



Irish Census of Population & National Disability Survey, 2006

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Background

- ❑ 2004 - Government decision to conduct post-censal National Disability Survey
- ❑ Purpose
 - Establish prevalence, severity and impact of disability in Ireland
 - Identify improvements needed in policy and service provision
- ❑ Targeted survey - sample based on responses to 2006 Census questions on disability
- ❑ Questionnaires
 - Developed in consultation with NDA, Govt depts, representative groups, disability research experts
 - ICF coded



Census questions

- Census of population conducted in April 2006
- 2 questions on disability
 - Question 15 - presence of long-lasting health condition
 - 5 categories - 'Yes' / 'No' response options
 - Question 16 - filter from Q15 - difficulty in everyday activities due to long-lasting condition



Census questions

15 Do you have any of the following long-lasting conditions?

- (a) Blindness, deafness or a severe vision or hearing impairment Yes No
1 2
- (b) A condition that substantially limits one or more basic physical activities such as walking, climbing stairs, reaching, lifting or carrying Yes No
1 2
- (c) A learning or intellectual disability Yes No
1 2
- (d) A psychological or emotional condition Yes No
1 2
- (e) Other, including any chronic illness Yes No
1 2

16 IF 'Yes', to any of the conditions specified in Question 15, do you have any difficulty in doing any of the following activities?

- (a) Learning, remembering or concentrating Yes No
1 2
- (b) Dressing, bathing or getting around inside the home Yes No
1 2
- (c) Going outside the home alone to shop or visit a doctor's surgery Yes No
1 2
- (d) Working at a job or business or attending school or college Yes No
1 2
- (e) Participating in other activities, for example leisure or using transport Yes No
1 2



NDS - Sample

- 1,238 EAs
 - 26 counties
 - Urban/rural
- 2 registers formed sampling frame
 - 100,000 persons answering “Yes” to Census Q15
 - 5,000 persons answering “No” to Q15
- Random selection stratified by age
 - Higher sampling fraction for younger age groups
 - Up to 3 substitutes within each age group



NDS - Questionnaires

Questionnaire	For use with	Respondents
NDS 2006 Adult Questionnaire	Persons in private households aged 18 years or over on 23 April 2006	13,211
NDS 2006 Child Questionnaire	Persons in private households aged between 0 and 17 years on 23 April 2006	2,377
NDS 2006 Institutional Questionnaire (Adult)	Persons resident in institutions aged 18 years or over on 23 April 2006	653
NDS 2006 Institutional Questionnaire (Child)	Persons resident in institutions aged between 0 and 17 years on 23 April 2006	7



NDS - Questionnaire composition

number of questions in section

Section	Private household		Institution	
	Adult	Child	Adult	Child
1. Type of disability (9 disability types)	70	70	70	61
2. Caring and help from other persons	8	8	1	1
3. Attitudes of other people	3	-	-	-
4. Transport	8	6	3	3
5. Built environment accessibility	11	2	-	-
6. Education	8	10	3	3
7. Work and training	15	-	-	-
8. Social participation	6	6	5	3
9. Sport and exercise	5	5	2	2
10. General and demographic information	11	10	11	10
Total	145	117	95	83



NDS - Disability questions

- Section 1 - nine disability types
 - A Seeing
 - B Hearing
 - C Speech
 - D Mobility & dexterity
 - E Remembering & concentrating
 - F Intellectual & learning
 - G Emotional, psychological & mental health
 - H Pain
 - I Breathing



NDS - Definition of disability

- Filter question with five item difficulty scale
- More than one filter question for some sections - e.g. D Mobility & dexterity
- Disability = score of 3 “moderate level of difficulty” or higher
- Exception - Sections F & G
 - Disability = score of 2 “just a little” or higher



NDS Filter questions

A - Seeing

A1 Do you wear glasses or contact lenses? Yes 1 No 2

A2 (Wearing your glasses/contact lenses,) do you have difficulty seeing? (b210, e1251)

No difficulty	Some difficulty		A lot of difficulty	Cannot do at all
	Just a little	A moderate level		
1	2	3	4	5



NDS - Definition of disability

Category	Definition of disability				
	No difficulty	Just a little	A moderate level	A lot of difficulty	Cannot do at all
A. Seeing			√	√	√
B. Hearing			√	√	√
C. Speech			√	√	√
D. Mobility & dexterity			√	√	√
E. Remembering & concentrating			√	√	√
F. Intellectual & learning		√	√	√	√
G. Emotional, psychological, & mental health		√	√	√	√
H. Pain			√	√	√
I. Breathing			√	√	√



Census and NDS – comparison

- NDS private household sample matched to Census data file
 - Analysis here based on unweighted sample data only
 - Comparison of distribution of 'Yes' and 'No' responses in each - 'false positive' / 'false negative' responses to Census question
 - Types of disability reported in Census and NDS
 - Consistency of reporting of disabilities between Census and NDS

Comparison of 'Yes' and 'No' responses



Survey response	NDS No	NDS Yes	NDS
Census No	1,321 (8.4%)	295 (1.9%)	1,616 (10.3%)
Census Yes	1,910 (12.4%)	12,062 (77.4%)	13,972 (89.7%)
Census	3,231 (20.8%)	12,357 (79.3%)	15,588 (100.0%)



Census 'false positives'

- Persons reporting a disability in Census but not in NDS
- 1,910 persons
- 2/3 in 18-64 age group
- 53% - Census category "Other including chronic illness"



Census 'false negatives'

- Persons reporting disability in NDS who did not report one in Census
- 295 persons in sample
- 51% aged 65 or over
- Highest proportion of responses:
 - Pain disability category - 51%
 - Mobility & dexterity disability category - 46%



Census disability types

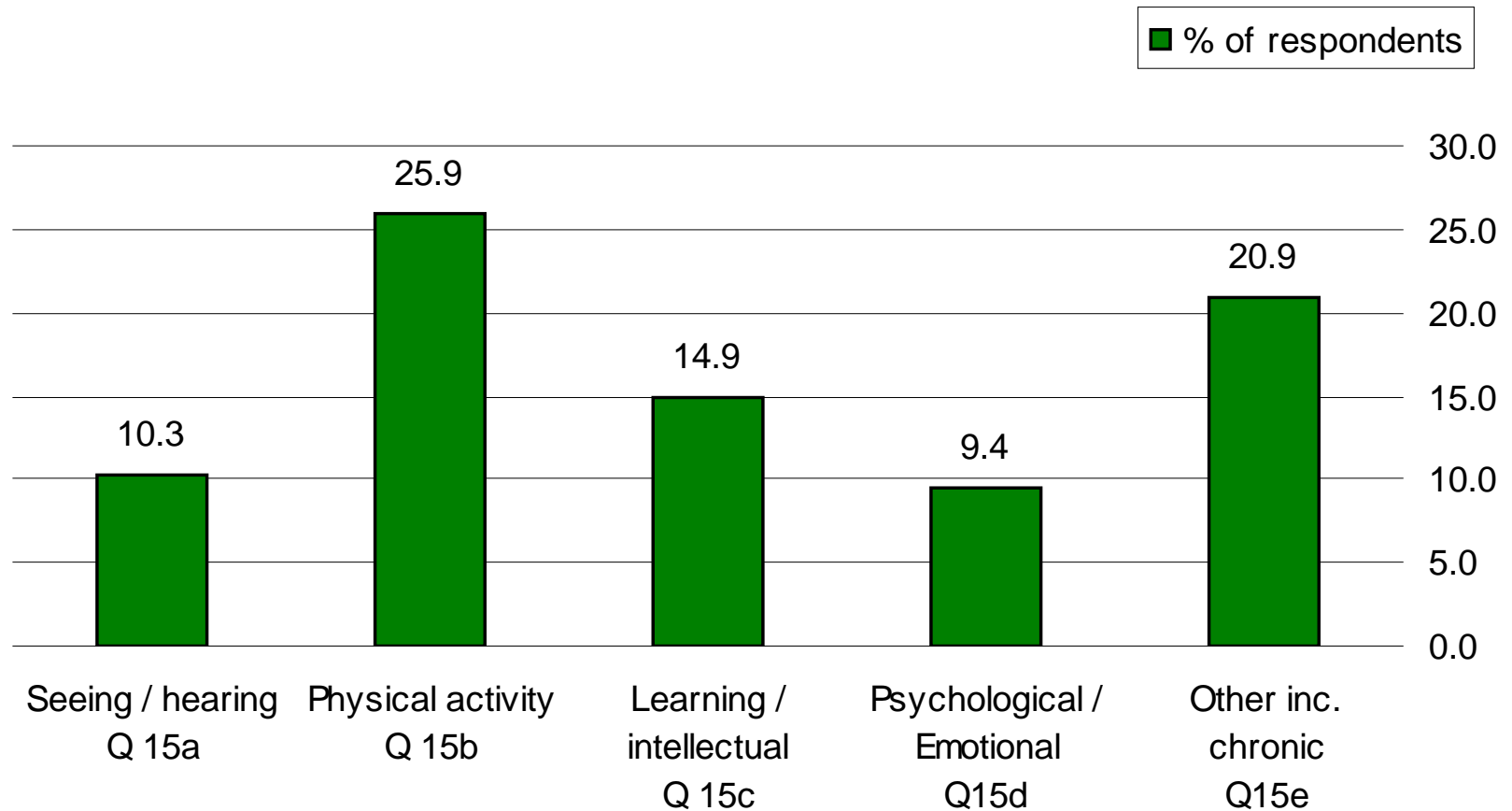
- 13,972 persons in sample who reported a disability in the Census
- 81% reported a single disability type
- 0-17 age group – learning/intellectual disability most prevalent – 52%
- 65 & over - Physical limitation most prevalent – 42%
- 18-64 more diverse



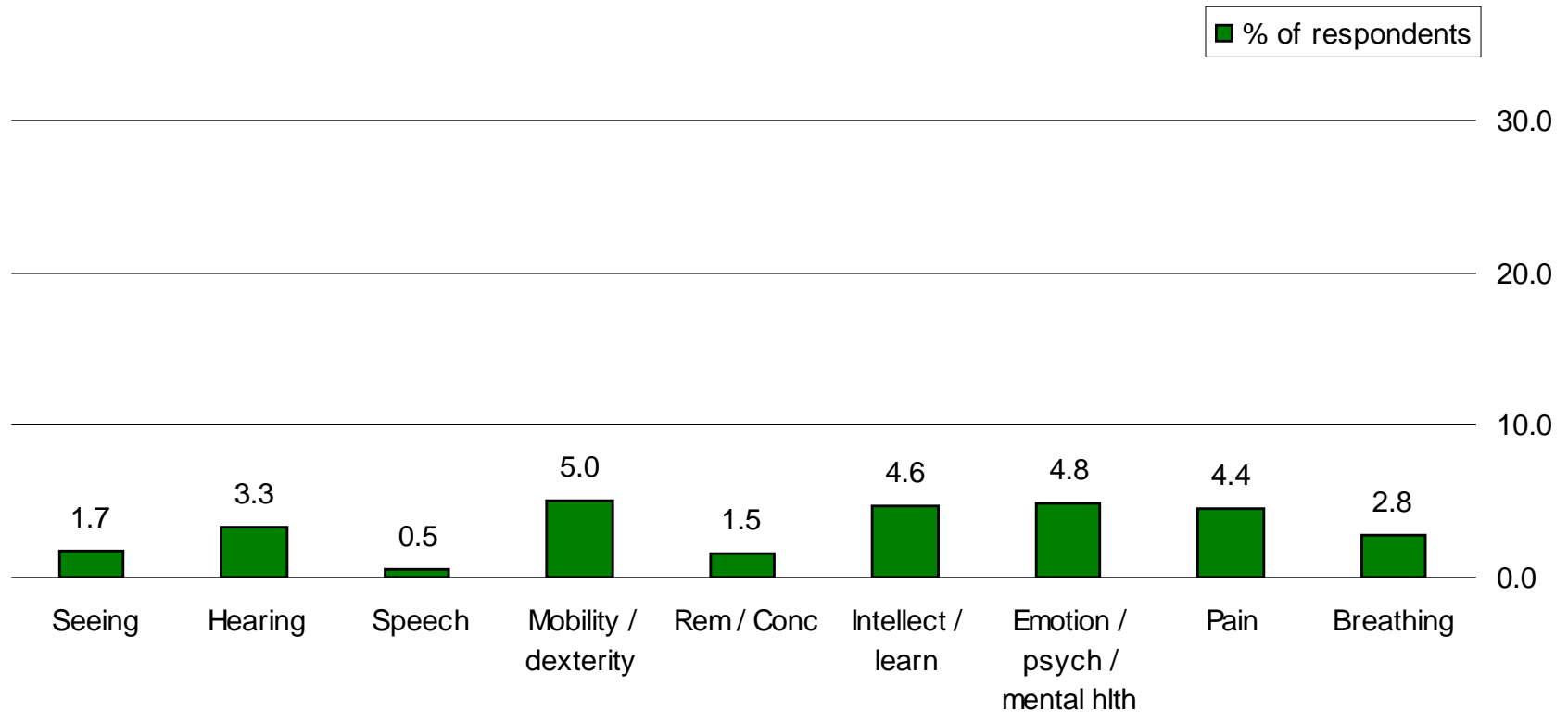
NDS disability types

- ❑ 12,357 persons reported a disability in the NDS
- ❑ 29% reported single disability type – much higher reporting of multiple disabilities than in Census
- ❑ Most prevalent type – combination of Mobility / dexterity & Pain (10%)
- ❑ 0-17 age group Intellectual & learning 17% as single disability, 12% combined with Remembering /Concentrating
- ❑ 65 & over age group – combined Mobility / dexterity & Pain – 13%

Distribution of single disability types (Census)



Distribution of single disability types (NDS)



NDS and Census disability types - comparison



- Higher consistency in
 - Younger (0-17) and older (65 & over) age groups
 - Intellectual / learning disability category
- 0-17 – 88% with Intellectual/learning disability (F) in NDS reported this on Census Q15c also
- 65 & over – 79 % with Mobility / dexterity (D) disability in NDS reported physical activity limitation (Q15b) in Census
- Greater diversity among 18-64 age group



Conclusions

- ❑ Matching of NDS records to Census at person level, increases statistical value of NDS output
- ❑ A high proportion of the Census false positive responses in the sample due to responses in the residual 'Other' category
- ❑ >3/4 of sample reported a disability in both surveys
- ❑ The Census questions & methodology resulted in a much higher level of single disability reporting than in the NDS
- ❑ Learning related difficulties prevalent among children in the sample
- ❑ Mobility and Pain most prevalent disabilities for older people
- ❑ People of working age had a more mixed range of difficulties