Fulfilling Potential – Outcomes and Indicators Framework

Second Annual Progress Report

November 2015
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Introduction

What is Fulfilling Potential?

The ‘Fulfilling Potential – Making it Happen’ strategy and action plan were originally published in 2013. They highlighted the need for cross-sector partnerships with disabled people and organisations and the Government’s commitment to supporting disabled people to fulfil their potential and have equal opportunities to realise their aspirations.

Disabled people of all ages and backgrounds aspire to participate in every aspect of life – home and family life, community life, education, training, employment and volunteering. They want to have the opportunity to participate fully in society and to be valued for their contribution. The Fulfilling Potential Outcomes and Indicators Framework allows us to measure progress towards this vision, over time. We have a number of indicators within the Framework, which provide an indication of where progress is being made and where work needs to be done. These indicators cover six key themes: education; employment; income; health and wellbeing; choice and control; and inclusive communities. This report is the second analytical progress report on the Framework; the first was published in September 2014.

Definitions of disability

Throughout the report the main definition of disability used for each of the indicators has been based on the 2010 Equality Act. This follows the publication, by the ONS, of harmonised questions on disability in 2011. Please see Annex B for the new harmonised questions on disability. The majority of UK surveys and social data sources have now changed their definition of disability from the Disability Discrimination Act definition to the Equality Act definition. Because these two definitions vary, we have chosen not to make direct comparisons of data which use different definitions of disability. This has resulted in a break in time series for

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most of the indicators in the Framework. Time-series data will be available for
these indicators from next year.

The data annex that accompanies this report states what definition of disability has
been used for each indicator. The report draws on the most recent data available for
each of the indicators. This means that the time period being covered sometimes
varies across the different indicators. The full data tables published alongside this
report provide updated results for each indicator.

Throughout this report, wherever possible, changes over time, as well as differences
in the responses reported by disabled and non-disabled people, have been tested to
see whether they are statistically significant, i.e. how likely they are to have occurred
as a result of chance rather than being a real change across the population. Where
these differences are unlikely to have occurred as a result of chance² they are
indicated with an asterisk. To ensure that the interpretation is clear, the size of the
actual difference between disabled and non-disabled people has also been provided
in either the main text or a footnote³. See Annex C for further details.

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² Using the 5% significance level this means that the associated p-value is less than 5%. A p-value of less than 5
per cent provides evidence that the change is unlikely to have occurred as a result of chance.
³ Any apparent inconsistencies in the reporting of the size of the difference, is due to rounding.
EDUCATION

Headline Indicators: Educational Attainment
The gap in educational attainment between disabled and non-disabled people at two key stages:

- GCSE (or equivalent)
- A Level (or equivalent)

The number of disabled people completing their first degree.

Supporting Indicators:

- Unauthorised absence from school
- Achievement at key stage 2
- Proportion of 16 year olds in full-time education (in development)
- Proportion of young people in higher education at age 19 (in development)
- Students who do not continue in higher education after their first year
- Satisfaction levels with higher education course
- The destination of graduates six months after graduating
- Not in Education, Employment or Training status (NEET)
- Apprenticeships

These indicators help measure the impact of activities relating to UN Convention Articles: 7 Children and 24 Education.

Indicator data sources: National Pupil Database; Department for Education Matched Administrative data; Higher Education Statistics Agency (HESA) student record; School Census Data; National Student Survey; HESA Destinations of Leavers from Higher Education Survey; Local Authorities NCCIS; Skills Funding Agency.
Headline indicators:

2013/14 figures on GCSE attainment are not directly comparable with earlier years, as changes were introduced to restrict the number and type of qualifications included in this performance measure.

The gap in educational attainment at GCSE$^4$ between pupils with SEN without a statement, and those with no SEN, was 42 percentage points.

The proportion of pupils that achieved 5 or more GCSEs at grades A*-C (including Mathematics and English) in 2013/14 was:

- Non-SEN – 65 per cent.
- SEN without statement – 24 per cent.
- School Action – 25 per cent.
- School Action Plus – 21 per cent.
- SEN with a statement – 8 per cent.

A Level – The gap in the proportion of pupils with SEN school action that achieved two or more A levels by age 19, compared to those with no SEN, was 31 percentage points.

The 2010 baseline relates to the proportion of pupils that achieved two or more A levels by age 19. This has been compared with 2014 figures.

- Non-SEN – base 58 per cent, current 66 per cent.
- School Action – base 24 per cent, current 35 per cent.
- School Action Plus – 16 per cent base, current 23 per cent.
- SEN with statement – 10 per cent base, current 14 per cent.

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$^4$ GCSE attainment relates to the proportion of pupils who achieved 5 or more GCSEs at grades A*-C or equivalent, including mathematics and English.
Reliable information is not available about children in full time school education by disability. As a result the majority of the education indicators use measures of Special Educational Needs (SEN) as a proxy. However, this proxy is not a good match and this needs to be considered when interpreting the educational data.

A study has examined the prevalence of child disability using data from two longitudinal studies; the Millennium Cohort Study (MCS) and the Longitudinal Study of Young People in England (LSYPE)\(^5\). The studies found that although there is some overlap between the proportion of those with a long standing illness and those with SEN (of around 38 per cent in MCS and 43 per cent in LSYPE) there was still a large proportion of children who are disabled who do not have SEN.

There are also different categories of SEN with different levels of support triggered for the children, so it is hard to make comparisons between pupils with and without SEN. The SEN categories used in 2013/14 are as follows:

- **School Action** – where extra or different help is given from that provided as part of the school’s usual curriculum;
- **School Action Plus** – where the class teacher and the SENCO\(^6\) receive advice or support from outside specialists (a specialist teacher, an educational psychologist, a speech or language therapist or other health professionals);
- **Statement** – a pupil has a statement of special educational needs when a formal assessment has been made. This document sets out the child’s needs and the extra help they should receive.

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\(^6\) A special educational needs coordinator (SENCO) is a member of staff at school who has responsibility for coordinating special educational need provision within that school.
However it should be noted that from September 2014, Education, Health and Care (EHC) plans for children and young people aged up to 25 were introduced for any children or young people who are newly referred to a local authority for assessment. The legal test of when a child or young person requires an EHC plan remains the same as that for a statement under the Education Act 1996. In addition, the previous ‘School Action’ and ‘School Action Plus’ categories were replaced by a new category ‘SEN support’. Despite this, 2013/14 published figures continue to report on the previous categories of SEN support.

**Key stage 2 attainment**

Pupils at the end of key stage 2 (typically aged 11) are expected to achieve level 4 and to have made at least two levels of progress between key stage 1 and key stage 2. These relate to statutory externally marked national tests in reading, mathematics, grammar, punctuation and spelling.

In 2014, 38 per cent of pupils with SEN achieved level 4 at key stage 2 in reading, writing and mathematics. This is four percentage points higher than last year, when 34 per cent of pupils with SEN achieved this level. However, this is still lower than the proportion of pupils with no identified SEN who achieved this level, as the majority of these pupils did so (90 per cent).

**GCSE attainment**

In 2013/14 there was a change in the type of qualifications included in GCSE performance measures⁷. This means that it is not appropriate to make comparisons with earlier years.

There is a large attainment gap in the GCSE performance of pupils with SEN and those without SEN.

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⁷ Two major reforms affect the calculation of key stage 4 performance measures data in 2014; i.e. Professor Alison Wolf’s Review of Vocational Education recommended to restrict the qualifications counted, prevent any qualification from counting as larger than one GCSE and cap the number of non-GCSEs included in performance measures at two per pupil. In addition, the early entry policy will only count a pupil’s first attempt at a qualification.
• If all the SEN categories are combined into one group, 20.5 per cent of all pupils with SEN achieved at least 5 GCSEs (or equivalent) grades A*-C including English and mathematics in 2013/14, compared with 65 per cent of pupils with no identified SEN – an attainment gap of 45 percentage points.

• The proportion of pupils with a SEN statement that achieved 5 or more GCSEs at grades A*-C (including English and mathematics) was particularly low, with only eight per cent of pupils achieving this level.

• Pupils who have been identified as needing lower levels of support (and so may be expected to have lower levels of need) performed somewhat better. Around a quarter of pupils with SEN without a statement (24 per cent) and pupils with SEN School Action (25 per cent) achieved 5 or more GCSEs at grades A*-C, including English and mathematics. The equivalent figure for pupils with no SEN was 65 per cent.

• If we look at GCSE attainment not including English and Mathematics, it is higher across all groups. For example, 32 per cent of pupils with SEN without a statement achieved 5 or more GCSEs at grades A*-C, compared to 75 per cent of pupils with no SEN (a gap of 43 percentage points). See Figure 1.1.
There has been limited increase (compared to last year) in the proportion of 18 and 19 year olds with SEN that achieved two A levels (or equivalent) in 2014. In 2014, 14 per cent of pupils aged 19 with a statement of SEN achieved two A levels or equivalent. In comparison, two-thirds of pupils with no SEN achieved two A levels or equivalent in 2014, a gap of 53 percentage points.

For pupils who chose an apprenticeship, the number successfully completing their apprenticeship is still relatively high for both those with or without learning difficulties or disabilities; although it has declined slightly compared to 2012/13. In 2013/14, 66 per cent of learners with a learning difficulty or disability successfully completed their apprenticeship (compared to 68 per cent in 2012/13). This is lower than the completion rate of learners with no learning disability or difficulty in 2013/14 (at 69 per cent).
The proportion of 16-17 year olds with learning difficulties or disabilities not in education, employment or training in 2014, was nearly double that of pupils without learning difficulties or disabilities at ten per cent, compared to five per cent.

**Higher education**

There has been a steady increase in the number of disabled people who completed their first degree. In 2014, nearly forty three thousand disabled students completed their first degree. This is over double the 2005 figure.

In 2013/14, six months after completing their degree around two-thirds of disabled graduates (67 per cent) and just over 70 per cent of non-disabled graduates were in work, a gap of 3.5 percentage points.
EMPLOYMENT

Headline Indicator: Employment Rate Gap

The employment rate gap between disabled and non-disabled people.

Supporting Indicators:

- Proportion of individuals in high-level employment (managerial, professional or skilled-trade employment)
- Proportion of working age people who have never worked
- Proportion of working age people who would like to work more hours
- Hourly wage rates
- Highest education qualifications in working age population
- Proportion of individuals not in work who would like to work
- Retention in employment for those aged 50 or over
- Employers’ attitudes
- Work colleagues’ attitudes
- Economic activity

These indicators help measure the impact of activities relating to UN Convention Articles: 26 Habilitation and rehabilitation and 27 Work and employment.

Indicator data sources: Labour Force Survey; Opinions and Lifestyle Survey.

Headline indicator – changes since baseline

In the second quarter of 2015, there was a 33 percentage point gap*, in the proportion of disabled compared non disabled people in employment (46 per cent and 79 per cent respectively were employed).

Comparisons should not be made with previous years because the geographical coverage of this indicator has changed from Great Britain to the United Kingdom. As with other indicators the definition of disability has also changed in recent years.

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* The gap is calculated as the difference between the employment rate of non-disabled and disabled people.
In 2015, around 46 per cent of disabled people in the UK were in employment, compared to 79 per cent of non-disabled people. This represents a gap of 33 percentage points*. If we look at how the employment gap varies by age, we can see that the gap was smallest (at around 19 percentage points*) for those aged 16 to 24, this may be in part because the employment rate for both groups was low (at 36 per cent and 55 per cent respectively). The employment rate gap between disabled and non-disabled people was largest (at 39 percentage points*) for those aged 50-64.

The Labour Force Survey also reveals that 11 per cent of working aged disabled people in 2015, had never worked compared to eight per cent of non-disabled people – a gap of three percentage points*.

There are also important differences in the highest educational qualifications of working age disabled and non-disabled people, which may affect the employment opportunities and income of each group. While around 30 per cent of non-disabled people have degree level qualifications (as their highest qualification) this is nearly double that of disabled people, of whom only 16 per cent have degree level qualifications.*10

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*10 This 14 percentage point difference was statistically significant.
This finding may be linked to the fact that the average hourly wage of disabled people is £12.20 which is nearly £2 less than non-disabled people (with an hourly wage of £14.10).  

**Employer attitudes**

Employer attitudes towards disabled people were largely positive in 2014. Most disabled (88 per cent) and non-disabled people in work (93 per cent) described their employers’ attitude towards disabled employees as (very or fairly) supportive.*12 See Figure 2.2.

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*11 These figures have been rounded to the nearest £0.10.

*12 The five percentage point difference in the proportion of disabled and non-disabled people who described their employer as supportive, was statistically significant.
INCOME

**Headline Indicator: Living in Low Income**
The gap between the proportion of individuals in families where at least one person is disabled living in low income, and individuals in families where no-one is disabled living in low income.

The gap between the proportion of children living in families in low income with a disabled member and children living in families in low income where no-one is disabled.

**Supporting Indicators:**
- Children living in low income and material deprivation
- Households living in fuel poverty
- Individuals living in persistent poverty (in development).

These indicators help measure the impact of activities relating to UN Convention Articles: 7 Children and 28 Adequate standard of living and social protection.

Indicator data Sources: Family Resources Survey; DECC fuel poverty data.

**Headline indicators - changes since baseline:**
Due to changes in the definition of disability used by the Family Resource Survey, 2012/13 will be used as the baseline year.
In the United Kingdom, there are an estimated 3.7 million people that have a disabled family member, living in a low income household. Both headline indicators highlight that those in families with a disabled family member are more likely to be living in low income households\textsuperscript{14} than those that do not have a member of family who is disabled.

Looking at these statistics after housing costs now, in 2013/14 there was a two percentage point increase* compared to the previous year, in the proportion of individuals with a disabled family member, living in low income households, from 25 per cent to 27 per cent. As for those living in families with no disabled members,

\textsuperscript{14} Except in the case of pensioners. See the 2015 Households Below Average Income (HBAI) report for the relevant statistics.

* This change was found to be statistically significant for both relative and absolute low income.
there was no change, from 19 per cent. This represents a gap of eight percentage points (compared to families with a disabled family member).

In order to form a more rounded picture of the income inequality facing disabled people and their families, there are a number of supporting indicators to sit alongside the headline indicators. The first of these is the percentage of children living in low income and material deprivation. This is an alternative, broader measure for living standards that tracks the proportion of families who lack the purchasing power to afford key goods and services.\textsuperscript{16} In 2013/14 it was found that 22 per cent of children in a family where someone is disabled lived in low income and material deprivation. This is more than double the figure (of ten per cent) for children in families where no-one has a disability, living in low income and material deprivation. This represents a gap of 12 percentage points, when we compared this to the proportion of families where someone is disabled, who are living in deprivation. With regard to how these figures compare to the 2012/13 base year, there has been no change.

However, there was a slight decline in the proportion of children in families where a child was disabled, living in low income and material deprivation (from 19 per cent to 17 per cent) in 2013/14. This change was not statistically significant.

The other supporting indicator, fuel poverty\textsuperscript{17}, as now defined, includes households who face above average\textsuperscript{18} fuel costs and where, if met, their residual income would be below the official poverty line. If a household with a disabled individual is considered fuel poor then this indicates a further significant strain on their income. In 2013, 12 per cent of households with a disabled member lived in fuel poverty, compared to ten per cent of those in households with no disabled people\textsuperscript{19}. This has remained stable since 2012.

\textsuperscript{16} Material deprivation refers to the self-reported inability of individuals or households to afford particular goods and activities that are typical in society at a given point in time, irrespective of whether they would choose to have these items, even if they could afford them.

\textsuperscript{17} Between 2004 and 2011 fuel poverty was defined as a household spending more than 10% of its income to properly heat its home (where this is defined as heating main living areas to 21°C and 18°C for other occupied rooms).

\textsuperscript{18} Where average is defined as the national median level of fuel costs.

\textsuperscript{19} It was not possible to test whether this two percentage point difference (in the proportion of households living in fuel poverty) was statistically significant, as sample size data was not available.
It is not possible to examine the longer term trend in the proportion of disabled and non-disabled people living in fuel poverty, due to changes in the way that fuel poverty has been defined. Details of the trends from 2004 to 2011 are provided in the data annex.

The last supporting indicator, which looks at households living in persistent poverty (over a five year time frame) has not been updated, as sufficient data is not yet available from the Understanding Society study.

**Technical notes**

The data annex accompanying this chapter contains figures for relative low income calculated after housing costs.

The latest Households Below Average Income report\(^{20}\) also contains figures for relative and absolute low income before and after housing costs.

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HEALTH AND WELLBEING

Headline Indicator: Life Satisfaction

The gap between the proportion of disabled and non-disabled people reporting medium or high satisfaction with their life.

Supporting Indicators:

- Management of own health condition
- People with long-term health conditions supported to manage their condition
- Having good general health
- Experience using the NHS

These indicators help measure the impact of activities relating to UN Convention Articles: 19 Living independently and being included in the community and 25 Health.

Indicator data sources: Annual population survey personal well-being experimental dataset; GP patient survey; Community life survey; Adult inpatient survey.

Headline indicator – changes since the baseline.

There was a 22 percentage point gap*, the proportion of disabled people that reported very high or high satisfaction with their lives compared to non-disabled people. In 2014, around three-fifths of disabled people (62 per cent) compared to over four-fifths of non-disabled people (84 per cent) had high life satisfaction.

Disabled and non-disabled people were asked how satisfied they are with their lives, which is one aspect of a person’s well-being. ONS have noted that the relationship between health and well-being is cyclical.\textsuperscript{21} Good physical and mental health enables people to deal with the challenges of everyday life, for example, having good health makes it easier to work, to care for yourself and others and to have an

active social life, all of which contribute to higher levels of individual well-being. In return, positive well-being can lead to good health$^{22}$.

In 2014, around three-fifths of disabled people (62 per cent) reported very high or high satisfaction with their lives compared to over four-fifths of non-disabled people (84 per cent). This suggests that although most disabled and non-disabled people in the UK feel positive about their lives, there is a large gap in the life satisfaction between disabled and non-disabled people, of 22 percentage points*. At the lowest levels, over one in ten disabled people (13 per cent) reported low life satisfaction, whereas three per cent of non-disabled felt this way*. It should be noted, that the categories for these measures have changed and so comparisons with previous years should be made with caution.

![Figure 4.1 Overall, how satisfied are you with your life nowadays?](chart)


$^{23}$ The ten percentage point difference in the proportion of disabled and non-disabled people who reported low life satisfaction was statistically significant.
Health

The vast majority of people with a long-term health condition in 2014/15 were confident in managing their health (89 per cent) and this figure has remained stable over the last few years.

In 2014/15, around three-fifths (63 per cent) of people with a long-standing health condition felt that they had enough support from local services/organisations in the last 6 months, to help manage their condition. In previous years, 64 per cent felt they had enough support from local services/organisations.24

Only a quarter of disabled people overall (26 per cent) reported that they had good general health in 2013/14; which has not changed compared to the previous year.

We know that health problems tend to develop with age, and unsurprisingly in 2013/14, a higher proportion of working age disabled people reported that they had good general health (29 per cent) compared to those of retirement age (23 per cent)*.25

In terms of hospital care, most disabled and non-disabled people in 2014/15 were satisfied with the care that they had received in hospital (75 per cent and 79 per cent respectively)26. This figure has remained largely stable in recent years.

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24 This difference was not tested for statistical significance, as sample size data was not available.
25 The seven percentage point difference in the proportion of working compared to retirement age disabled people with good health, was statistically significant.
26 It was not possible to test whether this difference is statistically significant, as sample size data was not available.
CHOICE AND CONTROL

**Headline Indicator: Choice and Control**
The proportion of disabled people who believe that they frequently had choice and control over their lives.

**Supporting Indicators:**
- Proportion of people using social care who receive self-directed support
- Take up of direct payments
- Influence on decisions
- People supported to live independently through social services
- Proportion of disabled people who feel that protection provided by the Equality Act is effective.

These indicators help measure the impact of activities relating to UN Convention Articles: 12 Equal recognition before the law, 19 Living independently and being included in the community, 28 Adequate standard of living and social protection and 21 Freedom of expression and opinion, and access to information.

**Indicator data sources:** Opinions and lifestyle survey; Health and social care information centre; Community life survey.

**Headline indicator**
In 2014, around two-thirds of disabled people (65 per cent) believed that they frequently had choice and control over their lives.

Due to changes in the definition of disability used by the Opinions and Lifestyle Survey it is not advisable to make comparisons with previous years.
In 2014, 65 per cent of disabled people believed that they often had choice and control over their lives compared to 79 per cent of non-disabled people.\(^{27}\)

People were also asked an open question about the reasons why they responded that they either did or did not feel that they had choice and control over their lives. This information was then grouped into categories and quantified and this has been presented in Table 5.1. It is important to note, that the responses of disabled and non-disabled people reflect the issues that they raised spontaneously as reasons for their lack of choice and control. If they had been presented with a pre-coded list of issues from which to select their responses, their responses may have been different.

Disabled people who reported that they ‘sometimes, rarely or never’ had choice and control over their lives were most likely to cite their health condition or disability as one of the reasons for this (61 per cent of those who responded; with mobility problems also often specifically mentioned). Around four per cent also mentioned being dependent on others because of their health condition, as a reason for their lack of choice and control.

Financial reasons and work commitments were also key constraints mentioned by disabled and non-disabled people (16 per cent of disabled and 30 per cent of non-disabled people cited financial difficulties and nine per cent compared to 26 per cent respectively raised work as an issue). Both of these reasons were more often mentioned by non-disabled than disabled people.

Family commitments in general were also cited by six per cent of disabled and 17 per cent of non-disabled people. A further six per cent of disabled people (and 12 per cent of non-disabled people) specifically referred to looking after children/childcare responsibilities as a reason why they did not feel that they often had choice and control over their lives.

Around six per cent of disabled people and eight per cent of non-disabled people also mentioned that caring responsibilities for either an adult or a child with a health condition constrained their choice and control.

\(^{27}\) This 13 percentage point difference in the proportion of disabled and non-disabled people who reported that they had choice and control over their lives was statistically significant.
Around one per cent of disabled people mentioned: accommodation issues, government rules/constraints, or being unable to find work. The other responses mentioned by both disabled and non-disabled people included issues such as studying and having a general responsibility to others. Some people, particularly those over the age of 75, also raised their age as a reason for lack of choice and control.

Table 5.1: Reasons why disabled and non-disabled people felt that sometimes/rarely/never have choice and control over their lives

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reason</th>
<th>Disabled people</th>
<th>Non-disabled people</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Health condition/disability</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financial reasons/difficulties</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Work commitments/working hours</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Caring for children/dependent children/childcare</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family Commitments</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Caring responsibilities for adult/child with health condition/disability</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dependent on others due to health condition</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government rules/constraints</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unable to find work/work</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accommodation difficulties/issues</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Un-weighted sample size of 301 disabled and 427 non-disabled people. Respondents were able to mention multiple issues, so figures will not add up to 100%

In terms of the supporting indicators, in 2014, less than half (40 per cent) of disabled people felt that the protection provided by the Equality Act was effective, in enabling them to access goods, services, transport and employment on an equal basis as non-disabled people.
There has been a steady increase in the use of personal budgets in the last few years. In 2013/14, 62 per cent of users of community based services and carers received a personal budget, compared to 56 per cent in 2012/13 and 43 per cent in 2011/12.  

Nearly one in five (19 per cent) of those using community based services received their self-directed support as direct payments in 2013/14.

In 2013/14, 30 per cent of disabled people and 36 per cent of non-disabled people felt that they could influence decisions affecting their local area.* 29 The equivalent figures in 2012/13 were 33 per cent and 39 per cent for disabled and non-disabled people respectively.*30

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28 It was not possible to test whether this difference is statistically significant, as sample size information was not available.

29 The six percentage point difference in the proportion of disabled and non-disabled people who felt that they could influence decisions affecting their local area, was statistically significant.

30 The three percentage point difference in the proportion of non-disabled people who felt that they could influence local decisions in 2012/13 compared to 2013/14 was statistically significant. There was no (significant) difference in the proportion of disabled people who felt that they could influence decisions affecting their local area, in 2013/14 compared to the previous year.
INCLUSIVE COMMUNITIES – HOUSING

Headline Indicator: Accessibility in the Home
The gap between the proportion of disabled and non-disabled people who are able to access all parts of their home without difficulty.

Supporting Indicators:
- Decent accommodation

These indicators help measure the impact of activities relating to UN Convention Articles: 9, Accessibility 19 Living independently and being involved in the community and 28 Adequate standard of living and social protection.

Indicator data sources: Opinions and lifestyle survey; English housing survey.

Headline indicator – changes since baseline:
In 2014, there was a nine percentage point gap*, in the proportion of disabled compared to non-disabled people who were able to access all parts of their home (with 90 per cent and 99 per cent, respectively able to fully access their home).

It is not appropriate to make comparisons with the previous year, due to changes in how disability has been defined in the Opinions and Lifestyle Survey.

The proportion of people with a long-term illness or disability living in non-decent accommodation has declined in recent years from 33 per cent in 2008 to 20 per cent in 2013 (a difference of 13 percentage points)*; this is now the same as the proportion of non-disabled people living in non-decent accommodation. As a result, there is no gap in the proportion of disabled and non-disabled people living in non-decent accommodation.

A home is considered to be ‘decent’ if it meets the following four criteria31:

• It meets the current statutory minimum standard for housing;
• It is in a reasonable state of repair;
• It has reasonably modern facilities and services;
• It provides a reasonable degree of thermal comfort.
In 2013/14, over three-quarters of disabled people (77 per cent) did not face difficulties in using transport. The disabled people who faced transport difficulties, were most likely to report rail, bus or coach difficulties (around 16 per cent experienced this issue). This particularly involved difficulties getting to a rail/bus/coach station or stop and getting on or off these forms of transport. Just under one in ten of those facing difficulties, reported problems crossing roads or using pavements. A similar proportion also said that they had the same difficulties as non-disabled people.

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32 By full size accessible buses we mean the percentage of local and scheduled bus/coach services holding a PSVAR certificate.

33 Those with either ‘no difficulties’ or the ‘same difficulties as non-disabled people’ have been included in this category, as additional adjustments would not be required for these people.
Disabled and non-disabled people reported similar levels of satisfaction with bus journeys in 2014. The majority of disabled and non-disabled passengers (88 per cent each) were satisfied with their bus journeys.

There was lower passenger satisfaction with rail journeys. Around 80 per cent of disabled and non-disabled people were satisfied with their rail journeys in 2014/15. There was no difference in the satisfaction levels of disabled and non-disabled people.

There has been a steady increase in the last ten years in the proportion of full size accessible buses in Great Britain. In 2013/14, most (94 per cent) of full size buses were accessible, whereas in 2004/05, just over half of buses (52 per cent) were accessible.
Headline Indicator: Participation in Cultural, Leisure and Sporting Activities

The gap between the proportion of disabled and non-disabled people who participate in various activities:

- Arts
- Museums and galleries
- Sport
- Heritage sites
- Cinema
- Libraries

Supporting Indicators:

- Civic involvement
- Volunteering
- Neighbourhood belonging.

These indicators help measure the impact of activities relating to UN Convention Articles: 29 Participation in political and public life and 30 Participation in cultural life, recreation, leisure and sport.

Indicator data sources: Taking part survey; Active people survey; Community life survey.
A higher proportion of working age disabled people participated in all types of cultural and leisure activities compared to disabled people of retirement age.
The gap between disabled and non-disabled people participating in various cultural and leisure activities also tended to be much larger for those of retirement age. See Figure 7.2.

**Figure 7.2 Participation in cultural and leisure activities by age 2014/15**

![Diagram showing participation rates by age and disability status for various activities.](image)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Working Age</th>
<th>Retirement Age</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Engagement with the arts</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Historic environment sites</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cinema</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Museums and galleries</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Libraries</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Taking Part Survey

**Sports participation**

In 2013/14, around 18 per cent of disabled people participated in sport at least once a week. This is less than half\(^{34}\) that of non-disabled people (as nearly 40 per cent took part in sport). It is not appropriate to make comparisons with previous years, because there have been changes in the range of sports included in this measure.

Sport participation was higher for those of working age than retirement age. This pattern applied to both disabled and non-disabled people. For example, 23 per cent of working aged disabled people participated in sports once a week, compared to nine per cent of those of retirement age – a difference of 14 percentage points*. 

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\(^{34}\) The 22 percentage point difference in the proportion of disabled compared to non-disabled people that participated in sport at least once a week, was statistically significant.
Participation was highest for those in the 16-25 age group where 43 per cent of disabled people participated in moderate intensity sports once a week (and 56 per cent of non-disabled people participated*).\textsuperscript{35} Sports participation tends to steadily decline with age. This pattern also applied to non-disabled people.

**Civic engagement**

Compared to 2012/13, the proportion of disabled people who participated in civic engagement or formal volunteering in the last 12 months has declined, from 60 per cent to 52 per cent in 2013/14 *.\textsuperscript{36} There was a similar decline for non-disabled people from 65 per cent to 57 per cent during this period*.\textsuperscript{38} The gap in participation between disabled and non-disabled people in 2013/14 remained at five percentage points*.

Participation in informal help/volunteering (once a month) was slightly more common than formal volunteering for both disabled and non-disabled people. Around a third of disabled people provided informal help at least once a month, compared to 24 per cent who formally volunteered—a difference of around ten percentage points*. See Table 8.11 in the Annex for more information.

\textsuperscript{35} The 13 percentage point difference in the proportion of disabled and non-disabled people aged 16-25 that participated in sport, was statistically significant.

\textsuperscript{36} The eight percentage point difference in participation in civic engagement/formal volunteering by disabled people in 2012/13 compared to 2013/14 was statistically significant.

\textsuperscript{38} The eight percentage point difference in the proportion of non-disabled people who participated in civic engagement or formal volunteering in 2012/13 compared to 2013/14 was also statistically significant.
INCLUSIVE COMMUNITIES – FRIENDS AND FAMILY

Headline Indicator: Support Networks
The gap between the proportion of disabled and non-disabled people who have acquaintances to whom they are close.

This indicator helps measure the impact of activities relating to UN Convention Article: 23 Respect for home and the family.

Indicator data sources: Opinions and lifestyle survey.

Headline indicator - changes since baseline:
Due to changes in the definition of disability used by the Opinions and Lifestyle Survey (OLS), 2014 will be used as the baseline year. As such, no comparisons with previous years can yet be made.

In 2014, 98 per cent of disabled and non-disabled people reported that they had at least one acquaintance that they were close with and had spoken with or met recently. Both groups mostly had between three and five acquaintances they had been in recent contact with (44 per cent each respectively).

For people, especially those who are disabled, it can be of vital importance to have a network of close friends and family. They provide stability and support in a number of different ways, helping people to cope with the difficulties that they face.

As Figure 8.1 shows, disabled people, were however, less likely to have a large number of friends/family they were close with. Thirty per cent of disabled people had
more than five close acquaintances, compared to 36 per cent of non-disabled people*. Conversely, they were more likely to have one or two close acquaintances (25 per cent of disabled people reported this, compared to 18 per cent of non-disabled people)*. Both groups mostly had between three and five acquaintances they had been in recent contact with (44 per cent each respectively).

39 The six percentage point difference in the proportion of disabled compared to non-disabled people who had more than 5 close acquaintances was statistically significant.

40 Similarly, the six percentage point difference in the proportion of disabled compared to non-disabled people who had 1 or 2 close acquaintances was statistically significant.
In 2014, 86 per cent of disabled people reported that they did not have problems accessing public services. Of those experiencing difficulties, problems accessing

**Headline Indicator: Accessing Goods or Services**
The proportion of disabled people reporting problems accessing goods or services, specifically public services.

**Supporting Indicators:**
- Access to the internet
- Adults without saving and bank accounts.

These indicators help measure the impact of activities relating to UN Convention Articles: 9 Accessibility and 21 Freedom of expression and opinion, and access to information

Indicator data sources: Opinions and lifestyle survey; British social attitudes survey; Family Resources Survey.

**Headline indicator - changes since baseline:**

Due to changes in the definition of disability used by the Opinions and Lifestyle Survey (OLS), 2014 will be used as the baseline year. As such, no comparisons can yet be made.

In 2014, just over four-fifths of disabled people reported that they did not have problems accessing public services (86 per cent) or commercial services (82 per cent). Around two-thirds had no difficulties accessing social and leisure activities (67 per cent).

In 2014, 86 per cent of disabled people reported that they did not have problems accessing public services. Of those experiencing difficulties, problems accessing
health services were most common, with nearly 1 in 10 disabled people experiencing an accessibility issue. Relatively speaking, public services presented few difficulties though, as less than 1 in 20 disabled people reported problems accessing each of the services (apart from health related ones).

Commercial services in general, such as dealing with an insurance company, using a hotel, or using a website, performed slightly worse than public services* - 82 per cent overall, saying that they had no difficulties accessing commercial services. Nearly one in ten disabled people had difficulties using banks or building societies and five per cent specifically mentioned difficulties in using websites and dealing with insurance companies.

Disabled people faced the most difficulty accessing social and leisure activities. Just over two-thirds (67 per cent) said that they had no difficulties accessing these services. However, 20 per cent of disabled people reported that they had difficulty going shopping. Fifteen per cent of disabled people also had issues accessing the cinema, theatre or a concert, and restaurants and pubs closely followed (14 per cent).

Increasing internet access to a wider range of goods and services means that there are now different ways of using these services, which could reduce the barriers that some disabled people face. In 2013 more than two-thirds (69 per cent) of disabled people (under the Equality Act definition) had access to the internet in their home. This compares to 91 per cent of non-disabled people – a gap of 22 percentage points*.

Another major barrier that can stop disabled people from accessing goods or services is the lack of a bank or savings account. These are essential in day-to-day life, especially, for example, for gaining employment. In 2013/14, ten per cent of disabled adults did not have a bank/building society account. In comparison, only seven per cent of non-disabled adults did not have an account, a gap of three percentage points*. 
INCLUSIVE COMMUNITIES – ATTITUDES

**Headline Indicator: Public View of Disability**
The gap between the proportion of people who reported that they thought of disabled people as the same as everyone else and those who did not.

**Supporting Indicators:**
- Hate crime
- Risk of being victim of crime
- Confidence in criminal justice system
- Unfair treatment at work
- Public opinion on whether disabled people are as productive as non-disabled people.

These indicators help measure the impact of activities relating to UN Convention Articles: 8 Awareness raising, 13 Access to justice, 16 Freedom from exploitation, violence and abuse, and 27 Work and employment.

Indicator data sources: Opinions and lifestyle survey; Police recorded crime statistics; Crime survey for England and Wales; Workplace and employment relations study; British social attitudes survey.

**Headline indicator – changes since the baseline:**

In 2014, 92 per cent of people think of disabled people as the same as everyone else.

Due to a change in the definition of disability used by the Opinions and Lifestyle Survey, it is not appropriate to make comparisons with 2013.

In 2014, 92 per cent of people think disabled people are the same as everyone else. Despite these positive views, another survey found that a third of people in 2012
thought that disabled people are not as productive as others\textsuperscript{41}. Although the proportion of people who feel this way has fallen since 2011 (from 41 per cent)*.\textsuperscript{42}

**Crime and the attitudes to the criminal justice system**

In 2013/14, there were 1,985 disability hate crimes (this represents four per cent of all hate crimes recorded by the police). There has been an eight per cent increase in disability hate crimes from 2012/13. This has taken place alongside increases in the other hate crime strands (i.e. race, religion, sexual orientation and transgender issues).\textsuperscript{43} It is not clear whether the increase in disability hate crime reflects a real rise in hate crime or improved police identification of these offences. The increase across all strands may suggest improved identification is a factor.\textsuperscript{44}

In 2014/15, the risk of being a victim of crime is highest for those in the 16-34 age group and reduces with age, for both disabled and non-disabled people. However disabled people were at greater risk of being a victim of crime than non-disabled people (e.g. the risk was 32 per cent compared to 20 per cent respectively for those aged 16-34) – a difference of 12 percentage points*.

For the oldest age group (those aged 65 plus) less than one in ten disabled people (eight per cent) were at risk of being a victim of crime. This is just one percentage point higher* than the rate for non-disabled people of this age group (where seven per cent were at risk of being a victim of crime).

\textsuperscript{41} These were the most recent figures available at the time of publication.

\textsuperscript{42} The eight percentage point difference in the proportion of people who thought that disabled people are not as productive as others, in 2011 compared to 2012, was statistically significant.


Disabled people generally have lower confidence in the criminal justice system than non-disabled people. In 2014/15, only half of disabled people (51 per cent) aged 16-34 felt that the criminal justice system was fair compared to 70 per cent of non-disabled people of this age – a difference of 19 percentage points*. However, perceptions about the fairness of the criminal justice system tended to positively increase with age, for disabled people.
Annex A: Headline Indicator Summary

Please note comparisons over time for most of the indicators should be made with caution, as a number of surveys in recent years have changed how disability has been defined. Where there is break in the time series, this is indicated by a dashed line in relevant charts.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>Trend</th>
</tr>
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</table>

**Education**

At GCSE level, there have been changes in the type and number of qualifications included in this attainment measure. In 2013/14, 24 per cent of pupils with SEN without a statement achieved 5 or more GCSEs at grades A*-C (including English and mathematics). This represents a gap 42 percentage points, compared to pupils with no SEN.

At A level, the gap between pupils with no SEN and pupils in school action at age 19, in 2013/14 was 31 percentage points.

While the number of disabled people who complete their first degree has continue to rise.
**Employment**

The employment rate for disabled people currently stands at 46 per cent. The employment rate gap between non-disabled and disabled people remains at 33 percentage points.

The chart shows the employment rate gap from 2013 to 2015 (based on the Equality Act definition of disability)\(^{45}\).

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**Income**

The proportion of individuals in families with at least one disabled member living in relative low income is seven percentage points higher than those in families where no-one is disabled.

The proportion of children in families with a disabled member who are in low income is also seven percentage points higher than the proportion of children in families where no-one is disabled.

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**Health and Wellbeing**

Around three-fifths (62 per cent) of disabled people reported high or very high satisfaction with their lives in 2013/2014. The gap between disabled and non-disabled people is 22 percentage points.

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\(^{45}\) Please note the geographical coverage of this indicator has changed from GB to the UK in 2015. This is indicated by the dashed line on the chart. In addition the definition of disability has changed in recent years.

\(^{46}\) It is not advisable to compare these figures to earlier years, because of changes in the categories used.
Choice and Control

Currently around two thirds (65 per cent) of disabled people believe they have choice and control over their lives.

Housing

90 per cent of disabled people are able to access all parts of their home. This is lower than the figure for non-disabled people (at 99 per cent).

Transport

In 2014, over three-quarters (77 per cent) of disabled people did not experience difficulties using transport.

Social Participation

Disabled people are less likely to participate in all types of cultural and leisure activities than non-disabled people. The size of this gap varies a lot by type of activity.

The highest levels of participation for disabled people (as well as non-disabled people) was in engagement with the arts (73 per cent of disabled people and 80 per cent of non-disabled people participated in this activity). The widest gap between both groups (over 20 percentage points) was in cinema attendance.

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47 Sufficient trend data is not currently available for this indicator.

48 Those with either ‘no difficulties’ or the ‘same difficulties as non-disabled people’ have been included in this category, as additional adjustments would not be required for these people.

49 We cannot provide a trend as the calculation of this measure has changed.
Around 18 per cent of disabled people participated in sport at least once a week, in 2013/14. This is less than half the proportion of non-disabled people that take part in sport (as nearly 40 per cent took part in sport at least once a week).

**Friends and Family**

Thirty per cent of disabled people had more than five acquaintances that they had met or spoken to a week prior to interviewing in 2014. This is lower than the non-disabled figure of 36 per cent.

**Information and Access**

Most disabled people said that they did not experience difficulties accessing public services (86 per cent) or other commercial services (82 per cent). Around two-thirds said they did not have problems accessing leisure activities (67 per cent).

**Attitudes**

92 per cent of people think of disabled people as the same as everyone else.

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50 We cannot provide a trend as the range of sports included changed in 2013/14.

51 Sufficient trend data is not available for this indicator.

52 We cannot provide a trend as there has been a change to how this indicator is reported (i.e. access to different types of services is now reported separately).

53 Sufficient trend data is not available for this indicator.
Annex B: Harmonised questions on disability

In 2011 the ONS published a set of harmonised questions on disability. These questions were designed to measure disability in accordance with the 2010 Equality Act, following the change in disability legislation from the Disability Discrimination Act to the Equality Act. The majority of UK surveys and social data sources are now using, or are planning to use, these new harmonised questions to measure disability.

The harmonised questions on disability are:

1. Do you have any physical or mental health conditions or illnesses lasting or expected to last 12 months of more?
   Yes; No

2. Does your condition or illness\do any of your conditions or illnesses reduce your ability to carry out day to day activities?
   Yes, a lot; Yes, a little; No, not at all

If a respondent answers yes to both questions (including either ‘yes a lot’ or ‘yes a little’ at question 2) then they are defined as disabled in accordance with the Equality Act.
Annex C: Statistical Significance

Some changes in estimates from one year to the next will be the result of different samples being chosen, whilst other changes will reflect underlying changes across the population. Statistical significance is a way of identifying whether a change is likely to be an underlying change across the population, rather than simply the result of chance.

Throughout this report, wherever possible, changes over time, as well as differences in the responses reported by disabled and non-disabled people, have been tested to see whether they are statistically significant using the 5 per cent significance level. A p-value of less than 5 per cent provides evidence that the change is unlikely to have occurred as a result of chance, and such cases have been indicated with an asterisk in the report. The report clearly specifies where these tests have, and have not, been made. To ensure that the text and interpretation is clear, the size of the actual difference between disabled and non-disabled people has also been provided in either the main text or a footnote. The findings presented in the Education Chapter are based on census data, as a result, all differences in this Chapter are real, and so no tests were required. The data from all other Chapters has been drawn from sample data.