



Disability and Equality Statistics

Jim Byrne & Associates is a provider of accessible Internet services, including web design, web development, mobile web development, social media integration, website accessibility auditing, website accessibility training, online training application development, newsletter and e-marketing help.

Contact us if you would like to discuss your latest project ideas. Email: webdesign@jimbyrne.co.uk Tel: 0141 576 9446.

Below are some statistics related to disabled people and equality.

How many disabled people are there in the UK

There are 10 million disabled people in Great Britain. One in three people are disabled or has a disabled friend or close-relative. *Office of National Statistics, Census 2001, Family Resources Survey 2009/10*

Are older people more likely to be disabled?

Nearly half of people over state pension age are disabled compared to about one seventh of working age population and one in twenty children. *Family Resources Survey 2009/10*

What percentage of disabled people are of working age?

18% of working age people are disabled (6.7million). *Labour Force Survey, May 2009*

Is it harder to get and keep a job if you are a disabled person?

Unfortunately yes. About 50% of disabled people of working age are in employment, compared to about 80% for non-disabled people. *Labour Force Survey, May 2011*

Does that mean that disabled people likely to have lower living standards?

Yes, Families that contain a disabled member are more likely to be living in poverty than families with no disabled people in them. *Households Below Average Income 2009/10*

What about education? Are disabled people missing out on higher education?

Yes. 13 per cent of working age disabled people hold degree-level qualifications compared to 25 per cent of working age non-disabled people. *Labour Force Survey, Quarter 2, 2010*

Does getting a higher education qualification make it easier to get and keep a job?

Yes, but there is still a discrepancy between disabled people and non-disabled people; 90% of non-disabled people with a higher education qualification are in employment compared to only 76% of disabled people. *Labour Force Survey, June 2006*

Do disabled people face discrimination?

When it comes to accessing goods and services about a third of disabled people experience difficulties related to their impairment. Disabled people are also likely to experience unfair treatment at work. 19 per cent of disabled people experienced unfair treatment at work compared to 13 per cent of non-disabled people. *ONS Opinions Survey 2010 , Fair Treatment at Work Survey 2008*

Does The Equality Act cover disabled people?

Yes, Disabled people are covered by The Equality Act. The UK Equality Act covers 18 percent of the population including the 10 million disabled people. *Family Resources Survey, Disability prevalence estimates 2008*

Does the law say that websites should be accessible?

Yes, The Human Rights Commission specifically states that the Equalities Act 2010 applies to websites.

Do disable people have less Internet access that non-disabled people?

Yes. Only 58 per cent of disabled people lived in households with internet access, compared to 84 per cent for non-disabled people. *British Social Attitudes Survey 2010*

Is the purchasing power of disabled people significant?

Yes, Disabled people have an annual purchasing power of 80 billion (yes billion not million). *Family Resource Survey 2002/2003*

Is creating an accessible website a worthwhile investment?

Yes, there can be up to a 17% increase in audience from making your website accessible. *Nomensa humanising technology report, January 2011.*