



# Life Opportunities Survey

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**Wave one results, 2009/11**

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## Executive summary

This chapter presents a summary of the key findings from the first wave of the Life Opportunities Survey (LOS). Fieldwork for wave one of the LOS was conducted between June 2009 and March 2011.

### Adults with impairment

29 per cent of adults, aged 16 and over, in Great Britain had at least one impairment.

### Adults with rights under the disability provisions of the Equality Act

26 per cent of adults, aged 16 and over, in Great Britain had rights under the disability provisions of the Equality Act.

### Participation restrictions<sup>1</sup> in key life areas

- 16 per cent of adults with impairment experienced barriers to education and training opportunities (that is, the learning opportunities they had) compared with nine per cent of adults without impairment.
- 57 per cent of adults with impairment experienced barriers to employment (that is, in the type or amount of paid work they did) compared with 26 per cent of adults without impairment.
- 75 per cent of adults with impairment experienced barriers to using transport compared with 60 per cent of adults without impairment.
- 44 per cent of households with at least one person with impairment experienced barriers to economic life and living standards (that is, being able to afford expenses or make loan repayments) compared with 29 per cent of households without any people with impairment.
- 82 per cent of adults with impairment experienced barriers in leisure, social and cultural activities compared with 78 per cent of adults without impairments.

### Barriers to participation in key life areas

The following sections summarise the top two barriers reported by adults, aged 16 and over, in Great Britain. The options of a 'health condition, illness or impairment' and a 'disability' were available for all respondents to select as a barrier to participation, irrespective of impairment status. However, because this report examines any additional disadvantage experienced by adults with

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<sup>1</sup> In the LOS disability is measured as any additional disadvantage experienced by adults with impairment when compared to adults without impairment. The additional disadvantage experienced in each area is referred to as a participation restriction.

impairment compared with adults without impairment these options have been excluded from the executive summary.

## Education

Just under a fifth (16 per cent) of adults with impairment had at least one barrier to education and training opportunities compared with nine per cent of adults without impairment.

The two main barriers to learning opportunities for adults with impairment were:

- financial reasons (48 per cent)
- too busy/not enough time (21 per cent)

## Employment

Over half (57 per cent) of adults with impairment were limited in the type or amount of paid work they did compared with 26 per cent of adults without impairment. This section compares employment outcomes and barriers for adults with and without impairment who were in employment, unemployed and seeking work, or economically inactive and not seeking work.

Adults in employment:

- 21 per cent of employed adults were limited in the type or amount of paid work that they did. A higher proportion of adults with impairment who were employed were limited in this way than adults without impairment who were employed (33 per cent and 18 per cent respectively).
- The most common barrier for adults with impairment was family responsibilities (29 per cent). This was also the most common barrier for adults without impairment (44 per cent).
- The second most common barrier for adults with impairment was lack of job opportunities (17 per cent).
- The most common enabler for improving employment opportunities for adults with impairment was modified hours or days or reduced work hours (21 per cent). This was identified by 16 per cent of adults without impairment.
- Tax credits was the second most common enabler for improving employment opportunities; identified by 11 per cent of adults with impairment and eight per cent of adults without impairment.

Unemployed adults who were seeking work:

- 39 per cent of all unemployed adults seeking work were limited in the type or amount of paid work they could do. 58 per cent of adults with impairment who were unemployed and seeking work were limited in this way compared

with 31 per cent of adults without impairment who were unemployed and seeking work.

- The most common barrier to work was lack of job opportunities, reported by 43 per cent of adults with impairment and 40 per cent adults without impairment.
- The second most common barrier for adults with impairment was difficulty with transport (29 per cent).
- The most common enabler that would improve employment opportunities for adults with impairment was modified hours or days or reduced work hours (36 per cent). This was also the most common enabler for adults without impairment (45 per cent).
- Tax credits was the second most common enabler identified by 19 per cent of adults with impairment and 15 per cent of adults without impairment.

#### Economically inactive adults:

- Family responsibilities was reported as a barrier by 22 per cent of adults with impairment. This was higher among adults without impairment (69 per cent).
- Anxiety and lack of confidence was identified as a barrier by 19 per cent of adults with impairment compared with three per cent of adults without impairment.
- The most common enabler for adults with impairment was modified hours or days or reduced work hours (25 per cent). This was also the most common enabler for adults without impairment (30 per cent).
- Building modification was the second most common enabler, identified by 15 per cent adults with impairment.

#### **Economic life and living standards**

- 27 per cent of households with at least one person with impairment reported that they found making loan repayments a heavy burden. This compared with 14 per cent of households without any people with impairment.
- 38 per cent of households with at least one person with impairment could not afford to pay an unexpected but necessary expense of £500 compared with 26 per cent of households without any people with impairment.
- 33 per cent of households with at least one person with impairment could not afford to pay for a week's annual holiday away from home compared with 20 per cent of households without any people with impairment.

## Transport

Transport was reported by 64 per cent of all adults as a life area in which they experienced a participation restriction: 75 per cent of adults with impairment compared with 60 per cent of adults without impairment. Respondents to the survey were asked about their usage of a range of different modes of transport.

The top three modes of transport that were used 'less than would like' by adults with impairment were:

- motor vehicles (25 per cent),
- local buses (18 per cent), and
- long distance trains (18 per cent).

The two main barriers to using motor vehicles were:

- cost - identified by 51 per cent for adults with impairment and 49 per cent of adults without impairment, and
- parking problems - identified by 14 per cent of adults with impairment and 12 per cent of adults without impairment.

The two main barriers to using local buses were:

- transport unavailable - identified by 22 per cent for adults with impairment and 37 per cent of adults without impairment, and
- cost - identified by 21 per cent of adults with impairment and 28 per cent of adults without impairment.

The two main barriers to using long distance trains were:

- cost - identified by 48 per cent for adults with impairment and 65 per cent of adults without impairment, and
- difficulty getting to stop or station - identified by 11 per cent of adults with impairment and seven per cent of adults without impairment.

## Leisure activities

- 72 per cent of adults with impairment had at least one barrier to playing sport compared with 54 per cent of adults without impairment.
- 34 per cent of adults with impairment reported that they were too busy or didn't have enough time to play sport as much as they would like to compared with 71 per cent of adults without impairment.
- 19 per cent of both adults with and without impairment reported that it was too expensive to play sport as much as they would like to.

- 68 per cent of adults with impairment had at least one barrier to going to museums or historical places of interest compared with 58 per cent of adults without impairment.
- 41 per cent of adults with impairment reported that they were too busy or didn't have enough time to go to a museum or historical places of interest as much as they would like to compared with 74 per cent of adults without impairment.
- 15 per cent of all adults reported having little choice over the use of their free time. A higher proportion of adults with impairment reported having little choice compared with adults without impairment (22 per cent and 13 per cent respectively).

### **Social contact**

- 54 per cent of adults with impairment had six or more close contacts compared with 65 per cent of adults without impairment.
- A higher proportion of adults without impairment had contact with at least six people in the past week compared with adults with impairment (43 per cent and 35 per cent respectively).
- 24 per cent of adults with impairment did not meet with or speak to close contacts as much as they would like to compared with 21 per cent of adults without impairment.
- The most common barrier for meeting with or speaking to close contacts less than they would have liked or not at all, for all adults was being too busy/not enough time - 76 per cent of adults without impairment compared with 51 per cent of adults with impairment.
- For adults with impairment the second most common barrier for meeting with or speaking to close contacts less than they would have liked or not at all was other people being too busy - 49 per cent compared with 45 per cent for adults without impairment.

### **Accessibility of housing**

- Eight per cent of adults with impairment experienced at least one barrier to accessing rooms within the home.
- The most common barrier to accessing rooms for adults with impairment was 'stairs, lack of ramps/stairlift' (52 per cent).
- Six per cent of adults with impairment reported lack of handrails as a barrier to accessing rooms.

### **Accessibility outside the home**

13 per cent of all adults experienced at least one barrier to accessing buildings. Difficulties with accessibility included:

- getting into all the buildings that they needed to,
- moving about and finding their way around buildings, and
- using the facilities within buildings, for example, using the toilets or purchasing items over the counter.

29 per cent of adults with impairment experienced difficulty accessing buildings for some reason compared with six per cent of adults without impairment.

For the top two categories of buildings where difficulties with accessibility were experienced:

- 53 per cent of all adults experienced difficulty accessing shops.
- 31 per cent of all adults experienced difficulty accessing hospitals. A greater proportion of adults with impairment experienced difficulty accessing hospitals compared with adults without impairment (34 per cent and 25 per cent respectively).

The barriers identified most often to accessing buildings were:

- moving around the building (stairs, doors, narrow corridors) - a greater proportion of adults with impairment identified this as barrier than adults without impairment (44 per cent and 31 per cent respectively).
- Inadequate lifts or escalators - this was a barrier for 23 per cent of adults with impairment compared with 18 per cent of adults without impairment.

## Introduction

This report presents a summary of the latest information collected from the full wave one of the Life Opportunities Survey (LOS), for which fieldwork was conducted across Great Britain between June 2009 and March 2011. A report based on the interim results - year one of the first wave of fieldwork - was published by the Office for National Statistics (ONS) in December 2010<sup>2</sup>. The findings in this report replace the findings presented in the interim report.

The LOS is a large-scale longitudinal survey of disability in Great Britain. It is the first major social survey to explore disability in terms of the social barriers to participation that people experience.

The survey collects information on:

- participation in different areas of life
- the barriers that people face to participating in these areas of life
- how levels of participation and barriers to participation change over time

Respondents are asked questions about the following life areas: employment, education and training, transport, leisure, social and cultural activities, accessibility of buildings and use of public services. They are also asked questions about social care, experiences of discrimination and crime and the financial situation of the household.

The survey collects information to determine whether a respondent has rights under the disability provisions of the Equality Act (EA) 2010 and whether the respondent has at least one impairment. This allows results on participation in different areas of life to be presented by both EA disability status and impairment status. Further information is provided below.

The last major survey of disability in Great Britain was the Family Resources Survey (FRS) disability follow up in 1996/97. Prior to this were the Office of Population Censuses and Surveys (OPCS) national surveys of disability carried out during 1985-88. In 2005, the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) sponsored a feasibility study which recommended that a new dedicated disability survey was required<sup>3</sup>. The new survey was needed to meet the following long term information needs on the experiences of disabled people living in Great Britain:

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<sup>2</sup> [www.ons.gov.uk/ons/rel/los/life-opportunities-survey/life-opportunities-survey/index.html](http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/rel/los/life-opportunities-survey/life-opportunities-survey/index.html)

<sup>3</sup> Purdon, S., Bajekal, M., Bromley, C., Bryson, C., Doyle, M., Nicolaas, G., Sproston, K. (2005) Meeting DWP's long-term information needs on disability: A feasibility report, DWP Research Report No 267.

- dynamics of disability over time, including the factors associated with transitions and onset of disability
- social participation by disabled people
- up-to-date prevalence rates of impairment types

Following this, in 2007 the Office for Disability Issues (ODI) commissioned the Office for National Statistics (ONS) to develop a new longitudinal survey of disability.

The LOS samples private households in Great Britain using the small users Postcode Address File (PAF). This means that people in residential institutions, such as retirement homes, nursing homes, prisons, barracks, university halls of residence and homeless people are not in the scope of the survey. For wave one a total of 37,500 households were selected from a random sample from the PAF. This report is based on a total of 31,161 interviews with adults, aged 16 and over, across 19,951 households; a household response rate of 59 per cent from the 33,921 eligible households. In addition, information about impairment and barriers to participation in education, leisure or play, transport and personal relationships for 2,910 children aged 11 to 15 was collected by parental proxy<sup>4</sup>.

Chapters 2 to 19 of this report present some of the wave one results for the various topics which are included in the survey. Chapter 20 describes the methodology of the LOS and includes information on the adjustments for non-response using weights and measures of sampling variability.

### **Royal Statistical Society awards**

The LOS was awarded the Excellence in Official Statistics for Innovation and Development award by the Royal Statistical Society in June 2010. The award recognised the innovative approach the LOS has taken in measuring disability. It also reflects the use of improved data collection methods, in order to ensure the survey is accessible to respondents with impairment.

In June 2011 LOS was also awarded a commendation for excellence in communicating statistics to a wide range of users. This award was for producing an Easy Read Summary of the Life Opportunities Survey Wave One Interim Results report.

### **Interpreting the survey results**

Many of the results in this report are presented according to whether the respondent has rights under the disability provisions of the Equality Act (EA)

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<sup>4</sup> A selection of questions were asked about children aged 11-15, which were answered by their parents.



or according to the impairment status of the respondent. This section outlines how Equality Act disability status and impairment status are defined and also describes how the presentation of results relates to the social model of disability.

### **Equality Act disability status**

The Equality Act (EA) 2010 generally defines a disabled person as someone who has a mental or physical impairment that has a substantial and long-term adverse effect on the person's ability to carry out normal day-to-day activities. From 1 October 2010<sup>5</sup>, provisions in the EA replaced the majority of provisions in the Disability Discrimination Act (DDA) 1995. In general, the definition of disability in the EA is similar to that which applied for the purposes of the DDA, for full details see the EA<sup>6</sup>.

Disability discrimination legislation includes rights to other groups, including; people with impairment who would meet the definition of a disabled person in the absence of medication or treatment, people with progressive conditions, the effects of which are likely to meet the definition, and people who, in the past, met the definition of a disabled person.

Estimates of disabled people included in this report would meet the current definition of disability for the purposes of equality law which is now contained in the EA, but these estimates do not reflect the total number of people who may have rights under the disability provisions of the EA.

### **Impairment status**

Impairments relate to the loss of physiological and psychological functions of the body such as loss of sight, hearing, mobility or learning capacity. Impairments should be distinguished from medical conditions or loss of bodily structure. For example glaucoma is a medical condition whereas loss of vision is the impairment it causes. Activity limitations are restrictions an individual may have in executing physical or mental tasks or actions as a result of their impairment, for example, being unable to read newsprint at arms length without glasses or other aids and adaptations.

In this report, a respondent is defined as having an impairment if they indicated the following within the 'Impairments and health conditions' section of the questionnaire:

- they experience either moderate, severe or complete difficulty within at least one area of physical or mental functioning, and

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<sup>5</sup> LOS fieldwork was conducted between June 2009 and March 2011.

<sup>6</sup> [www.homeoffice.gov.uk/equalities/equality-act/](http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/equalities/equality-act/)

- certain activities are limited in any way as a result. 'Activities' refer to different areas of physical or mental functioning, such as walking, climbing stairs or reading a newspaper<sup>7</sup>.

A respondent may have more than one impairment. In addition, the survey includes questions about long-term health conditions. This method of classifying impairment status is compatible with the International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health (ICF) developed by the World Health Organisation (WHO).

### **The LOS results and the social model of disability**

According to the social model, disability is viewed as the disadvantage, or restriction of activity and participation, caused by aspects of society which take little or no account of the needs of people with impairment. Therefore in line with the social model, LOS assesses the level of participation of people with impairment and the barriers to participation they face. Many of the tables in this report are presented according to the impairment status of respondents, permitting levels of participation and the experience of different barriers to be compared between adults with impairment and adults without impairment.

For example, this report provides results for the proportion of all adults, adults with impairment and adults without impairment who are in full-time employment. It also sets out the barriers to employment for unemployed adults seeking work by impairment status, as well as for all adults. Barriers to employment included on the LOS questionnaire include lack of qualifications/experience/skills, difficulty with transport and attitudes of employers. In addition, for this and all other topics, respondents could also select a health condition, illness or impairment, and/or a disability as reasons for participation restriction. Therefore, some of the tables included in the report show adults without impairment who have selected these reasons.

More information about the approach taken by the LOS for defining disability can be seen in the LOS User Guide<sup>8</sup>.

### **Units, presentation and accuracy**

Detailed definitions of the terms and categories used in this report are provided in the Glossary at the end of the report (see Chapter 21).

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<sup>7</sup> This differs from the Northern Ireland Survey of people with Activity Limitations and Disabilities (NISALD) impairment definition as those who have indicated that they had a number of mild difficulties with each limiting their activities 'sometimes' are excluded.

<sup>8</sup> The LOS User Guide is available to download from: [www.ons.gov.uk/ons/rel/los/life-opportunities-survey/life-opportunities-survey/index.html](http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/rel/los/life-opportunities-survey/life-opportunities-survey/index.html)

All estimates presented in the tables and charts have been weighted so that they have been adjusted for non-response and apply to the overall population. The unweighted sample counts, shown in the tables as 'sample size=100%', help users to judge the robustness of the information (the larger the sample size the more robust the relevant estimate). These figures have been rounded to the nearest 10. All figures in this report have been rounded independently. Therefore, the sum of component items will not necessarily equal the totals shown. Further information regarding weighting of the data can be found in the Methodology chapter of this report (see Chapter 20).

In the tables in this report the following conventions have been applied:

- 0 nil (none recorded in the sample)
- negligible (less than 0.5 per cent)
- . not applicable
- .. not available due to small sample size (fewer than 100)

### **Sampling variability**

All survey estimates in this report are subject to sampling variability and this is larger for particular groups of households (e.g. household composition groups), regions or other sub-sets of the sample. Margins of error, known as confidence intervals can be derived and used to make statements about the likely 'true' value in the population. In general, a confidence interval of the estimate is used to state, with 95 per cent confidence, that the true value falls within that interval. For estimates based on small sample sizes the confidence intervals will be larger, indicating the estimate is less reliable.

Further information regarding sampling variability can be found in the Methodology chapter of this report (see Chapter 20).

### **Statistical significance**

Unless otherwise stated, changes and differences mentioned in the text have been found to be statistically significant at the 95 per cent confidence level.

### **Qualitative follow-up study**

The LOS is designed to be as inclusive as possible by ensuring the data collection process is accessible to people with different types of impairment. For example, Braille showcards for respondents with a sight impairment who read Braille were produced and British Sign Language (BSL) interpreters were made available for interviews where requested by respondents who use BSL. Despite these, and other measures, the questionnaire testing process for LOS identified that some respondents with certain severe learning, memory or neuro-diversity impairments may not find the survey interview accessible and be unable to complete a survey interview. For example, people with more severe learning difficulties had issues around

understanding the showcards, and people with certain neuro-diverse conditions or mental health conditions found the full length interview daunting. To ensure the experiences of people in these groups would not be omitted from the overall wave one results, a complementary qualitative follow up study was undertaken. Through the use of in-depth interviews and ethnography with a sample of people in these groups, information on participation in education and training, employment, transport, leisure and personal relationships, and the barriers to and enablers of participation in each of these areas was collected. The qualitative research ensured that the experiences of people in these groups are not excluded from the overall LOS Wave One results. The findings from this study are presented in a separate report<sup>9</sup>.

### **Availability of detailed and unpublished data**

It is possible to request the Executive Summary of this report in alternative formats such as Large Print, Braille, Audio or Easy Read. Hard copies of the full report can also be purchased. Contact the LOS team by email [ODI.LOSTeam@dpw.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:ODI.LOSTeam@dpw.gsi.gov.uk) or by telephoning 0207 449 5046.

At the time of writing this report it is planned to make publicly available a wave one dataset from March 2012 via the UK Data Archive. Details on access arrangements and associated costs can be found at <http://www.data-archive.ac.uk> or by telephoning +44 (0) 1206 872001.

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<sup>9</sup> 'The Life Opportunities of Disabled People: Qualitative research with people with learning, memory and neuro-diversity impairments' report is available to download from <http://odi.dpw.gov.uk/disability-statistics-and-research/life-opportunities-survey.php>

## 2 Household characteristics

This chapter presents summary characteristics of households in Great Britain. The data presented in this chapter are grossed to the private household population in Great Britain. This means that people in residential institutions, such as retirement homes, nursing homes, prisons, barracks or university halls of residences, and also homeless people are excluded from the analysis in this report.

For some topics it is necessary to select one person in the household to indicate the characteristics of the whole household. The Life Opportunities Survey (LOS) uses the Household Reference Person (HRP) for this purpose. The HRP is either the sole occupier of the household, the person with the highest income or the oldest member of the household (for further information see the Glossary, Chapter 21, at the end of this report). Throughout this chapter the HRP is referred to as the household head.

This chapter has been included to provide information about the demographics of the households included within the sampled population. The following demographic characteristics of households are presented in this chapter:

- Household size by region/country
- Age of household head by region/country
- Age of household head by sex
- Ethnic group of household head by region
- Age of household head by economic status
- Marital status of household head

### Number of persons per household by region/country

Table 2.1 gives a summary of the number of people per household by region/country. Across Great Britain there were a larger proportion of two person households than any other household size (35 per cent). This was followed by one person households (31 per cent). In terms of countries, 38 per cent of households in Scotland contained just one member, which was higher than in England or Wales (30 per cent and 29 per cent respectively).

Looking at the regions in England, the North East had the highest proportion of one and two person households compared with London which had the lowest proportion (69 per cent and 61 per cent respectively). London had the highest proportion of five or more person households compared with the South West which had the lowest proportion (9 per cent and 5 per cent respectively).

## **Households by age of household head and region/country**

Table 2.2 shows that there was little difference in the proportion of household heads from each age group for Great Britain and for England, Wales and Scotland. Looking at the regions in England, London had the highest proportion of household heads aged 25 to 34 years, followed by Yorkshire and Humberside (20 per cent and 14 per cent respectively). For all other regions within England there was little difference in the proportion of household heads for this age group.

## **Households by age and sex of household head**

Table 2.3 gives a summary of households by the age and sex of the household head. 60 per cent of household heads were male compared with 40 per cent who were female. The majority of household heads were aged 45 years and over (63 per cent) with 30 per cent of all household heads being over state pension age (60 and over for females and 65 and over for males).

## **Ethnic group of household head by regions/country**

Table 2.4 shows that the majority of household heads in Great Britain were from White ethnic backgrounds (91 per cent). This varied slightly by country; for England 90 per cent of household heads were from White ethnic backgrounds compared with 98 per cent in Wales and 97 per cent in Scotland. Looking at the regions in England, the North East had the highest proportion of household heads that were from White ethnic backgrounds compared with London which had the lowest proportion (98 per cent and 68 per cent respectively).

## **Age of household head by economic status**

Table 2.5 gives a summary of households by age and economic status of the household head. 42 per cent of household heads were classified as 'Full-time – employee', with 27 per cent classified as 'Workless – retired from paid work'. For household heads who were classified as 'Full-time – employee' 13 per cent were aged under 30 years and 59 per cent were aged between 40 and 64 years. Household heads that were classified as 'Workless – other inactive' were more likely to be younger than for the other groups, with 38 per cent aged under 30 years compared with 33 per cent aged between 40 and 64 years. For household heads classified as 'Workless – retired from paid work' just two per cent were aged under 60 years compared with 87 per cent aged 65 years or over.

## **Marital status of household head**

Table 2.6 shows that 46 per cent of household heads were married and living with their husband/wife. 25 per cent of household heads were single, that is never married, 12 per cent were divorced and 12 per cent were widowed.

**Table 2.1: Number of persons per household by region/country, 2009/11**

Household

<b>Number of persons</b>	<b>Percentage in North East</b>	<b>Percentage in North West</b>	<b>Percentage in Yorkshire &amp; the Humber</b>	<b>Percentage in East Midlands</b>	<b>Percentage in West Midlands</b>	<b>Percentage in East of England</b>	<b>Percentage in London</b>
1 person	32	33	31	28	29	26	32
2 persons	37	35	35	35	36	37	29
3 persons	15	15	16	17	15	16	17
4 persons	11	12	12	15	12	15	14
5 or more persons	5	6	6	6	8	6	9
Average number of persons per household	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
Sample size (=100%)	990	2,450	1,890	1,610	1,780	2,030	1,750

**Table 2.1: Continued**

Household

<b>Number of persons</b>	<b>Percentage in South East</b>	<b>Percentage in South West</b>	<b>Percentage in Wales</b>	<b>Percentage in Scotland</b>	<b>Percentage in England</b>	<b>Percentage in Great Britain</b>
1 person	29	29	29	38	30	31
2 persons	36	39	34	35	35	35
3 persons	15	14	16	14	16	15
4 persons	14	13	13	9	13	13
5 or more persons	7	5	7	3	6	6
Average number of persons per household	2	2	2	2	2	2
Sample size (=100%)	2,570	1,750	990	1,790	16,820	19,600



**Table 2.2: Households by age of head and region/country, 2009/11**

Household

<b>Age group</b>	<b>Percentage in North East</b>	<b>Percentage in North West</b>	<b>Percentage in Yorkshire &amp; the Humber</b>	<b>Percentage in East Midlands</b>	<b>Percentage in West Midlands</b>	<b>Percentage in East of England</b>	<b>Percentage in London</b>
16-19	..	1	1	-	..	-	..
20-24	4	4	4	4	3	2	3
25-29	6	7	6	5	7	5	9
30-34	7	7	7	7	6	8	11
35-39	9	10	10	9	9	10	12
40-44	9	11	10	10	10	10	13
45-49	11	9	9	11	9	9	10
50-54	9	9	10	9	9	10	9
55-59	8	9	8	9	9	10	6
60-64	10	9	10	9	9	9	8
65-69	7	7	7	7	8	7	5
70-74	7	6	6	6	7	6	4
75-79	6	5	4	5	6	6	4
80-84	5	4	5	4	5	4	3
85 and over	4	4	4	3	3	3	3
Sample size (=100%)	990	2,450	1,890	1,610	1,780	2,030	1,750

**Table 2.2: Continued**

Household

<b>Age group</b>	<b>Percentage in South East</b>	<b>Percentage in South West</b>	<b>Percentage in Wales</b>	<b>Percentage in Scotland</b>	<b>Percentage in England</b>	<b>Percentage in Great Britain</b>
16-19	-	..	..	-	-	-
20-24	3	2	5	5	3	4
25-29	5	6	6	6	6	6
30-34	7	6	6	10	7	8
35-39	9	8	9	8	10	9
40-44	10	9	10	9	10	10
45-49	10	10	9	9	10	10
50-54	8	9	9	10	9	9
55-59	8	8	10	9	8	8
60-64	9	10	9	9	9	9
65-69	8	7	8	6	7	7
70-74	7	8	7	6	6	6
75-79	6	7	6	6	6	6
80-84	5	5	3	4	4	4
85 and over	4	4	3	3	3	3
Sample size (=100%)	2,570	1,750	990	1,790	16,820	19,600

**Table 2.3: Households by age and sex of head, 2009/11**

Household

<b>Age group</b>	<b>Percentage of males</b>	<b>Percentage of females</b>	<b>Percentage of all adults</b>
16-19	-	1	-
20-24	3	5	4
25-29	5	7	6
30-34	8	7	8
35-39	10	9	9
40-44	11	9	10
45-49	10	9	10
50-54	9	9	9
55-59	9	7	8
60-64	10	8	9
65-69	8	6	7
70-74	7	6	6
75-79	5	6	6
80-84	4	6	4
85 and over	2	5	3
Sample size (=100%)	11,830	7,770	19,600

**Table 2.4: Households by ethnic group of head and region/country, 2009/11**

Household

<b>Ethnic group</b>	<b>Percentage in North East</b>	<b>Percentage in North West</b>	<b>Percentage in Yorkshire &amp; the Humber</b>	<b>Percentage in East Midlands</b>	<b>Percentage in West Midlands</b>	<b>Percentage in East of England</b>	<b>Percentage in London</b>
White	98	94	93	93	88	93	68
Mixed	0	-	1	1	1	1	1
Asian or Asian British	1	3	4	4	7	4	12
Black or Black British	..	1	1	1	3	2	12
Chinese or other ethnic group	1	1	1	1	1	1	7
Sample size (=100%)	990	2,450	1,890	1,610	1,780	2,030	1,740

**Table 2.4: Continued**

Household

<b>Ethnic group</b>	<b>Percentage in South East</b>	<b>Percentage in South West</b>	<b>Percentage in Wales</b>	<b>Percentage in Scotland</b>	<b>Percentage in England</b>	<b>Percentage in Great Britain</b>
White	95	97	98	97	90	91
Mixed	1	..	..	..	1	1
Asian or Asian British	3	1	1	1	5	4
Black or Black British	1	1	..	1	3	3
Chinese or other ethnic group	1	1	..	1	2	2
Sample size (=100%)	2,570	1,750	990	1780	16820	19,590

**Table 2.5: Households by age of head and economic status, 2009/11**

Household

Age group	Percentage of full-time - self-employed	Percentage of full-time - employee	Percentage of part-time	Percentage of workless - retired from paid work	Percentage of workless - unemployed	Percentage of workless - sick or disabled	Percentage of workless - other inactive
16-19	..	-	-	0	2	..	3
20-24	1	3	6	0	9	2	20
25-29	4	10	6	0	11	3	15
30-34	8	13	7	0	9	3	11
35-39	12	14	11	0	14	8	14
40-44	16	15	11	..	15	12	9
45-49	16	14	10	-	13	15	7
50-54	16	13	9	-	13	15	5
55-59	12	11	11	2	8	18	5
60-64	10	6	14	11	4	17	7
65-69	3	1	8	18	1	6	4
70-74	1	-	4	21	..	0	..
75-79	1	-	2	19	0	0	0
80-84	..	..	-	16	..	0	0
85 and over	..	-	..	12	0	0	0
Sample size (=100%)	1,350	7,900	1,950	5,850	600	1,000	920

NOTE:

1. Part-time work includes both employee and self-employed; see the Glossary (Chapter 21) of this report for more information.
2. Unemployed uses the International Labour Organisation definition of unemployment; see the Glossary (Chapter 21) of this report for more information.
3. All respondents regardless of disability status could be classified as 'Workless - sick or disabled'.

**Table 2.6: Households by marital status of head, 2009/11**

Household

<b>Marital status</b>	<b>Percentage of all household heads</b>
Single, that is never married	25
Married and living with husband/wife	46
Civil partner in a legally recognised Civil Partnership	-
Married and separated from husband/wife	4
Divorced	12
Widowed	12
Spontaneous only- In a legally-recognised Civil Partnership and separated from his/her civil partner	..
Spontaneous only- Formerly a civil partner, the Civil Partnership has now legally dissolved	..
Sample size (=100%)	19,600

**NOTES:**

1. Adults that are cohabiting could be included in all response options apart from 'Married and living with your husband/wife' and 'A civil partner in a legally-recognised Civil Partnership'.





### 3 Participation restriction

This chapter presents a summary of the participation restrictions faced by adults, aged 16 and over, in Great Britain. An adult has a participation restriction if they experience at least one barrier to taking part in any of the following life areas:

- education and training
- employment
- economic life and living standards, for example being able to afford usual expenses or make loan repayments
- transport
- leisure activities
- social contact
- accessibility of housing
- accessibility outside the home

Full details of the barriers to participating in each life area are described in Chapters 6 to 13 of this report.

The following sections present a summary of participation restriction by impairment status for a number of demographic characteristics including age group, sex and ethnic group. Information regarding how impairment status is defined and the reasons for its inclusion in LOS can be found in the Introduction of this report.

#### Participation restriction by life area

Table 3.1 shows participation restriction prevalence by life area and impairment status.

86 per cent of adults reported they had a participation restriction in one or more life areas; 92 per cent of adults with impairment compared with 84 per cent of adults without impairment. 14 per cent of all adults did not have any participation restrictions.

Leisure activities was the life area where most adults experienced a participation restriction, followed by transport (79 per cent and 64 per cent respectively). Employment was reported by 34 per cent of all adults as a life area in which they experienced a participation restriction. 57 per cent of adults with impairment were limited in the type or amount of paid work they could do compared with 26 per cent of adults without impairment.

Economic life was reported by 34 per cent of all households as a life area in which a participation restriction was experienced, for example by household members not being able to afford usual expenses or make loan repayments. 44 per cent of households with at least one person with impairment experienced a participation restriction to economic life, compared with 29 per cent of households without any people with impairment.

## **Participation restriction count**

Of the eight life areas indicated at the beginning of this chapter, this section looks at the number of life areas in which a participation restriction was reported. A count of between zero and eight has been calculated for each respondent as the sum of the number of life areas in which a participation restriction was reported. For example, if an individual was restricted in the work that they could do and in the learning opportunities they could take part in then their participation restriction count would be two.

Table 3.2 shows the percentage of adults with each participation restriction count by impairment status. Adults without impairment were more likely to have a participation restriction count of one or two (24 per cent and 26 per cent respectively) compared with adults with impairment (14 per cent and 20 per cent respectively). In contrast adults with impairment were more likely to have a participation restriction count of 3 or 4 (23 per cent and 18 per cent respectively) compared with adults without impairment (20 per cent and nine per cent respectively).

The remainder of the chapter presents the mean number of life areas in which a participation restriction was reported by impairment status for the following demographic characteristics: age group, Government Office Region, sex, ethnic group, economic status, and marital status.

### **Mean count of participation restriction by age group and impairment status**

Table 3.3 shows the mean count of participation restriction by age group and impairment status.

Adults with impairment aged between 16 and 39 years and 40 and 64 years reported the highest number of life areas in which a participation restriction was experienced (3.2 on average). Adults with impairment aged 65 years and over reported a participation restriction in an average of 1.5 life areas.

### **Mean count of participation restriction by Government Office Region (GOR) and impairment status**

Table 3.4 shows the mean count of participation restriction by GOR and impairment status.

Adults with impairment living in the North and South West reported the highest number of life areas in which a participation restriction was experienced (3.1 on average). Adults with impairment living in the West Midlands and South East reported the lowest number of life areas in which a participation restriction was experienced (2.8 on average).

### **Mean count of participation restriction by sex and impairment status**

Table 3.5 shows the mean count of participation restriction by sex and impairment status.

On average, female adults with impairment reported a higher number of life areas in which a participation restriction was experienced than male adults with impairment (3.1 and 2.8 respectively).

### **Mean count of participation restriction by ethnic group and impairment status**

Table 3.6 shows the mean count of participation restriction by ethnic group and impairment status.

Adults with impairment from Black or Black British ethnic backgrounds reported the highest number of life areas in which a participation restriction was experienced (3.4 on average). Adults with impairment from White ethnic backgrounds reported the lowest number of life areas in which a participation restriction was experienced (2.9 on average).

### **Mean count of participation restriction by economic and impairment status**

Table 3.7 shows the mean count of participation restriction by economic and impairment status.

Adults classified as 'Workless-sick or disabled' reported the highest number of life areas in which a participation restriction was experienced (4.1 on average); an average of 4.2 for adults with impairment and 3.0 for adults without impairment. Adults classified as 'Workless-unemployed' reported the second highest average number of life areas in which a participation restriction was experienced (2.9); an average of 3.6 for adults with impairment and 2.7 for adults without impairment. When comparing adults with impairment in full-time work, those classified as 'Full-time - self employed' reported a lower number of life areas in which a participation restriction was reported compared with those classified as 'Full-time employee' (on average 2.3 and 2.7 respectively).

### **Mean count of participation restriction by marital and impairment status**

Table 3.8 shows the mean count of participation restriction by marital and impairment status.

Adults with impairment who were married and separated from husband/wife reported the highest number of life areas in which a participation restriction was experienced (3.7 on average). Adults with impairment who were widowed reported the lowest number of life areas in which a participation restriction was experienced (2.6 on average).

**Table 3.1: Participation restriction by life areas and impairment status, 2009/11**

Adults aged 16 and over

<b>Life area</b>	<b>Percentage of adults without impairment</b>	<b>Percentage of adults with impairment</b>	<b>Percentage of all adults</b>	<b>Sample size (=100%)</b>
Education and training	9	16	11	31,920
Employment	26	57	34	21,800
Economic life and living standards	29	44	34	19,800
Transport	60	75	64	31,970
Leisure activities	78	82	79	31,940
Social contact	21	24	22	31,930
Housing	1	13	4	36,120
Accessibility outside the home	6	29	13	31,970
Restriction in at least one of the eight life areas above	84	92	86	36,120

**NOTES:**

1. See the Introduction of this report for the definition of impairment status.
2. Participation restriction to economic life and living standards is calculated at household level. For the definition of household see the Glossary (Chapter 21) of this report.
3. Respondents were able to identify a participation restriction in all life areas that applied to them.

**Table 3.2: Participation restriction count by impairment status, 2009/11**

Adults aged 16 and over

<b>Count</b>	<b>Percentage of adults without impairment</b>	<b>Percentage of adults with impairment</b>	<b>Percentage of all adults</b>
0	16	8	14
1	24	14	21
2	26	20	24
3	20	23	20
4	9	18	12
5	4	11	6
6	1	5	2
7	-	2	1
8	..	..	..
<b>Sample size (=100%)</b>			
	25,430	10,680	36,120

NOTE:

1. See the Introduction of this report for the definition of impairment status.

**Table 3.3: Mean count of participation restriction by age group and impairment status, 2009/11**

Adults aged 16 and over

<b>Age group</b>	<b>Mean count for adults without impairment</b>	<b>Mean count for adults with impairment</b>	<b>Mean count for all adults</b>	<b>Sample size (=100%)</b>
16-39	2.1	3.2	2.3	12,240
40-64	2.0	3.2	2.4	15,490
65 and over	1.5	2.5	2.0	8,390
<b>Total</b>	<b>2.0</b>	<b>3.0</b>	<b>2.3</b>	<b>36,120</b>

NOTE:

1. See the Introduction of this report for the definition of impairment status.

**Table 3.4: Mean count of participation restriction by Government Office Region and impairment status, 2009/11**

Adults aged 16 and over

<b>Government Office Region</b>	<b>Mean count for adults without impairment</b>	<b>Mean count for adults with impairment</b>	<b>Mean count for all adults</b>	<b>Sample size (=100%)</b>
North East	2.0	3.0	2.3	1,780
North West	2.0	3.1	2.3	4,440
Yorkshire and Humberside	2.1	3.0	2.3	3,460
East Midlands	2.0	2.9	2.3	3,050
West Midlands	1.9	2.8	2.1	3,320
East of England	1.9	2.9	2.2	3,880
London	2.1	3.0	2.4	3,230
South East	2.0	2.8	2.2	4,780
South West	2.2	3.1	2.4	3,220
Wales	1.9	3.0	2.3	1,830
Scotland	1.7	2.9	2.1	3,140
England	2.0	3.0	2.3	31,150
Great Britain	2.0	3.0	2.3	36,120

NOTE:

1. See the Introduction of this report for the definition of impairment status.



**Table 3.5: Mean count of participation restriction by sex and impairment status, 2009/11**

Adults aged 16 and over

<b>Sex</b>	<b>Mean count for adults without impairment</b>	<b>Mean count for adults with impairment</b>	<b>Mean count for all adults</b>	<b>Sample size (=100%)</b>
Male	1.8	2.8	2.0	17,050
Female	2.2	3.1	2.5	19,070
<b>Total</b>	<b>2.0</b>	<b>3.0</b>	<b>2.3</b>	<b>36,120</b>

NOTE:

1. See the Introduction of this report for the definition of impairment status.

**Table 3.6: Mean count of participation restriction by ethnic group and impairment status, 2009/11**

Adults aged 16 and over

<b>Ethnic group</b>	<b>Mean count for adults without impairment</b>	<b>Mean count for adults with impairment</b>	<b>Mean count for all adults</b>	<b>Sample size (=100%)</b>
White	1.9	2.9	2.2	33,010
Mixed	2.5	3.0	2.6	250
Asian or Asian British	2.2	3.1	2.4	1,640
Black or Black British	2.7	3.4	2.8	650
Chinese or Other Ethnic Group	2.3	3.3	2.5	550
<b>Total</b>	<b>2.0</b>	<b>3.0</b>	<b>2.3</b>	<b>36,090</b>

NOTE:

1. See the Introduction of this report for the definition of impairment status.

**Table 3.7: Mean count of participation restriction by economic and impairment status, 2009/11**

Adults aged 16 and over

<b>Economic status</b>	<b>Mean count for adults without impairment</b>	<b>Mean count for adults with impairment</b>	<b>Mean count for all adults</b>	<b>Sample size (=100%)</b>
Full-time - self employed	1.8	2.3	1.9	2,000
Full-time - employee	1.9	2.7	2.0	12,520
Part-time - employee	2.3	3.0	2.5	5,550
Workless - retired from paid work	1.5	2.4	1.9	9,030
Workless - unemployed	2.7	3.6	2.9	1,530
Workless - sick or disabled	3.0	4.2	4.1	1,710
Workless - other inactive	2.4	3.3	2.6	3,760
<b>Total</b>	<b>2.0</b>	<b>3.0</b>	<b>2.3</b>	<b>36,100</b>

**NOTES:**

1. See the Introduction of this report for the definition of impairment status.
2. Part-time work includes both employee and self-employed; see the Glossary (Chapter 21) of this report for more information.
3. Unemployed uses the International Labour Organisation definition of unemployment; see the Glossary (Chapter 21) of this report for more information.
4. All respondents regardless of disability status could be classified as 'Workless-sick or disabled'.

**Table 3.8: Mean count of participation restriction by marital and impairment status, 2009/11**

Adults aged 16 and over

<b>Marital status</b>	<b>Mean count for adults without impairment</b>	<b>Mean count for adults with impairment</b>	<b>Mean count for all adults</b>	<b>Sample size (=100%)</b>
Single, that is never married	2.0	3.2	2.2	10,090
Married and living with husband/wife	1.9	2.8	2.2	19,390
Civil partner in a legally recognised Civil Partnership	2.1	1.9	2.0	60
Married and separated from husband/wife	2.7	3.7	3.0	890
Divorced	2.3	3.6	2.8	2,960
Widowed	1.6	2.6	2.2	2,720
Spontaneous only- In a legally-recognised Civil Partnership and separated from his/her civil partner	..	..	..	10
Spontaneous only- Formerly a civil partner, the Civil Partnership has now legally dissolved	..	..	..	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>2.0</b>	<b>3.0</b>	<b>2.3</b>	<b>36,120</b>

**NOTES:**

1. See the Introduction of this report for the definition of impairment status.
2. Adults that are cohabiting could be included in all response options apart from 'Married and living with your husband/wife' and 'A civil partner in a legally-recognised Civil Partnership'.

## 4 Impairment

This chapter presents a summary of the prevalence of impairment for adults, aged 16 and over, in Great Britain. Prevalence of impairment is reported by type of impairment, age group, Government Office Region (GOR), sex, ethnic group and economic status.

Impairment status is defined from responses to the 'Impairments and health conditions' section of the LOS questionnaire. A respondent is defined as having an impairment if they indicate the following:

- they experience either moderate, severe or complete difficulty within at least one area of physical or mental functioning, and
- certain activities are limited in any way as a result. 'Activities' refer to different areas of physical or mental functioning, such as walking, climbing stairs or reading a newspaper<sup>10</sup>.

It is therefore possible for adults to have more than one impairment. The survey includes questions about physical, mental and long-term health conditions. Within the report impairment status will be described as adults/households with or without impairment.

The following sections present a summary of impairment prevalence for adults by impairment status. 29 per cent of adults in Great Britain had at least one impairment. Information regarding how impairment status is defined and the reasons for its inclusion in LOS can be found in the Introduction of this report.

### Impairment types

Table 4.1 shows the prevalence of different types of impairment. The most commonly reported impairment type was for impairment associated with long-term pain (18 per cent), followed by chronic health conditions<sup>11</sup> (13 per cent).

### Impairment status by age group

Table 4.2 shows a breakdown of impairment status by age group. The proportion of adults with impairment was found to increase with age. The

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<sup>10</sup> This differs from the Northern Ireland Survey of people with Activity Limitations and Disabilities (NISALD) impairment definition as those who have indicated that they had a number of mild difficulties with each limiting their activities 'sometimes' are excluded.

<sup>11</sup> The chronic health conditions listed in the questionnaire were: asthma or severe allergies; heart condition or disease; kidney condition or disease; cancer; diabetes; epilepsy; cerebral palsy; spina bifida; cystic fibrosis; muscular dystrophy; migraines; arthritis or rheumatism; multiple sclerosis (MS); paralysis of any kind; any other long-term condition not already covered.

proportion of adults with impairment was highest for those aged 85 and over (70 per cent). The lowest proportions of adults with impairment were found in the four youngest age groups at similar levels (those aged under 35).

### **Impairment types by age group**

Table 4.3 presents impairment types by age group. As reported in Table 4.1, the most commonly reported impairment type for all adults was long-term pain followed by chronic health conditions. 33 per cent of adults aged 75 years and over reported experiencing long-term pain compared with six per cent of those aged 16-34 years. 30 per cent of adults aged 75 years and over reported a chronic health condition compared with five per cent of adults aged 16-34 years. Mobility impairment and dexterity impairment are the next most commonly reported impairment types for those aged 75 years and over (28 per cent and 16 per cent respectively). Five per cent of those aged 35-54 years had a mobility impairment compared with one per cent of those aged 16-34 years.

### **Impairment status by Government Office Region (GOR)**

Table 4.4 shows impairment status by GOR. Within England there was some regional variation in the proportions of adults with impairment. For example the proportion of adults with impairment in London was 25 per cent compared with 34 per cent in the North East.

### **Impairment status by sex**

Table 4.5 shows impairment status by sex. A higher proportion of adult females had at least one impairment when compared with adult males (31 per cent and 26 per cent respectively).

### **Impairment types by sex**

Table 4.6 shows impairment types by sex. Adult females more commonly reported long-term pain than adult males (20 per cent and 15 per cent respectively). Adult females also reported chronic health conditions more commonly than adult males (15 per cent and 11 per cent respectively).

### **Impairment status by ethnic group**

Table 4.7 shows impairment status by ethnic group. The highest proportion of adults with impairment was observed for those from White ethnic backgrounds (29 per cent). The lowest proportion of adults with impairment was observed for those from Chinese or Other ethnic backgrounds (19 per cent).

### **Impairment status by economic status**

Table 4.8 presents impairment status by economic status. The vast majority of adults classified as 'Workless-sick or disabled' were adults with impairment

(93 per cent). 48 per cent of adults who were classified as 'Workless-retired from paid work' were adults with impairment. 16 per cent of adults classified as 'Full-time – employee' were adults with impairment.

## Table 4.1: Impairment types, 2009/11

Adults aged 16 and over

Type of impairment	Percentage of all adults	Sample size (=100%)
Sight	3	36,130
Hearing	3	36,130
Speaking	1	36,140
Mobility	8	36,140
Dexterity	6	36,130
Long-term pain	18	36,130
Breathing	3	36,140
Learning	2	36,140
Intellectual	-	36,130
Behavioural	1	36,130
Memory	3	36,130
Mental health condition	4	36,130
Chronic health conditions	13	36,130
Other impairment or health condition	1	36,130

NOTE:

1. See the Introduction of this report for the definition of impairment status.



## Table 4.2: Impairment status by age group, 2009/11

Adults aged 16 and over

<b>Age group</b>	<b>Percentage of adults without impairment</b>	<b>Percentage of adults with impairment</b>	<b>Sample size (=100%)</b>
16-19	87	13	2,100
20-24	86	14	2,240
25-29	86	14	2,300
30-34	84	16	2,550
35-39	78	22	3,060
40-44	76	24	3,210
45-49	72	28	3,240
50-54	70	30	3,020
55-59	66	34	2,880
60-64	64	36	3,130
65-69	61	39	2,530
70-74	57	43	2,180
75-79	49	51	1,690
80-84	41	59	1,140
85 and over	30	70	840

**NOTE:**

1. See the Introduction of this report for the definition of impairment status.

**Table 4.3: Impairment types by age group, 2009/11**

Adults aged 16 and over

Type of impairment	Percentage of those aged 16-34 years	Percentage of those aged 35-54 years	Percentage of those aged 55-74 years	Percentage of those aged 75 and over	Percentage of all adults
Sight	1	2	4	11	3
Hearing	1	1	4	13	3
Speaking	1	1	1	2	1
Mobility	1	5	14	28	8
Dexterity	1	4	9	16	6
Long-term pain	6	17	25	33	18
Breathing	1	2	5	9	3
Learning	3	2	1	1	2
Intellectual	1	-	-	-	-
Behavioural	1	1	-	-	1
Memory	2	3	3	8	3
Mental health condition	3	5	4	2	4
Chronic health conditions	5	10	19	30	13
Other impairment or health condition	1	1	1	1	1
Sample size (=100%)	9,200	12,550	10,730	3,680	36,160

NOTE:

1. See the Introduction of this report for the definition of impairment status.

**Table 4.4: Impairment status by Government Office Region, 2009/11**

Adults aged 16 and over

<b>Government Office Region</b>	<b>Percentage of adults without impairment</b>	<b>Percentage of adults with impairment</b>	<b>Sample size (=100%)</b>
North East	66	34	1,780
North West	69	31	4,440
Yorkshire and the Humber	70	30	3,460
East Midlands	70	30	3,050
West Midlands	72	28	3,320
East of England	73	27	3,880
London (Inner & Outer)	75	25	3,230
South East	73	27	4,780
South West	72	28	3,220
Wales	69	31	1,830
Scotland	72	28	3,140
England	71	29	31,150
Great Britain	71	29	36,120

NOTE:

1. See the Introduction of this report for the definition of impairment status.

### Table 4.5: Impairment status by sex, 2009/11

Adults aged 16 and over

<b>Sex</b>	<b>Percentage of adults without impairment</b>	<b>Percentage of adults with impairment</b>	<b>Sample size (=100%)</b>
Male	74	26	17,050
Female	69	31	19,070

NOTE:

1. See the Introduction of this report for the definition of impairment status.

### Table 4.6: Impairment types by sex, 2009/11

Adults aged 16 and over

<b>Type of impairment</b>	<b>Percentage of males</b>	<b>Percentage of females</b>	<b>Percentage of all adults</b>
Sight	3	4	3
Hearing	3	3	3
Speaking	1	1	1
Mobility	8	9	8
Dexterity	5	7	6
Long-term pain	15	20	18
Breathing	3	3	3
Learning	3	2	2
Intellectual	1	-	-
Behavioural	1	1	1
Memory	3	3	3
Mental health condition	4	4	4
Chronic health conditions	11	15	13
Other impairment or health condition	1	1	1
Sample size (=100%)	17,050	19,070	36,120

NOTE:

1. See the Introduction of this report for the definition of impairment status.

### Table 4.7: Impairment status by ethnic group, 2009/11

Adults aged 16 and over

<b>Ethnic group</b>	<b>Percentage of adults without impairment</b>	<b>Percentage of adults with impairment</b>	<b>Sample size (=100%)</b>
White	71	29	33,010
Mixed	73	27	250
Asian or Asian British	78	22	1,640
Black or Black British	79	21	650
Chinese or Other Ethnic Group	81	19	550

NOTE:

1. See the Introduction of this report for the definition of impairment status.

### Table 4.8: Impairment status by economic status, 2009/11

Adults aged 16 and over

<b>Economic status</b>	<b>Percentage of adults without impairment</b>	<b>Percentage of adults with impairment</b>	<b>Sample size (=100%)</b>
Full-time - self-employed	80	20	2,000
Full-time - employee	84	16	12,520
Part-time	79	21	5,550
Workless - retired from paid work	52	48	9,030
Workless - unemployed	72	28	1,530
Workless - sick or disabled	7	93	1,710
Workless - other inactive	81	19	3,760

NOTE:

1. See the Introduction of this report for the definition of impairment status.
2. Part-time work includes both employee and self-employed; see the Glossary (Chapter 21) of this report for more information.
3. Unemployed uses the International Labour Organisation definition of unemployment; see the Glossary (Chapter 21) of this report for more information.
4. All respondents regardless of disability status could be classified as 'Workless-sick or disabled'.



## 5 Equality Act (EA)

The Equality Act (EA) 2010 generally defines a disabled person as someone who has a mental or physical impairment that has a substantial and long-term adverse effect on the person's ability to carry out normal day-to-day activities. From 1 October 2010<sup>12</sup>, provisions in the EA replaced the majority of provisions in the Disability Discrimination Act (DDA) 1995. In general, the definition of disability in the EA is similar to that which applied for the purposes of the DDA, for full details see the EA<sup>13</sup>.

Estimates of disabled people included in this report would meet the current definition of disability for the purposes of equality law which is now contained in the EA, but these estimates do not reflect the total number of people who may have rights under the disability provisions of the EA.

26 per cent of adults, aged 16 and over, in Great Britain had rights under the disability provisions of the EA; from this point forward this group will be referred to as EA disabled adults.

This chapter provides breakdowns of EA disability status by the following groups:

- age group
- Government Office Region (GOR)
- sex
- ethnic group
- economic status

### EA disability status by age group

Table 5.1 shows a breakdown of EA disability status by age group. The proportion of EA disabled adults was found to increase with age. The proportion of EA disabled adults was lowest for those aged 20 to 24 years and 25 to 29 years (both 9 per cent). The highest proportion of EA disabled adults was observed for those aged 85 years and over (73 per cent).

### EA disability status by Government Office Region (GOR)

Table 5.2 shows a breakdown of EA disability status by GOR. Within England there was some regional variation in the proportion of EA disabled adults. For example, the proportion of EA disabled adults was 21 per cent in London compared with 32 per cent in the North East.

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<sup>12</sup> LOS fieldwork was conducted between June 2009 and March 2011.

<sup>13</sup> [www.homeoffice.gov.uk/equalities/equality-act/](http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/equalities/equality-act/)

### **EA disability status by sex**

Table 5.3 shows a breakdown of EA disability status by sex. The proportion of adults who were EA disabled was higher for females than males (27 per cent and 24 per cent respectively).

### **EA disability status by ethnic group**

Table 5.4 shows a breakdown of EA disability status by ethnic group. The highest proportion of EA disabled adults was observed for those from White ethnic backgrounds (27 per cent). The lowest proportion of EA disabled adults was observed for those from Asian or Asian British ethnic backgrounds (19 per cent).

### **EA disability status by economic status**

Table 5.5 shows a breakdown of EA disability status by economic status. The vast majority of adults classified as 'Workless-sick or disabled' were EA disabled (92 per cent). 51 per cent of adults who were classified as 'Workless-retired from paid work' were EA disabled. 12 per cent of adults who were classified as 'Full-time – employee' were EA disabled.



**Table 5.1: EA disability status by age group, 2009/11**

Adults aged 16 and over

<b>Age group</b>	<b>Percentage of non-disabled adults</b>	<b>Percentage of EA disabled adults</b>	<b>Sample size (=100%)</b>
16 to 19	90	10	2,100
20 to 24	91	9	2,240
25 to 29	91	9	2,300
30 to 34	90	10	2,550
35 to 39	84	16	3,060
40 to 44	81	19	3,220
45 to 49	78	22	3,240
50 to 54	74	26	3,020
55 to 59	69	31	2,880
60 to 64	65	35	3,130
65 to 69	58	42	2,540
70 to 74	52	48	2,180
75 to 79	43	57	1,690
80 to 84	35	65	1,140
85 and over	27	73	840

**NOTE:**

1. See the Introduction of this report for the definition of EA disability status.

**Table 5.2: EA disability status by Government Office Region, 2009/11**

Adults aged 16 and over

<b>Government Office Region</b>	<b>Percentage of non-disabled adults</b>	<b>Percentage of EA disabled adults</b>	<b>Sample size (=100%)</b>
North East	68	32	1,780
North West	70	30	4,440
Yorkshire and Humberside	74	26	3,460
East Midlands	72	28	3,060
West Midlands	74	26	3,320
East of England	75	25	3,880
London	79	21	3,230
South East	76	24	4,780
South West	74	26	3,220
Wales	71	29	1,830
Scotland	74	26	3,140
England	74	26	31,160
Great Britain	74	26	36,130

NOTE:

1. See the Introduction of this report for the definition of EA disability status.

### Table 5.3: EA disability status by sex, 2009/11

Adults aged 16 and over

<b>Sex</b>	<b>Percentage of non-disabled adults</b>	<b>Percentage of EA disabled adults</b>	<b>Sample size (=100%)</b>
Male	76	24	17,060
Female	73	27	19,070

NOTE:

1. See the Introduction of this report for the definition of EA disability status.

### Table 5.4: EA disability status by ethnic group, 2009/11

Adults aged 16 and over

<b>Ethnic group</b>	<b>Percentage of non-disabled adults</b>	<b>Percentage of EA disabled adults</b>	<b>Sample size (=100%)</b>
White	73	27	33,020
Mixed	81	19	250
Asian or Asian British	81	19	1,640
Black or Black British	80	20	650
Chinese or Other Ethnic Group	85	15	550

NOTE:

1. See the Introduction of this report for the definition of EA disability status.

**Table 5.5: EA disability status by economic status, 2009/11**

Adults aged 16 and over

<b>Economic status</b>	<b>Percentage of non-disabled adults</b>	<b>Percentage of EA disabled adults</b>	<b>Sample size (=100%)</b>
Full-time - self employed	87	13	2,000
Full-time - employee	88	12	12,520
Part-time	83	17	5,550
Workless - retired from paid work	49	51	9,030
Workless - unemployed	79	21	1,530
Workless - sick or disabled	8	92	1,710
Workless - other inactive	86	14	3,770

**NOTE:**

1. See the Introduction of this report for the definition of EA disability status.
2. Part-time work includes both employee and self-employed; see the Glossary (Chapter 21) of this report for more information.
3. Unemployed uses the International Labour Organisation definition of unemployment; see the Glossary (Chapter 21) of this report for more information.
4. All respondents regardless of disability status could be classified as 'Workless – sick or disabled'.

## 6 Education and training

This chapter presents a summary of educational attainment and the barriers to learning opportunities for adults, aged between 16 and 69, in Great Britain. Results for educational attainment are presented by both Equality Act (EA)<sup>14</sup> disability status and impairment status. Each definition is described in the Introduction of this report.

### Adults with rights under the disability provisions of the Equality Act

The following section presents a summary of educational attainment by EA disability status. 26 per cent of adults in Great Britain had rights under the disability provisions of the Equality Act; from this point forward this group will be referred to as EA disabled adults.

#### Educational attainment

Table 6.1 shows a breakdown of educational attainment by EA disability status. The table summarises the highest level of qualification that adults have received from school, college or since leaving education.

Non-disabled adults were more likely to have a degree level qualification compared with EA disabled adults (26 per cent and 13 per cent respectively). 29 per cent of EA disabled adults stated they had no formal qualifications compared with 12 per cent of non-disabled adults.

### Adults with impairment

The following sections present a summary of educational attainment and the barriers to learning opportunities by impairment status. 29 per cent of adults in Great Britain had at least one impairment.

#### Educational attainment

Table 6.2 shows a breakdown of educational attainment by impairment status. The table summarises the highest level of qualification that adults have received from school, college or since leaving education.

Adults without impairment were more likely to have a degree level qualification compared with adults with impairment (26 per cent and 15 per cent respectively). 26 per cent of adults with impairment stated they had no formal qualifications compared with 12 per cent of adults without impairment.

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<sup>14</sup> Fieldwork was conducted between June 2009 and March 2011. The Equality Act 2010 replaced the Disability Discrimination Act 1995 on 1<sup>st</sup> October 2010. Everyone in this group would meet the current definition of disability for the purposes of equality law which is now contained in the Equality Act 2010, but these estimates do not reflect the total number of people who may have rights under the disability provisions of the Equality Act 2010.

### **Barriers to learning opportunities by impairment status**

This section presents results for the 11 per cent of all adults who reported that they did not have access to all of the learning opportunities they wanted. Adults with impairment were more likely to experience a participation restriction to learning opportunities than adults without impairment (16 per cent and 9 per cent respectively).

Table 6.3 shows the barriers to learning opportunities for adults, aged 16 and over, by impairment status. The reason given most often by all adults was financial reasons (52 per cent). Adults without impairment were more likely to give this reason than adults with impairment (55 per cent and 48 per cent respectively).

Difficulty with transport was identified as a barrier more often by adults with impairment than adults without impairment (20 per cent and 8 per cent respectively). Similarly, adults with impairment cited attitudes of other people as a barrier more often than adults without impairment (9 per cent and 4 per cent respectively). Too busy/not enough time was identified as a barrier more often by adults without impairment than adults with impairment (40 per cent and 21 per cent respectively).

For adults with impairment, reasons related to a health condition, illness or impairment, and a disability were also given in relation to why they could not access learning opportunities as much as they would like to (31 per cent and 20 per cent respectively).

**Table 6.1: Educational attainment by EA disability status, 2009/11**

Adults aged between 16 and 69

<b>Highest level of qualification</b>	<b>Percentage of non-disabled adults</b>	<b>Percentage of EA disabled adults</b>	<b>Percentage of all adults</b>
Degree level qualification (or equivalent)	26	13	23
Higher educational qualification below degree level	9	9	9
A-Levels or Highers	12	7	11
ONC / National Level BTEC	5	5	5
O Level or GCSE equivalent (Grade A-C) or O Grade/CSE equivalent (Grade 1) or Standard Grade level 1-3	19	17	18
GCSE grade D-G or CSE grade 2-5 or Standard Grade level 4-6	5	6	6
Other qualifications (including foreign qualifications below degree level)	12	15	12
No formal qualifications	12	29	16
<b>Sample size (=100%)</b>	<b>23,760</b>	<b>6,500</b>	<b>30,260</b>

**NOTE:**

1. See the Introduction of this report for the definition of EA disability status.

**Table 6.2: Educational attainment by impairment status, 2009/11**

Adults aged between 16 and 69

<b>Highest level of qualification</b>	<b>Percentage of adults without impairment</b>	<b>Percentage of adults with impairment</b>	<b>Percentage of all adults</b>
Degree level qualification (or equivalent)	26	15	23
Higher educational qualification below degree level	9	8	9
A-Levels or Highers	12	7	11
ONC / National Level BTEC	5	5	5
O Level or GCSE equivalent (Grade A-C) or O Grade/CSE equivalent (Grade 1) or Standard Grade level 1-3	19	18	18
GCSE grade D-G or CSE grade 2-5 or Standard Grade level 4-6	5	6	6
Other qualifications (including foreign qualifications below degree level)	11	15	12
No formal qualifications	12	26	16
<hr/>			
Sample size (=100%)	22,600	7,650	30,250

NOTE:

1. See the Introduction of this report for the definition of impairment status.



**Table 6.3: Barriers to learning opportunities by impairment status, 2009/11**

Adults aged 16 and over with a barrier to learning opportunities

<b>Barrier</b>	<b>Percentage of adults without impairment</b>	<b>Percentage of adults with impairment</b>	<b>Percentage of all adults</b>
At least one barrier to learning opportunities	9	16	11
Financial reasons	55	48	52
A health condition, illness or impairment	1	31	14
Too busy/not enough time	40	21	32
A disability	1	20	9
Difficulty with transport	8	20	13
Lack of information	18	20	19
No learning opportunities available	16	19	17
Lack of help or assistance	11	17	14
Difficulty getting on course or refused a place	10	12	11
Caring responsibilities	14	12	13
Attitudes of other people	4	9	6
Difficulty getting into buildings	..	5	2
Difficulty using facilities	1	4	2
Other	13	12	13
Sample size (=100%)	1,040	710	1,750

**NOTES:**

1. See the Introduction of this report for the definition of impairment status.
2. Respondents were asked to select all barriers that applied to them from the list of options provided. All respondents regardless of impairment status could select these response options.



## 7 Employment

This chapter presents a summary of employment status and the barriers and enablers to employment opportunities for adults, aged 16 and over, in Great Britain. Results for employment status are presented by both Equality Act (EA)<sup>15</sup> disability status and impairment status. Each definition is described in the Introduction of this report.

### Adults with rights under the disability provisions of the Equality Act

The following section presents a summary of employment status by EA disability status. 26 per cent of adults in Great Britain had rights under the disability provisions of the Equality Act; from this point forward this group will be referred to as EA disabled adults.

#### Employment status

Table 7.1 shows the breakdown of employment status by EA disability status. For the purpose of comparability with other datasets and employment indicators this section presents results using the old working age definition (males 16 to 64 and females 16 to 59).

47 per cent of all working age adults were classified as 'Full-time - employee'. A higher proportion of non-disabled adults of working age were classified as 'Full-time - employee' compared with EA disabled adults (51 per cent and 30 per cent respectively). The proportion of adults who were classified as 'Workless – unemployed'<sup>16</sup> was similar for working age EA disabled and non-disabled adults (7 per cent and 6 per cent respectively).

### Adults with impairment

The following sections present a summary of employment status and the barriers and enablers to employment by impairment status. 29 per cent of adults in Great Britain had at least one impairment.

Employment barriers and enablers are reported for all adults aged 16 and over, for the following groups:

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<sup>15</sup> Fieldwork was conducted between June 2009 and March 2011. The Equality Act 2010 replaced the Disability Discrimination Act 1995 on 1<sup>st</sup> October 2010. Everyone in this group would meet the current definition of disability for the purposes of equality law which is now contained in the Equality Act 2010, but these estimates do not reflect the total number of people who may have rights under the disability provisions of the Equality Act 2010.

<sup>16</sup> Unemployed uses the International Labour Organisation definition of unemployment; see the Glossary (Chapter 21) of this report for more information.

- adults in employment, who were restricted in the type or amount of paid work that they did
- unemployed<sup>17</sup> adults seeking work, who were restricted in the type or amount of paid work that they could do
- economically inactive<sup>18</sup> adults

## Employment status

Table 7.2 shows a breakdown of employment status for working age adults by impairment status. For the purpose of comparability with other datasets and employment indicators the data regarding employment status is presented using the old working age definition (males 16 to 64 and females 16 to 59).

51 per cent of working age adults without impairment were classified as 'Full-time - employee' compared with 33 per cent of those with impairment. The proportion of working age adults that were classified as 'Workless - unemployed'<sup>2</sup> was similar for adults with and without impairment (7 per cent and 6 per cent respectively).

## Adults in employment

This section presents results for adults aged 16 and over who were in employment but were limited in the type or amount of paid work that they did by impairment status.

21 per cent of adults were in employment but were limited in the type or amount of paid work that they did and had experienced at least one barrier. Adults with impairment were more likely to be limited in this way than those without impairment (33 per cent and 18 per cent respectively).

## Barriers to employment opportunities

Table 7.3 shows the barriers to employment for adults who were in employment but were limited in the type or amount of paid work they could do by impairment status. The reasons given most often by all adults were family responsibilities and lack of job opportunities (39 per cent and 17 per cent respectively).

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<sup>17</sup> The definition of unemployed used for the analysis of barriers and enablers is not consistent with the International Labour Organisation (ILO) definition as availability to start working in the two weeks after interview is not checked. For more information regarding the ILO definition see the Glossary (Chapter 21) of this report.

<sup>18</sup> See the Glossary (Chapter 21) of this report for the definition of economically inactive.

Family responsibilities were given as a reason by 44 per cent of adults without impairment compared with 29 per cent of adults with impairment. Lack of job opportunities was identified as a barrier fairly equally by adults with and without impairment (17 per cent and 16 per cent respectively). Anxiety/lack of confidence was reported more often by adults with impairment than those without (8 per cent and 2 per cent respectively).

For adults with impairment, reasons related to a health condition, illness or impairment and a disability were also given in relation to why they were limited in the type or amount of paid work that they did (35 per cent and 13 per cent respectively).

### **Employment enablers**

Table 7.4 shows the employment enablers for adults who were in employment by impairment status. The most common enabler reported by all adults was modified hours or days or reduced work hours (17 per cent). This was reported by 21 per cent of adults with impairment and 16 per cent of adults without impairment. Tax credits was the second most common enabler, reported by 8 per cent of all employed adults. Adults with impairment were more likely than those without impairment to report tax credits as an enabler (11 per cent and 8 per cent respectively). A greater proportion of adults with impairment reported changes to their work area or equipment as an enabler than adults without impairment (10 per cent and 5 per cent respectively).

### **Unemployed<sup>17</sup> adults seeking work**

This section presents results for unemployed adults aged 16 and over who were seeking work and were limited in the type or amount of paid work that they could do by impairment status.

### **Barriers to employment opportunities**

Table 7.5 shows the barriers to employment opportunities for unemployed adults who were seeking work by impairment status. Lack of job opportunities was the most common barrier, reported by 41 per cent of all unemployed adults seeking work.

A greater proportion of adults without impairment reported family responsibilities than adults with impairment (39 per cent and 26 per cent respectively).

For adults with impairment, reasons related to a health condition, illness or impairment and a disability were also given most often in relation to why they were limited in the type or amount of paid work that they could do (45 per cent and 23 per cent respectively).

## **Employment enablers**

Table 7.6 shows the employment enablers for unemployed adults who were seeking work by impairment status. The most commonly reported enablers were the same as for adults in employment: modified hours or days or reduced work hours and tax credits (41 per cent and 17 per cent respectively).

Modified hours or days or reduced work hours was given as an enabler more often by adults without impairment than adults with impairment (45 per cent and 36 per cent respectively).

## **Economically inactive<sup>18</sup> adults**

This section presents results for economically inactive adults aged 16 and over.

### **Barriers to employment opportunities**

Table 7.7 shows the barriers to employment opportunities for economically inactive adults by impairment status. Family responsibilities were identified as a barrier more often by adults without impairment than those with impairment (69 per cent and 22 per cent respectively). Anxiety/lack of confidence was identified as a barrier more often by those with impairment than those without impairment (19 per cent and 3 per cent respectively).

For adults with impairment, reasons related to a health condition, illness or impairment and a disability were also given in relation to why they were limited in the type or amount of paid work that they could do (70 per cent and 41 per cent respectively).

### **Employment enablers**

Adults who were economically inactive were asked what factors, if any, would enable them to work. Table 7.8 shows the breakdown of employment enablers for economically inactive adults by impairment status. Modified hours or days or reduced work hours was the most common enabler, identified by 27 per cent of all economically inactive adults. This is in line with the enablers identified by both employed adults and unemployed adults seeking work.

For adults with impairment the second most common enabler was building modifications (15 per cent). The second most common enabler for adults without impairment was tax credits. Tax credits were identified by nine per cent of both adults with and without impairment.

**Table 7.1: Employment status by EA disability status, 2009/11**

Old working age definition (males aged 16-64, females aged 16-59)

<b>Employment status</b>	<b>Percentage of non-disabled adults</b>	<b>Percentage of EA disabled adults</b>	<b>Percentage of all adults</b>
Full-time - self employed	7	5	7
Full-time - employee	51	30	47
Part-time	18	14	17
Workless - retired from paid work	2	4	2
Workless - unemployed	6	7	6
Workless - sick or disabled	1	29	6
Workless - other inactive	15	11	14
Sample size (=100%)	21,230	4,880	26,110

**NOTE:**

1. See the Introduction of this report for the definition of EA disability status.
2. Part time work includes both employee and self employed; see the Glossary (Chapter 21) of this report for more information.
3. Unemployed uses the International Labour Organisation definition of unemployment; see the Glossary (Chapter 21) of this report for more information.
4. All respondents regardless of disability status could be classified as 'Workless – sick or disabled'.

**Table 7.2: Employment status by impairment status, 2009/11**

Old working age definition (males aged 16-64, females aged 16-59)

<b>Employment status</b>	<b>Percentage of adults without impairment</b>	<b>Percentage of adults with impairment</b>	<b>Percentage of all adults</b>
Full-time - self employed	7	6	7
Full-time - employee	51	33	47
Part-time	18	16	17
Workless - retired from paid work	2	3	2
Workless - unemployed	6	7	6
Workless - sick or disabled	1	23	6
Workless - other inactive	15	11	14
Sample size (=100%)	20,030	6,070	26,100

**NOTE:**

1. See the Introduction of this report for the definition of impairment status.
2. Part time work includes both employee and self employed; see the Glossary (Chapter 21) of this report for more information.
3. Unemployed uses the International Labour Organisation definition of unemployment; see the Glossary (Chapter 21) of this report for more information.
4. All respondents regardless of impairment status could be classified as 'Workless – sick or disabled'.



**Table 7.3: Barriers to employment opportunities for employed adults by impairment status, 2009/11**

Adults aged 16 and over who were in employment but were limited in the type or amount of paid work that they could do

<b>Barrier</b>	<b>Percentage of adults without impairment</b>	<b>Percentage of adults with impairment</b>	<b>Percentage of all adults</b>
At least one barrier to employment opportunities	18	33	21
A health condition, illness or impairment	4	35	13
Family responsibilities	44	29	39
Lack of job opportunities	16	17	17
Lack of qualifications/experience/skills	12	14	12
Disability related reasons	1	13	4
Attitudes of employers	8	11	9
Caring responsibilities	7	10	8
Difficulty with transport	6	9	7
Anxiety/Lack of confidence	2	8	4
Affects receipt of benefits	3	6	4
Lack of help or assistance	2	5	3
Attitudes of colleagues	1	3	2
Difficulty getting into buildings	-	2	1
Difficulty using facilities	-	2	1
Lack of special aids or equipment	..	2	1
Other reasons	38	25	34
Sample size (=100%)	2,570	1,080	3,650

**NOTE:**

1. See the Introduction of this report for the definition of impairment status.
2. Respondents were asked to select all barriers that applied to them from the list of options provided. All respondents regardless of impairment status could select these response options.

**Table 7.4: Employment enablers for employed adults by impairment status, 2009/11**

Adults aged 16 and over and in employment

<b>Enabler</b>	<b>Percentage of adults without impairment</b>	<b>Percentage of adults with impairment</b>	<b>Percentage of all adults</b>
Modified hours or days or reduced work hours	16	21	17
Tax credits	8	11	8
Changes to work area or equipment	5	10	6
Modified duties	3	7	4
A job coach or personal assistant	5	5	5
Building modifications	1	4	2
Other equipment or services	2	3	2
None of these	71	59	68
Sample size (=100%)	13,690	3,290	16,980

**NOTE:**

1. See the Introduction of this report for the definition of impairment status.
2. Respondents were asked to select all enablers that applied to them from the list of options provided. All respondents regardless of impairment status could select these response options.

**Table 7.5: Barriers to employment opportunities for unemployed adults seeking work by impairment status, 2009/11**

Adults aged 16 and over who were unemployed and seeking work and were limited in the type or amount of paid work that they could do

<b>Barrier</b>	<b>Percentage of adults without impairment</b>	<b>Percentage of adults with impairment</b>	<b>Percentage of all adults</b>
At least one barrier to employment opportunities	31	58	39
A health condition, illness or impairment	8	45	25
Lack of job opportunities	40	43	41
Difficulty with transport	24	29	27
Lack of qualifications/experience/skills	24	28	25
Family responsibilities	39	26	33
Disability related reasons	..	23	11
Attitudes of employers	6	20	12
Anxiety/Lack of confidence	6	16	11
Affects receipt of benefits	5	13	9
Caring responsibilities	7	10	8
Lack of help or assistance	5	7	6
Attitudes of colleagues	..	4	2
Lack of special aids or equipment	..	3	2
Difficulty getting into buildings	..	2	1
Difficulty using facilities	..	2	1
Other reasons	28	13	22
Sample size (=100%)	330	260	590

**NOTE:**

1. See the Introduction of this report for the definition of impairment status.
2. Respondents were asked to select all barriers that applied to them from the list of options provided. All respondents regardless of impairment status could select these response options.
3. The definition of unemployed is not consistent with the International Labour Organisation (ILO) definition as availability to start working in the two weeks after interview is not checked. For more information regarding the ILO definition see the Glossary (Chapter 21) of this report.

**Table 7.6: Employment enablers for unemployed adults seeking work by impairment status, 2009/11**

Adults aged 16 and over who were unemployed and seeking work

<b>Enabler</b>	<b>Percentage of adults without impairment</b>	<b>Percentage of adults with impairment</b>	<b>Percentage of all adults</b>
Modified hours or days or reduced work hours	45	36	41
Tax credits	15	19	17
Modified duties	3	14	8
Changes to work area or equipment	1	10	5
A job coach or personal assistant	4	9	6
Building modifications	..	5	3
Other equipment or services	11	19	14
None of these	41	39	40
<hr/>			
Sample size (=100%)	330	260	590

**NOTE:**

1. See the Introduction of this report for the definition of impairment status.
2. Respondents were asked to select all enablers that applied to them from the list of options provided. All respondents regardless of impairment status could select these response options.
3. The definition of unemployed is not consistent with the International Labour Organisation (ILO) definition as availability to start working in the two weeks after interview is not checked. For more information regarding the ILO definition see the Glossary (Chapter 21) of this report.

**Table 7.7: Barriers to employment opportunities for economically inactive adults by impairment status, 2009/11**

Adults aged 16 and over who were economically inactive

<b>Barrier</b>	<b>Percentage of adults without impairment</b>	<b>Percentage of adults with impairment</b>	<b>Percentage of all adults</b>
A health condition, illness or impairment	8	70	42
Disability related reasons	2	41	24
Family responsibilities	69	22	43
Anxiety/Lack of confidence	3	19	12
Difficulty with transport	3	11	8
Caring responsibilities	13	9	11
Lack of job opportunities	9	8	9
Lack of qualifications/experience/skills	6	8	7
Attitudes of employers	2	6	4
Affects receipt of benefits	3	6	5
Lack of help or assistance	2	5	4
Difficulty using facilities	..	4	2
Difficulty getting into buildings	..	4	2
Attitudes of colleagues	..	3	2
Lack of special aids or equipment	..	2	1
Other reasons (specify)	19	6	12
Sample size (=100%)	1,510	1,850	3,360

**NOTE:**

1. See the Introduction of this report for the definition of impairment status.
2. Respondents were asked to select all barriers that applied to them from the list of options provided. All respondents regardless of impairment status could select these response options.
3. See the Glossary (Chapter 21) of this report for the definition of economically inactive.

**Table 7.8: Employment enablers for economically inactive adults by impairment status, 2009/11**

Adults aged 16 and over who were economically inactive

<b>Enabler</b>	<b>Percentage of adults without impairment</b>	<b>Percentage of adults with impairment</b>	<b>Percentage of all adults</b>
Modified hours or days or reduced work hours	30	25	27
Building modifications	1	15	8
Modified duties	3	13	9
Tax credits	9	9	9
A job coach or personal assistant	2	7	4
Changes to work area or equipment	1	6	4
Other equipment or services	5	10	8
None of these	63	59	61
Sample size (=100%)	1,510	1,840	3,350

**NOTE:**

1. See the Introduction of this report for the definition of impairment status.
2. Respondents were asked to select all enablers that applied to them from the list of options provided. All respondents regardless of impairment status could select these response options.
3. See the Glossary (Chapter 21) of this report for the definition of economically inactive.

## 8 Economic life and living standards

This chapter presents a summary of how households are managing financially in Great Britain. Breakdowns by households are presented by both Equality Act (EA)<sup>19</sup> disability status and impairment status. Each definition is described in the Introduction of this report.

The results in this chapter are reported at household level, with questions having been answered by either the Household Reference Person (HRP) or the spouse of the HRP. The HRP is either the sole occupier of the household, the person with the highest income or the oldest member of the household (for further information see the Glossary, Chapter 21).

### Households with at least one person with rights under the disability provisions of the Equality Act

The following section presents a summary of the financial burden experienced by households making loan repayments<sup>20</sup> by EA disability status. 40 per cent of households in Great Britain had at least one person with rights under the disability provisions of the Equality Act; from this point forward this group will be referred to as households with at least one EA disabled person.

#### Financial burden of loan repayments

Table 8.1 shows a breakdown of the financial burden experienced making loan repayments by households with at least one EA disabled person. 25 per cent of households with at least one EA disabled person found making loan repayments “a heavy burden”. This is higher than for households with no EA disabled people (16 per cent). Almost half of households with no EA disabled people found making loan repayments “no burden at all” (46 per cent). This compares with 42 per cent of households with at least one EA disabled person.

### Households with at least one person with impairment

The following sections present a summary of the financial burden experienced by households making loan repayments by impairment status. Also presented is a breakdown of the ability of households to afford both

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<sup>19</sup> Fieldwork was conducted between June 2009 and March 2011. The Equality Act 2010 replaced the Disability Discrimination Act 1995 on 1<sup>st</sup> October 2010. Everyone in this group would meet the current definition of disability for the purposes of equality law which is now contained in the Equality Act 2010, but these estimates do not reflect the total number of people who may have rights under the disability provisions of the Equality Act 2010.

<sup>20</sup> Based on households who have at least one person responsible for repaying a credit card, hire purchase or other loans (excluding mortgage repayments or other loans connected with the accommodation).

material items and usual expenses<sup>21</sup>, along with the reasons for households having difficulty managing financially. 43 per cent of households in Great Britain had at least one person with impairment.

### **Financial burden of loan repayment**

Table 8.2 shows a breakdown of the financial burden experienced by households making loan repayments by impairment status. 27 per cent of households with at least one person with impairment found making loan repayments “a heavy burden”, which was higher than the 14 per cent of households without any people with impairment. 48 per cent of households without any people with impairment found making loan repayments “no burden at all” compared with 40 per cent of households with at least one person with impairment.

### **Deprivation of items and services: inability to afford usual expenses<sup>21</sup>**

Table 8.3 shows a breakdown of the inability to afford usual expenses by impairment status.

Six per cent of all households “could not afford” to eat meat, chicken or fish every second day (or vegetarian equivalent), which varied by impairment status (5 per cent of households without any people with impairment and 9 per cent of households with at least one person with impairment). Nine per cent of all households “could not afford” to keep their home adequately warm. Households with at least one person with impairment were less able to keep their home warm compared with households without any people with impairment (12 per cent and 7 per cent respectively).

26 per cent of all households “could not afford” to pay for an annual week’s holiday away from home. A higher proportion of households with at least one person with impairment “could not afford” an annual week’s holiday compared with those households without any people with impairment (33 per cent and 20 per cent respectively). Similarly, households with at least one person with impairment were unable to afford to pay for an unexpected, but necessary, expense of £500 more often than those households without any people with impairment (38 per cent and 26 per cent respectively). Three per cent of all households reported being unable to afford any of the expenses listed.

### **Ability to pay usual expenses**

Table 8.4 provides a breakdown of households’ ability to pay their usual expenses by impairment status. Households without any people with

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<sup>21</sup> This list of usual expenses has been constructed to reflect consumption goods and activities that are typical in a society at a given point in time, irrespective of people’s preferences with respect to these items. These questions are also asked on the Family Resources Survey and General Lifestyle Survey.



impairment found it easier to afford their usual expenses than households with at least one person with impairment, but not all, or households where all people had impairment.

46 per cent of all households were able to pay their usual expenses “fairly easily”. A lower proportion of households where all people had impairment were able to pay usual expenses “fairly easily” compared with households without any people with impairment (42 per cent and 49 per cent respectively). Similarly, a higher proportion of households without any people with impairment were able to pay usual expenses “very easily” compared with households with at least one person with impairment, but not all, or households where all people had impairment (23 per cent, 15 per cent and 15 per cent respectively).

A higher proportion of households with at least one person with impairment, but not all, had “great difficulty” paying their usual expenses compared with those households without any people with impairment (10 per cent and 5 per cent respectively). Households where all people had impairment also reported “great difficulty” paying usual expenses more often than those households with at least one person with impairment, but not all (12 per cent and 10 per cent respectively).

### **Reasons for households having difficulty managing financially**

Table 8.5 shows a breakdown of the reasons households had difficulty managing financially by impairment status. Only households which reported “some difficulty” or “great difficulty” are included in this analysis (27 per cent and 7 per cent respectively).

80 per cent of all households reported limited income as the main reason for having difficulty managing financially. Households with at least one person with impairment were more likely than households without any people with impairment to give limited income as a reason (84 per cent and 76 per cent respectively). An increase in the cost of living was the second most commonly reported reason for households having difficulty managing financially (65 per cent). This result was similar for all households regardless of impairment status.

Financial difficulty caused by costs related to a health condition, illness or impairment was reported by 14 per cent of those households with at least one person with impairment. Nine per cent of households with at least one person with impairment reported other costs related to disability as the cause for financial difficulty.

**Table 8.1: Financial burden of loan repayment by EA disability status, 2009/11**

Households

<b>Financial burden</b>	<b>Percentage of households with all non-disabled people</b>	<b>Percentage of households with at least one EA disabled person</b>	<b>Percentage of all households</b>
A heavy burden/struggle	16	25	19
A slight burden/struggle	38	32	36
Not a burden/struggle at all	46	42	45
Sample size (=100%)	5,580	3,180	8,760

NOTE:

1. See the Introduction of this report for the definition of EA disability status.

**Table 8.2: Financial burden of loan repayment by impairment status, 2009/11**

Households

<b>Financial burden</b>	<b>Percentage of households without any people with impairment</b>	<b>Percentage of households with at least one person with impairment</b>	<b>Percentage of all households</b>
A heavy burden/struggle	14	27	19
A slight burden/struggle	38	34	36
Not a burden/struggle at all	48	40	45
Sample size (=100%)	5,100	3,660	8,760

NOTE:

1. See the Introduction of this report for the definition of impairment status.

**Table 8.3: Deprivation of items and services: inability to afford usual expenses by impairment status, 2009/11**

Households

<b>Usual expenses</b>	<b>Percentage of households without any people with impairment</b>	<b>Percentage of households with at least one person with impairment</b>	<b>Percentage of all households</b>
To pay for a weeks annual holiday away from home	20	33	26
To eat meat, chicken or fish every second day (or vegetarian equivalent)	5	9	6
Pay an unexpected, but necessary expense of £500	26	38	31
To keep your home adequately warm	7	12	9
Afford none of these	2	4	3
Sample size (=100%)	11,020	8,800	19,830

NOTE:

1. See the Introduction of this report for the definition of impairment status.

**Table 8.4: Ability to pay usual expenses by impairment status, 2009/11**

Households

<b>Ability to pay usual expenses</b>	<b>Percentage of households without any people with impairment</b>	<b>Percentage of households with at least one person, but not all, with impairment</b>	<b>Percentage of households where all people have impairment</b>	<b>Percentage of all households</b>
With great difficulty	5	10	12	7
With some difficulty	24	30	31	27
Fairly easily	49	44	42	46
Very easily	23	15	15	20
Sample size (=100%)	11,020	5,060	3,730	19,810

NOTE:

1. See the Introduction of this report for the definition of impairment status.

**Table 8.5: Reasons for difficulty managing financially by impairment status, 2009/11**

Households reporting some or great difficulty managing financially

<b>Reason</b>	<b>Percentage of households without any people with impairment</b>	<b>Percentage of households with at least one person with impairment</b>	<b>Percentage of all households</b>
Limited income	76	84	80
Increased cost of living	64	66	65
Difficulty in budgeting	13	14	14
Costs related to a health condition, illness or impairment	1	14	8
Costs related to a disability	-	9	5
Other reasons	9	7	8
Sample size (=100%)	2,990	3,540	6,530

**NOTE:**

1. See the Introduction of this report for the definition of impairment status.
2. Households were asked to select all reasons that applied to the household from the list of options provided. All households regardless of impairment status could select these response options.



## 9 Transport

This chapter presents a summary of the modes of transport used (and desired frequency of use) and the barriers to using these modes of transport, for adults aged 16 and over, in Great Britain. Results for the modes of transport used in the 12 months prior to the interview taking place are presented by both Equality Act (EA)<sup>22</sup> disability status and impairment status. Each definition is described in the Introduction to this report.

The modes of transport presented in this chapter are:

- motor vehicles (car, van, motorcycle or moped)
- local buses
- long distance buses
- the underground
- local trains
- long distance trains
- taxis/minicabs

The tables in this chapter include barriers to using the modes of transport listed above for the following groups:

- adults who have not used any of the transport types above as much as they would like and have experienced at least one barrier using that mode of transport
- adults who do not use the transport types above because of at least one barrier experienced when using the mode of transport.

### **Modes of transport and desired frequency of use**

This section presents results for adults who have used each of the modes of transport. Table 9.1 shows a breakdown of whether adults have used different modes of transport:

- more than they would like
- as much as they would like
- less than they would like
- not at all

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<sup>22</sup> Fieldwork was conducted between June 2009 and March 2011. The Equality Act 2010 replaced the Disability Discrimination Act 1995 on 1<sup>st</sup> October 2010. Everyone in this group would meet the current definition of disability for the purposes of equality law which is now contained in the Equality Act 2010, but these estimates do not reflect the total number of people who may have rights under the disability provisions of the Equality Act 2010.

The most frequently used mode of transport was motor vehicles - of those adults who had continuous use of a motor vehicle, 97 per cent reported using it. Motor vehicles also had the highest proportion of adults reporting using the mode of transport “as much as they would like” (70 per cent).

After motor vehicles, the modes of transport which were most frequently used by all adults were local buses and taxis/minicabs (both 60 per cent). For adults using these modes of transport, a higher proportion reported using taxis/minicabs “as much as they would like” compared with local buses (47 per cent and 43 per cent respectively).

The mode of transport used the least frequently was long distance buses (16 per cent of all adults).

## **Adults with rights under the disability provisions of the Equality Act**

The following section presents a summary of modes of transport used by EA disability status. 26 per cent of adults in Great Britain had rights under the disability provisions of the Equality Act; from this point forward this group will be referred to as EA disabled adults.

### **Modes of transport and desired frequency of use by EA disability status**

Table 9.2 presents results for adults, by EA disability status, who have used one of the listed modes of transport in the past 12 months and have used them; “as much as they would like” or “less than they would like”.

Non-disabled adults used long distance buses “as much as they would like” more often than EA disabled adults (81 per cent and 78 per cent respectively). A higher proportion of non-disabled adults used long distance trains “as much as they would like” than EA disabled adults (83 per cent and 77 per cent respectively). 75 per cent of non-disabled adults used motor vehicles “as much as they would like” compared with 64 per cent of EA disabled adults.

26 per cent of EA disabled adults used motor vehicles “less than they would like” compared with 12 per cent of non-disabled adults. A higher proportion of EA disabled adults than non-disabled adults reported using local buses “less than they would like” (18 per cent and 12 per cent respectively). 17 per cent of EA disabled adults reported using long distance trains “less than they would like” compared with 11 per cent of non-disabled adults.



## Adults with impairment

The following sections present a summary of the modes of transport used and the barriers to using these modes of transport by impairment status. 29 per cent of adults in Great Britain had at least one impairment.

### Modes of transport and desired frequency of use by impairment status

Table 9.3 presents results for adults who have used each mode of transport in the past 12 months by impairment status:

- as much as they would like, or
- less than they would like.

Adults with impairment were less likely to report using long distance buses “as much as they would like” when compared with adults without impairment (76 per cent and 82 per cent respectively). A higher proportion of adults without impairment than adults with impairment used long distance trains “as much as they would like” (84 per cent and 76 per cent respectively). 63 per cent of adults with impairment used motor vehicles “as much as they would like” compared with 76 per cent of adults without impairment.

Adults with impairment were more likely to use motor vehicles less than they would like” when compared with adults without impairment (25 per cent and 12 per cent respectively). A higher proportion of adults with impairment than adults without impairment reported using local buses “less than they would like” (18 per cent and 12 per cent respectively). 18 per cent of adults with impairment reported using long distance trains “less than they would like” compared with 11 per cent of adults without impairment.

### Barriers to using motor vehicles

This section presents results for the 17 per cent of all adults who have continuous use of a motor vehicle and reported experiencing difficulty using it. A higher proportion of adults with impairment experienced difficulties than adults without impairment (27 per cent and 14 per cent respectively).

Table 9.4 reports the barriers to using a motor vehicle by impairment status. The most common barrier experienced by all adults to using motor vehicles related to cost (50 per cent). Being too busy or not having enough time was identified as a barrier by 13 per cent of all adults and it was identified by a higher proportion of adults without impairment than adults with impairment (17 per cent and 9 per cent respectively).

For adults with impairment, reasons related to a health condition, illness or impairment was also reported as a barrier to why they did not use motor vehicles “as much as they would like” (30 per cent).

## **Barriers to using local buses**

This section presents results for the 25 per cent of all adults who reported experiencing difficulty accessing local buses. A higher proportion of adults with impairment than adults without impairment experienced difficulty using local buses (34 per cent and 21 per cent respectively).

Table 9.5 reports the barriers to using local buses for adults by impairment status. The most common barrier experienced by all adults related to the transport being unavailable (30 per cent). This was identified as a barrier by a higher proportion of adults without impairment than adults with impairment (37 per cent and 22 per cent respectively).

The second most common barrier to using local buses for all adults related to its cost (25 per cent). Cost was reported as a barrier by a higher proportion of adults without impairment than adults with impairment (28 per cent and 21 per cent respectively).

Difficulty getting in or out of transport was identified as a barrier to using local buses more frequently by adults with impairment than adults without impairment (18 per cent and 3 per cent respectively).

For adults with impairment, reasons related to a health condition, illness or impairment and a disability were also reported as barriers to why they did not use local buses “as much as they would like” (31 per cent and 23 per cent respectively).

## **Barriers to using long distance buses**

This section presents results for the 27 per cent of all adults who reported experiencing difficulty using long distance buses. A higher proportion of adults with impairment than adults without impairment experienced difficulties accessing long distance buses (38 per cent and 23 per cent respectively).

Table 9.6 reports the barriers to using long distance buses for adults by impairment status. The most common barrier experienced by all adults to using long distance buses related to its cost (34 per cent). This was identified as a barrier by a higher proportion of adults without impairment than adults with impairment (35 per cent and 31 per cent respectively).

Difficulty getting in or out of transport was identified as a barrier to using long distance buses more frequently by adults with impairment than adults without impairment (11 per cent and 2 per cent respectively).

For adults with impairment, reasons associated with a health condition, illness or impairment and a disability were also reported as barriers to why they did not use long distance buses “as much as they would like” (32 per cent and 20 per cent respectively).

## **Barriers to using the underground**

This section presents results for the 27 per cent of all adults who reported experiencing difficulty using the underground. A higher proportion of adults with impairment than adults without impairment experienced difficulty accessing the underground (36 per cent and 23 per cent respectively).

Table 9.7 reports the barriers to using the underground for adults by impairment status. The most common barrier experienced by all adults was the transport being unavailable (71 per cent), which was reported more often by adults without impairment than adults with impairment (76 per cent and 64 per cent respectively). The second most common barrier was cost (8 per cent), and was experienced fairly equally by adults with and adults without impairment (8 per cent and 9 per cent respectively).

Anxiety or lack of confidence was identified as a barrier more often by adults with impairment than adults without impairment (8 per cent and 3 per cent respectively).

For adults with impairment, reasons related to a health condition, illness or impairment and a disability were also given as to why they did not use the underground “as much as they would like” (14 per cent and 9 per cent respectively).

## **Barriers to using local trains**

This section presents results for the 21 per cent of all adults who reported experiencing difficulty using local trains. A higher proportion of adults with impairment than adults without impairment experienced difficulty using local trains (31 per cent and 16 per cent respectively).

Table 9.8 reports the barriers to using local trains for adults by impairment status. The most common barrier experienced by all adults was cost (35 per cent). This was identified as a barrier by a higher proportion of adults without impairment than adults with impairment (37 per cent and 31 per cent respectively). The second most common barrier experienced by all adults was transport being unavailable (27 per cent). This was reported as a barrier by a higher proportion of adults without impairment than adults with impairment (34 per cent and 19 per cent respectively).

Anxiety or lack of confidence was identified as a barrier more often by adults with impairment than adults without impairment (10 per cent and 2 per cent respectively).

For adults with impairment, reasons related to a health condition, illness or impairment and a disability were also given in relation to why they did not use

local trains “as much as they would like” (27 per cent and 18 per cent respectively).

### **Barriers to using long distance trains**

This section presents results for the 22 per cent of all adults who reported experiencing difficulty using long distance trains. A higher proportion of adults with impairment than adults without impairment experienced difficulty using long distance trains (32 per cent and 18 per cent respectively).

Table 9.9 reports the barriers to using long distance trains for adults by impairment status. The most common barrier experienced by all adults was cost (58 per cent). This was identified as a barrier by a higher proportion of adults without impairment than adults with impairment (65 per cent and 48 per cent respectively). The second most common barrier related to the transport being unavailable (11 per cent). This was reported by a similar proportion of adults with and without impairment (9 per cent and 12 per cent respectively).

Anxiety or lack of confidence was identified as a barrier more frequently by adults with impairment than adults without impairment (10 per cent and 2 per cent respectively).

For adults with impairment, reasons associated with a health condition, illness or impairment and a disability were also reported as barriers to why they did not use long distance trains “as much as they would like” (27 per cent and 18 per cent respectively).

### **Barriers to using taxis/minicabs**

This section presents results for the 17 per cent of all adults who reported experiencing difficulty using taxis/minicabs. A higher proportion of adults with impairment than adults without impairment experienced difficulty using taxis/minicabs (24 per cent and 14 per cent respectively).

Table 9.10 reports the barriers to using taxis/minicabs for adults by impairment status. The most common barrier experienced by all adults was cost (85 per cent). This was identified as a barrier by a higher proportion of adults without impairment than adults with impairment (90 per cent and 79 per cent respectively).

For adults with impairment, reasons associated with a health condition, illness or impairment and a disability were also reported as barriers to why they did not use taxis/minicabs “as much as they would like” (13 per cent and 9 per cent respectively).

**Table 9.1: Modes of transport and desired frequency of use, 2009/11**

Adults aged 16 and over

<b>Mode of transport</b>	<b>Percentage who have used transport more than they would like</b>	<b>Percentage who have used transport as much as they would like</b>	<b>Percentage who have used transport less than they would like</b>	<b>Percentage who have not used transport at all</b>	<b>Sample size (=100%)</b>
Motor vehicle	12	70	15	3	25,490
Local buses	9	43	8	40	31,980
Long distance buses	1	13	2	84	31,980
Underground	4	29	3	63	31,980
Local trains	3	39	6	53	31,980
Long distance trains	2	24	4	71	31,980
Taxis/minicabs	9	47	4	40	31,980

NOTE:

1. Motor vehicle includes car, van, motorcycle or moped.

**Table 9.2: Modes of transport and desired frequency of use by EA disability status, 2009/11**

Adults aged 16 and over who have used each form of transport in the previous 12 months

<b>Mode of transport</b>	<b>Percentage who have used transport as much as they would like (non-disabled adults)</b>	<b>Percentage who have used transport as much as they would like (EA disabled adults)</b>	<b>Percentage who have used transport less than they would like (non-disabled adults)</b>	<b>Percentage who have used transport less than they would like (EA disabled adults)</b>	<b>Sample size for non-disabled adults (=100%)</b>	<b>Sample size for EA disabled adults (=100%)</b>
Motor vehicle	75	64	12	26	18,600	6,110
Local buses	72	68	12	18	13,340	5,360
Long distance buses	81	78	9	14	3,560	1,500
Underground	81	75	8	11	8,980	1,880
Local trains	83	77	11	16	11,650	2,970
Long distance trains	83	77	11	17	7,160	1,620
Taxis/minicabs	80	72	6	10	14,020	4,870

**NOTE:**

1. See the Introduction of this report for the definition of EA disability status.
2. Motor vehicle includes car, van, motorcycle or moped.

**Table 9.3: Modes of transport and desired frequency of use by impairment status, 2009/11**

Adults aged 16 and over who have used each form of transport in the previous 12 months

<b>Mode of transport</b>	<b>Percentage who have used transport as much as they would like (adults without impairment )</b>	<b>Percentage who have used transport as much as they would like (adults with impairment )</b>	<b>Percentage who have used transport less than they would like (adults without impairment)</b>	<b>Percentage who have used transport less than they would like (adults with impairment)</b>	<b>Sample size for adults without impairment (=100%)</b>	<b>Sample size for adults with impairment (=100%)</b>
Motor vehicle	76	63	12	25	17,950	6,750
Local buses	73	66	12	18	13,020	5,670
Long distance buses	82	76	9	15	3,540	1,530
Underground	81	74	7	11	8,580	2,280
Local trains	84	75	10	17	11,190	3,430
Long distance trains	84	76	11	18	6,920	1,860
Taxis/minicabs	81	71	5	10	13,460	5,430

**NOTE:**

1. See the Introduction of this report for the definition of impairment status.
2. Motor vehicle includes car, van, motorcycle or moped.

**Table 9.4: Barriers to using a motor vehicle by impairment status, 2009/11**

Adults aged 16 and over who experienced barriers to using a motor vehicle

<b>Barrier</b>	<b>Percentage of adults without impairment</b>	<b>Percentage of adults with impairment</b>	<b>Percentage of all adults</b>
At least one barrier to using a motor vehicle	14	27	17
Cost	49	51	50
A health condition, illness or impairment	3	30	14
A disability	1	18	8
Parking problems	12	14	13
Vehicle not available when needed	13	9	12
Too busy/not enough time	17	9	13
Difficulty getting in or out of the vehicle	-	8	3
Caring responsibilities	5	6	5
Lack of help or assistance	1	3	1
Attitudes of other people	3	3	3
Vehicle not suitable/adapted	1	2	1
Sample size (=100%)	2,440	1,840	4,280

**NOTES:**

1. See the Introduction of this report for the definition of impairment status.
2. Motor vehicle includes car, van, motorcycle or moped.
3. Respondents were asked to select all barriers that applied to them from the list of options provided. All respondents regardless of impairment status could select these response options.



**Table 9.5: Barriers to using local buses by impairment status, 2009/11**

Adults aged 16 and over who experienced barriers to using local buses

<b>Barrier</b>	<b>Percentage of adults without impairment</b>	<b>Percentage of adults with impairment</b>	<b>Percentage of all adults</b>
At least one barrier to using local buses	21	34	25
A health condition, illness or impairment	2	31	14
A disability	1	23	10
Transport unavailable	37	22	30
Cost	28	21	25
Difficulty getting in or out of the transport	3	18	9
Difficulty getting to stop or station	8	17	12
Difficulty getting from stop or station to destination	7	16	11
Anxiety/lack of confidence	2	12	6
Delay and disruption to service	16	11	14
Overcrowding	10	9	10
Lack of help or assistance	2	8	4
Too busy/not enough time	14	7	11
Attitudes of passengers	7	6	7
Lack of information	9	6	8
Fear of crime	5	6	6
Lack of space	5	5	5
Attitudes of staff	3	4	3
Caring responsibilities	2	4	3
Seeing signs or hearing announcements	-	2	1
Unable to book a seat	-	1	1
Other reasons	25	15	21
Sample size (=100%)	4,760	3,380	8,140

**NOTES:**

1. See the Introduction of this report for the definition of impairment status.
2. Respondents were asked to select all barriers that applied to them from the list of options provided. All respondents regardless of impairment status could select these response options.

**Table 9.6: Barriers to using long distance buses by impairment status, 2009/11**

Adults aged 16 and over who experienced barriers to using long distance buses

<b>Barrier</b>	<b>Percentage of adults without impairment</b>	<b>Percentage of adults with impairment</b>	<b>Percentage of all adults</b>
At least one barrier to using long distance buses	23	38	27
A health condition, illness or impairment	4	32	16
Cost	35	31	34
A disability	1	20	9
Anxiety/lack of confidence	3	12	7
Difficulty getting to stop or station	8	11	9
Difficulty getting in or out of the transport	2	11	6
Difficulty getting from stop or station to destination	7	10	8
Overcrowding	11	10	10
Transport unavailable	12	8	11
Lack of space	9	8	9
Delay and disruption to service	12	7	10
Too busy/not enough time	13	7	11
Lack of help or assistance	1	5	3
Fear of crime	4	5	4
Caring responsibilities	4	4	4
Attitudes of passengers	5	4	4
Lack of information	5	4	5
Seeing signs or hearing announcements	-	2	1
Attitudes of staff	2	2	2
Unable to book a seat	1	1	1
Other reasons	34	19	28
Sample size (=100%)	4,950	3,660	8,620

**NOTES:**

1. See the Introduction of this report for the definition of impairment status.
2. Respondents were asked to select all barriers that applied to them from the list of options provided. All respondents regardless of impairment status could select these response options.

**Table 9.7: Barriers to using the underground by impairment status, 2009/11**

Adults aged 16 and over who experienced barriers to using the underground

<b>Barrier</b>	<b>Percentage of adults without impairment</b>	<b>Percentage of adults with impairment</b>	<b>Percentage of all adults</b>
At least one barrier to using the underground	23	36	27
Transport unavailable	76	64	71
A health condition, illness or impairment	1	14	6
A disability	-	9	4
Anxiety/lack of confidence	3	8	5
Cost	9	8	8
Overcrowding	7	6	7
Difficulty getting in or out of the transport	1	5	3
Fear of crime	4	4	4
Difficulty getting to stop or station	2	4	3
Difficulty getting from stop or station to destination	1	4	2
Lack of space	2	3	2
Lack of help or assistance	-	2	1
Delay and disruption to service	2	2	2
Attitudes of passengers	2	2	2
Too busy/not enough time	3	2	3
Caring responsibilities	1	1	1
Seeing signs or hearing announcements	-	1	-
Lack of information	1	1	1
Attitudes of staff	-	1	-
Unable to book a seat	-	-	-
Other reasons	3	3	3
Sample size (=100%)	5,270	3,560	8,830

**NOTES:**

1. See the Introduction of this report for the definition of impairment status.
2. Respondents were asked to select all barriers that applied to them from the list of options provided. All respondents regardless of impairment status could select these response options.

**Table 9.8: Barriers to using local trains by impairment status, 2009/11**

Adults aged 16 and over who experienced barriers to using local trains

<b>Barrier</b>	<b>Percentage of adults without impairment</b>	<b>Percentage of adults with impairment</b>	<b>Percentage of all adults</b>
At least one barrier to using local trains	16	31	21
Cost	37	31	35
A health condition, illness or impairment	2	27	13
Transport unavailable	34	19	27
A disability	1	18	9
Difficulty getting to stop or station	11	15	12
Difficulty getting from stop or station to destination	8	12	10
Difficulty getting in or out of the transport	2	10	6
Anxiety/lack of confidence	2	10	5
Overcrowding	6	7	6
Delay and disruption to service	8	5	7
Lack of help or assistance	1	5	3
Too busy/not enough time	9	4	7
Fear of crime	3	3	3
Lack of space	2	3	3
Caring responsibilities	2	3	2
Attitudes of passengers	2	3	2
Seeing signs or hearing announcements	-	2	1
Lack of information	2	2	2
Attitudes of staff	1	1	1
Unable to book a seat	1	1	1
Other reasons	12	7	10
Sample size (=100%)	3,680	3,050	6,720

**NOTES:**

1. See the Introduction of this report for the definition of impairment status.
2. Respondents were asked to select all barriers that applied to them from the list of options provided. All respondents regardless of impairment status could select these response options.

**Table 9.9: Barriers to using long distance trains by impairment status, 2009/11**

Adults aged 16 and over who experienced barriers to using long distance trains

<b>Barrier</b>	<b>Percentage of adults without impairment</b>	<b>Percentage of adults with impairment</b>	<b>Percentage of all adults</b>
At least one barrier to using long distance trains	18	32	22
Cost	65	48	58
A health condition, illness or impairment	2	27	13
A disability	1	18	8
Difficulty getting to stop or station	7	11	9
Anxiety/lack of confidence	2	10	6
Difficulty getting from stop or station to destination	6	10	8
Difficulty getting in or out of the transport	2	9	5
Transport unavailable	12	9	11
Overcrowding	8	8	8
Too busy/not enough time	10	5	8
Delay and disruption to service	7	5	6
Lack of help or assistance	1	5	3
Lack of space	3	3	3
Fear of crime	2	3	3
Caring responsibilities	2	3	3
Attitudes of passengers	2	3	2
Seeing signs or hearing announcements	-	2	1
Lack of information	2	2	2
Attitudes of staff	1	2	1
Unable to book a seat	2	1	1
Other reasons	12	8	10
Sample size (=100%)	3,930	3,100	7,020

**NOTES:**

1. See the Introduction of this report for the definition of impairment status.
2. Respondents were asked to select all barriers that applied to them from the list of options provided. All respondents regardless of impairment status could select these response options.

**Table 9.10: Barriers to using taxis/minicabs by impairment status, 2009/11**

Adults aged 16 and over who experienced barriers to using taxis/minicabs

<b>Barrier</b>	<b>Percentage of adults without impairment</b>	<b>Percentage of adults with impairment</b>	<b>Percentage of all adults</b>
At least one barrier to using taxis/minicabs	14	24	17
Cost	90	79	85
A health condition, illness or impairment	-	13	6
A disability	-	9	4
Anxiety/lack of confidence	1	5	3
Difficulty getting in or out of the transport	1	4	2
Transport unavailable	4	3	4
Attitudes of staff	2	2	2
Lack of help or assistance	-	2	1
Fear of crime	2	1	2
Difficulty getting from stop or station to destination	-	1	1
Caring responsibilities	1	1	1
Difficulty getting to stop or station	-	1	1
Too busy/not enough time	1	1	1
Overcrowding	-	1	1
Lack of space	..	1	-
Lack of information	-	1	-
Delay and disruption to service	-	-	-
Attitudes of passengers	..	-	-
Seeing signs or hearing announcements	0	-	-
Unable to book a seat	..	..	-
Other reasons	4	3	4
Sample size (=100%)	2,930	2,240	5,170

**NOTES:**

1. See the Introduction of this report for the definition of impairment status.
2. Respondents were asked to select all barriers that applied to them from the list of options provided. All respondents regardless of impairment status could select these response options.

## 10 Leisure activities

This chapter presents a summary of the reasons that adults, aged 16 and over, in Great Britain did not take part in leisure activities as much as they would have liked to. The activities that people would have liked to participate in are compared with activities they have actually taken part in during the 12 months prior to the interview taking place.

Results for those who experienced a barrier to leisure activities are presented by both Equality Act (EA)<sup>23</sup> disability status and impairment status. Each definition is described in the Introduction of this report.

### Participation in leisure activities

Table 10.1 shows a breakdown of the leisure activities that adults would like to do in an ideal world against what they had actually done in the 12 months prior to the interview taking place.

A higher proportion of all adults wanted to take part in the activities listed more than they had actually done so over the past 12 months. 90 per cent of all adults reported that they would have liked to have gone on holiday compared with 37 per cent of all adults who had actually gone on holiday as much as they wanted to. 82 per cent of all adults reported they would have liked to have spent time with family compared with 58 per cent who had spent time with family as much as they wanted to. Similarly, 76 per cent of all adults said they would have liked to have visited friends compared with 48 per cent who had visited friends as much as they wanted to.

### Adults with rights under the disability provisions of the Equality Act

The following section presents a summary of the leisure activities where barriers were experienced by EA disability status. 26 per cent of adults in Great Britain had rights under the disability provisions of the Equality Act; from this point forward this group will be referred to as EA disabled adults.

### Participation in leisure activities

Table 10.2 shows a breakdown of the leisure activities where barriers to participation were experienced by EA disability status.

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<sup>23</sup> Fieldwork was conducted between June 2009 and March 2011. The Equality Act 2010 replaced the Disability Discrimination Act 1995 on 1<sup>st</sup> October 2010. Everyone in this group would meet the current definition of disability for the purposes of equality law which is now contained in the Equality Act 2010, but these estimates do not reflect the total number of people who may have rights under the disability provisions of the Equality Act 2010.

Charitable or voluntary work was reported as being the leisure activity adults were least able to take part in as much as they would have liked to (65 per cent). Barriers to taking part in this activity were reported by a slightly higher proportion of EA disabled adults than non-disabled adults (66 per cent and 64 per cent respectively). 65 per cent of EA disabled adults experienced barriers to going to a museum or places of historical interest compared with 60 per cent of non-disabled adults.

A higher proportion of EA disabled adults experienced barriers to playing sport than non-disabled adults (70 per cent and 55 per cent respectively). Barriers to spending time with family were experienced by the lowest proportion of all adults (35 per cent); this was reported by a slightly higher proportion of EA disabled adults than non-disabled adults (36 per cent and 34 per cent respectively).

### **Adults with impairment**

The following sections present a summary of the leisure activities where barriers were experienced by impairment status. Where adults have taken part in activities less than they would have liked to, the reasons for this are also reported. Finally, a breakdown of the overall choice adults in Great Britain have over their use of free time by impairment status is provided.

29 per cent of adults in Great Britain had at least one impairment.

### **Participation in leisure activities**

This section presents results for the 79 per cent of adults aged 16 and over who experienced a barrier to at least one leisure activity. Table 10.3 shows a breakdown of the leisure activities where barriers were experienced to participation by impairment status.

Charitable or voluntary work was reported as being the leisure activity adults were least able to take part in as much as they would have liked to (65 per cent). Barriers to taking part in this activity were reported by a slightly higher proportion of adults with impairment than those without impairment (67 per cent and 65 per cent respectively).

68 per cent of adults with impairment experienced barriers to going to a museum or places of historical interest compared with 58 per cent of adults without impairment. A higher proportion of adults with impairment experienced barriers to playing sport than adults without impairment (72 per cent and 54 per cent respectively).

Barriers to spending time with family were experienced by the lowest proportion of all adults (35 per cent); 38 per cent of adults with impairment



reported not being able to spend as much time as they would have liked to with family compared with 33 per cent of adults without impairment.

### **Barriers to going on holiday**

This section presents results for the 59 per cent of all adults who experienced at least one barrier to going on holiday as much as they would have liked to in the past 12 months. A higher proportion of adults with impairment experienced barriers to going on holiday than adults without impairment (66 per cent and 56 per cent respectively).

Table 10.4 shows a breakdown of the barriers to going on holiday by impairment status. The main barrier to not going on holiday as much as they would have liked to for all adults was cost (73 per cent). The second most frequent barrier, reported by 38 per cent of all adults, was being too busy or not having enough time. This barrier was given by a higher proportion of adults without impairment than those with impairment (45 per cent and 24 per cent respectively).

Other barriers reported by all adults included caring responsibilities and having no one to go with (7 per cent and 6 per cent respectively). Difficulty with transport was reported as a barrier by four per cent of all adults. This barrier was given by a higher proportion of adults with impairment than those without impairment (8 per cent and 2 per cent respectively).

For adults with impairment, reasons related to a health condition illness or impairment and a disability were also given in relation to why they did not go on holiday as much as they would have liked to (27 per cent and 15 per cent respectively).

### **Barriers to visiting friends**

This section presents results for the 41 per cent of all adults who experienced at least one barrier to visiting friends as much as they would have liked to in the past 12 months. A higher proportion of adults with impairment experienced barriers to visiting friends than adults without impairment (47 per cent and 39 per cent respectively).

Table 10.5 presents a breakdown of the barriers to visiting friends by impairment status. The main barrier for all adults not visiting friends as much as they would have liked to was being too busy or not having enough time (67 per cent). This result varied by impairment status; 78 per cent of adults without impairment reported this as a barrier compared with 44 per cent of adults with impairment.

The second most frequent barrier reported was cost with 23 per cent of adults saying visiting friends was too expensive. Difficulty with transport was

reported as a barrier by seven per cent of all adults. This barrier was given by a higher proportion of adults with impairment than those without impairment (12 per cent and 5 per cent respectively).

For adults with impairment, reasons related to a health condition illness or impairment and a disability were also given in relation to why they did not visit friends as much as they would have liked to (26 per cent and 15 per cent respectively).

### **Barriers to spending time with family**

This section presents results for the 35 per cent of all adults who experienced at least one barrier to spending time with family as much as they would have liked to in the past 12 months. A higher proportion of adults with impairment experienced barriers to spending time with family than adults without impairment (38 per cent and 33 per cent respectively).

Table 10.6 shows a breakdown of the barriers to spending time with family by impairment status. The main barrier for all adults not spending time with family as much as they would have liked to was being too busy or not having enough time (63 per cent). This result varied by impairment status; 73 per cent of adults without impairment compared with 42 per cent of adults with impairment.

The second most frequent barrier reported was cost with 21 per cent of all adults saying spending time with family was too expensive. This barrier was given by 25 per cent of adults with impairment compared with 19 per cent of adults without impairment.

Difficulty with transport was reported as a barrier by six per cent of all adults. This barrier was given by a higher proportion of adults with impairment than those without impairment (11 per cent and 4 per cent respectively).

Caring responsibilities was reported as a barrier by four per cent of all adults. This was reported by a slightly higher proportion of adults with impairment than those without impairment (4 per cent and 3 per cent respectively).

For adults with impairment, reasons related to a health condition, illness or impairment and a disability were also given in relation to why they did not spend as much time with family as they would have liked to (20 per cent and 12 per cent respectively).

### **Barriers to playing sport**

This section presents results for the 58 per cent of all adults who experienced at least one barrier to playing sport as much as they would have liked to in the past 12 months. A higher proportion of adults with impairment

experienced barriers to playing sport than adults without impairment (72 per cent and 54 per cent respectively).

Table 10.7 shows a breakdown of the barriers to playing sport by impairment status. The main barrier for all adults not playing sport as much as they would have liked to was being too busy or not having enough time (60 per cent). This result varied by impairment status; 71 per cent of adults without impairment compared with 34 per cent of adults with impairment.

19 per cent of all adults reported that it was too expensive to play sport as much as they would have liked to. Having no one to go with was reported as a barrier by seven per cent of all adults.

Difficulty with transport was reported as a barrier by a higher proportion of adults with impairment than those without impairment (4 per cent and 2 per cent respectively).

For adults with impairment, reasons related to a health condition, illness or impairment and a disability were also given in relation to why they did not play sport as much as they would have liked to (48 per cent and 22 per cent respectively).

### **Barriers to taking part in charitable or voluntary work**

This section presents results for the 65 per cent of all adults who experienced at least one barrier to participating in charitable or voluntary work as much as they would have liked to in the past 12 months. A similar proportion of adults with and without impairment experienced barriers to participating in charitable or voluntary work (67 per cent and 65 per cent respectively).

Table 10.8 shows a breakdown of the barriers to taking part in charitable or voluntary work by impairment status. The main reason for all adults not taking part in charitable or voluntary work as much as they would have liked to was being too busy or not having enough time (75 per cent). This result varied by impairment status; 84 per cent of adults without impairment compared with 52 per cent of adults with impairment.

Other barriers reported by all adults included caring responsibilities and cost (6 per cent and 8 per cent respectively).

For adults with impairment, reasons related to a health condition, illness or impairment and a disability were also given in relation to why they did not take part in voluntary or charity work as much as they would have liked to (29 per cent and 15 per cent respectively).

### **Barriers to going to museums or historical places of interest**

This section presents results for the 61 per cent of all adults who experienced at least one barrier to going to museums or historical places of interest as much as they would have liked to in the past 12 months. A higher proportion of adults with impairment experienced barriers to going to museums or historical places of interest than adults without impairment (68 per cent and 58 per cent respectively).

Table 10.9 shows a breakdown of the barriers to going to museums or historical places of interest by impairment status. The main barrier for all adults not going to museums or historical places of interest as much as they would have liked to was being too busy or not having enough time (63 per cent). This was reported by a higher proportion of adults without impairment than adults with impairment (74 per cent and 41 per cent respectively).

29 per cent of adults reported that visiting museums or historical places of interest was too expensive. This was reported by 34 per cent of adults with impairment and 26 per cent of adults without impairment.

Other barriers reported by all adults included difficulty with transport and no-one to go with (8 per cent and 7 per cent respectively). Difficulty with transport was reported as a barrier more frequently by adults with impairment than adults without impairment (13 per cent and 5 per cent respectively).

For adults with impairment, reasons related to a health condition, illness or impairment and a disability were also given in relation to why they did not go to museums or historical places of interest as much as they would have liked to (25 per cent and 14 per cent respectively).

### **Barriers to going to the theatre, cinema or other arts activity**

This section presents results for the 56 per cent of all adults who experienced at least one barrier to going to the theatre, cinema or other arts activities as much as they would have liked to in the past 12 months. A higher proportion of adults with impairment experienced barriers to going to the theatre, cinema or other arts activities than adults without impairment (63 per cent and 53 per cent respectively).

Table 10.10 shows a breakdown of the barriers to going to the theatre, cinema or other arts activities by impairment status. The main barrier to all adults not going to the theatre, cinema or other arts activities as much as they would have liked to was being too busy or not having enough time (53 per cent). This result varied by impairment status; 62 per cent of adults without impairment compared with 32 per cent of adults with impairment. 47 per cent of all adults reported that going to the theatre, cinema or other arts activities was too expensive.

Other barriers reported by all adults included caring responsibilities and no-one to go with (both 7 per cent). Difficulty with transport was given as a barrier by a higher proportion of adults with impairment than those without impairment (10 per cent and 4 per cent respectively).

For adults with impairment, reasons related to a health condition, illness or impairment and a disability were also given in relation to why they did not go to the theatre, cinema or other arts activity as much as they would have liked to (21 per cent and 14 per cent respectively).

### **Barriers to going to the library or archive**

This section presents results for the 45 per cent of all adults who experienced at least one barrier to going to the library or archive as much as they would have liked to in the past 12 months. A higher proportion of adults with impairment experienced barriers to going to the library or archive than adults without impairment (47 per cent and 43 per cent respectively).

Table 10.11 shows a breakdown of the barriers to going to the library or archive by impairment status. The main barrier to all adults not going to the library or archive as much as they would have liked to was being too busy or not having enough time (71 per cent). This result varied by impairment status; 82 per cent of adults without impairment compared with 46 per cent of adults with impairment.

Other barriers reported by all adults included being too expensive and caring responsibilities (8 per cent and 6 per cent respectively). Adults with impairment reported difficulty with transport as a barrier more frequently than those without impairment (11 per cent and 3 per cent respectively).

For adults with impairment, reasons related to a health condition, illness or impairment and a disability were also given in relation to why they did not go to the library or archive as much as they would have liked to (27 per cent and 17 per cent respectively).

### **Choice over use of free time**

Table 10.12 shows the breakdown of the choice adults in Great Britain felt they had over the use of their free time by impairment status.

48 per cent of all adults reported that they had a lot of choice over the use of their free time. This varied by impairment status with 40 per cent of adults with impairment reporting having a lot of choice compared with 51 per cent of adults without impairment. A slightly higher proportion of adults without impairment reported having some choice compared with those with impairment (35 per cent and 33 per cent respectively).

15 per cent of all adults reported having little choice over the use of their free time. A higher proportion of adults with impairment reported having little choice compared with those without impairment (22 per cent and 13 per cent respectively). Three per cent of all adults reported having no choice over the use of their free time. This was reported by a higher proportion of adults with impairment compared with adults without impairment (5 per cent and 2 per cent respectively).

**Table 10.1 Participation in leisure activities, 2009/11**

Adults aged 16 and over

<b>Activity</b>	<b>In an ideal world, would like to do (%)</b>	<b>Have done as much as would like in past 12 months (%)</b>
Going on holiday	90	37
Visiting friends	76	48
Spending time with family	82	57
Playing sport	43	19
Charitable or voluntary work	40	14
Going to a museum or place of historic interest	54	21
Going to the theatre, cinema or other arts activity	68	28
Going to the library or archive	33	18
Sample size (=100%)	31,980	31,970

**NOTE:**

1. Respondents were asked to select all activities that applied to them from the list of options provided.

**Table 10.2 Participation restriction to leisure activities by EA disability status, 2009/11**

Adults aged 16 and over who reported having a participation restriction to at least one leisure activity

<b>Activity</b>	<b>Percentage of non-disabled adults</b>	<b>Percentage of EA disabled adults</b>	<b>Percentage of all adults</b>	<b>Sample size (=100%)</b>
Going on holiday	57	63	59	28,980
Visiting friends	40	44	41	24,430
Spending time with family	34	36	35	26,720
Playing sport	55	70	58	13,820
Charitable or voluntary work	66	64	65	12,890
Going to a museum or place of historical interest	60	65	61	17,680
Going to the theatre, cinema or other arts activity	54	61	56	20,110
Going to the library or archive	45	44	45	10,830

**NOTES:**

1. See the Introduction of this report for the definition of EA disability status.
2. Respondents were asked to select all activities that applied to them from the list of options provided.



**Table 10.3 Participation restriction to leisure activities by impairment status, 2009/11**

Adults aged 16 and over who reported having a participation restriction to at least one leisure activity

<b>Activity</b>	<b>Percentage of adults without impairment</b>	<b>Percentage of adults with impairment</b>	<b>Percentage of all adults</b>	<b>Sample size (=100%)</b>
Going on holiday	56	66	59	28,980
Visiting friends	39	47	41	24,430
Spending time with family	33	38	35	26,720
Playing sport	54	72	58	13,810
Charitable or voluntary work	65	67	65	12,890
Going to a museum or place of historical interest	58	68	61	17,680
Going to the theatre, cinema or other arts activity	53	63	56	20,110
Going to the library or archive	43	47	45	10,820

**NOTES:**

1. See the Introduction of this report for the definition of impairment status.
2. Respondents were asked to select all activities that applied to them from the list of options provided.

**Table 10.4 Barriers to going on holiday by impairment status, 2009/11**

Adults aged 16 and over who reported that they hadn't been on holiday as much as they would have liked to

<b>Barrier</b>	<b>Percentage of adults without impairment</b>	<b>Percentage of adults with impairment</b>	<b>Percentage of all adults</b>
At least one barrier to going on holiday	56	66	59
Too expensive	74	71	73
A health condition, illness or impairment	3	27	10
Too busy/not enough time	45	24	38
A disability	1	15	5
Difficulty with transport	2	8	4
No-one to go with	5	8	6
Caring responsibilities	6	7	7
Lack of help or assistance	1	4	2
Difficulty using facilities	-	3	1
Fear of crowds	-	3	1
Difficulty getting into buildings	-	3	1
Fear of crime	1	2	1
Attitudes of other people	1	2	1
Lack of availability	1	1	1
Feel that I am not welcome	-	1	-
Other	7	7	7
Sample size (=100%)	11,060	5,580	16,650

**NOTES:**

1. See the Introduction of this report for the definition of impairment status.
2. Respondents were asked to select all barriers that applied to them from the list of options provided. All respondents regardless of impairment status could select these response options.

**Table 10.5 Barriers to visiting friends by impairment status, 2009/11**

Adults aged 16 and over who reported that they hadn't visited friends as much as they would have liked to

<b>Barrier</b>	<b>Percentage of adults without impairment</b>	<b>Percentage of adults with impairment</b>	<b>Percentage of all adults</b>
At least one barrier to visiting friends	39	47	41
Too busy/not enough time	78	44	67
A health condition, illness or impairment	1	26	9
Too expensive	21	25	23
A disability	-	15	5
Difficulty with transport	5	12	7
Caring responsibilities	6	7	6
No-one to go with	1	3	2
Lack of help or assistance	-	3	1
Difficulty getting into buildings	-	3	1
Lack of availability	2	2	2
Difficulty using facilities	-	2	1
Attitudes of other people	1	1	1
Fear of crime	-	1	1
Fear of crowds	-	1	1
Feel that I am not welcome	-	1	1
Other	12	14	12
Sample size (=100%)	6,580	3,320	9,900

**NOTES:**

1. See the Introduction of this report for the definition of impairment status.
2. Respondents were asked to select all barriers that applied to them from the list of options provided. All respondents regardless of impairment status could select these response options.

**Table 10.6 Barriers to spending time with family by impairment status, 2009/11**

Adults aged 16 and over who reported that they hadn't spent as much time with family as they would have liked to

<b>Barrier</b>	<b>Percentage of adults without impairment</b>	<b>Percentage of adults with impairment</b>	<b>Percentage of all adults</b>
At least one barrier to spending time with family	33	38	35
Too busy/not enough time	73	42	63
Too expensive	19	25	21
A health condition, illness or impairment	1	20	7
A disability	-	12	4
Difficulty with transport	4	11	6
Caring responsibilities	3	4	4
Lack of availability	2	2	2
Attitudes of other people	1	2	1
Feel that I am not welcome	1	2	1
Lack of help or assistance	-	2	1
No-one to go with	-	2	1
Difficulty getting into buildings	-	1	1
Difficulty using facilities	-	1	-
Fear of crowds	..	1	-
Fear of crime	-	1	-
Other	20	24	22
Sample size (=100%)	6,030	3,020	9,040

**NOTES:**

1. See the Introduction of this report for the definition of impairment status.
2. Respondents were asked to select all barriers that applied to them from the list of options provided. All respondents regardless of impairment status could select these response options.

**Table 10.7 Barriers to playing sport by impairment status, 2009/11**

Adults aged 16 and over who reported that they hadn't played sport as much as they would have liked to

<b>Barrier</b>	<b>Percentage of adults without impairment</b>	<b>Percentage of adults with impairment</b>	<b>Percentage of all adults</b>
At least one barrier to playing sport	54	72	58
A health condition, illness or impairment	9	48	20
Too busy/not enough time	71	34	60
A disability	1	22	7
Too expensive	19	19	19
No-one to go with	7	7	7
Lack of availability	6	5	6
Caring responsibilities	6	5	5
Difficulty with transport	2	4	2
Difficulty using facilities	1	2	1
Attitudes of other people	1	2	1
Lack of help or assistance	1	2	1
Feel that I am not welcome	-	1	1
Fear of crowds	-	1	1
Difficulty getting into buildings	..	1	-
Fear of crime	-	1	-
Other	9	5	8
Sample size (=100%)	5,460	2,440	7,900

**NOTES:**

1. See the Introduction of this report for the definition of impairment status.
2. Respondents were asked to select all barriers that applied to them from the list of options provided. All respondents regardless of impairment status could select these response options.

**Table 10.8 Barriers to taking part in charitable or voluntary work by impairment status, 2009/11**

Adults aged 16 and over who reported that they hadn't done charitable or voluntary work as much as they would have liked to

<b>Barrier</b>	<b>Percentage of adults without impairment</b>	<b>Percentage of adults with impairment</b>	<b>Percentage of all adults</b>
At least one barrier to taking part in charitable or voluntary work	65	67	65
Too busy/not enough time	84	52	75
A health condition, illness or impairment	1	29	9
A disability	-	15	5
Too expensive	8	8	8
Caring responsibilities	6	7	6
Difficulty with transport	2	6	3
Lack of help or assistance	2	4	2
Lack of availability	3	3	3
Attitudes of other people	1	2	1
No-one to go with	2	2	2
Difficulty getting into buildings	..	1	-
Fear of crowds	-	1	-
Difficulty using facilities	..	1	-
Feel that I am not welcome	-	1	-
Fear of crime	-	-	-
Other	8	9	8
Sample size (=100%)	5,780	2,440	8,220

**NOTES:**

1. See the Introduction of this report for the definition of impairment status.
2. Respondents were asked to select all barriers that applied to them from the list of options provided. All respondents regardless of impairment status could select these response options.

**Table 10.9 Barriers to going to museums or historical places of interest by impairment status, 2009/11**

Adults aged 16 and over who reported that they hadn't gone to museums or places of historical interest as much as they would have liked to

<b>Barrier</b>	<b>Percentage of adults without impairment</b>	<b>Percentage of adults with impairment</b>	<b>Percentage of all adults</b>
At least one barrier to going to museums or historical places of interest	58	68	61
Too busy/not enough time	74	41	63
Too expensive	26	34	29
A health condition, illness or impairment	1	25	9
A disability	1	14	5
Difficulty with transport	5	13	8
No-one to go with	6	8	7
Caring responsibilities	5	6	5
Difficulty getting into buildings	-	4	2
Lack of availability	3	3	3
Lack of help or assistance	-	3	1
Difficulty using facilities	-	3	1
Fear of crowds	-	2	1
Attitudes of other people	-	1	1
Fear of crime	-	1	1
Feel that I am not welcome	-	1	-
Other	8	9	8
Sample size (=100%)	7,120	3,590	10,710

**NOTES:**

1. See the Introduction of this report for the definition of impairment status.
2. Respondents were asked to select all barriers that applied to them from the list of options provided. All respondents regardless of impairment status could select these response options.

**Table 10.10 Barriers to going to the theatre, cinema or other arts activity by impairment status, 2009/11**

Adults aged 16 and over who reported that they hadn't gone to the theatre, cinema or other arts activities as much as they would have liked to

<b>Barrier</b>	<b>Percentage of adults without impairment</b>	<b>Percentage of adults with impairment</b>	<b>Percentage of all adults</b>
At least one barrier to going to the theatre, cinema or other arts activity	53	63	56
Too expensive	46	49	47
Too busy/not enough time	62	32	53
A health condition, illness or impairment	1	21	7
A disability	-	14	4
Difficulty with transport	4	10	6
No-one to go with	6	9	7
Caring responsibilities	7	7	7
Lack of availability	4	4	4
Difficulty getting into buildings	-	4	1
Lack of help or assistance	1	3	1
Difficulty using facilities	..	3	1
Fear of crowds	-	2	1
Attitudes of other people	-	1	1
Fear of crime	1	1	1
Feel that I am not welcome	..	1	-
Other	6	7	7
Sample size (=100%)	7,610	3,550	11,160

**NOTES:**

1. See the Introduction of this report for the definition of impairment status.
2. Respondents were asked to select all barriers that applied to them from the list of options provided. All respondents regardless of impairment status could select these response options.



**Table 10.11 Barriers to going to the library or archive by impairment status, 2009/11**

Adults aged 16 and over who reported that they hadn't gone to the library or archives as much as they would have liked to

<b>Barrier</b>	<b>Percentage of adults without impairment</b>	<b>Percentage of adults with impairment</b>	<b>Percentage of all adults</b>
At least one barrier to going to the library or archive	43	47	45
Too busy/not enough time	82	46	71
A health condition, illness or impairment	1	27	9
A disability	-	17	6
Difficulty with transport	3	11	5
Too expensive	7	9	8
Caring responsibilities	6	6	6
Difficulty getting into buildings	-	4	1
Difficulty using facilities	-	3	1
Lack of help or assistance	-	3	1
Lack of availability	4	3	4
No-one to go with	1	2	2
Fear of crowds	..	2	1
Attitudes of other people	..	1	1
Feel that I am not welcome	-	1	-
Fear of crime	-	-	-
Other	7	10	8
Sample size (=100%)	3,180	1,550	4,730

**NOTES:**

1. See the Introduction of this report for the definition of impairment status.
2. Respondents were asked to select all barriers that applied to them from the list of options provided. All respondents regardless of impairment status could select these response options.

**Table 10.12 Choice over use of free time by impairment status, 2009/11**

Adults aged 16 and over

<b>Amount of choice</b>	<b>Percentage of adults without impairment</b>	<b>Percentage of adults with impairment</b>	<b>Percentage of all adults</b>
A lot of choice	51	40	48
Some choice	35	33	34
Little choice	13	22	15
No choice	2	5	3
Sample size (=100%)	22,610	9,890	32,510

NOTE:

1. See the Introduction of this report for the definition of impairment status.

## 11 Social contact

This chapter presents a summary of the social contact adults, aged 16 and over in Great Britain, had with other people. Social contact (such as social contact with close friends and relatives) is analysed by the number of close contacts people have, the number of close contacts people met or spoke with in the past week and the frequency of this contact.

Results for the number of close contacts adults reported they could rely on if they had a problem are presented by both Equality Act (EA)<sup>24</sup> disability status and impairment status. Each definition is described in the Introduction of this report.

### Adults with rights under the disability provisions of the Equality Act

The following section presents a summary of the number of close contacts adults had by EA disability status. 26 per cent of adults in Great Britain had rights under the disability provisions of the Equality Act; from this point forward this group will be referred to as EA disabled adults.

#### Close contacts

Table 11.1 shows how many close contacts adults had by EA disability status. 61 per cent of all adults reported that they could count on at least six other people if they had a problem. A higher proportion of non-disabled adults reported that they could count on at least six other people compared with EA disabled adults (64 per cent and 54 per cent respectively). A higher proportion of EA disabled adults had just one or two close contacts compared with non-disabled adults (12 per cent and 8 per cent respectively).

#### Adults with impairment

The following sections present a summary of the number of close contacts adults had by impairment status. It first looks at the number of close contacts people had, that is, the number of people they feel they could rely on if they had a problem and how many of these people they had contact with in the past week. Following this the frequency of social contact with these people is also reported. Finally, this section reports on the reasons adults had no contact or less contact with close contacts than they would have liked. 29 per cent of adults in Great Britain had at least one impairment.

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<sup>24</sup> Fieldwork was conducted between June 2009 and March 2011. The Equality Act 2010 replaced the Disability Discrimination Act 1995 on 1<sup>st</sup> October 2010. Everyone in this group would meet the current definition of disability for the purposes of equality law which is now contained in the Equality Act 2010, but these estimates do not reflect the total number of people who may have rights under the disability provisions of the Equality Act 2010.

## Close contacts

Table 11.2 shows how many close contacts adults had by impairment status. A higher proportion of adults without impairment had six or more close contacts compared with adults with impairment (65 per cent and 54 per cent respectively). Adults with impairment were more likely to report having just one or two close contacts compared with adults without impairment (12 per cent and 7 per cent respectively).

## Contact in the last week

Table 11.3 shows how many close contacts adults met or spoke with in the week prior to interview by impairment status. 41 per cent of all adults reported that they had contact with at least six other people they could rely on. A higher proportion of adults without impairment had contact with at least six close contacts in the past week compared with adults with impairment (43 per cent and 35 per cent respectively).

## Frequency of contact

Table 11.4 shows the frequency of contact adults had with those they feel close to by impairment status. 77 per cent of all adults felt that they had contact with their close contacts as much as they would like to in the week prior to interview. 75 per cent of adults with impairment had met or spoken with their close contacts as much as they would like to compared with 78 per cent of adults without impairment. A higher proportion of adults with impairment had met or spoken with people they could rely on less than they would have liked compared with adults without impairment (24 per cent and 21 per cent respectively).

## Reason for less contact than would like

99 per cent of all adults reported having at least one close contact that they could rely on if they had a problem. Of these adults, 22 per cent reported either meeting or speaking to these contacts less than they would like, or not at all, in the previous week. This was reported by a higher proportion of adults with impairment than those without impairment (24 per cent and 21 per cent respectively).

Table 11.5 reports the reasons why people had no or less contact with close contacts than they would have liked by impairment status. The reason reported most often by all adults for not meeting or speaking with close contacts was being too busy or not having enough time (68 per cent); 51 per cent of adults with impairment and 76 per cent of adults without impairment reported this reason.

Other people being too busy was identified as a barrier by 46 per cent of all adults. A higher proportion of adults with impairment reported this barrier when compared with adults without impairment (49 per cent and 45 per cent respectively). Financial reasons was identified as a barrier by 11 per cent of

all adults, and was reported by a higher proportion of adults with impairment than those without impairment (14 per cent and 10 per cent respectively).

Difficulty with transport was reported as a barrier by seven per cent of all adults. This was also reported by a higher proportion of adults with impairment than adults without impairment (10 per cent and 5 per cent respectively).

**Table 11.1: Number of close contacts that adults could rely on by EA disability status, 2009/11**

Adults aged 16 and over

<b>Number</b>	<b>Percentage of non-disabled adults</b>	<b>Percentage of EA disabled adults</b>	<b>Percentage of all adults</b>
None	1	2	1
1 or 2	8	12	9
3 to 5	28	32	29
6+	64	54	61
<b>Sample size (=100%)</b>			
	22,830	9,120	31,950

NOTE:

1. See the Introduction of this report for the definition of EA disability status.

**Table 11.2: Number of close contacts that adults could rely on by impairment status, 2009/11**

Adults aged 16 and over

<b>Number</b>	<b>Percentage of adults without impairment</b>	<b>Percentage of adults with impairment</b>	<b>Percentage of all adults</b>
None	1	2	1
1 or 2	7	12	9
3 to 5	27	32	29
6+	65	54	61
<b>Sample size (=100%)</b>			
	22,090	9,860	31,950

NOTE:

1. See the Introduction of this report for the definition of impairment status.

**Table 11.3: Number of close contacts met or spoken to in the past week by impairment status, 2009/11**

Adults aged 16 and over who reported having at least one close contact

<b>Number</b>	<b>Percentage of adults without impairment</b>	<b>Percentage of adults with impairment</b>	<b>Percentage of all adults</b>
None	1	2	1
1 or 2	16	22	18
3 to 5	40	41	40
6+	43	35	41
<b>Sample size (=100%)</b>			
	21,950	9,720	31,670

NOTE:

1. See the Introduction of this report for the definition of impairment status.

**Table 11.4: Frequency of social contact in the past week by impairment status, 2009/11**

Adults aged 16 and over who reported meeting or speaking to at least one close contact

<b>Frequency of contact</b>	<b>Percentage of adults without impairment</b>	<b>Percentage of adults with impairment</b>	<b>Percentage of all adults</b>
As much as you would like	78	75	77
Less than you would like	21	24	22
More than you would like	1	1	1
<b>Sample size (=100%)</b>			
	21,700	9,530	31,230

NOTE:

1. See the Introduction of this report for the definition of impairment status.

**Table 11.5: Barriers to having no contact or less contact than they would like by impairment status, 2009/11**

Adults aged 16 and over who reported no, or less contact with others than they would have liked

<b>Barrier</b>	<b>Percentage of adults without impairment</b>	<b>Percentage of adults with impairment</b>	<b>Percentage of all adults</b>
At least one barrier to social contact experienced	21	24	22
Too busy/not enough time	76	51	68
Other people too busy	45	49	46
Financial reasons	10	14	11
A health condition, illness or impairment	1	13	5
Difficulty with transport	5	10	7
Disability related reasons	-	8	3
Caring responsibilities	5	6	5
Attitudes of other people	1	2	1
No-one to meet or speak to	1	2	1
Fear of crowds	-	2	1
Difficulty getting into buildings	..	1	1
Lack of help or assistance	-	1	1
Fear of crime	-	1	-
Difficulty using facilities	..	-	-
None of these	6	7	7
Other reasons	18	19	18
Sample size (=100%)	4,770	2,420	7,180

**NOTE:**

1. See the Introduction of this report for the definition of impairment status.
2. Respondents were asked to select all barriers that applied to them from the list of options provided. All respondents regardless of impairment status could select these response options.



## 12 Housing

This chapter presents a summary of the different rooms within the home that adults, aged 16 and over in Great Britain, had difficulty accessing. The reasons adults had difficulty accessing rooms in their home, along with the reasons they had difficulty getting in or out of their home, are also presented. Breakdowns of the rooms that adults experienced difficulty accessing are presented by both Equality Act (EA)<sup>25</sup> disability status and impairment status. Each definition is described in the Introduction of this report.

### Adults with rights under the disability provisions of the Equality Act

The following section presents a summary of the rooms that adults had difficulty accessing by EA disability status. 26 per cent of adults in Great Britain had rights under the disability provisions of the Equality Act; from this point forward this group will be referred to as EA disabled adults.

#### Accessing rooms within own home

Three per cent of all adults reported difficulty getting into any room within their home. Nine per cent of EA disabled adults experienced difficulty getting into any room within their home.

Table 12.1 shows a breakdown of the rooms adults had difficulty getting into by EA disability status. The most common room that EA disabled adults had difficulty accessing was the bedroom (66 per cent). 56 per cent of EA disabled adults had difficulty getting into the toilet/bathroom. The rooms that were least reported by EA disabled adults were the kitchen and the living area (11 per cent and 9 per cent respectively).

#### Adults with impairment

The following sections present a summary of the rooms that adults had difficulty getting into and the barriers to accessing these rooms by impairment status. 29 per cent of adults in Great Britain had at least one impairment.

Results are presented for the three per cent of all adults who reported that they had experienced difficulty getting into any room in their home. Eight per cent of adults with impairment experienced difficulty getting into any room within their home.

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<sup>25</sup> Fieldwork was conducted between June 2009 and March 2011. The Equality Act 2010 replaced the Disability Discrimination Act 1995 on 1<sup>st</sup> October 2010. Everyone in this group would meet the current definition of disability for the purposes of equality law which is now contained in the Equality Act 2010, but these estimates do not reflect the total number of people who may have rights under the disability provisions of the Equality Act 2010.

### **Accessing rooms within own home**

Table 12.2 shows a breakdown of the rooms adults had difficulty getting into by impairment status. The most common room that adults with impairment had difficulty accessing was the bedroom (66 per cent). 56 per cent of adults with impairment had difficulty getting into the toilet/bathroom. The rooms that were least reported by adults with impairment were the kitchen and the living area (11 per cent and 9 per cent respectively).

### **Barriers to accessing rooms within own home**

Table 12.3 shows the barriers that adults faced accessing rooms within their home by impairment status. The most common barrier to accessing rooms was 'stairs, lack of ramps/stair lift' experienced by 52 per cent of adults with impairment. Adults with impairment also reported lack of handrails as a barrier (6 per cent).

For adults with impairment, reasons related to a health condition, illness or impairment and a disability were also given in relation to why they experienced difficulty accessing rooms within their home (51 per cent and 40 per cent respectively).

### **Barriers to getting in or out of your own home**

Table 12.4 shows the barriers that adults experienced getting in or out of their home by impairment status. 48 per cent of adults with impairment experienced difficulty due to stairs or lack of ramps/stair lift. Adults with impairment also reported lack of handrails and uneven floor levels as barriers (10 per cent and 9 per cent respectively).

Reasons related to a health condition, illness or impairment and a disability, were also given by adults with impairment in relation to why they experienced difficulty getting in or out of their own home (54 per cent and 39 per cent respectively).

**Table 12.1: Rooms in own home adults had difficulty getting into by EA disability status, 2009/11**

Adults aged 16 and over who had difficulty getting into any room

<b>Room</b>	<b>Percentage of non-disabled adults</b>	<b>Percentage of EA disabled adults</b>	<b>Percentage of all adults</b>
Kitchen	9	11	11
Bedroom	45	66	64
Living area	6	9	9
Toilet/Bathroom	30	56	53
Other	34	18	20
Sample size (=100%)	110	890	1,000

NOTE:

1. See the Introduction of this report for the definition of EA disability status.
2. Respondents were asked to select all rooms that they had difficulty accessing from the list of options provided.

**Table 12.2: Rooms in own home adults had difficulty getting into by impairment status, 2009/11**

Adults aged 16 and over who had difficulty getting into any room in own home

<b>Room</b>	<b>Percentage of adults without impairment</b>	<b>Percentage of adults with impairment</b>	<b>Percentage of all adults</b>
Kitchen	9	11	11
Bedroom	43	66	64
Living area	7	9	9
Toilet/Bathroom	28	56	53
Other	36	18	20
Sample size (=100%)	110	890	1,000

NOTE:

1. See the Introduction of this report for the definition of impairment status.
2. Respondents were asked to select all rooms that they had difficulty accessing from the list of options provided.

**Table 12.3: Barriers to accessing rooms within the home by impairment status, 2009/11**

Adults aged 16 and over who experienced difficulty getting into any room in own home

<b>Barrier</b>	<b>Percentage of adults without impairment</b>	<b>Percentage of adults with impairment</b>	<b>Percentage of all adults</b>
At least one barrier to accessing rooms within the home	-	8	3
Stairs, lack of ramps/stair lift	24	52	49
A health condition, illness or impairment	15	51	47
A disability	5	40	36
Lack of handrails	5	6	6
Lack of help or assistance	0	4	4
Uneven floor levels	..	3	3
Door width	..	3	3
Corridor width	..	2	2
Other	55	9	14
Sample size (=100%)	110	890	1,000

**NOTE:**

1. See the Introduction of this report for the definition of impairment status.
2. Respondents were asked to select all barriers that applied to them from the list of options provided. All respondents regardless of impairment status could select these response options.

**Table 12.4 Barriers to getting in or out of own home by impairment status, 2009/11**

Adults aged 16 and over who experienced difficulty getting into or out of their home

<b>Barrier</b>	<b>Percentage of adults without impairment</b>	<b>Percentage of adults with impairment</b>	<b>Percentage of all adults</b>
At least one barrier to getting in or out of own home	1	8	3
A health condition, illness or impairment	11	54	48
Stairs, lack of ramps/stair lift	52	48	48
A disability	5	39	34
Lack of handrails	5	10	9
Uneven floor levels	9	9	9
Lack of help or assistance	4	6	5
Door width	7	3	4
Door handles	5	3	3
Poor lighting	9	2	3
Corridor width	..	1	1
Other	32	7	10
Sample size (=100%)	120	820	940

**NOTE:**

1. See the Introduction of this report for the definition of impairment status.
2. Respondents were asked to select all barriers that applied to them from the list of options provided. All respondents regardless of impairment status could select these response options.



## 13 Accessibility – outside the home

This chapter presents a summary of the experiences of accessing, moving about or using facilities in buildings for adults aged 16 and over in Great Britain. Buildings where access difficulties were experienced are presented by both Equality Act (EA)<sup>26</sup> disability status and impairment status. Each definition is described in the Introduction of this report.

Results are presented for the 13 per cent of adults who experienced one or more of the following difficulties with accessibility:

- getting into all the buildings that they needed to
- moving about and finding their way around buildings
- using the facilities in buildings, for example, using the toilets
- purchasing items over the counter

### Adults with rights under the disability provisions of the Equality Act

The following section presents the buildings where difficulties with access were experienced by EA disability status. 26 per cent of adults in Great Britain had rights under the disability provisions of the Equality Act; from this point forward this group will be referred to as EA disabled adults.

#### Buildings where difficulty with access was experienced

Table 13.1 shows the buildings where difficulty with access was experienced by EA disability status.

The building where difficulty with access was experienced most often by all adults was shops (53 per cent); this was experienced equally by EA disabled and non-disabled adults (53 per cent for each group). The second most common building where access difficulties were experienced for all adults was hospitals (31 per cent); EA disabled adults were more likely to experience difficulties gaining access to this building than non-disabled adults (35 per cent and 24 per cent respectively).

#### Adults with impairment

The following sections present a summary of accessibility of buildings outside the home and the barriers to moving around, or using facilities inside

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<sup>26</sup> Fieldwork was conducted between June 2009 and March 2011. The Equality Act 2010 replaced the Disability Discrimination Act 1995 on 1<sup>st</sup> October 2010. Everyone in this group would meet the current definition of disability for the purposes of equality law which is now contained in the Equality Act 2010, but these estimates do not reflect the total number of people who may have rights under the disability provisions of the Equality Act 2010.

buildings by impairment status. 29 per cent of adults in Great Britain had at least one impairment.

### **Buildings where difficulties with access was experienced**

A higher proportion of adults with impairment experienced difficulty accessing buildings compared with adults without impairment (29 per cent and 6 per cent respectively).

Table 13.2 shows the buildings where difficulty with access was experienced by impairment status. The building where difficulty with access was experienced most often by all adults was shops (53 per cent). The second most common building for all adults was hospitals (31 per cent). A higher proportion of adults with impairment reported difficulty with access when using hospitals than those without impairment (34 per cent and 25 per cent respectively).

### **Barriers to accessing buildings by impairment status**

Table 13.3 shows the barriers to accessing buildings by impairment status. The most common barrier, experienced by 40 per cent of all adults, was moving around the building (stairs, doors, narrow corridors). Moving around the building was identified as a barrier more often by adults with impairment than those without impairment (44 per cent and 31 per cent respectively).

Parking problems was experienced as a barrier by 22 per cent of all adults; this was experienced by a similar proportion of adults with and without impairment (21 per cent and 24 per cent respectively).

A higher proportion of adults without impairment reported difficulty using the bathroom facilities as a barrier than adults with impairment (23 per cent and 17 per cent respectively).

For adults with impairment, reasons related to a health condition, illness or impairment and a disability were also given in relation to why they experienced difficulty accessing buildings (39 per cent and 32 per cent respectively).



**Table 13.1: Buildings where difficulty with accessibility was experienced by EA disability status, 2009/11**

Adults aged 16 and over who experienced accessibility difficulties with buildings

<b>Building</b>	<b>Percentage of non-disabled adults</b>	<b>Percentage of EA disabled adults</b>	<b>Percentage of all adults</b>
Shops	53	53	53
Hospital	24	35	31
Pubs, bars or restaurants	24	23	23
Other people's homes	8	21	16
GP surgery	11	19	16
Theatres or cinemas	7	17	13
Your bank	12	12	12
Places of historic interest (country homes, castles etc)	8	12	10
Museums or galleries	8	11	10
Libraries	7	9	8
Leisure or sports centres	7	7	7
Workplace	10	6	7
School or college	8	5	6
Music venues	4	5	5
Place of worship	1	4	3
Employment agency or Jobcentre	4	3	4
Other	11	11	11
Sample size (=100%)	1,470	2,760	4,230

**NOTES:**

1. See the Introduction of this report for the definition of EA disability status.
2. Respondents were asked to select all buildings that applied to them from the list of options provided.

**Table 13.2: Buildings where difficulty with accessibility was experienced by impairment status, 2009/11**

Adults aged 16 and over who experienced accessibility difficulties with buildings

<b>Building</b>	<b>Percentage of adults without impairment</b>	<b>Percentage of adults with impairment</b>	<b>Percentage of all adults</b>
Shops	52	54	53
Hospital	25	34	31
Pubs, bars or restaurants	24	23	23
Other people's homes	8	20	16
GP surgery	11	19	16
Theatres or cinemas	6	17	13
Your bank	11	13	12
Places of historic interest (country homes, castles etc)	8	12	10
Museums or galleries	9	10	10
Libraries	7	9	8
Leisure or sports centres	7	7	7
Workplace	9	6	7
School or college	7	5	6
Music venues	3	5	5
Employment agency or Jobcentre	4	4	4
Place of worship	1	3	3
Other	12	11	11
Sample size (=100%)	1,410	2,820	4,230

**NOTES:**

1. See the Introduction of this report for the definition of impairment status.
2. Respondents were asked to select all buildings that applied to them from the list of options provided.

**Table 13.3: Barriers to accessing buildings by impairment status, 2009/11**

Adults aged 16 and over who experienced accessibility difficulties with buildings

<b>Barrier</b>	<b>Percentage of adults without impairment</b>	<b>Percentage of adults with impairment</b>	<b>Percentage of all adults</b>
At least one barrier to accessing buildings	6	29	13
Moving around the building (Stairs, doors, narrow corridors)	31	44	40
A health condition, illness or impairment	5	39	28
A disability	..	32	22
Inadequate lifts or escalators	18	23	21
Approach areas (lack of ramps/handrails)	14	22	19
Parking problems	24	21	22
Bathroom facilities (Location, layout, size)	23	17	19
Footpath design and surfaces	8	15	13
Difficulty with transport getting to the building	9	14	12
Lack of help or assistance	16	13	14
Seeing or understanding written information	12	11	11
Attitudes of others	9	10	10
Reception areas (Inadequate desk height, seating, noise)	3	7	6
Difficulty finding the building	9	6	7
Inadequate ventilation	2	2	2
Other	21	10	14
Sample size (=100%)	1,410	2,830	4,240

**NOTES:**

1. See the Introduction of this report for the definition of impairment status.
2. Respondents were asked to select all barriers that applied to them from the list of options provided. All respondents regardless of impairment status could select these response options.



## 14 Accessibility of public services

This chapter presents a summary of the experiences of accessing public services for adults, aged 16 and over, in Great Britain. Results for those who experienced at least some difficulty using public services are presented by both Equality Act (EA)<sup>27</sup> disability status and impairment status. Each definition is described in the Introduction of this report.

The following public services are reported in this chapter:

- Health services
- Justice services
- Benefits and pensions services
- Culture, sports and leisure services
- Tax services
- Social services

### Experience of accessing public services

Table 14.1 shows the proportion of all adults who reported experiencing no difficulty or at least some difficulty accessing public services in the 12 months prior to the interview.

The public services where those accessing them were most likely to experience difficulty were benefits and pensions services and social services (both 28 per cent). This was followed by tax services (25 per cent). Difficulty with access for those accessing them was least likely to be experienced when accessing culture, sports and leisure services with seven per cent of all adults experiencing at least some difficulty.

### Adults with rights under the disability provisions of the Equality Act

The following section presents a summary of the experience of using public services by EA disability status for those who have tried to use each service. 26 per cent of adults in Great Britain had rights under the disability provisions of the Equality Act; from this point forward this group will be referred to as EA disabled adults.

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<sup>27</sup> Fieldwork was conducted between June 2009 and March 2011. The Equality Act 2010 replaced the Disability Discrimination Act 1995 on 1<sup>st</sup> October 2010. Everyone in this group would meet the current definition of disability for the purposes of equality law which is now contained in the Equality Act 2010, but these estimates do not reflect the total number of people who may have rights under the disability provisions of the Equality Act 2010.

## Experience of using public services

Table 14.2 shows the proportion of adults who tried to access each public service and reported experiencing at least some difficulty with access by EA disability status.

The public services where the highest proportion of EA disabled adults reported experiencing at least some difficulty with access were benefits and pensions services followed by social services (31 per cent and 28 per cent respectively). The public services where the highest proportion of non-disabled adults reported experiencing at least some difficulty with access were social services and benefits and pensions services (28 per cent and 27 per cent respectively).

A higher proportion of EA disabled than non-disabled adults reported experiencing at least some difficulty accessing health services (26 per cent and 19 per cent respectively). The same was true for justice services – 23 per cent of EA disabled adults reported experiencing difficulty accessing these compared to 16 per cent of non-disabled adults. A similar proportion of EA disabled and non-disabled adults reported experiencing at least some difficulty accessing tax services (26 per cent and 25 per cent respectively).

## Adults with impairment

The following sections present a summary of the experience of using public services by impairment status for those who have tried to use each service. 29 per cent of adults in Great Britain had at least one impairment.

### Experience of using public services

A higher proportion of adults with impairment reported experiencing difficulty accessing public services than adults without impairment (36 per cent and 24 per cent respectively). Table 14.3 shows the proportion of adults who tried to access each public service and reported experiencing at least some difficulty with access by impairment status.

The public services where the highest proportion of adults with impairment reported experiencing at least some difficulty with access were benefits and pensions services, followed by tax services (34 per cent and 30 per cent respectively). The public services where the highest proportion of adults without impairment reported experiencing at least some difficulty with access were social services and benefits and pensions services (27 per cent and 24 per cent respectively).

With the exception of social services, a significantly higher proportion of adults with impairment reported experiencing at least some difficulty

accessing all of the services in table 14.3 compared to those without impairment.

### **Barriers to accessing health services**

Table 14.4 presents the barriers reported by adults who tried to access health services in the 12 months prior to interview and experienced at least some difficulty with access by impairment status.

The most common barrier to accessing health services identified by all adults was difficulty with getting an appointment (69 per cent). A higher proportion of adults without impairment reported experiencing difficulty getting an appointment compared with adults with impairment (73 per cent and 64 per cent respectively). The second most common barrier to accessing health services identified for all adults was difficulty making contact by phone (38 per cent). This was reported fairly equally by adults with and without impairment (38 per cent and 37 per cent respectively).

A higher proportion of adults with impairment identified difficulty with transport as a barrier than adults without impairment (13 per cent and 5 per cent respectively). Similarly, 10 per cent of adults with impairment identified not providing home visits as a barrier to accessing health services compared with four per cent of adults without impairment. Anxiety and lack of confidence was also identified as a barrier by nine per cent of adults with impairment.

### **Barriers to accessing justice services**

Table 14.5 presents the barriers reported by adults who tried to access justice services in the 12 months prior to interview and experienced at least some difficulty with access by impairment status.

The most common barrier to accessing justice services identified by all adults was difficulty contacting by phone (46 per cent). This was identified fairly equally by adults with and without impairment (45 per cent and 46 per cent respectively). The second most common barrier identified by all adults was unhelpful or inexperienced staff (42 per cent). This was also reported by a similar proportion of adults with and without impairment (40 per cent and 43 per cent respectively). 21 per cent of all adults identified lack of help with communication as a barrier. Again, this was reported by similar proportions of adults with and without impairment (23 per cent and 20 per cent respectively).

### **Barriers to accessing benefits and pensions services**

Table 14.6 presents the barriers reported by adults who tried to access benefits and pensions services in the 12 months prior to interview and experienced at least some difficulty with access by impairment status.

The most common barrier to accessing benefits and pensions services identified by all adults was difficulty making contact by phone (64 per cent). This was identified fairly equally by adults with and without impairment (63 per cent and 65 per cent respectively). The second most common barrier identified by all adults was unhelpful or inexperienced staff (46 per cent). Experience of this barrier did not vary by impairment status (both 46 per cent). Lack of accessible information was reported as a barrier by 24 per cent of all adults and again was identified by fairly equal proportions of adults with impairment and adults without impairment (25 per cent and 24 per cent respectively). 18 per cent of all adults identified lack of help with communication as a barrier. This was reported by a higher proportion of adults with than without impairment (20 per cent and 16 per cent respectively).

### **Barriers to accessing culture, sports and leisure services**

Table 14.7 presents the barriers reported by adults who tried to access culture, sports and leisure services in the 12 months prior to interview and experienced at least some difficulty with access by impairment status.

Aside from 'other difficulties' (identified by 33 per cent of all adults), the most common barriers to accessing culture, sports and leisure services reported by all adults were difficulty making contact by phone and unhelpful or inexperienced staff (both 20 per cent). Difficulty with transport was identified by 17 per cent of all adults, and lack of accessible information was reported by 15 per cent of all adults. For adults with impairment, reasons related to a health condition, illness or impairment were also reported in relation to why they experienced difficulty accessing culture, sports and leisure services (28 per cent).

### **Barriers to accessing tax services**

Table 14.8 presents the barriers reported by adults who tried to access tax services in the 12 months prior to interview and experienced at least some difficulty with access by impairment status.

The most common barrier to accessing tax services identified by all adults was difficulty making contact by phone (72 per cent). This was reported by similar proportions of adults with and without impairment (70 per cent and 73 per cent respectively). The second most common barrier reported to accessing tax services for all adults was unhelpful or inexperienced staff (32 per cent). This was also reported fairly equally by adults with and without impairment (35 per cent and 31 per cent respectively). 17 per cent of all adults identified lack of accessible information as a barrier. Again, this was identified by similar proportions of adults with and without impairment (18 per cent and 16 per cent respectively).



## **Barriers to accessing social services**

Table 14.9 presents the barriers reported by adults who tried to access social services in the 12 months prior to interview and experienced at least some difficulty with access by impairment status.

The most common barrier to accessing social services identified by all adults was difficulty making contact by phone (54 per cent). This was reported by a higher proportion of adults without impairment than those with impairment (60 per cent and 50 per cent respectively). The second most common barrier to accessing social services identified by all adults was unhelpful or inexperienced staff (46 per cent). This barrier was identified fairly equally by adults with and without impairment (45 per cent and 47 per cent respectively). Lack of accessible information was reported as a barrier by 26 per cent of all adults and by similar proportions of adults with and without impairment (28 per cent and 25 per cent respectively). 23 per cent of all adults identified lack of help with communication as a barrier. Identification of this barrier did not vary by impairment status (23 per cent of adults both with and without impairment).

**Table 14.1: Level of difficulty accessing public services, 2009/11**

Adults aged 16 and over who have accessed public services in the previous 12 months

<b>Public services</b>	<b>Percentage reporting no difficulty</b>	<b>Percentage reporting at least some difficulty</b>	<b>Sample size (=100%)</b>
Health services	79	21	25,220
Justice services	82	18	4,290
Benefits and pensions services	72	28	7,620
Culture, sports and leisure services	93	7	7,630
Tax services	75	25	8,670
Social services	72	28	2,630

**NOTES:**

1. The response options used to identify the level of difficulty that the respondent experienced were 'none', 'some' or 'a lot'. The response categories 'some' and 'a lot' have been combined in this table to create the category 'at least some difficulty'.
2. Respondents were asked to select all services that applied to them from the list of options provided.

**Table 14.2: At least some difficulty accessing public services by EA disability status, 2009/11**

Adults aged 16 and over who have tried to access and experienced at least some difficulty accessing each public service

<b>Public services</b>	<b>Percentage of non-disabled adults</b>	<b>Percentage of EA disabled adults</b>	Non-disabled adults sample size (=100%)	EA disabled adults sample size (=100%)
Health services	19	26	17,010	8,200
Justice services	16	23	3,130	1,160
Benefits and pensions services	27	31	4,700	2,920
Culture, sports and leisure services	6	15	6,230	1,390
Tax services	25	26	6,710	1,960
Social services	28	28	1,340	1,290

**NOTES:**

1. Combines the response options 'some difficulty' and 'a lot of difficulty'.
2. Respondents were asked to select all services that applied to them from the list of options provided.
3. See the Introduction of this report for the definition of EA disability status.

### Table 14.3: At least some difficulty accessing public services by impairment status, 2009/11

Adults aged 16 and over who have tried to access and experienced at least some difficulty accessing each public service

<b>Public services</b>	<b>Percentage of adults without impairment</b>	<b>Percentage of adults with impairment</b>	<b>Adults without impairment sample size (=100%)</b>	<b>Adults with impairment sample size (=100%)</b>
Health services	18	27	16,540	8,670
Justice services	16	23	2,940	1,350
Benefits and pensions services	24	34	4,390	3,230
Culture, sports and leisure services	5	15	5,960	1,660
Tax services	23	30	6,290	2,370
Social services	27	29	1,290	1,340

**NOTES:**

1. Combines the response options 'some difficulty' and 'a lot of difficulty'.
2. Respondents were asked to select all services that applied to them from the list of options provided.
3. See the Introduction of this report for the definition of impairment status.

**Table 14.4: Barriers to accessing health services by impairment status, 2009/11**

Adults aged 16 and over who tried to access health services and experienced at least some difficulty

<b>Barrier</b>	<b>Percentage of adults without impairment</b>	<b>Percentage of adults with impairment</b>	<b>Percentage of all adults</b>
At least one barrier to accessing health services	18	27	20
Difficulty getting an appointment	73	64	69
Difficulty contacting by phone	37	38	38
Unhelpful or inexperienced staff	25	25	25
A health condition, illness or impairment	2	17	9
Difficulty with transport	5	13	8
A disability	1	13	6
Lack of accessible information	8	11	9
Not providing a home visit	4	10	7
Lack of help with communication	7	10	8
Anxiety/lack of confidence	2	9	5
Difficulty getting into buildings	2	7	4
Difficulty using facilities	1	5	3
Difficulty contacting by post	1	3	2
Difficulty contacting by internet	2	2	2
Difficulty contacting by email	2	2	2
Other difficulties	10	10	10
Sample size (=100%)	2,860	2,310	5,170

**NOTES:**

1. See the Introduction of this report for the definition of impairment status.
2. Respondents were asked to select all barriers that applied to them from the list of options provided. All respondents regardless of impairment status could select these response options.

**Table 14.5: Barriers to accessing justice services by impairment status, 2009/11**

Adults aged 16 and over who tried to access justice services and experienced at least some difficulty

<b>Barrier</b>	<b>Percentage of adults without impairment</b>	<b>Percentage of adults with impairment</b>	<b>Percentage of all adults</b>
At least one barrier to accessing justice services	16	23	18
Difficulty contacting by phone	46	45	46
Unhelpful or inexperienced staff	43	40	42
Lack of help with communication	20	23	21
Lack of accessible information	17	18	17
Difficulty getting an appointment	11	12	11
Not providing a home visit	11	12	11
A health condition, illness or impairment	..	10	5
Anxiety/lack of confidence	5	10	7
A disability	..	9	4
Difficulty with transport	3	9	6
Difficulty contacting by email	6	7	6
Difficulty contacting by post	5	6	5
Difficulty getting into buildings	2	6	4
Difficulty contacting by internet	4	5	4
Difficulty using facilities	..	5	2
Other difficulties	18	14	17
Sample size (=100%)	460	310	770

**NOTES:**

1. See the Introduction of this report for the definition of impairment status.
2. Respondents were asked to select all barriers that applied to them from the list of options provided. All respondents regardless of impairment status could select these response options.

**Table 14.6: Barriers to accessing benefits and pensions services by impairment status, 2009/11**

Adults aged 16 and over who tried to access benefits and pensions services and experienced at least some difficulty

<b>Barrier</b>	<b>Percentage of adults without impairment</b>	<b>Percentage of adults with impairment</b>	<b>Percentage of all adults</b>
At least one barrier to accessing benefits and pensions services	24	34	28
Difficulty contacting by phone	65	63	64
Unhelpful or inexperienced staff	46	46	46
Lack of accessible information	24	25	24
Lack of help with communication	16	20	18
Difficulty getting an appointment	13	14	14
A health condition, illness or impairment	1	12	6
Difficulty contacting by post	8	12	10
Anxiety/lack of confidence	2	11	7
A disability	1	11	6
Difficulty with transport	3	8	5
Not providing a home visit	2	7	5
Difficulty contacting by internet	5	6	6
Difficulty contacting by email	6	5	6
Difficulty getting into buildings	1	4	2
Difficulty using facilities	2	3	2
Other difficulties	10	11	11
Sample size (=100%)	1,050	1,060	2,100

**NOTES:**

1. See the Introduction of this report for the definition of impairment status.
2. Respondents were asked to select all barriers that applied to them from the list of options provided. All respondents regardless of impairment status could select these response options.

**Table 14.7: Barriers to accessing culture, sports and leisure services by impairment status, 2009/11**

Adults aged 16 and over who tried to access culture, sports and leisure services and experienced at least some difficulty

<b>Barrier</b>	<b>Percentage of adults without impairment</b>	<b>Percentage of adults with impairment</b>	<b>Percentage of all adults</b>
At least one barrier to accessing culture, sports and leisure services	5	15	7
A health condition, illness or impairment	3	28	14
Unhelpful or inexperienced staff	18	22	20
Difficulty contacting by phone	21	19	20
A disability	..	19	9
Difficulty with transport	16	19	17
Difficulty using facilities	6	14	10
Difficulty getting into buildings	3	14	8
Lack of accessible information	18	12	15
Anxiety/lack of confidence	..	11	6
Difficulty getting an appointment	8	8	8
Lack of help with communication	6	5	6
Difficulty contacting by internet	3	4	3
Difficulty contacting by email	3	2	2
Difficulty contacting by post	..	..	..
Not providing a home visit	..	..	..
Other difficulties	40	25	33
Sample size (=100%)	310	240	560

**NOTES:**

1. See the Introduction of this report for the definition of impairment status.
2. Respondents were asked to select all barriers that applied to them from the list of options provided. All respondents regardless of impairment status could select these response options.



**Table 14.8: Barriers to accessing tax services by impairment status, 2009/11**

Adults aged 16 and over who tried to access tax services and experienced at least some difficulty

<b>Barrier</b>	<b>Percentage of adults without impairment</b>	<b>Percentage of adults with impairment</b>	<b>Percentage of all adults</b>
At least one barrier to accessing tax services	23	30	25
Difficulty contacting by phone	73	70	72
Unhelpful or inexperienced staff	31	35	32
Lack of accessible information	16	18	17
Lack of help with communication	13	16	14
Difficulty contacting by post	13	13	13
Difficulty contacting by internet	11	10	10
Difficulty contacting by email	9	8	8
Difficulty getting an appointment	4	6	5
Anxiety/lack of confidence	2	6	3
A disability	..	3	1
A health condition, illness or impairment	..	2	1
Not providing a home visit	1	2	1
Difficulty with transport	1	1	1
Difficulty getting into buildings	1	1	1
Difficulty using facilities	1	1	1
Other difficulties	8	9	8
Sample size (=100%)	1,450	690	2,140

**NOTES:**

1. See the Introduction of this report for the definition of impairment status.
2. Respondents were asked to select all barriers that applied to them from the list of options provided. All respondents regardless of impairment status could select these response options.

**Table 14.9: Barriers to accessing social services by impairment status, 2009/11**

Adults aged 16 and over who tried to access social services and experienced at least some difficulty

<b>Barrier</b>	<b>Percentage of adults without impairment</b>	<b>Percentage of adults with impairment</b>	<b>Percentage of all adults</b>
At least one barrier to accessing social services	27	29	28
Difficulty contacting by phone	60	50	54
Unhelpful or inexperienced staff	47	45	46
Lack of accessible information	25	28	26
Difficulty getting an appointment	18	24	21
Lack of help with communication	23	23	23
A disability	1	15	9
Not providing a home visit	8	15	12
A health condition, illness or impairment	..	13	7
Anxiety/lack of confidence	..	11	6
Difficulty contacting by post	10	9	9
Difficulty with transport	1	7	4
Difficulty contacting by email	12	6	9
Difficulty contacting by internet	5	4	5
Difficulty getting into buildings	..	4	2
Difficulty using facilities	1	3	2
Other difficulties	15	11	13
Sample size (=100%)	340	390	730

**NOTES:**

1. See the Introduction of this report for the definition of impairment status.
2. Respondents were asked to select all barriers that applied to them from the list of options provided. All respondents regardless of impairment status could select these response options.

## 15 Domestic life and social care

This chapter presents a summary of the assistance received with everyday activities by adults, aged 16 and over, in Great Britain. It also presents results for time spent providing care for other adults. Results for the source of assistance required for completing everyday activities are presented by both Equality Act (EA)<sup>28</sup> disability status and impairment status. Each definition is described in the Introduction of this report.

### Assistance received with everyday activities

Table 15.1 shows a breakdown of the level of difficulty completing everyday activities. Where respondents chose 'some difficulty' this meant that the activity took time, a lot of effort, was painful, or they needed to use special equipment.

The activities that adults were most likely to either have difficulty or require assistance with were carrying out minor household repairs and cutting toenails (17 per cent and 13 per cent respectively). The activity that adults were least likely to have difficulty or require assistance with was eating a prepared meal (2 per cent).

### Adults with rights under the disability provisions of the Equality Act

The following section presents a summary of the source of assistance required with everyday activities by EA disability status. 26 per cent of adults in Great Britain had rights under the disability provisions of the Equality Act; from this point forward this group will be referred to as EA disabled adults.

### Source of assistance received

Table 15.2 shows a breakdown of the source of assistance required for completing activities for daily living by EA disability status.

The source of assistance received most often by all adults who required assistance was from a family member or relative (78 per cent). 80 per cent of EA disabled adults received assistance from a family member or relative compared with 70 per cent of non-disabled adults. The second most common source of assistance for all adults was from a friend or neighbour (22 per cent). 25 per cent of EA disabled adults received assistance from a friend or neighbour compared with 15 per cent of non-disabled adults.

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<sup>28</sup> Fieldwork was conducted between June 2009 and March 2011. The Equality Act 2010 replaced the Disability Discrimination Act 1995 on 1<sup>st</sup> October 2010. Everyone in this group would meet the current definition of disability for the purposes of equality law which is now contained in the Equality Act 2010, but these estimates do not reflect the total number of people who may have rights under the disability provisions of the Equality Act 2010.

A higher proportion of EA disabled adults who required assistance received paid help inside the home compared with non-disabled adults (12 per cent and 5 per cent respectively). EA disabled adults were also more likely to receive paid help for activities outside of the home than non-disabled adults (15 per cent and 12 per cent respectively).

## **Adults with impairment**

The following sections present a summary of the assistance received with everyday activities and care provided by impairment status. 29 per cent of adults in Great Britain had at least one impairment.

### **Source of assistance received**

Table 15.3 shows a breakdown of the source of assistance required to complete activities for daily living by impairment status.

The source of assistance received most often by all adults who required assistance was from a family member or relative (78 per cent). 81 per cent of adults with impairment received assistance from a family member or relative compared with 69 per cent of adults without impairment. The second most common source of assistance for all adults was from a friend or neighbour (22 per cent). 25 per cent of adults with impairment received assistance from a friend or neighbour compared with 15 per cent of adults without impairment.

A higher proportion of adults with impairment who required assistance received paid help inside the home compared with adults without impairment who required assistance (12 per cent and 6 per cent respectively).

### **Frequency of assistance received**

Table 15.4 shows a summary of how often people received assistance with daily activities when they required it by impairment status.

80 per cent of adults with impairment often or always received assistance when it was required compared with 68 per cent of adults without impairment.

### **Having a say over assistance received**

Table 15.5 shows how often people who received some form of assistance with daily living felt that they had a say over their care provision, by impairment status.

A similar proportion of adults with and without impairment reported that they either always or often had a say over the assistance that they received (82 per cent and 81 per cent respectively).

### **Care provided for other people**

Table 15.6 shows the proportion of adults who provided care for other household members (in a non-professional capacity) by impairment status. 15 per cent of adults with impairment provided care compared with eight per cent of adults without impairment.

Table 15.7 shows the proportion of adults who provided care for people not living in the household (in a non-professional capacity). 15 per cent of adults with impairment provided care compared with 13 per cent of adults without impairment.

### **Time spent caring for others**

Table 15.8 shows the time spent caring for people who lived inside or outside their own household by impairment status.

67 per cent of adults without impairment provided care for between 0 and 19 hours per week compared with 56 per cent of adults with impairment. 16 per cent of adults with impairment provided care for 50 hours or more per week compared with 11 per cent of adults without impairment.

**Table 15.1: Level of difficulty with completing everyday activities, 2009/11**

Adults aged 16 and over

Activity	Percentage unassisted and completing activity without any difficulty	Percentage experiencing some difficulty	Percentage requiring assistance from someone	Sample size (=100%)
Washing and drying whole body	94	3	2	36,140
Using the toilet	97	2	1	36,140
Cutting your toenails	87	5	8	36,130
Dressing and undressing	95	3	2	36,140
Eating a prepared meal	98	1	1	36,130
Shopping for everyday necessities	90	4	6	36,140
Preparing meals	93	3	4	36,130
Doing housework	90	5	5	36,130
Carrying out minor household repairs	83	5	12	36,100

NOTE:

1. 'some difficulty' consists of the following responses: takes time, a lot of effort, is painful or special equipment is needed.

**Table 15.2: Sources of assistance by EA disability status, 2009/11**

Adults aged 16 and over who required assistance completing everyday activities

<b>Source of assistance</b>	<b>Percentage of non-disabled adults</b>	<b>Percentage of EA disabled adults</b>	<b>Percentage of all adults</b>
Family member or relative	70	80	78
Friend or neighbour	15	25	22
NHS nurse/medical carer	5	12	10
Social worker	-	4	3
Paid help inside the home	5	12	10
Paid help outside the home	12	15	14
Unpaid carer (volunteer)	1	2	2
Other person	6	4	5
No-one	9	3	5
<b>Sample size (=100%)</b>			
	1,550	4,360	5,910

**NOTE:**

1. See the Introduction of this report for the definition of EA disability status.
2. Respondents were asked to select all sources of assistance that applied to them from the list of options provided.

**Table 15.3: Sources of assistance by impairment status, 2009/11**

Adults aged 16 and over who required assistance completing everyday activities

<b>Source of assistance</b>	<b>Percentage of adults without impairment</b>	<b>Percentage of adults with impairment</b>	<b>Percentage of all adults</b>
Family member or relative	69	81	78
Friend or neighbour	15	25	22
NHS nurse/medical carer	7	11	10
Social worker	1	4	3
Paid help inside the home	6	12	10
Paid help outside the home	14	14	14
Unpaid carer (volunteer)	-	2	2
Other person	5	4	5
No-one	9	3	5
<b>Sample size (=100%)</b>			
	1,620	4,290	5,910

**NOTE:**

1. See the Introduction of this report for the definition of impairment status.
2. Respondents were asked to select all sources of assistance that applied to them from the list of options provided.



**Table 15.4: Frequency of assistance received by impairment status, 2009/11**

Adults aged 16 and over who required assistance completing everyday activities

<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percentage of adults without impairment</b>	<b>Percentage of adults with impairment</b>	<b>Percentage of all adults</b>
Always	54	59	58
Often	14	21	19
Sometimes	23	17	18
Rarely	9	3	5
Never	-	-	-
<b>Sample size (=100%)</b>			
	1,480	4,140	5,630

NOTE:

1. See the Introduction of this report for the definition of impairment status.

**Table 15.5: How often adults had a say over the assistance received by impairment status, 2009/11**

Adults aged 16 and over who required assistance completing everyday activities

<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Percentage of adults without impairment</b>	<b>Percentage of adults with impairment</b>	<b>Percentage of all adults</b>
Always	69	65	66
Often	13	17	16
Sometimes	10	12	11
Rarely	4	3	3
Never	5	3	4
<b>Sample size (=100%)</b>			
	1,500	4,000	5,450

NOTE:

1. See the Introduction of this report for the definition of impairment status.

**Table 15.6: Providing care for other household members (in a non-professional capacity) by impairment status, 2009/11**

Adults aged 16 and over who provided care for others

	<b>Percentage of adults without impairment</b>	<b>Percentage of adults with impairment</b>	<b>Percentage of all adults</b>
Adults providing care	8	15	10
Sample size (=100%)	22,250	8,160	30,410

NOTE:

1. See the Introduction of this report for the definition of impairment status.

**Table 15.7: Providing care for other people not living in the household (in a non-professional capacity) by impairment status, 2009/11**

Adults aged 16 and over who provided care for others

	<b>Percentage of adults without impairment</b>	<b>Percentage of adults with impairment</b>	<b>Percentage of all adults</b>
People providing care	13	15	14
Sample size (=100%)	25,430	10,680	36,120

NOTE:

1. See the Introduction of this report for the definition of impairment status.

**Table 15.8: Number of hours spent caring for others per week by impairment status, 2009/11**

Adults aged 16 and over who provided care for people who lived in/or outside their household.

<b>Number of hours</b>	<b>Percentage of adults without impairment</b>	<b>Percentage of adults with impairment</b>	<b>Percentage of all adults</b>
0 to 19 hours per week	67	56	63
20 to 34 hours per week	7	9	8
35 to 49 hours per week	4	4	4
50 to 99 hours per week	4	4	4
100 or more hours per week	7	11	9
Varies – under 20 hours per week	7	7	7
Varies – over 20 hours per week	4	7	5
Sample size (=100%)	4,830	2,620	7,440

**NOTE:**

1. See the Introduction of this report for the definition of impairment status.



## 16 Discrimination

Discrimination occurs when a particular person or group of people are treated less favourably because of their personal characteristics. The Equality Act 2010 provides an accessible framework of disability law which protects individuals from unfair treatment due to: age, sex, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, or sexual orientation. The discrimination reported in this chapter is in relation to experiences during the 12 months prior to the interview taking place.

This chapter presents the types of discrimination experienced by adults, aged 16 and over, in Great Britain. It also reports the types of people identified as being responsible for discrimination (for example, employer, health staff, police officer etc).

### Discrimination experienced in the past 12 months

Table 16.1 presents a summary of the types of discrimination experienced during the 12 months prior to interview in relation to any of the following characteristics:

- age
- sex
- a health condition, illness or impairment
- disability
- ethnic group
- religion or belief
- sexual orientation

Age was identified as the most common reason for discrimination with four per cent of adults giving this reason. Discrimination due to a health condition, illness or impairment was reported by three per cent of adults and discrimination due to a disability was reported by two per cent of adults. Discrimination due to sex was reported by two per cent of adults, as was discrimination due to ethnicity.

### People identified as being responsible for health or disability related discrimination

Table 16.2 shows a breakdown of the people identified as being responsible for health or disability related discrimination in the 12 months prior to interview. 89 per cent of all adults reported that they had not experienced any of these types of discrimination in the past 12 months. Four per cent of adults specified discrimination due to a health condition, illness or impairment or due

to a disability. Only these adults were asked to identify who treated them unfairly.

The three most common groups of people identified were health staff, strangers in the street and employers. Health staff were most frequently identified as being responsible for discrimination; reported by 29 per cent of these adults. Strangers in the street and employers were reported by 26 per cent and 25 per cent of these adults respectively.

### **Workplace discrimination experienced**

Table 16.3 shows the types of workplace discrimination experienced by employed adults who reported health or disability related discrimination in the 12 months prior to interview. The most frequently reported type of workplace discrimination experienced was being given fewer responsibilities than wanted (17 per cent). The least common workplace discrimination reported was being denied a transfer (4 per cent).

**Table 16.1: Types of discrimination experienced in previous 12 months, 2009/11**

Adults aged 16 and over

<b>Type of discrimination</b>	<b>Percentage of all adults</b>
Age	4
A health condition, illness or impairment	3
Ethnic group	2
Sex	2
Disability	2
Religion or belief	1
Sexual orientation	-
None of these reasons	89
Sample size (=100%)	31,980

**NOTE:**

1. Respondents were asked to select all types of discrimination that applied to them from the list of options provided. All respondents regardless of impairment status could select these response options.

**Table 16.2: People responsible for discrimination in previous 12 months, 2009/11**

Adults aged 16 and over reporting discrimination due to a health condition, illness or impairment or a disability

<b>People responsible for discrimination</b>	<b>Percentage of all adults</b>
Health staff	29
Strangers in the street	26
Employer	25
Friends or neighbours	14
Work colleagues	11
Family or relatives	11
Retail staff	11
Bus drivers	9
Police officers	5
Social workers	5
Teacher or lecturer	4
Taxi drivers	3
Care workers	2
Rail staff	2
Others	17
Sample size (=100%)	1,200

**NOTE:**

1. Respondents were asked to select the people responsible for discrimination that applied to them from the list of options provided.



**Table 16.3: Types of discrimination identified by employed adults who experienced workplace discrimination in previous 12 months, 2009/11**

Adults aged 16 and over in employment and reporting workplace discrimination due to a health condition, illness or impairment or a disability

<b>Type of discrimination</b>	<b>Percentage of all adults</b>
Been given fewer responsibilities than you wanted	17
Not been promoted	11
Been refused a job	8
Been refused a job interview	8
Been denied other work-related benefits	7
Been paid less than others in similar jobs working similar hours	5
Been denied a transfer	4
None of these	62
Sample size (=100%)	320

**NOTE:**

1. Respondents were asked to select all types of discrimination that applied to them from the list of options provided.



## 17 Crime

This chapter presents a summary of the experience of crime amongst adults, aged 16 and over, in Great Britain. That is, a crime where the respondent was the victim. Results for the most common types of crime experienced by adults in the previous 12 months are presented by both Equality Act (EA)<sup>29</sup> disability status and impairment status. Each definition is described in the Introduction of this report.

### Adults with rights under the disability provisions of the Equality Act

The following section presents a summary of the experience of crime in the previous 12 months by EA disability status. 26 per cent of adults in Great Britain had rights under the disability provisions of the Equality Act; from this point forward this group will be referred to as EA disabled adults.

#### Experience of crime

Table 17.1 shows the types of crime experienced in the 12 months prior to interview by EA disability status. Of all adults, 18 per cent reported that they had personally experienced a crime in the 12 months prior to interview. A higher proportion of EA disabled adults reported that they had personally experienced a crime when compared with non-disabled adults (20 per cent and 18 per cent respectively).

The most common type of crime experienced by all adults was deliberate damage to their home, vehicle or belongings (8 per cent). This was the most common type of crime experienced by both EA disabled and non-disabled adults (8 and 7 per cent respectively). ‘Something else stolen from you’ (that is something other than a car, van, motorcycle or bicycle) was the second most common type of crime experienced by all adults, EA disabled adults and non-disabled adults (6 per cent, 6 per cent and 5 per cent respectively). The third most common type of crime experienced by all adults, EA disabled adults and non-disabled adults was ‘violence or force used or threatened against you’ (4 per cent, 5 per cent and 4 per cent respectively).

#### Adults with impairment

The following section presents a summary of the most common types of crime experienced in the 12 months prior to interview by impairment status. 29 per cent of adults in Great Britain had at least one impairment.

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<sup>29</sup> Fieldwork took place between June 2009 and March 2011. The Equality Act 2010 replaced the Disability Discrimination Act 1995 on 1<sup>st</sup> October 2010. Everyone in this group would meet the current definition of disability for the purposes of equality law which is now contained in the Equality Act 2010, but these estimates do not reflect the total number of people who may have rights under the disability provisions of the Equality Act 2010.

## Experience of crime

Table 17.2 shows the types of crime experienced by adults in the 12 months prior to interview. Of all adults, 18 per cent reported that they had personally experienced a crime in the past 12 months. A higher proportion of adults with impairment reported that they had personally experienced a crime when compared with adults without impairment (21 per cent and 17 per cent respectively).

The most common type of crime experienced by all adults was deliberate damage to their home, vehicle or belongings (8 per cent). This was also the most common type of crime experienced by both adults with and without impairment (9 and 7 per cent respectively). 'Something else stolen from you' (that is something other than a car, van, motorcycle or bicycle) was the second most common type of crime experienced by adults without impairment (5 per cent). 'Something else stolen from you' and 'violence or force used or threatened against you' were the second most common types of crime experienced by adults with impairment (both 6 per cent).

## Hate crime

This section presents results for adults who reported that they felt they had been a victim of a hate crime in the 12 months prior to interview. A hate crime is one committed against someone or their property on the grounds of their personal characteristics, for example religion, ethnic origin, disability or sexual orientation. Two per cent of all adults felt that they had been a victim of a hate crime over the past 12 months.

## Motivations for hate crime by impairment status

Table 17.3 shows the motivations for hate crime experienced by adults in the 12 months prior to interview. The most common motivation, for all adults who experienced hate crime, was ethnicity (37 per cent); with 45 per cent of adults without impairment and 27 per cent of adults with impairment giving this reason.

For adults with impairment, reasons related to a health condition, illness or impairment and a disability were also given in relation to why they were a victim of a hate crime (15 per cent and 18 per cent respectively).

Sexual orientation was the second most common motivation for a hate crime for all adults (11 per cent): eight per cent of adults with impairment and 13 per cent of adults without impairment reported this characteristic as the motivation for a hate crime. 34 per cent of adults with impairment and 30 per cent of adults without impairment gave the answer 'none of these reasons', thus they felt they were the victim of a hate crime in relation to other factors not covered by the questionnaire.

**Table 17.1: Types of crime experienced in previous 12 months by EA disability status, 2009/11**

Adults aged 16 and over

<b>Type of crime</b>	<b>Percentage of non-disabled adults</b>	<b>Percentage of EA disabled adults</b>	<b>Percentage of all adults</b>
Theft of a car, van, motorcycle or bicycle	2	1	2
Something else stolen from you	5	6	6
Someone entering your home without permission	2	3	2
Deliberate damage to your home, vehicle or belongings	7	8	8
Violence or force used or threatened against you	4	5	4
Any other crimes	2	2	2
None	82	80	82
<hr/>			
Sample size (=100%)	26,290	9,820	36,110

**NOTE:**

1. See the Introduction of this report for the definition of EA disability status.
2. Respondents were asked to select all crimes that applied to them from the list of options provided.

**Table 17.2: Types of crime experienced in previous 12 months by impairment status, 2009/11**

Adults aged 16 and over

<b>Type of crime</b>	<b>Percentage of adults without impairment</b>	<b>Percentage of adults with impairment</b>	<b>Percentage of all adults</b>
Theft of a car, van, motorcycle or bicycle	2	2	2
Something else stolen from you	5	6	6
Someone entering your home without permission	2	3	2
Deliberate damage to your home, vehicle or belongings	7	9	8
Violence or force used or threatened against you	4	6	4
Any other crimes	2	2	2
None	83	79	82
Sample size (=100%)	25,420	10,680	36,110

**NOTE:**

1. See the Introduction of this report for the definition of impairment status.
2. Respondents were asked to select all crimes that applied to them from the list of options provided.

**Table 17.3: Motivations for hate crime in previous 12 months by impairment status, 2009/11**

Adults aged 16 and over

<b>Motivations for hate crime</b>	<b>Percentage of adults without impairment</b>	<b>Percentage of adults with impairment</b>	<b>Percentage of all adults</b>
Age	6	9	8
Sex	4	6	5
A health condition, illness or impairment	3	15	8
A disability	..	18	8
Ethnicity	45	27	37
Religion	7	9	8
Sexual Orientation	13	8	11
None of these reasons	30	34	32
<b>Sample size (=100%)</b>			
	270	250	520

**NOTE:**

1. See the Introduction of this report for the definition of impairment status.
2. Respondents were asked to select all motivations that applied to them from the list of options provided. All respondents regardless of impairment status could select these response options.





## 18 Children (aged 11 to 15)

This chapter presents a summary of the prevalence of participation restrictions across the range of International Classification of Functioning (ICF)<sup>30</sup> domains for children, aged 11 to 15, in Great Britain. The chapter focuses on four key areas of a child's life; education, leisure and play, transport and personal relationships. Results for participation restrictions are presented by both Equality Act (EA)<sup>31</sup> disability status and impairment status. Each definition is described in the Introduction of this report.

The questions included in the analysis for this chapter were asked by parental proxy<sup>32</sup> for children aged 11 to 15 as there was no personal completion for this age group.

### Children with rights under the disability provisions of the Equality Act

This section presents a summary of participation restrictions experienced by EA disability status. Nine per cent of children in Great Britain had rights under the disability provisions of the Equality Act; from this point forward this group will be referred to as EA disabled children.

### Participation restrictions

Table 18.1 shows the participation restrictions that children experienced in the 12 months prior to interview. The area of participation restriction experienced most frequently by EA disabled children was in leisure or play activities, with 35 of per cent of parents of EA disabled children reporting their child had a restriction in this area. This compares with eight per cent of non-disabled children whose parents reported that their child had a restriction in this area. A higher proportion of parents of EA disabled children reported their child experienced restrictions to education (30 per cent) and transport (20 per cent) when compared with parents of non-disabled children (3 per cent and 6 per cent respectively).

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<sup>30</sup> For further information on ICF please see: <http://www.who.int/classifications/icf/en/>

<sup>31</sup> Fieldwork was conducted between June 2009 and March 2011. The Equality Act 2010 replaced the Disability Discrimination Act 1995 on 1<sup>st</sup> October 2010. Everyone in this group would meet the current definition of disability for the purposes of equality law which is now contained in the Equality Act 2010, but these estimates do not reflect the total number of people who may have rights under the disability provisions of the Equality Act 2010.

<sup>32</sup> A selection of questions were asked about children aged 11-15, which were answered by their parents.

## Children with impairment

This section presents a summary of the participation restrictions and the reasons for these restrictions by impairment status. This section also presents results for the prevalence of children identified as having Special Educational Needs (SEN) and whether children previously identified as having SEN are still thought to have them. 11 per cent of children in Great Britain were reported to have at least one impairment.

### Participation restrictions

Table 18.2 shows the participation restrictions that children experienced in the 12 months prior to interview. The areas of participation restriction experienced most frequently by children with impairment was in leisure and play, and education (both 28 per cent). For children without impairment the area of participation restriction experienced most frequently was in leisure or play activities (9 per cent).

A higher proportion of parents of children with impairment reported their child experienced restrictions to education (28 per cent) and transport (20 per cent) than parents of children without impairment (3 per cent and 6 per cent respectively). 20 per cent of children with impairment were identified by their parents as having a restriction related to personal relationships.

### Barriers to participation

Table 18.3 presents results for the 18 per cent of parents who reported their child experienced a participation restriction in the 12 months prior to interview. In total, 46 per cent of children with impairment were reported to have experienced a restriction compared with 14 per cent of children without impairment.

One of the most common causes of participation restriction for children with impairment, as reported by parents, was the attitudes of others (34 per cent). The most common cause for children without impairment, as reported by parents, was financial reasons (38 per cent). The second most frequent cause of participation restriction among children without impairment was poor services (31 per cent).

Parents of children with impairment also reported their child's participation restriction was in relation to a health condition, illness or impairment or a disability (46 per cent and 35 per cent respectively).

### Special Educational Needs

This section presents results on the prevalence of children identified as having Special Educational Needs (SEN) as reported by parents of all children aged 11 to 15. Table 18.4 shows that 23 per cent of all children were

identified, either by their school or by someone else, to have had Special Educational Needs at some time in their life. Of these children, 63 per cent were still thought to have Special Educational Needs at the time of the interview.

**Table 18.1: Participation restrictions by EA disability status, 2009/11**

Children aged 11 to 15

<b>Restriction</b>	<b>Percentage of non-disabled children</b>	<b>Percentage of EA disabled children</b>	<b>Percentage of all children</b>
Education	3	30	5
Leisure or play	8	35	11
Transport	6	20	7
Personal relationships	2	22	3
None of these	86	49	82
<b>Sample size (=100%)</b>			
	2,640	270	2,910

NOTE:

1. See the Introduction of this report for the definition of EA disability status.

**Table 18.2: Participation restrictions by impairment status, 2009/11**

Children aged 11 to 15

<b>Restriction</b>	<b>Percentage of children without impairment</b>	<b>Percentage of children with impairment</b>	<b>Percentage of all children</b>
Education	3	28	5
Leisure or play	9	28	11
Transport	6	20	7
Personal relationships	1	20	3
None of these	86	54	82
<b>Sample size (=100%)</b>			
	2,580	330	2,910

NOTE:

1. See the Introduction of this report for the definition of impairments status.

**Table 18.3: Barriers to participation by impairment status, 2009/11**

Children aged 11 to 15

<b>Barrier</b>	<b>Percentage of children without impairment</b>	<b>Percentage of children with impairment</b>	<b>Percentage of all children</b>
At least one barrier to participation	14	46	18
A health condition, illness or impairment	6	46	18
A disability	..	35	11
Attitudes of others	8	34	15
Lack of help or assistance	7	25	12
Poor services	31	23	28
Financial reasons	38	22	33
Lack of special aids or equipment	2	12	5
Lack of information	6	10	7
Too busy/not enough time	14	7	12
Badly designed buildings	..	..	1
Other reasons	26	16	23
Sample size (=100%)	380	160	530

**NOTE:**

1. See the Introduction of this report for the definition of impairments status.
2. Respondents were asked to select all barriers that applied to them from the list of options provided. All respondents regardless of impairment status could select these response options.

**Table 18.4: Children identified as having Special Educational Needs (SEN) and those that are still thought to have SEN, 2009/11**

Children aged 11 to 15

	<b>Percentage of children identified as having SEN at some point in their life</b>	<b>Percentage of children identified as having SEN at some point in their life who are still thought to have SEN</b>
Children aged 11 to 15	23	63
Sample size (=100%)	2,920	660

## 19 Severity of Impairment

This chapter presents a summary of severity of impairment for adults, aged 16 and over, in Great Britain. Breakdowns of severity of impairments are reported by age group, Government Office Region (GOR), sex, economic status, life areas<sup>33</sup> and participation restriction count<sup>34</sup>.

Severity of impairment is defined from responses to the 'Impairments and health conditions' section of the LOS questionnaire. The questions provide a measure of the following for each respondent:

- if they experience either moderate, severe or complete difficulty within each area of physical or mental functioning
- if certain activities are limited in any way as a result. 'Activities' refer to different areas of physical or mental functioning, such as walking, climbing stairs or reading a newspaper at arms length.

### Severity category

Adults with impairment were placed into a severity category of 1 to 4 (with 1 being least severe and 4 being most severe). This has primarily been based on responses to questions asking about respondent's level of difficulty in each of the 14 areas<sup>35</sup> of physical or mental functioning. For example, their reported level of difficulty with climbing stairs, reading a newspaper at arms length or remembering things. In recognition that people have fluctuating impairments with different levels of frequency, the classification of severity of impairment has also taken into account the frequency of activity limitation. For example, whether the respondent has difficulty with activities related to mobility; 'rarely', 'sometimes', 'often' or 'always'.

To give an example: a respondent with a mild level of difficulty with activities related to mobility, which they experienced 'rarely', 'sometimes' or 'often' would be coded into severity category 1. Respondents with a mild level of difficulty with mobility that they experienced 'always' would be coded into severity category 2.

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<sup>33</sup> The life areas considered were: education and training; employment; economic life and living standards; transport; leisure activities; social contact; accessibility of housing; and accessibility outside the home.

<sup>34</sup> The participation restriction count is a count between zero and eight that is calculated for each respondent as the sum of their participation restrictions across eight life areas. For more information see Chapter 3 (Participation Restrictions) in this report.

<sup>35</sup> Sight, hearing, speaking, mobility, dexterity, long term pain, breathing, learning, intellectual, behavioural, memory, mental health condition, chronic health condition, other impairment or health condition.

Respondents can have more than one impairment, with different levels of severity in each. In cases of multiple impairment, the respondent is coded according to their highest severity category. For example a respondent who is permanently blind (severity category 4) and also sometimes has mild difficulty remembering things (severity category 1) would remain in category 4. A summary of how the severity category has been defined is given in Table 19.1.

**Table 19.1: Severity category**

Difficulty	Frequency			
	Rarely	Sometimes	Often	Always
Mild	1	1	1	2
Moderate	1	2	2	3
Severe	2	3	3	4
Cannot do	3	4	4	4

NOTE:

1. 'Cannot do' is only an option for the following impairments: sight, hearing, mobility, speaking and dexterity.

## Review of method

Previous surveys<sup>36</sup> have taken more complex methods to calculate severity of impairment, using mean scores of numbers of impairments. The experimental statistics on severity presented in this report are intended to provide an indicative overview of levels of severity of impairment among the adult population and to outline the potential for analysis of severity in the LOS, based on the questionnaire used. The method of categorising severity in the LOS will be reviewed in Spring 2012.

## Overview of results

The following sections present a summary of impairment by severity for adults. 29 per cent of adults in Great Britain had at least one impairment.

For adults with impairment:

- 10 per cent were within severity category 1
- 44 per cent were within severity category 2
- 26 per cent were within severity category 3
- 21 per cent were within severity category 4

<sup>36</sup> Grundy, E. *et al.* (1999). Disability in Great Britain: results of the 1996/7 Disability Follow-Up to the Family Resources Survey. DWP.

Sweeny, K. and Furphy, M. (2008). The Northern Ireland Survey of Activity Limitation and Disability: an exercise in surveying a non-universally defined group in the population.



### **Severity of impairment by age group**

Table 19.2 shows a breakdown of severity of impairment by age group. The severity of adult impairment was found to increase with age.

- 14 per cent of adults with impairment aged 16 to 39 years were within severity category 1. This compared with 10 per cent of those aged 40 to 64 years and seven per cent of those aged 65 years and over.
- 48 per cent of adults with impairment aged 16 to 39 years were within severity category 2. This compared with 45 per cent of those aged 40 to 64 years and 40 per cent of those aged 65 years and over.
- There were no statistically significant variations by age in the proportion of adults with impairment who were within severity category 3.
- 14 per cent of adults with impairment aged 16 to 39 years were within severity category 4. This compared with 20 per cent of those aged 45 to 64 years and 26 per cent of those aged 65 years and over.

### **Severity of impairment by Government Office Region**

Table 19.3 shows a breakdown of severity of impairment by Government Office Region.

- Eight per cent of adults with impairment living in the North West and West Midlands were within severity category 1 compared with 14 per cent of those living in the South East.
- 40 per cent of adults with impairment living in Wales were within severity category 2, compared with 46 per cent of those living in the East of England and the South East.
- 24 per cent of adults with impairment living in the West Midlands and the South East were within severity category 3, compared with 28 per cent of those living in the Scotland.
- 17 per cent of adults with impairment living in the East of England and South East were within severity category 4, compared with 26 per cent of those living in the West Midlands.

### **Severity of impairment by sex**

Table 19.4 shows a breakdown of severity of impairment by sex.

- 11 per cent of male adults with impairment were within severity category 1, compared with nine per cent of female adults with impairment.
- 42 per cent of male adults with impairment were within severity category 2, compared with 45 per cent of female adults with impairment.
- There were no statistically significant variations by sex in the proportion of adults with impairment who were within severity category 3.

- There were no statistically significant variations by sex in the proportion of adults with impairment who were within severity category 4.

### Severity of impairment by economic status

Table 19.5 shows a breakdown of severity of impairment by economic status. Adults with more severe impairment were less likely to be in work.

Among adults with impairment in severity category 1:

- seven per cent were in full-time self employment
- 38 per cent were in full-time employment
- 15 per cent were in part-time work
- 39 per cent were workless<sup>37</sup>

Among adults with impairment in severity category 2:

- five per cent were in full-time self employment
- 25 per cent were in full-time employment
- 14 per cent were in part-time work
- 57 per cent were workless<sup>37</sup>

Among adults with impairment in severity category 3:

- four per cent were in full-time self employment
- 18 per cent were in full-time employment
- 11 per cent were in part-time work
- 67 per cent were workless<sup>37</sup>

Among adults with impairment in severity category 4:

- seven per cent were in full-time employment
- 4 per cent were in part-time work
- 89 per cent were workless<sup>37</sup>

### Severity of impairment by life area

Table 19.6 shows a breakdown of severity of impairment by life area. Adults with more severe impairment were more likely to experience participation restrictions in the life areas described below.

Among adults with impairment who were within severity category 1 and restricted in one or more life areas:

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<sup>37</sup> This includes 'Workless-retired from paid work', 'Workless-unemployed', 'Workless-sick or disabled' and 'Workless-other inactive'.

- 11 per cent experienced a participation restriction in their learning opportunities
- 31 per cent experienced a participation restriction in the type or amount of paid work they did
- 67 per cent experienced a participation restriction in using transport
- 79 per cent experienced a participation restriction in leisure, social and cultural activities

Among adults with impairment who were within severity category 2 and restricted in one or more life areas:

- 15 per cent experienced a participation restriction in their learning opportunities
- 47 per cent experienced a participation restriction in the type or amount of paid work they did
- 72 per cent experienced a participation restriction in using transport
- 81 per cent experienced a participation restriction in leisure, social and cultural activities

Among adults with impairment who were within severity category 3 and restricted in one or more life areas:

- 16 per cent experienced a participation restriction in their learning opportunities
- 65 per cent experienced a participation restriction in the type or amount of paid work they did
- 76 per cent experienced a participation restriction in using transport
- 83 per cent experienced a participation restriction in leisure, social and cultural activities

Among adults with impairment who were within severity category 4 and restricted in one or more life areas:

- 20 per cent experienced a participation restriction in their learning opportunities
- 89 per cent experienced a participation restriction in the type or amount of paid work they did
- 86 per cent experienced a participation restriction in using transport
- 86 per cent experienced a participation restriction in leisure, social and cultural activities

## Severity of impairment by participation restriction count

The participation restriction count is a count of between zero and eight that is calculated for each respondent as the sum of their participation restrictions across the following life areas:

- education and training
- employment
- economic life and living standards (for example, being able to afford expenses or make loan repayments)
- transport
- leisure, social and cultural activities
- social contact
- accessibility of housing
- accessibility outside the home

For example, if an individual was restricted in the work that they could do and in the learning opportunities they could take part in their participation restriction count would be two. See Chapter 3 of this report for more information.

Table 19.7 shows a breakdown of severity of impairment by participation restriction count. Adults with impairment who were within severity category 3 or 4 were more likely to experience participation restrictions across a larger number of life areas.

Among adults with impairment in severity category 1:

- 14 per cent experienced no participation restrictions
- 17 per cent experienced participation restrictions in one life area
- 26 per cent experienced participation restrictions in two life areas
- 25 per cent experienced participation restrictions in three life areas
- 10 per cent experienced participation restrictions in four life areas
- eight per cent experienced participation restrictions in five or more life areas

Among adults with impairment in severity category 2:

- eight per cent experienced no participation restrictions
- 15 per cent experienced participation restrictions in one life area
- 23 per cent experienced participation restrictions in two life areas
- 24 per cent experienced participation restrictions in three life areas
- 17 per cent experienced participation restrictions in four life areas

- 13 per cent experienced participation restrictions in five or more life areas

Among adults with impairment in severity category 3:

- six per cent experienced no participation restrictions
- 13 per cent experienced participation restrictions in one life area
- 19 per cent experienced participation restrictions in two life areas
- 22 per cent experienced participation restrictions in three life areas
- 20 per cent experienced participation restrictions in four life areas
- 20 per cent experienced participation restrictions in five or more life areas

Among adults with impairment in severity category 4:

- five per cent experienced no participation restrictions
- nine per cent experienced participation restrictions in one life area
- 12 per cent experienced participation restrictions in two life areas
- 18 per cent experienced participation restrictions in three life areas
- 21 per cent experienced participation restrictions in four life areas
- 34 per cent experienced participation restrictions in five or more life areas

**Table 19.2 Severity of impairment by age group, 2009/11**

Adults aged 16 and over with impairment

<b>Age group</b>	<b>Percentage of adults within severity category 1</b>	<b>Percentage of adults within severity category 2</b>	<b>Percentage of adults within severity category 3</b>	<b>Percentage of adults within severity category 4</b>	<b>Sample size (=100%)</b>
16 to 39	14	48	25	14	2,050
40 to 64	10	45	26	20	4,610
65 and over	7	40	27	26	4,020
<b>Total</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>10,680</b>

NOTES:

1. See the Introduction of this report for the definition of impairment status.

**Table 19.3 Severity of impairment by Government Office Region, 2009/11**

Adults aged 16 and over with impairment

<b>Government Office Region</b>	<b>Percentage of adults within severity category 1</b>	<b>Percentage of adults within severity category 2</b>	<b>Percentage of adults within severity category 3</b>	<b>Percentage of adults within severity category 4</b>	<b>Sample size (=100%)</b>
North East	9	41	27	24	630
North West	8	43	27	22	1,390
Yorkshire and Humberside	9	45	25	20	1,070
East Midlands	11	43	25	20	940
West Midlands	8	43	24	26	980
East of England	10	46	27	17	1,070
London	10	44	27	20	860
South East	14	46	24	17	1,340
South West	11	45	25	19	920
Wales	9	40	27	24	580
Scotland	9	41	28	22	920
England	10	44	26	20	9,190
Great Britain	10	44	26	21	10,680

**NOTES:**

1. See the Introduction of this report for the definition of impairment status.

**Table 19.4 Severity of impairment by sex, 2009/11**

Adults aged 16 and over with impairment

<b>Sex</b>	<b>Percentage of adults within severity category 1</b>	<b>Percentage of adults within severity category 2</b>	<b>Percentage of adults within severity category 3</b>	<b>Percentage of adults within severity category 4</b>	<b>Sample size (=100%)</b>
Male	11	42	26	21	4,650
Female	9	45	26	20	6,040
<b>Total</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>10,680</b>

NOTES:

1. See the Introduction of this report for the definition of impairment status.



**Table 19.5 Severity of impairment by economic status, 2009/11**

Adults aged 16 and over

<b>Economic status</b>	<b>Percentage of adults without impairment</b>	<b>Percentage of adults within severity category 1</b>	<b>Percentage of adults within severity category 2</b>	<b>Percentage of adults within severity category 3</b>	<b>Percentage of adults within severity category 4</b>
Full-time self-employed	6	7	5	4	1
Full-time employee	43	38	25	18	7
Part-time	17	15	14	11	4
Workless - retired from paid work	16	27	35	38	44
Workless - unemployed	5	4	5	5	3
Workless - sick or disabled	1	1	8	17	37
Workless - other inactive	13	7	9	7	5
Sample size (=100%)	25,420	1,040	4,680	2,740	2,220

**NOTES:**

1. See the Introduction of this report for the definition of impairment status.
2. Part-time work includes both employee and self-employed; see the Glossary (Chapter 21) of this report for more information.
3. Unemployed uses the International Labour Organisation definition of unemployment; see the Glossary (Chapter 21) of this report for more information.
4. All respondents regardless of disability status could be classified as 'Workless-sick or disabled'.

**Table 19.6 Severity of impairment by life area, 2009/11**

Adults aged 16 and over who were restricted in one or more life areas

<b>Life area</b>	<b>Percentage of adults without impairment</b>	<b>Percentage of adults within severity category 1</b>	<b>Percentage of adults within severity category 2</b>	<b>Percentage of adults within severity category 3</b>	<b>Percentage of adults within severity category 4</b>
Education and training	9	11	15	16	20
Employment	26	31	47	65	89
Economic life and living standards	29	29	40	45	51
Transport	60	67	72	76	86
Leisure activities	78	79	81	83	86
Social contact	21	28	24	23	24
Housing	1	2	6	15	32
Accessibility outside the home	6	8	20	31	54
Sample size (=100%)	25,420	1,040	4,680	2,740	2,220

**NOTES:**

1. See the Introduction for the definition of impairment status.
2. Participation restriction to economic life and living standards is calculated at household level. For the definition of household see Chapter 21 (Glossary) of this report.

**Table 19.7 Severity of impairment by participation restriction count, 2009/11**

Adults aged 16 and over

<b>Participation restriction count</b>	<b>Percentage of adults without impairment</b>	<b>Percentage of adults within severity category 1</b>	<b>Percentage of adults within severity category 2</b>	<b>Percentage of adults within severity category 3</b>	<b>Percentage of adults within severity category 4</b>
0	16	14	8	6	5
1	24	17	15	13	9
2	26	26	23	19	12
3	20	25	24	22	18
4	9	10	17	20	21
5 or more	5	8	13	20	34
Sample size (=100%)	25,430	1,040	4,690	2,740	2,220

NOTE:

1. See the Introduction for the definition of impairment status.



## 20 Methodology

This chapter provides a description of the process used to create the results within this report. The first section describes the procedure used to weight the Life Opportunities Survey (LOS) data and the second section describes data quality and the factors that affect the reliability of the LOS estimates.

Detailed information on the LOS sampling strategy, survey development and data collection methods can be found in the LOS Technical Report<sup>38</sup>.

### Weighting Procedure

Survey data are routinely weighted to compensate for the different probabilities of individual households and people being included in the analysis data and to help reduce the random variation in survey estimates. Weighting the data also means that the results derived from the sample selected are representative of the population from which they were drawn.

The 2009/11 LOS data is weighted using a three-step approach. In the first step the data is weighted to account for the chance of a household being selected. The second stage weights the data to compensate for non-response. Finally, the third phase re-weights the data so that it matches the population totals in terms of region, age group and gender. Detailed information of the weighting process can be found in the LOS Technical Report. Each step is summarised below.

### Selection weights

Weighting for selection is carried out in order to determine the relative probability that each address would be sampled to participate in the survey. This is calculated by dividing the population count (the sum of the number of delivery points<sup>39</sup> in England, Wales and Scotland) by the number of dwellings<sup>40</sup> selected for the sample and then multiplying this by the number of households at each delivery point. Thus multi-household addresses (those with more than one household) are given a higher weight to account for the fact that they are less likely to be selected.

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<sup>38</sup> This report has been published by the Office for National Statistics. The full title of the report is 'Life Opportunities Survey – Wave one Technical Report, 2009/11' and can be found at the following link [//www.ons.gov.uk/ons/rel/los/life-opportunities-survey/life-opportunities-survey/index.html](http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/rel/los/life-opportunities-survey/life-opportunities-survey/index.html)

<sup>39</sup> The number of houses with one front door.

<sup>40</sup> A dwelling is a unit of accommodation, which can be occupied by more than one household, containing a kitchen, bath/shower room, or WC.

## Weighting for non-response

Sampled households may not respond to the survey, for example if they are too busy or do not want to take part. To ensure that the results are not biased by this missing information the data is weighted for non-response. Each respondent is given a weight so that they represent non-responders who have similar characteristics. In order to adjust for non-response on the LOS the selection weights are adjusted at the Outcome Area Code (OAC) group level<sup>41</sup>. This was deemed as the most appropriate basis for non-response adjustment due to the reasonably high level of variability in the impairment rate of OAC groups, and a high level of variability in the response rate. The non-response adjustment was made by calculating a response rate for each OAC group and then multiplying the selection weights of the dwellings that responded in these groups by the inverse of this.

## Population weighting

The LOS sample is based on private households<sup>42</sup>, which means that the population totals used in the weighting need to relate to people in private households. The population totals used for the LOS were for June 2010 and were taken from the ONS mid-year population estimates.

The population information from the mid-year totals and the LOS data were grouped into twelve age by gender categories and eleven Government Office Region categories to form a series of weighting classes. The population-based weighting consisted of adjusting the existing weights, using a process called calibration, so that the final weights ensured that weighted totals for the three demographic categories (age, gender and region) matched the population totals.

## Presentation and interpretation of weighted data

The weighted bases are excluded from the tables as they would be misleading and are not recommended as a source for population estimates. This is because the LOS weighted bases underestimate the number of people in the population. Recommended data sources for population estimates for most socio-demographic groups are: ONS mid-year estimates, the Labour Force Survey, or Housing Statistics from the Department for Communities and Local Government.

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<sup>41</sup> OAC is a hierarchical classification created using cluster analysis on 41 Census variables - the first character relates to the 7 'super-groups', the first and second characters then relate to the 21 'groups' and then all three characters relate to the 52 'clusters'.

<sup>42</sup> This excludes people living in residential institutions, such as retirement homes, nursing homes, prisons, barracks or university halls of residences as well as homeless people.

## **Data reliability**

All reasonable attempts have been made to ensure that the results in this report are as accurate as possible, however there are certain factors that affect the reliability of estimates and for which no adequate adjustments can be made. These two potential sources of error are known as sampling and non-sampling errors and should be kept in mind when interpreting the LOS results.

## **Sampling error**

The estimates in this report are based on information obtained from a random sample of the population and are therefore subject to sampling variability. A total of 37,500 households were issued to the interviewers during wave one of interviewing, of which 33,921 were eligible. Of these, full participation (i.e. interviews obtained in person or by proxy with every eligible adult in the household) was obtained from 59 per cent (19,951) of eligible households, resulting in 31,161 interviews with adults aged 16 and over. Further information on sample selection and response rates can be found in the LOS Technical Report.

Sampling error refers to the difference between the results obtained from the sample population and the results that would be obtained if the entire population were fully enumerated. The estimates may therefore differ from the figures that would have been produced if information had been collected for all households or individuals in Great Britain.

## **Standard Errors and estimates of precision**

One measure of sampling variability is the standard error. Standard errors are one of the key measures of survey quality, showing the extent to which the estimates should be expected to vary over repeated random sampling. In order to estimate standard errors correctly, the survey design and calibration of the weight to the population totals need to be accounted for. The size of the standard error depends on the sample size of the estimate and sample design. For estimates based on small sample sizes the standard errors will be larger, indicating the estimate is less reliable.

Standard errors have only been provided for the estimates in one of the tables in this report – Table 20.1 shows the standard errors for the estimates presented in Table 4.1 ‘Impairment types, 2009/11’. However, standard errors can be calculated for all estimates presented in this report.

## **Standard errors for the 2009/11 LOS**

The estimate produced from a sample survey will rarely be identical to the population value, but statistical theory allows us to measure its accuracy. A confidence interval can be calculated around the estimated value, which gives a range in which the true value for the population is likely to fall. The

standard error measures the precision with which the estimates from the sample approximate to the true population values and is used to construct the confidence interval for each survey estimate.

For the LOS, it is possible to create 95 per cent confidence intervals for each estimated value presented, however these are not presented in this report. These can be taken to mean that there is only a five per cent chance that the true population value lies outside that confidence interval. The 95 per cent confidence interval is calculated as 1.96 times the standard error on either side of the mean. For example, if the estimated proportion was 16 per cent and the corresponding standard error was 0.9%, then the amount either side of the mean for 95 per cent confidence is then:

$$1.96 \times 0.9 = 1.76$$

Lower limit is  $16\% - 1.76 = 14.24\%$  (rounded to the nearest percentage point).

Upper limit is  $16\% + 1.76 = 17.76\%$  (rounded to the nearest percentage point).

The size of the confidence interval depends on the sample size of the estimate and sample design. For estimates based on small sample sizes the standard errors and resulting confidence intervals will be larger, indicating the estimate is less reliable. Confidence intervals should be taken into consideration when making comparisons between figures.

### **Design factor**

The design factor, or deft, of an estimate is the ratio of the observed standard error of the estimate to the standard error of the estimate that would have resulted had the survey design been a simple random sample of the same size. The LOS sample is a systematic sample, and therefore implicitly stratified by region.

The size of the design factor varies between survey variables reflecting the degree to which a characteristic of interest is distributed between strata. For a single variable the size of the design factor also varies according to the size of the subgroup on which the estimate is based, and on the distribution of that subgroup between strata. Design factors equal to 1.0 indicate no difference in the survey design on the reliability of the estimate when compared to a simple random sample. Design factors below 1.0 show that the systematic sample design improved on the estimate that we would have expected from a simple random sample. Design factors greater than 1.0 show less reliable estimates than might be gained from a simple random sample.



Design factors have been provided for the estimates in only one of the tables in this report – Table 20.1 shows the design factors for the estimates presented in Table 4.1 ‘Impairment types, 2009/11’. However, design factors can be calculated for all estimates presented in this report.

### **Non-sampling error**

Additional inaccuracies which are not related to sampling variability may occur for reasons such as errors in response and reporting. Inaccuracies of this kind are collectively referred to as non-sampling errors and may occur in any data collection whether it’s a sample survey or a census. The main sources of non-sampling error are:

- response errors such as misleading questions, interviewer bias or respondent misreporting
- bias due to non-response as the characteristics of non-responding persons may differ from responding persons
- data input errors or systematic mistakes in processing the data

Non-sampling errors are difficult to quantify in any data collection. However every effort was made to minimise their impact through careful design and testing of the questionnaire, training of interviewers and extensive editing and quality control procedures at all stages of data processing. Characteristics of non-responders will also be examined to improve the weighting method and response rates for future waves of the survey. For more details about how these potential sources of error were minimised in the LOS see Chapter 5 of the Technical Report.

### **External source validation**

In the final stages of validating the LOS data, the ONS undertook comparative checks to ensure that the survey estimates were broadly consistent with data from other sources. The external source validation process was as follows:

- identify alternative sources of comparable data
- produce frequencies and cross tabulations to compare proportions in the LOS dataset to those from external sources
- if differences are found ensure that reference periods, populations, geography, samples, modes of collection, questions, concepts and derivations were comparable

A lot of the questions on the LOS have not been asked before and therefore no sources are available for comparison. Where data were available, the external validation process indicated that estimates from LOS were broadly consistent with estimates from other survey sources. EA disability estimates from LOS have been compared against the 2009/10 Family Resources

Survey to ensure that EA disability prevalence is similar across a variety of economic and social characteristics. Other LOS modules have been validated against external sources. For example impairment questions have been validated against the Northern Ireland Survey of Activity Limitation and Disability 2007, and economic life against the General Lifestyle Survey 2008/09.

**Table 20.1: Standard errors and design factors for Table 4.1 – Impairment types, 2009/11**

Adults aged 16 and over

<b>Type of impairment</b>	<b>Percentage of all adults</b>	<b>Standard error</b>	<b>Design factor</b>
Sight	3	0.1	1.0
Hearing	3	0.1	1.2
Speaking	1	0.1	1.1
Mobility	8	0.2	1.0
Dexterity	6	0.1	1.1
Long-term pain	18	0.2	1.0
Breathing	3	0.1	1.0
Learning	2	0.1	1.1
Intellectual	-	0.0	1.1
Behavioural	1	0.1	1.2
Memory	3	0.1	1.1
Mental health condition	4	0.1	1.1
Chronic health condition	13	0.2	1.0
Other impairment or health condition	1	0.1	1.1

NOTE:

1. See the Introduction of this report for the definition of impairment status.



## 14 Glossary

### Adults

Adults are defined as persons aged 16 or over. LOS interviews all people aged 16 and over in sampled private households.

### Age

A LOS respondent's age was their age on the date of the interview and is provided in one of the following ways:

- From the respondent's date of birth
- If date of birth is not given, respondent's are asked their age
- If age is not given the interviewer will estimate the respondent's age

### Barriers

Social, economic or physical barriers that stop people taking part in activities as much as they would like to. Disabled people may face a range of barriers, for example:

- attitudinal, for example discriminatory or prejudicial attitudes and practices among employers, health professionals and service providers
- policy, resulting from policy design and delivery which do not take disabled people into account
- physical, for example through the design of the built environment, transport systems, or as a result of the provision of inaccessible information about services

Respondents to the LOS were asked to select all barriers that applied to them from the list of options provided.

### Computer Assisted Personal Interviewing (CAPI)

CAPI is an interviewing technique where the interview takes place in person. The interviewer enters the respondent's answers directly into a computer and the programming used ensures that the interviewer does not ask any irrelevant questions.

### Confidence interval

A confidence interval is the range of values between which the population parameter is estimated to lie (also referred to as margin of error). Surveys produce statistics that are estimates of the real figures for the population under study. These estimates are always surrounded by a margin of error plus or minus a given range. At the 95 per cent confidence level, over many repeats of a survey under the same conditions, one would expect that these confidence intervals would contain the true population value in 95 per cent of cases. When assessing the results of a single survey it is assumed that there

is a 5 per cent chance that the true population value will fall outside the 95 per cent confidence interval calculated for the survey estimate.

### **Discrimination**

Discrimination occurs when a particular person or group of people are treated less favourably because of their personal characteristics such as: age; disability; gender reassignment; marriage and civil partnership; pregnancy and maternity; race; religion or belief; sexual orientation.

### **Easy Read**

The Easy Read format was created to make written documents accessible to people with learning disabilities. Easy Read uses pictures to support the meaning of text. It can be used by a carer or support worker to talk through a document so that they can understand it, for example a letter from the council about council tax charges. Easy Read is often also preferred by readers without learning disabilities, as it provides the essential information on a topic without a lot of background information. It can be especially helpful for people who are not fluent in English.

### **Economically inactive**

People who are neither in employment nor actively seeking work. Students and retired people are only in this category if they are neither in employment nor actively seeking work.

### **Employment**

People who are in employment may be employees, self-employed, on a government supported training programme, or unpaid family workers. The International Labour Organisation (ILO) defines people as being employed if they are in one or more hours of paid employment a week.

### **Employment status**

Employment status in LOS consists of the following six categories:

- Full-time self-employed: A person earning income directly from their own business, trade or profession
- Full-time employee: A person employed by another person or a company for wages or a salary
- Part-time: A person employed by another person or a company for wages or a salary, or a person earning income directly from their own business, trade or profession

Full/part-time working is self reported by the respondent.

- Workless - retired from paid work: LOS classifies anybody who is retired from paid work and is inactive whether or not they would like to work

- Workless - unemployed: LOS uses the International Labour Organisation (ILO) definition of unemployment. This classifies anyone as unemployed if he or she was out of work and had looked for work in the four weeks before the interview, or would have but for temporary sickness or injury, and was available to start work in the two weeks after the interview
- Workless - sick or disabled: LOS uses this classification for anybody who is temporarily sick or injured and for people who are long term sick or disabled whether they are seeking or not seeking work

## **Enablers**

Factors that help people to take part in the activities they want to. An enabler may be the opposite of a barrier, for example, making modifications to buildings to make them more accessible for people with impairment or providing people with the support and assistance they require to live independently.

## **Equality Act (EA) 2010**

The Equality Act 2010 is the law which bans unfair treatment and helps achieve equal opportunities in the workplace and in wider society. The act covers protected characteristics, including disability, which cannot be used as a reason to treat people unfairly.

From 1 October 2010, provisions in the EA replaced the majority of provisions in the Disability Discrimination Act (DDA) 1995. In general, the definition of disability in the EA is similar to that which applied for the purposes of the DDA, for full details see the EA available at [www.homeoffice.gov.uk/equalities/equality-act/](http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/equalities/equality-act/).

See the Introduction of this report for discussion of how people with rights under the EA are defined and the purpose for including this additional measure in LOS.

## **Ethnic group**

The first wave of the LOS used harmonised questions on ethnicity, in line with the 2009 recommended output classification of ethnic groups for National Statistics data sources. Questions on ethnic groups are concerned with the descent rather than country of birth and are therefore classified as:

- White
- Mixed
- Asian or Asian British
- Black or Black British
- Chinese
- Other ethnic group

## **Government Office Region (GOR)**

The nine Government Office Regions (GORs) are the primary statistical subdivisions of England and were also the areas in which the former Government Offices for the Regions fulfilled their role. Each GOR covers a number of local authorities. Government Office Regions were established in 1994. They replaced the Standard Statistical Regions as the primary classification for the presentation of English regional statistics. After the Comprehensive Spending Review in 2010, it was confirmed that the GORs would close on 31 March 2011. However, there is still a requirement to maintain a regional level geography for statistical purposes.

There are nine GORs within England: North East; North West; East Midlands; South West; Yorkshire and Humberside; East of England; West Midlands; South East and London. In addition to these further breakdowns are also provided for Great Britain (GB), England, Wales and Scotland.

## **Great Britain**

Great Britain in LOS refers to the whole of England, and Wales, including off shore islands and Scotland; not including North of the Caledonian Canal. It does not include Northern Ireland, the Channel Islands or the Isle of Man.

## **Hate crime**

A hate crime is one committed against a person or their property on the grounds of their personal characteristics, such as religion, ethnic origin, disability or sexual orientation.

## **Household**

A household is defined as a single person or a group of people who have the address as their only or main residence and who either share one meal a day or share the living accommodation.

A group of people is not counted as a household solely on the basis of a shared kitchen or bathroom.

A person is generally regarded as living at the address if he or she (or the respondent providing the proxy information) considers the address to be his or her main residence. There are, however, certain rules which take priority over this criterion.

Children aged 16 or over who live away from home for purposes of either work or study and come home only for holidays are not included at the parental address under any circumstances.

Children of any age away from home in a temporary job and children under 16 at boarding school are always included in the parental household.



Anyone who has been away from the address continuously for six months or longer is excluded.

Anyone who has been living at the address for six months or longer is included even if he or she has his or her main residence elsewhere.

Addresses used only as second homes are never counted as a main residence.

### **Household Reference Person (HRP)**

For some topics it is necessary to select one person in the household to indicate the characteristics of the household more generally. In common with other government surveys LOS uses the Household Reference Person (HRP) for this purpose. The HRP is defined as follows:

- in households with a sole householder that person is the household reference person
- in households with joint householders the person with the highest income is taken as the household reference person
- if both householders have exactly the same income, the older is taken as the household reference person

Note that when income is used to determine the HRP this definition does not require a question about people's actual incomes, only a question about who in the household has the highest income.

### **Impairment status**

Impairment relates to the loss of physiological and psychological functions of the body such as loss of sight, hearing, mobility or learning capacity. Impairment should be distinguished from medical conditions or loss of bodily structure. For example glaucoma is a medical condition; loss of vision is the impairment it causes. Activity limitations are restrictions an individual may have in executing physical or mental tasks or actions as a result of their impairment, for example, being unable to read newsprint at arms length without glasses or other aids and adaptations.

See the Introduction of this report for discussion of how impairment status is defined and the reasons for its inclusion in LOS.

### **Income**

Personal income is the amount of money received by individuals from all sources. Income includes wages and salaries as well as amounts received from state pensions and benefits, tax credits, private pensions, investments and self-employment income. Household income, the total personal income of household members, is a widely used indicator of living standards.

### **Longitudinal survey**

A survey where respondents are regularly re-interviewed after a set interval (e.g. one year).

### **Long standing illness**

An illness which has lasted 12 months or more, or is likely to last more than 12 months.

### **Participation restriction**

In LOS, an adult has a participation restriction if they experience at least one barrier to taking part in at least one of the following life areas:

- education and training
- employment
- economic life and living standards, for example being able to afford expenses or make loan repayments
- transport
- leisure, social and cultural activities
- social contact
- accessibility of housing
- accessibility outside the home

Examples of barriers include: discrimination, the attitudes of other people, inaccessible buildings, public transport and information, limited income, not having anyone to meet or speak to, as well as lack of support, equipment and adjustments.

### **Prevalence**

Prevalence is the proportion of individuals within a defined population that exhibit a particular characteristic at one point in time.

### **Proxy interview**

Interviewers can take a proxy interview rather than lose information about a member of the household. This information is best obtained from someone who has a reasonable amount of knowledge about the respondent's affairs. Whenever possible, interviewers ask the respondent for permission to take the proxy information before interviewing another member of the household on his or her behalf.

### **Qualification levels**

The LOS asks for the highest level of qualification that the respondent has achieved from school, college or since leaving education. This includes any work based training. The breakdown of qualifications is outlined below:

- Degree level qualification (or equivalent)
- Higher educational qualification below degree level
- A-Levels or Highers
- ONC/National Level BTEC
- O Level or GCSE equivalent (Grade A-C) or O Grade/CSE equivalent (Grade 1) or Standard Grade level 1-3
- GCSE grade D-G or CSE grade 2-5 or Standard Grade level 4-6
- Other qualifications (including foreign qualifications below degree level)
- No formal qualifications

### **Qualitative research**

The LOS is complemented by two qualitative research projects to gather information about disabled people that would not be possible by using the survey itself. In contrast to the structured approach used for survey data collection, qualitative research uses more informal methods to gather rich information on the experiences, opinions and feelings of research participants. The methods used in the two qualitative research projects included in-depth semi-structured interviewing and ethnography.

### **Reference group**

A group of 60 disabled people and representatives of organisations of disabled people who have been actively involved in guiding decisions about the accessibility of LOS, its design (including topic coverage) and the dissemination of results.

### **Sampling error**

A sample, as used in LOS, is a small-scale representation of the population from which it is drawn. As such, the sample may produce estimates that differ from the figures that would have been obtained if the whole population had been interviewed. The size of the error depends on the sample size, the size of the estimates and the design of the survey. The sampling error is computed and used to construct confidence intervals. Sample error is also taken into account in tests of statistical significance.

### **Standard errors**

This is a measure of possible error in the estimate and is important because the value of the error reflects how much sampling variability the estimate shows. The size of the standard error is dependant on the sample size, so in general the larger the sample size the smaller the standard error.

### **Statistical significance**

This indicates the probability with which we are confident that the difference between the estimates under examination did not occur by chance. Unless

stated, all significance referred to in this report is at the 95% level. This means that the probability that the difference happened by chance is low (1 in 20).

### **Tax credits**

Tax credits are payments from the government. Respondents may qualify for a Working Tax Credit if they work, but earn low wages and/or a Child Tax Credit if they are responsible for at least one child or young person who normally lives with them.

### **Unclustered sample**

The sample design for the LOS employs a single-stage (unclustered) sample of addresses. With a clustered sample, the sample is drawn from within selected postcode sectors in order to minimise the travelling required by survey interviewers. When a sample is unclustered, addresses are spread out across all postcode sectors, rather than a subset. The unclustered sample allows a greater statistical precision to be achieved than using a clustered sample because it should represent all groups of society equally. With a clustered sample, the results can be biased by households with similar characteristics clustering within selected postcode sectors.

### **Underground**

The underground refers exclusively to the inner city underground metro systems of London, Glasgow and Tyne and Wear.

### **Unemployed**

The International Labour Organisation (ILO) defines unemployed people as those who are:

- without a job, want a job, have actively sought work in the last four weeks and are available to start work in the next two weeks, or
- are out of work, have found a job and are waiting to start it in the next two weeks. See also: employment status

### **Wave**

A wave is a discrete period of interviewing. In order to cover all the sampled households it is necessary to spread each LOS wave over two years. The first wave started in June 2009 and finished at the end of March 2011.

### **Weighting**

All percentages and means presented in the tables are based on data weighted to compensate for differential non-response. The un-weighted base number is included in the tables and represent the number of people/households interviewed in the specified group. A full description of the method of weighting and the effects on data are in chapter 20 Methodology.

### **Working-age population**

The LOS Wave One report uses the old working-age definition for the creation of tables on employment status - those aged 16 to 59 for females and 16 to 64 for males.

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