

Survey on Disabilities, Impairments and State of Health 1999

Preliminary results. Basic data.

	General Secretariat of Social Affairs	ONCE (Spanish National Organization for the Blind) Foundation For social cooperation and the integration of the handicapped
Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs	Institute for Migration and Social Services	

INE: NATIONAL STATISTICS INSTITUTE

Survey on Disabilities, Impairments and State of Health 1999

Preliminary results
Basic data

Madrid, 2000

Contents:

- Basic data
- People from 6 to 64 years of age
- People aged 65 and older
- Children under the age of 6
- Publication plan
- Classification

Publication Data

Title: Survey on Disabilities, Impairments
And State of Health, 1999.
Preliminary Results. Basic Data.

INE No: 79-00-385 (0.00)

NIPO: 103-00-049-9

Duty Copy Deposit: M-46783-2000

ISBN: 84-260-3501-9

Tariff: 0

Printed by: Artegraf, S.A.

Graphic design and layout:

Under-Secretariat of Statistical Publications
NATIONAL STATISTICS INSTITUTE
Paseo de la Castellana, 183
28046 Madrid (Spain)

Survey on Disabilities, Impairments and State of Health, 1999

Presentation

The Survey on Disabilities, Impairments and State of Health is a large-scale statistical project in the form of a macro-survey (approximately 79,000 dwellings and 220,000 people) that responds to an urgent demand by the government and different non-governmental organization users.

This survey is geared towards covering the need for information on disabilities, dependency, the aging of the population and the state of health of the population living in Spain.

Disabilities are analyzed in line with the previous survey, carried out in 1986, but adapted to the current situation and expanded in fundamental areas such as the types of assistance, the degree of severity of the different disabilities, training and employment for affected groups, and other items that will allow essential indicators to be obtained, such as, for example, the disability-free life expectancy.

To analyze the subject of dependency, which covers the entire age structure, although focusing in particular on the elderly as a result of the aging of the population, special emphasis was placed on the factors that most determine dependency, such as the assistance of another person, the characteristics of the caregivers and the degree of severity of the disabilities.

Regarding the population's general state of health, subjects of general interest are analyzed, such as the self-evaluation of one's state of health, life habits, accident rate, chronic diseases, and the use of services, among others.

The methodology's basic aspects take into account the recommendations of the World Health Organization (WHO) regarding the use of the International Classification of Impairments, Disabilities and Handicaps.

This publication provides a general view of people with disabilities, and constitutes the first in a series of descriptive publications and special studies that will appear as more results are available. This publication in its entirety may be viewed on the Internet by accessing the INE server at www.ine.es.

The survey, carried out by the INE service, was jointly financed by the INE, the Institution for Migration and Social Services (IMSERSO) and the ONCE Foundation (Spanish National Organization for the Blind), through the corresponding Collaboration Agreements for Disability-Related Actions.

The INE wishes to thank IMSERSO and the ONCE Foundation for their major contributions to this project, as well as all the people who participated in the survey, for their interest and collaboration in carrying out this research.

Carmen Alcaide Guindo
Chairperson of the INE

Basic Data

The total number of people with disabilities in Spain is **3,528,221**, which means **9% of the population**

People, disabilities and impairments

The survey investigated both **the number of people with disabilities** and the **number of disabilities and impairments suffered**. To correctly interpret the tables, one must keep the following in mind:

For each person interviewed, all disabilities and their respective **degrees of severity** (moderate, severe and total) were investigated, according to the perception of the individuals themselves. In other words, the aim was to quantify the **disabilities perceived** by the Spanish population.

The total number of people with disabilities is smaller than the number of disabilities, as **a person may have more than one disability**.

The total number of disabilities is higher than the number of impairments, as **an impairment may cause more than one disability**.

The number of people with disabilities **coincides** with the number of people with impairments.

The **Survey on Disabilities, Impairments and State of Health** is aimed at the group of people as a whole who live in the main family dwelling, so **the population living in group residences is excluded**. The survey was carried out in **three stages**, which are identified with the following questionnaires:

Home Questionnaire: identifies those residents in the home who suffer from some type of disability or limitation. Also requests information of a social, demographic and economic nature about all the residents in the home.

Questionnaire on Disabilities and Impairments: gathers information on the individuals aged 6 and over who suffer from some type of disability, in order to get information about the characteristics of the disabilities suffered and the impairments that cause them, as well as more specific information about the person with disabilities and his/her relationship with the social, healthcare and economic environment.

Questionnaire on Limitations and Impairments: gathers information about children under 6 who suffer from some type of limitation.

Health Questionnaire: gathers information about subjects such as: degree to which services are used, self-evaluation of one's state of health, anthropometric characteristics, temporary limitations on daily activities, life habits, accident rate, prevalence of chronic diseases, victimization, accessibility and nutritional habits.

1. People with disabilities by age groups and sex

	Total Absolute figures	Total Relative figures	Male	Female
TOTAL	3,528,221	100.00	1,472,970	2,055,251
Under 6 years	49,577	1.41	24,723	24,853
From 6 to 15 years	68,284	1.94	36,060	32,224
6 to 9 years	29,782	0.84	15,363	14,420
10 to 15 years	38,502	1.09	20,697	17,804
From 16 to 44 years	519,495	14.72	298,726	220,769
16 to 19 years	44,290	1.26	28,058	16,232
20 to 24 years	59,048	1.67	36,385	22,663
25 to 29 years	78,275	2.22	48,578	29,697
30 to 34 years	107,631	3.05	64,514	43,117
35 to 39 years	115,171	3.26	60,029	55,142
40 to 44 years	115,080	3.26	61,162	53,918
From 45 to 64 years	818,213	23.19	379,652	438,561
45 to 49 years	135,075	3.83	66,311	68,764
50 to 54 years	170,834	4.84	74,872	95,962
55 to 59 years	210,962	5.98	96,639	114,323
60 to 64 years	301,342	8.54	141,830	159,512
Age 65 and older	2,072,652	58.74	733,809	1,338,843
65 to 69 years	386,338	10.95	161,083	225,255
70 to 74 years	457,269	12.96	168,643	288,626
75 to 79 years	476,926	13.52	172,670	304,256
80 to 84 years	370,701	10.51	120,382	250,319
Age 85 and older	381,418	10.81	111,031	270,388

- More than half of the people with disabilities, **58%**, are women. However, by age groups, it can be seen that in the range from 6 to 44 years of age, the number of men with disabilities surpasses the number of women by **32%**.
- After the age of 45, the number of women with disabilities surpasses the number of men by **60%**.
- With regard to children under the age of 6, there is no significant difference between the sexes.

The list of the disabilities and impairments that are being investigated is based on the **World Health Organization's International Classification of Impairments, Disabilities and Handicaps (ICIDH-I)**. With regard to the application of this classification, it was necessary to resolve a series of methodological difficulties that arose from the classification itself. Among other things, **what question should be the starting point of the research** had to be decided. The study began in the **second level of consequences of the disease, i.e., with disabilities**, due to the fact that the classification of the impairments, the first level, uses terminology too complex for use by non-medical personnel.

2. People with disabilities by age groups and sex. Rate per thousand inhabitants for each age group and sex.

	Rate per 1,000 inhabitants	
	Male	Female
TOTAL	76.60	102.67
Under 6 years	21.71	23.21
>From 6 to 15 years	16.72	15.83
6 to 9 years	18.91	18.86
10 to 15 years	15.40	14.00
From 16 to 44 years	33.32	25.26
16 to 19 years	24.46	14.76
20 to 24 years	22.37	14.54
25 to 29 years	28.82	18.29
30 to 34 years	39.54	27.09
35 to 39 years	39.55	36.58
40 to 44 years	45.13	39.63
From 45 to 64 years	89.10	98.67
45 to 49 years	54.68	56.23
50 to 54 years	65.24	81.41
55 to 59 years	99.75	112.74
60 to 64 years	152.20	155.01
From 65 to 84 years	246.93	322.51
65 to 69 years	170.97	207.28
70 to 74 years	219.52	299.40
75 to 79 years	325.16	399.15
80 to 84 years	428.94	500.73
Age 85 and older	591.64	656.58

Source: Revised Population Projections based on 1991 Census, as of May 15, 1999.

The WHO's **ICIDH-I** defines **disabilities** as the consequences of impairments, from a functional performance standpoint and from the standpoint of the individual's activity: disabilities, therefore, represent disturbances to the person.

Impairments refer to abnormalities in body structure and appearance, and to the function of an organ or system, whatever their cause; in principle, impairments represent disturbances to an organ.

- As far as the **disparity between genders** is concerned, a larger number of women have disabilities in all age groups after the age of 45. However, if the comparison is made in **relative terms**, it is seen that the rates tend to level out at more advanced ages.
- Thus, for example, in the age group of 85 and older, for every **100 women** with some type of disability, there are only **41 men**. However, the male rate is much closer to the female rate, representing **90%** of the latter. This is a result of the **higher male mortality rate** at advanced ages, which means that there are more women in these age groups.

For the purposes of this survey, **disability** is understood to be **any serious limitation that affects or is expected to affect the activity of the person who suffers from it for more than a year, and which originates from an impairment**. A person is considered to suffer from a disability even if he/she has overcome it with the use of outside technical aids. An exception has been made in that information was also gathered on disabilities that do not originate from a clearly defined impairment, but rather from **degenerative processes** in which the age of the person is a decisive influence.

36 disabilities were considered, which are classified in **10 groups**.

People from 6 to 64 years of age

In Spain there are **1,405,992** people between the ages of 6 and 64 with some type of disability, accounting for **4.59%** of the population in this age group.

3. People from 6 to 64 years of age with disabilities, by disability groups.

	People with disabilities	Rate per 1,000 inhabitants aged 6 to 64
TOTAL	1,405,992	45.94
Seeing	304,512	9.95
Hearing	295,869	9.67
Communicating	179,092	5.85
Learning, applying knowledge and performing tasks	238,984	7.81
Getting around	414,649	13.55
Using arms and hands	447,985	14.64
Getting around outside the home	737,489	24.10
Caring for oneself	215,048	7.03
Performing housework	475,693	15.54
Relations with other people	230,197	7.52

Note: A person may be in more than one disability category.

Source: Revised Population Projections based on 1991 Census, as of May 15, 1999.

People from 6 to 64 years of age

- More than half of the people with disabilities between the ages of 6 and 64 years have some major difficulty in getting around outside of the home. In general, disabilities relating to **mobility**, as well as those referring to **housework**, are the ones that most affect the population in this age group.

Information was gathered by means of a **personal visit** to an effective sample of **70,402 homes**, in which data was gathered about all the people living in them. The total number of people interviewed was **217,760**, of whom 207,292 were 6 years of age or older, and 10,468 under 6.

Distribution of disabilities by groups.

People from 6 to 64 years of age.

Getting around
11.38%

Learning, applying knowledge and performing tasks
6.65%

Using arms and hands
12.14%

Communicating
3.84%

Getting around outside the home
21.05%

Hearing
4.94%

Caring for oneself
6.92%

Seeing
6.24%

Relations with other people
6.46%

Performing housework
20.39%

Note: When a person has more than one disability within the same group, all are counted.

- When the **number of disabilities** is considered, the “**Getting around outside the home**” group remains in the lead, with **21.05%**, although followed more closely than in the previous table by the “**Performing housework**” group at **20.39%**. This is due to the fact that the people who have some type of disability in this latter group tend more to suffer from the rest of the disabilities in the same group.

People from 6 to 64 years of age

4. People from 6 to 64 years of age with disabilities in activities of daily living, by the maximum degree of severity

Severity	People with disabilities
TOTAL	791,432
Moderate disability	295,818
Severe disability	255,387
Total disability	227,099
Unknown	13,127

- More than half of the people with disabilities between the ages of 6 and 64 have difficulty performing activities of daily living. For **61%** of them, **482,486** people, the difficulty is severe.

The **severity of the disability** refers to the degree of difficulty in performing a certain activity without help (if the person does not receive help) or with help (if he/she does).

A person is considered to have **total disability** when he/she cannot perform the activity. If the person has great difficulty performing it, the **disability** is **severe**, and if he/she performs it without any difficulty because of help or with little difficulty, the **disability** is **moderate**.

The **activities of daily living taken into consideration** are: changing the position of the body; getting up and lying down; getting around inside the home; getting around without a means of transportation; washing oneself; controlling bodily functions; dressing oneself; eating and drinking; shopping, preparing meals, washing and ironing clothes, cleaning and maintaining the home and looking after the welfare of other family members.

People from 6 to 64 years of age**5. People from 6 to 64 years of age with disabilities, by autonomous community**

	Total population aged 6 to 64	People with disabilities	Rate per 1,000 inhabitants aged 6 to 64
TOTAL	30,602,991	1,405,992	45.94
Andalusia	5,681,463	319,994	56.32
Aragon	861,315	31,499	36.57
Asturias	796,141	37,227	46.76
Balearic Islands	594,457	27,265	45.87
Basque Country	1,609,688	62,908	39.08
Canary Islands	1,329,664	54,394	40.91
Cantabria	403,629	18,402	45.59
Castile-Leon	1,823,879	84,213	46.17
Castile-La Mancha	1,268,024	57,015	44.96
Catalonia	4,702,673	224,960	47.84
Community of Valencia	3,100,655	124,921	40.29
Extremadura	811,362	35,102	43.26
Galicia	2,051,492	103,570	50.49
Madrid (Community of)	3,985,904	149,996	37.63
Murcia (Region of)	871,125	48,701	55.91
Navarre (Autonomous Comm.)	406,481	14,251	35.06
Rioja (La)	196,950	5,226	26.53
Ceuta and Melilla	108,089	6,347	58.72

Source: Revised Population Projections based on 1991 Census, as of May 15, 1999.

- The autonomous communities with **the largest number of people** from 6 to 64 years of age **with disabilities** are **Andalusia, Catalonia, Madrid and the Community of Valencia**. However, the **highest rate per thousand inhabitants** is found in **Ceuta and Melilla**, where it is **28%** higher than the national rate. This is followed by **Andalusia and Murcia**, whose rates are higher than the national one by **23%** and **22%**, respectively. **La Rioja** is in the best relative position, with a rate that is **42%** lower than the national one.

People from 6 to 64 years of age**6. People from 6 to 64 years of age with disabilities, by type of impairment causing them**

	People with disabilities	Rate per 1,000 inhabitants aged 6 to 64
TOTAL	1,405,992	45.94
Mental impairment	287,329	9.39
Developmental delay	8,032	0.26
Severe mental retardation	32,186	1.05
Moderate mental retardation	61,494	2.01
Mild mental retardation	40,788	1.33
Dementia	7,126	0.23
Other mental disorders	140,141	4.58
Visual impairment	262,814	8.59
Total blindness	17,144	0.56
Poor eyesight	246,649	8.06
Ear and hearing impairment	278,654	9.11
Pre-speech deafness	24,070	0.79
Post-speech deafness	20,738	0.68
Hard of hearing	229,549	7.50
Balance disorders	5,904	0.19
Language, speech and voice impairment	21,813	0.71
Muteness (not due to deafness)	2,602	0.09
Incomprehensible or difficult speech	19,211	0.63
Osteoarticular impairment	498,397	16.29
Head	998	0.03
Spinal column	228,980	7.48
Upper limbs	154,166	5.04
Lower limbs	182,831	5.97
Nervous system impairment	131,096	4.28
Paralysis of an upper limb	8,186	0.27
Paralysis of a lower limb	8,637	0.28
Paraplegia	8,853	0.29
Tetraplegia	7,938	0.26
Motor coordination disorders	62,667	2.05
Other disorders of the nervous system	41,919	1.37
Impairment from visceral disorders	116,135	3.79
Respiratory system	19,348	0.63
Cardiovascular system	47,227	1.54
Digestive system	9,551	0.31
Genitourinary system	9,736	0.32
Endocrine/metabolic system	23,090	0.75
Immune and blood-producing system	11,106	0.36
Other types of impairment	46,912	1.53
Skin	2,230	0.07
Multiple impairments	24,948	0.82
Impairments not classified elsewhere	20,274	0.66
Unknown	28,345	0.93

Note: A person may be in more than one impairment category.

Source: Revised Population Projections based on 1991 Census, as of May 15, 1999.

Survey on Disabilities, Impairments and State of Health, 1999
People from 6 to 64 years of age

- Of the total number of people from 6 to 64 years of age who have some type of disability, **1,405,992** of them, or **35%**, have some type of impairment affecting the **joints and bones**. In **46%** of these cases, **228,980** people, there is an impairment to the **spinal column**.
- **Mental, hearing** and **visual** impairment also occupy a prominent place, with **286,003**, **278,654** and **262,814** people affected, respectively.

For the purposes of this survey, **impairment** is understood to be any **abnormality to or loss of an organ, or the function corresponding to that organ**. For example, a missing hand, paraplegia, mental retardation, speech disorders.

- The distribution of impairments by classification groups also shows a larger proportion of **osteoarticular** impairment, at **32.80%**, followed by **mental** (**16.77%**), **hearing** (**16.22%**) and **sight** (**15.26%**) impairment.

People from 6 to 64 years of age**7. Impairments in people from 6 to 64 years of age, by their main causes.**

	Total	Perinatal	Accident
TOTAL	1,728,321	333,447	244,021
Mental impairment	289,768	123,719	12,635
Visual impairment	263,792	68,126	44,620
Ear and hearing impairment	280,262	47,211	22,972
Language, speech and voice impairment	21,813	2,910	3,761
Osteoarticular impairment	566,974	43,439	132,733
Nervous system impairment	138,201	31,340	19,990
Impairment from visceral disorders	120,059	11,265	4,636
Other types of impairment	47,452	5,438	2,674

Continues...

	Disease	Other causes	Unknown
TOTAL	888,525	224,102	38,226
Mental impairment	79,109	44,853	29,452
Visual impairment	118,587	30,519	1,940
Ear and hearing impairment	164,248	41,882	3,948
Language, speech and voice impairment	9,209	5,933	0
Osteoarticular impairment	335,246	54,114	1,443
Nervous system impairment	66,805	18,623	1,442
Impairment from visceral disorders	92,323	11,835	0
Other types of impairment	22,998	16,343	0

- More than half of the impairments in the population from 6 to 64 years of age, **51.4%**, are caused by a **common or occupational disease**; **37.7%** of these impairments are **osteoarticular**, and **31.8%** **visual** and **hearing**.
- The second most important factor refers to **congenital causes** or those that are **birth related**, accounting for **19.23%** of cases. Of these, **36.85%** are **mental** impairments and **34.7%** are **visual** and **hearing** impairments.

Survey on Disabilities, Impairments and State of Health, 1999
People from 6 to 64 years of age

Impairments in people from 6 to 64 years of age, by their main causes.

- Of the total number of mental impairments in people from 6 to 64 years of age, **42.70%** are due to **perinatal causes**, and **27.30%** to some type of **disease**.
- **23.41%** of the **osteoarticular** impairments are due to some type of **accident**.
- **Nervous system** impairments are due to **perinatal causes** in **22.68%** of the cases.

People from 6 to 64 years of age**8. Impairments in people from 6 to 64 years of age, by their main causes.**

	Total	Congenital	Problems during birth	Traffic Accident
TOTAL	1,728,321	269,792	63,655	59,907
Mental impairment	289,768	90,104	33,615	6,796
Visual impairment	263,792	63,269	4,857	6,118
Ear and hearing impairment	280,262	42,004	5,207	2,804
Language, speech and voice impairment	21,813	1,557	1,353	1,900
Osteoarticular impairment	566,974	37,650	5,789	30,055
Nervous system impairment	138,201	20,505	10,835	10,114
Impairment from visceral disorders	120,059	10,021	1,243	1,459
Other types of impairment	47,452	4,681	7,757	660

	Household accident	Leisure accident	Occupational accident	Another type of accident
TOTAL	29,013	25,378	92,952	36,772
Mental impairment	1,557	150	975	3,156
Visual impairment	7,606	8,976	16,626	5,294
Ear and hearing impairment	1,771	2,619	7,720	8,058
Language, speech and voice impairment	271	343	350	897
Osteoarticular impairment	16,214	12,332	60,125	14,007
Nervous system impairment	559	957	4,849	3,511
Impairment from visceral disorders	143	0	1,727	1,308
Other types of impairment	891	0	580	542

	Common disease	Occupational disease	Other causes	Unknown
TOTAL	825,471	63,053	224,102	38,226
Mental impairment	77,963	1,146	44,853	29,452
Visual impairment	115,450	3,137	30,519	1,940
Ear and hearing impairment	140,825	23,423	41,882	3,948
Language, speech and voice impairment	8,938	271	5,933	0
Osteoarticular impairment	304,591	30,655	54,114	1,443
Nervous system impairment	65,614	1,191	18,623	1,442
Impairment from visceral disorders	89,619	2,704	11,835	0
Other types of impairment	22,471	527	16,343	0

- In a more disaggregated classification, it can be seen that **common diseases** dominate as the main cause of the impairment. Within the area of **perinatal causes**, **congenital** ones are the most frequent. Of the **244,021** impairments caused by an accident, **38.09%** were because of an occupational accident. More than two-thirds of the impairments caused by a **traffic accident** are classified among **osteoarticular** and **nervous system** impairments. **52.81%** of the impairments caused by **problems during birth** are **mental** impairments.

The categories to classify the problem that caused the impairment are in accordance with the recommendations proposed by the **United Nations Group of Experts on the Development of Impairment, Disability and Handicap Statistics**.

People aged 65 and older

In Spain there are **2,072,652** people aged 65 or older with some type of disability, accounting for **32.21%** of the population in this age group.

9. People aged 65 and older with disabilities, by disability groups.

	People with disabilities	Rate per 1,000 inhabitants aged 65 and older
TOTAL	2,072,652	322.11
Seeing	697,778	108.44
Hearing	665,479	103.42
Communicating	180,264	28.02
Learning, applying knowledge and performing tasks	335,426	52.13
Getting around	809,383	125.79
Using arms and hands	644,887	100.22
Getting around outside the home	1,352,194	210.15
Caring for oneself	561,830	87.31
Performing housework	984,881	153.06
Relations with other people	338,519	52.61

Note: A person may be in more than one disability category.

Source: Revised Population Projections based on 1991 Census, as of May 15, 1999.

- **65%** of the people aged 65 and older who have some type of disability suffer from at least one from the “**Getting around outside the home**” group.
- The disability group that affects the second largest number of people is the “**Performing housework**” group.

People aged 65 and older

Distribution of disabilities by groups.

People aged 65 and older.

Getting around 11.83%	Learning, applying knowledge and performing tasks 5.59%
Using arms and hands 9.20%	Communicating 2.19%
Getting around outside the home 18.84%	Hearing 5.71%
Caring for oneself 9.45%	Seeing 7.49%
	Relations with other people 4.48%
	Performing housework 25.21%

Note: When a person has more than one disability within the same group, all are counted.

- When the total number of disabilities is considered, the most numerous group is the one relating to “**Performing housework,**” with **25.21%** of the disabilities. The second most important group is the “**Getting around outside the home,**” group, **18.84%**. If this data is compared with the data for the population aged 6 to 64 years, it can be seen that **sensory** disabilities, in other words, those that affect **hearing** and **sight**, as well as those relating to **personal care**, have more relative impact in the population aged 65 and older, with **22.65%**. It can also be seen that for the elderly the weight of the disabilities regarding **relations with other people** decreases.

People aged 65 and older

10. People aged 65 and older with disabilities in activities of daily living, by the maximum degree of severity

Severity	People with disabilities
TOTAL	1,423,962
Moderate disability	425,049
Severe disability	479,870
Total disability	487,843
Unknown	31,199

- Nearly **70%** of elderly people with disabilities have **difficulty** performing activities of daily living. For **68%** of them, **967,713** people, the difficulty is **severe**.
- This percentage is higher than for the group from 6 to 64 years of age, **61%**, although not by a great deal, which indicates that, although in this age group the number of people with problems performing the activities of daily living is much smaller, the **severity** is similar.

The **activities of daily living** taken into consideration are: changing the position of the body; getting up and lying down; getting around inside the home; getting around without a means of transportation; washing oneself; controlling bodily functions; dressing oneself; eating and drinking; shopping, preparing meals, washing and ironing clothes, cleaning and maintaining the home and looking after the welfare of other family members.

In addition to the characteristics of the disabilities that have been tabulated for this publication, there are others that were investigated and whose results will be released in later publications. Some of these are: **evolutionary prognosis of the disability**, which provides information about the chance of recovering the activity; **type of assistance** received, which may be **technical** aids (wheelchairs, hearing aids, lifting devices, etc.) and **personal** aid, which is direct assistance offered by another person in performing the activities (physical assistance, supervision of tasks, sign language interpreters, etc.).

People aged 65 and older**11. People aged 65 and older with disabilities, by autonomous community**

	Total population aged 65 and older	People with disabilities	Rate per 1,000 inhabitants aged 65 and older
TOTAL	6,434,524	2,072,652	322.11
Andalusia	985,946	388,837	394.38
Aragon	240,635	64,548	268.24
Asturias	212,760	63,776	299.75
Balearic Islands	114,364	29,684	259.55
Basque Country	337,296	80,693	239.24
Canary Islands	190,607	51,891	272.24
Cantabria	94,342	29,748	315.32
Castile-Leon	512,714	191,087	372.70
Castile-La Mancha	317,647	107,881	339.62
Catalonia	1,033,387	339,553	328.58
Community of Valencia	625,404	187,954	300.53
Extremadura	188,044	67,189	357.30
Galicia	520,028	168,620	324.25
Madrid (Community of)	751,468	197,804	263.22
Murcia (Region of)	154,500	62,558	404.90
Navarre (Autonomous Comm.)	90,789	26,124	287.75
Rioja (La)	48,441	8,877	183.25
Ceuta and Melilla	16,152	5,831	360.99

Source: Revised Population Projections based on 1991 Census, as of May 15, 1999.

- The autonomous communities with **the largest number of people aged 65 and older with disabilities** are **Andalusia** and **Catalonia**, followed by **Madrid**, **Castile-Leon** and the **Community of Valencia**. However, the **highest rate per thousand inhabitants** is found in Murcia, where it is **26%** higher than the national rate. It is followed by **Andalusia** and **Castile-Leon**, whose rates are higher than the national one by **22%** and **16%**, respectively. **La Rioja** is in the best relative position, with its rate being **43%** lower than the national one.

Other aspects investigated regarding people with disabilities that do not appear in this publication are those relating to their **economic activity** (changes in this activity as a result of the disability, current activity, measures to promote employment, type of contract, etc.); to the **caregivers** for people with disabilities (whether they live in these people's homes or not, if they are relatives, how many hours they devote, etc.); and to **education and educational integration**.

People aged 65 and older**12. People aged 65 and older with disabilities, by type of impairment causing them**

	People with disabilities	Rate per 1,000 inhabitants aged 65 and older
TOTAL	2,072,652	322.11
Mental impairment	227,542	35.36
Developmental delay	0	0.00
Severe mental retardation	1,242	0.19
Moderate mental retardation	2,036	0.32
Mild mental retardation	2,113	0.33
Dementia	127,406	19.80
Other mental disorders	95,599	14.86
Visual impairment	567,961	88.27
Total blindness	33,386	5.19
Poor eyesight	536,191	83.33
Ear and hearing impairment	542,219	84.27
Pre-speech deafness	2,168	0.34
Post-speech deafness	39,705	6.17
Hard of hearing	496,909	77.23
Balance disorders	8,028	1.25
Language, speech and voice impairment	31,733	4.93
Muteness (not due to deafness)	2,591	0.40
Incomprehensible or difficult speech	29,142	4.53
Osteoarticular impairment	757,413	117.71
Head	1,369	0.21
Spinal column	275,753	42.86
Upper limbs	172,419	26.80
Lower limbs	451,766	70.21
Nervous system impairment	168,330	26.16
Paralysis of an upper limb	9,150	1.42
Paralysis of a lower limb	12,717	1.98
Paraplegia	9,003	1.40
Tetraplegia	5,375	0.84
Motor coordination disorders	83,988	13.05
Other disorders of the nervous system	59,431	9.24
Impairment from visceral disorders	208,715	32.44
Respiratory system	39,262	6.10
Cardiovascular system	96,467	14.99
Digestive system	11,388	1.77
Genitourinary system	20,626	3.21
Endocrine/metabolic system	44,969	6.99
Immune and blood-producing system	4,658	0.72
Other types of impairment	474,703	73.77
Skin	1,637	0.25
Multiple impairments	456,786	70.99
Impairments not classified elsewhere	18,178	2.83
Unknown	47,493	7.38

Note: A person may be in more than one impairment category.

Source: Revised Population Projections based on 1991 Census, as of May 15, 1999.

People aged 65 and older

- Of the total number of elderly people who have some type of disability, **2,072,652** of them, or **37%**, have some type of impairment affecting the **joints and bones**. Unlike what was seen in the group aged 6 to 64, in elderly people the most frequent **osteoarticular** impairment is of the **lower limbs**, affecting **451,766** people, **60%** of all of those people with osteoarticular impairments.
- The significance in this age group of **multiple impairments**, directly related to **aging**, is also noteworthy. These impairments hold third place in considering impairments on an individual basis, behind only **poor eyesight** and **poor hearing**.
- **28.60%** of the impairments suffered by the population aged 65 and older affected the **bones** and **joints**. **Sight** and **hearing** impairment accounted for **35.42%** of the total, while the least common were **language, speech** and **voice** impairments.

People aged 65 and older**13. Impairments in people aged 65 and older, by their main causes.**

	Total	Perinatal	Accident
TOTAL	3,151,458	65,091	220,894
Mental impairment	228,396	6,478	4,354
Visual impairment	569,577	18,288	33,371
Ear and hearing impairment	546,810	21,070	25,975
Language, speech and voice impairment	31,733	74	1,626
Osteoarticular impairment	901,307	9,771	138,071
Nervous system impairment	179,664	3,358	10,629
Impairment from visceral disorders	217,370	4,903	2,886
Other types of impairment	476,601	1,149	3,982

Continues...

	Disease	Other causes	Unknown
TOTAL	2,144,474	671,392	49,606
Mental impairment	143,543	40,042	33,978
Visual impairment	417,818	95,762	4,338
Ear and hearing impairment	356,372	136,352	7,041
Language, speech and voice impairment	24,626	4,964	443
Osteoarticular impairment	659,896	93,011	557
Nervous system impairment	141,910	21,243	2,524
Impairment from visceral disorders	190,580	18,780	222
Other types of impairment	209,729	261,238	503

- **68.05%** of the impairments in the population aged 65 and older, or **2,144,474**, are caused by a **common or occupational disease**; **31%** of these impairments are **osteoarticular**, and **36%** **visual** and **hearing**.
- **21.30%** of all impairments, or **671,392**, are due to “**Other causes**,” a heading that implicitly includes **aging** as the cause of the impairments, and which is the second most frequent cause.

People aged 65 and older**14. Impairments in people aged 65 and older, by their main causes.**

	Total	Congenital	Problems during birth	Traffic Accident
TOTAL	3,151,458	61,980	3,111	31,425
Mental impairment	228,396	5,792	686	1,151
Visual impairment	569,577	17,705	583	1,843
Ear and hearing impairment	546,810	21,070	0	2,714
Language, speech and voice impairment	31,733	74	0	246
Osteoarticular impairment	901,307	8,288	1,484	21,576
Nervous system impairment	179,664	3,000	358	3,032
Impairment from visceral disorders	217,370	4,903	0	429
Other types of impairment	476,601	1,149	0	434

	Household accident	Leisure accident	Occupational accident	Another type of accident
TOTAL	61,947	18,270	54,184	55,068
Mental impairment	884	676	579	1,064
Visual impairment	6,210	3,293	12,682	9,343
Ear and hearing impairment	2,623	3,000	6,707	10,932
Language, speech and voice impairment	403	0	732	246
Osteoarticular impairment	46,912	10,444	29,325	29,816
Nervous system impairment	2,638	250	2,185	2,524
Impairment from visceral disorders	872	0	1,110	475
Other types of impairment	1,407	608	864	670

	Common disease	Occupational disease	Other causes	Unknown
TOTAL	2,089,661	54,813	671,392	49,606
Mental impairment	142,960	583	40,042	33,978
Visual impairment	412,184	5,634	95,762	4,338
Ear and hearing impairment	337,328	19,045	136,352	7,041
Language, speech and voice impairment	24,409	217	4,964	443
Osteoarticular impairment	635,666	24,229	93,011	557
Nervous system impairment	141,714	196	21,243	2,524
Impairment from visceral disorders	187,014	3,565	18,780	222
Other types of impairment	208,385	1,343	261,238	503

- In a more detailed study of the cause of the impairment, **common disease** holds first place, with **66%** of the cases.
- Among **accidents**, **household** accidents are the most frequent cause of impairment, with **61,947** cases, although without very pronounced differences between the different types of accidents.
- **63%** of **congenital** impairments affect the **hearing** and **sight**.

Children under the age of 6

The number of children under the age of 6 who have some type of limitation is **49,577**, accounting for **2.24%** of the population in this age group.

Although the definition of disability is valid regardless of the age of the person who suffers from it, for children under the age of 6 it is very difficult to know whether a disability will be **long-term or temporary in nature**; and on the other hand, there are many **limitations inherent to the child's age** (a two-month old baby cannot be considered to have a disability because he/she cannot walk or speak, yet he/she many have some problem that will cause this disability in the future, which may not always be detectable at the time).

Therefore, we have dispensed with the detailed study of disabilities in children, given the difficulty in detecting them. However, possible limitations that can be detected at this age were investigated. Therefore, the term **limitations** is used instead of **disabilities**.

15. Children under the age of 6 with limitations, by type of limitation.

	Children with limitations	Rate per 1,000 inhabitants under the age of 6
TOTAL	49,577	22.44
Sitting, standing or walking	8,531	3.86
Seeing	8,205	3.71
Total blindness	793	0.36
Hearing	5,042	2.28
Total deafness	871	0.39
Moving the arms, weakness or rigidity	5,324	2.41
Walking, weakness or rigidity of the legs	11,644	5.27
Seizures, rigidity of the body, loss of consciousness	4,780	2.16
Doing things the same as other children of the same age	14,224	6.44
Slow or weak child	6,212	2.81
Understanding simple commands (children 2-5 years old)	4,883	2.21
Giving the names of objects (children 2-3 years old)	5,045	2.28
Difficult speech (children 3-5 years old)	13,319	6.03
Other problems requiring special care	22,964	10.39

Note: A child may be in more than one limitation category.

Children under the age of 6

- There are 11,644 children who have **difficulty walking**, or who have **weakness or rigidity of the legs**, weakness being understood as great difficulty in lifting the legs or standing up or crawling, as a result of muscular dystrophy, for example. **Rigidity** is understood to be constant muscular contractions, with serious difficulty in relaxing them.
- The limitation regarding **other problems that require special care**, which encompasses **22,964** children under the age of 6, refers to those limitations that the child has had or that are expected to last **for at least one year**, caused by illnesses or diseases such as mental retardation, infantile cerebral paralysis, sequelae of infectious diseases, congenital metabolic disorders, etc., which are not included in the other headings.

1 Sitting, standing or walking	8 Seizures, rigidity of the body, loss of consciousness
2 Seeing	9 Doing things the same as other children of the same age
3 Total blindness	10 Slow or weak child
4 Hearing	11 Understanding simple commands (children 2-5 years old)
5 Total deafness	12 Giving the names of objects (children 2-3 years old)
6 Moving the arms, weakness or rigidity	13 Difficult speech (children 3-5 years old)
7 Walking, weakness or rigidity of the legs	14 Other problems or diseases

Publication Plan

The data from the survey, both the preliminary data and the final results, will be published on the Internet by INEbase, the National Statistics Institute's on-line database, as soon as it is available.

www.ine.es

INEbase

**NOW AVAILABLE ON THE WEB SITE:
BASIC DATA AND PRELIMINARY RESULTS**

The following types of publication will take place:

- These preliminary results and basic data
- First results
- Descriptive analyses
- General reports
- In-depth reports

In addition, the anonymized microdata files of the final results will be published; these will be governed by certain terms to which users of this format, particularly governments and research teams from other institutions, must agree.

Classification

1. Seeing

- 1.1 Disability in receiving any image
- 1.2 Disability in overall visual tasks
- 1.3 Disability in detailed visual tasks
- 1.4 Other visual disabilities

2. Hearing

- 2.1 Disability in receiving any sound
- 2.2 Disability in hearing loud sounds
- 2.3 Disability in hearing speech

3. Communicating

- 3.1 Communicating through speech
- 3.2 Communicating through alternative languages
- 3.3 Communicating through non-signing gestures
- 3.4 Communicating through conventional reading and writing

4. Learning, applying knowledge and performing tasks

- 4.1 Recognizing people, objects and orienting oneself in space and time
- 4.2 Remembering information and recent and/or past events
- 4.3 Understanding and carrying out simple commands and/or performing simple tasks
- 4.4 Understanding and carrying out complex commands and/or performing complex tasks

5. Getting around

- 5.1 Changing and maintaining different body positions
- 5.2 Getting up, lying down, standing or sitting
- 5.3 Getting around inside the home

6. Using arms and hands

- 6.1 Moving-carrying light objects
- 6.2 Using utensils and tools
- 6.3 Manipulating small objects with hands and fingers

7. Getting around outside the home

- 7.1 Getting around without a means of transportation
- 7.2 Getting around using public transport
- 7.3 Driving one's own vehicle

Classification

8. Caring for oneself

- 8.1 Caring for personal hygiene without assistance: washing oneself and taking care of one's appearance
- 8.2 Controlling bodily functions and using the toilet without assistance
- 8.3 Dressing, undressing, grooming
- 8.4 Eating and drinking

9. Performing housework

- 9.1 Shopping and supervising supplies and services
- 9.2 Preparing meals
- 9.3 Washing and ironing clothes
- 9.4 Cleaning and maintaining the house
- 9.5 Looking after the welfare of other family members

10. Relations with other people

- 10.1 Maintaining affectionate relationships with close family members
- 10.2 Making and keeping friends
- 10.3 Dealing with co-workers, superiors and subordinates

MINISTRY OF LABOR AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS
GENERAL SECRETARIAT OF SOCIAL AFFAIRS
INSTITUTE FOR MIGRATION AND SOCIAL SERVICES

NATIONAL STATISTICS INSTITUTE

ONCE FOUNDATION
For social cooperation and the integration of the handicapped