



Developments in the area of disability statistics in the context of the ongoing modernization of the European Social Surveys

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Outline

- About Eurostat and the European Statistical System (ESS)
- EU statistics on disability – state of play
- Modernization of European social surveys - new approach for disability statistics
- Eurostat dissemination of statistics on persons with disabilities

About Eurostat and the European Statistical System (ESS)

- Eurostat: statistical office of the European Union (EU) providing the EU with statistics at European level that enable comparisons between countries and regions
- ESS: partnership between Eurostat and the national statistical authorities (NSAs) responsible in each EU Member State for the development, production and dissemination of statistics
- NSAs collect data and compile statistics for national and EU purposes

Measuring disability in EU wide surveys

- **Aims:**

- Estimate the no of people with disabilities
- Compare their situation in society with the one of those without disabilities
- Find which personal or environmental barriers prevent participation in different life activities
- Investigate use and need for assistance and support

- **Defining disability**

- National definitions for administrative purposes vs statistical definitions
- No single EU definition of disability => compromise for the definition(s) used in different surveys

EU statistics on disability – state of play

- **EHSIS** (European Health and Social Integration Survey) – Including identification of barriers – No legal basis, once in 2012-2013
- **EHIS** (European Health Interview Survey) – WG (partly), ADL, IADL – Wave 2 in 2014, Wave 3 in 2019
- **EU-SILC** (Statistics on Income and Living Conditions) – GALI (Global Activity Limitation) - link to SILC information on living conditions, poverty - annual
- **EU-LFS ad-hoc module** on employment of disabled people – Barriers access labour market, 2002, 2011

Instruments and measures of disability

Concepts	EHSIS	EHIS	SILC	LFS AHM
Limitations in usual activities caused by a health problem (GALI)	✓	✓	✓	
Difficulties in carrying out basic activities (seeing, hearing, etc.)	✓	✓		✓
Difficulties in performing personal care activities	✓	✓ (65+)		
Difficulties in performing household care activities	✓	✓ (65+)		
Participation restriction linked to a health condition and/or a basic activity difficulty	✓			
Limitation in work caused by health problems and/or difficulties in basic activities	✓			✓

Modernization European social surveys

- Aims:
 - **Better responsiveness to increasing and evolving policy requirements (incl. disability)**
 - **Standardisation, integration and simplification to increase efficiency and limit costs and burden**
 - **Adapt to innovative data sources and collection modes (administrative data, big data, phone and web interview)**
- Draft IESS Framework Regulation covering all ESS population surveys - streamlining

Modernization European social surveys:

ESS approach for disability statistics

- ✓ **Address needs of UN-CRPD and EU strategy**
 - ✓ No specific disability survey (EHSIS discontinued)
 - ✓ Integrating approach with transversal consistency among different survey data collections (EHIS, SILC, LFS) based on GALI
 - ✓ Allowing presenting the situation in major social domains
 - ✓ Improved quality (e.g., better precision requirements) both for number of PwD and analysis of barriers

Integrating approach –transversal consistency among data collections

- **GALI** –> standardised variable used in various European social micro-data collections concerning households/persons:
 - **SILC (annual + every 6-year modules on access to services & social participation)**
 - **LFS (every 2 years)**
 - **EHIS (every 6 years)**
 - **HETUS (every 10 years)**
 - **Allowing computation of indicators on poverty, social exclusion, living conditions, labour market, education, health and participation in different life areas**

GALI – Global Activity Limitation Indicator

- Proxy for disability measurement (studies showed that it satisfactorily reflects poor functioning and disability => allows having indicators from any survey broken down by the level of activity limitation)
- Two-question instrument:
 - **QUESTION_1: "Are you limited because of a health problem in activities people usually do? Would you say you are... severely limited, limited but not severely, or not limited at all?"**
FILTER: If answer to QUESTION_1 is 'severely limited' or 'limited but not severely' ask QUESTION_2:
 - **QUESTION_2: "Have you been limited for at least the past 6 months? Yes, No".**

New modules in SILC and EHIS

- SILC: every **3-year modules on health** (adults, incl. a short version Washington Group module) **and children** (GALI like variable)
- EHIS:
 - **new module addressing barriers to social participation** (based on the previous work (EHSIS) and adapted to the EHIS context)
 - **new module on health of children** (using part of the WG/UNICEF questions)
 - **qualitative testing in 2017/2018 and quantitative testing in 2019** (voluntary inclusion in EHIS wave 3) in view of a possible regular inclusion from wave 4 onwards

ESS integrating approach for disability statistics - summary

- GALI in EU-SILC, EU-LFS, EHIS and HETUS
- EHIS: questions on functioning, ADL and IADL + questions on barriers to social participation + questions on children functioning
- EU-SILC every 3-year module on health including WG short set of questions + GALI like question for children

Addressing barriers to social participation in EHIS

- 9 life areas grouped in 2 categories were considered for the module that will be voluntarily tested together with EHIS wave 3:
 1. Leaving your home (ICF code D460)
 2. Going out on a private motorised vehicle (car, motorcycle, scooter, etc.) whenever you want or need to (ICF codes D470-D489)
 3. Using public transport modes (bus, train, coach, taxi) whenever you want or need to (ICF codes D470-D489)
 4. Accessing the buildings you want to use, including moving about once inside (ICF code D4601)
 5. Studying for a qualification or gaining new skills (ICF codes D810-D839)
 6. Doing the kind of paid work that you want to do (ICF code D850)
 7. Using the internet (ICF code D360)
 8. Pursuing hobbies or interests (ICF code D920)
 9. Attending social activities with family or friends such as getting together, going to dinner, going to cultural events (for instance, movie or a sport event) (ICF code D910)

Addressing barriers to social participation in EHIS

Example of question:

- ***MOB1A. Do you usually have difficulty leaving your home (that is going out on the street) whenever you want or need to? Would you say having...?***

APPLIES TO ALL

1. No difficulty / 2. Some difficulty / 3. A lot of difficulty / 4. Cannot do at all / Unable to do
 5. Not interested in this activity / Do not want to do it
- If for at least one activity within a category, a certain level of difficulty is declared, 2 additional questions are asked:
 - Whether the difficulty is caused by a longstanding health condition/disease and/or a difficulty in functioning in basic actions
 - Whether there are other reasons contributing to the difficulty experienced (from a list of possible personal and environmental reasons)

Addressing barriers to social participation in EHIS

- Module ending with questions about:
 - **Lack of special aids or equipment contributing to the difficulty experienced**
 - **Lack of personal help or assistance contributing to the difficulty experienced**
- Persons with disability are those declaring that a longstanding health condition or difficulty in functioning in basic actions contribute to the difficulty experienced in participating in at least one of the life domains.



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Dissemination-related activities

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DISABILITY

Main features of disability statistics

The [United Nations Convention on the rights of persons with disabilities](#) states that "persons with disabilities include those who have long-term physical, mental, intellectual, or sensory impairments which in interaction with various barriers may hinder their full and effective participation in society on an equal basis with others". Disability statistics provides data on the number of disabled persons as well as on their involvement in the society, through data related to living conditions, social inclusion, labour market, health, or education.

The European Disability Strategy 2010-2020

The [European Disability Strategy 2010-2020](#) is the EU framework for implementing the UN Convention. Disability statistics should monitor the situation of disabled people with reference to the [Europe 2020 targets](#) and the areas for action included in the Strategy.

SEE ALSO


Statistics Explained -
Your guide to EU statistics



Income and living conditions statistics

Labour market statistics

 UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities

 DG Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion - Persons with disabilities

 Academic Network of European Disability experts

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

Legislation

Methodology

- Publications

DATABASE

Disability (hlth_dsb)

- +  Prevalence of disability (source LFS) (hlth_dsb_prv) 
- +  Prevalence of disability (source EHSIS) (hlth_dsb_prve) 
- +  Barriers to social integration of disabled people (source EHSIS) (hlth_dsb_soci) 
- +  Health problems of disabled people (sources SILC or EHIS) (hlth_dsb_hlth) 
- +  Access to education and training for disabled people (source LFS) (hlth_dsb_educ) 
- +  Access to labour market for disabled people (source LFS) (hlth_dsb_lm) 
- +  Housing conditions of disabled people - EU-SILC survey (hlth_dsb_hcon) 
- +  Income distribution and poverty among disabled people - EU-SILC survey (hlth_dsb_pe) 
- +  Material deprivation among disabled people - EU-SILC survey (hlth_dsb_md) 
- +  Social participation of disabled people - EU-SILC survey (hlth_dsb_socp)

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English

Disability statistics is an online [Eurostat](#) publication presenting recent statistics on the situation of people with disabilities in the [EU](#) (EU).

Disability statistics introduced

1. Barriers to social integration of people with disabilities
2. Need for assistance
3. Health status of people with disabilities
4. Functional and activity limitations
5. Access of people with disabilities to education and training
6. Access of people with disabilities to the labour market
 - 6.1 Labour market access
 - 6.2 Employment patterns
 - 6.3 Barriers to employment
7. Poverty and income inequalities among people with disabilities
8. Financial situation of people with disabilities
9. Housing conditions of people with disabilities
10. Methodological annex
 - 10.1 Labour force survey - non-response analysis
 - 10.2 Labour force survey - proxy analysis
 - 10.3 European health and social integration survey
 - 10.4 European health interview survey
 - 10.5 Health variables in EU-SILC



THANK YOU

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