



## The Health/ Disability Status of CLP Cohort 2.1 Core Participant Households

### Background

This brief provides the following information in relation to CLP cohort<sup>1</sup> 2.1 Core Participant Households (CPHHs):

- the number and proportion of CPHH members with disabilities (including household heads);
- the incidence of different types of disability;
- the incidence and types of disabilities by age and gender of CPHH members;
- the relationship between disability status and food security<sup>2</sup>.

### Key Findings

- Overall 3.3% of the total population of cohort 2.1 had some kind of disability, slightly above the national average of 0.9% and the average for Rajshahi division of 1.0% (BBS, 2009);
  - 11.2% of households had at least one disabled member, 5.7% of households had a disabled head and 3% of core participants were disabled
- Incidence of disability in female-headed households was nearly three-fold that of male-headed households, whilst incidence of disability amongst males was slightly higher than amongst females (3.8% versus 2.8%)
- The most common types of disability amongst the population of cohort 2.1 were 'chronic illness' and 'physical disability'
  - Average household size amongst households with disabled heads was slightly smaller than those with non-disabled heads (3.42 members versus 3.71 members), reflecting the former's greater vulnerability
  - Disability is overwhelmingly concentrated amongst the adult population (i.e. over 15) and least common amongst under 5s
  - Food insecurity is higher amongst households with a disabled head, as shown by their greater dependency on food coping strategies

### Methodology

All cohort 2.1 households were asked to provide a list of their household members and report on their health status, with the following options provided: *without illness, blind, physical disability, psychological disorder, deaf, dumb, chronic illness*<sup>3</sup>, *other*.

<sup>1</sup> During the second phase CLP will provide support to 67,000 CPHHs through 6 cohorts

<sup>2</sup> Relationships between disability status and other indicators captured through the baseline survey undertaken with all households from cohort 2.1 were also investigated, but the results of these investigations were not considered of significant interest to include in this report. These indicators were: (i) roof, wall, floor material, (ii) defecation practices, and (iii) water source.

<sup>3</sup> Chronic illness was defined as 'person has been persistently ill for the last 3 months or longer'.

### Discussion

#### The incidence and type of disability amongst cohort 2.1 household members

Out of 5,005 CPHH members 79.6% were male headed and 20.4% were female headed households<sup>4</sup>. Overall 3.3% of the total population had some kind of disability<sup>5</sup>. This figure is significantly higher than the national average of 0.9% and the average for Rajshahi division of 1.0% (BBS, 2009<sup>6</sup>). 11.2% of households had at least one disabled member. Incidence of disability in female-headed households was nearly three-fold that of male-headed households (Table 1).

Table 1: # of persons with disability, overall and by male/female-headed households

Indicators	Male headed households	Female headed households	Total
# persons with disability	440	167	607
% of persons with disability	2.7%	7.8%	3.3%

The most common types of disability amongst the population of cohort 2.1 were 'chronic illness' and 'physical disability' (Table 2). Other types of disability accounting for more than 10% of total disability were blindness (15.3%) and unspecified 'other' (12.7%).

Table 2: Incidence of different types of disability amongst population of cohort 2.1

Indicators	Total
Total population surveyed	18,493
Persons with disability	607
% of persons with disability	3.3
% Blind	15.3
% with a physical Disability	21.7
% with a psychological Disorder	9.6
% deaf	9.4
% dumb	8.1
% with chronic illness (persistently ill last 3 months)	23.2
Other	12.7

<sup>4</sup> The CLP defines female-headed households are those in which the female is the main decision-maker. Households are themselves asked to class themselves as 'male-' or 'female-headed' based upon this definition.

<sup>5</sup> This differs from the figure of 3.6% quoted in the 2.1 baseline report, as the analysis contained in that report was based on a sample of 384 households, whilst the analysis presented here is based on a census of all CPHHs from cohort 2.1.

<sup>6</sup> However, it should be borne in mind that this document does not explain how it defines disability, thus the definition may be different from that used by the CLP.



## Incidence of disability amongst household heads and core participants



5.7% of households had a disabled head (Table 3). A gender breakdown reveals that 5.1% of male-headed households had a disabled head, whilst 8.1% of female-headed households had a disabled head.

As was true of the overall population of cohort 2.1, the most common disabilities suffered by household heads were chronic illness and physical disability, representing 29.4% and

22.7% respectively of total disability of household heads. Disaggregation by gender of household head reveals a similar pattern amongst male heads of households, although chronic illness accounted for a greater proportion of disability, at 35.0% (n=71). However, chronic illness was much less common amongst female household heads, representing just 15.7% of disability, with deafness the second most common type of disability, accounting for 19.3% of total disability<sup>7</sup>.

Table 3: Types of disabilities suffered by household heads

Type of disability	Male headed		Female headed		All household heads	
	n	%	n	%	n	%
Blind	24	11.8%	8	9.6%	32	11.2%
Physical Disability	48	23.6%	17	20.5%	65	22.7%
Psychological Disorder	10	4.9%	6	7.2%	16	5.6%
Deaf	14	6.9%	16	19.3%	30	10.5%
Dumb	8	3.9%	11	13.3%	19	6.6%
Chronic Illness	71	35.0%	13	15.7%	84	29.4%
Other	28	13.8%	12	14.5%	40	14.0%
Total	203	100.0%	83	100.0%	286	100.0%

Average household size amongst households with disabled heads was slightly smaller than those with non-disabled heads (3.42 members versus 3.71 members), reflecting the former's greater vulnerability. Smaller household sizes are more vulnerable due to higher dependency ratios<sup>8</sup>.

<sup>7</sup> Although it should borne in mind that the smaller number of disabled female household heads means that the actual difference in numbers was minimal (17 and 16 people respectively versus 13 people).

<sup>8</sup> See Scott, Lucy and Rafiqul Islam, (2007), *Are the Poorest Households Really Larger?*, available on the CLP website

The incidence of disability amongst core participants (i.e. the named individual of the income generating asset) was 3%. No particular type of disability dominated (Table 4).

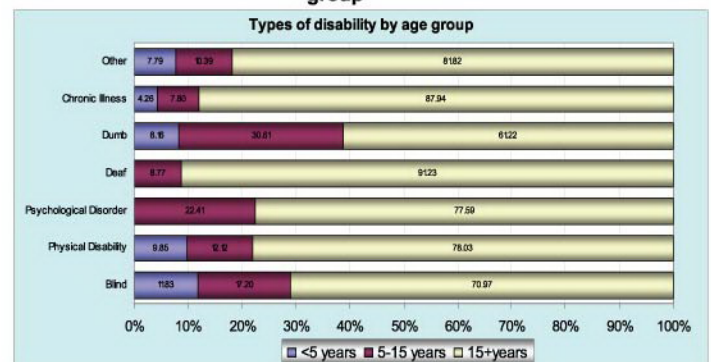
Table 4: Incidence and type of disability amongst core participants

Type of Disability	Total	
	n	%
Without Illness	4853	97.0%
Blind	22	0.4%
Physical Disability	26	0.5%
Psychological Disorder	11	0.2%
Deaf	32	0.6%
Dumb	12	0.2%
Chronic Illness	23	0.5%
Other	26	0.5%
Total	5005	100.0%

## Incidence and type of disability by gender and age

Figure 2 shows the type of disabilities suffered by CPHH members by age group. It highlights the fact that disability is overwhelmingly concentrated amongst the adult population, especially deafness and chronic illness (adults represent 91.23% of deafness and 87.94% of chronic illness amongst the population of cohort 2.1). Disability is least common amongst the under 5s: they represent less than 10% of the incidence of all types of disability except for blindness (11.83% of blind household members are under 5). The 5-15 age group account for between 7.8% and 30.6% of disabled CPHH members, depending on the type of disability: they account for nearly one-third of deafness and over one-fifth of psychological disorder.

Figure 2: Types of disabilities suffered by CPHH members by age group



Both numerical and proportional incidence of disability was highest amongst males (3.8%, n=344) than females (2.8%, n=263). This reflects both the national and Rajshahi averages, which both show a higher incidence of disability amongst males than females (BBS, 2009<sup>9</sup>).

<sup>9</sup> The respective figures for males and females at the national level are 1.0% and 0.8%, whilst their equivalents for Rajshahi division are 1.1% and 0.9%.

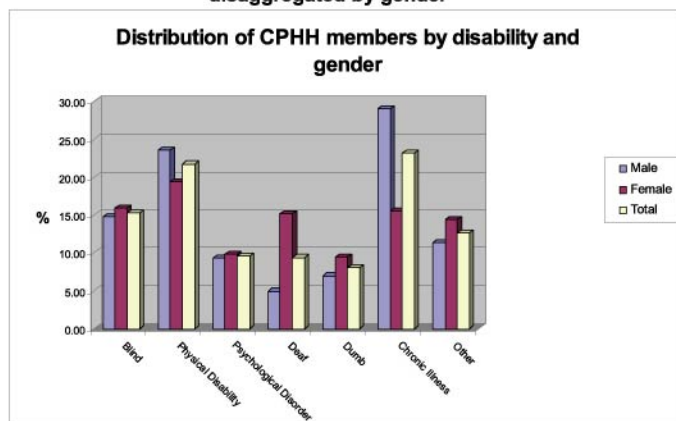


Figure 3 and Table 5 show a gender breakdown of the distribution of different types of disability suffered by CPHH members. 'Chronic illness' and 'physical disability' are the most frequent types of disability suffered by male household members (29.1% and 23.5% of all males with a disability respectively). For females 'physical disability' was the most common disability suffered by female household members (19.4%). The next most common disability for females with disability was blindness (16%).

**Table 5: Incidence of different types of disability by gender**

	Male	Female
Blind	14.8% (n=51)	16.0% (n=42)
Physical Disability	23.5% (n=81)	19.4% (n=51)
Psychological Disorder	9.3% (n=32)	9.9% (n=26)
Deaf	4.9% (n=17)	15.2% (n=40)
Dumb	7.0% (n=24)	9.5% (n=25)
Chronic Illness	29.1% (n=100)	15.6% (n=41)
Other	11.3% (n=39)	14.4% (n=38)
Total	100.0% (n=344)	100.0% (n=263)

**Figure 3: Types of disabilities suffered by CPHH members disaggregated by gender**



## Relationship between disability status and food security

Table 6 shows the difference in dependence on food coping strategies between households with and without a disabled head. They show that food insecurity is higher amongst households with a disabled head, with incidence of most types of coping strategies higher.

**Table 6: Household Food Security by Disability Status of Household Head**

Coping strategy	Mean no. of days used within the last seven days	
	HH head without disability	HH head with disability
Eat Smaller Meals Than Normal?	2.25	2.84
Eat Fewer Meals Than Normal?	1.84	2.34
Eat Food of Lower Quality Than Normal?	0.75	0.97
Eat Uncultivated / Wild Food?	0.13	0.21
Eat No Food in Any 24 Hr Period	0.03	0.03
Send a Family Member to Eat Elsewhere?	0.35	0.43
Give More Food to Earning HH Member?	1.25	0.96
Sell an Asset to Provide Consumption Income?	0.02	0.05
Taken a Food Loan?	0.32	0.43



## Conclusion

Incidence of disability amongst the population of cohort 2.1 was over three times the national average. It was slightly higher amongst both male household members and male household heads than their female equivalents. From an age perspective, the highest incidence of disability was found in the adult group (i.e. 15+). There is a higher incidence of food insecurity (measured by dependence on food coping strategies) amongst households with disabled heads than those with non-disabled heads.

## References

- BBS (2009), *Report on Sample Vital Registration System 2008*
- Scott, Lucy and Rafiqul Islam, (2007), *Are the Poorest Households Really Larger?*, available on the CLP website