

Living with Intellectual Disability in New Zealand

Key results on intellectual disability from the
2001 Household Disability Survey and the
2001 Disability Survey of Residential Facilities

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This is information from the:

- 2001 Household Disability Survey; and
- Residential Facilities Disability Survey.

Introduction

Statistics New Zealand did two surveys in New Zealand about people with disability.

1) The Household Disability Survey

Which was about day-to-day living situations and what goes on in the lives of over 7000 adults and children with disabilities.

2) The Disability Survey of Residential Facilities

Which gathered information on over 900 adults with disability living in homes for older people and hospitals.

This is a summary of the information gathered from these surveys about adults and children with intellectual disability.

The information on children with disability was given by their parents or caregivers.

This summary includes the number of people as well as a percentage of people with intellectual disabilities at the end of each bit of information.

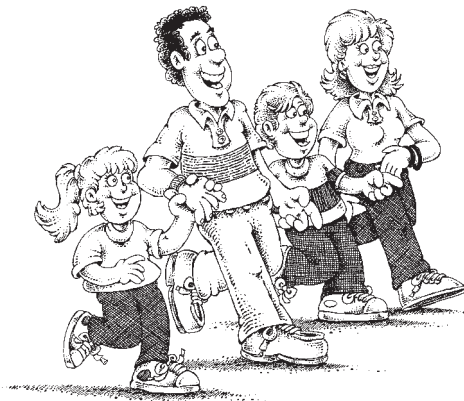
The number of people in this report was estimated from the number of people living in New Zealand.

All interviews were done from June to September 2001.

For these surveys Intellectual Disability was defined as:

- For an adult:
 - 15 years of age and over
 - if the person needed help from organisations like IHC or People First
 - if the person ever attended a special school or got special education because of intellectual disability.

- For a child:
 - 0–14 years of age
 - with any kind of intellectual disability, handicap or developmental delay.



How many people living in households had intellectual disability?

Adults

- 28,900 adults with intellectual disability living in New Zealand households:
 - 14,200 men with intellectual disability
 - 14,700 women with intellectual disability.

This means 1% of adults living in New Zealand households had intellectual disability.

Children

- 13,000 children with intellectual disability living in New Zealand households:
 - 8900 boys with intellectual disability
 - 4100 girls with intellectual disability.

This means 2% of children living in New Zealand households had intellectual disability.



What did the surveys tell us about adults with intellectual disability living in households?

Adults

- 21,000 are European adults (73%)
- 5800 are Māori adults (20%)
- 1400 are Pacific adults (5%)
- 9200 of these adults had intellectual disability from birth (32%)
- 7800 had intellectual disability because of disease or illness (27%)
- 4000 had intellectual disability because of accident or injury (14%)

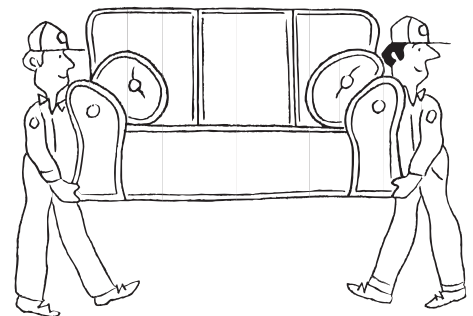
Living situations

- 18,000 adults with intellectual disability lived in one family households (62%)
- 4600 adults with intellectual disability lived in flats or group homes (16%)
- 2900 adults with intellectual disability lived on their own (10%)
- 8300 had a partner or spouse (29%)
- 17,100 had no partner (59%)
- 6600 owned or owned part of the house which they lived in (23%)
- 8900 adults with intellectual disability lived in a rented house (31%)



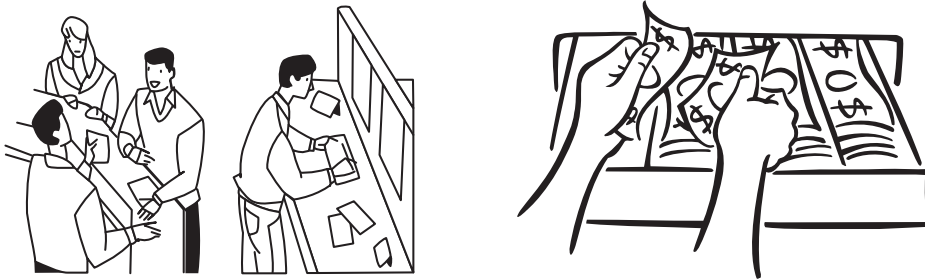
Work

- 25,100 adults with intellectual disability were of a working age 15–64 years
- 10,500 working age adults with intellectual disability were employed (42%)
- 12,800 adults were not in the labour force (51%)
- 3300 employed adults with intellectual disability worked in jobs such as cleaning, delivering messages, packing or moving goods, collecting rubbish and other labouring jobs (32%)



Income and getting help from the Government

- Most adults with intellectual disability were on low personal incomes
- 18,100 adults had incomes of \$15,000 or under per year (63%)
- 4,200 adults had incomes of \$15,000 – \$30,000 per year (14%)
- 7,900 adults with intellectual disability got the Invalids Benefit (27%)
- 7,700 adults with intellectual disability got the Disability Allowance (27%)
- 21,300 adults with intellectual disability had a Community Services Card (74%)



Education and qualifications

- In March 2001 4700 adults with intellectual disability were enrolled in formal education, eg, secondary school, polytech (16%)
- Of the 28,900 adults with intellectual disability:
 - 14,700 had no educational qualification (51%)
 - 5200 had a school qualification (18%)
 - 3300 had a post school qualification (11%)



Needing help for disability

Personal care

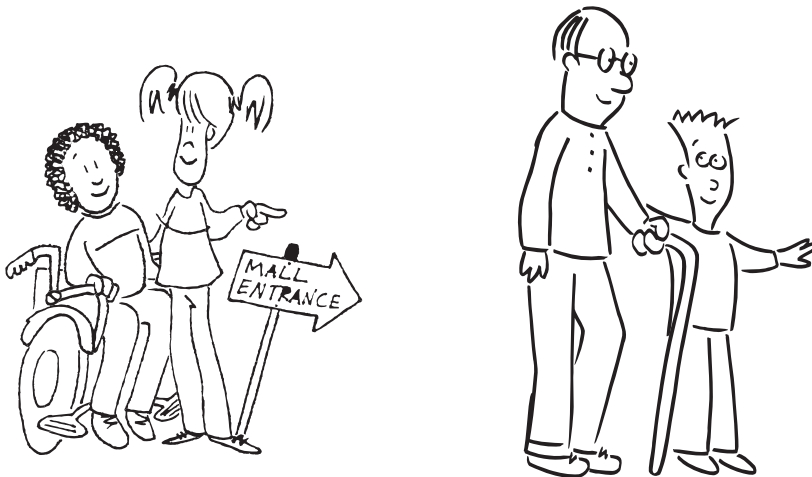
- 7700 adults with intellectual disability got help with personal care (27%)

Respite/carer support

- 4200 adults with intellectual disability had financial help from the Government for their carers to have a break or get respite care (14%)

Needs assessment

- 1,700 adults with intellectual disability had a needs assessment at some time (48%)



Travel and transport

- 10,700 adults with intellectual disability were motor vehicle drivers (41%)
- 19,600 adults with intellectual disability could easily get to a bus stop and railway (75%)
- 6300 adults with intellectual disability had used a public bus service in the last 12 months (35%)
- 7200 adults with intellectual disability had difficulty with short trips by public transport (27%)
- 10,300 adults with intellectual disability used taxis for short trips in the last 12 months (39%)
- 8100 adults with intellectual disability had heard of the total Mobility Scheme (31%)
- 3400 adults with intellectual disability said they needed help with the cost of transport (13%)



Use of health services

- 24,400 adults with intellectual disability had seen their doctor in the last 12 months (84%)
- 11,800 adults with intellectual disability had seen a nurse without seeing the doctor (41%)
- 20,500 adults with intellectual disability had talked to a chemist (71%)
- 9500 adults with intellectual disability had seen a medical specialist (33%)



Use of drugs and medication

- 22,800 adults with intellectual disability had used prescribed/unprescribed drugs or medication in the last 12 months (not necessarily because of their disability) (79%)

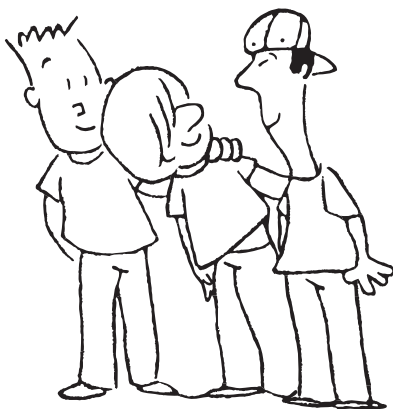


What did the surveys tell us about children?

Children with intellectual disability living in households in New Zealand.

Children

- 8,300 are European children (64%)
- 3,500 are Māori children (27%)
- 600 are Pacific children (5%)
- 7200 of these children had intellectual disability from birth (56%)
- 1700 had intellectual disability because of disease or illness (13%)
- 11,700 children with intellectual disability lived in one family households (90%)
- 4200 children with intellectual disability lived in homes that were rented (32%)



Education

- 5200 children with intellectual disability attended a special school, unit or class at a regular school or received special education services in a regular class (46%)
- 6,000 children with intellectual disability were not attending these types of situations (54%)
- 7000 children with intellectual disability had an individualised programme (54%)
- 8300 children with intellectual disability had had an assessment of educational needs (64%)
- 1200 children with intellectual disability did not always get to enrol in the school of choice (11%)



The impact of disability on school activities and education

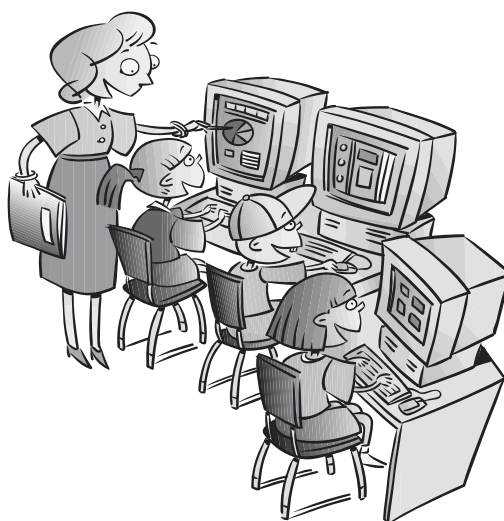
School activities (children aged 5–14)

- For 4000 children with intellectual disability their disability affected their participation in sports/games (38%)
- For 3400 their disability affected their play (33%)
- For 4200 their disability affected their ability to make friends (41%)
- For 2700 their disability affected their participation in school outings and camps (26%)
- For 3500 their disability did not affect these activities (34%)



Education (children aged 5–14)

- 1800 children with intellectual disability started school later because of disability (16%)
- 2800 children had their education interrupted for long periods because of disability (25%)
- 3500 had changed schools (31%)
- 1300 had changed subjects (12%)
- 2100 took fewer subjects at school (18%)
- 1400 needed schooling by correspondence or had home schooling (12%)
- For 3900 their disability did not affect these education activities (35%)
- 9000 children aged 5–14 with intellectual disability either used or needed some type of equipment or support service to help them with their education (80%)
- 6900 children either had or needed a teacher aide (61%)



What financial assistance was provided by the Government to children in New Zealand?

- 6300 children with intellectual disability received the Child Disability Allowance (49%)
- 1600 children with intellectual disability received the Disability Allowance (12%)
- 5300 children with intellectual disability did not get either of the Allowances (41%)
- 9900 children with intellectual disability had a Community Services Card (77%)



How many children with intellectual disability needed help for their disability?

Personal care

- 4300 children with intellectual disability needed help with personal care or household work (33%)
- 1500 children did not get the help with personal care they needed (11%)

Home support

- 1800 children with intellectual disability got home support or money to pay home support (14%)

Respite care/carer support

- 5600 children with intellectual disability needed respite care/carer support (43%)
- 2300 children did not get the respite care/carer support they needed (18%)

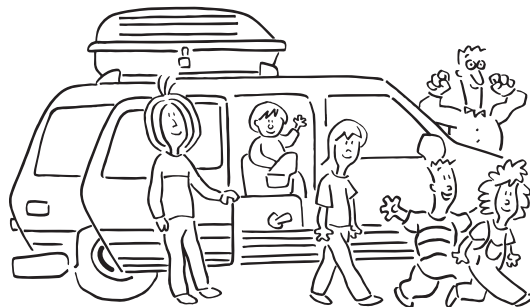
Needs assessment

- 5100 children with intellectual disability had had a needs assessment (39%)



Information on travel and transport

- 5500 children with intellectual disability used public bus services for short trips (67%)
- 1700 children with intellectual disability who had not used public transport in the previous year would have difficulty doing so (33%)
- 4000 children with intellectual disability had used taxis for short trips (33%)
- 3000 parents/caregivers had heard about the Total Mobility Scheme (24%)
- Parents/caregivers of 2000 children with intellectual disability needed financial assistance for their child's transport and had not been able to get it (17%)



Use of health services

- 11,200 children with intellectual disability had seen their doctor in the last 12 months (86%)
- 8600 had consulted a chemist (66%)
- 7500 had consulted a medical specialist (58%)
- 4400 had seen a nurse without seeing a doctor (34%)



Use of medication or drugs

- 4900 children with intellectual disability took prescribed medication every day (not necessarily disability related) (38%).



What did the surveys tell us about adults with intellectual disability living in residential facilities?

Residential facilities include homes for older people, hospitals and intellectual disability units.

The number of adults living in residential facilities in New Zealand with intellectual disability

The survey only looked at adults in residential facilities not children.

- 3500 of the 32,400 adults with intellectual disabilities in New Zealand lived in residential facilities (12%). The 3500 included 1400 men and 2100 women
- 800 of the 3500 adults had intellectual disability as their main disability. Almost all of these 800 people were severely disabled (98%)
- 1300 adults with intellectual disability living in residential facilities had an intellectual disability caused by disease or illness (37%)
- 700 adults with intellectual disability living in residential facilities had an intellectual disability from birth (21%)

Adults with intellectual disability were generally younger than other adults living in residential facilities. 800 adults with intellectual disability living in residential facilities were aged 64 years or under (22%).

