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Canadian Centre for Justice
Statistics Profile Series



Canadians with Disabilities

This paper is one in a series of ten profiles funded through the federal Policy Research Initiative. The objective of these profiles is to provide data analysis on the experience of various groups as victims and offenders* in the criminal justice system.

The profiles are based on Statistics Canada sources and include a mix of demographic, economic and justice data as well as information specific to each group.

Other profiles in this series include:

- Aboriginal People in Canada
- Children and Youth in Canada
- Immigrants in Canada
- Canadians with Low Incomes
- Canadians with Literacy Problems**
- Religious Groups in Canada
- Seniors in Canada
- Visible Minorities in Canada
- Women in Canada

* Data on offenders is only available for the following: Aboriginal People, Children and Youth, Seniors, and Women.

** The literacy profile does not include a criminal justice component.

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Canadians with Disabilities

Socio-Demographic Characteristics of Canadians with Disabilities¹

The population with disabilities

Persons with disabilities (see Box 1) make up a substantial proportion of the Canadian population. In 1991, there were an estimated 4.2 million Canadians with disabilities, representing 16% of the total population.

Box 1: The population with disabilities

The data in this section of the report are taken from the 1991 Health and Activity Limitation Survey. Persons were considered to have a disability if they experienced any restriction or lack of ability, resulting from an impairment, to perform an activity in the manner or within the range considered normal for an able-bodied person. Those that have a technical aid that completely eliminates the limitation are not considered to have a disability.

Not surprisingly, disabilities are most common among seniors. In 1991, 46% of all persons aged 65 and over had disabilities, compared with 27% of people aged 55-64, 14% of those aged 35-54, 8% of those aged 15-34, and 7% of children under age 15. The proportion of seniors with disabilities also increases with age. That year, 84% of people aged 85 and over had disabilities, while the figures were 57% for those aged 75-84 and 37% among 65-74-year-olds. As well, among seniors, women are more likely than men to have disabilities, especially at older age ranges. That year, for example, 86% of women aged 85 years and over had disabilities, compared with 80% of men in this age range.

Nature of disabilities

Mobility and/or agility disabilities are the most commonly reported disabilities. In 1991, 59% of all persons with disabilities aged 15 and over reported a mobility disability; that is, they were limited in the ability to walk, move from room to room, carry an object a short distance, or stand for long periods. At the same time, 54% were limited in the ability to bend, dress or undress, get in or out of bed, grasp or handle objects, or reach or cut food; 30% were limited in the ability to hear what was being said in a normal conversation even when wearing a hearing aid; 14% were limited in the ability to see properly even when wearing corrective glasses; 7% had a speaking disability, while 30% reported other conditions, including limitation because of a learning disability, mental health condition, mental handicap, or because of labelling by others.

Severity of disability

The largest share of adults with disabilities have a mild disability, although a substantial proportion have severe disabilities. In 1991, 47% of all persons aged 15 and over with disabilities were considered to have a mild disability, while 32% had a moderate disability and 22% had a severe disability. That year, 817,300 Canadians aged 15 and over, 4% of the total population in that age range, had disabilities that were considered severe.

Older persons with disabilities are more likely than their younger counterparts to have severe disabilities. In 1991, 32% of persons with disabilities aged 65 and over had severe disabilities, compared with 20% of those aged 55-64, 15% of those aged 35-54 and 9% of individuals aged 15-34. In fact, people aged 65 and over made up almost 60% of all Canadians aged 15 and over with severe disabilities.

Provincial differences

There is considerable variation in the prevalence of disabilities among the provinces. In 1991, more than one in five Nova Scotia residents (21%) had a disability, the largest proportion in any province. Disability rates were also relatively high in Saskatchewan, where 19% of the population had disability, as did 18% of residents of both New Brunswick and Manitoba, 17% of those in each of Alberta, Prince Edward Island and British Columbia, and 16% in Ontario. In contrast, just 12% of Quebec residents and only 10% of those in Newfoundland had disabilities.

Most live in households

The vast majority of persons with disabilities live at home in a private household. In 1991, 93% of all persons aged 15 and over with disabilities lived in households. Of those living in households, 69% were members of a family: 56% were husbands, wives, or common-law partners, 5% were lone

¹ This profile provides descriptive socio-demographic and criminal justice characteristics associated with Canadians with disabilities. It does not however, account for the possibility that some additional factors, such as age, sex, Aboriginal status and low income status may also be correlated with disability. For more information on these additional factors, please refer to the other profiles in this series.

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parents, and 8% were dependent children. At the same time, though, 27% of all persons aged 15 and over with disabilities who lived in a private household, almost a million people in total, were not part of a family. The remaining 4% did not state their family situation.²

Among those living in private households, seniors with disabilities are more likely than their younger counterparts not to be part of a family. In 1991, 41% of persons aged 65 and over with disabilities were not in a family, compared with 20% of those aged 15-64. The proportion of seniors with disabilities not in a family (41%), however, was about the same as that for seniors without disabilities (39%). As well, among seniors with disabilities, women were considerably more likely than men not to live in a family (53% versus 24%).

Many in institutions

While most Canadians with disabilities live at home, a substantial number live in a health-related institution. In 1991, 262,200 people with disabilities, 7% of the total, were living in an institution.

Seniors with disabilities are more likely than their younger counterparts to live in a health-related institution. In 1991, 15% of persons aged 65 and over with disabilities were residing in health-related institutions, compared with only about 2% of persons with disabilities aged 15-64. As a result, seniors made up over 80% of all adults with disabilities living in a health-related institution in 1991.

Older seniors with disabilities are especially likely to be living in health-related institutions. In 1991, 46% of individuals aged 85 and older with disabilities lived in institutions, compared with 16% of those aged 75-84 and 5% of those aged 65-74. And among seniors in the very oldest age groups, women are considerably more likely than their male counterparts to be living in a health-related institution. In 1991, 50% of women aged 85 and older with disabilities, versus 37%

of men in this age range with disabilities, were living in one of these institutions.

Not surprisingly, those with severe disabilities are more likely to live in a health-related institution than those with either mild or moderate disabilities. In 1991, 22% of all persons aged 15 and over with severe disabilities were living in institutions, compared with 4% of those with moderate disabilities and 2% of those with mild disabilities.

Transportation difficulties

Most persons with disabilities are able to get around their local communities without assistance. Almost one in five, however, is either housebound or requires assistance travelling short distances. In 1991, 6% of all persons aged 15 and over with disabilities living in a private household, a total of just over 222,000 people were housebound. Another 13% needed an attendant or companion to help with short-distance trips.

Persons with disabilities generally have more difficulty making long-distance trips than they have travelling within their local communities. In 1991, 18% of all persons aged 15 and over with disabilities reported they were unable to travel long distances because of their condition. Another 14% required an attendant or companion to make such a trip. On the other hand, only 2% reported that they required specialized services or facilities in order to make long-distance trips.

Employment

A substantial proportion of the population under age 55 with disabilities is employed. In 1991, 65% of men aged 35-54 with disabilities and 58% of those aged 15-34 were part of the paid work force, as were around 50% of women with disabilities in both these age ranges. In contrast, among those aged 55-64 with disabilities, only 39% of men and just 17% of women were part of the paid work force in 1991.

In all age groups, however, the proportion of persons with disabilities with jobs is well below the figure for those without disabilities. In 1991, both men and women aged 55-64 with disabilities were only about half as likely as those in this age range without disabilities to be employed. There were also large differences between the employment levels of men and women with and without disabilities between the ages of 15 and 54. Among men aged 35-54, for example, just 65% of those with disabilities were employed that year, compared with 90% of their counterparts without disabilities.

Provincial variations in employment

As with the overall population, persons with disabilities living in the Western provinces or Ontario are more likely than those in Quebec or the Atlantic region to be employed. In 1991, 58% of persons aged 15-64 with disabilities living in Saskatchewan and Alberta were employed, as were 53% of those in British Columbia, 52% of those in Manitoba, and 49% of those in Ontario. In comparison, the figure was only around 40% in each of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and Quebec, and just 27% in Newfoundland. Prince Edward Island, where 51% of persons with disabilities were employed in 1991, was the exception to this pattern. In all provinces, however, persons with disabilities were considerably less likely than those without disabilities to be employed.

Persons with mild disabilities are more likely than those with moderate or severe disabilities to be employed. In 1991, 62% of those aged 15-64 with mild disabilities were part of the paid work force, compared with 37% of those with moderate disabilities and 19% of those with severe disabilities.

² That year, they lived either with non-relatives or on their own. Family status data only apply to people living in private households, not those in institutions or other collective dwellings.

Unemployment rates higher

The unemployment rate of persons with disabilities is higher than that for the population without disabilities. In 1991, 14% of labour force participants aged 15-64 with disabilities were unemployed,³ compared with 10% of those without disabilities.

As with the population without disabilities, young adults with disabilities tend to experience higher rates of unemployment than their older counterparts. In 1991, 19% of male labour force participants between the ages of 15 and 34 with disabilities and 18% of their female counterparts were unemployed. Women aged 55-64 with disabilities also had an unemployment rate of 18%, whereas the figure was 14% for women aged 35-54 with disabilities and about 10% for men aged both 35-54 and 55-64 with disabilities. At all ages, persons with disabilities are more likely than those without disabilities to be unemployed.

Unemployment among persons with disabilities is generally higher in the Atlantic provinces and Quebec than in the rest of the country. In fact, in 1991, 32% of all labour force participants aged 15-64 with disabilities in Newfoundland were unemployed, while the figure was 21% in New Brunswick, 18% in Prince Edward Island and Nova Scotia, and 17% in Quebec. In contrast, the unemployment rate for persons with disabilities was 11% in Saskatchewan, 12% in Ontario, 13% in Alberta, and 14% in Manitoba. British Columbia, where 18% of labour force participants with disabilities were unemployed, was the exception to this pattern. The unemployment rate for people with disabilities, though, is higher than that for people without disabilities in all provinces. This difference ranged from almost eight percentage points in British Columbia to just three in Newfoundland.

People with severe disabilities experience higher unemployment rates than those with either mild or moderate disabilities. In 1991,

28% of labour force participants aged 15-64 with severe disabilities were unemployed, compared with 16% of those with moderate disabilities and 12% of those with mild disabilities. Persons with severe disabilities were also considerably more likely than those with either mild or moderate disabilities to be unemployed in all age groups.

Over half unable to work

Many non-labour force participants with disabilities are not in the labour force because their condition either limits their capacity to work in some way or completely prevents them from working. In fact, almost 60% of persons aged 15-64 with disabilities who did not participate in the labour force in 1991 were completely prevented from working by their condition, while 20% stated that they were limited in the amount or kind of work they could do.

Persons with severe disabilities are more likely than those with mild or moderate disabilities to be unable to work because of their disabilities. In 1991, 86% of non-labour force participants aged 15-64 with severe disabilities, compared with 66% of those with moderate disabilities and 35% of those with mild disabilities, were completely prevented from working because of their condition.

A number of persons with disabilities who are not in the labour force experience barriers, other than their condition, that prevent them from joining the work force. Overall, 20% of non-labour force participants aged 15-64 with disabilities were not in the labour force in 1991 because they would lose some or their entire current source of income if they were employed. Another 15% felt that their present training was not adequate for finding work; 14% thought that no suitable jobs were available; and 12% stood to lose some, or all, additional supports.

Many persons with disabilities report experiencing discrimination in the workplace. In 1991, 8% of all persons aged 15-64 with

disabilities reported that they had been refused employment within the last five years; 6% had been dismissed from their job; 4% had been refused a promotion; and 2% had been denied access to training courses because of their condition.

Employed persons with severe disabilities are more likely than those with mild or moderate disabilities to report workplace discrimination because of their condition. In 1991, 19% of employed persons aged 15-64 with severe disabilities reported that they had been refused employment due to their disability within the last five years. This compared with 10% of those with moderate disabilities and 4% of those with mild disabilities. Employed persons with either severe or moderate disabilities were also more likely than those with mild disabilities to have been denied promotions, been dismissed from their job, or been refused access to training because of their condition.

Average income

The average income of persons with disabilities is below that of people without disabilities in all age groups. In 1990, the average income of men aged 55-64 with disabilities was only 60% that of their counterparts without disabilities, while the figure was around 70% for men and women aged 35-54, and around 80% for men and women aged 15-34 and men aged 65 and over.

Persons with severe disabilities tend to have lower incomes than those with mild or moderate disabilities. Among men aged 35-54 with disabilities, those with severe disabilities had an average income of \$21,225 in 1990, compared with \$25,270 for those with moderate disabilities and \$35,385 for those with mild disabilities. There were similar differences among men in other age groups, as well as among women with disabilities in all age brackets.

³ *The unemployed include those who are not working for pay or profit, but who are looking for employment.*

The incomes of persons with disabilities vary considerably across the country. In 1990, the average income of persons aged 15-64 with disabilities with income ranged from almost \$23,000 in both Ontario and British Columbia to just \$12,715 in Newfoundland. Among seniors with disabilities, the figure ranged from \$20,410 in Alberta to \$11,290 in Newfoundland. The incomes of persons with disabilities, though, were below those of persons without disabilities in all provinces in 1990. This was true for both the working-age population and seniors.

Disability-related income

Many persons with disabilities receive income which is related to their condition, such as social assistance and Canada/Quebec Pension Plan disability benefits. In 1990, 30% of persons aged 15-64 with disabilities, and 13% of those aged 65 and over with disabilities, received disability-related income from at least one source.

There is considerable variation in the proportions of persons with disabilities receiving disability-related income in different provinces. In 1990, 36% of persons aged 15-64 with disabilities living in Quebec and New Brunswick had income which was related to their condition, while the figure was 32% in Newfoundland and Ontario, 30% in Prince Edward Island, and 28% in Nova Scotia. In contrast, less than a quarter of those in the four Western provinces received disability-related income. Similarly, seniors with disabilities living in Ontario, Quebec, and the Atlantic provinces were more likely than their counterparts in the Western provinces to have disability-related income, with figures ranging from 20% in Prince Edward Island to 7% in Saskatchewan.

Non-reimbursed disability-related expenses

Many persons with disabilities report having disability-related expenses which are not reimbursed. In 1990, 36% of persons aged 65 and over with disabilities and 33% of those aged 15-64 made such

expenditures. Purchases of prescription and non-prescription drugs were the primary type of non-reimbursed expenditures made by persons with disabilities.

Canadians with Disabilities and the Criminal Justice System

Canadians with disabilities slightly less likely to be victimized

According to the 1999 General Social Survey (GSS) (see Box 2), 24% of persons with disabilities were victimized one or more times,⁴ which was slightly less than the figure of 28% for those who did not have a disability. Women with disabilities were as likely as men with disabilities to be victimized.

Among those who were victimized, persons with disabilities were as likely to experience multiple victimizations (three or more times) compared to those without disabilities (6% and 5%).

Persons with disabilities have lower rate of theft of personal property, higher rate of violent crime

In 1999, the overall rate of personal victimization (see Box 3) was 222 per 1,000 population for persons with disabilities, which was higher than the 185 incidents per 1,000 population for those without a

⁴ This section includes personal and household victimization as well as incidents of spousal violence that occurred in the 12 months preceding the survey.

Box 2: The General Social Survey

Statistics Canada, as part of the General Social Survey Program, conducts a survey on criminal victimization every 5 years. The most recent survey was conducted in 1999, and involved telephone interviews with approximately 26,000 people, aged 15 and older, living in the 10 Canadian provinces. Similar to previous surveys, all respondents were asked about their experiences with criminal victimization, and their opinions on a variety of justice related topics including their fear of crime, and their perceptions about the performance of the police, criminal courts, prison and parole systems.

It is important to note that the GSS data are estimates. They are based on information collected from a sample of the population and are therefore subject to sampling error. The GSS analysis uses the coefficient of variation (CV) as a measure of the sampling error. Any estimate with a CV of more than 33.3% is considered unreliable and is not published. When the CV of the estimate is between 16.6% and 33.3%, the symbol '†' is used. These estimates should be used with caution.

Identifying persons with disabilities in the General Social Survey

The reader is cautioned that disability is defined differently in this section of the report. In the 1999 General Social Survey (GSS), respondents were asked two questions which were designed to identify persons with disabilities in Canada. The first question, "Do you have any difficulty hearing, seeing, communicating, walking, climbing stairs, bending, learning, or doing any similar activities?" focuses on activities of daily living. The second question, "Does a long-term physical or mental condition or health problem reduce the amount or the kind of activity that you can do at home, at school, at work, or in other activities" is more general in scope. In order to examine the experiences of the disabled population in Canada, persons who responded "sometimes" or "often" to either question were considered to have some form of disability or activity limitation. Those who answered "never" to both questions were taken to have no form of disability. Those who "refused" both questions or responded "never" to the first question and "refused" to the second question or vice versa were coded as refused.

Box 3: Offence types

The 1999 GSS measured the incidence of personal and household victimization looking at eight offence types, based on the *Criminal Code* definitions for these crimes. Detailed analysis of Canadians with disabilities only takes into account the four personal offences since for personal crimes, it is an individual who is victimized. For household crimes, it is all members of the household who are victimized. Rates of personal offences are calculated per 1,000 persons aged 15 and older.

Crime category	Offence	Description
Personal crimes	Violent crimes	
	Sexual assault	Forced sexual activity, an attempt at forced sexual activity, or unwanted sexual touching, grabbing, kissing or fondling.
	Robbery	Theft or attempted theft in which the perpetrator had a weapon or there was violence or the threat of violence against the victim.
	Assault	An attack (victim hit, slapped, grabbed, knocked down, or beaten), a face-to-face threat of physical harm, or an incident with a weapon present.
	Theft of personal property	Theft or attempted theft of personal property such as money, credit cards, clothing, jewellery, a purse or a wallet. (Unlike robbery, the perpetrator does not confront the victim.)

disability. While persons with disabilities were equally as likely to have something stolen from them compared to those without a disability (75 and 79 per 1,000), they were more likely to be victims of a violent crime (147 versus 105 per 1,000) (see Figure 1).

Persons with disabilities equally likely to report victimization incidents to the police^{5,6}

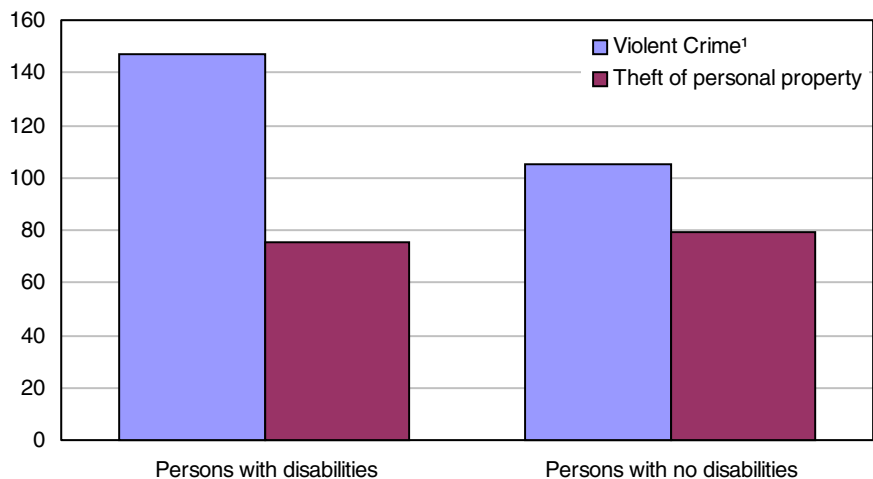
According to the 1999 GSS, persons with disabilities and those without disabilities were equally likely to report victimization incidents to the police (20% and 22% respectively).

Both those with disabilities and those without disabilities failed to report 64% of incidents to police. When asked about the main reason why they did not report the incident, persons with disabilities were equally likely to indicate that the incident “was not important enough” (24%) and that the incident “was dealt with another way” (23%). The main reason given by those without disabilities was that the incident “was not important enough” (34%).

Figure 1

Persons with disabilities have lower rate of theft of personal property, higher rate of violent crime

Rate per 1,000 population



¹ Includes sexual assault, assault and robbery

Source: Statistics Canada, General Social Survey, 1999.

Women and men with disabilities were equally likely to indicate that the main reason they did not report was because the incident “was not important enough” and that it “was dealt with another way”. However, men with disabilities were more likely than women with disabilities were to indicate that the incident “was dealt with another way”.

⁵ The following sections exclude incidents of spousal violence because information on each incident is not available.

⁶ Reporting to the police includes those incidents that were reported by the victim only.

Consequences of being victimized are similar for those with disabilities and those with no disabilities

Being the victim of a crime may cause different reactions. Persons with disabilities and those without disabilities were quite similar in terms of their reactions to the incident. In 39% of incidents, those with disabilities indicated that they were “angry”. In a large proportion of incidents, those with disabilities also indicated that they were “upset, frustrated, and confused” (29%), “fearful” (17%) and “more cautious/more aware”(12%).

Persons with disabilities more likely to have difficulty carrying out their main activity

Respondents were asked specific details about the impact of violent crime incidents committed against them such as: whether they were injured, whether they had difficulty carrying out their main activity, and whether they discussed the incident with anyone.

Although persons with disabilities were as likely as those without disabilities to be injured, they were more likely to indicate that it was difficult to carry out their main activity as a result of the incident. In 35% of incidents, persons with disabilities indicated that it was difficult to carry out their main activity for all or most of the day compared to 20% of incidents for those without disabilities.

There are a variety of outlets that victims rely on to help deal with the consequences of crime. People may look to family, friends, neighbours, or co-workers for support. Both those with disabilities and those without disabilities chose a friend or neighbour in over 70% of incidents, followed by family in over 60% of incidents. While discussing the incident with a co-worker was less prevalent, both persons with disabilities and those without disabilities discussed the incident with a co-worker in over 40% of incidents.

Those with a disability more likely to believe neighbourhood crime has increased

The environment in which people live greatly contributes to their perceptions of crime. The majority of persons regardless of whether they had a disability felt that crime in their neighbourhood had remained stable over the past 5 years and that crime in their neighbourhood was lower compared to other areas in Canada. However, persons with disabilities were more likely than those without disabilities to indicate that crime in their neighbourhood had increased over the past 5 years (34% versus 28%) and that crime was higher in their neighbourhood compared to other areas in Canada (9% versus 7%).

Persons with disabilities have higher levels of fear

When asked about their general level of personal safety, the majority of persons with disabilities were somewhat or very satisfied with their safety (88%) (see Table 1), however they were more likely than those without a disability to report feeling somewhat or very dissatisfied with their safety (9% versus 6%).

Similarly, when asked about fear in certain situations, persons with disabilities were more fearful than were those without disabilities. While nearly 4 in 10 persons with disabilities reported that they did not walk alone in their area at night, of those who did, 86% reported that they felt somewhat or very safe. However, approximately 14% reported feeling somewhat or very unsafe compared to 10% of those without disabilities.

Approximately 80% of persons with disabilities reported that they did not use public transportation, yet of those who did, one-half indicated that they were not at all worried. Persons with disabilities were more likely to indicate that they were very or somewhat worried compared to those without disabilities (51% versus 44%).

Being home alone in the evening may be a frightening experience for some people. Although the majority of people indicated that they were not at all worried when home alone in the evening, the likelihood of feeling somewhat or very worried was higher among persons with disabilities. One quarter of those with disabilities indicated feeling somewhat or very worried while home alone compared to 19% of those without disabilities.

Research has consistently shown that women are more fearful than men.⁷ Consistent with this research, women with disabilities were more likely to be dissatisfied with their safety (11% versus 6%), more likely to report feeling very or somewhat fearful while walking alone at night (22% versus 8%) and more likely to report feeling very or somewhat worried when home alone (33% versus 15%) compared to their male counterparts.

Men with disabilities were slightly more likely to report feeling somewhat or very dissatisfied with their safety compared to men without disabilities (6% versus 4%). However, when asked about certain situations, men with disabilities were as fearful as those without disabilities. Women with disabilities were more likely to report feeling somewhat or very dissatisfied with their safety compared to women without disabilities (11% versus 7%). They were also more likely to feel fearful while walking alone at night (22% versus 17%) and while home alone (33% versus 28%) compared to women without disabilities.

Satisfaction with the criminal justice system

Overall, persons with disabilities had a favourable view of the police when asked about several aspects of their performance. Over 60% of the respondents felt that the police

⁷ See Besserer and Trainor (2000), Sacco (1995)

were doing a good job of enforcing the law, being approachable, and ensuring the safety of area citizens (see Table 2). Furthermore, approximately 50% of persons with disabilities felt the police were doing a good job of responding promptly to calls and of providing information on reducing crime.

Persons with disabilities were slightly more likely than those without a disability to rate the police poorly with the following: enforcing the laws, responding promptly to calls, and being approachable and easy to talk to. Men with disabilities were more likely to rate police performance poorly than were women with disabilities.

In 1999, one fifth of persons with disabilities or less expressed the belief that the criminal courts were doing a good job at: determining whether an accused was guilty, providing justice quickly, and helping the victim. Those with

disabilities were more likely to rate the courts poorly than those who did not have a disability. Of those who rated the courts poorly, men with disabilities were more likely than their female counterparts to rate the criminal courts as doing a poor job of providing justice quickly (51% versus 45%) and helping the victim (42% versus 38%).

When asked about the performance of the prison system, less than one quarter of persons with disabilities rated the prison system positively. Persons with disabilities were more likely than those who did not have a disability to view the prison system as doing a poor job of supervising prisoners (25% versus 19%) and men and women with disabilities were equally likely to view the prison system as doing a poor job.

With regards to the performance of the parole system, slightly more than 1 in 10 persons with disabilities believed the parole system was

doing a good job. Those with a disability were more likely than those without a disability to view the parole system as doing a poor job of releasing offenders that will not re-offend (37% versus 32%) and of supervising parolees (36% versus 32%). Furthermore, men and women with disabilities were equally likely to view the parole system negatively.

References

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Table 1

Feelings of safety from crime, by disability¹, 1999

	% population with disabilities	
	Persons with disabilities	Persons without disabilities
While waiting for/using public transportation alone after dark, how do you feel about your safety from crime?		
Not at all worried	49	55
Somewhat worried	42	38
Very worried	9	6
Don't know/Not stated	--	--
How safe do you feel from crime when walking alone in your area after dark?		
Very safe	41	44
Reasonably safe	45	46
Somewhat unsafe	10	8
Very unsafe	4	2
Don't know/Not stated	--	--
While alone in your home in the evening or at night, how do you feel about your safety from crime?		
Not at all worried	75	81
Somewhat worried	21	17
Very worried	3	2
Don't know/Not stated	--	--
In general, how do you feel about your safety from crime?		
Very satisfied	39	46
Somewhat satisfied	49	47
Somewhat dissatisfied	6	4
Very dissatisfied	3	2
Don't know/Not stated	3	1

¹ Includes only respondents who engaged in these activities.

-- Amount too small to be expressed

Source: Statistics Canada, General Social Survey, 1999.

Table 2

Perceptions of the justice system among the population with disabilities aged 15+, 1999

	Population with disabilities 15+									
	Total	Good job	Average job	Poor job	Don't know/ Not stated	Total	Good job	Average job	Poor job	Don't know/ Not stated
	(000s)					%				
What kind of job are your local police doing at ...										
Being approachable?	5,106	3,450	782	271	603	100	68	15	5	12
Ensuring the safety of citizens?	5,106	3,250	1,233	274	350	100	64	24	5	7
Enforcing the laws?	5,106	3,157	1,389	303	256	100	62	27	6	5
Supplying information on reducing crime?	5,106	2,869	1,174	454	609	100	56	23	9	12
Responding promptly to calls?	5,106	2,589	902	461	1,154	100	51	18	9	23
What kind of job are criminal courts doing at ...										
Ensuring a fair trial for the accused?	5,106	2,036	1,552	694	823	100	40	30	14	16
Determining the guilt of the accused?	5,106	1,011	1,850	1,215	1,029	100	20	36	24	20
Helping the victim?	5,106	759	1,366	2,030	950	100	15	27	40	19
Providing justice quickly?	5,106	595	1,434	2,445	631	100	12	28	48	12
What kind of job is the prison system doing at ...										
Supervising/controlling prisoners?	5,106	1,189	1,430	1,257	1,230	100	23	28	25	24
Helping prisoners become law-abiding?	5,106	674	1,457	1,531	1,443	100	13	29	30	28
What kind of job is the parole system doing at ...										
Releasing offenders who are not likely to re-offend?	5,106	704	1,489	1,867	1,046	100	14	29	37	20
Supervising offenders on parole?	5,106	588	1,299	1,845	1,373	100	12	25	36	27

Figures may not add to total due to rounding.

Source: Statistics Canada, General Social Survey, 1999.