

Disability Statistics

This factsheet looks at the number of people with a disability in Ireland and some of their characteristics.

The information in this factsheet is drawn from the 2022 Census carried out by the Central Statistics Office.

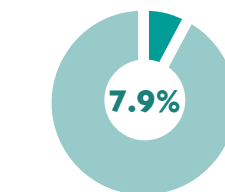


How many people in Ireland have a disability?

More than 1 in 5
people in Ireland have a disability



In 2022..



had a disability
'to a great extent'



had a disability
'to some extent'

What are the most common types of disability?

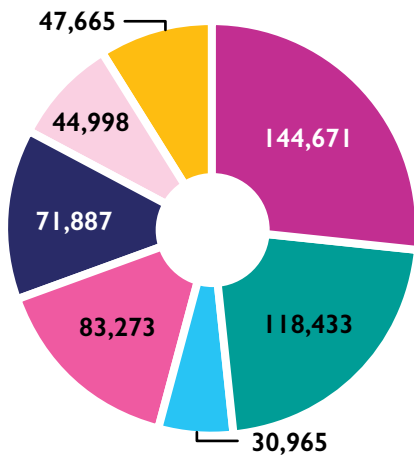


People are counted as having a disability in the Census if they report experiencing a **long-standing condition/difficulty**, or if as a result of a long-standing condition or difficulty, they experience difficulty with any of a range of common activities.

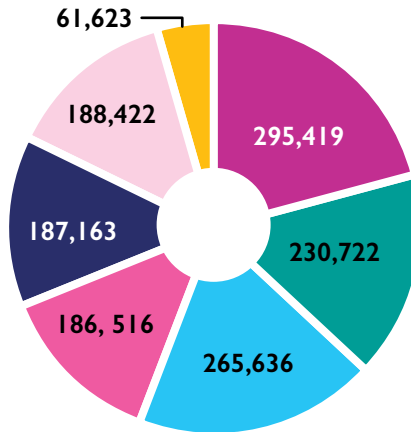
The most common type of disability is difficulty with **pain, breathing, or any other chronic condition or illness**. This is followed by difficulty with basic physical activities.



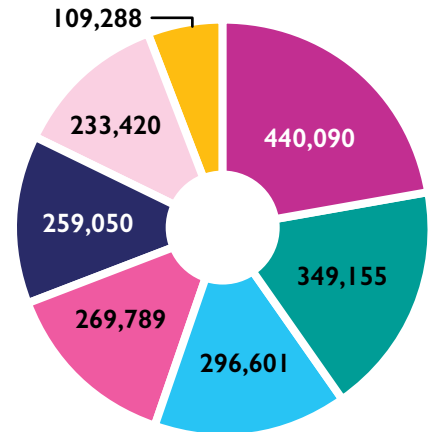
To a great extent








To some extent



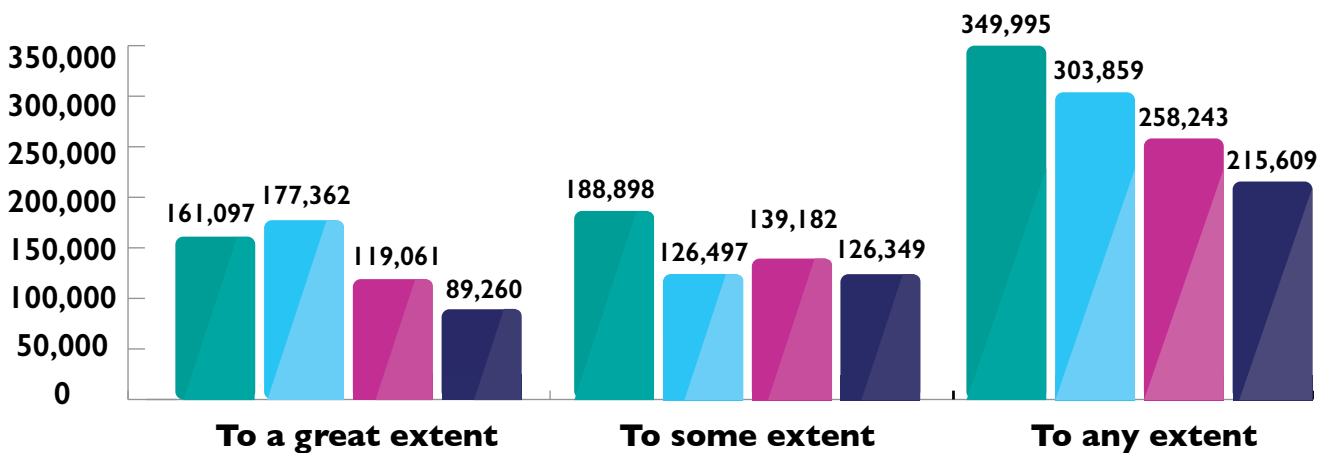
To any extent



-  Difficulty with pain, breathing or any other chronic illness/condition
-  A difficulty with learning, remembering or concentrating
-  Difficulty with basic physical activities
-  Deafness or hearing impairment
-  Blindness or vision impairment
-  An intellectual disability
-  A psychological or emotional condition or a mental health issue



The most common difficulty reported was difficulty participating in 'other' activities, such as leisure or using transport. This was followed by difficulty **working at a job or business or attending school or college**.

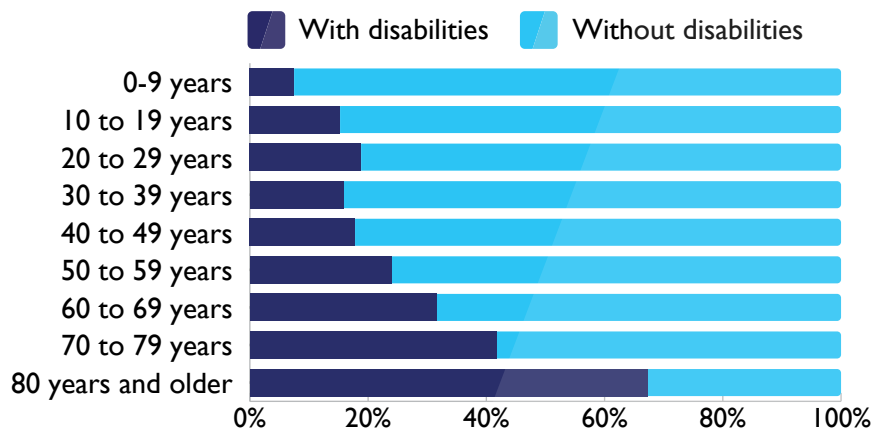


-  Difficulty participating in other activities, such as leisure or using transport
-  Difficulty going outside the home alone to shop or visit a doctor's surgery
-  Difficulty working at a job or business or attending school or college
-  Difficulty dressing, bathing or getting around inside the home

Age and disability

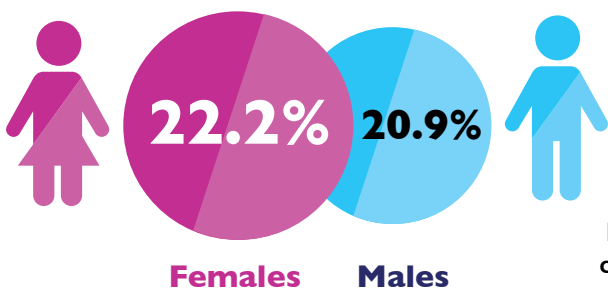
Most disabilities are acquired, meaning a person develops their disability during their lifetime as a result of an accident or illness, rather than being born with a disability.

The proportion of people with a disability therefore increases with age.



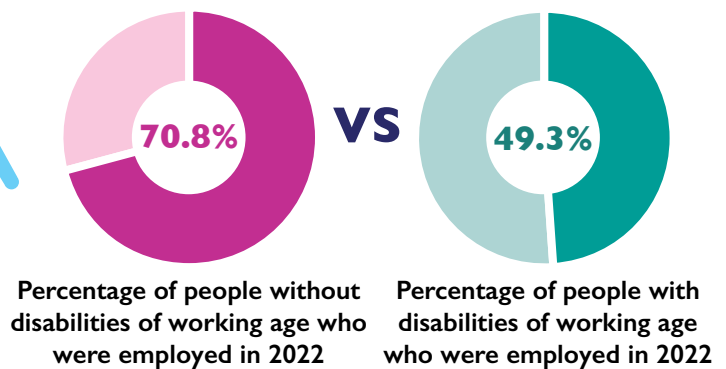
Men and Women

More females (22.2%) than males (20.9%) have a disability mostly because women live longer than men.



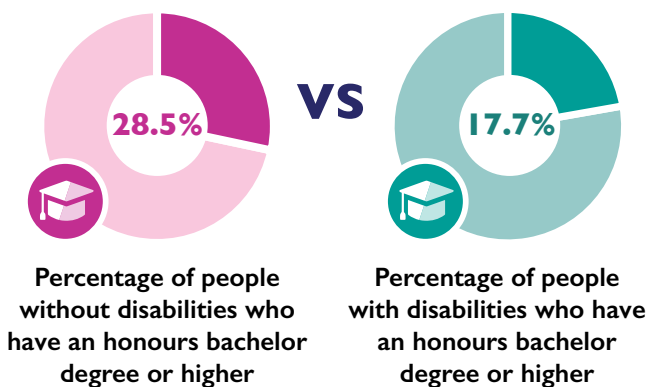
Employment

Disabled people are **less likely to be employed** than people without disabilities in Ireland.



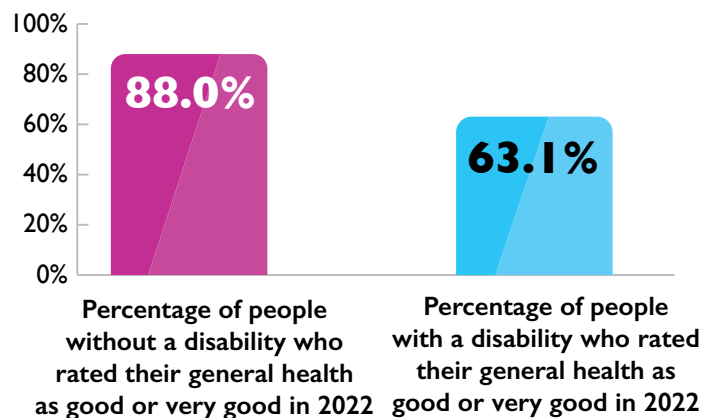
Education

People with disabilities have **lower levels of educational attainment**, on average, than people without disabilities.



General Health

People with a disability are **less likely** to rate their health as good than people without a disability.



What will happen in the future?

As a result of the combination of population growth and population ageing, the population with a disability in Ireland is expected to continue to **increase**. For further information on any of the statistics in this factsheet, visit **our website**.