



# Disability Rights Commission

**Disability Rights Commission  
Disability Briefing  
December 2004**

**Making rights a reality**

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## Introduction

Welcome to the latest DRC Disability Briefing. The first section of this latest edition includes a more comprehensive set of Labour Force Survey (LFS) data on disabled people's participation in the labour market than previously, in addition to updating the core data presented in the January 2004 briefing, this edition also includes comparable (spring) data back to 1998 to highlight changes and trends over the past seven years. The data presented in this briefing therefore supersedes all data contained in previous briefings, which should no longer be used. Section two presents an update and overview of recent estimates of the disabled population in Britain published by the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP). The final section 'Research Projects Update' presents a short report on the progress of research projects undertaken at the DRC over the past year.

As the LFS does not collect disability related information for people over state pension age on a comprehensive basis, all the LFS data provided in this briefing is limited to adults of working age, i.e. men aged 16-64 and women aged 16-59.

If you have any comments on the content of this edition or additional suggestions or topics to be included in future briefings, please contact Breda Twomey at the DRC by email [breda.twomey@drc-gb.org](mailto:breda.twomey@drc-gb.org).

## Background notes

### 1. Re-weighting of LFS data:

In April 2004, the Office for National Statistics re-weighted all LFS datasets from 1992 to 2003 to bring LFS data in line with the population estimates from the census 2001 – see ‘*Labour Force Survey reweighting and seasonal adjustment review*’

[http://www.statistics.gov.uk/articles/labour\\_market\\_trends/LFS\\_reweighting\\_and\\_SA\\_review.pdf](http://www.statistics.gov.uk/articles/labour_market_trends/LFS_reweighting_and_SA_review.pdf) for further details of the re-weighting exercise. For the DRC, this situation presented us with an opportunity to provide a revised series of key LFS tables on disability back to 1998 in the current Briefing, using the re-weighted datasets.

### 2. Definitions of disability used in the LFS

Since spring 1997, the LFS has provided information about disability using the following range of definitions:

***Current DDA disabled:*** Includes people who have a long term health problem or disability which has a substantial and long-term adverse effect on their ability to carry out normal day to day activities.

***Work limiting disabled:*** Includes people who have a long-term health problem or disability which affects the kind or amount of paid work which a person might do.

***Long term disabled:*** Includes people who meet the criteria for either current DDA or work-limiting definitions of disability (or both – as is often the case) are defined as having a current long-term disability.

Clearly, estimates for the different definitions may vary, and it should be noted that the difference between the DDA definition estimates and those based on work-limiting disabilities may be exaggerated due to people not being able to assess the extent to which their work limiting disability would also affect their ability to carry out normal day to day activities. It follows that including all those with current long term disabilities improves the accuracy and comprehensiveness of the estimates.

**Please note that throughout this briefing, people who are 'long term disabled' will be referred to as 'All disabled', unless otherwise specified.**

### **3. Note on Benefit Data**

Users of LFS data on benefits in this briefing should note that due to a discontinuity in LFS benefits variable as child benefit recipients were only included from 2001, all benefits estimates exclude people on child benefits.

Further information of the disability questions in the LFS is included in the *Technical Note* at the end of this briefing.

## Some Key Facts and Figures

Analysis from the spring 2004 LFS indicates that:

- There are 6.8 million disabled people of working age in Britain, one fifth of the total working age population. Fifty two per cent (3.5 million) are men and forty eight per cent (3.3 million) are women.
- There has been a gradual increase in the size of the working age disabled population over time, from 6.0 million in spring 1998 to 6.8 million in spring 2004 – a growth of fourteen per cent over a six year period. The non disabled population increased by 0.6 per cent (172,000) over the same period.
- Across Britain there are regional variations in the prevalence of disability. The North East of England and Wales have the highest proportions of disabled people, with one quarter of the local working age population in these regions disabled – 25 per cent and 24 per cent respectively. London and the South East have lower than average proportions of disabled people at 16.5 per cent.
- Disability rates increase with age; whilst 10 per cent of adults aged 16-24 are disabled, this increased to over one third in the 50 to retirement age category.
- Many disabled people work or want to work. Half of disabled people of working age, 3.4 million people, are in work and 1.2 million disabled people without a job<sup>1</sup>, want to work.
- Since spring 1998, disabled people's overall employment rate has increased steadily from 43 per cent to 50 per cent. Despite this, inequalities in the proportions of disabled and non disabled people in work persists, since only half of disabled people are in work compared with four fifths of the non disabled population.
- Employment rates vary greatly according to the type of impairment a person has. Disabled people with mental health

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<sup>1</sup> This includes those who are unemployed, plus those what are economically inactive and want to work.

problems have the lowest employment rates of all impairment categories, at only 20 per cent.

- Disabled people in employment are more likely to work in manual and lower occupations, and less likely to work in managerial, professional and high-skilled occupations.
- At £9.36 per hour, the average gross hourly pay of disabled employees is about 10 per cent less than that of non disabled employees (£10.39 per hour).
- Since 1998, the proportion of disabled people holding an educational qualification to degree level or equivalent has increased. In spring 2004, 10 per cent of disabled people had achieved a degree or equivalent as their highest qualification.
- Disabled people are still only half as likely as non disabled people to be qualified to degree level and are twice as likely as non disabled people to have no qualification at all. This pattern of inequality has not changed since 1998.
- Disabled people continue to experience high rates of unemployment. Estimates from spring 2004 LFS indicate that the unemployment rate for disabled people in Britain was 7 per cent, compared with 4 per cent for non disabled people.
- Just over half of the disabled population of working age in Britain are economically inactive. However, one third of inactive disabled people would like to work, compared with just under one quarter (23 per cent) of non disabled people.
- According to the LFS, there are 2.5 million disabled people out of work and on state benefits: over one third of the total disabled population of working age.

## Section One: 2004 LFS Data

### Table 1 Economic status of disabled people in Britain

Great Britain, spring 2004 LFS, not seasonally adjusted.

(Thousands, per cent, £)

	All long-term disabled	DDA current disabled	Work limiting disabled	Not disabled
<b>All persons</b>	<b>6,796</b>	<b>5,633</b>	<b>5,329</b>	<b>28,441</b>
Per cent of total population	19	16	15	81
Per cent from ethnic minority group	8	8	8	9
Per cent women <sup>1</sup>	48	49	47	49
Per cent with no qualifications	27	29	31	12
<b>On state benefits<sup>2</sup> and not in work</b>	<b>2,463</b>	<b>2,289</b>	<b>2,380</b>	<b>1,263</b>
Per cent of total population	36	41	45	4
<b>...would like work and available to start in a fortnight</b>	<b>290</b>	<b>232</b>	<b>261</b>	<b>556</b>
Per cent of total population	4	4	5	2
<b>In work</b>	<b>3,405</b>	<b>2,609</b>	<b>2,203</b>	<b>22,917</b>
Per cent	50	46	41	81
Self-employed	15	14	16	12
Working part-time	33	34	36	25
In a permanent job	94	94	93	94
<b>Average gross hourly wage (£)</b>	<b>£9.36</b>	<b>£10.17</b>	<b>£9.05</b>	<b>£10.39</b>
<b>ILO unemployed</b>	<b>263</b>	<b>189</b>	<b>213</b>	<b>1,044</b>
ILO unemployment rate (%)	7	7	9	4
... who are unemployed for a year or more (%)	29	29	29	17
<b>Inactive</b>	<b>3,128</b>	<b>2,835</b>	<b>2,913</b>	<b>4,480</b>
Per cent of population	46	50	55	16
<b>..would like work</b>	<b>1,041</b>	<b>827</b>	<b>132</b>	<b>1,045</b>
Per cent of total inactive	29	29	26	23

Base: All people of working age (men 16-64, women 16-59)

Source: Labour Force Survey

<sup>1</sup> Lower numbers may reflect the fact that women aged 60-64 are not included in the working age population.

<sup>2</sup> This includes state pension, allowances or National Insurance credits, but excludes child benefit.

## Table 2: Economic status of disabled people by country

Great Britain, spring 2004, LFS, not seasonally adjusted.

(Thousands and per cent)

	Great Britain	England	Scotland	Wales
<b>All disabled</b>	<b>6,796</b>	<b>5,726</b>	<b>653</b>	<b>418</b>
Economically Active	3,668	3,141	330	197
<b>Economic Activity Rate (%)</b>	<b>54.0</b>	<b>54.9</b>	<b>50.5</b>	<b>47.2</b>
In employment	3,405	2,927	300	179
<b>Employment rate (%)</b>	<b>50.1</b>	<b>51.1</b>	<b>45.9</b>	<b>42.7</b>
ILO unemployed	263	214	30	19
<b>Unemployment rate (%)</b>	<b>7.2</b>	<b>6.8</b>	<b>9.1</b>	<b>9.5</b>
Economic inactivity	3,128	2,585	323	221
<b>All Not disabled</b>	<b>28,441</b>	<b>24,641</b>	<b>2,473</b>	<b>1,326</b>
Economically Active	23,961	20,694	2,139	1,128
<b>Economic Activity Rate (%)</b>	<b>84.2</b>	<b>84.0</b>	<b>86.5</b>	<b>85.1</b>
In employment	22,917	19,812	2,020	1,085
<b>Employment rate (%)</b>	<b>80.6</b>	<b>80.4</b>	<b>81.7</b>	<b>81.8</b>
ILO unemployed	1,044	882	119	44
<b>Unemployment rate (%)</b>	<b>4.36</b>	<b>4.26</b>	<b>5.55</b>	<b>3.89</b>
Economic inactivity	4,480	3,947	334	198

Source: Labour Force Survey

Base: All people of working age (men 16-64, women 16-59)

**Table 3: Disabled people by age and ethnic group<sup>1</sup>**

Great Britain, spring 2004, LFS, not seasonally adjusted.

(Thousands and per cent)

	<b>All aged 16-59/64</b>	<b>16-24</b>	<b>25-34</b>	<b>35-49</b>	<b>50-59/64</b>
<b>All disabled</b>	<b>6,796</b> 100%	<b>637</b>	<b>896</b>	<b>2,300</b>	<b>2,963</b>
<b>White</b>	6,257 92.1%	575	805	2,088	2,788
<b>Mixed</b>	43 0.6%	12	*	20	*
<b>Asian and Asian British</b>	281 4.1%	31	44	104	102
<b>Black and Black British</b>	130 1.9%	11	23	59	37
<b>Chinese</b>	* *	*	*	*	*
<b>Other ethnic minority groups</b>	75 1.1%	*	14	29	27

(Per cent)

	<b>All aged 16-59/64 = 100%</b>	<b>16-24</b>	<b>25-34</b>	<b>35-49</b>	<b>50-59/64</b>
<b>All disabled</b>	6,796	9.4	13.2	33.8	43.6
<b>White</b>	6,257	9.2	12.9	33.4	44.6
<b>Mixed</b>	43	26.9	*	46.	*
<b>Asian and Asian British</b>	28	11.1	15.7	37.0	36.2
<b>Black and Black British</b>	130	8.7	17.6	45.2	28.4
<b>Chinese</b>	*	*	*	*	*
<b>Other ethnic minority group</b>	75	*	19.2	38.2	35.8

Source: Labour Force Survey

\* Sample size too small for a reliable estimate

<sup>1</sup> This is based on the standard Census of Population classification of ethnic origin.

## Table 4: Highest Qualification attained and employment rates of disabled and not disabled people

Great Britain, spring 2004, LFS, not seasonally adjusted.

(Thousands and per cent)

	Disabled		Not disabled	
	Numbers (000s)	Employment rate (%)	Thousands	Employment rate (%)
<b>Total<sup>1</sup></b>	6,796	50.1	28,441	80.6
<b>Degree or equivalent</b>	672	74.9	5,375	89.7
<b>Higher education</b>	506	68.4	2,544	88.5
<b>GCE A Level or equivalent</b>	1,468	59.6	6,954	82.2
<b>GCSE grades A-C or equivalent</b>	1,255	55.7	6,303	79.1
<b>Other qualifications</b>	1,019	50.2	3,755	77.5
<b>No qualification</b>	1,842	24.6	3,323	63.1

1 – The numbers in this column do not add up to the total as there is a small proportion of disabled people for whom highest qualification is not known.

## Table 5: Proportion of disabled and non disabled people with no qualifications by age group

Great Britain, spring 2004, not seasonally adjusted.

(Thousands and per cent)

	All aged 16-59/64	16-24	25-34	35-49	50-59/64
<b>All persons</b>	5,165 15	882 14	653 9	1,583 13	2,047 23
<b>Long-term disabled</b>	1,842 27	162 26	164 18	540 24	975 33
<b>Not disabled</b>	3,323 12	720 13	489 7	1,043 10	1,071 19

**Table 6: Employment and unemployment rates by main type of impairment**

Great Britain, spring 2004, not seasonally adjusted

(Thousands and per cent)

	Number with this as main disability (% of all disabled)	Number in employment and employment rate (% of total)	Number on state benefits and not in work (% of total)
<b>All long-term disabled in GB</b>	6,796 19	3,405 50	2,463 41
<b>Problems with ...arms, hands<sup>1</sup></b>	404 6	213 53	132 37
<b>...legs, feet</b>	704 10	342 49	286 45
<b>...back, neck</b>	1,151 17	550 48	457 45
<b>Difficulty in seeing</b>	117 2	59 50	44 41
<b>Difficulty in hearing</b>	123 2	83 67	25 23
<b>Speech impediment</b>	* *	* *	* *
<b>Skin conditions, allergies</b>	122 2	81 66	19 18
<b>Chest, breathing problems</b>	804 12	506 63	176 25
<b>Heart, blood pressure</b>	798 12	456 57	223 30
<b>Stomach, liver, kidney, digestion</b>	320 5	177 55	94 34
<b>Diabetes</b>	367 5	242 66	75 23
<b>Mental illness</b>	662 10	133 20	441 73
<b>Epilepsy</b>	148 2	56 38	69 54
<b>Learning difficulties</b>	163 2	52 32	84 55
<b>Progressive illness n.e.c.<sup>2</sup></b>	305 5	130 43	145 53
<b>Other problems, disabilities</b>	563 8	310 55	171 37

<sup>1</sup> including arthritis or rheumatism.

<sup>2</sup> Progressive illness not elsewhere classified (e.g. cancer, multiple sclerosis, symptomatic HIV, Parkinson's disease, muscular dystrophy)

**Table 7: Employment and unemployment rates of disabled people by region**

Great Britain, spring 2004, not seasonally adjusted

(Thousands and per cent)

	<b>Total number of disabled (000s) and as a per cent of local population</b>	<b>In employment (000s) and employment rate (%)</b>	<b>On state benefits<sup>1</sup> and not in work (000s and as % of total)</b>
<b>All long-term disabled</b>	6,796 19	3,405 50	2,463 41
<b>North East</b>	381 25	144 38	187 54
<b>North West &amp; Merseyside</b>	845 21	377 45	363 47
<b>Yorkshire and the Humber</b>	614 20	309 50	221 41
<b>East Midlands</b>	507 20	265 52	174 39
<b>West Midlands</b>	641 20	320 50	231 40
<b>East</b>	545 16	327 60	136 29
<b>London</b>	778 16	351 45	305 44
<b>South East</b>	855 17	521 61	224 30
<b>South West</b>	558 19	313 56	165 34
<b>Wales</b>	418 24	179 43	176 48
<b>Scotland</b>	653 21	300 46	282 48

Source: Labour Force Survey

<sup>1</sup> This includes state pension, allowances or National Insurance credits, and excludes child benefit.

## Table 8: Disabled people in employment by occupation

Great Britain, spring 2004 LFS, not seasonally adjusted

(Thousands and per cent)

	<b>Total</b>	<b>Disabled</b>	<b>Not disabled</b>
<b>All in employment</b>	26,322	3,405	22,917
<b>Managers and Senior Officials</b>	3,895	447	3,448
	15	13	15
<b>Professional occupations</b>	3,294	333	2,961
	13	10	13
<b>Associate Professional and Technical</b>	3,663	417	3,245
	14	12	14
<b>Administrative and Secretarial</b>	3,253	438	2,815
	12	13	12
<b>Skilled Trades Occupations</b>	2,980	417	2,563
	11	12	11
<b>Personal Service Occupations</b>	2,030	291	1,739
	8	9	8
<b>Sales and Customer Service Occupations</b>	2,129	267	1,862
	8	8	8
<b>Process Plant and Machine Operatives</b>	1,988	309	1,679
	8	9	7
<b>Elementary Occupations</b>	3,032	473	2,559
	12	14	11

## Table 9: Disabled people in employment by industry sector

Great Britain, spring 2004 LFS, not seasonally adjusted

(Thousands and per cent)

	<b>Total</b>	<b>Disabled</b>	<b>Not disabled</b>
<b>All in Employment (000s)</b>	26,322	3,405	22,917
<b>Agriculture &amp; fishing</b>	295 1%	39 1%	256 1%
<b>Energy &amp; water</b>	259 1%	34 1%	225 1%
<b>Manufacturing</b>	3,603 14%	461 14%	3,142 14%
<b>Construction</b>	2,041 8%	277 8%	1,765 8%
<b>Distribution hotels &amp; restaurants</b>	5,226 20%	662 19%	4,564 20%
<b>Transport &amp; communication</b>	1,829 7%	250 7%	1,579 7%
<b>Banking finance &amp; insurance etc</b>	4,142 16%	443 13%	3,699 16%
<b>Public admin education &amp; health</b>	7,268 28%	987 29%	6,280 27%
<b>Other services</b>	1,589 6%	237 7%	1,352 6%

Source: Labour Force Survey

**Table 10: Labour market status of disabled people and benefit<sup>1</sup> receipt**

Great Britain, spring 2004 LFS, not seasonally adjusted

(Thousands and per cent)

	All disabled		Not disabled	
	Number	% of total population	Number	% of total population
<b>Total number</b>	<b>6,796</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>28,441</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>IN WORK</b>				
<b>Total number</b>	<b>3,405</b>	<b>50.1</b>	<b>22,917</b>	<b>80.6</b>
Not on state benefits	2,461	36.2	17,576	61.8
Receiving state benefits	438	6.4	1,154	4.1
...Receiving sickness/disability benefits	202	3.0	89	0.3
...Receiving Incapacity Benefit (IB)	70	1.0	12	0.0
<b>NOT IN WORK</b>				
<b>Total number</b>	<b>3,392</b>	<b>49.9</b>	<b>5,524</b>	<b>19.4</b>
Not on state benefits	673	9.9	3,062	10.8
<b>Receiving state benefits</b>	<b>2,463</b>	<b>36.2</b>	<b>1,263</b>	<b>4.4</b>
...and would like work	875	12.9	754	2.6
...and available for work	290	4.3	556	2.0
...and would not like work	1,588	23.4	509	1.8
<b>Receiving sickness/disability benefits</b>	<b>1,852</b>	<b>27.2</b>	<b>164</b>	<b>0.6</b>
...and would like work	579	8.5	65	0.2
...and available for work	127	1.9	29	0.1
...and would not like work	1,272	18.7	99	0.3
<b>Receiving Incapacity Benefit (IB)</b>	<b>1,224</b>	<b>18.0</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>0.2</b>
...and would like work	397	5.8	27	0.1
...and available for work	80	1.2	15	0.1
...and would not like work	827	12.2	19	0.1

<sup>1</sup> This includes state pensions, allowances or National Insurance credits, and excludes child benefit.

## Time Series 1998-2004 LFS data

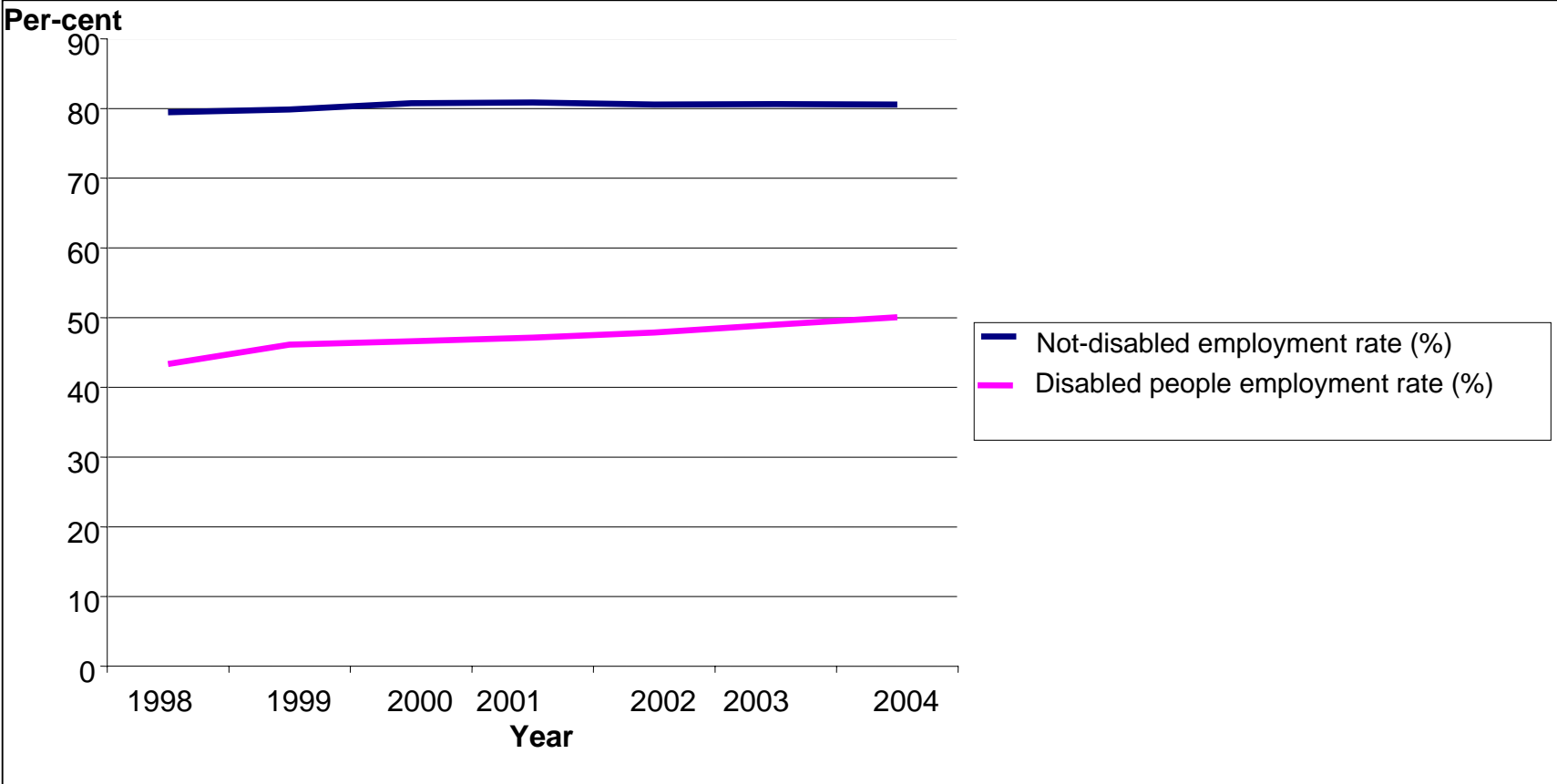
**Table A: Economic status of disabled people in Britain**

Spring 1998-2004, LFS, not seasonally adjusted

(thousands and per cent)

	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
<b>All disabled</b>	<b>5,979</b>	<b>6,295</b>	<b>6,472</b>	<b>6,515</b>	<b>6,655</b>	<b>6,730</b>	<b>6,796</b>
Economically Active	2,918	3,244	3,357	3,344	3,482	3,585	3,668
<b>Economic Activity Rate (%)</b>	<b>48.8</b>	<b>51.5</b>	<b>51.9</b>	<b>51.3</b>	<b>52.3</b>	<b>53.3</b>	<b>54.0</b>
In employment	2,593	2,904	3,017	3,073	3,185	3,294	3,405
<b>Employment rate (%)</b>	<b>43.4</b>	<b>46.1</b>	<b>46.6</b>	<b>47.2</b>	<b>47.9</b>	<b>48.9</b>	<b>50.1</b>
ILO unemployed	325	340	341	272	297	291	263
<b>Unemployment rate (%)</b>	<b>11.1</b>	<b>10.5</b>	<b>10.2</b>	<b>8.1</b>	<b>8.5</b>	<b>8.1</b>	<b>7.2</b>
Economic inactivity	3,060	3,051	3,114	3,170	3,173	3,144	3,128
<b>Not disabled</b>	<b>28,269</b>	<b>28,079</b>	<b>28,067</b>	<b>28,241</b>	<b>28,292</b>	<b>28,363</b>	<b>28,441</b>
Economically Active	23,788	23,707	23,831	23,869	23,910	23,945	23,961
<b>Economic Activity Rate (%)</b>	<b>84.1</b>	<b>84.4</b>	<b>84.9</b>	<b>84.5</b>	<b>84.5</b>	<b>84.4</b>	<b>84.2</b>
In employment	22,462	22,422	22,665	22,835	22,796	22,881	22,917
<b>Employment rate (%)</b>	<b>79.5</b>	<b>79.9</b>	<b>80.8</b>	<b>80.9</b>	<b>80.6</b>	<b>80.7</b>	<b>80.6</b>
ILO unemployed	1,326	1,285	1,166	1,034	1,114	1,064	1,044
<b>Unemployment rate (%)</b>	<b>5.6</b>	<b>5.4</b>	<b>4.9</b>	<b>4.3</b>	<b>4.7</b>	<b>4.4</b>	<b>4.4</b>
Economic inactivity	4,481	4,372	4,236	4,371	4,382	4,418	4,480

**Fig 1: Trends in employment rates for disabled and non-disabled people, Great Britain;**  
spring 1998-2004, not seasonally adjusted



**Table A.1: Economic status of disabled and non disabled people of working age; ENGLAND**

Spring 1998-2004, LFS, not seasonally adjusted

(Thousands and per cent)

<b>England</b>	<b>1998</b>	<b>1999</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>2001</b>	<b>2002</b>	<b>2003</b>	<b>2004</b>
<b>All Disabled</b>	5,008	5,305	5,459	5,514	5,638	5,692	5,726
Economically Active	2,531	2,813	2,934	2,925	3,054	3,087	3,141
<b>Economic Activity Rate (%)</b>	<b>50.5</b>	<b>53.0</b>	<b>53.7</b>	<b>53.0</b>	<b>54.2</b>	<b>54.2</b>	<b>54.9</b>
In employment	2,257	2,530	2,645	2,695	2,806	2,841	2,927
<b>Employment rate (%)</b>	<b>45.1</b>	<b>47.7</b>	<b>48.5</b>	<b>48.9</b>	<b>49.8</b>	<b>49.9</b>	<b>51.1</b>
ILO unemployed	274	283	289	230	248	246	214
<b>Unemployment rate (%)</b>	<b>10.8</b>	<b>10.1</b>	<b>9.8</b>	<b>7.9</b>	<b>8.1</b>	<b>8.0</b>	<b>6.8</b>
Economic inactivity	2,477	2,492	2,525	2,589	2,584	2,605	2,585
<b>Not disabled</b>	24,412	24,239	24,245	24,394	24,449	24,535	24,641
Economically Active	20,536	20,496	20,567	20,618	20,633	20,671	20,694
<b>Economic Activity Rate (%)</b>	<b>84.1</b>	<b>84.6</b>	<b>84.8</b>	<b>84.5</b>	<b>84.4</b>	<b>84.3</b>	<b>84.0</b>
In employment	19,421	19,422	19,611	19,756	19,712	19,754	19,812
<b>Employment rate (%)</b>	<b>79.6</b>	<b>80.1</b>	<b>80.9</b>	<b>81.0</b>	<b>80.6</b>	<b>80.5</b>	<b>80.4</b>
ILO unemployed	1,115	1,074	956	862	921	917	882
<b>Unemployment rate (%)</b>	<b>5.4</b>	<b>5.2</b>	<b>4.6</b>	<b>4.2</b>	<b>4.5</b>	<b>4.4</b>	<b>4.3</b>
Economic inactivity	3,876	3,744	3,679	3,776	239	3,864	3,947

**Table A.2: Economic status of disabled and non disabled people of working age; SCOTLAND**

Spring 1998-2004, LFS, not seasonally adjusted

(Thousands and Per cent)

	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
<b>All disabled</b>	584	590	609	613	614	633	653
Economically Active	244	259	262	273	262	307	330
<b>Economic Activity Rate (%)</b>	<b>41.8</b>	<b>43.9</b>	<b>43.0</b>	<b>44.5</b>	<b>42.6</b>	<b>48.6</b>	<b>50.5</b>
In employment	208	221	227	245	229	277	300
<b>Employment rate (%)</b>	<b>35.7</b>	<b>37.5</b>	<b>37.2</b>	<b>39.9</b>	<b>37.3</b>	<b>43.8</b>	<b>45.9</b>
ILO unemployed	35	38	35	28	33	31	30
<b>Unemployment rate (%)</b>	<b>14.5</b>	<b>14.6</b>	<b>13.4</b>	<b>10.3</b>	<b>12.5</b>	<b>9.9</b>	<b>9.1</b>
Economic inactivity	340	331	347	340	352	325	323
<b>Not disabled</b>	2,536	2,529	2,508	2,510	2,514	2,494	2,473
Economically Active	2,162	2,128	2,161	2,157	2,187	2,146	2,139
<b>Economic Activity Rate (%)</b>	<b>85.2</b>	<b>84.1</b>	<b>86.2</b>	<b>85.9</b>	<b>87.0</b>	<b>86.0</b>	<b>86.5</b>
In employment	2,019	1,987	2,011	2,043	2,053	2,043	2,020
<b>Employment rate (%)</b>	<b>79.6</b>	<b>78.6</b>	<b>80.2</b>	<b>81.4</b>	<b>81.7</b>	<b>81.9</b>	<b>81.7</b>
ILO unemployed	142	141	150	114	134	103	119
<b>Unemployment rate (%)</b>	<b>6.6</b>	<b>6.6</b>	<b>6.9</b>	<b>5.3</b>	<b>6.1</b>	<b>4.8</b>	<b>5.5</b>
Economic inactivity	375	401	243	353	327	348	334

**Table A.3: Economic status of disabled and non disabled people of working age; WALES**

Spring 1998-2004, LFS, not seasonally adjusted

(Thousands and per cent)

<b>Wales</b>	<b>1998</b>	<b>1999</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>2001</b>	<b>2002</b>	<b>2003</b>	<b>2004</b>
<b>All disabled</b>	388	400	404	388	404	405	418
Economically Active	144	172	162	147	167	191	197
<b>Economic Activity Rate (%)</b>	<b>37.1</b>	<b>43.1</b>	<b>40.0</b>	<b>37.8</b>	<b>41.3</b>	<b>47.1</b>	<b>47.2</b>
In employment	128	153	145	133	150	176	179
<b>Employment rate (%)</b>	<b>33.0</b>	<b>38.4</b>	<b>35.9</b>	<b>34.2</b>	<b>37.2</b>	<b>43.4</b>	<b>42.7</b>
ILO unemployed	16	19	17	14	16	15	19
<b>Unemployment rate (%)</b>	<b>11.0</b>	<b>10.9</b>	<b>10.4</b>	<b>9.5</b>	<b>9.8</b>	<b>7.8</b>	<b>9.5</b>
Economic inactivity	244	228	242	241	237	214	221
<b>Not disabled</b>	1,320	1,311	1,314	1,336	1,329	1,334	1,326
Economically Active	1,090	1,083	1,104	1,094	1,091	1,128	1,128
<b>Economic Activity Rate (%)</b>	<b>82.6</b>	<b>82.7</b>	<b>84.0</b>	<b>81.9</b>	<b>82.0</b>	<b>84.5</b>	<b>85.1</b>
In employment	1,022	1,013	1,043	1,036	1,031	1,084	1,085
<b>Employment rate (%)</b>	<b>77.5</b>	<b>77.3</b>	<b>79.4</b>	<b>77.6</b>	<b>77.6</b>	<b>81.2</b>	<b>81.8</b>
ILO unemployed	68	70	61	58	59	44	44
<b>Unemployment rate (%)</b>	<b>6.2</b>	<b>6.5</b>	<b>5.5</b>	<b>5.3</b>	<b>5.4</b>	<b>3.9</b>	<b>3.9</b>
Economic inactivity	230	227	210	242	239	206	198

**Table B: Highest Qualifications held by disabled and non disabled people, Great Britain**

Spring 1998-2004, LFS, not seasonally adjusted

(thousands)

<b>Disabled</b>	<b>1998</b>	<b>1999</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>2001</b>	<b>2002</b>	<b>2003</b>	<b>2004</b>
<b>Total</b>	5,979	6,295	6,472	6,515	6,655	6,730	6,796
<b>Degree or equivalent</b>	389	456	535	519	583	624	672
<b>Higher education</b>	422	439	446	447	465	499	506
<b>GCE A Level or equivalent</b>	1,250	1,313	1,337	1,379	1,423	1,436	1,468
<b>GCSE grades A-C or equivalent</b>	964	1,050	1,115	1,156	1,235	1,257	1,255
<b>Other qualifications</b>	988	1,057	1,047	1,038	1,047	1,081	1,019
<b>No qualification</b>	1,928	1,930	1,940	1,945	1,868	1,801	1,842
<b>Don't know</b>	38	49	51	31	33	32	29
<b>Not disabled</b>	<b>1998</b>	<b>1999</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>2001</b>	<b>2002</b>	<b>2003</b>	<b>2004</b>
<b>Total</b>	28,269	28,079	28,067	28,241	28,292	28,363	28,441
<b>Degree or equivalent</b>	3,993	4,325	4,537	4,757	4,895	5,056	5,375
<b>Higher education</b>	2,474	2,442	2,443	2,445	2,393	2,492	2,544
<b>GCE A Level or equivalent</b>	6,664	6,734	6,799	6,874	7,031	6,954	6,954
<b>GCSE grades A-C or equivalent</b>	6,651	6,492	6,509	6,551	6,481	6,426	6,303
<b>Other qualifications</b>	4,088	3,924	3,807	3,759	3,694	3,786	3,755
<b>No qualification</b>	4,157	3,875	3,659	3,651	3,588	3,442	3,323
<b>Don't know</b>	230	277	299	186	193	190	140

**Table C: Employment Rates by Highest qualification attained by disabled and not disabled people, Great Britain**

Spring 1998-2004, LFS, not seasonally adjusted

(per cent)

	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
<b>All disabled</b>	43.4	46.1	46.6	47.2	47.9	48.9	50.1
<b>Degree or equivalent</b>	75.5	73.2	73.4	72.7	73.6	75.3	74.9
<b>Higher education</b>	62.4	63.5	63.3	64.4	64.8	67.6	68.4
<b>GCE A Level or equivalent</b>	51.5	55.4	56.2	56.1	57.2	58.2	59.6
<b>GCSE grades A-C or equivalent</b>	52.8	56.1	53.8	55.4	56.9	54.5	55.7
<b>Other qualifications</b>	45.0	47.2	46.8	46.5	46.4	46.6	50.2
<b>No qualification</b>	21.9	23.6	24.8	25.5	23.5	24.8	24.6
<hr/>							
	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
<b>All not disabled</b>	79.5	79.9	80.8	80.9	80.6	80.7	80.6
<b>Degree or equivalent</b>	89.0	89.4	90.1	90.3	89.8	89.5	89.7
<b>Higher education</b>	88.2	89.0	89.2	89.4	88.6	89.1	88.5
<b>GCE A Level or equivalent</b>	81.9	82.2	83.1	83.0	82.2	82.3	82.2
<b>GCSE grades A-C or equivalent</b>	78.9	78.9	79.6	79.2	79.7	79.6	79.1
<b>Other qualifications</b>	77.8	77.6	77.9	78.4	78.2	78.1	77.5
<b>No qualification</b>	63.9	63.2	64.5	64.6	63.6	63.4	63.1

**Table D: Type of broad impairment category<sup>1</sup> reported by disabled people of working age in Britain**

Spring 1998-2004, LFS, not seasonally adjusted

(Thousands)

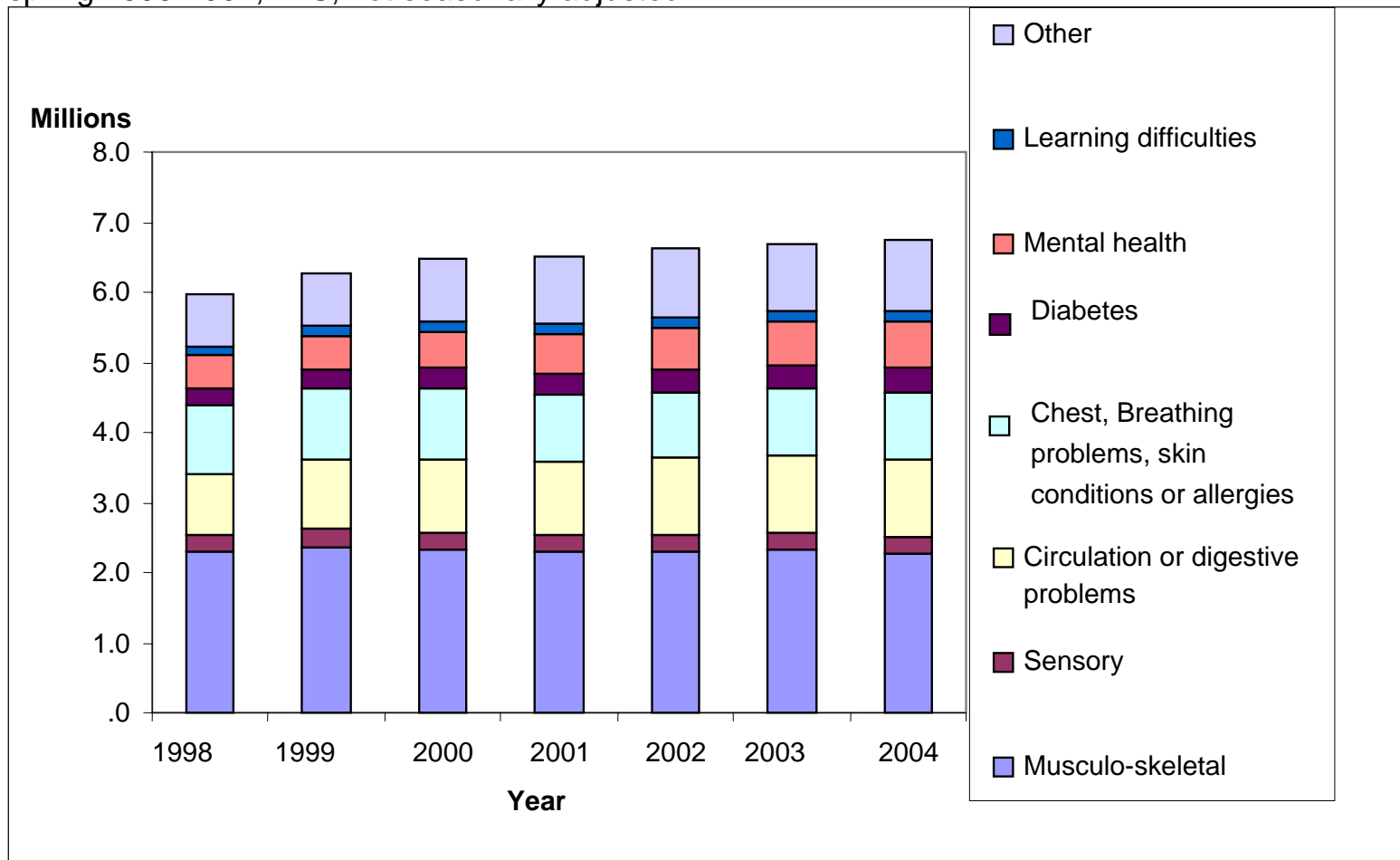
	<b>1998</b>	<b>1999</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>2001</b>	<b>2002</b>	<b>2003</b>	<b>2004</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,979</b>	<b>6,295</b>	<b>6,472</b>	<b>6,515</b>	<b>6,655</b>	<b>6,730</b>	<b>6,796</b>
<b>Musculo-skeletal</b>	2,296	2,363	2,326	2,296	2,305	2,338	2,259
<b>Sensory</b>	245	252	239	232	239	226	249
<b>Circulation or digestive problems</b>	876	988	1,061	1,055	1,098	1,102	1,118
<b>Chest, Breathing problems, skin conditions or allergies</b>	978	1,027	1,012	947	939	963	926
<b>Diabetes</b>	237	263	291	317	320	335	367
<b>Mental health</b>	473	472	508	561	592	608	662
<b>Learning difficulties</b>	127	145	149	137	157	160	163
<b>Other</b>	735	766	882	949	979	957	1,015

(Per cent)

<i>Total (%)</i>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>Musculo-skeletal</b>	38.4	37.5	35.9	35.2	34.6	34.7	33.2
<b>Sensory</b>	4.1	4.0	3.7	3.6	3.6	3.4	3.7
<b>Circulation or digestive problems</b>	14.7	15.7	16.4	16.2	16.5	16.4	16.4
<b>Chest, Breathing problems, skin problems or allergies</b>	16.4	16.3	15.6	14.5	14.1	14.3	13.6
<b>Diabetes</b>	4.0	4.2	4.5	4.9	4.8	5.0	5.4
<b>Mental health</b>	7.9	7.5	7.9	8.6	8.9	9.0	9.7
<b>Learning difficulties</b>	2.1	2.3	2.3	2.1	2.4	2.4	2.4
<b>Other</b>	12.3	12.2	13.6	14.6	14.7	14.2	14.9

<sup>1</sup> Broad impairment categories included here are modified from the standard LFS main health problem/impairment categories.

**Fig 2: Proportion of disabled people in Britain by broad impairment category, spring 1998-2004, LFS, not seasonally adjusted**



**Table D.1: Type of broad impairment category reported by disabled people of working age in ENGLAND**

Spring 1998-2004, LFS, not seasonally adjusted

(Thousands)

<b>England</b>	<b>1998</b>	<b>1999</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>2001</b>	<b>2002</b>	<b>2003</b>	<b>2004</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,008</b>	<b>5,305</b>	<b>5,459</b>	<b>5,514</b>	<b>5,638</b>	<b>5,692</b>	<b>5,726</b>
<b>Musculo-skeletal</b>	1,929	1,995	1,966	1,927	1,955	1,984	1,898
<b>Sensory</b>	206	215	204	201	208	197	215
<b>Circulation or digestive problems</b>	729	806	893	892	941	921	926
<b>Chest, Breathing problems, skin problems or allergies</b>	829	883	862	812	797	813	787
<b>Diabetes</b>	203	227	253	277	277	286	313
<b>Mental health</b>	369	388	405	469	473	501	546
<b>Learning difficulties</b>	115	123	123	110	132	136	141
<b>Other</b>	618	651	752	808	833	817	870

Per cent

<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>Musculo-skeletal</b>	38.5	37.6	36.0	34.9	34.7	34.8	33.1
<b>Sensory</b>	4.1	4.1	3.7	3.6	3.7	3.5	3.8
<b>Circulation or digestive problems</b>	14.6	15.2	16.4	16.2	16.7	16.2	16.2
<b>Chest, Breathing problems, skin problems or allergies</b>	16.6	16.6	15.8	14.7	14.1	14.3	13.7
<b>Diabetes</b>	4.1	4.3	4.6	5.0	4.9	5.0	5.5
<b>Mental health</b>	7.4	7.3	7.4	8.5	8.4	8.8	9.5
<b>Learning difficulties</b>	2.3	2.3	2.2	2.0	2.3	2.4	2.5
<b>Other</b>	12.3	12.3	13.8	14.7	14.8	14.4	15.2

**Table D.2: Type of broad impairment category reported by disabled people of working age in SCOTLAND**

Spring 1998-2004, LFS, not seasonally adjusted

(Thousands)

<b>Scotland</b>	<b>1998</b>	<b>1999</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>2001</b>	<b>2002</b>	<b>2003</b>	<b>2004</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>584</b>	<b>590</b>	<b>609</b>	<b>613</b>	<b>614</b>	<b>633</b>	<b>653</b>
<b>Musculo-skeletal</b>	208	207	200	212	196	206	212
<b>Sensory</b>	24	21	24	18	20	16	20
<b>Circulation or digestive problems</b>	89	105	100	104	95	110	121
<b>Chest, Breathing problems, skin problems or allergies</b>	89	88	96	85	91	95	87
<b>Diabetes</b>	19	24	25	29	25	30	30
<b>Mental health</b>	66	53	63	55	76	63	73
<b>Learning difficulties</b>	8	14	17	18	14	16	11
<b>Other</b>	78	79	84	90	94	94	94

(Per cent)

<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
<b>Musculo-skeletal</b>	35.6	35.0	32.8	34.6	31.9	32.6	32.5
<b>Sensory</b>	4.2	3.6	3.9	3.0	3.2	2.5	3.0
<b>Circulation or digestive problems</b>	15.3	17.7	16.4	17.0	15.5	17.3	18.5
<b>Chest, Breathing problems, skin problems or allergies</b>	15.2	14.9	15.8	13.9	14.8	15.1	13.3
<b>Diabetes</b>	3.3	4.0	4.2	4.7	4.1	4.7	4.6
<b>Mental health</b>	11.3	9.0	10.4	9.0	12.3	10.0	11.2
<b>Learning difficulties</b>	1.4	2.4	2.8	2.9	2.3	2.5	1.7
<b>Other</b>	13.4	13.3	13.8	14.7	15.3	14.9	14.4

**Table D.3 Type of broad impairment category reported by disabled people of working age in WALES**

Spring 1998-2004, LFS, not seasonally adjusted

(Thousands)

<b>Wales</b>	<b>1998</b>	<b>1999</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>2001</b>	<b>2002</b>	<b>2003</b>	<b>2004</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>388</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>404</b>	<b>388</b>	<b>404</b>	<b>405</b>	<b>418</b>
<b>Musculo-skeletal</b>	160	161	161	157	154	149	149
<b>Sensory</b>	14	15	12	13	11	13	14
<b>Circulation or digestive problems</b>	58	77	68	59	62	71	71
<b>Chest, Breathing problems, skin problems or allergies</b>	60	56	54	50	51	55	52
<b>Diabetes</b>	14	12	13	11	19	19	24
<b>Mental health</b>	38	31	40	38	43	44	42
<b>Learning difficulties</b>	3	8	10	9	10	8	10
<b>Other</b>	39	36	46	50	52	46	51

Per cent

<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>Musculo-skeletal</b>	41.2	40.4	39.8	40.4	38.2	36.7	35.7
<b>Sensory</b>	3.7	3.8	2.9	3.3	2.8	3.2	3.4
<b>Circulation or digestive problems</b>	15.0	19.2	16.9	15.2	15.4	17.6	17.0
<b>Chest, Breathing problems, skin problems or allergies</b>	15.6	14.0	13.4	12.8	12.6	13.5	12.4
<b>Diabetes</b>	3.6	3.1	3.2	2.9	4.6	4.6	5.8
<b>Mental health</b>	9.8	7.8	9.8	9.7	10.8	10.9	10.1
<b>Learning difficulties</b>	0.9	2.0	2.4	2.3	2.6	1.9	2.4
<b>Other</b>	9.9	9.0	11.5	13.0	12.9	11.4	12.2

**Table E: Disabled population of working age by region, Great Britain**

Spring 1998-2004, LFS, not seasonally adjusted

(Thousands)

<b>All Disabled</b>	<b>1998</b>	<b>1999</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>2001</b>	<b>2002</b>	<b>2003</b>	<b>2004</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,979</b>	<b>6,295</b>	<b>6,472</b>	<b>6,515</b>	<b>6,655</b>	<b>6,730</b>	<b>6,796</b>
<b>North East</b>	367	369	339	344	369	383	381
<b>North West and Merseyside</b>	818	806	840	832	866	831	845
<b>Yorkshire and Humberside</b>	552	595	595	628	617	612	614
<b>East Midlands</b>	413	449	436	448	470	485	507
<b>West Midlands</b>	544	606	664	644	629	639	641
<b>Eastern</b>	480	497	546	534	563	563	545
<b>London</b>	680	728	741	790	793	808	778
<b>South East</b>	681	755	749	787	775	798	855
<b>South West</b>	473	501	548	508	555	573	558
<b>Wales</b>	388	400	404	388	404	405	418
<b>Scotland</b>	584	590	609	613	614	633	653

(Per cent)

<b>All Disabled</b>	<b>1998</b>	<b>1999</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>2001</b>	<b>2002</b>	<b>2003</b>	<b>2004</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,979</b>	<b>6,295</b>	<b>6,472</b>	<b>6,515</b>	<b>6,655</b>	<b>6,730</b>	<b>6,796</b>
<b>North East</b>	6.1	5.9	5.2	5.3	5.5	5.7	5.6
<b>North West and Merseyside</b>	13.7	12.8	13.0	12.8	13.0	12.3	12.4
<b>Yorkshire and Humberside</b>	9.2	9.4	9.2	9.6	9.3	9.1	9.0
<b>East Midlands</b>	6.9	7.1	6.7	6.9	7.1	7.2	7.5
<b>West Midlands</b>	9.1	9.6	10.3	9.9	9.5	9.5	9.4
<b>Eastern</b>	8.0	7.9	8.4	8.2	8.5	8.4	8.0
<b>London</b>	11.4	11.6	11.5	12.1	11.9	12.0	11.5
<b>South East</b>	11.4	12.0	11.6	12.1	11.6	11.9	12.6
<b>South West</b>	7.9	8.0	8.5	7.8	8.3	8.5	8.2
<b>Wales</b>	6.5	6.4	6.2	6.0	6.1	6.0	6.1
<b>Scotland</b>	9.8	9.4	9.4	9.4	9.2	9.4	9.6

**Table F: Employment rates for disabled and non-disabled people by region, Great Britain**

Spring 1998 -2004, LFS, not seasonally adjusted

(Per cent)

<b>All Disabled</b>	<b>1998</b>	<b>1999</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>2001</b>	<b>2002</b>	<b>2003</b>	<b>2004</b>
<b>GB Total</b>	<b>43.4</b>	<b>46.1</b>	<b>46.6</b>	<b>47.2</b>	<b>47.9</b>	<b>48.9</b>	<b>50.1</b>
<b>North East</b>	35.5	33.9	34.8	36.6	37.3	40.7	37.9
<b>North West (inc Merseyside)</b>	34.9	37.9	40.5	41.9	41.9	44.6	44.6
<b>Yorkshire and Humberside</b>	41.0	45.6	45.6	45.1	46.1	49.4	50.4
<b>East Midlands</b>	48.0	48.3	50.8	49.8	49.8	51.0	52.1
<b>West Midlands</b>	43.8	46.7	47.3	46.1	49.4	56.2	59.9
<b>Eastern</b>	54.4	53.5	54.2	55.1	57.9	56.2	59.9
<b>London</b>	41.1	44.6	43.3	45.9	46.1	42.7	45.0
<b>South East</b>	56.1	59.7	60.5	61.3	60.5	58.8	60.9
<b>South West</b>	53.9	57.2	56.4	54.9	56.6	56.8	56.1
<b>Wales</b>	33.0	38.4	35.9	34.2	37.2	43.4	42.7
<b>Scotland</b>	35.7	37.5	37.2	39.9	37.3	43.8	45.9

(Per cent)

<b>Not disabled</b>	<b>1998</b>	<b>1999</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>2001</b>	<b>2002</b>	<b>2003</b>	<b>2004</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>79.5</b>	<b>79.9</b>	<b>80.8</b>	<b>80.9</b>	<b>80.6</b>	<b>80.7</b>	<b>80.6</b>
<b>North East</b>	76.2	74.6	76.4	77.3	78.0	76.8	79.2
<b>North West (inc Merseyside)</b>	77.8	79.0	80.8	80.6	79.8	80.6	80.6
<b>Yorkshire and Humberside</b>	78.7	78.8	80.1	80.4	79.3	79.9	80.4
<b>East Midlands</b>	81.7	81.9	82.2	80.9	82.2	81.5	82.7
<b>West Midlands</b>	79.9	79.8	79.7	81.0	80.0	80.1	79.6
<b>Eastern</b>	81.7	82.3	83.0	84.3	83.3	83.0	82.6
<b>London</b>	74.7	76.5	76.4	76.0	75.6	75.4	75.1
<b>South East</b>	82.5	83.2	84.0	83.7	83.5	83.2	81.8
<b>South West</b>	82.3	82.3	83.6	83.7	83.9	83.4	83.4
<b>Wales</b>	77.5	77.3	79.4	77.6	77.6	81.2	81.8
<b>Scotland</b>	79.6	78.6	80.2	81.4	81.7	81.9	81.7

**Table G: Labour market status and benefit receipt for disabled and non-disabled people, Great Britain**

Spring 1998 – 2004 (excluding 2003 as unavailable), LFS, not seasonally adjusted

(Thousands and per cent)

	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
<b>All disabled</b>	<b>5,979</b>	<b>6,295</b>	<b>6,472</b>	<b>6,515</b>	<b>6,655</b>	-	<b>6,796</b>
<b>IN WORK</b>							
<b>Total number</b>	<b>2,593</b>	<b>2,904</b>	<b>3,017</b>	<b>3,073</b>	<b>3,185</b>	-	<b>3,405</b>
Not on state benefits	2,175	2,533	2,622	2,299	2,266	-	2,461
Receiving state benefits	313	371	393	445	507	-	438
...Receiving sickness/ disability benefits	167	194	194	198	198	-	202
...Receiving Incapacity Benefit (IB)	44	51	49	48	52	-	70
<b>NOT IN WORK</b>							
<b>Total number</b>	<b>3,386</b>	<b>3,391</b>	<b>3,455</b>	<b>3,442</b>	<b>3,470</b>	-	<b>3,392</b>
Not on benefits	813	806	837	662	643	-	673
<b>Receiving state benefits</b>	<b>2,387</b>	<b>2,578</b>	<b>2,613</b>	<b>2,611</b>	<b>2,596</b>	-	<b>2,463</b>
...and would like work	1,015	1,105	1,139	1,019	1,051	-	875
...and available to start	365	381	395	337	350	-	290
...and would not like work	1,373	1,473	1,474	1,592	1,545	-	1,588
<b>Receiving sickness/disability benefits</b>	<b>1,761</b>	<b>1,907</b>	<b>1,897</b>	<b>1,894</b>	<b>1,907</b>	-	<b>1,852</b>
...and would like work	643	702	713	638	673	-	579
...and available to start	130	128	136	132	135	-	127
...and would not like work	1,118	1,205	1,184	1,255	1,234	-	1,272
<b>Receiving Incapacity Benefit (IB)</b>	<b>1,249</b>	<b>1,340</b>	<b>1,294</b>	<b>1,278</b>	<b>1,290</b>	-	<b>1,224</b>
...and would like work	468	513	499	458	465	-	397
...and available to start	88	84	81	79	89	-	80
...and would not like work	781	827	795	819	825	-	827

	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
<b>Not disabled</b>	<b>28,269</b>	<b>28,079</b>	<b>28,067</b>	<b>28,241</b>	<b>28,292</b>	-	<b>28,441</b>
<b>IN WORK</b>							
<b>Total number</b>	<b>22,462</b>	<b>22,422</b>	<b>22,665</b>	<b>22,835</b>	<b>22,796</b>	-	<b>22,917</b>
Not on state benefits	20,671	21,476	21,617	18,311	17,406	-	17,576
Receiving state benefits	813	936	1,042	1,301	1,982	-	1,154
...Receiving sickness/ disability benefits	100	115	114	104	120	-	89
...Receiving Incapacity Benefit (IB)	12	12	*	10	*	-	12
<b>NOT IN WORK</b>							
<b>Total number</b>	<b>5,806</b>	<b>5,657</b>	<b>5,402</b>	<b>5,405</b>	<b>5,496</b>	-	<b>5,524</b>
Not on state benefits	3,811	3,885	3,714	2,939	2,938	-	3,062
<b>Receiving state benefits</b>	<b>1,668</b>	<b>1,756</b>	<b>1,670</b>	<b>1,544</b>	<b>1,476</b>	-	<b>1,263</b>
...and would like work	1,189	1,208	1,093	963	933	-	754
...and available to start in next 2 weeks	898	908	802	682	669	-	556
...and would not like work	479	548	577	582	543	-	509
<b>...Receiving sickness/ disability benefits</b>	<b>158</b>	<b>196</b>	<b>184</b>	<b>181</b>	<b>174</b>	-	<b>164</b>
...and would like work	78	87	77	72	74	-	65
...and available to start	29	33	26	26	24	-	29
...and would not like work	80	109	107	109	101	-	99
<b>...Receiving Incapacity Benefit (IB)</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>41</b>	-	<b>46</b>
...and would like work	27	27	18	27	23	-	27
...and available to start	13	13	*	*	*	-	15
...and would not like work	17	17	14	15	18	-	19

NOTE: `To ensure continuity in the data over time, all benefits data included in this table excludes people on child benefits, as child benefit recipients were only included in the LFS benefit variable from 2001

**Table H: Average gross hourly pay (£) for disabled and not disabled employees**

Spring 1998- 2004 LFS, not seasonally adjusted, Great Britain

(£)

	<b>1998</b>	<b>1999</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>2001</b>	<b>2002</b>	<b>2003</b>	<b>2004</b>
<b>All Disabled</b>	<b>6.81</b>	<b>7.36</b>	<b>7.68</b>	<b>8.4</b>	<b>8.8</b>	<b>9.1</b>	<b>9.37</b>
<b>Men</b>	7.79	8.22	8.63	9.44	9.75	10.21	10.5
<b>Women</b>	5.8	6.44	6.6	7.24	7.76	7.9	8.19
<b>Not disabled</b>	<b>7.94</b>	<b>8.32</b>	<b>8.78</b>	<b>9.21</b>	<b>9.56</b>	<b>9.91</b>	<b>10.39</b>
<b>Men</b>	9.05	9.49	9.98	10.41	10.76	11.12	11.73
<b>Women</b>	6.72	7.03	7.47	7.9	8.28	8.62	8.96
<b>% GAP</b>	<b>14.2</b>	<b>11.5</b>	<b>12.5</b>	<b>8.8</b>	<b>7.9</b>	<b>8.2</b>	<b>9.8</b>

## **Section 2: Recent disability estimates from the Family Resources Survey (FRS)**

Following a review of different disability definitions and estimates for the Department of Work and Pensions (DWP) in early 2004, the department has now clarified its position in relation to the production and use of disability estimates. This has been done through the adoption of estimates of the disabled population, from the Family Resources Survey (FRS) 2002/3, based on the DDA definition of disability and the publication of a *User's guide to disability estimates and definition*, available online at <http://www.dwp.gov.uk/asd/asd5/ih2003-2004/IH128userguide.pdf>

The following set of tabulations provide the latest available estimates from the 2002/3 FRS, for disabled adults and disabled children, covered by the DDA, and also includes breakdowns by region, age group, gender and ethnicity.

## Adults in Britain likely to be covered by Disability Discrimination Act (DDA)

In the Family Resources Survey (FRS) an adult is defined as all those aged 16 and over, except for 16 to 18 year olds in full time non-advanced education.

### Disabled Adults in Britain by Region

	Millions	Percent
<b>Britain</b>	<b>9.8</b>	<b>22%</b>
North East	0.6	29%
North West and Merseyside	1.2	24%
Yorkshire and Humber	1.0	25%
East Midlands	0.7	22%
West Midlands	0.8	21%
Eastern	0.7	19%
London	1.1	18%
South East	1.1	18%
South West	0.8	22%
Wales	0.7	31%
Scotland	0.9	23%

Source: Family Resources Survey, 2002-03. Great Britain

### Adults in Britain likely to be covered by the DDA, by age

Age (years)	Millions	Percent
<b>All adults aged 16+</b>	<b>9.8</b>	<b>22%</b>
16-24	0.4	8%
25-34	0.7	9%
35-44	1.1	13%
45-54	1.6	20%
55-64	2.1	30%
65+	4.1	47%

Source: Family Resources Survey 2002-03. Great Britain

### Adults in Britain likely to be covered by the DDA, by gender

	Millions	Percent
<b>All</b>	<b>9.8</b>	<b>22%</b>
Male	4.7	21%
Female	5.1	23%

Source: Family Resources Survey 2002-03. Great Britain

### Adults in Britain likely to be covered by the DDA, by ethnic group

	Millions	Percent
<b>All</b>	<b>9.8</b>	<b>22%</b>
White	9.2	23%
Non White	0.6	17%

Source: Family Resources Survey 2002-03. Great Britain

## Children in Britain likely to be covered by Disability Discrimination Act (DDA)

In the Family Resources Survey (FRS) a child is defined as someone aged under 16, and aged 16 to 18 year olds who is in full-time non advanced education and living at home.

### Children in Britain likely to be covered by the DDA, by geographical area

	Millions	Percent
<b>Britain</b>	<b>0.7</b>	<b>5%</b>
<b>North East</b>	-	6%
<b>North West and Merseyside</b>	0.1	5%
<b>Yorkshire and Humber</b>	-	4%
<b>East Midlands</b>	0.1	7%
<b>West Midlands</b>	0.1	6%
<b>Eastern</b>	0.1	5%
<b>London</b>	0.1	4%
<b>South East</b>	0.1	5%
<b>South West</b>	0.1	6%
<b>Wales</b>	0.1	7%
<b>Scotland</b>	0.1	6%

Source: Family Resources Survey, 2002-03. Great Britain

## Children in Britain likely to be covered by the DDA, by age

Age (years)	Millions	Percent
<b>All</b>	<b>0.7</b>	<b>5%</b>
Less than 5	0.1	3%
5 to less than 12	0.3	6%
12 to less than 19	0.3	6%

Source: Family Resources Survey 2002-03. Great Britain

## Children in Britain likely to be covered by the DDA, by gender

	Millions	Percent
<b>All</b>	<b>0.7</b>	<b>5%</b>
Male	0.4	7%
Female	0.3	4%

Source: Family Resources Survey 2002-03. Great Britain

## **NEW Estimate of the annual spending power of adults in Britain covered by the Disability Discrimination Act (1995)**

On the 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2004, the DWP issued a press release regarding a new estimate of disabled people's annual spending power in Britain, estimated to be £80 billion per year. The new estimate of the annual spending power related to adults in Britain covered by the Disability Discrimination Act (DDA) and is based on Individual Incomes data from the Family Resources Survey 2002/03.

Please see the [DWP Press Release](#) issued on 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2004 for further information.

## **Section 3 DRC Research Project Update**

The following section presents an overview of DRC research completed since January 2004. It also includes some information on the progress of some current research projects, due for completion in early 2005. From now on, this section will be a regular feature of the *Disability Briefing*. It starts with the most recently completed research.

### **Recently Completed DRC Research**

#### **NEW The Employment of Disabled People in the Public Sector: A Review of Data and Literature**

Michael Hirst, Patricia Thornton and Melissa Dearey, Social Policy Research Unit, with Sue Maynard Campbell, Equal Ability Limited.

Published in November 2004  
ISBN 0-9549327-0-6

This report, by the Social Policy Research Unit at the University of York and Equal Ability Limited, considers the evidence on the employment of disabled people in the public sector. It draws on:

- secondary analysis of the Labour Force Survey, to describe recent trends and the characteristics of disabled public sector employees;
- a review of published research literature; and
- a trawl of public sector employers to identify documentation showing effective disability employment practices.

The full report and executive summary is available on the [DRC website](#).

A Welsh language version will be available shortly.

## **Qualifications Bodies and the Disability Discrimination Act**

Hurstfield,J., Aston,J., Mitchell,H. and Ritchie,H.

Published in September 2004

ISBN 1-85184-347-7

This report presents the findings of a research project conducted between October 2003 and June 2004 by the Institute for Employment Studies, jointly funded by the European Social Fund (Objective 3 Programme), the Disability Rights Commission (DRC) and the Learning and Skills Council.

The main aims of the study were to:

- Map the number and types of qualifications bodies covered by the new provisions and to identify any 'grey areas' where there is a lack of clarity about the coverage of the provisions;
- Explore levels of awareness of the DDA provisions by the qualifications bodies and their perceptions of how the provisions will affect their current practices
- Establish how the new duty to make reasonable adjustments is being interpreted and identify any examples of actions that are being considered or planned by different bodies;
- Identify examples of good practice to contribute to the development of guidance and support to assist qualifications bodies to comply with their duties under the DDA.

A Word and PDF version of the summary of the report can be downloaded from the DRC website at:

<http://www.drc.org.uk/publicationsandreports/research.asp>

The full report can be obtained from the [IES website](#).

## **Towards Access Standards: The Work of Local Access Groups in England and Wales**

Published in August 2004  
ISBN: 0-9549327-1-4

In Autumn 2003, the DRC commissioned SURFACE at the University of Salford to undertake a research study to explore the work of local access groups in England and Wales.

The full report documents the findings from all stages of the research, including conclusions and recommendations for further research.

The DRC has also produced a summary paper to accompany the research report, which includes the key findings and a series of recommendations.

Both the full report and the summary can be viewed and downloaded from the DRC website at  
<http://www.drc.org.uk/publicationsandreports/research.asp>

## **Measuring physical access barriers to services: 'Snapshot' research in 4 town/city centres in Britain: Part One: Establishing baseline measurements**

Published in August 2004

In January 2004, the DRC commissioned JMU Access Partnership to undertake 'snapshot' research to explore access provision to a range of services in four town centre locations in Great Britain prior to the new Part 3 DDA duties. The research methodology included a background literature review, focus groups to explore disabled peoples experience of access barriers and a series of customised technical access audits.

The full report can be viewed and downloaded from the DRC website at  
<http://www.drc.org.uk/publicationsandreports/research.asp>

## **Small Employer Literature Review**

Published in March 2004

This review includes literature about small and 'micro' sized employers, data from the Labour Force Survey and information from Disability Rights Commission (DRC) staff. It has been undertaken in the context of the removal of the exemption of companies with fewer than 15 staff under the Disability Discrimination Act (DDA) from October 2004. The Department for Trade and Industry (DTI) definitions are adopted:

- 'micro' employers have fewer than 10 employees;
- 'small' employers have under 49 employees;
- 'medium' employers have between 50 and 249 employees.

The review concentrates on micro firms and workplaces to shed some light on the characteristics of the very small companies who are being brought within the scope of the DDA for the first time.

The review can be downloaded from the DRC website at:  
<http://www.drc.org.uk/publicationsandreports/research.asp>

## **Monitoring the Disability Discrimination Act (DDA) 1995 Phase 3**

Hurstfield J, Meager N, Aston J, Davies J, Mann K, Mitchell H, O'Regan S, Sinclair A

DRC Research Report, 2004

This report is the latest in a series of studies monitoring the implementation of the Disability Discrimination Act (DDA) 1995. It presents the findings of a qualitative research study undertaken by the Institute for Employment Studies (IES) on behalf of the Disability Rights Commission (DRC) in partnership with the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) and the Equality Commission, Northern Ireland. The research examined how the DDA is being implemented through the employment tribunal system (Part II of the DDA, relating to discrimination in employment) and the court system (Part III of the DDA, relating to discrimination in the provision of goods, services and facilities). It also explored and analysed the views and experiences of participants in both actual and potential DDA cases through a series of in-depth case studies.

The full report in both Word and PDF formats can be viewed and downloaded from the DRC website at <http://www.drc.org.uk/publicationsandreports/research.asp>

## **Progress on Research currently underway**

### **Research study on the experiences of disabled pupils and students and their parents/carers – Phase One**

A qualitative, exploratory study on the views and experiences of disabled pupils and students and their families in Great Britain in relation to the perceived impact of the DDA Part 4 duties and to education provision generally.

**Contract awarded and started in August 2004, expected completion date March 2005.**

### **Literature review on curriculum and qualification design**

A GB-wide review of the literature on current and proposed curriculum and examination systems where these qualifications are regulated by a public body. Gathering evidence, internationally, regarding systems, policies and practices which best enable disabled learners to achieve their full potential.

**Due for completion in February 2005.**

## Technical Note

### The Labour Force Survey Questions on Disability

The focus of and number of questions in the health and disability module of the LFS changed in the spring 1997 to reflect the provisions of the Disability Discrimination Act 1995 (DDA). Since spring 1997 all working age LFS respondents have been asked:

- Do you have any health problems or disabilities that you expect will last more than a year?  
If they answer 'yes' to this question, they are also asked to say what kind(s) of health problem or disability(ies) they have, based on a list read to them by the interviewer.

If they then answer '**yes**' to the following question:

- Does this (do these) health problem(s) or disability(ies) (when taken singly or together) substantially limit your ability to carry out normal day to day activities?

OR

- They said that they had the following health problems: progressive illnesses not included elsewhere (e.g. cancer, multiple sclerosis, symptomatic HIV, Parkinson's disease, muscular dystrophy)

Then they are defined as having a **current DDA disability**.

People whose health problem(s) or disability(ies) are expected to last more than a year are also asked the following questions:

- 'Does this health problem affect the KIND of work that you might do?'
- '..... or the AMOUNT of paid work you might do?'

If the respondent fulfils either of these criteria they are defined as having a **work-limiting disability**.

Those people who meet the criteria for either current DDA or work-limiting definitions of disability (or both – as is usually the case) are defined as having a **current long-term disability**.

**Further information:**

If you have any queries relating to this briefing, please contact Breda Twomey by email [Breda.Twomey@drc-gb.org](mailto:Breda.Twomey@drc-gb.org).