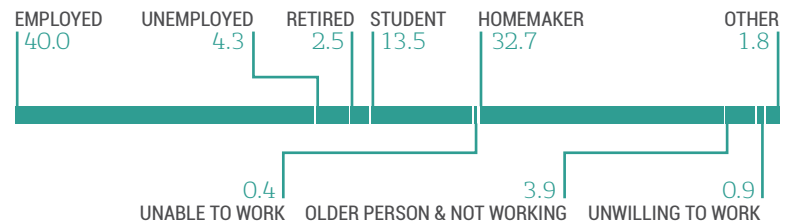
Female



Male



Total



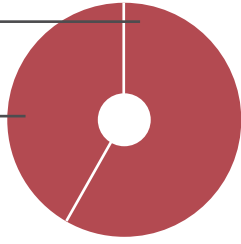
BY GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION

Persons with disabilities (%)¹

Female
RURAL

58.3

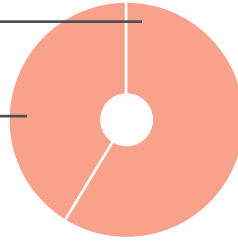
URBAN
41.7



Male
RURAL

58.8

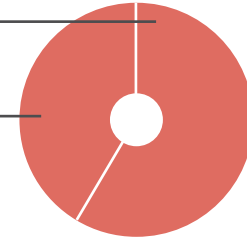
URBAN
41.2



Total
RURAL

58.6

URBAN
41.4

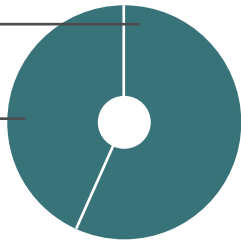


Total population (%)

Female
RURAL

56.8

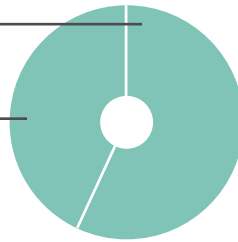
URBAN
43.2



Male
RURAL

57.0

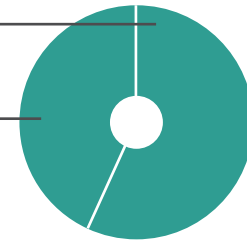
URBAN
43.0



Total
RURAL

56.9

URBAN
43.1

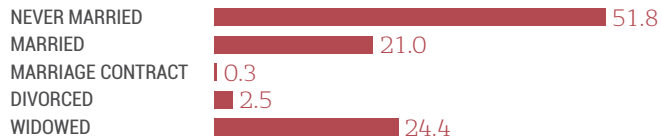


BY MARITAL STATUS

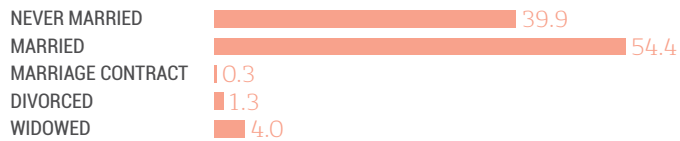
Persons with disabilities (%)

Age: 16+ years for females; 18+ years for males

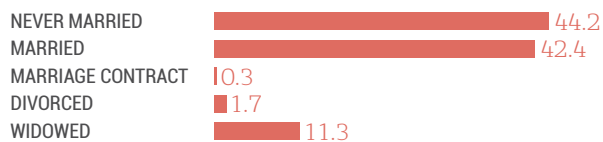
Female



Male



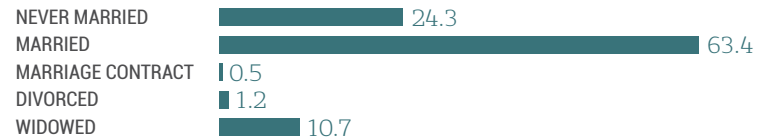
Total



Total population (%)

Age: 16+ years for females; 18+ years for males

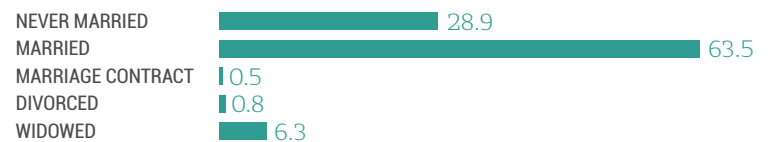
Female



Male



Total



All data categories are as provided by Egypt.

FOOTNOTE

¹ Data pertains to nationals only.

SOURCE

Central Agency for Public Mobilization and Statistics (2006).

Signature/ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities & its optional protocol

CONVENTION

 **Signed**
4.4.2007



Ratified/acceded
14.4.2008

OPTIONAL PROTOCOL

 **Signed**
No




Ratified/acceded
No

SOURCE:
UN (2014).

National institutional framework for disability/persons with disabilities

NATIONAL COORDINATION MECHANISM


 **Name**
National Council on Disability Affairs

 **Year established**
2012

 **Chair**
Prime Minister

 **Persons with disabilities represented?**
Yes

ADDITIONAL MECHANISMS

 System of focal points for disability related matters in ministries or other governmental institutions

National definition of disability/persons with disabilities

“ Every person who has a decreased capability or who is unable to rely on themselves to work, or to assume or maintain a job, or to perform other tasks due to bodily, mental, or sensory deficiencies, or due to congenital disabilities. ”

(Law No. 39 on Rehabilitation of the Disabled amended by Law No. 49, 1982)

National legislative framework for disability/persons with disabilities (year of adoption)

Articles on disability included in the constitution?	General/overarching national disability law	National disability strategy/plan
Yes	Law No. 39 on Rehabilitation of the Disabled (1975) amended by Law No. 49 (1982)	No

SOURCE:
ESCWA, based on data collected from government focal points through the ESCWA Questionnaire on the Implementation of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the Arab Decade for Persons with Disabilities (2013).

SOCIO-ECONOMIC INDICATORS

SOURCE: UNDP

HDI

0.567

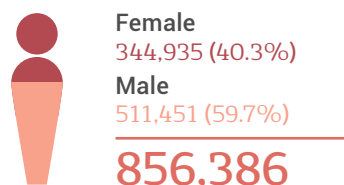
Life expectancy at birth

67.8

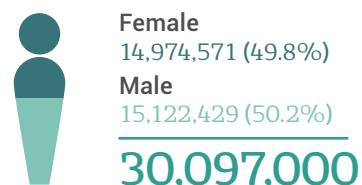
GNI per capita

2,853

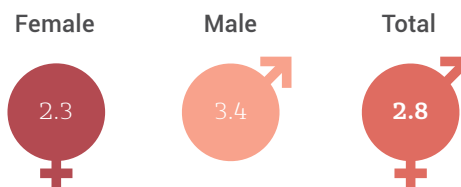
Persons with disabilities



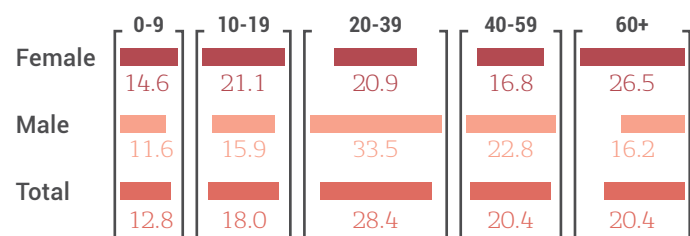
Total population



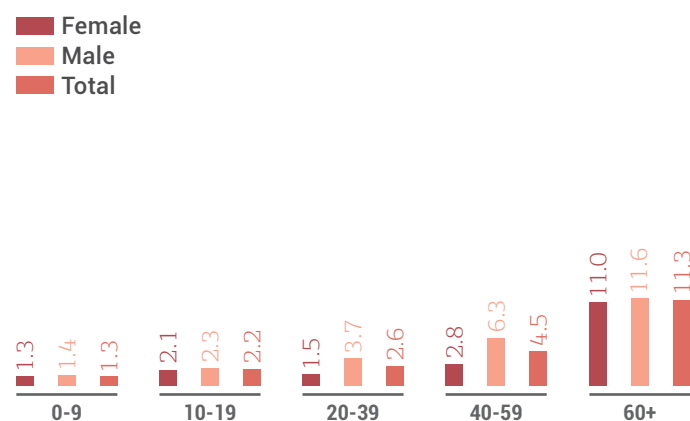
Disability prevalence (%)



Age distribution of persons with disabilities (%)



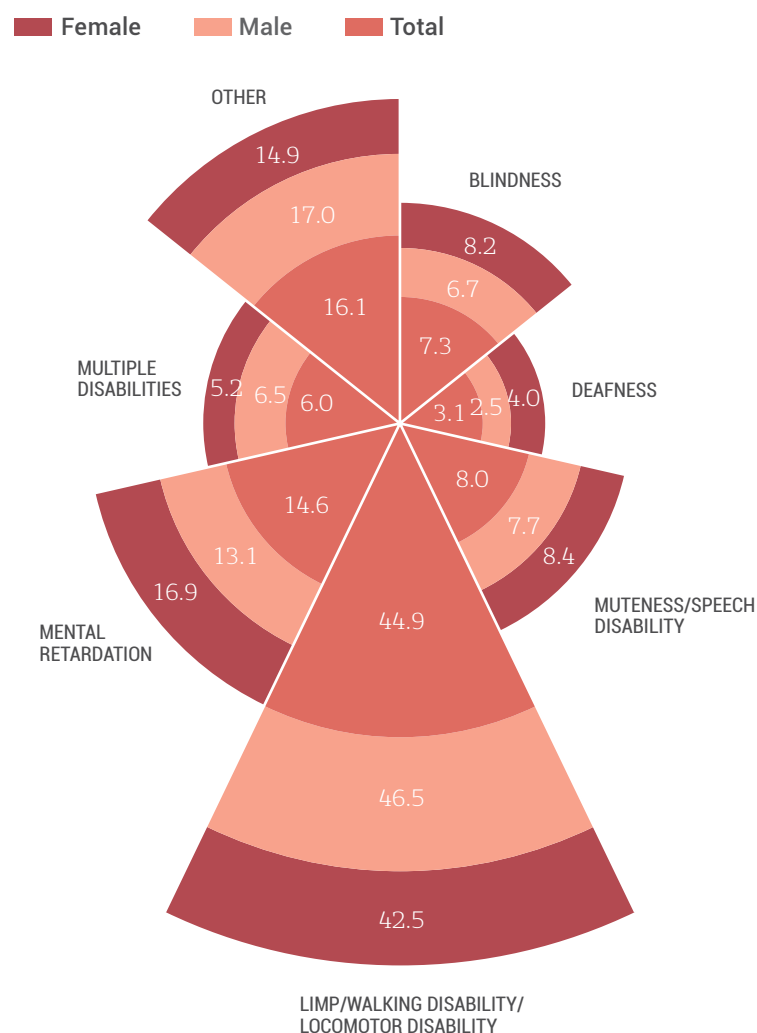
Age-specific disability prevalence (%)



Cause of disability/difficulty (%)

Cause	Female (%)	Male (%)	Total (%)
Since birth	51.0	42.2	45.6
Work-related accident	1.6	5.0	3.7
Work-related disease	1.0	1.8	1.5
Chemical strike/depleted uranium	0.4	0.0	0.2
Land mines	0.2	1.8	1.1
Armed civil unrest	0.6	2.8	2.0
War	2.7	16.3	11.0
Non work-related disease	18.2	11.3	14.0
Traffic accident	2.7	5.9	4.7
Other	21.5	12.8	16.2

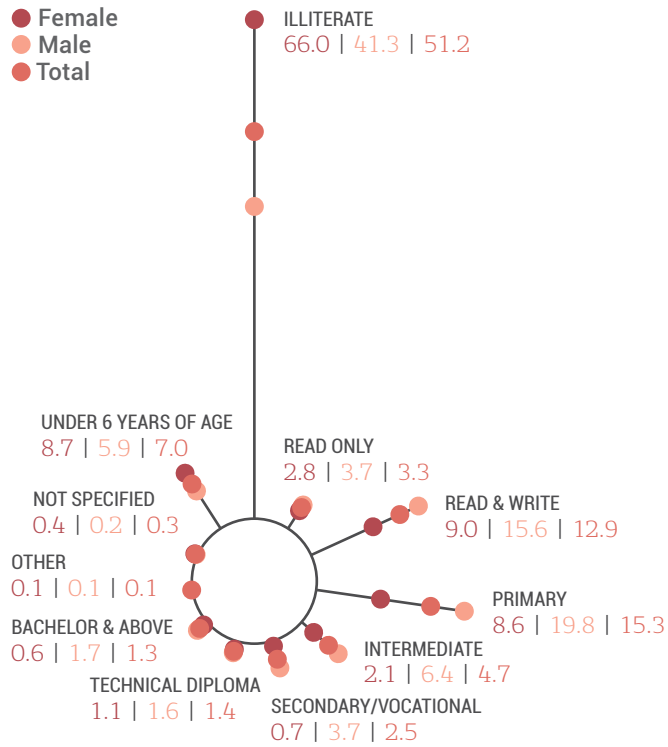
Type of disability/difficulty (%)



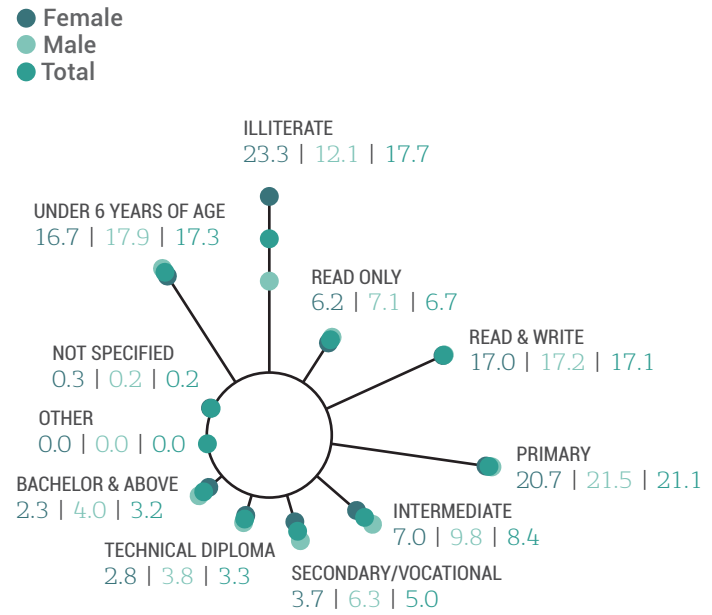


BY EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

Persons with disabilities (%)



Total population (%)



BY ECONOMIC ACTIVITY

Persons with disabilities (%)

Female



Male

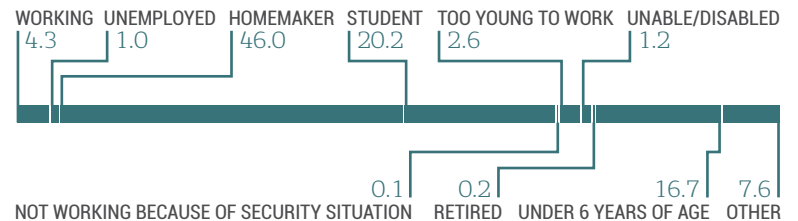


Total

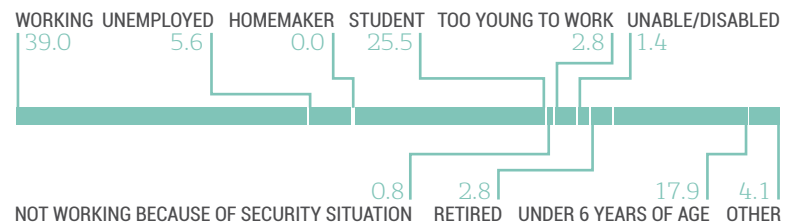


Total population (%)

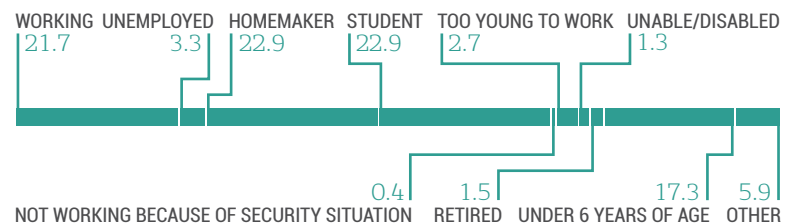
Female



Male



Total



BY GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION

Persons with disabilities (%)

Female

RURAL

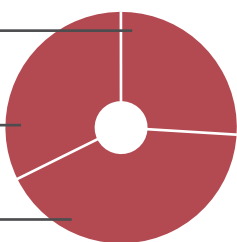
26.0

URBAN

32.3

GOVERNORATE CAPITAL

41.8



Male

RURAL

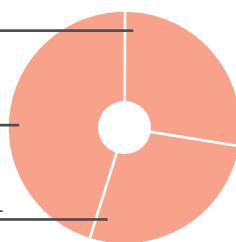
27.5

URBAN

45.2

GOVERNORATE CAPITAL

27.3



Total

RURAL

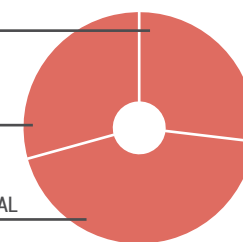
26.9

URBAN

29.3

GOVERNORATE CAPITAL

43.8



Total population (%)

Female

RURAL

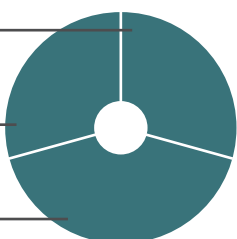
29.3

URBAN

29.4

GOVERNORATE CAPITAL

41.4



Male

RURAL

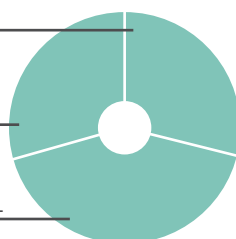
28.9

URBAN

29.4

GOVERNORATE CAPITAL

41.7



Total

RURAL

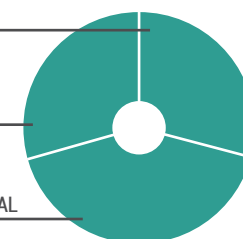
29.1

URBAN

29.4

GOVERNORATE CAPITAL

41.5



BY MARITAL STATUS

Persons with disabilities (%)

Age: 12+ years

Female

NEVER MARRIED

48.1

MARRIED

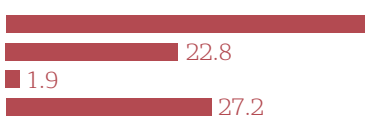
22.8

DIVORCED/SEPARATED

1.9

WIDOWED

27.2



Male

NEVER MARRIED

37.4

MARRIED

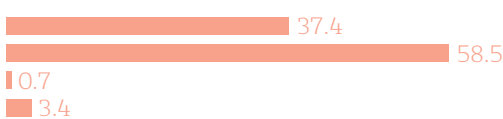
58.5

DIVORCED/SEPARATED

0.7

WIDOWED

3.4



Total

NEVER MARRIED

41.6

MARRIED

44.5

DIVORCED/SEPARATED

1.2

WIDOWED

12.7



Total population (%)

Age: 12+ years

Female

NEVER MARRIED

37.8

MARRIED

52.3

DIVORCED/SEPARATED

1.2

WIDOWED

8.7



Male

NEVER MARRIED

46.7

MARRIED

52.0

DIVORCED/SEPARATED

0.3

WIDOWED

0.9



Total

NEVER MARRIED

52.2

MARRIED

42.2

DIVORCED/SEPARATED

0.7

WIDOWED

4.9



All data categories are as provided by Iraq.

SOURCE

Central Organization for Statistics and Information Technology (2007).

Signature/ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities & its optional protocol

CONVENTION

 Signed No	 Ratified/acceded 20.3.2013
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OPTIONAL PROTOCOL

 Signed No	 Ratified/acceded No
---	---


SOURCE:
UN (2014).

National institutional framework for disability/persons with disabilities

NATIONAL COORDINATION MECHANISM

-  **Name**
-
-  **Year established**
-
-  **Chair**
-
-  **Persons with disabilities represented?**
-

ADDITIONAL MECHANISMS

-  System of focal points for disability related matters in line ministries or other governmental institutions

National definition of disability/persons with disabilities

“ Disability: any restriction or inability to interact with the environment within the limits of what is considered normal due to an impairment or deficiency. Persons with disabilities: every person who has lost their ability, totally or partially, to participate in community life on the same basis as others, as a result of a physical or mental or sensory impairment that has led to an inability to perform certain functions. ”

(Law No. 38 on the Welfare of Persons with Disabilities and Special Needs, 2013)

National legislative framework for disability/persons with disabilities (year of adoption)

Articles on disability included in the constitution?	General/overarching national disability law	National disability strategy/plan
Yes	Law No. 38 on the Welfare of Persons with Disabilities and Special Needs (2013)	No

SOURCE:
ESCWA, based on data collected from government focal points through the ESCWA Questionnaire on the Implementation of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the Arab Decade for Persons with Disabilities (2013).

SOCIO-ECONOMIC INDICATORS

SOURCE: UNDP

HDI

0.699

Life expectancy at birth

73.3

GNI per capita

5,235

Persons with disabilities¹



Female
.. (41.0%)
Male
.. (59.1%)

Total population¹



Female
.. (48.8%)
Male
.. (51.2%)

Disability prevalence (%)

Female



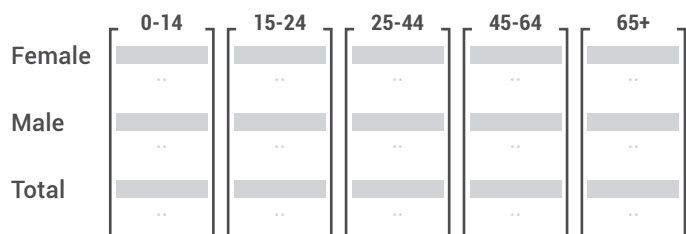
Male



Total

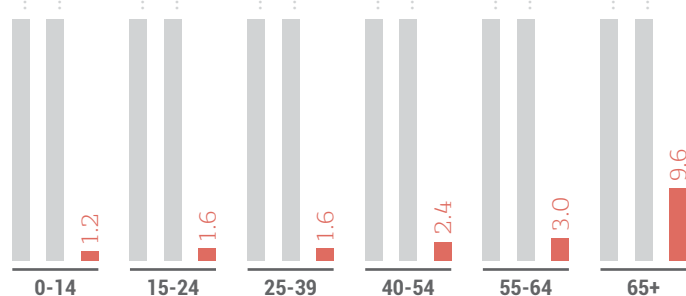


Age distribution of persons with disabilities (%)



Age-specific disability prevalence (%)

Female
Male
Total

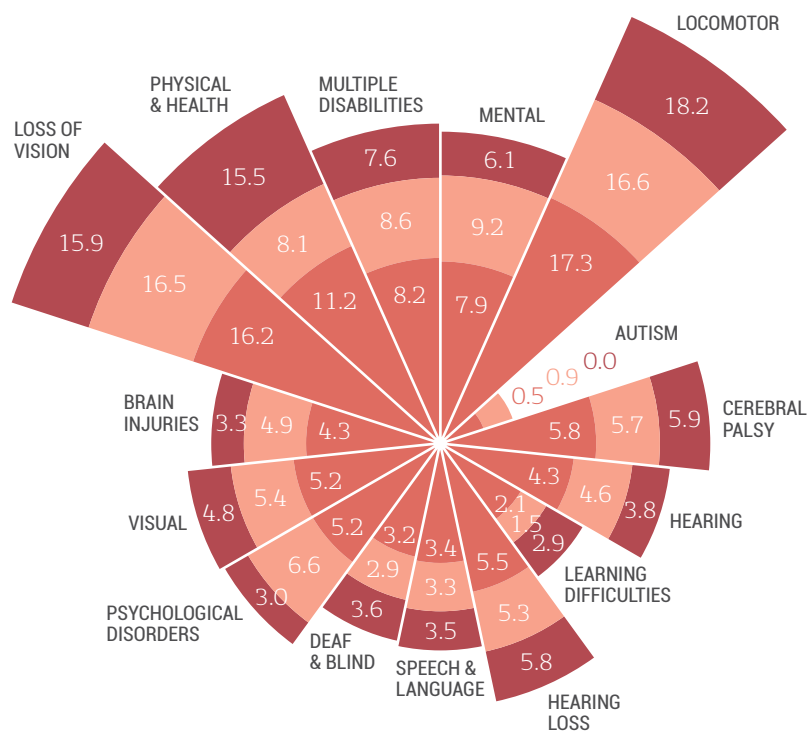


Cause of disability/difficulty (%)

	Female	Male	Total
..
..
..
..

Type of disability/difficulty (%)

Female Male Total



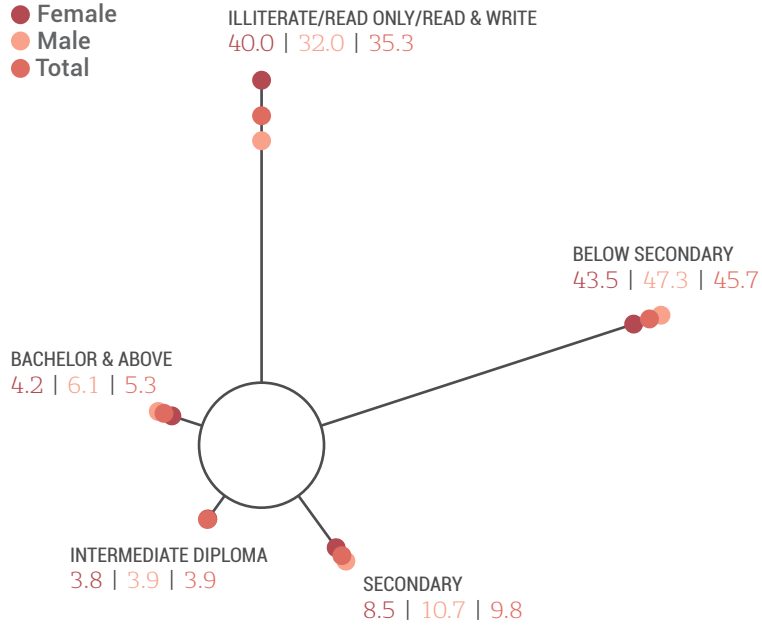


BY EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

Persons with disabilities (%)

Age: 10+ years

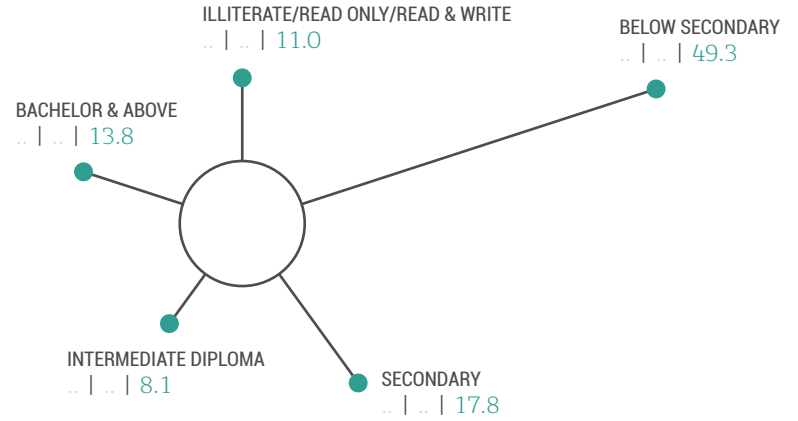
- Female
- Male
- Total



Total population (%)

Age: 10+ years

- Female
- Male
- Total

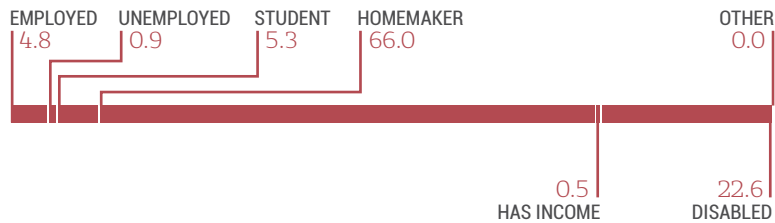


BY ECONOMIC ACTIVITY

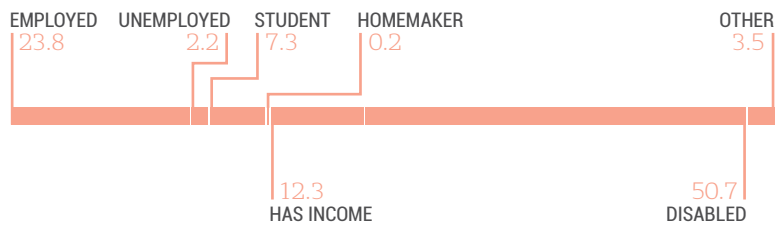
Persons with disabilities (%)

Age: 15+ years

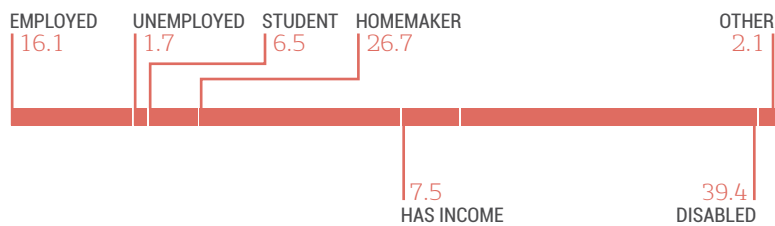
Female



Male



Total



Total population (%)

Age: 15+ years

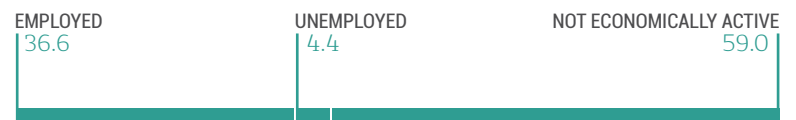
Female



Male



Total

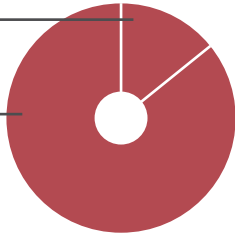


BY GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION

Persons with disabilities (%)

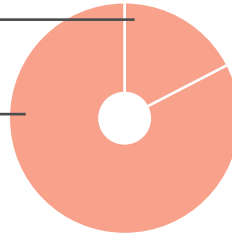
Female
RURAL
14.2

URBAN
85.8



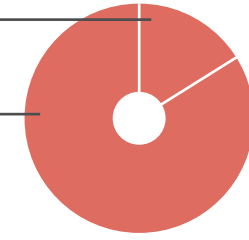
Male
RURAL
17.4

URBAN
82.6



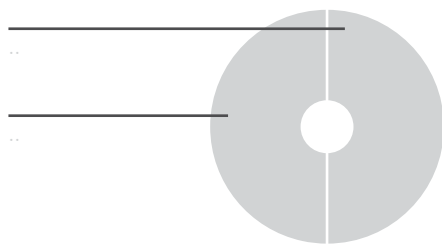
Total
RURAL
16.1

URBAN
84.0

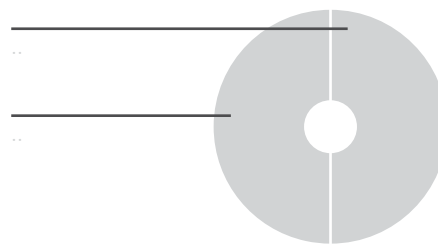


Total population (%)

Female

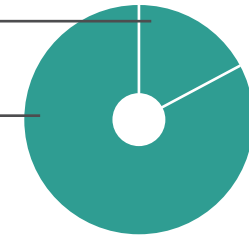


Male



Total
RURAL
17.2

URBAN
82.8



BY MARITAL STATUS

Persons with disabilities (%)²

Age: 15+ years

Female



Male



Total



Total population (%)²

Age: 15+ years

Female



Male



Total



All data categories are as provided by Jordan.

FOOTNOTES

¹ Data on the total number of persons with disabilities and total number of population is not available in the source. Data on the sample size is available from the indicated source.

² The category "has been married" includes those who are divorced, separated, married and widowed.

SOURCE

Department of Statistics of Jordan (2010).

Signature/ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities & its optional protocol

CONVENTION

 Signed 30.3.2007	 Ratified/acceded 31.3.2008
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OPTIONAL PROTOCOL

 Signed 30.3.2007	 Ratified/acceded No
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SOURCE:
UN (2014).

National institutional framework for disability/persons with disabilities

NATIONAL COORDINATION MECHANISM

-  **Name**
Higher Council for the Affairs of Persons with Disabilities
-  **Year established**
2007
-  **Chair**
Prince Raad Bin Zaid Al Moazzam
-  **Persons with disabilities represented?**
Yes

ADDITIONAL MECHANISMS

-  System of focal points for disability related matters in line ministries or other governmental institutions
-  National Centre for Human Rights
-  Jordanian Coalition for Persons with Disabilities

National definition of disability/persons with disabilities

“ The disabled signifies every person suffering from a permanent partial or total impairment affecting any of their senses, or their physical, psychological or mental capabilities, to an extent that it undermines their ability to learn, work, or be rehabilitated, and in a way that renders them unable to meet their normal day-to-day requirements under conditions similar to those of non-disabled persons. ”

(Law No. 31 on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, 2007)

National legislative framework for disability/persons with disabilities (year of adoption)

Articles on disability included in the constitution?	General/overarching national disability law	National disability strategy/plan
Yes	Law No. 31 on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (2007) ¹	National Strategy for Persons with Disabilities (2007)

SOURCE:
ESCWA, based on data collected from government focal points through the ESCWA Questionnaire on the Implementation of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the Arab Decade for Persons with Disabilities (2013).

FOOTNOTE:
¹ The law is currently being amended.

SOCIO-ECONOMIC INDICATORS

SOURCE: UNDP

HDI

0.788

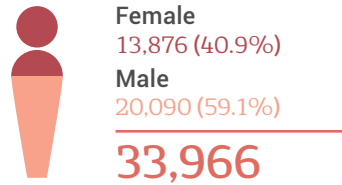
Life expectancy at birth

74.6

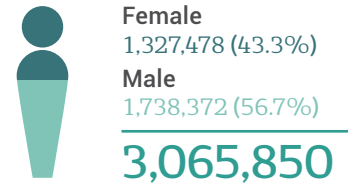
GNI per capita

51,026

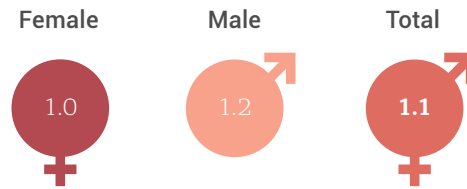
Persons with disabilities



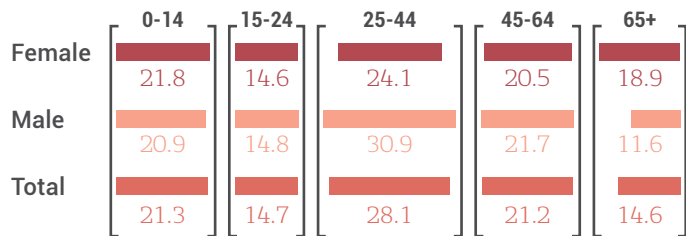
Total population



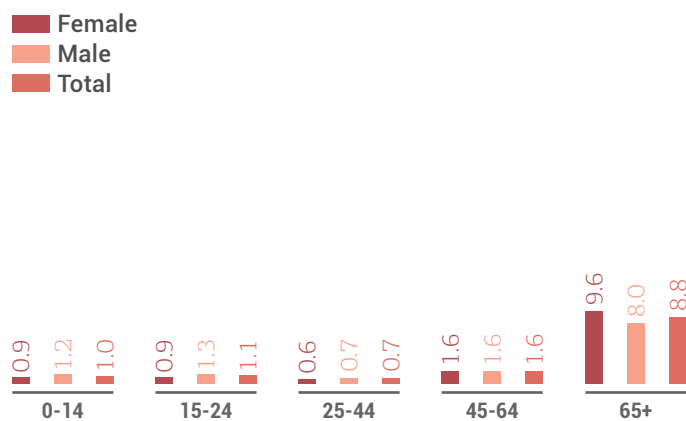
Disability prevalence (%)



Age distribution of persons with disabilities (%)



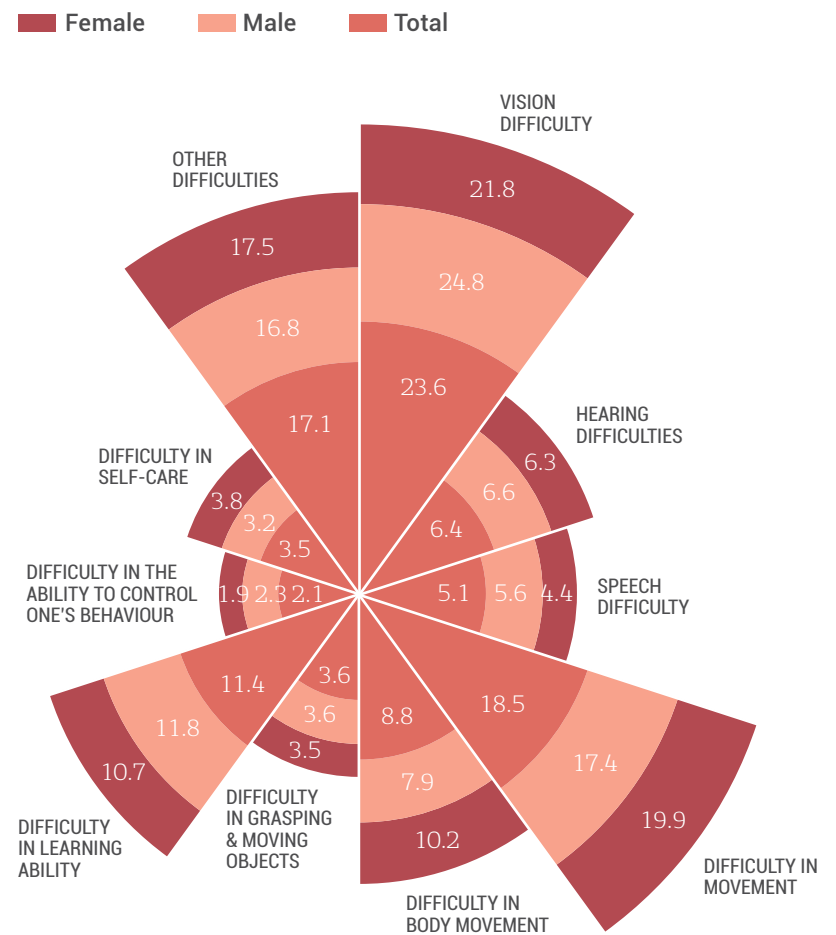
Age-specific disability prevalence (%)



Cause of disability/difficulty (%)

	Female	Male	Total
During birth	39.5	39.4	39.5
Disease	39.8	33.1	35.9
Hereditary	6.3	6.6	6.5
Work-related accident	5.7	7.8	6.9
Road traffic accidents	1.7	4.5	3.3
Other accidents	7.1	8.6	7.9

Type of disability/difficulty (%)²



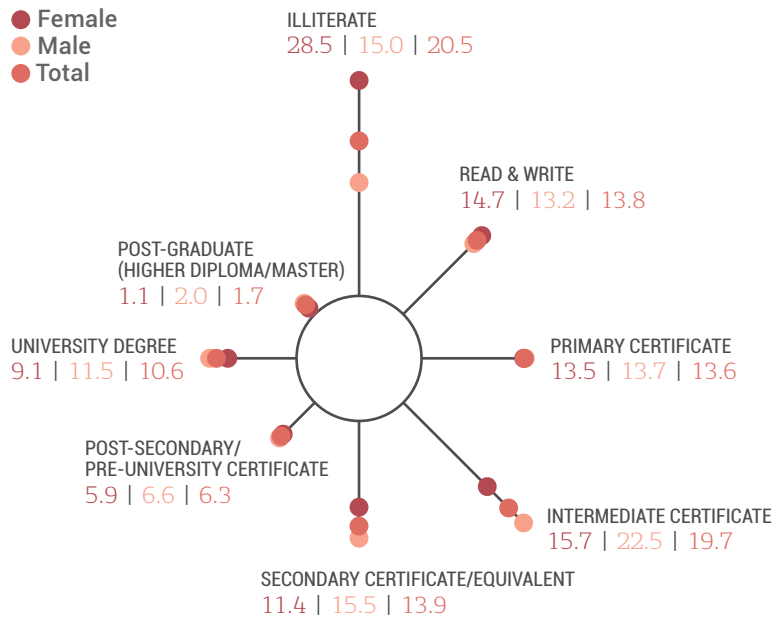


BY EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

Persons with disabilities (%)

Age: 10+ years

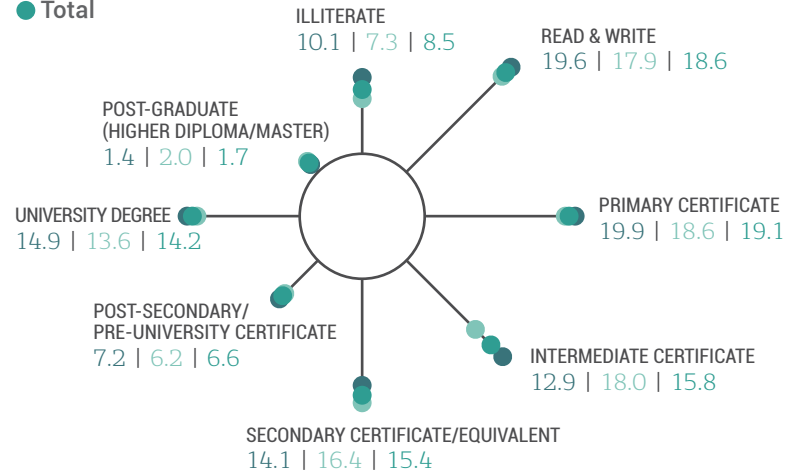
- Female
- Male
- Total



Total population (%)

Age: 10+ years

- Female
- Male
- Total

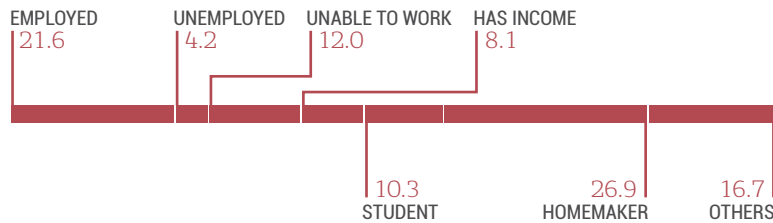


BY ECONOMIC ACTIVITY

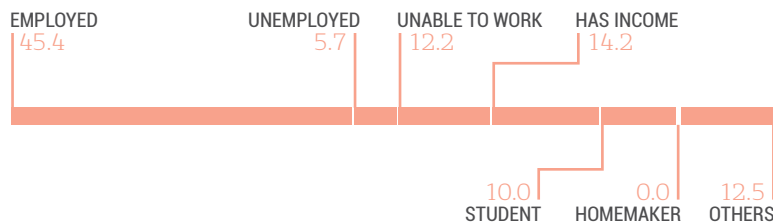
Persons with disabilities (%)

Age: 15+ years

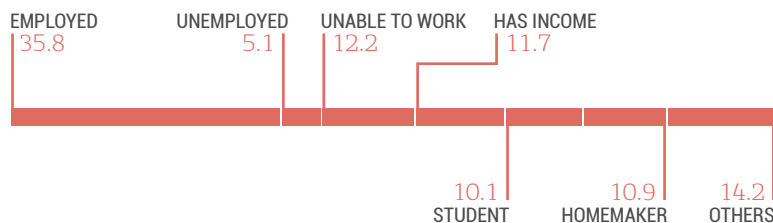
Female



Male



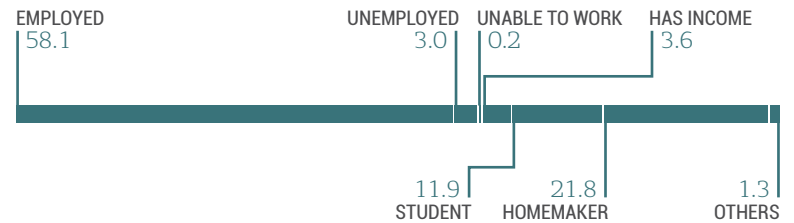
Total



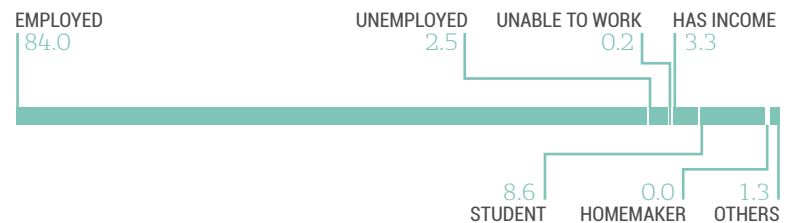
Total population (%)³

Age: 15+ years

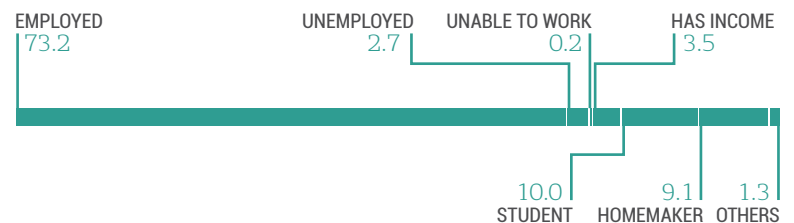
Female



Male



Total

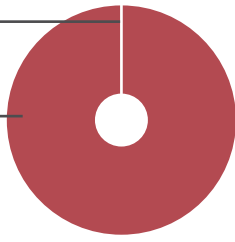


BY GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION

Persons with disabilities (%)

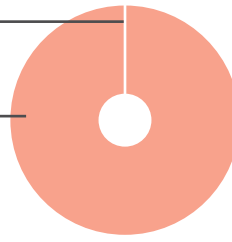
Female
RURAL
0.0

URBAN
100.0



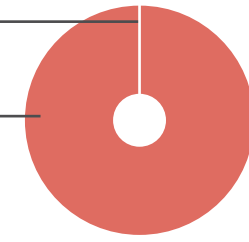
Male
RURAL
0.0

URBAN
100.0



Total
RURAL
0.0

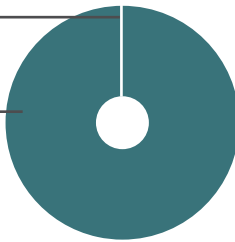
URBAN
100.0



Total population (%)

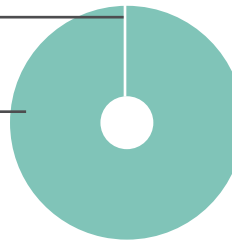
Female
RURAL
0.0

URBAN
100.0



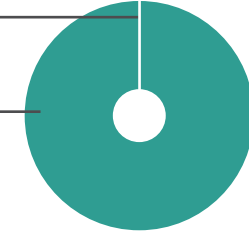
Male
RURAL
0.0

URBAN
100.0



Total
RURAL
0.0

URBAN
100.0



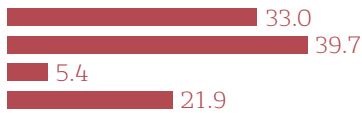
BY MARITAL STATUS

Persons with disabilities (%)

Age: 15+ years

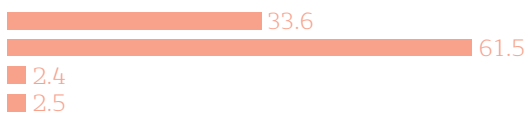
Female

NEVER MARRIED
MARRIED
DIVORCED
WIDOWED



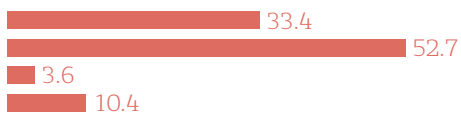
Male

NEVER MARRIED
MARRIED
DIVORCED
WIDOWED



Total

NEVER MARRIED
MARRIED
DIVORCED
WIDOWED

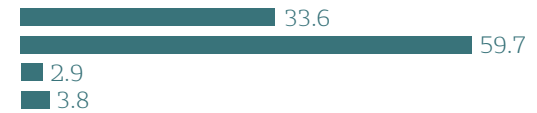


Total population (%)

Age: 15+ years

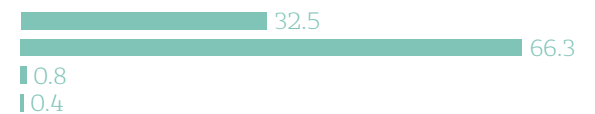
Female

NEVER MARRIED
MARRIED
DIVORCED
WIDOWED



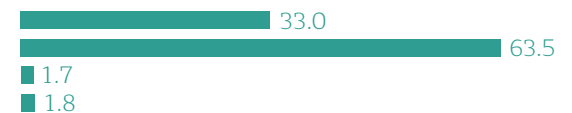
Male

NEVER MARRIED
MARRIED
DIVORCED
WIDOWED



Total

NEVER MARRIED
MARRIED
DIVORCED
WIDOWED



All data categories are as provided by Kuwait.

FOOTNOTES

- 1 All data pertains to total population (both national and non-national).
- 2 In this graph, "movement" refers to "walking, standing"; "body movement" refers to "bending, kneeling"; "learning ability" refers to "mental difficulties, mental retardation"; "behaviour" refers to "psychological, emotional" and "self-care" refers to "bathing, dressing, eating".
- 3 The category "others" includes persons aged 65 years and above and not employed.

SOURCE

Central Statistics Bureau (2011).

Signature/ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities & its optional protocol

CONVENTION

 <p>Signed No</p>	 <p>Ratified/acceded 22.8.2013</p>
---	--





OPTIONAL PROTOCOL

 <p>Signed No</p>	 <p>Ratified/acceded No</p>
---	---


SOURCE:
UN (2014).

National institutional framework for disability/persons with disabilities

NATIONAL COORDINATION MECHANISM

-  **Name**
Management of the Welfare of the Disabled / General Authority for Persons with Disabilities
-  **Year established**
2010
-  **Chair**
..
-  **Persons with disabilities represented?**
No

ADDITIONAL MECHANISMS

-  System of focal points for disability related matters in line ministries or other governmental institutions

National definition of disability/persons with disabilities

“ Everyone who suffers from permanent total or partial disorders leading to deficiencies in their physical, mental, or sensory abilities, which prevent them from securing the necessities of life or participating fully and effectively in society on an equal basis with others. ”

(Law No. 8 on the Rights of Disabled Persons, 2010)

National legislative framework for disability/persons with disabilities (year of adoption)

Articles on disability included in the constitution?	General/overarching national disability law	National disability strategy/plan
Yes	Law No. 8 on the Rights of Disabled Persons (2010)	..

SOURCE:
ESCWA, based on data collected from government focal points through the ESCWA Questionnaire on the Implementation of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the Arab Decade for Persons with Disabilities (2013).

SOCIO-ECONOMIC INDICATORS¹

SOURCE: UNDP

HDI

0.714

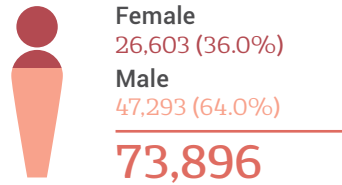
Life expectancy at birth

71.5

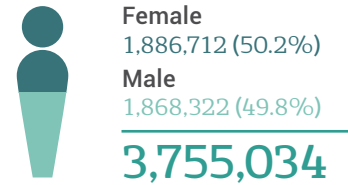
GNI per capita

9,510

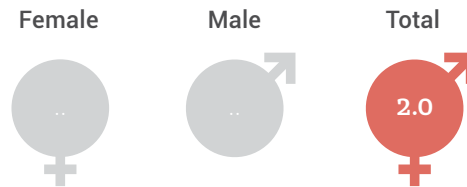
Persons with disabilities



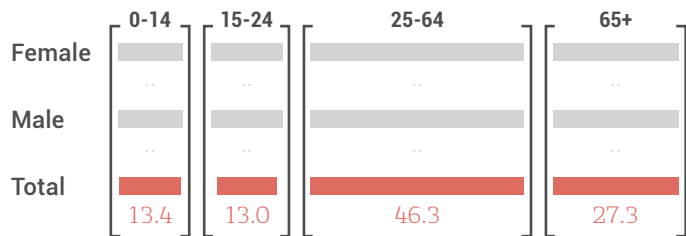
Total population



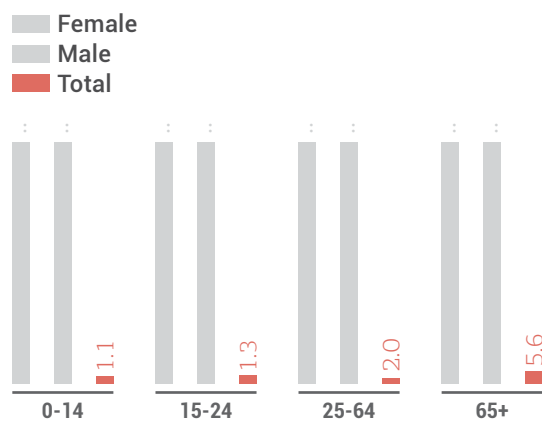
Disability prevalence (%)



Age distribution of persons with disabilities (%)



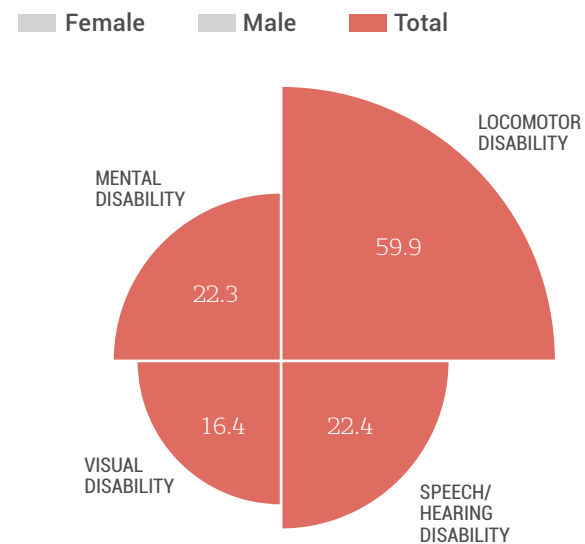
Age-specific disability prevalence (%)



Cause of disability/difficulty (%)

	Female	Male	Total
Congenital	30.7
Birth-related conditions	5.1
Epidemic disease	4.3
Other types of disease	12.7
Psychological/physical abuse	0.9
Old age	16.5
Injury/accident	17.7
War	7.9
Other	2.7
Not specified	1.6

Type of disability/difficulty (%)²

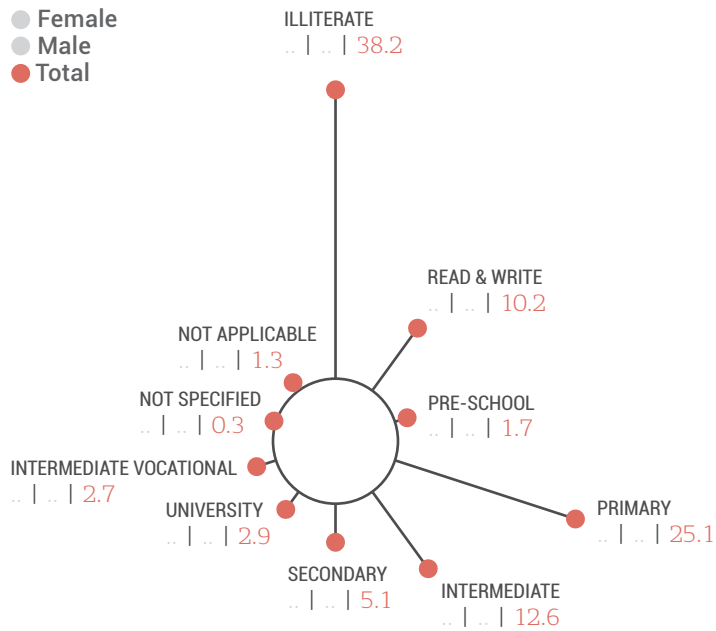




BY EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

Persons with disabilities (%)

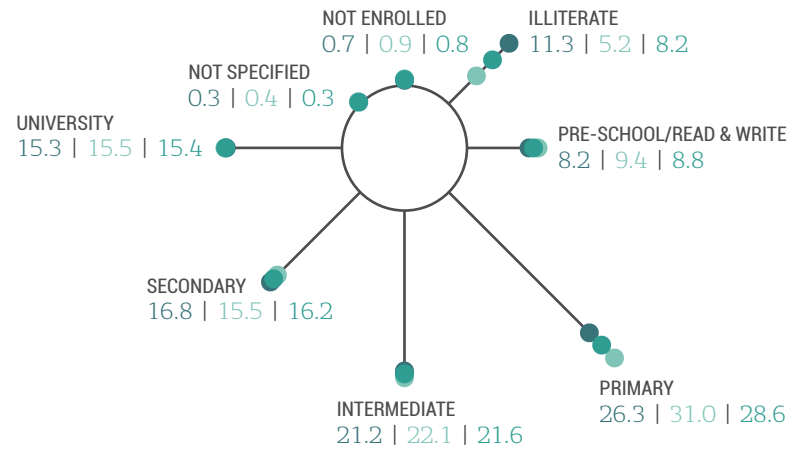
● Female
● Male
● Total



Total population (%)

Age: 3+ years

● Female
● Male
● Total



BY ECONOMIC ACTIVITY

Persons with disabilities (%)

Female



Male



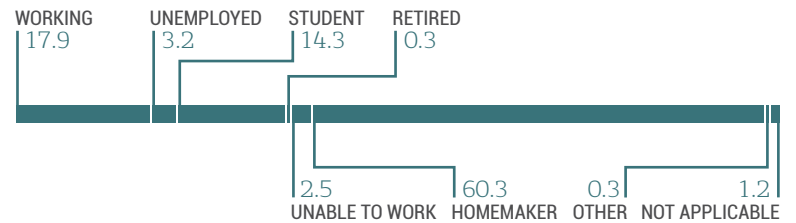
Total



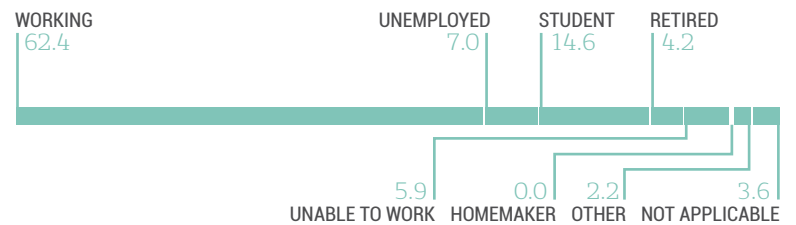
Total population (%)

Age: 15+ years

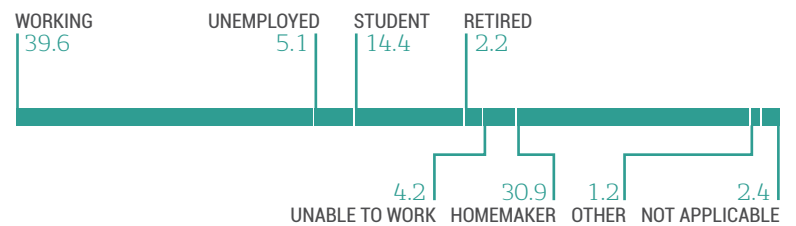
Female



Male



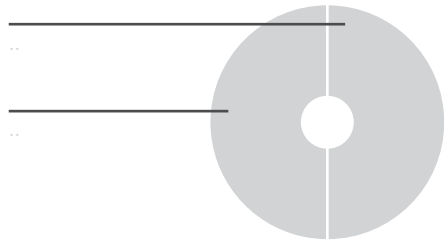
Total



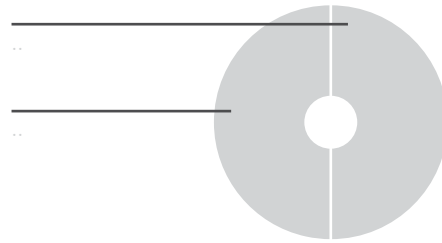
BY GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION

Persons with disabilities (%)

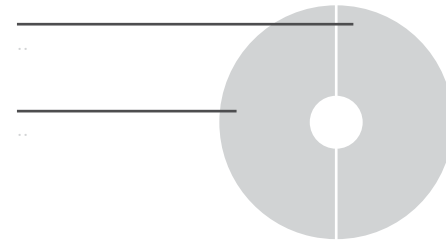
Female



Male

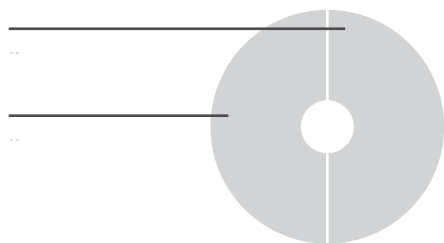


Total

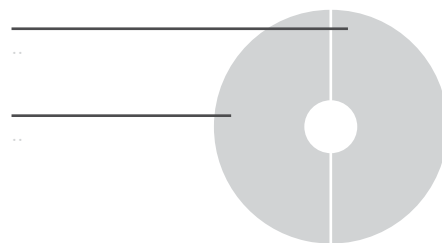


Total population (%)

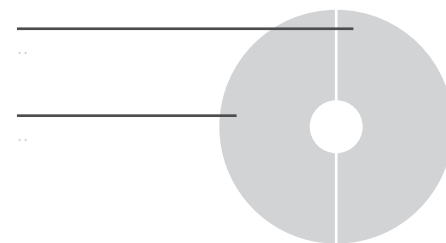
Female



Male



Total



BY MARITAL STATUS

Persons with disabilities (%)

Age: 15+ years

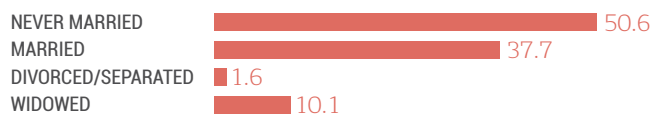
Female



Male



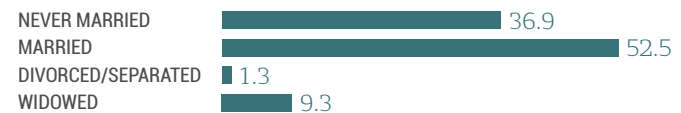
Total



Total population (%)

Age: 15+ years

Female



Male



Total



All data categories are as provided by Lebanon.

FOOTNOTES

- 1 Data for these three indicators is from 2005.
- 2 Persons may report more than one type of disability. For this indicator, persons are counted in each of the relevant categories. For example, persons who report two types of disability are

counted twice. Therefore, the sum of the percentages exceeds 100. The percentages have been calculated as follows: Number of persons with disabilities counted in each category/ total number of persons with disabilities.

SOURCE

Central Administration of Statistics et al. (2004).

Signature/ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities & its optional protocol

CONVENTION

 **Signed**
14.6.2007

 **Ratified/acceded**
No

OPTIONAL PROTOCOL





 **Signed**
14.6.2007

 **Ratified/acceded**
No

SOURCE:
UN (2014).

National institutional framework for disability/persons with disabilities

NATIONAL COORDINATION MECHANISM

-  **Name**
National Committee for the Affairs of the Disabled
-  **Year established**
1993
-  **Chair**
Minister of Social Affairs
-  **Persons with disabilities represented?**
Yes

ADDITIONAL MECHANISMS

 ..

National definition of disability/persons with disabilities

“ A disabled person is a person who has a decreased ability or has become unable to perform one or more important daily activities, or to attend to their personal needs on their own, or to participate in social activities on an equal basis with others, or to lead a normal personal and social life according to the current standards of the society, due to a loss or functional impairment, be it physical, sensory or mental, total or partial, permanent or temporary, resulting from a congenital disorder, an acquired condition, or a medical condition that lasted beyond normal medical expectations. ”

(Law No. 220 on the Rights of Disabled Persons, 2000)

National legislative framework for disability/persons with disabilities (year of adoption)

Articles on disability included in the constitution?	General/overarching national disability law	National disability strategy/plan
No	Law No. 220 on the Rights of Disabled Persons (2000)	CBD

SOURCE:
ESCWA, based on data collected from government focal points through the ESCWA Questionnaire on the Implementation of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the Arab Decade for Persons with Disabilities (2013).

SOCIO-ECONOMIC INDICATORS

SOURCE: UNDP

HDI

0.760

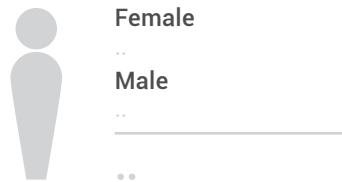
Life expectancy at birth

73.9

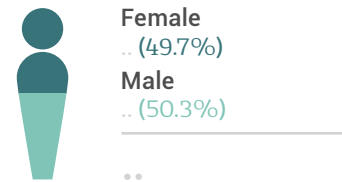
GNI per capita

15,552

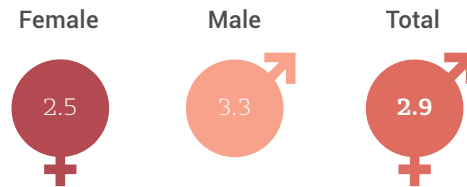
Persons with disabilities



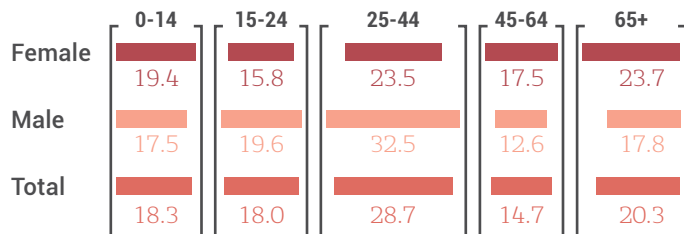
Total population²



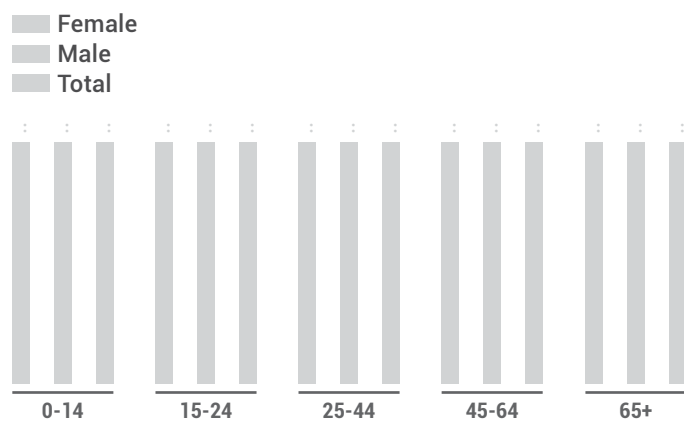
Disability prevalence (%)



Age distribution of persons with disabilities (%)



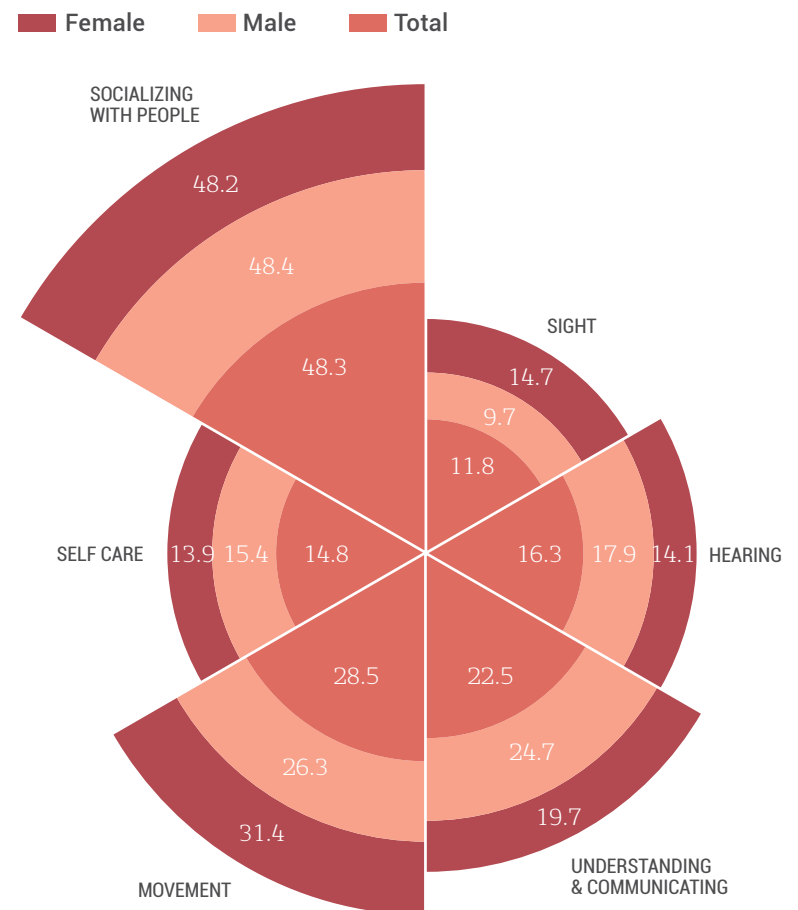
Age-specific disability prevalence (%)



Cause of disability/difficulty (%)

	Female	Male	Total
Congenital	23.1	23.6	23.4
Birth-related conditions	13.0	10.1	11.4
Epidemic disease	2.6	3.1	2.9
Other disease	19.9	14.4	16.7
Physical/psychological abuse	0.8	1.7	1.3
Old age	13.9	6.8	9.8
Injury/accident	15.4	29.5	23.5
Evil eye/magic	1.3	1.2	1.3
Other	5.4	5.1	5.2
Not known	4.6	4.3	4.4

Type of disability/difficulty (%)³

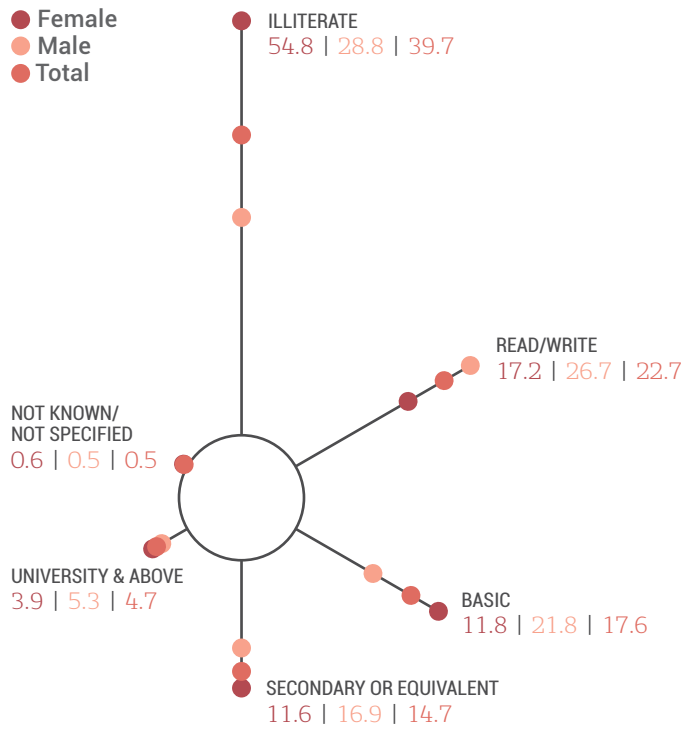




BY EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

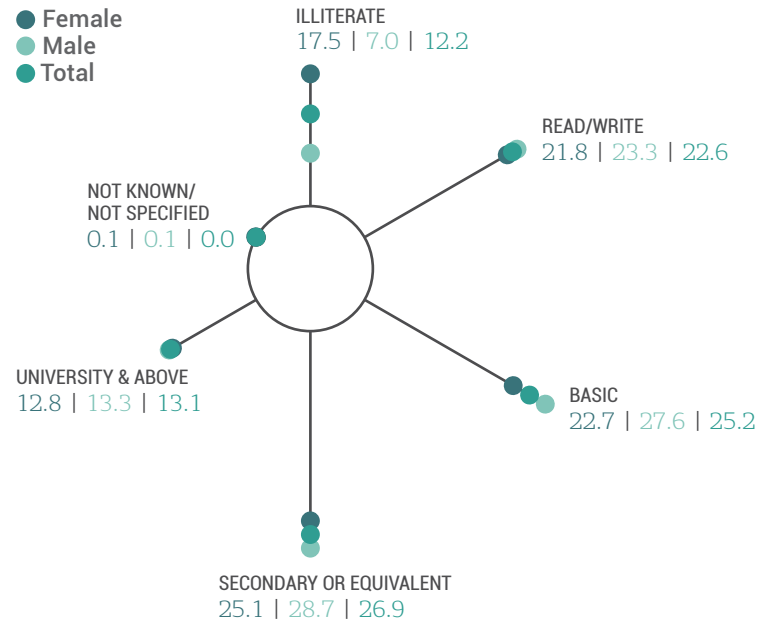
Persons with disabilities (%)

Age: 10+ years



Total population (%)

Age: 10+ years



BY ECONOMIC ACTIVITY

Persons with disabilities (%)

Female



Male



Total



Total population (%)

Female



Male



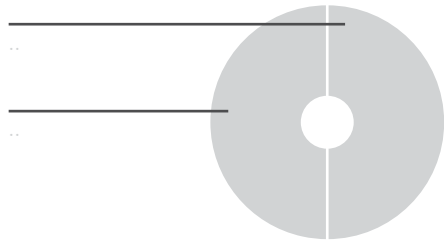
Total



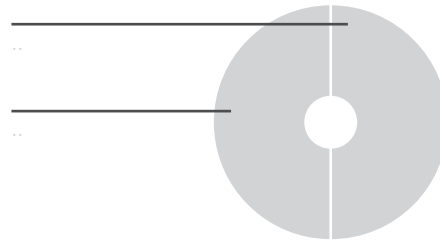
BY GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION

Persons with disabilities (%)

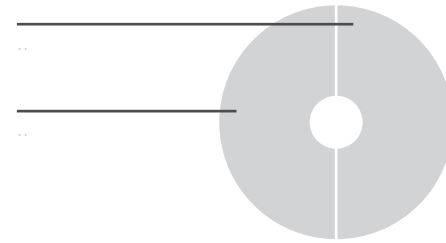
Female



Male

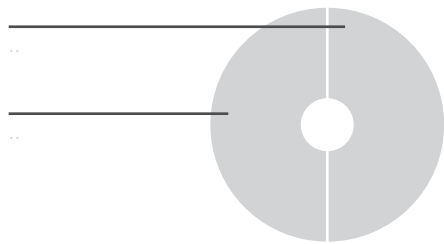


Total

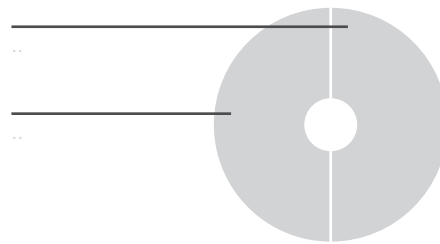


Total population (%)

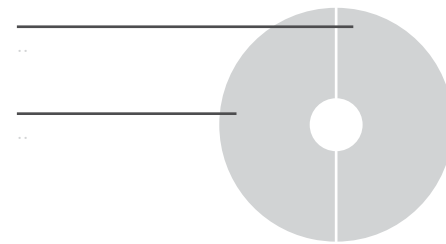
Female



Male



Total

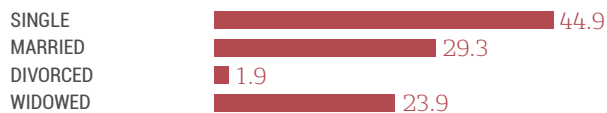


BY MARITAL STATUS

Persons with disabilities (%)

Age: 15+ years

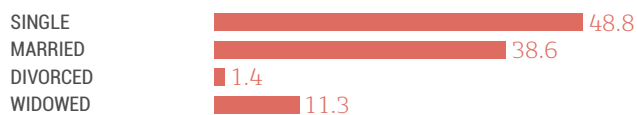
Female



Male



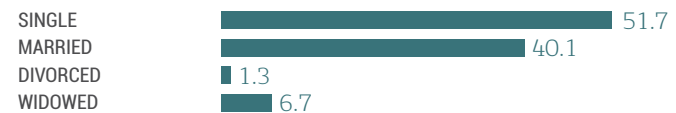
Total



Total population (%)

Age: 15+ years

Female



Male



Total



All data categories are as provided by Libya.

FOOTNOTES

- 1 All data pertains to nationals only.
- 2 Data on the total population is not available in the source. Data on the sample size is available from the indicated source.
- 3 Persons may report more than one type of disability. For this indicator, persons are counted in each of the relevant categories, e.g. persons who report two types of disability are counted twice. The sum of the percentages therefore exceeds 100. The percentages are calculated as follows: Number of persons with disabilities counted in each category/total number of persons with disabilities.

SOURCE

Pan Arab Project for Family Health and the National Centre for Infectious and Chronic Disease Control (2007).

Signature/ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities & its optional protocol

CONVENTION

 **Signed**
1.5.2008

 **Ratified/acceded**
No

OPTIONAL PROTOCOL

 **Signed**
No

 **Ratified/acceded**
No

SOURCE:
UN (2014).

National institutional framework for disability/persons with disabilities

NATIONAL COORDINATION MECHANISM

 **Name**

..

 **Year established**

..

 **Chair**

..

 **Persons with disabilities represented?**

..

ADDITIONAL MECHANISMS

 ..

National definition of disability/persons with disabilities

“ .. ”

National legislative framework for disability/persons with disabilities (year of adoption)

Articles on disability included in the constitution?

..

General/overarching national disability law

..

National disability strategy/plan

..

SOURCE:

..

MAURITANIA

SOCIO-ECONOMIC INDICATORS¹

SOURCE: UNDP

HDI

0.467

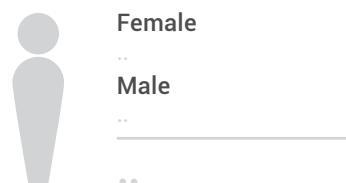
Life expectancy at birth

58.9

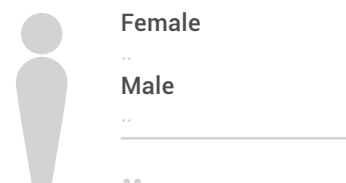
GNI per capita

2,174

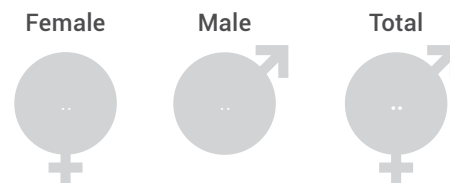
Persons with disabilities



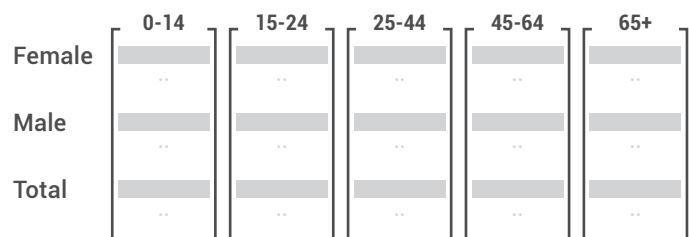
Total population



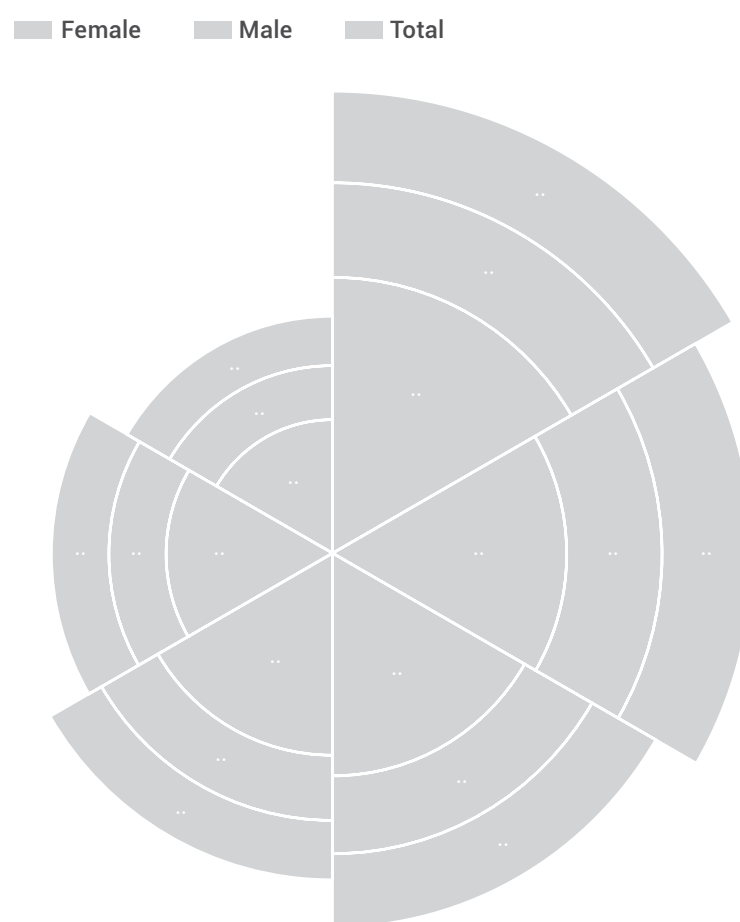
Disability prevalence (%)



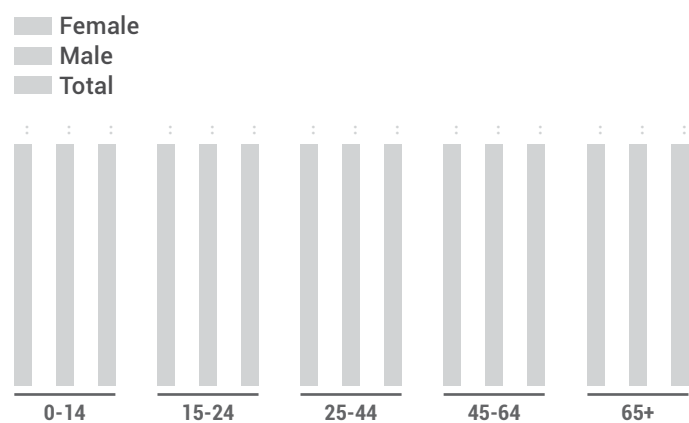
Age distribution of persons with disabilities (%)



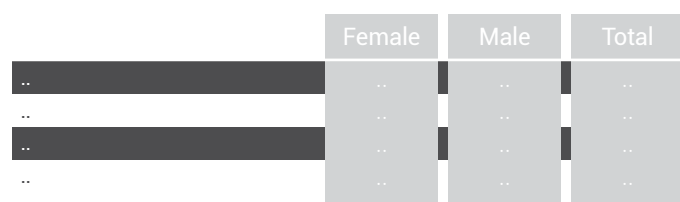
Type of disability/difficulty (%)



Age-specific disability prevalence (%)



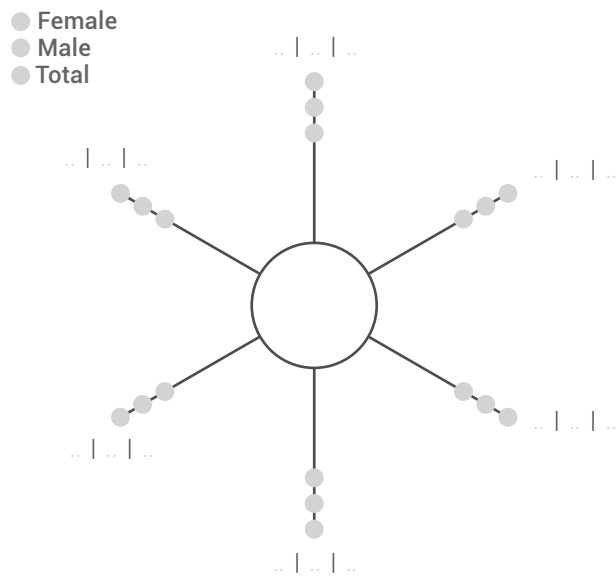
Cause of disability/difficulty (%)



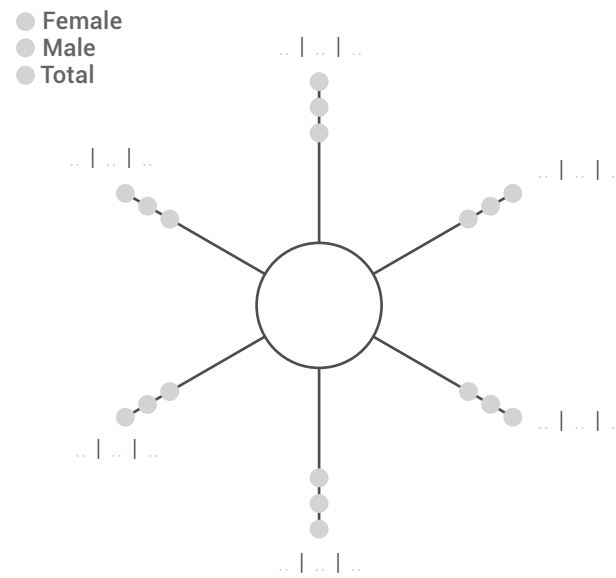


BY EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

Persons with disabilities (%)



Total population (%)



BY ECONOMIC ACTIVITY

Persons with disabilities (%)

Female



Male



Total



Total population (%)

Female



Male



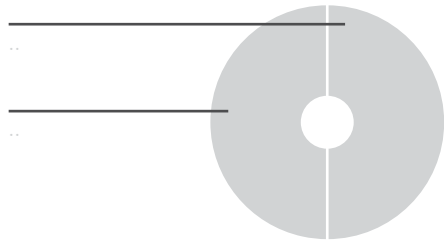
Total



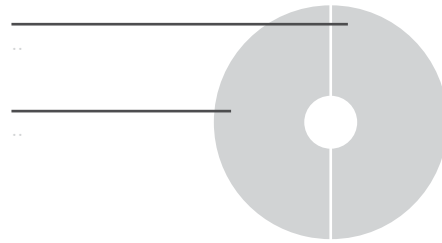
BY GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION

Persons with disabilities (%)

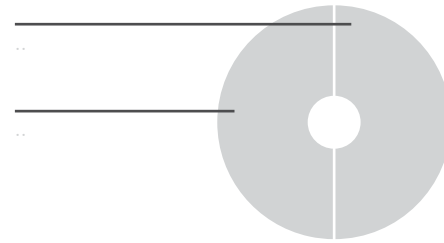
Female



Male

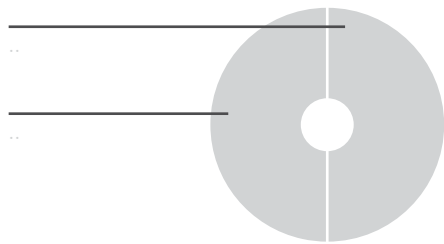


Total

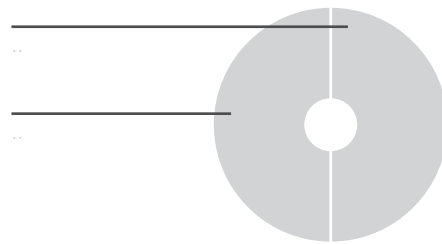


Total population (%)

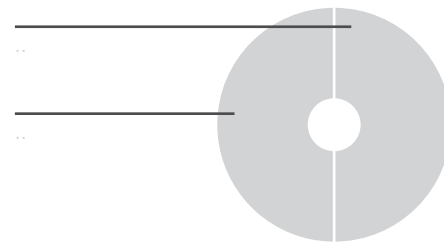
Female



Male



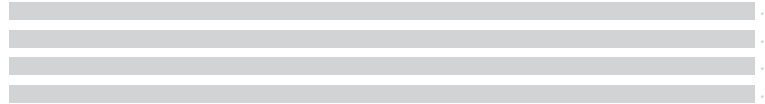
Total



BY MARITAL STATUS

Persons with disabilities (%)

Female



Male

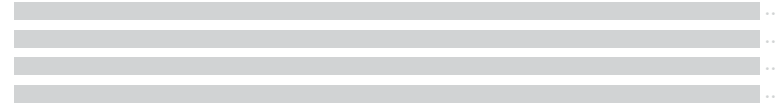


Total



Total population (%)

Female



Male



Total



FOOTNOTE

¹ Data for these three indicators is from 2012.

Signature/ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities & its optional protocol

CONVENTION





OPTIONAL PROTOCOL

 Signed No	 Ratified/acceded 3.4.2012
 Signed No	 Ratified/acceded 3.4.2012

SOURCE:
UN (2014).

National institutional framework for disability/persons with disabilities

NATIONAL COORDINATION MECHANISM

-  **Name**
..
-  **Year established**
..
-  **Chair**
..
-  **Persons with disabilities represented?**
..

ADDITIONAL MECHANISMS

-  ..

National definition of disability/persons with disabilities

66 .. 99

National legislative framework for disability/persons with disabilities (year of adoption)

Articles on disability included in the constitution?	General/overarching national disability law	National disability strategy/plan
..

SOURCE:
..



SOCIO-ECONOMIC INDICATORS¹

SOURCE: UNDP

HDI

0.558

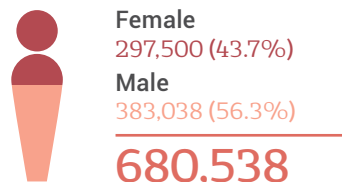
Life expectancy at birth

70.4

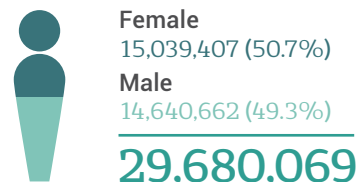
GNI per capita

3,460

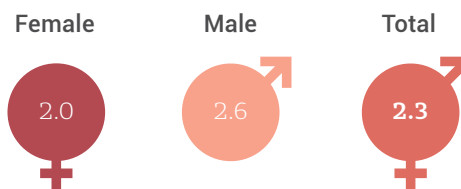
Persons with disabilities



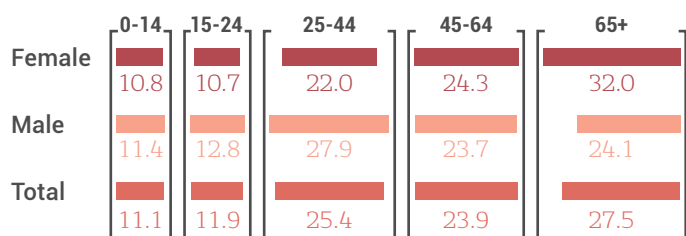
Total population



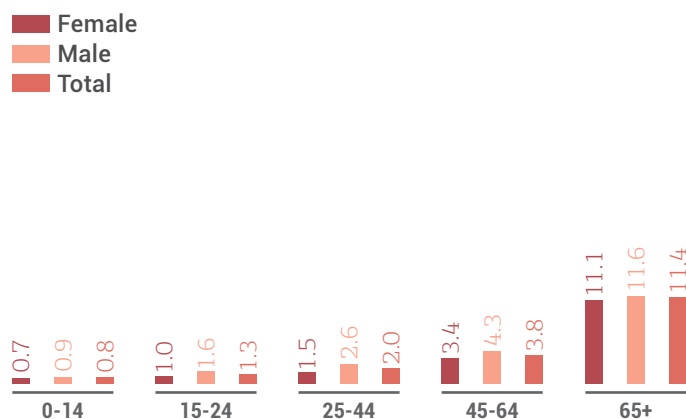
Disability prevalence (%)²



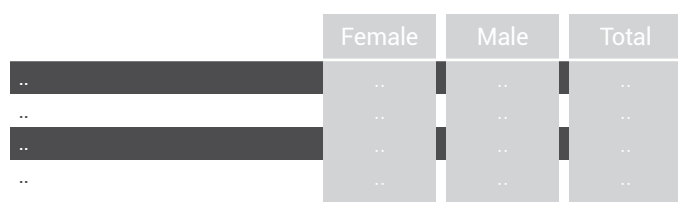
Age distribution of persons with disabilities (%)



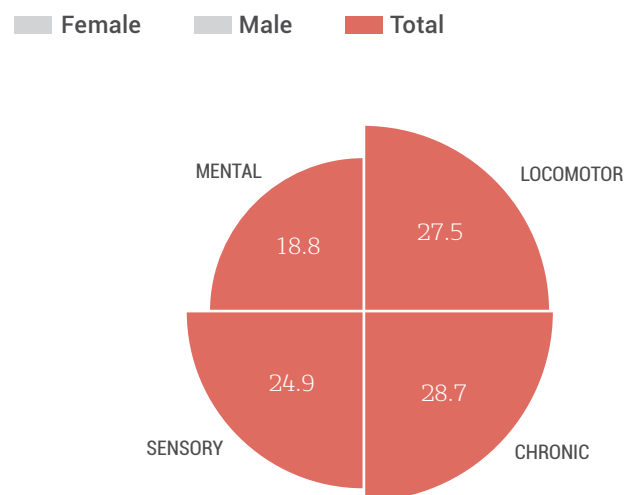
Age-specific disability prevalence (%)



Cause of disability/difficulty (%)



Type of disability/difficulty (%)



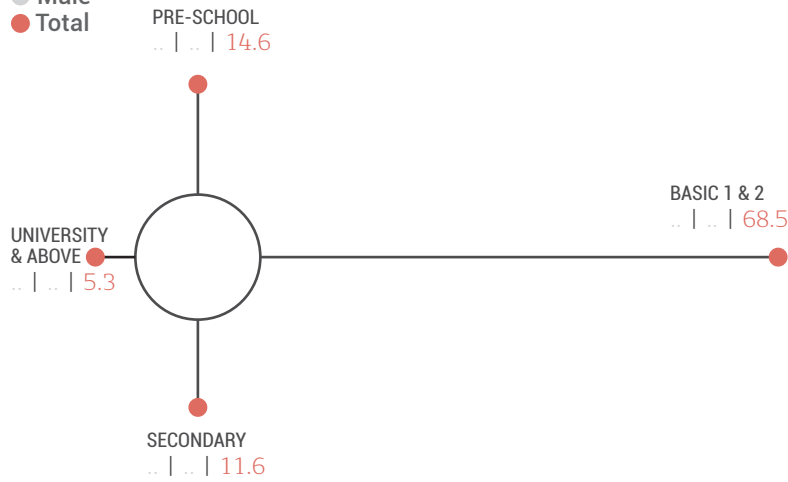


BY EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

Persons with disabilities (%)

Age: 10+ years

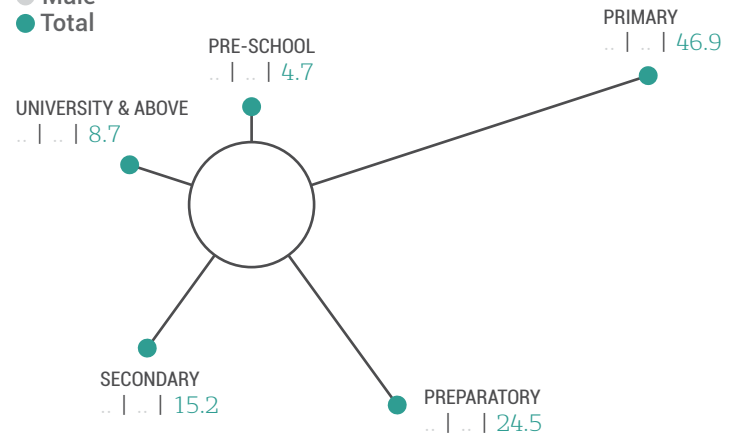
- Female
- Male
- Total



Total population (%)

Age: 10+ years

- Female
- Male
- Total

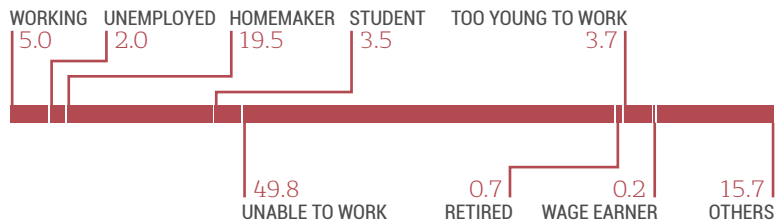


BY ECONOMIC ACTIVITY

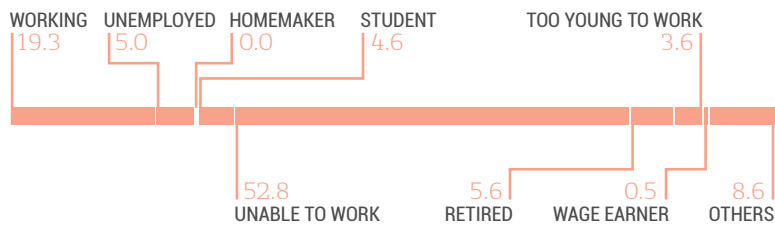
Persons with disabilities (%)³

Age: 15+ years

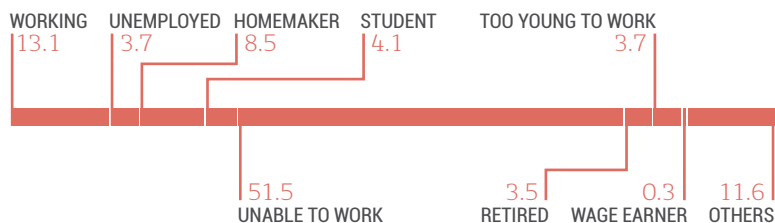
Female



Male



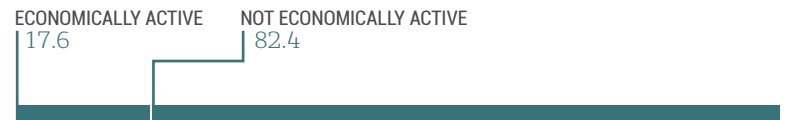
Total



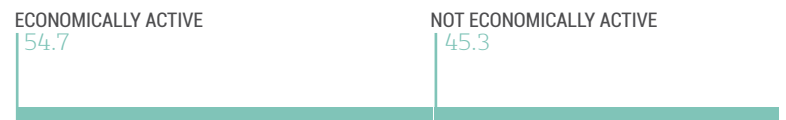
Total population (%)

Age: 15+ years

Female



Male



Total



BY GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION

Persons with disabilities (%)

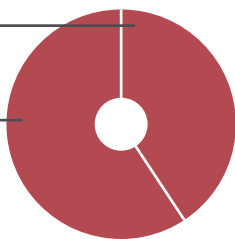
Female

RURAL

40.7

URBAN

59.3



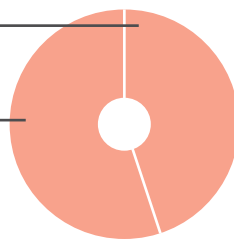
Male

RURAL

44.9

URBAN

55.1



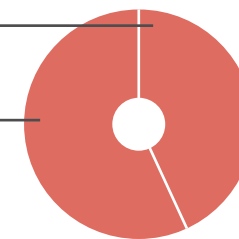
Total

RURAL

43.1

URBAN

56.9



Total population (%)

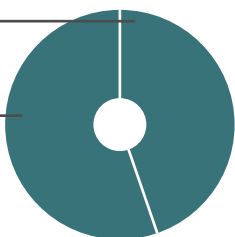
Female

RURAL

44.7

URBAN

55.3



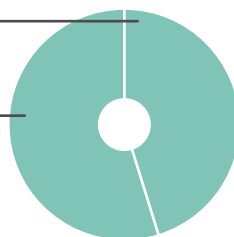
Male

RURAL

45.2

URBAN

54.8



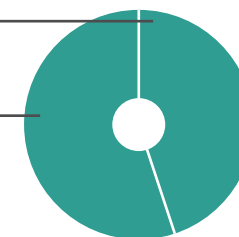
Total

RURAL

44.9

URBAN

55.1



BY MARITAL STATUS

Persons with disabilities (%)

Age: 15+ years

Female

NEVER MARRIED

32.2

MARRIED

27.8

DIVORCED/SEPARATED

35.3

WIDOWED

4.7



Male

NEVER MARRIED

40.0

MARRIED

54.1

DIVORCED/SEPARATED

3.8

WIDOWED

2.0



Total

NEVER MARRIED

36.6

MARRIED

42.7

DIVORCED/SEPARATED

17.5

WIDOWED

3.2



Total population (%)

Age: 15+ years

Female

NEVER MARRIED

42.8

MARRIED

45.8

DIVORCED/SEPARATED

8.7

WIDOWED

2.7



Male

NEVER MARRIED

53.5

MARRIED

45.1

DIVORCED/SEPARATED

0.7

WIDOWED

0.6



Total

NEVER MARRIED

48.0

MARRIED

45.5

DIVORCED/SEPARATED

4.8

WIDOWED

1.7



All data categories are as provided by Morocco.

FOOTNOTES

- 1 Data for these three indicators is from 2005.
- 2 The prevalence rate for persons with disabilities is 5.1 per cent according to the National Survey on Disability (Ministry of Solidarity, Women, Family and Social Development (2006)).
- 3 Employed persons are aged 7 years and above.

SOURCES

Haut-Commissariat Au Plan (2004); Ministry of Solidarity, Women, Family and Social Development (2006).

Signature/ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities & its optional protocol

CONVENTION

 **Signed**
30.3.2007

 **Ratified/acceded**
8.4.2009

OPTIONAL PROTOCOL


 **Signed**
No

 **Ratified/acceded**
8.4.2009


SOURCE:
UN (2014).

National institutional framework for disability/persons with disabilities

NATIONAL COORDINATION MECHANISM

 **Name**
Directorate of the Advancement of the Rights of Persons with Disability Status, Ministry of Solidarity, Women, Family and Social Development

 **Year established**
1994

 **Chair**
Minister of Solidarity and Women, Family and Social Development

 **Persons with disabilities represented?**
Yes

ADDITIONAL MECHANISMS

 CBD

National definition of disability/persons with disabilities

“ According to this law, the disabled signifies every person who is in a state of disability or permanent or temporary hindrance, resulting from a lack or inability that prevents them from performing life functions irrespective of whether the person was born with a disability or became disabled later in life. ”

(Social Welfare Act for Disabled People, 1993)¹

National legislative framework for disability/persons with disabilities (year of adoption)

Articles on disability included in the constitution?	General/overarching national disability law	National disability strategy/plan
Yes	Social Welfare Act for Disabled People (1993) ²	National Strategy for the Prevention of Disability (2008) ³

SOURCE:
ESCWA, based on data collected from government focal points through the ESCWA Questionnaire on the Implementation of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the Arab Decade for Persons with Disabilities (2013).

FOOTNOTES:
1 A new law on the promotion of the rights of persons with disabilities which includes a new definition of persons with disabilities is pending ratification.
2 Morocco also has an overarching law for persons with visual impairments (Social Welfare Act for Blind and People with Difficulty in Seeing (1982)).
3 A new national disability strategy is currently being developed.

SOCIO-ECONOMIC INDICATORS

SOURCE: UNDP

HDI

0.728

Life expectancy at birth

72.8

GNI per capita

23,219

Persons with disabilities



Female
28,719 (45.9%)
Male
33,787 (54.1%)

62,506

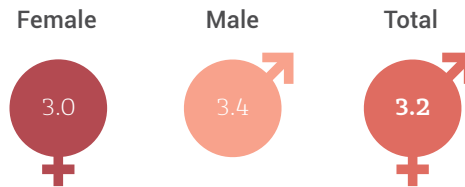
Total population



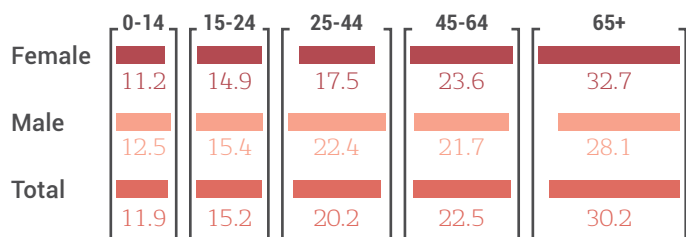
Female
966,746 (49.4%)
Male
990,590 (50.6%)

1,957,336

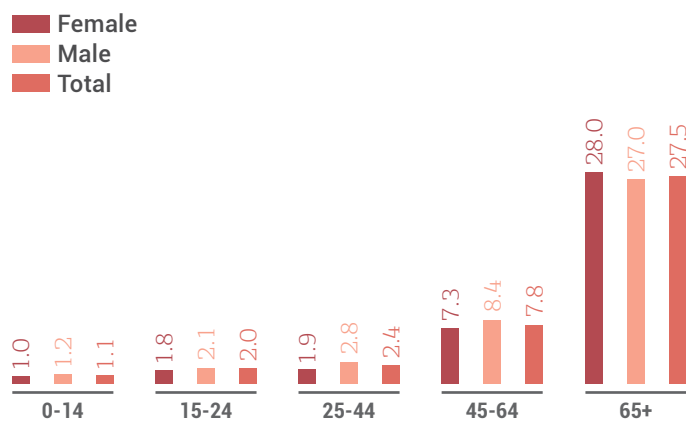
Disability prevalence (%)



Age distribution of persons with disabilities (%)



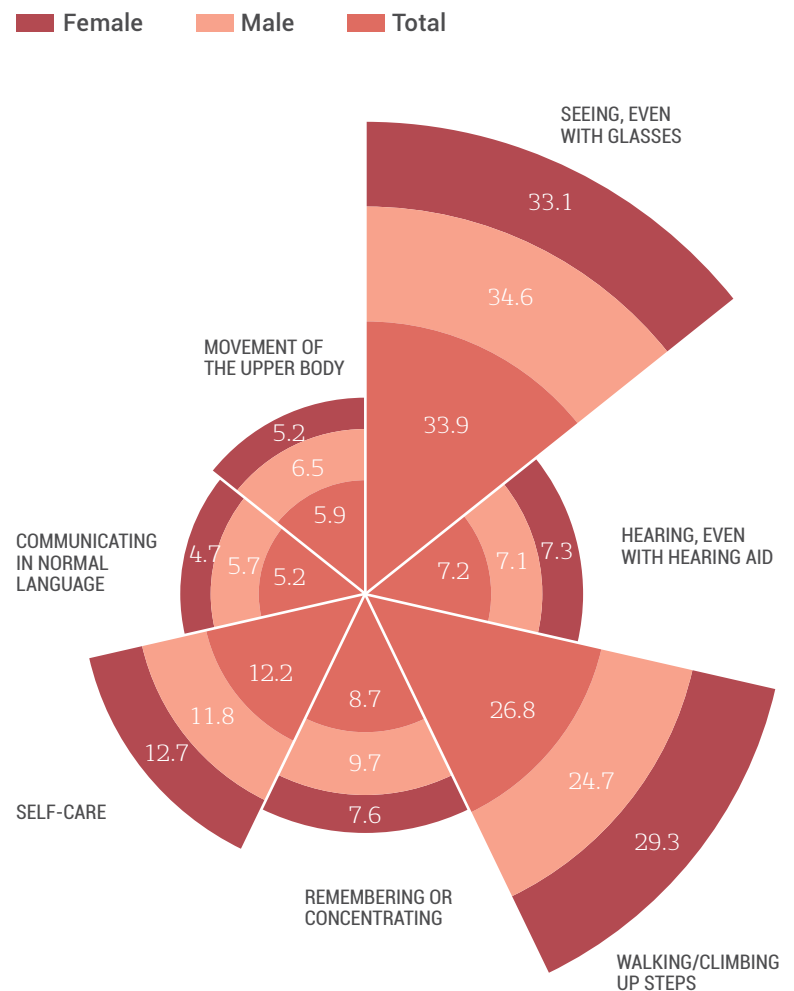
Age-specific disability prevalence (%)



Cause of disability/difficulty (%)

	Female	Male	Total
Congenital	29.4	33.1	31.4
Disease	28.5	27.6	28.0
Road traffic accident	2.1	7.1	4.8
Work-related accident	0.7	2.6	1.7
Old age	35.3	25.5	30.0
Other causes	4.0	4.1	4.1

Type of disability/difficulty (%)

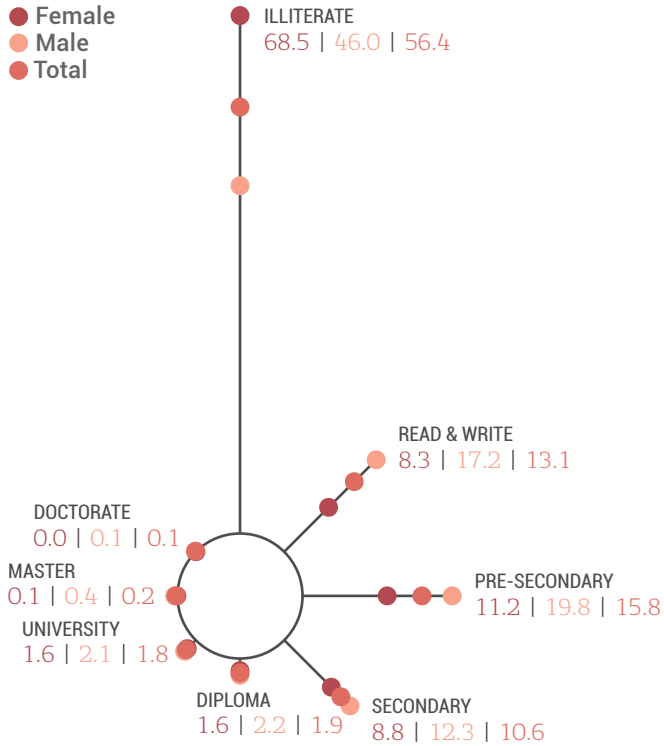




BY EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

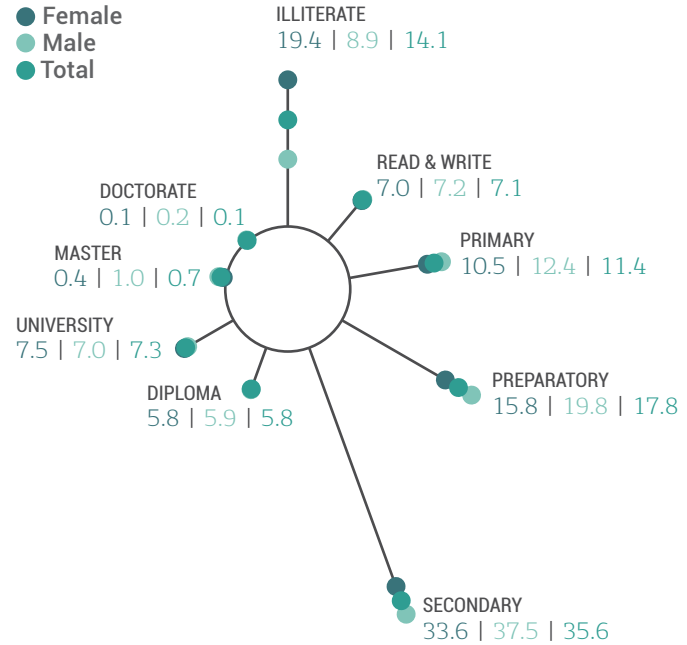
Persons with disabilities (%)

Age: 15+ years



Total population (%)

Age: 15+ years

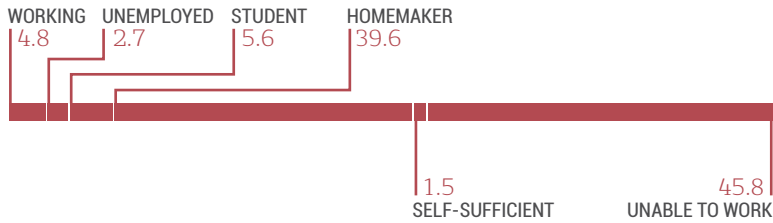


BY ECONOMIC ACTIVITY

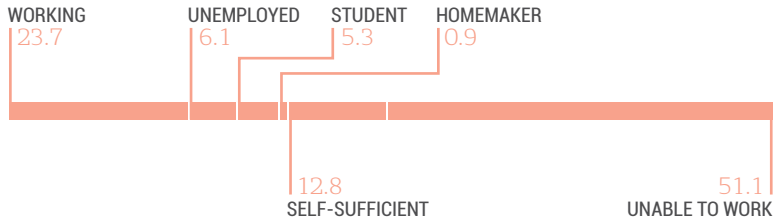
Persons with disabilities (%)

Age: 15+ years

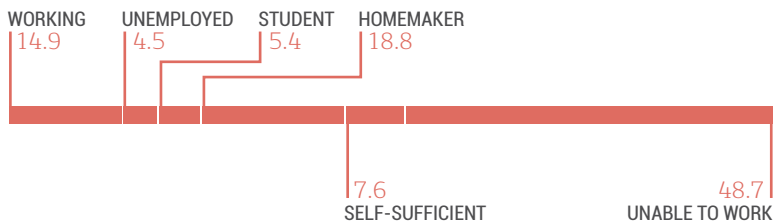
Female



Male



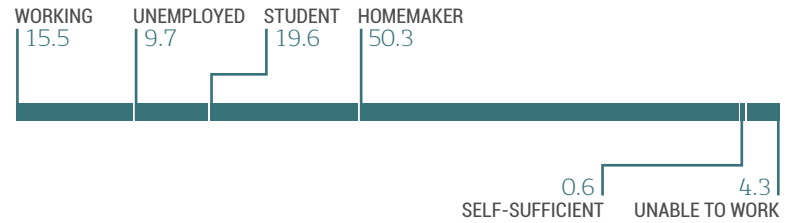
Total



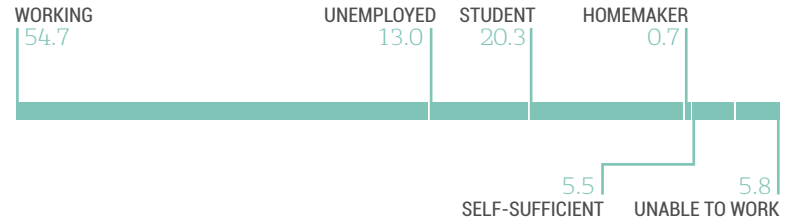
Total population (%)

Age: 15+ years

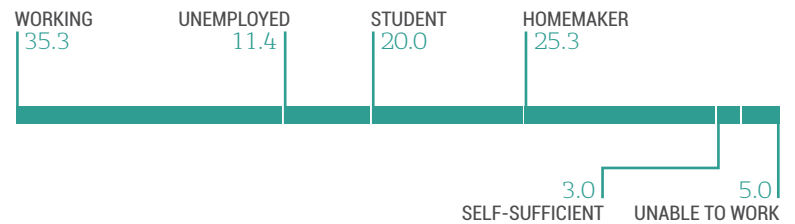
Female



Male



Total

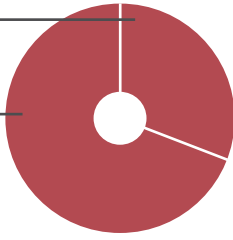


BY GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION

Persons with disabilities (%)

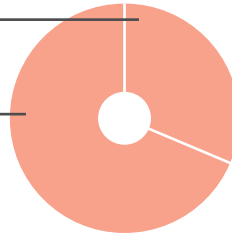
Female
RURAL
30.9

URBAN
69.1



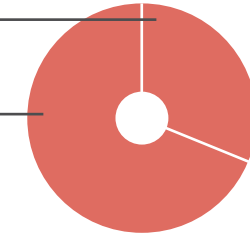
Male
RURAL
31.4

URBAN
68.6



Total
RURAL
31.2

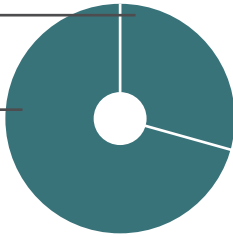
URBAN
68.8



Total population (%)

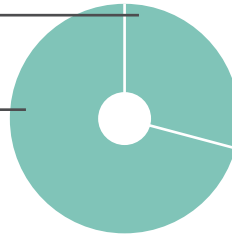
Female
RURAL
29.4

URBAN
70.6



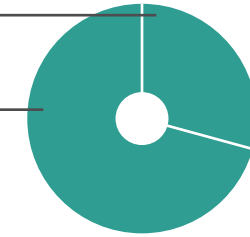
Male
RURAL
29.2

URBAN
70.8



Total
RURAL
29.3

URBAN
70.7

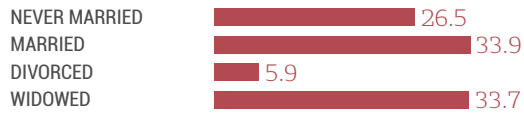


BY MARITAL STATUS

Persons with disabilities (%)

Age: 15+ years

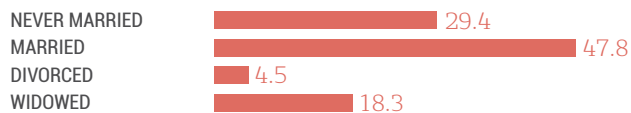
Female



Male



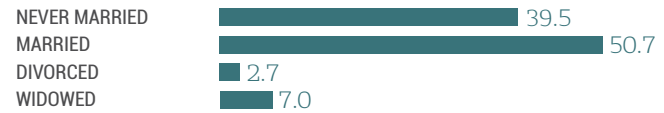
Total



Total population (%)

Age: 15+ years

Female



Male



Total



All data categories are as provided by Oman.

FOOTNOTE

1 All data pertains to nationals only.

SOURCE

National Centre for Statistics and Information (2010).

Signature/ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities & its optional protocol

CONVENTION

 **Signed**
17.3.2008

 **Ratified/acceded**
5.11.2008

OPTIONAL PROTOCOL

 **Signed**
No





 **Ratified/acceded**
No

SOURCES:



UN (2014); Sultanate Decree No. 121 on Oman's ratification of the International Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (2008).

National institutional framework for disability/persons with disabilities

NATIONAL COORDINATION MECHANISM

-  **Name**
National Committee for the Welfare of the Disabled
-  **Year established**
2008
-  **Chair**
Minister of Social Development
-  **Persons with disabilities represented?**
Yes

ADDITIONAL MECHANISMS

-  System of focal points for disability related matters in line ministries or other governmental institutions
-  National Committee for the Welfare of the Disabled

National definition of disability/persons with disabilities

“ The person who suffers from a deficiency in some of their sensory, physical or mental capacities, be it congenital, or the result of a hereditary factor, disease or accident, which limits their ability to perform their natural role in life in comparison to those of the same age, and which results in the need for special care and rehabilitation in order to assume their role in life. ”

(Sultanate Decree No. 63 on the Law on Care and Rehabilitation of the Disabled, 2008)

National legislative framework for disability/persons with disabilities (year of adoption)

Articles on disability included in the constitution?	General/overarching national disability law	National disability strategy/plan
Yes	Sultanate Decree No. 63 on the Law on Care and Rehabilitation of the Disabled (2008)	CBD

SOURCE:

ESCWA, based on data collected from government focal points through the ESCWA Questionnaire on the Implementation of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the Arab Decade for Persons with Disabilities (2013).

SOCIO-ECONOMIC INDICATORS¹

SOURCE: UNDP

HDI

0.662

Life expectancy at birth

72.1

GNI per capita

2,630

Persons with disabilities



Female
76,236 (47.9%)
Male
82,981 (52.1%)

159,217

Total population



Female
1,691,447 (49.2%)
Male
1,743,523 (50.8%)

3,434,970

Disability prevalence (%)²

Female



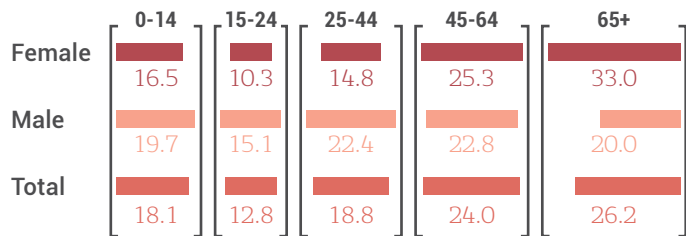
Male



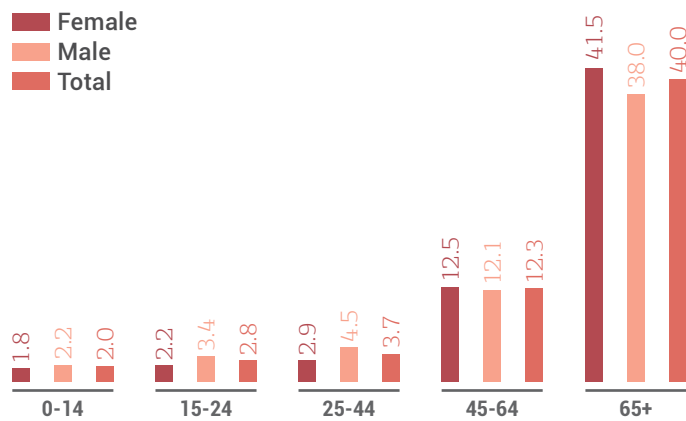
Total



Age distribution of persons with disabilities (%)



Age-specific disability prevalence (%)

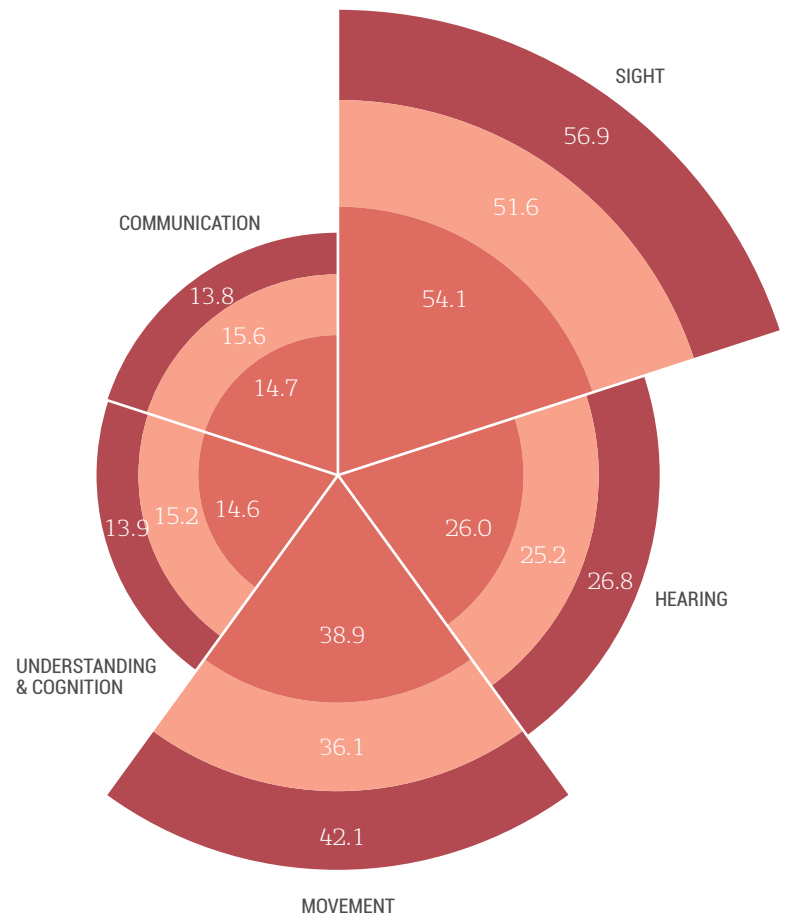


Cause of disability/difficulty (%)

	Female	Male	Total
..
..
..
..

Type of disability/difficulty (%)³

Female Male Total



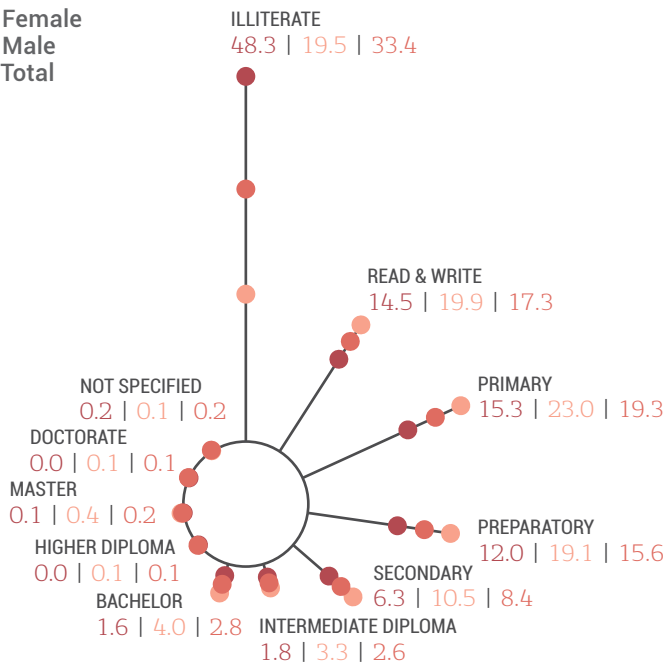


BY EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

Persons with disabilities (%)

Age: 10+ years

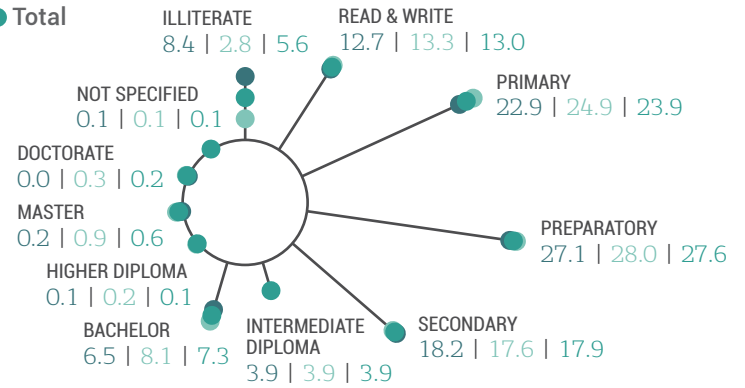
- Female
- Male
- Total



Total population (%)

Age: 10+ years

- Female
- Male
- Total

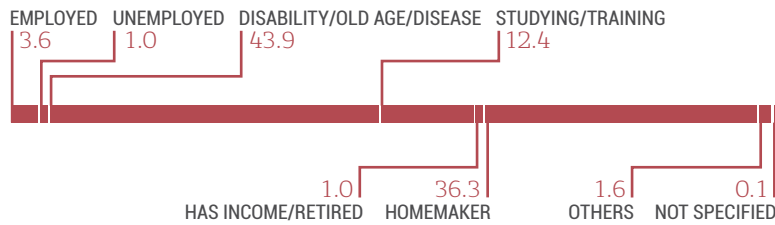


BY ECONOMIC ACTIVITY

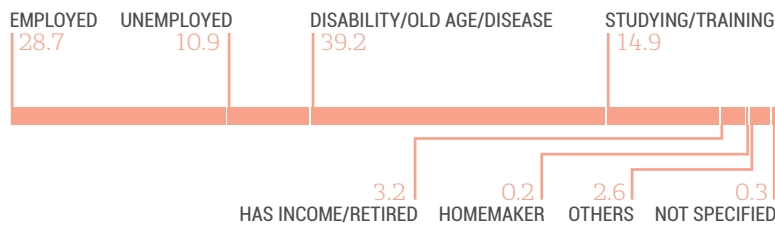
Persons with disabilities (%)

Age: 10+ years

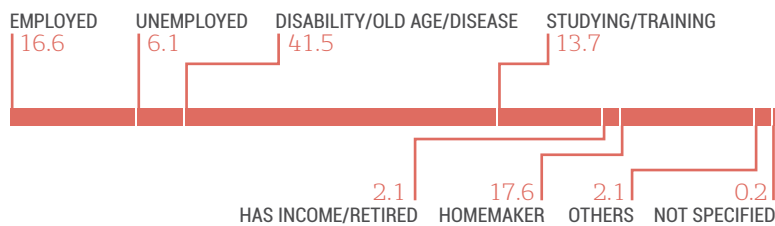
Female



Male



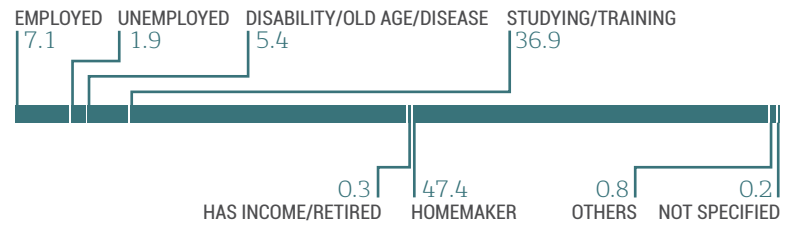
Total



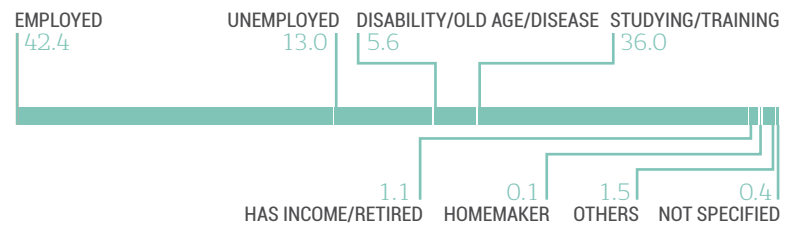
Total population (%)

Age: 10+ years

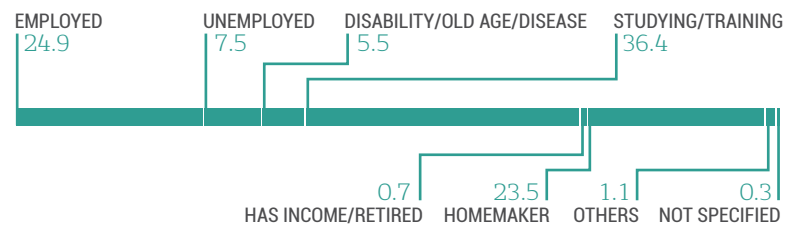
Female



Male



Total



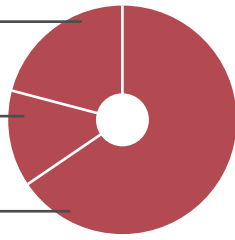
BY GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION

Persons with disabilities (%)

Female
RURAL
21.0

CAMPS
13.6

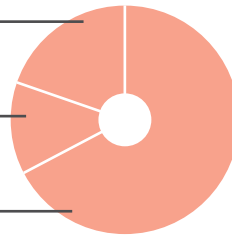
URBAN
65.5



Male
RURAL
19.7

CAMPS
13.0

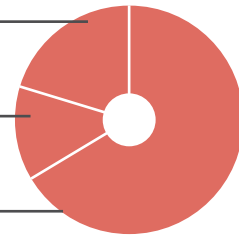
URBAN
67.3



Total
RURAL
20.3

CAMPS
13.3

URBAN
66.4

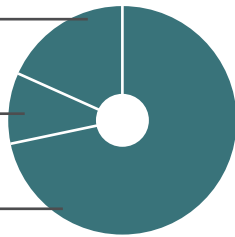


Total population (%)

Female
RURAL
18.3

CAMPS
10.0

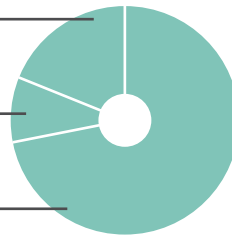
URBAN
71.7



Male
RURAL
18.3

CAMPS
9.8

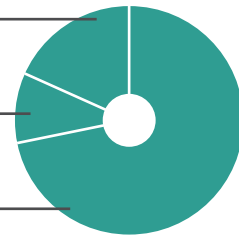
URBAN
71.9



Total
RURAL
18.3

CAMPS
9.9

URBAN
71.8

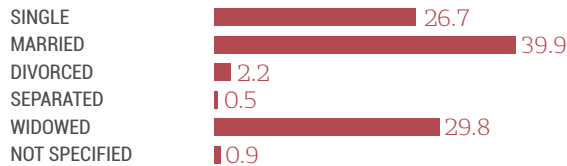


BY MARITAL STATUS

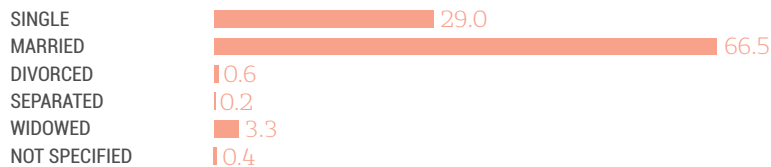
Persons with disabilities (%)

Age: 12+ years

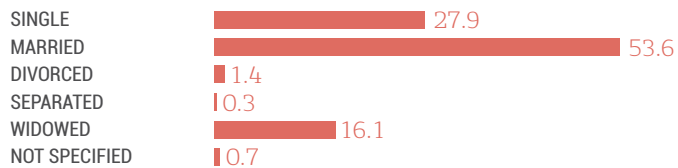
Female



Male



Total



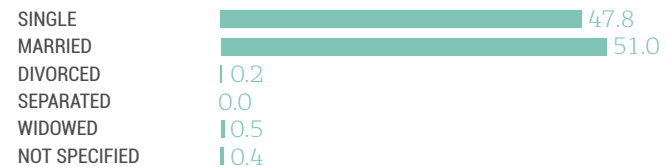
Total population (%)

Age: 12+ years

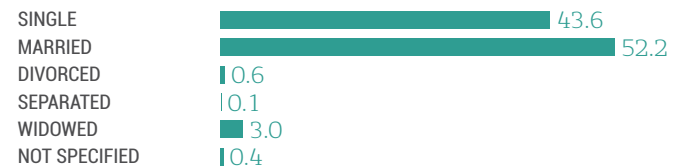
Female



Male



Total



All data categories are as provided by Palestine.

FOOTNOTES

- 1 Data on HDI is from 2010. Data on life expectancy and GNI is from 2007.
- 2 The prevalence rate of persons with disabilities is 2.7 per cent according to the Disability Survey (Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics and Ministry of Social Affairs (2011)).
- 3 Persons may report more than one type of disability. For this indicator, persons are

counted in each of the relevant categories, e.g. persons who report two types of disability are counted twice. The sum of the percentages therefore exceeds 100. The percentages are calculated as follows: Number of persons with disabilities counted in each category/total number of persons with disabilities.

SOURCES

Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (2007);
Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics and
Ministry of Social Affairs (2011).

Signature/ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities & its optional protocol

CONVENTION

 Signed No	 Ratified/acceded 2.4.2014
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OPTIONAL PROTOCOL

 Signed No	 Ratified/acceded No
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SOURCE:
UN (2014).

National institutional framework for disability/persons with disabilities

NATIONAL COORDINATION MECHANISM

-  **Name**
Supreme Council for the Affairs of Persons with Disabilities
-  **Year established**
2004
-  **Chair**
Minister of Social Affairs
-  **Persons with disabilities represented?**
Yes

ADDITIONAL MECHANISMS

-  System of focal points for disability related matters in line ministries or other governmental institutions
-  General Union of the Disabled

National definition of disability/persons with disabilities

“ .. ”

National legislative framework for disability/persons with disabilities (year of adoption)

Articles on disability included in the constitution?	General/overarching national disability law	National disability strategy/plan
Yes	Law No. 4 on the Rights of the Disabled (1999)	National Strategic Plan for the Disability Sector (2012)

SOURCE:
ESCWA, based on data collected from government focal points through the ESCWA Questionnaire on the Implementation of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the Arab Decade for Persons with Disabilities (2013).

SOCIO-ECONOMIC INDICATORS

SOURCE: UNDP

HDI

0.827

Life expectancy at birth

78.2

GNI per capita

77,269

Persons with disabilities



Female
3,343 (43.7%)
Male
4,300 (56.3%)

7,643

Total population



Female
414,696 (24.4%)
Male
1,284,739 (75.6%)

1,699,435

Disability prevalence (%)

Female



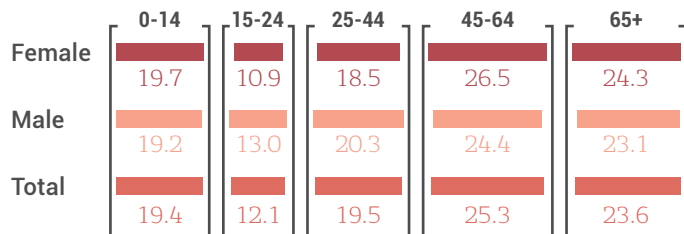
Male



Total

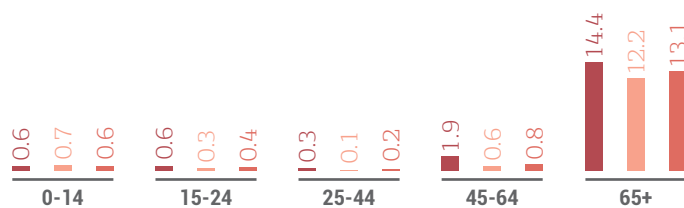


Age distribution of persons with disabilities (%)



Age-specific disability prevalence (%)

Female
Male
Total

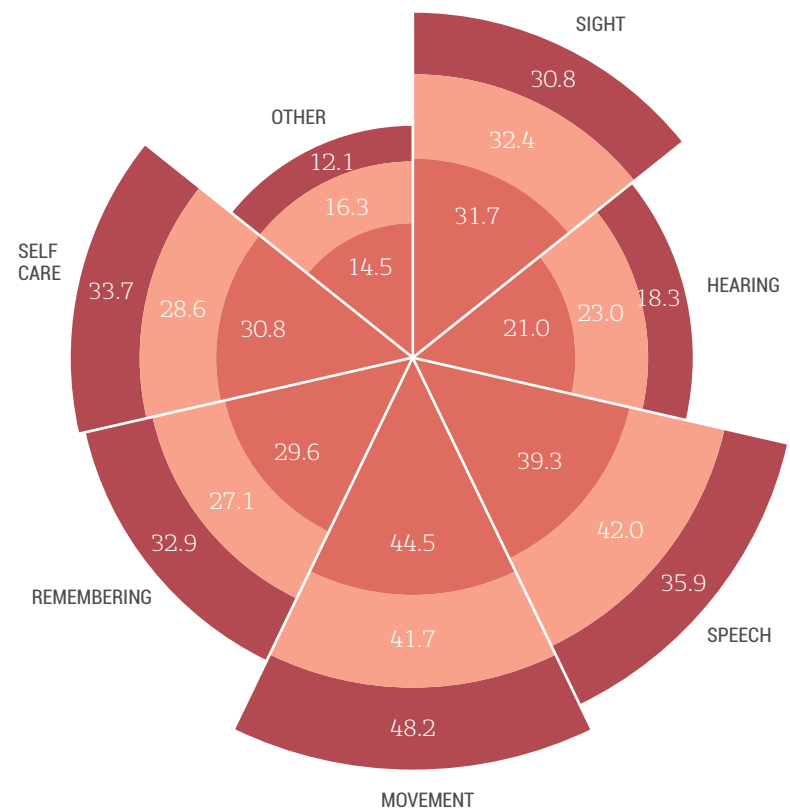


Cause of disability/difficulty (%)

	Female	Male	Total
..
..
..
..

Type of disability/difficulty (%)²

Female Male Total



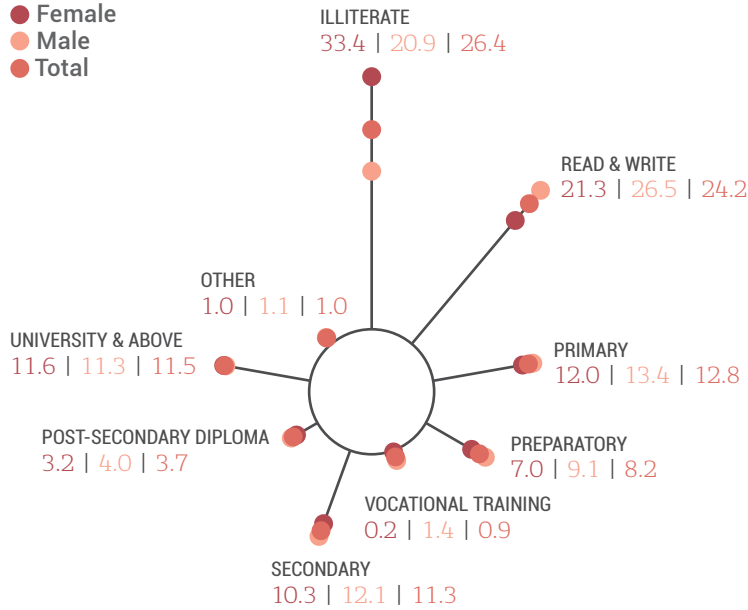


BY EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

Persons with disabilities (%)

Age: 10+ years

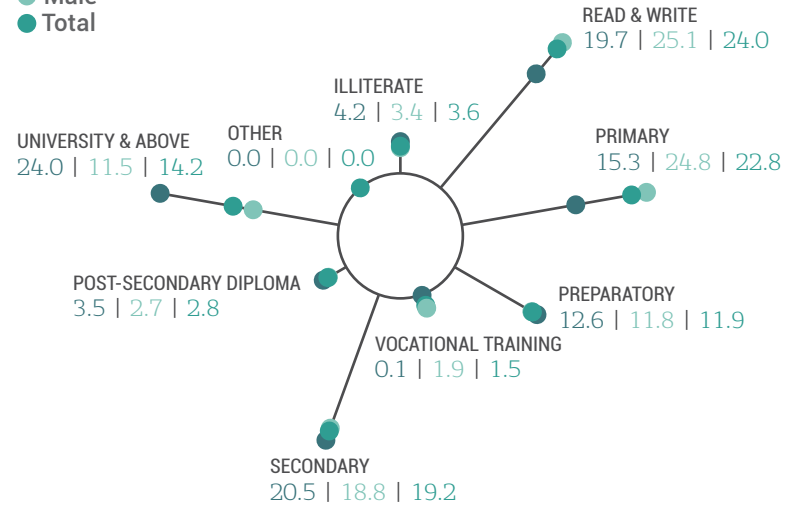
- Female
- Male
- Total



Total population (%)

Age: 10+ years

- Female
- Male
- Total

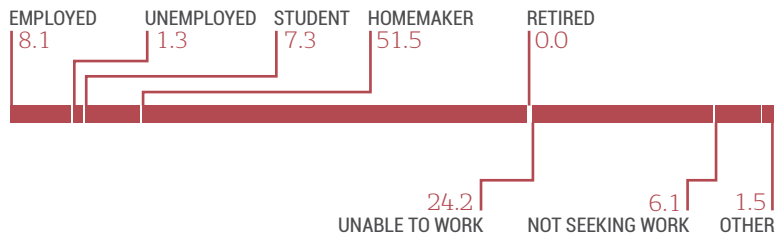


BY ECONOMIC ACTIVITY

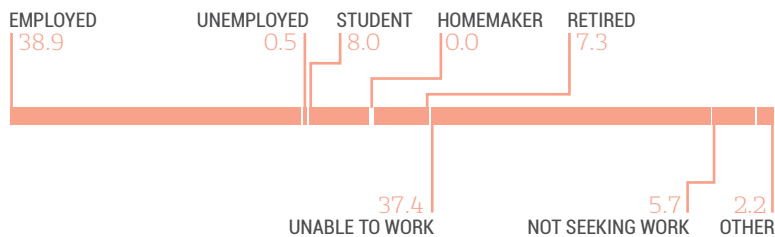
Persons with disabilities (%)

Age: 15+ years

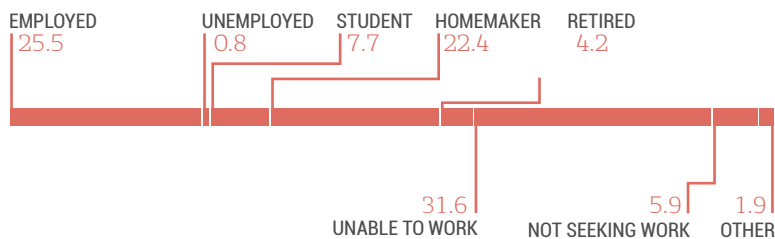
Female



Male



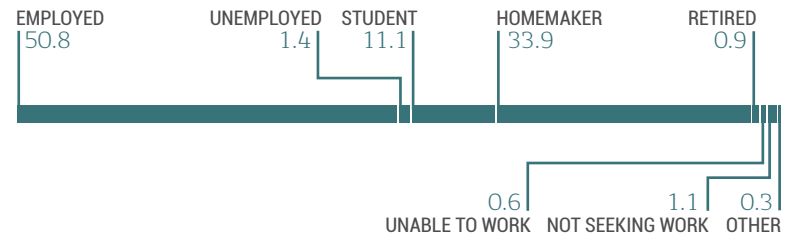
Total



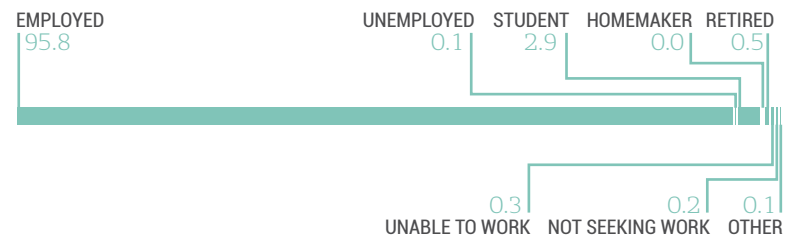
Total population (%)

Age: 15+ years

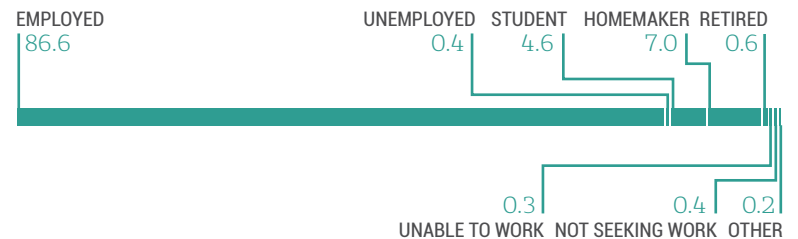
Female



Male



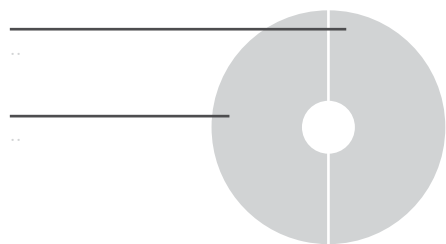
Total



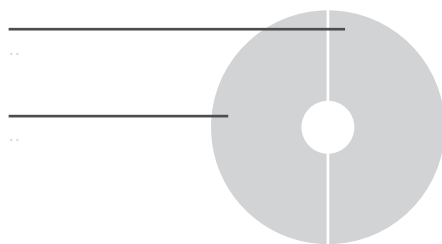
BY GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION

Persons with disabilities (%)

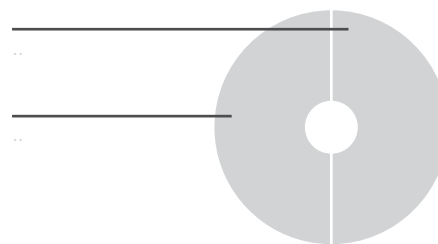
Female



Male

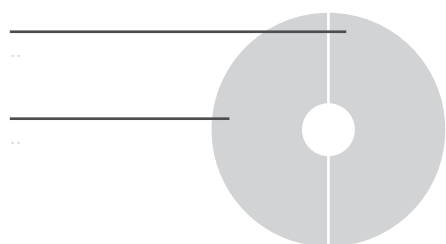


Total

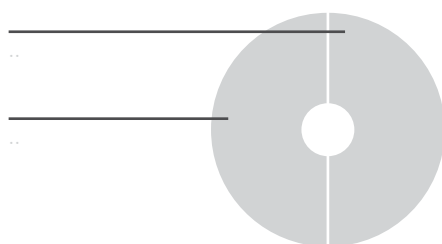


Total population (%)

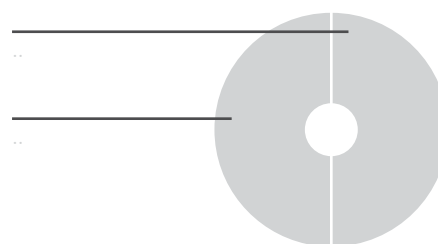
Female



Male



Total



BY MARITAL STATUS

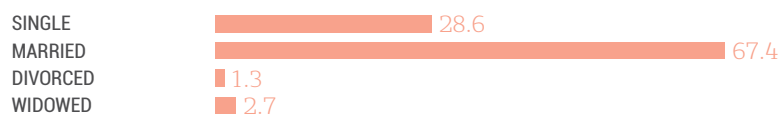
Persons with disabilities (%)

Age: 15+ years

Female



Male



Total



Total population (%)

Age: 15+ years

Female



Male



Total



All data categories are as provided by Qatar.

FOOTNOTES

- All data pertains to total population (both national and non-national).
- Persons may report more than one type of disability. For this indicator, persons are counted in each of the relevant categories, e.g. persons who report two types of

disability are counted twice. The sum of the percentages therefore exceeds 100. The percentages are calculated as follows: Number of persons with disabilities counted in each category / total number of persons with disabilities.

SOURCE

Qatar Statistics Authority (2010).

Signature/ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities & its optional protocol

CONVENTION

 **Signed**
9.7.2007



Ratified/acceded
13.5.2008

OPTIONAL PROTOCOL

 **Signed**
9.7.2007



Ratified/acceded
No

SOURCE:
UN (2014).

National institutional framework for disability/persons with disabilities

NATIONAL COORDINATION MECHANISM

 **Name**

-

 **Year established**

-


 **Chair**

-

 **Persons with disabilities represented?**

-

ADDITIONAL MECHANISMS

 System of focal points for disability related matters in line ministries or other governmental institutions

National definition of disability/persons with disabilities

“ Every person who is permanently incapacitated in whole or in part in any of their senses or physical, psychological or mental abilities, to the extent that his/her capacity for learning, rehabilitation or work is limited. ”

(Law No. 2 on Persons with Special Needs, 2004)

National legislative framework for disability/persons with disabilities (year of adoption)

Articles on disability included in the constitution?	General/overarching national disability law	National disability strategy/plan
No	Law No. 2 on Persons with Special Needs (2004) ¹	Social Protection Sector Strategy; Family Cohesion Strategy (2011) ²

SOURCE:
ESCWA, based on data collected from government focal points through the ESCWA Questionnaire on the Implementation of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the Arab Decade for Persons with Disabilities (2013).

FOOTNOTES:
¹ A new law is currently being developed.
² These strategies broadly address vulnerable groups.

SOCIO-ECONOMIC INDICATORS²

SOURCE: UNDP

HDI

0.748

Life expectancy at birth

72.5

GNI per capita

20,780

Persons with disabilities



Female
44,029 (35.3%)
Male
80,567 (64.7%)

124,596

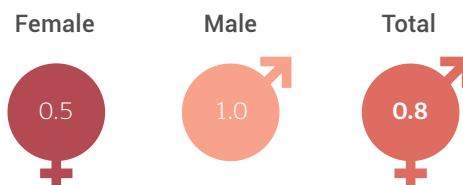
Total population



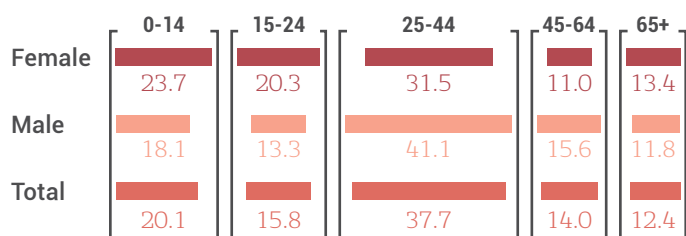
Female
8,239,970 (49.9%)
Male
8,287,370 (50.1%)

16,527,340

Disability prevalence (%)³



Age distribution of persons with disabilities (%)



Age-specific disability prevalence (%)

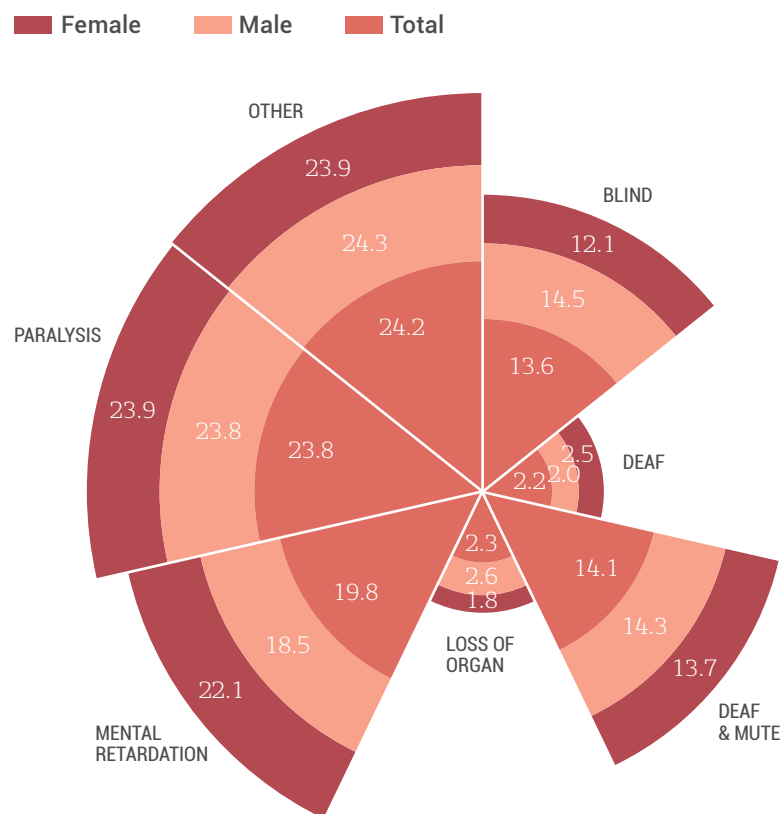
Female
Male
Total



Cause of disability/difficulty (%)

	Female	Male	Total
..
..
..
..

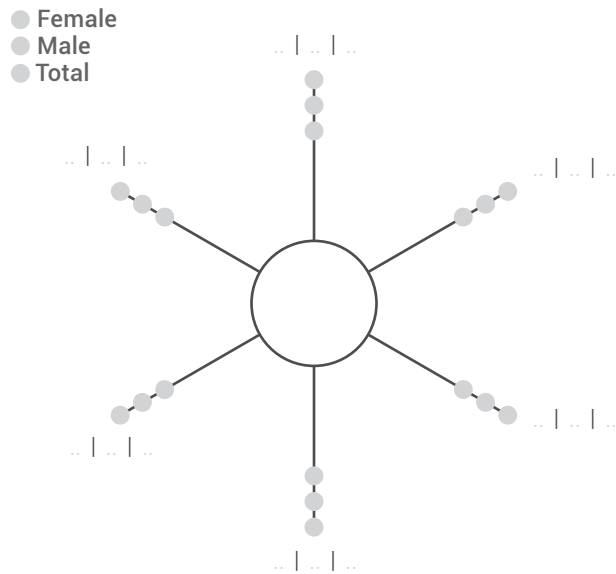
Type of disability/difficulty (%)





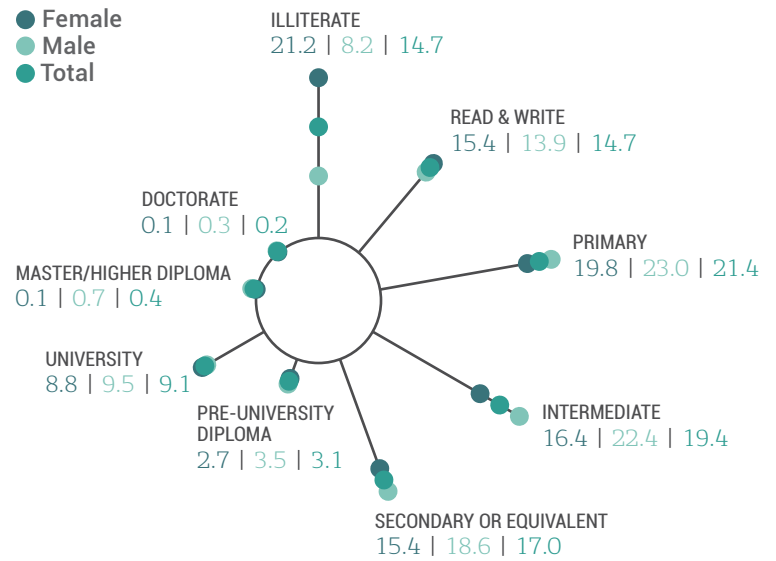
BY EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

Persons with disabilities (%)



Total population (%)

Age: 10+ years



BY ECONOMIC ACTIVITY

Persons with disabilities (%)

Female



Male



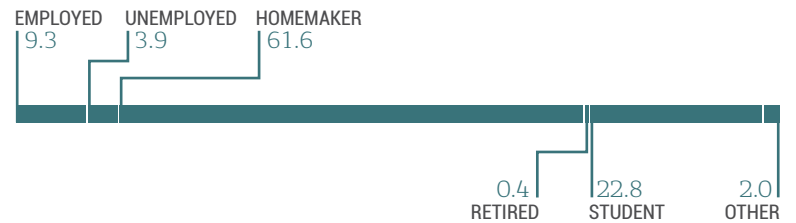
Total



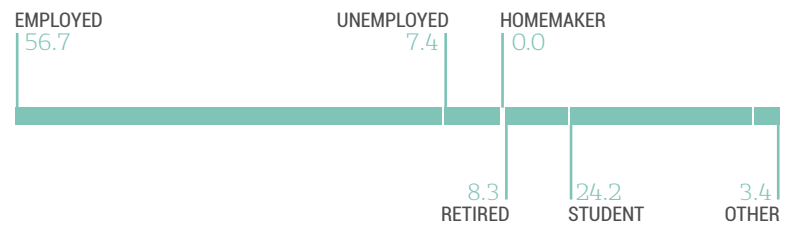
Total population (%)

Age: 15+ years

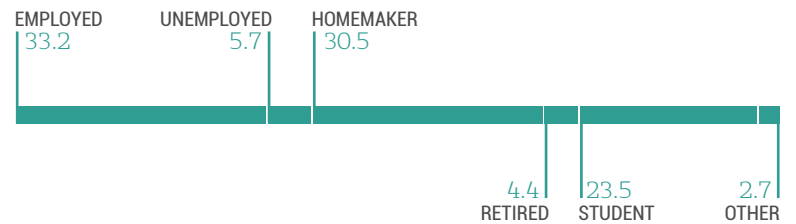
Female



Male



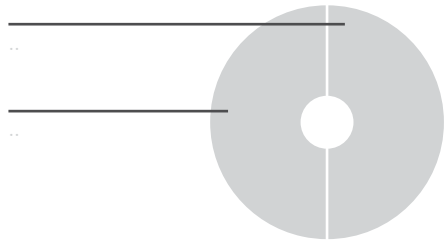
Total



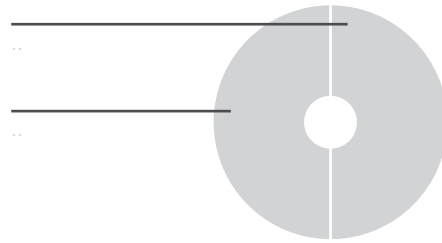
BY GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION

Persons with disabilities (%)

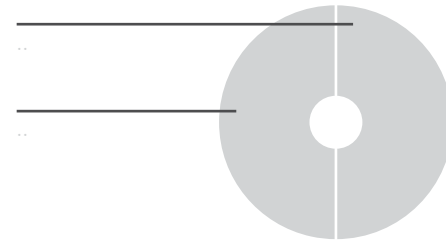
Female



Male

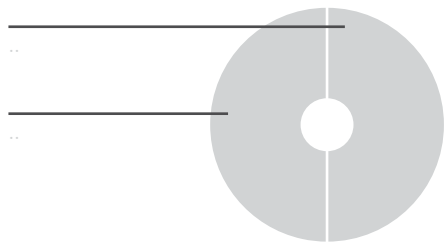


Total

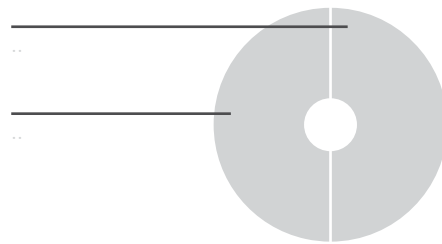


Total population (%)

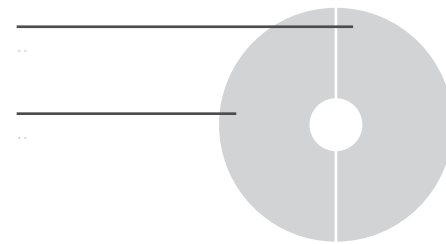
Female



Male



Total

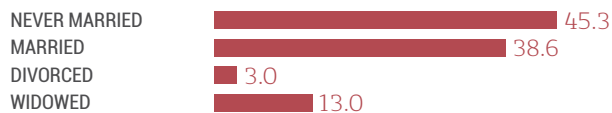


BY MARITAL STATUS

Persons with disabilities (%)

Age: 15+ years

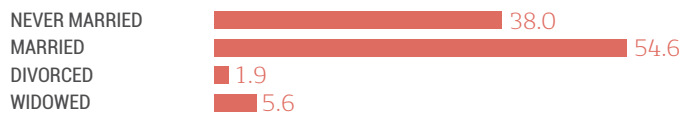
Female



Male



Total



Total population (%)

Age: 15+ years

Female



Male



Total



All data categories are as provided by Saudi Arabia.

FOOTNOTES

- 1 All data pertains to nationals only.
- 2 Data for these three indicators is from 2005.
- 3 The prevalence rate of persons with disabilities is 0.8 per cent according to the Demographic Survey (Central Department of Statistics and Information (2007)).

SOURCES

Central Department of Statistics and Information (2004); Central Department of Statistics and Information (2007).

Signature/ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities & its optional protocol

CONVENTION

 <p>Signed No</p>	 <p>Ratified/acceded 24.6.2008</p>
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OPTIONAL PROTOCOL

 <p>Signed No</p>	 <p>Ratified/acceded 24.6.2008</p>
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SOURCE:
UN (2014).

National institutional framework for disability/persons with disabilities

NATIONAL COORDINATION MECHANISM

-  **Name**
Committee for the Coordination of Services for Persons with Disabilities
-  **Year established**
1979
-  **Chair**
Assistant Deputy Minister for Social Welfare
-  **Persons with disabilities represented?**
Yes

ADDITIONAL MECHANISMS

-  System of focal points for disability related matters in line ministries or other governmental institutions
-  Committee for the implementation of the Convention of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities
-  Committee for the implementation of the Arab Decade
-  Higher Council for the Affairs of the Disabled
-  Unit for Persons with Disabilities, Human Rights Commission

National definition of disability/persons with disabilities

“ Every person with a constant total or partial disability in their physical or sensory or mental or communicative or learning or psychological capabilities, to the extent that it reduces the possibility of them meeting their normal needs under conditions similar to those of non-disabled persons. ”

(Code for the Welfare of the Disabled, 2000)

National legislative framework for disability/persons with disabilities (year of adoption)

Articles on disability included in the constitution?	General/overarching national disability law	National disability strategy/plan
Yes	The Basic List of Rehabilitation Programs for the Disabled (1979); Code for the Welfare of the Disabled (2000)	Sectoral strategies ¹

SOURCE:
ESCWA, based on data collected from government focal points through the ESCWA Questionnaire on the Implementation of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the Arab Decade for Persons with Disabilities (2013).

FOOTNOTE:
¹ National Youth Strategy (2010) and National Strategy for the Employment of Persons with Disabilities (2011).

SOMALIA

SOCIO-ECONOMIC INDICATORS¹

SOURCE: UNDP

HDI

..

Life expectancy at birth

51.5

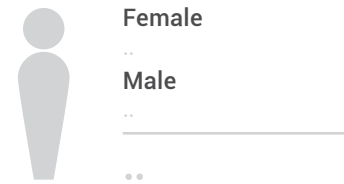
GNI per capita

..

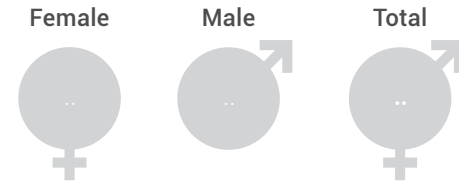
Persons with disabilities



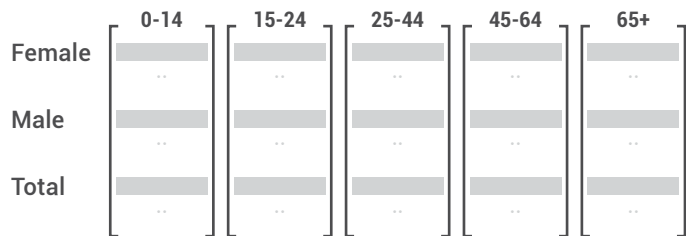
Total population



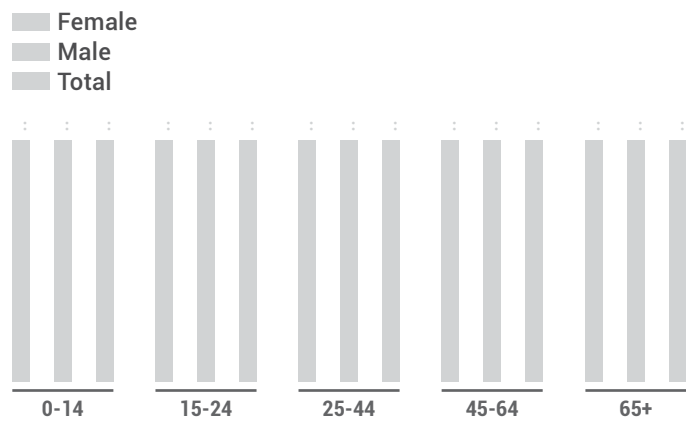
Disability prevalence (%)



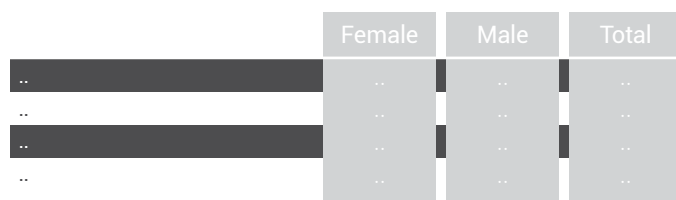
Age distribution of persons with disabilities (%)



Age-specific disability prevalence (%)

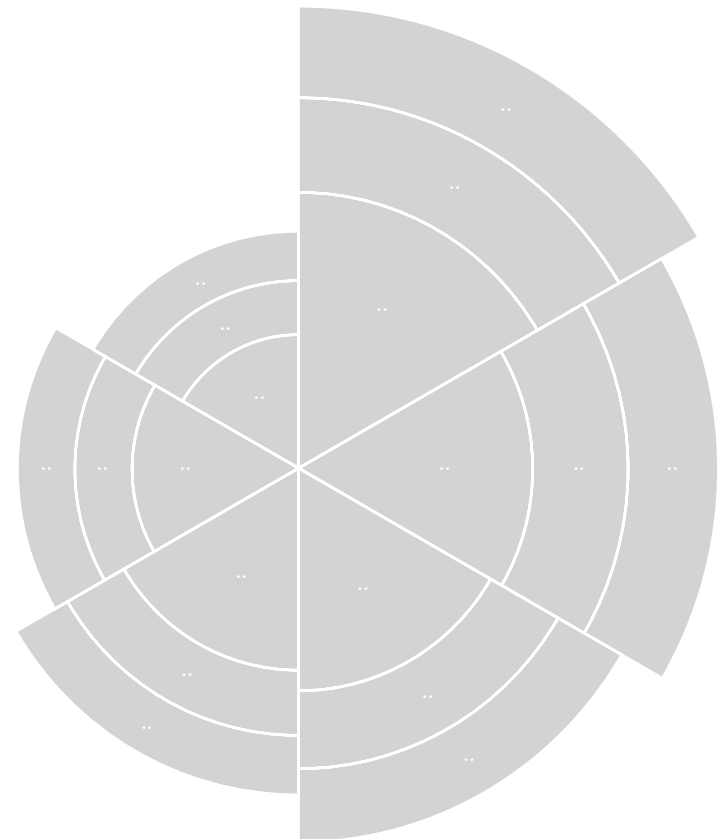


Cause of disability/difficulty (%)



Type of disability/difficulty (%)

Female Male Total

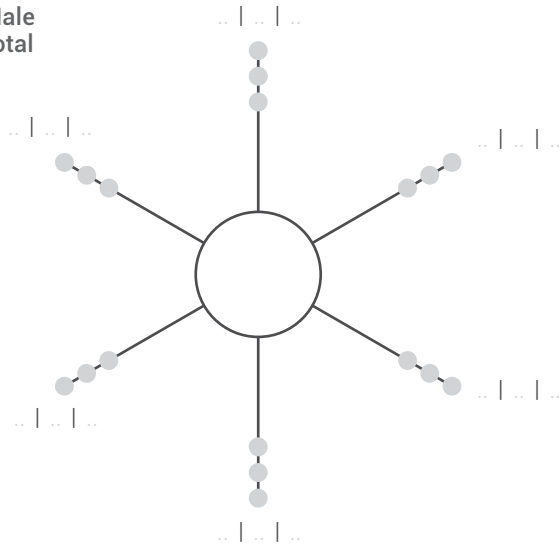




BY EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

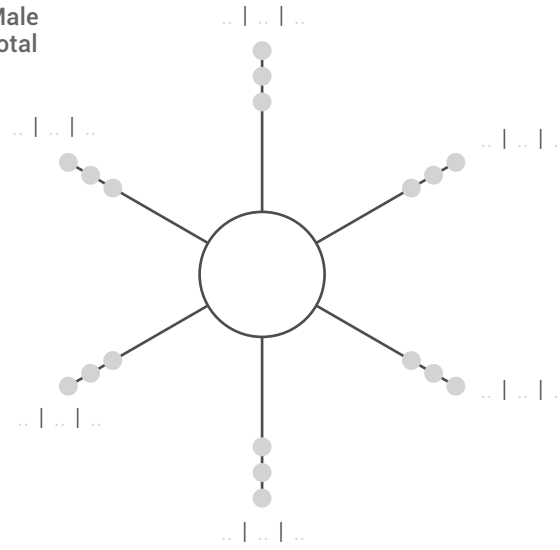
Persons with disabilities (%)

- Female
- Male
- Total



Total population (%)

- Female
- Male
- Total



BY ECONOMIC ACTIVITY

Persons with disabilities (%)

Female



Male



Total



Total population (%)

Female



Male



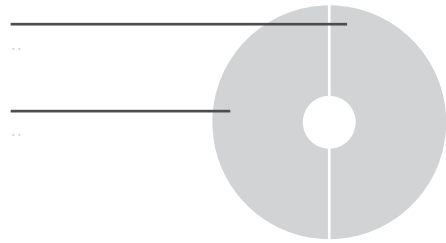
Total



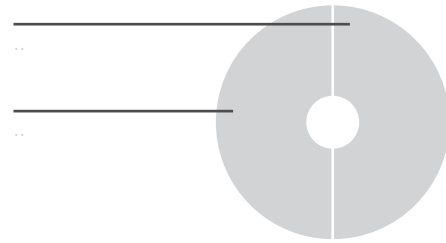
BY GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION

Persons with disabilities (%)

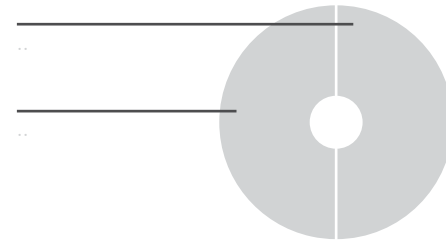
Female



Male

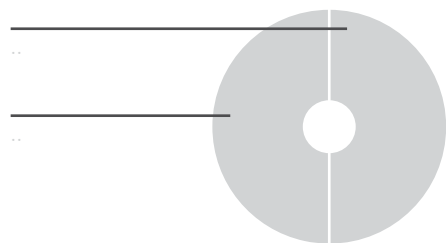


Total

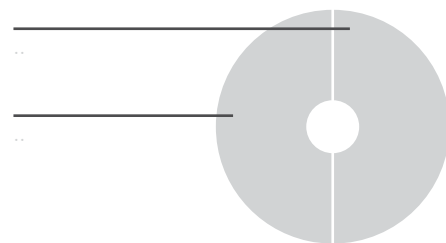


Total population (%)

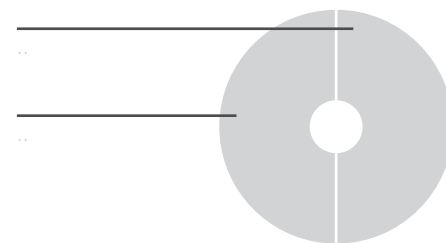
Female



Male



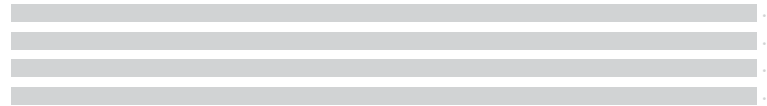
Total



BY MARITAL STATUS

Persons with disabilities (%)

Female



Male

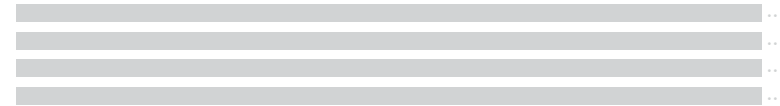


Total



Total population (%)

Female



Male



Total



FOOTNOTE

¹ Data for these three indicators is from 2012.

Signature/ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities & its optional protocol

CONVENTION





OPTIONAL PROTOCOL

 Signed No	 Ratified/acceded No	 Signed No	 Ratified/acceded No
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SOURCE:
UN (2014).

National institutional framework for disability/persons with disabilities

NATIONAL COORDINATION MECHANISM

-  **Name**
..
-  **Year established**
..
-  **Chair**
..
-  **Persons with disabilities represented?**
..

ADDITIONAL MECHANISMS

-  ..

National definition of disability/persons with disabilities

“ .. ”

National legislative framework for disability/persons with disabilities (year of adoption)

Articles on disability included in the constitution?	General/overarching national disability law	National disability strategy/plan
..

SOURCE:
..

SOCIO-ECONOMIC INDICATORS

SOURCE: UNDP

HDI

0.405

Life expectancy at birth

60.5

GNI per capita

1,796

Persons with disabilities



Female
886,899 (47.8%)

Male
968,086 (52.2%)

1,854,985

Total population



Female
18,882,989 (49.4%)

Male
19,321,971 (50.6%)

38,204,960

Disability prevalence (%)

Female



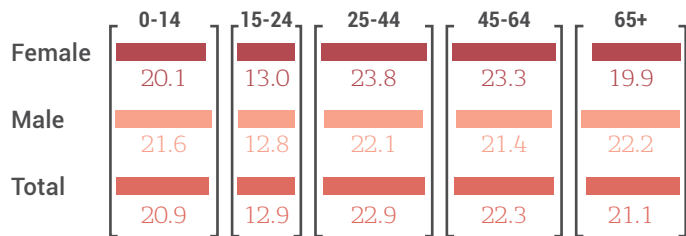
Male



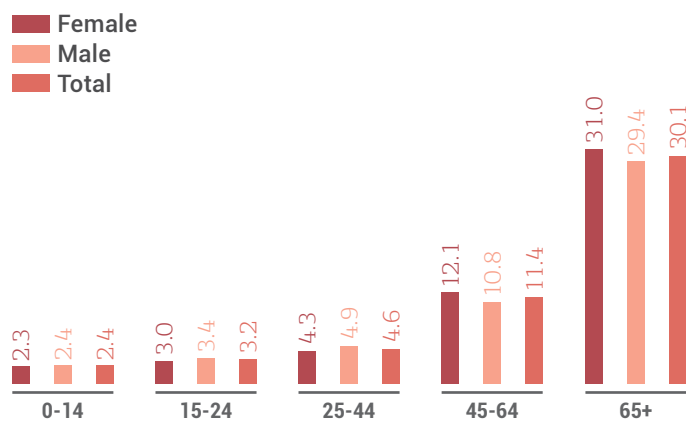
Total



Age distribution of persons with disabilities (%)



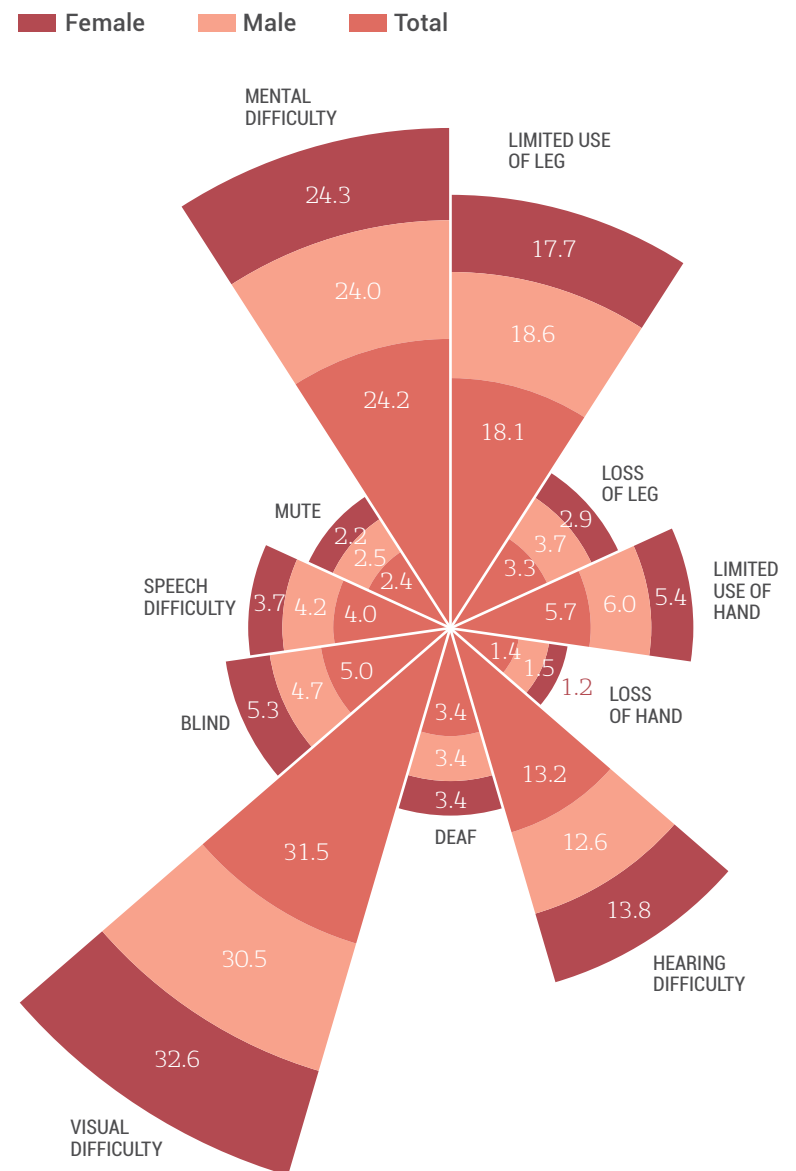
Age-specific disability prevalence (%)



Cause of disability/difficulty (%)

	Female	Male	Total
..
..
..
..

Type of disability/difficulty (%)²



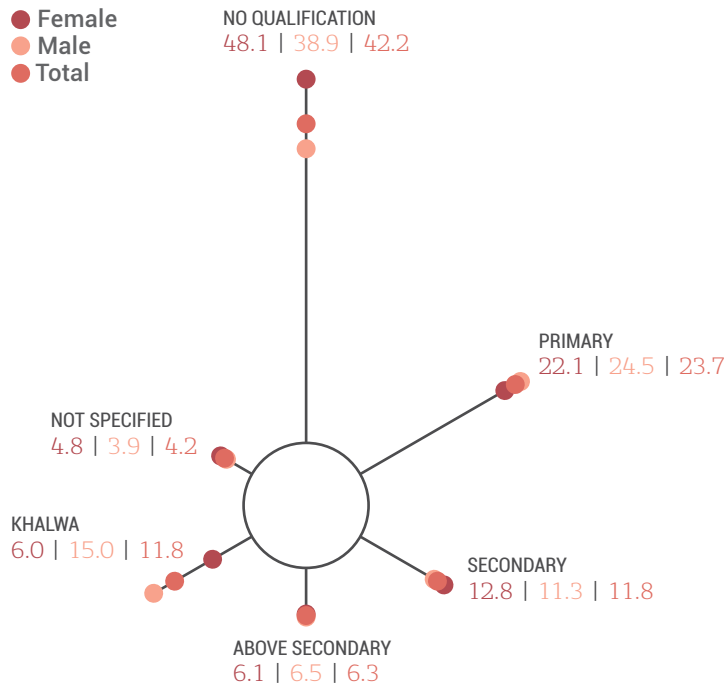


BY EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

Persons with disabilities (%)

Age: 6+ years

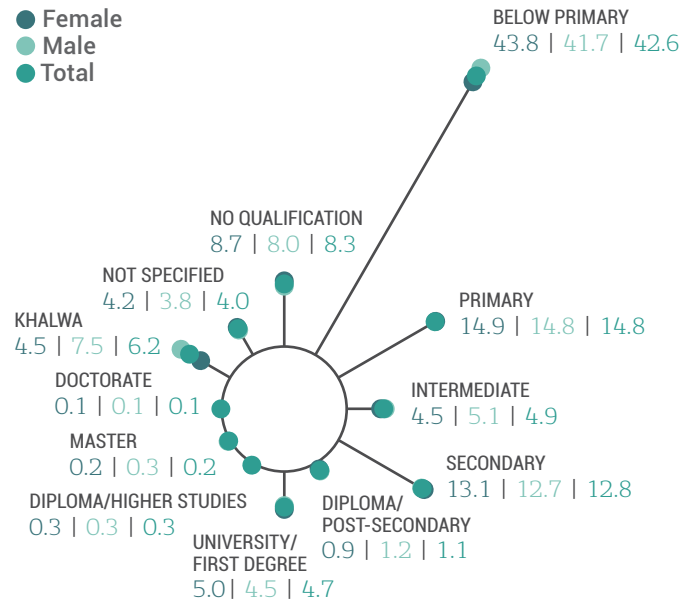
- Female
- Male
- Total



Total population (%)

Age: 6+ years

- Female
- Male
- Total

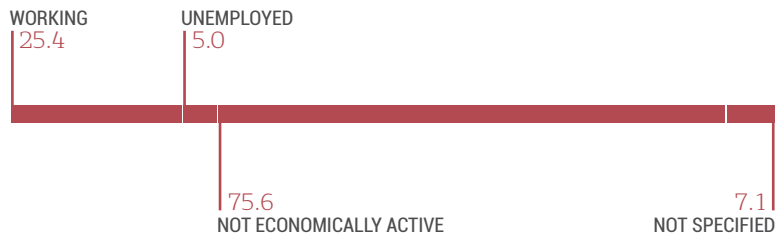


BY ECONOMIC ACTIVITY

Persons with disabilities (%)²

Age: 10+ years

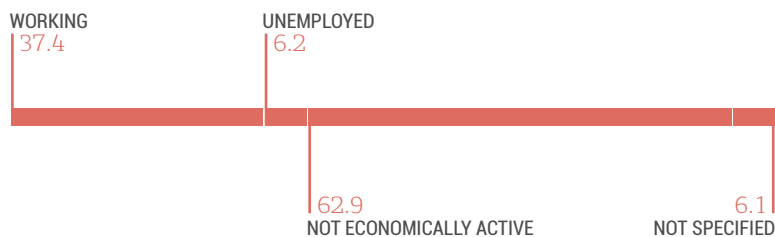
Female



Male



Total



Total population (%)

Age: 10+ years

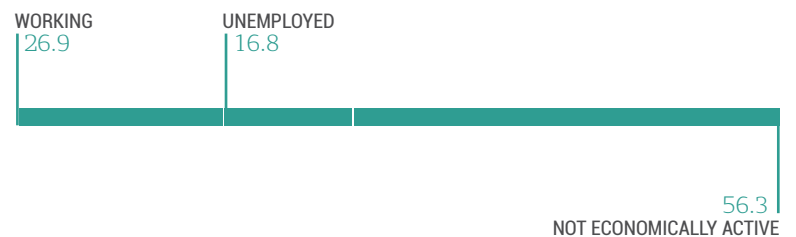
Female



Male



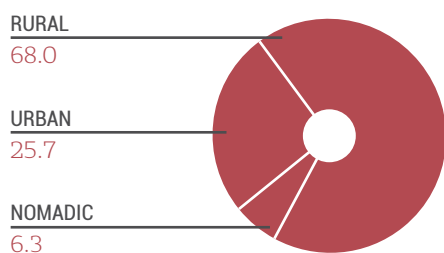
Total



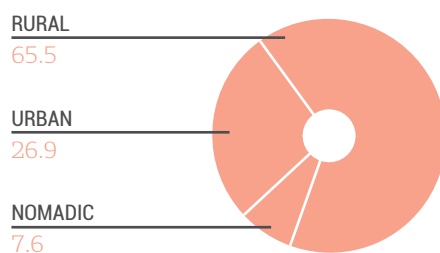
BY GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION

Persons with disabilities (%)

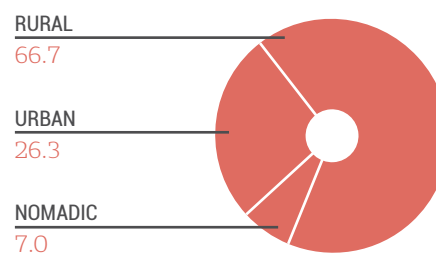
Female



Male

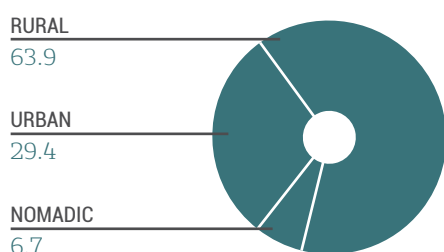


Total

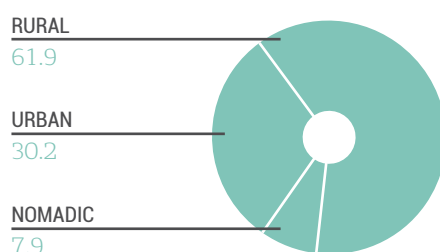


Total population (%)

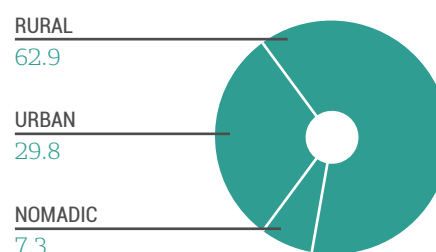
Female



Male



Total

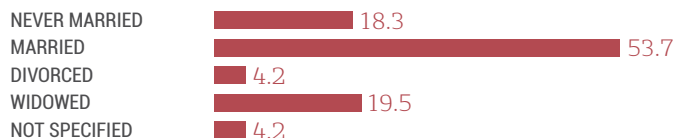


BY MARITAL STATUS

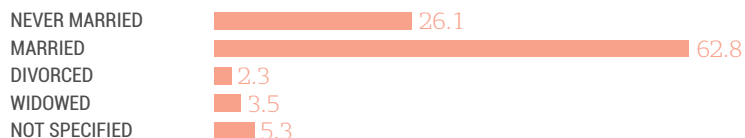
Persons with disabilities (%)

Age: 12+ years

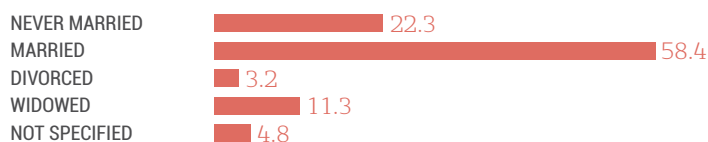
Female



Male



Total



Total population (%)

Age: 12+ years

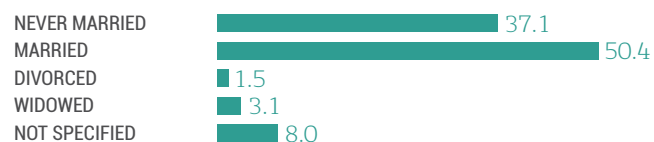
Female



Male



Total



All data categories are as provided by Sudan.

FOOTNOTES

- The data includes data on South Sudan, as it has been obtained from a census conducted before partition.
- Persons may report more than one type of disability. For this indicator, persons are counted in each of the relevant categories, e.g. persons who report two types of

disability are counted twice. The sum of the percentages therefore exceeds 100. The percentages are calculated as follows: Number of persons with disabilities counted in each category / total number of persons with disabilities.

SOURCE

Central Bureau of Statistics (2008).

Signature/ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities & its optional protocol

CONVENTION

 **Signed**
30.3.2007

 **Ratified/acceded**
24.4.2009

OPTIONAL PROTOCOL





 **Signed**
No

 **Ratified/acceded**
24.4.2009



SOURCE:
UN (2014).

National institutional framework for disability/persons with disabilities

NATIONAL COORDINATION MECHANISM

-  **Name**
National Council for the Disabled
-  **Year established**
2010
-  **Chair**
Minister of Welfare and Social Security
-  **Persons with disabilities represented?**
Yes

ADDITIONAL MECHANISMS

-  System of focal points for disability related matters in line ministries or other governmental institutions
-  National Authority for Prosthetics

National definition of disability/persons with disabilities

“ .. ”

National legislative framework for disability/persons with disabilities (year of adoption)

Articles on disability included in the constitution?	General/overarching national disability law	National disability strategy/plan
Yes	National Law for the Disabled (2009)	National Council for the Disabled, Five Year Plan (2012-2016)

SOURCE:
ESCWA, based on data collected from government focal points through the ESCWA Questionnaire on the Implementation of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the Arab Decade for Persons with Disabilities (2013).

SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC 2007

ON THE SELECTION OF DATASET AND YEAR, PLEASE SEE PAGE 23

SOCIO-ECONOMIC INDICATORS

SOURCE: UNDP

HDI

0.623

Life expectancy at birth

75.3

GNI per capita

4,331

Persons with disabilities



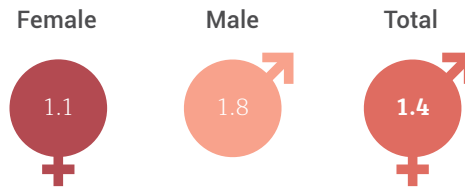
Female
99,855 (35.8%)
Male
179,144 (64.2%)
278,999

Total population¹

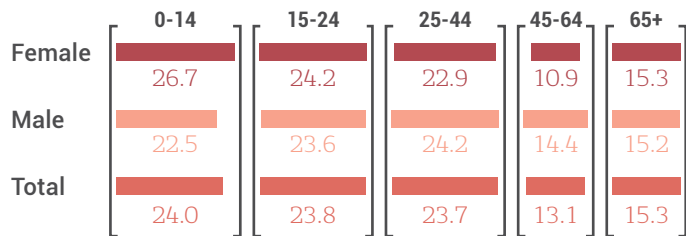


Female
10,330,000 (48.9%)
Male
10,794,000 (51.1%)
21,124,000

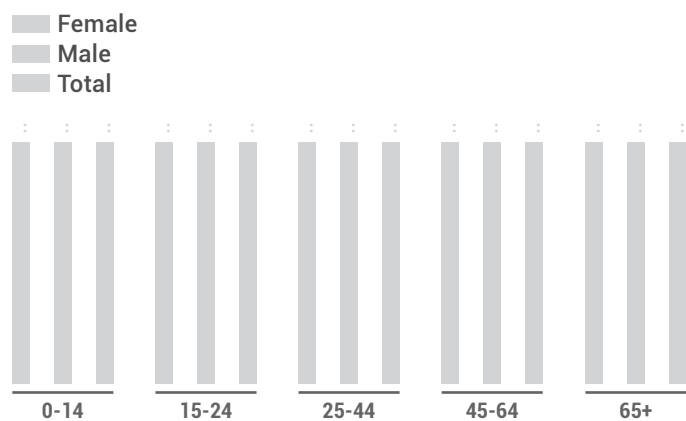
Disability prevalence (%)



Age distribution of persons with disabilities (%)



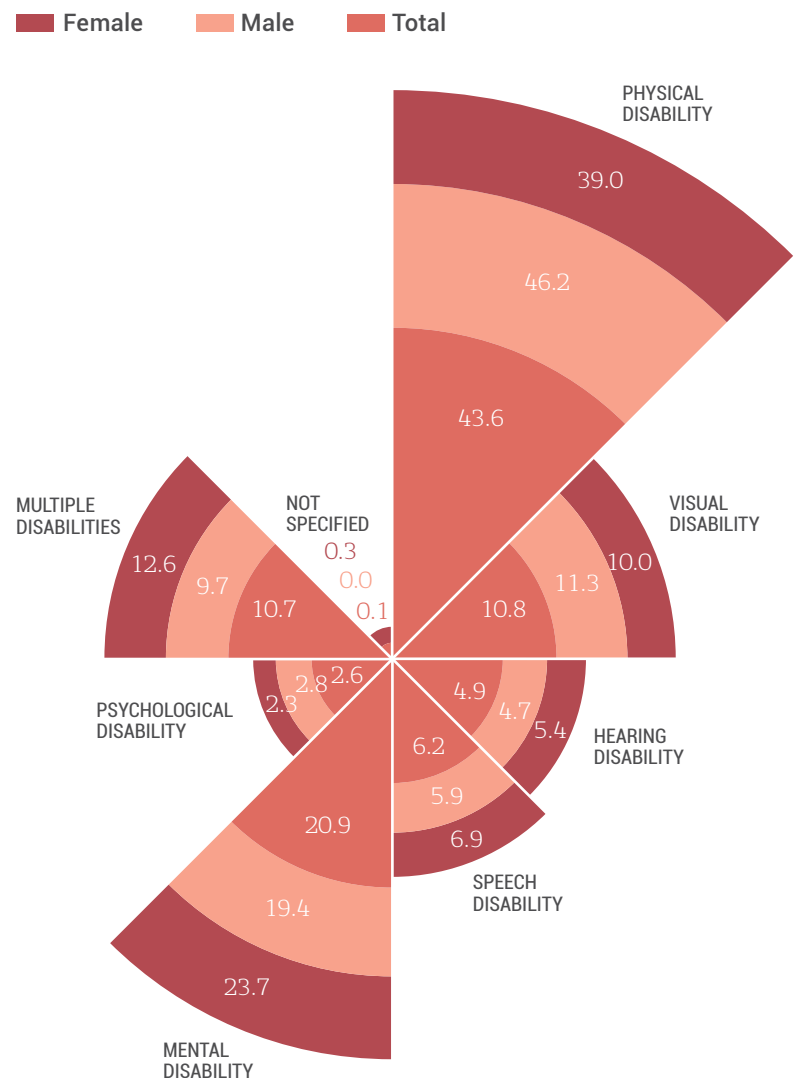
Age-specific disability prevalence (%)



Cause of disability/difficulty (%)

	Female	Male	Total
Congenital	54.1	46.4	49.1
Disease	26.1	27.6	27.0
Accident	6.6	14.4	11.6
Old age	10.2	9.3	9.7
Other causes	3.0	2.3	2.6

Type of disability/difficulty (%)

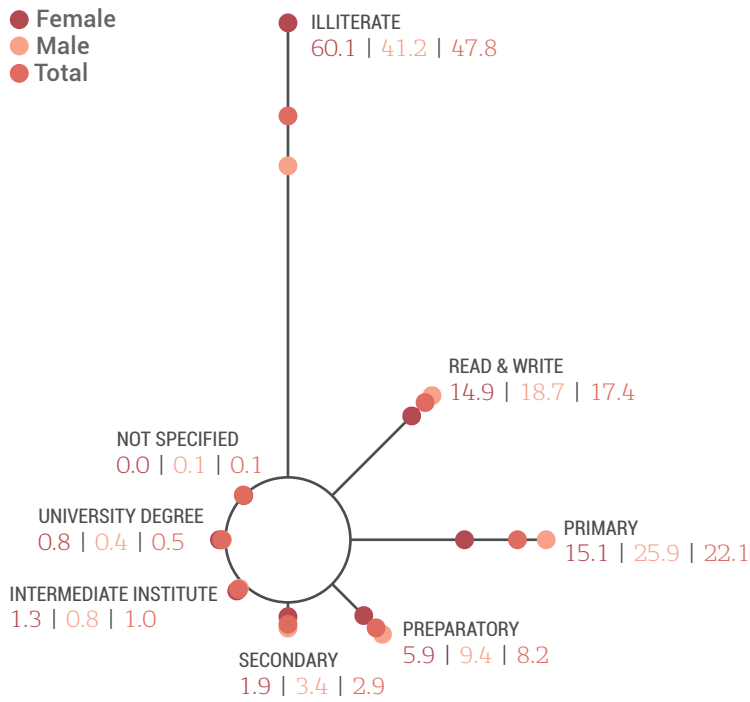




BY EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

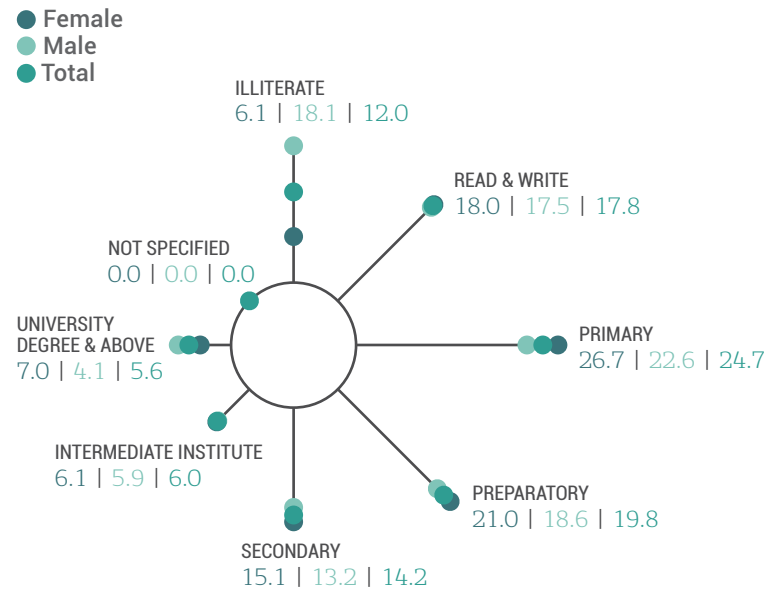
Persons with disabilities (%)

Age: 10+ years



Total population (%)¹

Age: 15+ years



BY ECONOMIC ACTIVITY

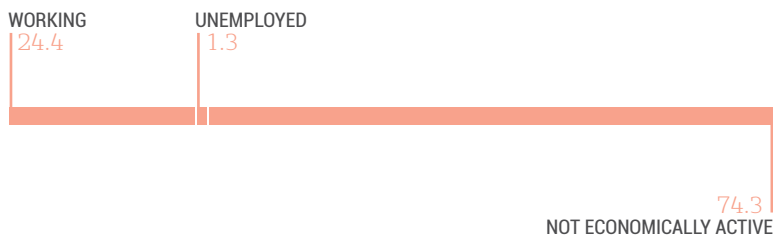
Persons with disabilities (%)

Age: 15+ years

Female



Male



Total



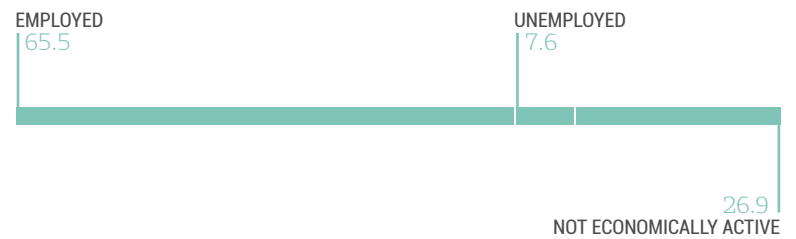
Total population (%)¹

Age: 15+ years

Female



Male



Total



BY GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION

Persons with disabilities (%)

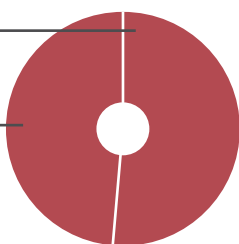
Female

RURAL

51.4

URBAN

48.6



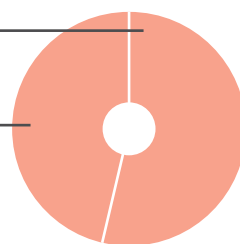
Male

RURAL

53.7

URBAN

46.3



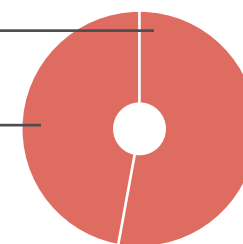
Total

RURAL

52.9

URBAN

47.1



Total population (%)¹

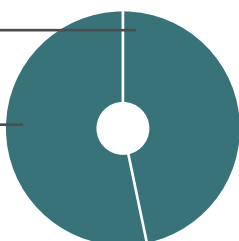
Female

RURAL

46.7

URBAN

53.3



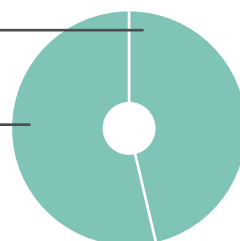
Male

RURAL

46.3

URBAN

53.7



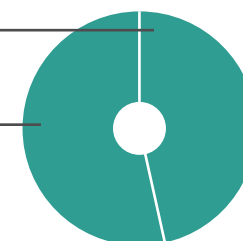
Total

RURAL

46.5

URBAN

53.5



BY MARITAL STATUS

Persons with disabilities (%)

Age: 15+ years

Female

NEVER MARRIED

63.8

MARRIED

17.3

DIVORCED

1.1

WIDOWED

17.8

Male

NEVER MARRIED

47.1

MARRIED

49.0

DIVORCED

0.8

WIDOWED

3.1

Total

NEVER MARRIED

52.9

MARRIED

38.0

DIVORCED

0.9

WIDOWED

8.1

Total population (%)¹

Age: 15+ years

Female

NEVER MARRIED

42.4

MARRIED

56.7

DIVORCED

10.2

WIDOWED

0.7

Male

NEVER MARRIED

32.8

MARRIED

61.0

DIVORCED

0.8

WIDOWED

5.4

Total

NEVER MARRIED

37.6

MARRIED

58.8

DIVORCED

10.5

WIDOWED

3.0

All data categories are as provided by the Syrian Arab Republic.

FOOTNOTE

¹ Data on the total population is from different sources than the data on persons with disabilities, which limits comparability between the two. Data for the indicators "total population by sex" and "total population by geographical location" is from the Statistical Yearbook (Central Bureau of

Statistics (2011a)); data for the indicators "total population by marital status", "total population by educational attainment" and "total population by economic activity" is from the Labour Force Survey (Central Bureau of Statistics (2011b)).

SOURCES

Data on persons with disabilities is from Central Bureau of Statistics (2007); data on the total population is from Central Bureau of Statistics (2011a) and Central Bureau of Statistics (2011b).

Signature/ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities & its optional protocol

CONVENTION

 **Signed**
30.3.2007

 **Ratified/acceded**
10.7.2009

OPTIONAL PROTOCOL

 **Signed**
No

 **Ratified/acceded**
10.7.2009

SOURCE:
UN (2014).

National institutional framework for disability/persons with disabilities

NATIONAL COORDINATION MECHANISM

 **Name**

..

 **Year established**

..

 **Chair**

..

 **Persons with disabilities represented?**

..

ADDITIONAL MECHANISMS

 ..

National definition of disability/persons with disabilities

66 .. 99

National legislative framework for disability/persons with disabilities (year of adoption)

Articles on disability included in the constitution?

..

General/overarching national disability law

..

National disability strategy/plan

..

SOURCE:

..



SOCIO-ECONOMIC INDICATORS

SOURCE: UNDP

HDI

0.705

Life expectancy at birth

74.2

GNI per capita

7,920

Persons with disabilities



Female
50,870 (36.3%)

Male
89,156 (63.7%)

140,026

Total population



Female
5,206,006 (50.0%)

Male
5,214,445 (50.0%)

10,420,451

Disability prevalence (%)

Female



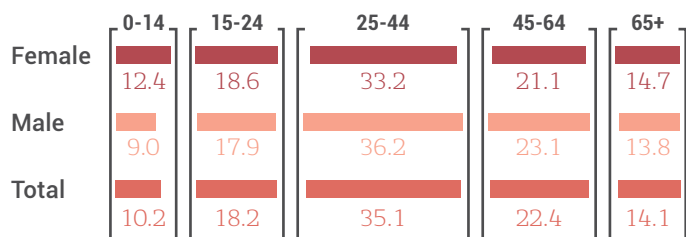
Male



Total



Age distribution of persons with disabilities (%)



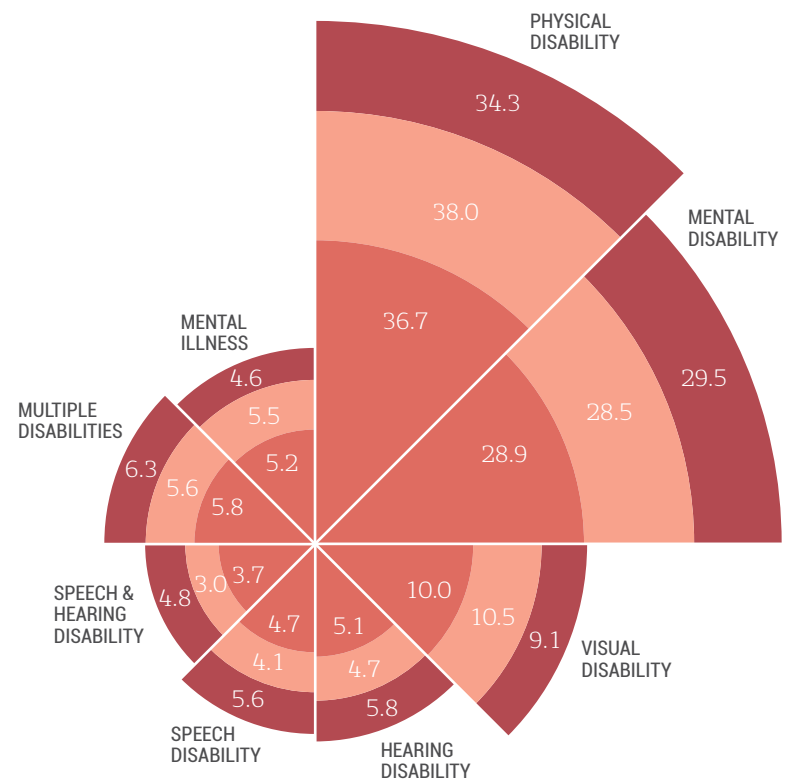
Age-specific disability prevalence (%)

Female
Male
Total



Type of disability/difficulty (%)

Female Male Total



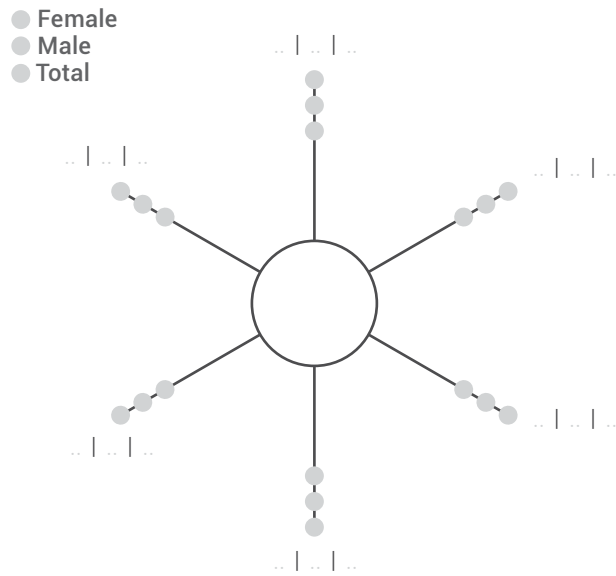
Cause of disability/difficulty (%)

Cause	Female	Male	Total
Since birth	57.3	48.3	51.6
Chronic disease	24.2	24.8	24.6
Occupational disease	0.4	1.7	1.2
Work-related accident	1.1	6.1	4.3
Road traffic accident	1.8	4.7	3.7
Home accident	4.1	3.1	3.5
Other accident	2.8	4.3	3.8
Old age	4.7	2.7	3.5
Other causes	3.4	4.1	3.8
Not specified	0.2	0.2	0.2



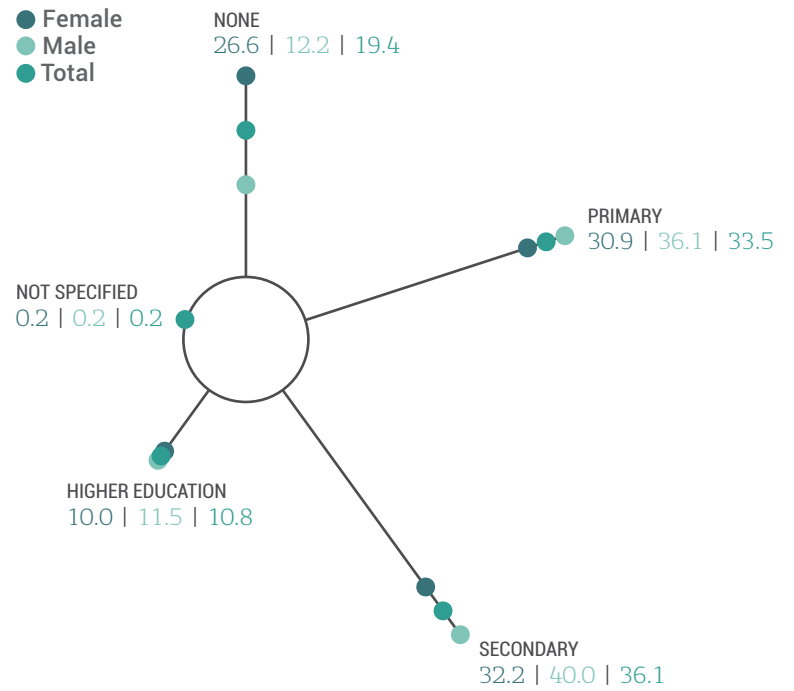
BY EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

Persons with disabilities (%)



Total population (%)

Age: 10+ years



BY ECONOMIC ACTIVITY

Persons with disabilities (%)

Female



Male



Total



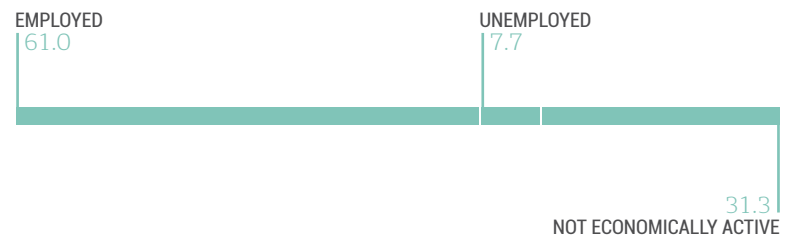
Total population (%)

Age: 15+ years

Female



Male



Total



BY GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION

Persons with disabilities (%)

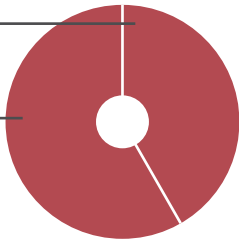
Female

RURAL

41.7

URBAN

58.3



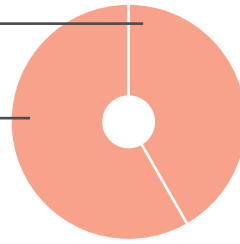
Male

RURAL

41.7

URBAN

58.3



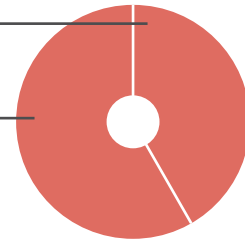
Total

RURAL

41.7

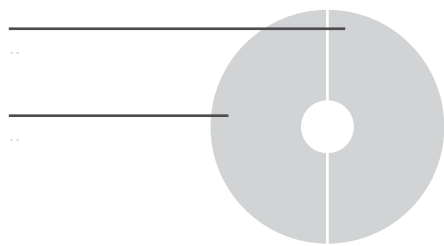
URBAN

58.3

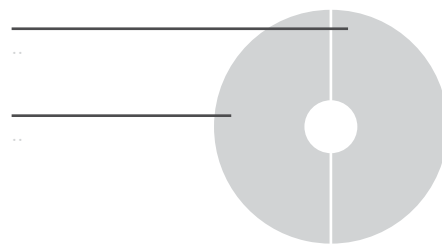


Total population (%)

Female



Male



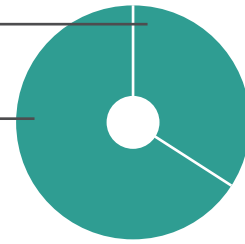
Total

RURAL

34.1

URBAN

65.9



BY MARITAL STATUS

Persons with disabilities (%)

Female



Male



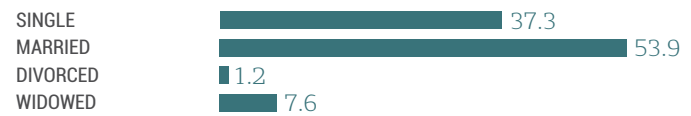
Total



Total population (%)

Age: 15+ years

Female



Male



Total



All data categories are as provided by Tunisia.

SOURCE

National Institute of Statistics (2009).

Signature/ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities & its optional protocol

CONVENTION

 **Signed**
30.3.2007



Ratified/acceded
2.4.2008

OPTIONAL PROTOCOL

 **Signed**
30.3.2007







Ratified/acceded
2.4.2008



SOURCE:
UN (2014).

National institutional framework for disability/persons with disabilities

NATIONAL COORDINATION MECHANISM

-  **Name**
Higher Council for Social Development and for the Welfare of Disabled Persons
-  **Year established**
2010
-  **Chair**
Prime Minister
-  **Persons with disabilities represented?**
Yes

ADDITIONAL MECHANISMS

-  System of focal points for disability related matters in line ministries or other governmental institutions
-  The Higher Committee for Human Rights and Basic Freedoms

National definition of disability/persons with disabilities

“ A disabled person is defined as every person who was born with or subsequently acquired a permanent reduction in their physical or mental or sensory capabilities and qualifications, which restricts their capacity to perform one or more essential daily activities of a personal or social nature, and decreases their chances of inclusion in society. ”

(Directive No. 83 on the Advancement and Protection of Disabled Persons, 2005)

National legislative framework for disability/persons with disabilities (year of adoption)

Articles on disability included in the constitution?	General/overarching national disability law	National disability strategy/plan
CBD	Directive No. 83 on the Advancement and Protection of Disabled Persons (2005)	Sectoral strategies ¹

SOURCE:
ESCWA, based on data collected from government focal points through the ESCWA Questionnaire on the Implementation of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the Arab Decade for Persons with Disabilities (2013).

FOOTNOTE:
¹ National Plan for the Prevention of Disability, National Strategy for Inclusion of Disabled Persons in Schools, National Plan for the Employment of the Disabled and National Plan for Space Modification.

SOCIO-ECONOMIC INDICATORS

SOURCE: UNDP

HDI

0.831

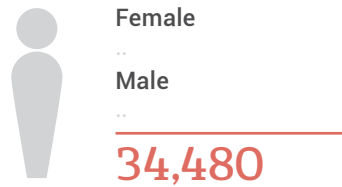
Life expectancy at birth

75.5

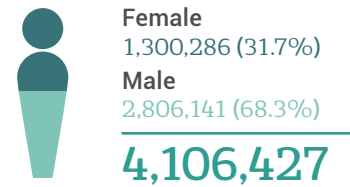
GNI per capita

67,920

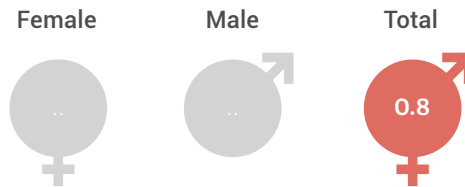
Persons with disabilities



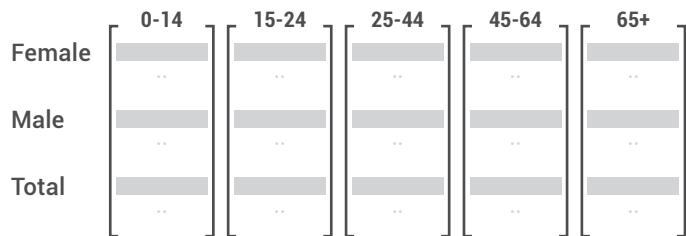
Total population



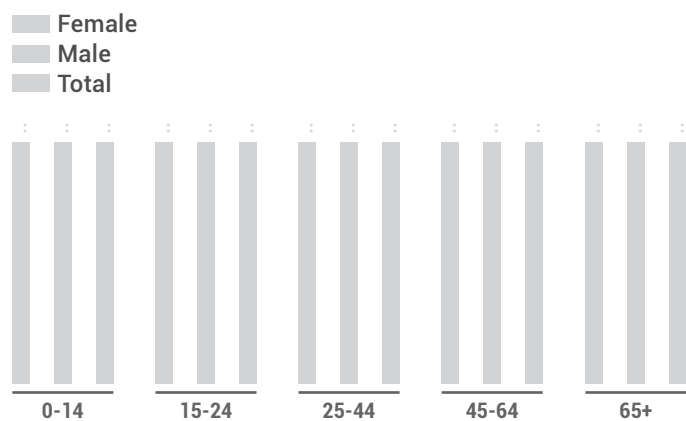
Disability prevalence (%)



Age distribution of persons with disabilities (%)



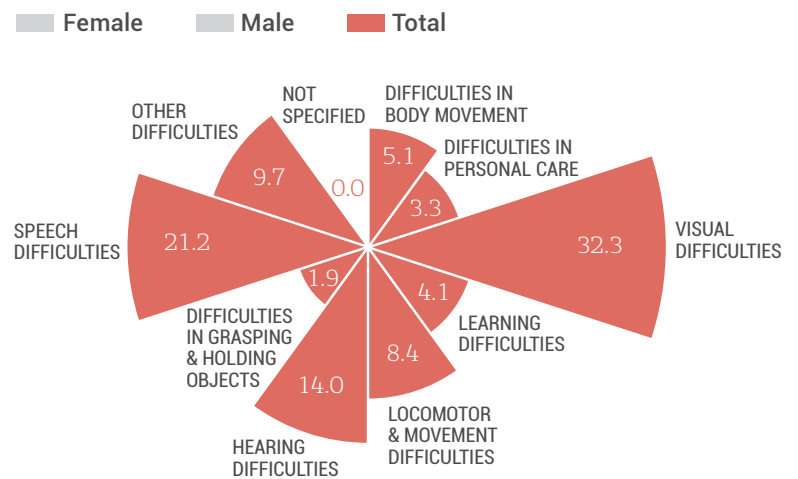
Age-specific disability prevalence (%)



Cause of disability/difficulty (%)

	Female	Male	Total
..
..
..
..

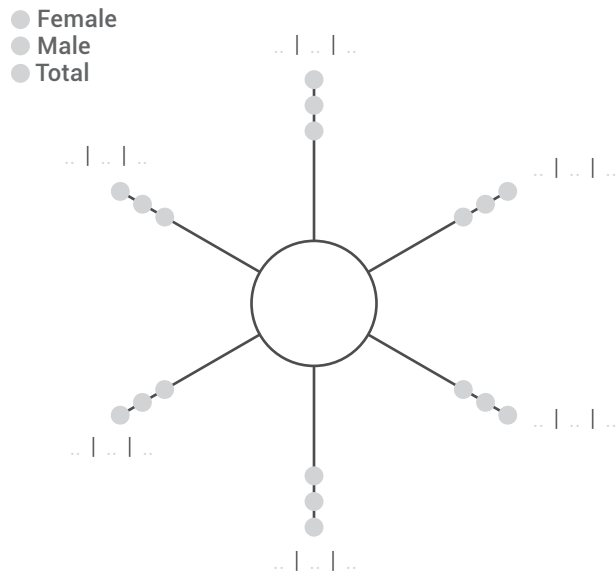
Type of disability/difficulty (%)





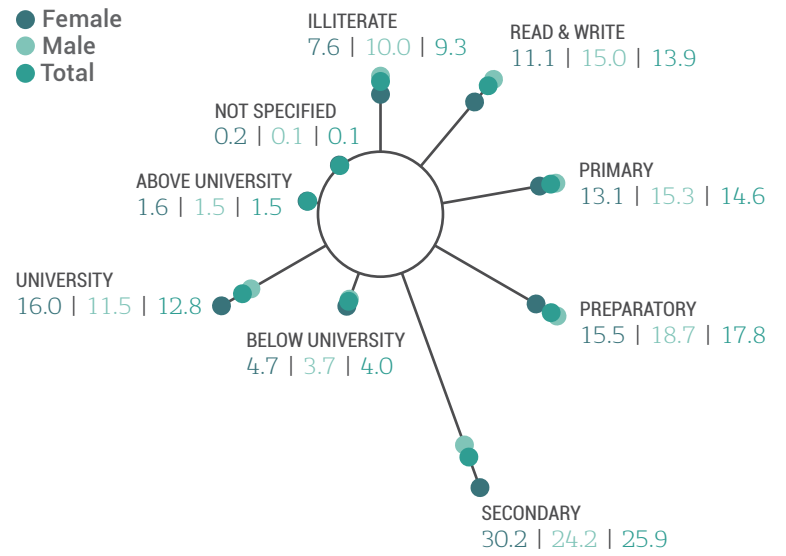
BY EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

Persons with disabilities (%)



Total population (%)

Age: 10+ years



BY ECONOMIC ACTIVITY

Persons with disabilities (%)

Female



Male



Total



Total population (%)

Female



Male



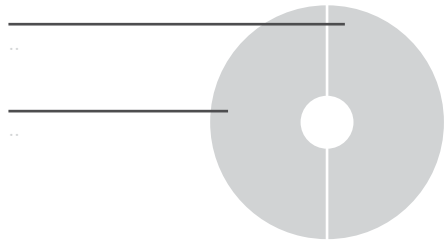
Total



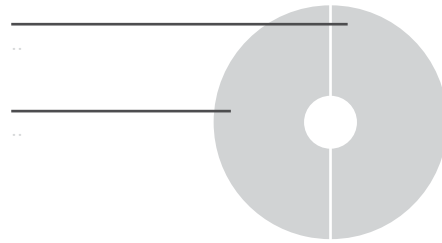
BY GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION

Persons with disabilities (%)

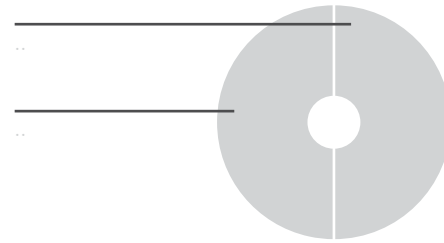
Female



Male

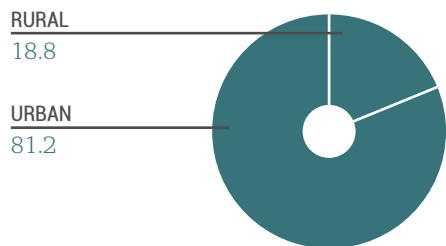


Total

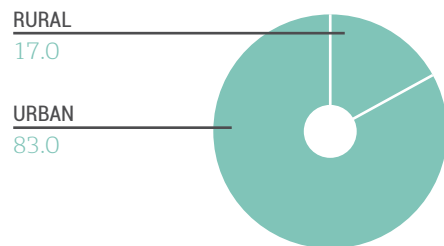


Total population (%)

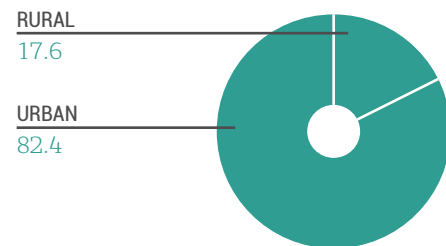
Female



Male



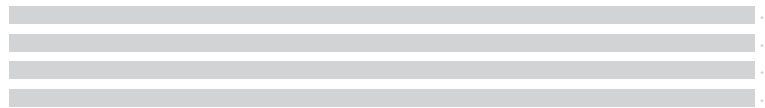
Total



BY MARITAL STATUS

Persons with disabilities (%)

Female



Male



Total



Total population (%)

Female



Male



Total



All data categories are as provided by the United Arab Emirates.

FOOTNOTE

¹ All data pertains to total population (both national and non-national).

SOURCE

National Bureau of Statistics (2005).

Signature/ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities & its optional protocol

CONVENTION

 **Signed**
8.2.2008



Ratified/acceded
19.3.2010

OPTIONAL PROTOCOL

 **Signed**
12.2.2008



Ratified/acceded
No

SOURCE:
UN (2014).

National institutional framework for disability/persons with disabilities

NATIONAL COORDINATION MECHANISM

 **Name**

-

 **Year established**

-


 **Chair**

-

 **Persons with disabilities represented?**

-

ADDITIONAL MECHANISMS

 System of focal points for disability related matters in line ministries or other governmental institutions

National definition of disability/persons with disabilities

“ Every person with a constant total or partial, permanent or temporary insufficiency or disruption in their physical or sensory or mental or communicative or learning or psychological abilities to the extent that it reduces the possibility of them meeting their normal needs under conditions similar to those of non-disabled persons. ”

(Federal Law No. 29 on the Rights of the Disabled amended by Federal Law No. 14, 2009)

National legislative framework for disability/persons with disabilities (year of adoption)

Articles on disability included in the constitution?	General/overarching national disability law	National disability strategy/plan
No	Federal Law No. 29 on the Rights of the Disabled (2006) amended by Federal Law No. 14 (2009)	No

SOURCE:
ESCWA, based on data collected from government focal points through the ESCWA Questionnaire on the Implementation of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the Arab Decade for Persons with Disabilities (2013).



SOCIO-ECONOMIC INDICATORS¹

SOURCE: UNDP

HDI

0.428

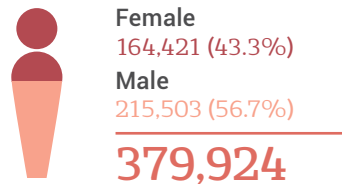
Life expectancy at birth

62.7

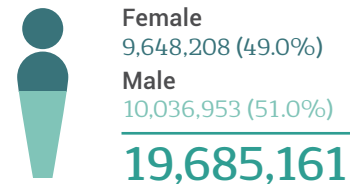
GNI per capita

2,020

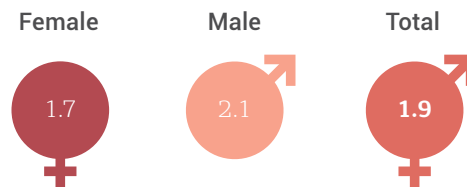
Persons with disabilities



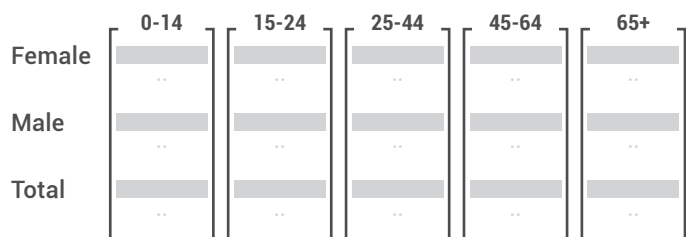
Total population



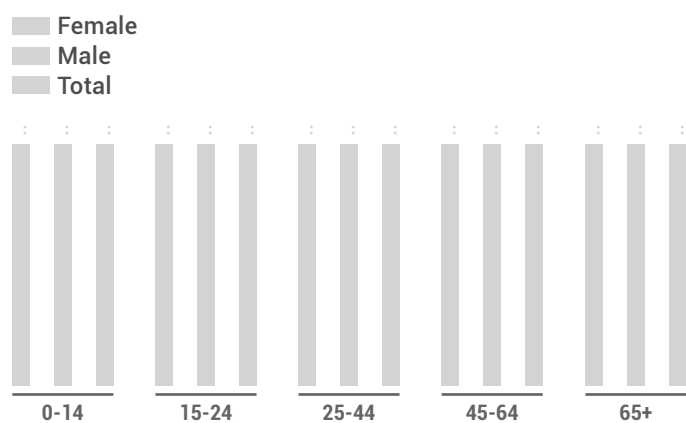
Disability prevalence (%)



Age distribution of persons with disabilities (%)



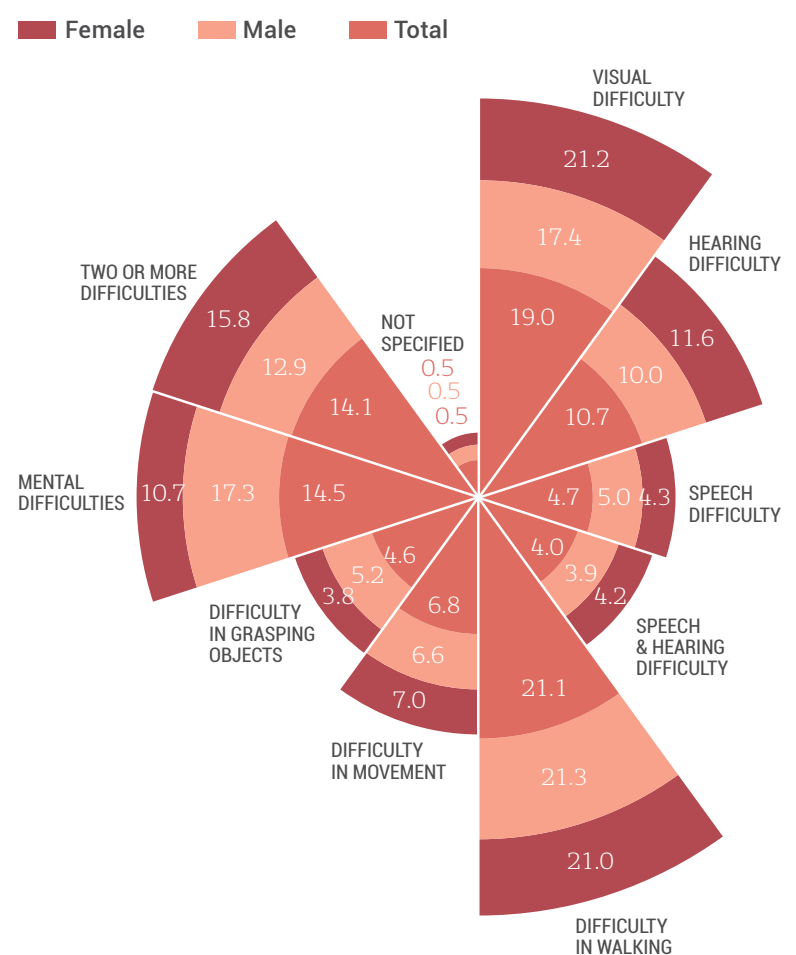
Age-specific disability prevalence (%)



Cause of disability/difficulty (%)

	Female	Male	Total
Congenital (since birth)	25.3	27.1	26.3
Work-related accident	1.7	4.5	3.3
Accident	1.7	4.6	3.4
Road traffic accident	8.9	12.9	11.1
Disease/illness	21.9	22.5	22.2
Weapon-related accident	0.4	2.6	1.7
Land mines	0.2	0.7	0.5
Old age	36.5	21.6	28.0
Not specified	3.5	3.5	3.5

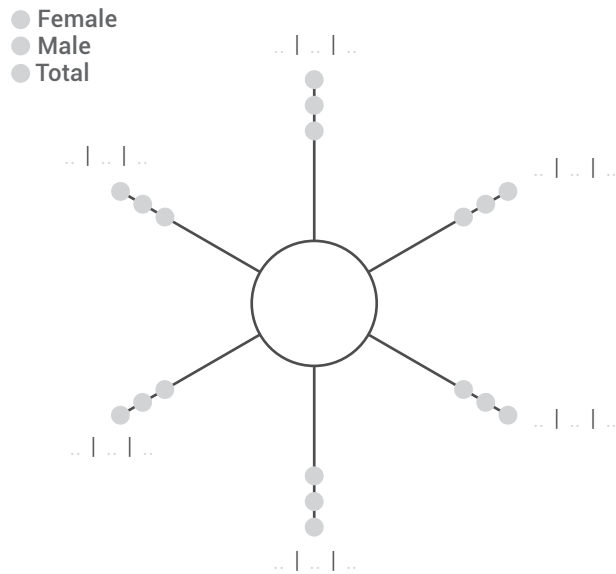
Type of disability/difficulty (%)





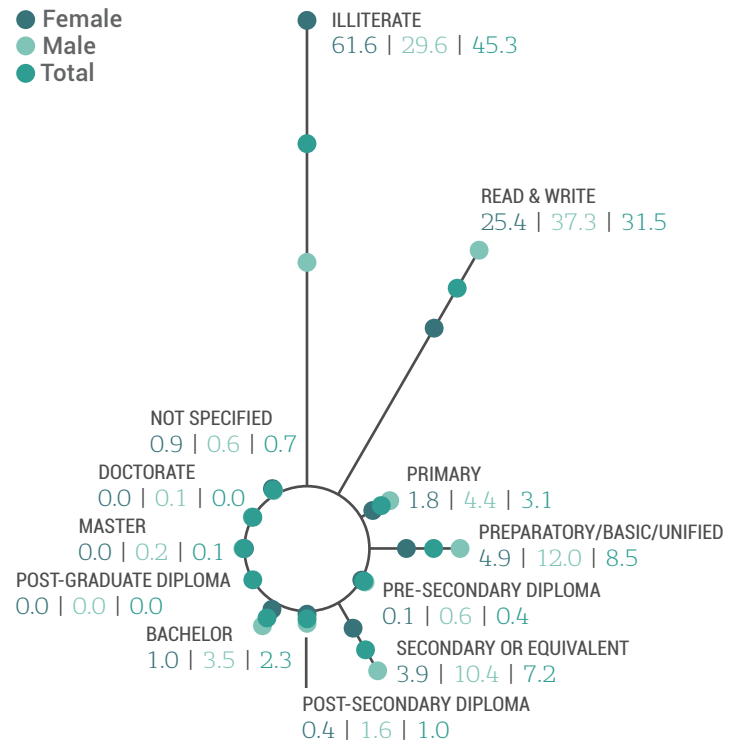
BY EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT

Persons with disabilities (%)



Total population (%)

Age: 10+ years



BY ECONOMIC ACTIVITY

Persons with disabilities (%)

Female



Male



Total



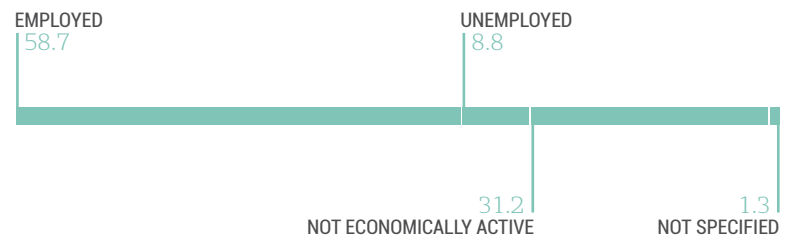
Total population (%)

Age: 15+ years

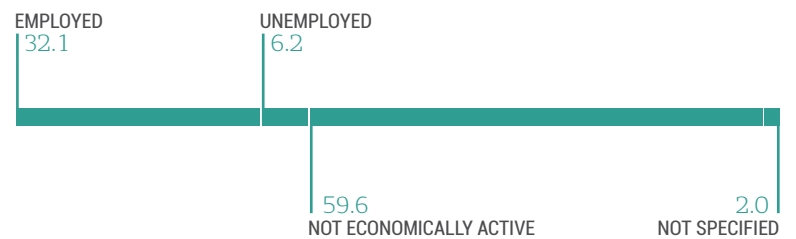
Female



Male



Total



BY GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION

Persons with disabilities (%)

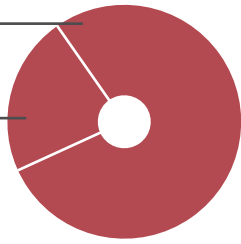
Female

RURAL

77.9

URBAN

22.1



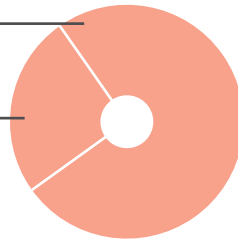
Male

RURAL

74.8

URBAN

25.2



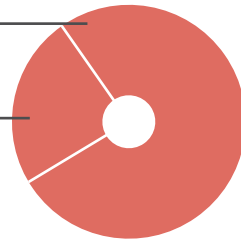
Total

RURAL

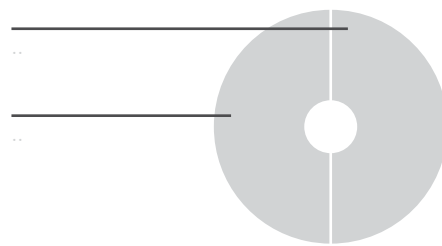
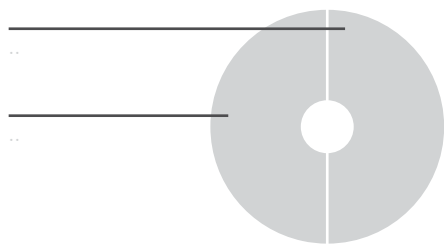
76.1

URBAN

23.9



Total population (%)



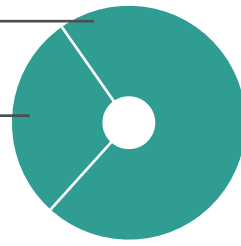
Total

RURAL

71.4

URBAN

28.6



BY MARITAL STATUS

Persons with disabilities (%)

Female



Male



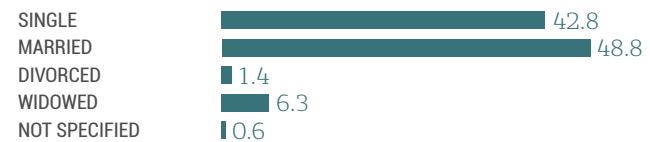
Total



Total population (%)

Age: 10+ years

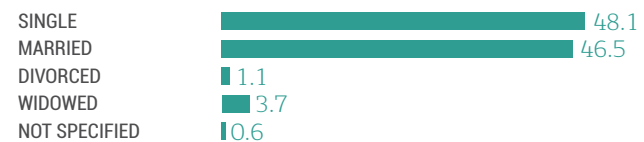
Female



Male



Total



All data categories are as provided by Yemen.

FOOTNOTE

1 Data for these three indicators is from 2005.

SOURCE

Central Statistical Organization (2004).

Signature/ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities & its optional protocol

CONVENTION

 **Signed**
30.3.2007



Ratified/acceded
26.3.2009

OPTIONAL PROTOCOL

 **Signed**
11.4.2007







Ratified/acceded
26.3.2009


SOURCE:
UN (2014).

National institutional framework for disability/persons with disabilities

NATIONAL COORDINATION MECHANISM

-  **Name**
The Disabled Care and Rehabilitation Fund (DCRF)
-  **Year established**
2002
-  **Chair**
Executive Director of the Fund
-  **Persons with disabilities represented?**
Yes

ADDITIONAL MECHANISMS

-  System of focal points for disability related matters in line ministries or other governmental institutions

National definition of disability/persons with disabilities

“ A partially, but permanently, disabled person is every individual, male or female, with a permanent disability in one or some body parts, who can rarely work due to their condition. A person with temporary total or partial disability is every individual, male or female, with a disability in one or some body parts that lasts for a temporary period of their life and as a result cannot work outside of the limits of what their disability allows. A person with a permanent total disability is every individual, male or female, with a total disability that causes permanent inability to work. ”

(Law no. 29 on Social Welfare, 2008)

National legislative framework for disability/persons with disabilities (year of adoption)

Articles on disability included in the constitution?	General/overarching national disability law	National disability strategy/plan
Yes	Law No. 2 on establishing the Disabled Care and Rehabilitation Fund (2002)	CBD

SOURCE:
ESCWA, based on data collected from government focal points through the ESCWA Questionnaire on the Implementation of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the Arab Decade for Persons with Disabilities (2013).

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