

## 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
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>49,577</b>	<b>22.44</b>
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.

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- 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