

Disability Facts

#5 in a series of factsheets on the status of persons with disabilities in Nova Scotia

Labour Force Status and Disability

Labour Force Participation Rate (age standardized)¹
Nova Scotia and Canada, 2012

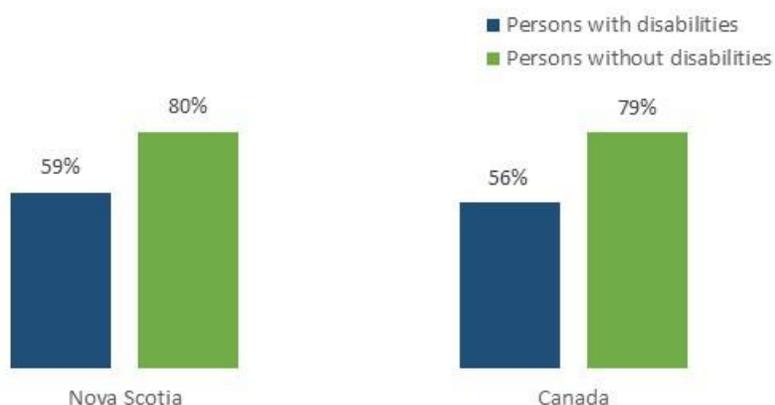


Figure 1

According to the 2012 *Canadian Survey on Disability*, 59% of adults with disabilities are in Nova Scotia's labour force compared to 80% of adults without disabilities. This is similar to the national rate. The labour force includes both persons who are employed and those that are unemployed. See Figure 7 on page 4 for numbers of persons with disabilities who are not in the labour force.

The labour force participation rate of women with disabilities in Nova Scotia was five percentage points lower than that of men with disabilities in 2012. This was also the case for women and men without disabilities. There is a 20 percentage point difference between the participation rates of women and men with disabilities compared to women and men without disabilities.

Labour Force Participation Rate (age standardized)
by Sex ~ Nova Scotia, 2012

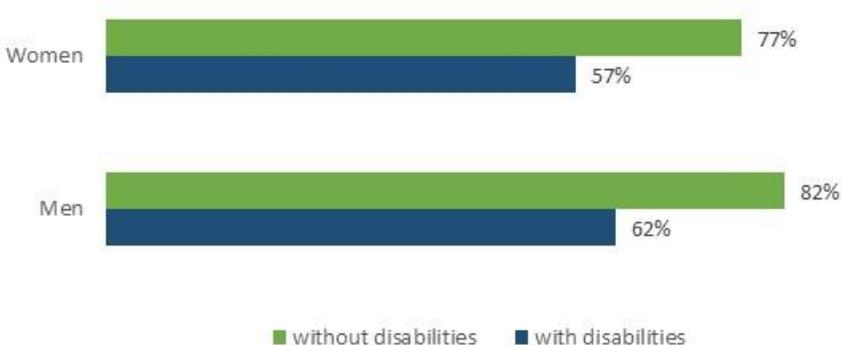
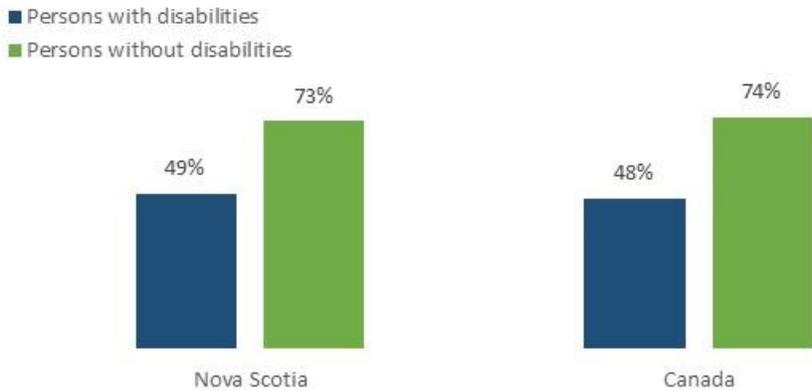


Figure 2

Employment Rate (age standardized)² Nova Scotia and Canada, 2012



In 2012, just under half (49%) of persons with disabilities in Nova Scotia were employed, compared to almost three-quarters (73%) of persons without disabilities. This is similar to the national rate.

Figure 3

Employment Rate (age standardized) by Sex ~ Nova Scotia, 2012

In 2012, 46% of women with disabilities in the province were employed, compared to 54% of men with disabilities.

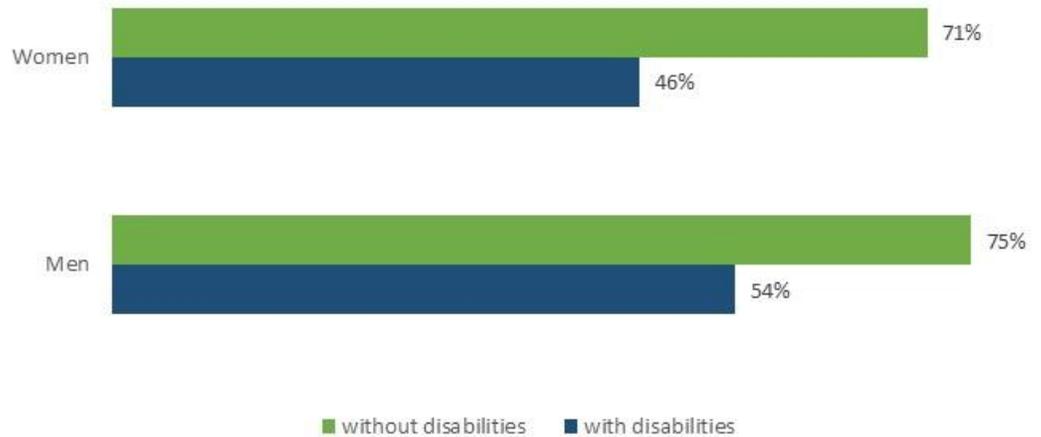


Figure 4

Unemployment Rate (age standardized)³ Nova Scotia and Canada, 2012

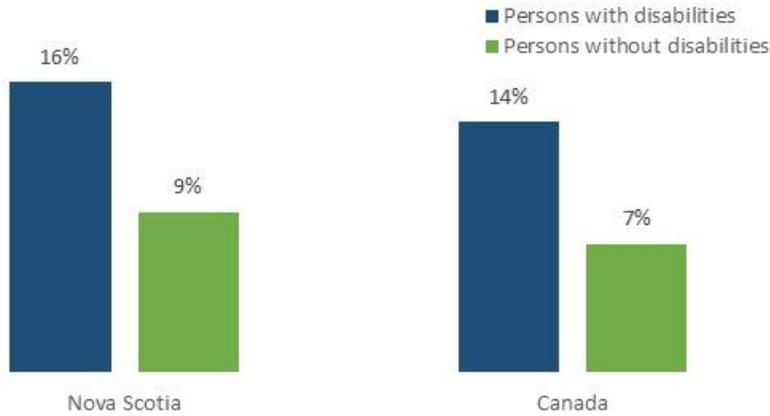


Figure 5

The unemployment rate of persons with disabilities in Nova Scotia was 16% in 2012, almost twice as high as the unemployment rate of persons without disabilities (9%). This is two percentage points higher than the unemployment rate for persons with disabilities nationally.

The unemployment rate of women with disabilities in Nova Scotia (19% or 4,230 women) is substantially higher than the unemployment rate of men with disabilities (13% or 1,990 men). Women with disabilities in Nova Scotia are almost two and a half times more likely to be unemployed than women without disabilities in the province.

Unemployment Rate (age standardized) by Sex ~ Nova Scotia, 2012

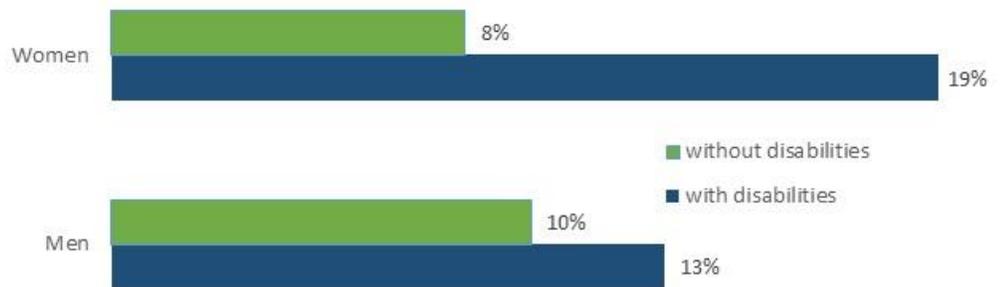


Figure 6

Who is in/not in Nova Scotia's Labour Force, 2012

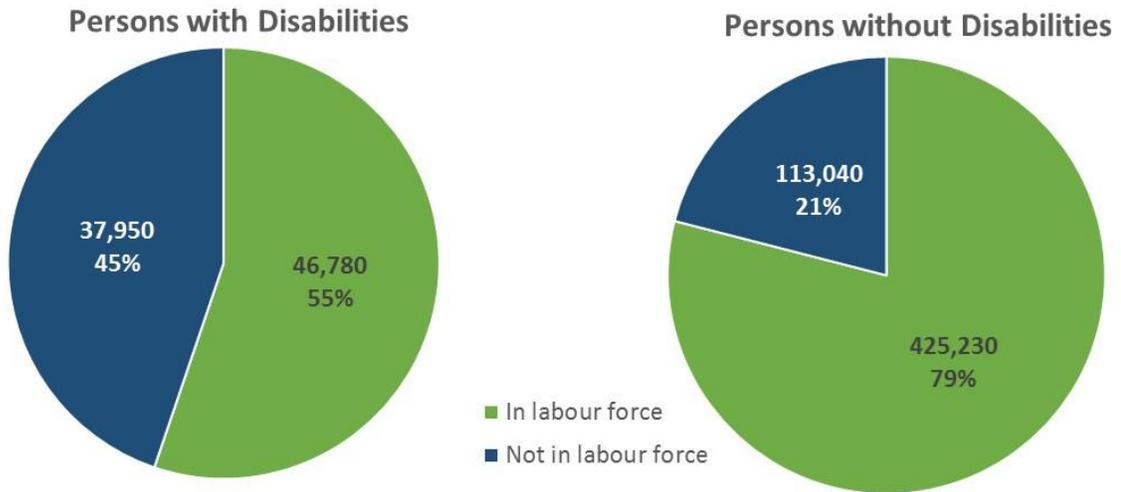


Figure 7

- 38,000 persons with disabilities (approximately 16,000 men and 22,000 women) aren't in Nova Scotia's labour force.
- This works out to 45% of persons with disabilities in the province, compared to 21% of persons without disabilities.

Labour Force Participation Rate (age standardized)
by Severity of Disability - Nova Scotia, 2012

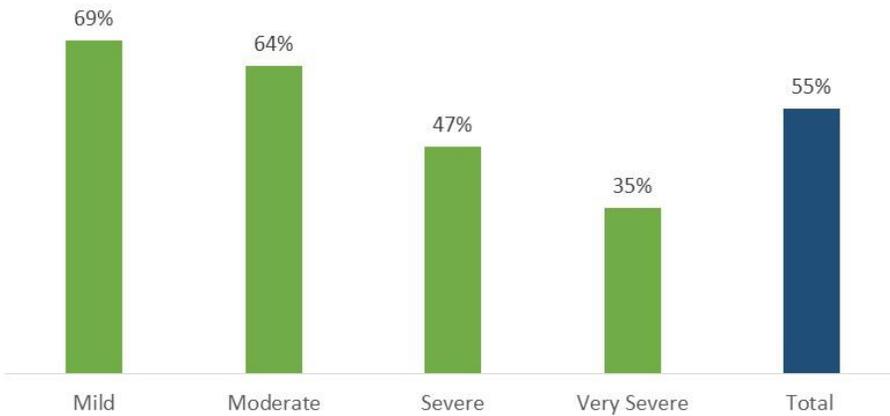


Figure 8

The labour force participation of persons with disabilities varies, depending on the severity of their disability. Overall, 55% of Nova Scotians with disabilities are in the labour force. While close to 70% of persons with **mild** disabilities are in the labour force, less than half (47%) of those with **severe** disabilities and just over one-third (35%) of those living with **very severe** disabilities are in Nova Scotia's labour force.

The likelihood of being employed also decreases as severity of disability increases. While close to two-thirds (64%) of Nova Scotians with **mild** disabilities are employed, only 1 in 4 (26%) Nova Scotians who are living with a **very severe** disability were employed in 2012.

Employment Rate (age standardized)
by Severity of Disability - Nova Scotia, 2012

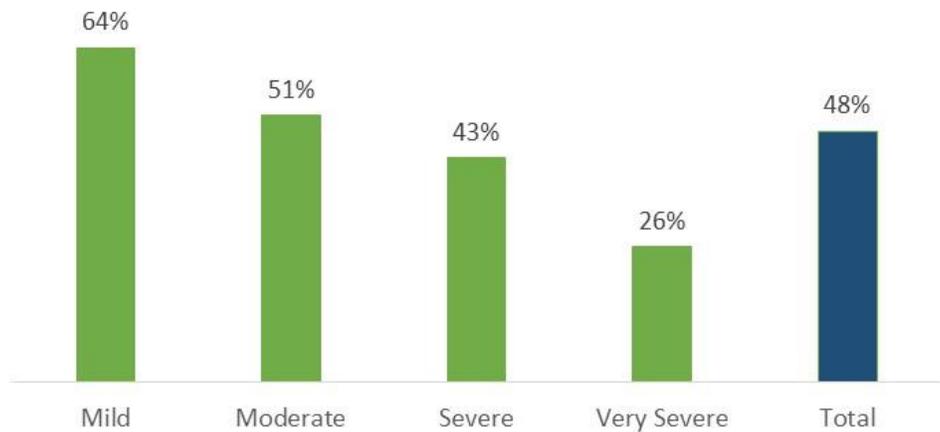


Figure 8

Labour Force Participation Rate (age standardized)
by Type of Disability, Nova Scotia, 2012

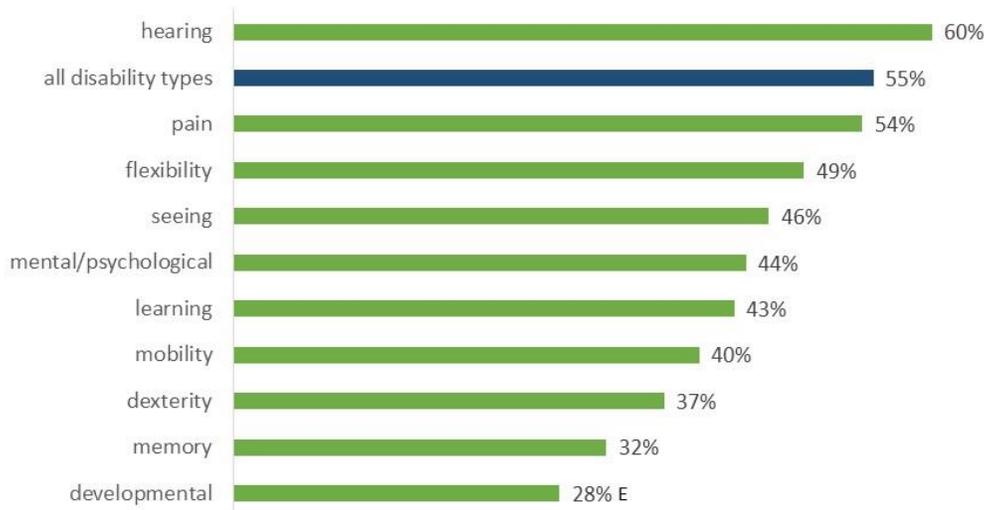


Figure 9

Labour force participation also varies by type of disability. Nova Scotians with hearing disabilities are most likely to be in the labour force at around 60% (or 6 in 10) compared to about 3 in 10 Nova Scotians with developmental or memory disabilities.

Considerable differences also exist in the employment rates of persons with disabilities, depending on the type of disability they have.

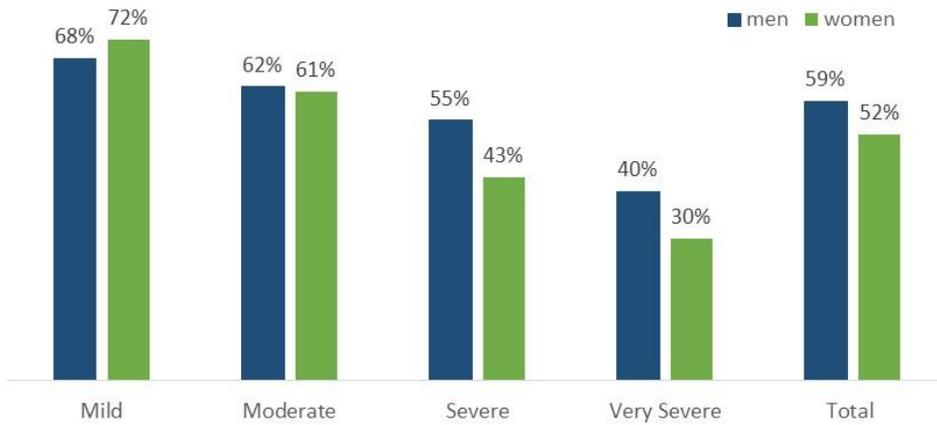
Persons with hearing disabilities were the most likely to be employed, with an employment rate of 53%, while only 1 in 5 (20%) of those with developmental disabilities were employed in 2012.

Employment Rate (age standardized)
by Type of Disability - Nova Scotia, 2012



Figure 10

Labour Force Participation Rate (age standardized)
by Severity of Disability and Sex, Nova Scotia, 2012



The labour force participation rates of men and women with mild and moderate disabilities are very similar, however, women with severe and very severe disabilities are much less likely to be in Nova Scotia's labour force compared to their male counterparts.

Figure 11

Women and men with mild disabilities have employment rates that are virtually the same (64%). While the likelihood of being employed decreases for both women and men as severity of disability increases, the decline is much more noticeable for women. Only 18% of Nova Scotian women with very severe disabilities were employed in 2012 compared to 33% of men with very severe disabilities.

Employment Rate (age standardized)
by Severity of Disability and Sex, Nova Scotia, 2012

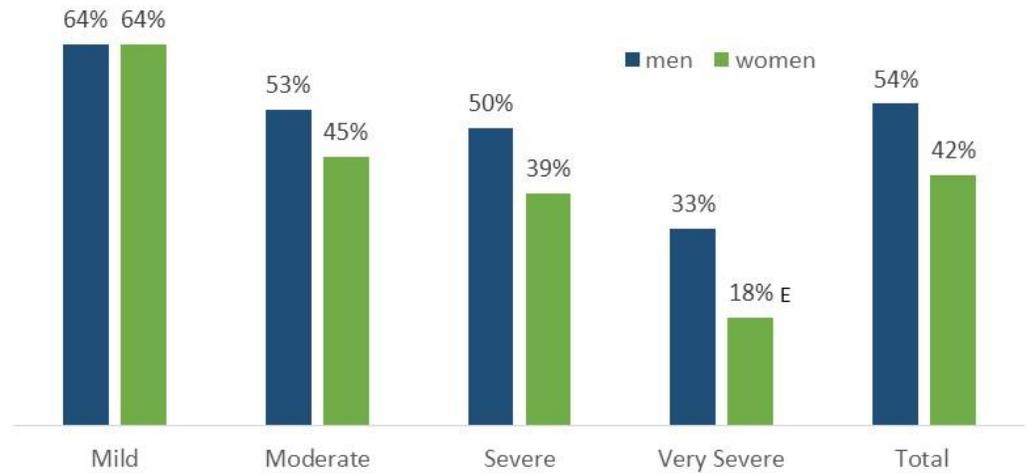
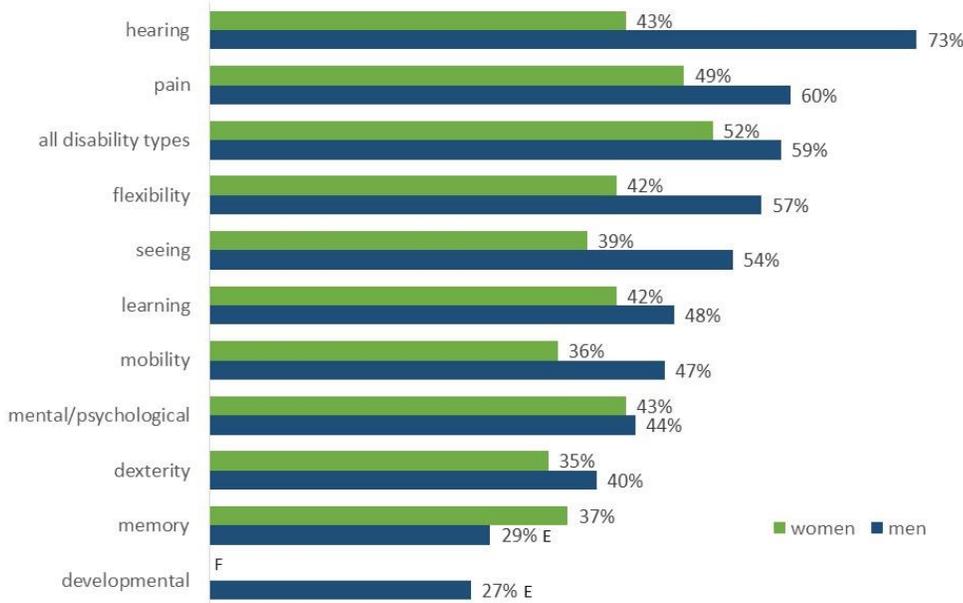


Figure 12

Labour Force Participation Rate (age standardized)
by Disability Type and Sex, Nova Scotia, 2012



The labour force participation rates of women and men with disabilities can vary substantially by type of disability. Men with hearing disabilities, for instance, are much more likely to be in Nova Scotia’s labour force compared to women with hearing disabilities (73% versus 43%).

Figure 13

Employment rates of women and men also vary considerably, depending on the type of disability they have. The employment rate of men with hearing disabilities is more than double that of women with hearing disabilities (69% versus 33%). Men with visual disabilities are also twice as likely as women with visual disabilities to be employed (52% versus 26%).

Employment Rate (age standardized)
by Disability Type and Sex, Nova Scotia, 2012

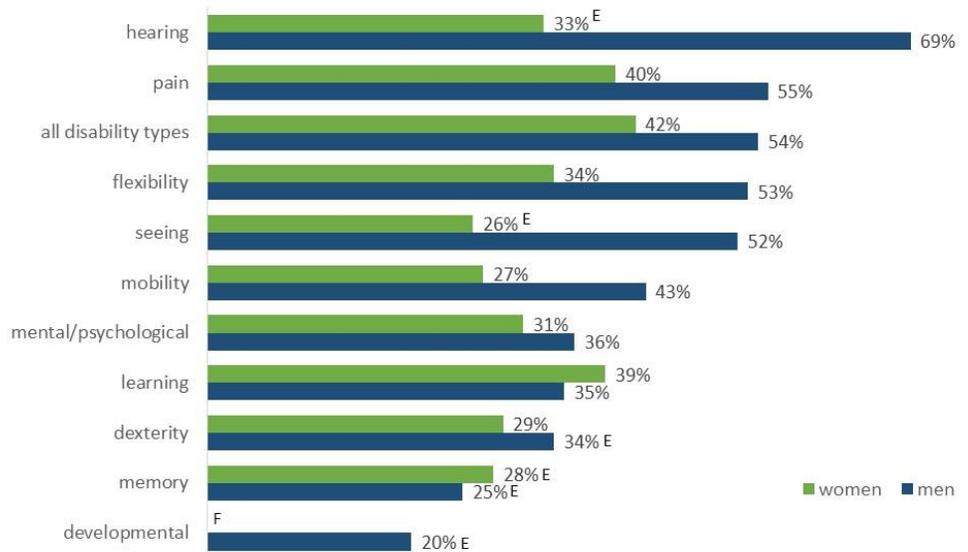


Figure 14

Source of all data in this fact sheet is Statistics Canada, *2012 Canadian Survey on Disability*. All labour force statistics in this fact sheet are based on the working age population, i.e., 15-64 years.

1. The labour force participation rate for a particular group is the total labour force in that group, expressed as a percentage of the total population in that group. Note that the labour force includes both employed and unemployed persons.

When comparing characteristics of populations with different age compositions (for example, persons with disabilities tend to be older than persons without disabilities), using an age standardization method allows for more meaningful comparisons between the populations by adjusting differences in the age distributions. In the *Canadian Survey on Disability* (CSD), age standardization is usually used by adjusting the age distribution in order to match to the age composition of the Canadian population, using the following age groups: ages 15 to 24, 25 to 34, 35 to 44, 45 to 54, and 55 to 64.

2. The employment rate for a particular group is the number of employed persons in that group, expressed as a percentage of the total population in that group.
3. The unemployment rate for a particular group is the unemployed in that group, expressed as a percentage of the labour force in that group.

E = use with caution, coefficients of variation range from 16.6% to 33.3%.

F = figure too unreliable to publish, coefficients of variation greater than 33.3%.

For more information about the *Canadian Survey on Disability* and for disability data tables, please visit Statistics Canada's Internet site at:

<http://www.statcan.gc.ca/pub/89-654-x/89-654-x2014001-eng.htm> or

<http://www.statcan.gc.ca/pub/89-654-x/2013001/tbl-eng.htm>

This and other disability fact sheets can be found on the Disabled Persons Commission website. Go to:

<http://disability.novascotia.ca/content/disability-facts#overlay-context=content/dpc-research-and-statistics>