



First Release

8th December 2011

Coverage: Great Britain
Theme: People and Places

Life Opportunities Survey – Wave one results, 2009/10

Findings from the first wave of the Life Opportunities Survey (LOS) are published today. These are available on the Department for Work and Pensions website at:

http://statistics.dwp.gov.uk/asd/asd1/los/index.php?page=los_wor

The publication provides estimates comparing how disabled and non-disabled people participate in society in a number of areas including work, education, social participation, transport and use of public services.

Key findings

Impairment and Equality Act (EA) disability status:

- 29 per cent of all adults had at least one impairment.
- not everyone who has an impairment would have rights under the disability provisions of the EA. Around one in four (26 per cent) of adults had rights under the disability provisions of the EA.

In the LOS disability is measured as any additional disadvantage experienced by adults with impairment when compared to adults without impairment. The additional disadvantage experienced in each area is referred to as a participation restriction.

Compared to adults without impairment, adults with impairment were:

- over twice as likely to experience a participation restriction to employment opportunities (57 per cent compared with 26 per cent).
- almost twice as likely to experience participation restrictions in their education and training opportunities (16 per cent compared with 9 per cent).
- nearly five times more likely to experience a participation restriction to accessing buildings (29 per cent compared with 6 per cent).
- significantly more likely to experience a participation restriction to using transport (75 per cent compared with 60 per cent).

Households with at least one person with impairment were significantly more likely than households without any people with impairment to experience a participation restriction to economic life and living standards, that is, being able to afford expenses or make loan repayments (44 per cent compared with 29 per cent).

All comparisons mentioned above are statistically significant.

DWP Department for
Work and Pensions

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Notes for Editors

1. The estimates being published are Official Statistics and as such are produced to the high professional standards set out in the National Statistics Code of Practice. These estimates have regular quality assurance reviews to ensure that they continue to meet customer needs.

2. The full Official Statistics report "Life Opportunities Survey – Wave one results, 2009/11" is published at:

http://statistics.dwp.gov.uk/asd/asd1/los/index.php?page=los_wor



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