

News Release



International Day of Disabled Persons - 2007

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There were 21,040 persons living in private households in 2005 having some form of long-term disability, of which 51.6 per cent were male.

According to the Census of Population and Housing 2005, there were 21,040 persons who stated they had some form of long-term disability (table 1). Just over half of these were males, and the largest proportion - 38.1 per cent - were aged 65 and over

The most common disability was a physical impairment, with 32.0 per cent of the total citing this (table 2). This form of disability was the most common for all persons aged 25 and over, whereas for persons aged under 25 visual and intellectual impairments were the most common, followed by physical.

There were a total of 17,640 persons - 12.6 per cent of the total population living in private households - who were living in a private household where a person with a disability also resided (table 3). 83.1 per cent of these were living in a household with one person with a disability, 14.9 per cent in a household with two persons with a disability, and the remainder in a household with 3 or more persons having a disability.

The majority of persons having a disability were inactive (81.7 per cent), of which 41.7 per cent were retired (table 4). 15.3 per cent of these persons said they were employed during 2005.

Between 1991 and 2006, government expenditure on disability benefits as a percentage of government expenditure on all benefits averaged 1.6% (chart on page 3). This figure was highest in 1992, where expenditure on disability benefits made up 1.8% of the total ■

Theme:
**Population & Social
Conditions**

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Table 1. Persons with a disability living in private households, by sex and age

Age group	Males	Females	Total
0-17	935	629	1,564
18-24	403	319	722
25-49	2,660	1,944	4,604
50-64	3,542	2,601	6,143
65+	3,317	4,690	8,007
Total	10,857	10,183	21,040

Source: Census of Population and Housing 2005

Table 2. Persons with a disability living in private households, by age and type of disability

Type of disability	0-17	18-24	25-49	50-64	65+	Total
Visual impairment	289	139	815	999	1,395	3,637
Hearing impairment	82	40	298	384	955	1,759
Physical impairment	225	129	1,382	2,035	2,957	6,728
Intellectual impairment	239	137	427	204	128	1,135
Mental health condition	73	66	564	701	193	1,597
Other impairment	499	145	740	1,017	950	3,351
Have more than one type of impairment	157	66	378	803	1,429	2,833
Total	1,564	722	4,604	6,143	8,007	21,040

Source: Census of Population and Housing 2005

Table 3. Persons living in private households, by household size and number of persons with a disability in the household

Household size	Number of persons with a disability				Total
	0	1	2	3+	
1	23,077	3,345	-	-	26,422
2	30,403	4,243	1,228	-	35,874
3	27,012	2,971	604	136	30,723
4	27,794	2,451	443	114	30,802
5+	13,657	1,650	351	104	15,762
Total	121,943	14,660	2,626	354	139,583

Source: Census of Population and Housing 2005

Table 4. Persons with a disability living in private households, by economic status

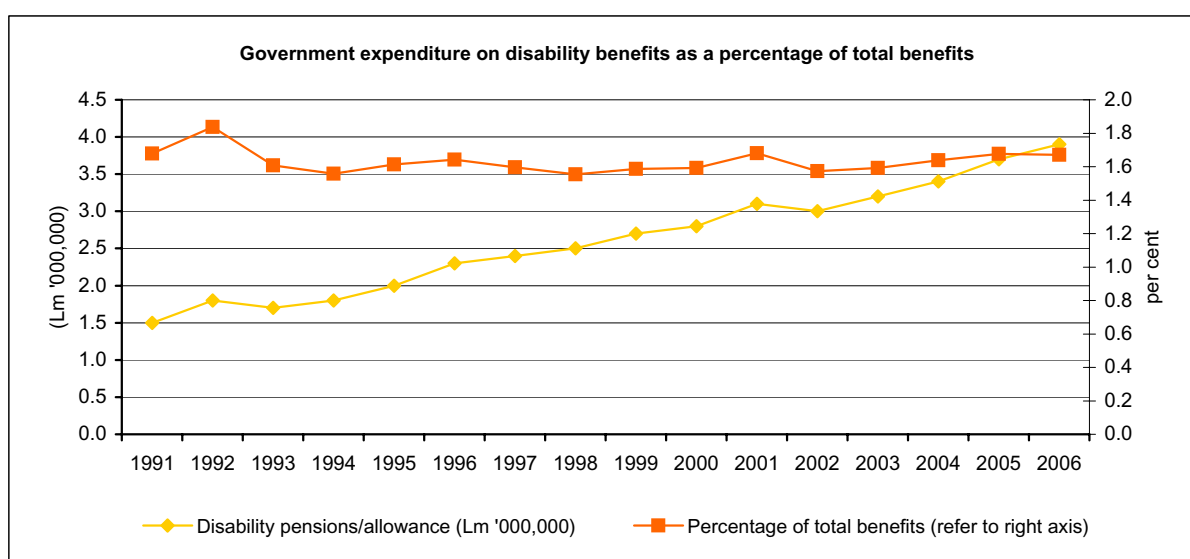
Economic Status	Number	Percent
Not Applicable (under 15)	1,262	6.0
Employed	3,224	15.3
Unemployed	630	3.0
Student or trainee	404	1.9
Retired	7,171	34.1
Other inactive	8,349	39.7
Total	21,040	100.0

Source: Census of Population and Housing 2005

Table 5. Government expenditure on disability benefits as a percentage of total government expenditure on benefits, by year

Year	Total benefits (Lm '000,000)	Disability pensions/allowance (Lm '000,000)	Percentage
2000	175.9	2.8	1.6
2001	184.4	3.1	1.7
2002	190.7	3.0	1.6
2003	200.9	3.2	1.6
2004	207.5	3.4	1.6
2005	220.8	3.7	1.7
2006	233.5	3.9	1.7

Source: Government Finance



Definitions

All data from the census refers to persons living in private households.

Persons with a disability is as specified by the respondent in the Census of Population and Housing 2005.

Disability pensions/allowance includes:

- Disability child allowance;

- Handicapped allowance;

- Handicapped pension / disablement pension;

- Severely handicapped allowance;

- Severely handicapped pension / severely disablement pension.