CHAPTER 8

Population with Disability

- 8-1 Introduction
- 8-2 Disabled Persons and their distribution
- 8-3 Age Structure of the disabled population8-4 Literacy and Educational Levels8-5 Economic Activity Rates

CHAPTER 8

Population with Disability

8.1 Types of Disability

For the first time a question on physical or mental disability was included in the 2008 census questionnaire (Col 15 of Form B Household Questionnaire Part 2). The five types of disability identified for the census purposes and their description are as follows:

- (i) In Seeing: A person who could not see at all (had no perception of light) or had blurred vision even with the help of glasses was considered as having disability in seeing or as visually disabled. A person with proper vision only in one eye was treated as visually disabled. A person with blurred vision who has no occasion to test whether her/his eye-sight would improve by using spectacles was also treated as visually disabled.
- (ii) In Speech: A person was treated as having speech disability, if she/he was dumb. Similarly a person whose speech was not understood by a listener of normal comprehension and hearing, she/he was treated as having speech disability. Person who stammered but whose speech was comprehensible was not classified as disabled in speech.
- (iii) In Hearing: A person who could not hear at all (deaf) or could hear only loud sounds was considered as having hearing disability. A person who was able to hear, using hearing-aid was not considered as disabled under this category. A person who could not hear through one ear but her/his other ear was functioning normally, was considered having hearing disability.
- (iv) In Movement: A person who lacked limbs or was unable to use the limbs normally was considered having movement disability. Absence of a part of limb like a finger or a toe was not considered as disability. However, absence of all the fingers or toes or a thumb would make a person disabled by movement. If any part of the body was deformed, the person was also treated as disabled and covered under this category. A person who could not move herself/himself or without the aid of another person or without the aid of stick, wheel chair etc., was treated as disabled under this category. Similarly, a person was treated as disabled in movement if she/he was unable to move or lift or pick up any small article placed near her/him. A person who was not able to move normally because of problems of joints like arthritis and had to invariable limp while moving, was considered to have had movement disability.
- (v) Mental: A person who lacked comprehension appropriate to her/his age was considered as mentally disabled. This did not mean that if a person was not able to comprehend her/his studies appropriate to her/his age and was failing to qualify in her/his examination was mentally disabled. Mentally retarded and insane persons were treated as mentally disabled. A mentally disabled person might generally depend on her/his family members for performing daily routine. It was left to the respondent to report whether the member of the household was mentally disabled and no tests were required to be applied by the enumerator to judge the member's disability.

If a person had two or more types of disability only one of these was recorded by the enumerator. In such cases it was left to the respondent to decide as to the type of disability she/he wanted the member of her/his household to be classified into. The disability of a person was decided with reference to the date of enumeration. Persons with temporary disability on the date of enumeration were not considered as disabled. For example, if a person's movement was restricted because of some temporary injury and she/he was likely to return to his normal state after sometime, such a person was not treated as disabled.

Disability "Since birth" meant that the person had the disability from her/his birth. In other words, he/she was born with this disability. If the person got this disability after birth she/he came under disability "After birth".

8.2 Disabled Persons and their distribution

Table 8.1 gives a comprehensive picture of the number of disabled population at the national level and its distribution by types of disabilities. Based on the definition given in Paragraph 8.1, there are 192,538 disabled persons in Cambodia of which 56.3 percent are males and 43.7 percent are females. The disabled persons form 1.44 percent of the country's population. The disabled among males and females form 1.66 and 1.22 percent respectively in Cambodia. The incidence of disability is higher in the rural areas (1.52 percent) than in the urban areas (1.09 percent).

In the rural areas 1.76 percent among males is disabled as against 1.29 percent among females. The corresponding percentages in the urban areas are 1.26 and 0.93. Thus the difference in proportions of disabled males and females is lesser in the urban areas than such a difference in the rural areas.

Among the disabled in the country only 61,151 (31.76 percent) persons are congenitally disabled. Hence a majority of the disabled in Cambodia are those who became disabled after birth. This may include victims of war, land mines and other accidents. While the persons with disability "in seeing" form the highest proportion among those disabled since birth, disabled persons in movement predominate among the persons disabled after birth. This holds true for both males and females (Table 8.1).

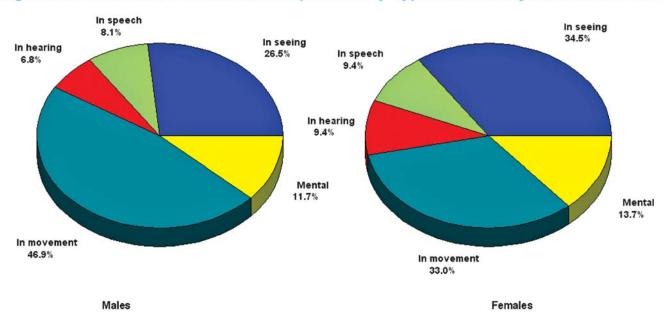


Figure 8.1 Distribution of Disabled Population by Type of Disability, Cambodia 2008

Table 8.1 Percent distribution of Disabled Persons in Total, Urban and Rural Areas by Type of Disability and Sex, Cambodia 2008

Type of Disability	P	ercentage distribution	1
	Total	Urban	Rural
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
	Both Sexes		
Total number of disabled persons (both since birth and after birth)	192,538	28,434	164,104
Total	100	100	100
Type of disabled			
In seeing	29.97	34.05	29.27
In speech	8.68	9.85	8.47
In hearing	7.93	6.57	8.16
In movement	40.83	36.97	41.51
Mental	12.59	12.56	12.59
Total number of disabled persons since birth	61,151	10,131	51,020
Total	100	100	100
Type of disabled			
In seeing	40.58	43.07	40.09
In speech	17.98	18.17	17.94
In hearing	9.74	10.23	9.65
In movement	19.97	17.89	20.38
Mental	11.73	10.64	11.94
Total number of disabled persons after birth	131,387	18,303	113,084
Total	100	100	100
Type of disabled			
In seeing	25.04	29.05	24.39
In speech	4.35	5.25	4.20
In hearing	7.08	4.55	7.49
In movement	50.55	47.53	51.04
Mental	12.98	13.62	12.88

Table 8.1 Percent distribution of Disabled Persons in Total, Urban and Rural Areas by Type of Disability and Sex, Cambodia 2008 (Continued)

Type of Disability		Percentage distribution	ı
	Total	Urban	Rural
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
	Males		
Total number of disabled persons (both since birth and after birth)	108,468	15,838	92,630
Total	100	100	100
Type of disabled	·	·	
In seeing	26.48	30.89	25.73
In speech	8.07	9.14	7.88
In hearing	6.79	5.62	7.00
In movement	46.95	41.99	47.79
Mental	11.71	12.36	11.60
Total number of disabled persons since birth	31,279	5,159	26,120
Total	100	100	100
Type of disabled		,	
In seeing	37.91	41.25	37.25
In speech	18.65	19.07	18.56
In hearing	9.51	9.54	9.51
In movement	22.07	19.23	22.63
Mental	11.86	10.91	12.05
Total number of disabled persons after birth	77,189	10,679	66,510
Total	100	100	100
Type of disabled			
In seeing	21.86	25.88	21.21
In speech	3.78	4.34	3.69
In hearing	5.69	3.73	6.01
In movement	57.02	53.00	57.67
Mental	11.65	13.05	11.42

Table 8.1 Percent distribution of Disabled Persons in Total, Urban and Rural Areas by Type of Disability and Sex, Cambodia 2008 (Continued)

1	Percentage distribution	1
Total	Urban	Rural
(2)	(3)	(4)
Females	,	
84,070	12,596	71,474
100	100	100
r	,	r
34.48	38.02	33.86
9.46	10.75	9.23
9.39	7.76	9.67
32.96	30.66	33.37
13.71	12.81	13.87
29,872	4,972	24,900
100	100	100
ç	,	r
43.37	44.97	43.06
17.28	17.24	17.29
9.98	10.94	9.79
17.78	16.49	18.03
11.59	10.36	11.83
54,198	7,624	46,574
100	100	100
	,	
29.56	33.49	28.92
5.15	6.52	4.93
9.06	5.69	9.61
	20.00	41.55
41.34	39.90	41.57
	Total (2) Females 84,070 100 34.48 9.46 9.39 32.96 13.71 29,872 100 43.37 17.28 9.98 17.78 11.59 54,198 100 29.56 5.15 9.06	Total Urban (2) (3) Females 84,070 12,596 100 100 34.48 38.02 9.46 10.75 9.39 7.76 32.96 30.66 13.71 12.81 29,872 4,972 100 100 43.37 44.97 17.28 17.24 9.98 10.94 17.78 16.49 11.59 10.36 54,198 7,624 100 100 29.56 33.49 5.15 6.52 9.06 5.69

8.3 Age Structure of the disabled population

Table 8.2 gives the age distribution of the disabled population by five year age group. As in the general population age distribution, there is a decline in the number in the age group 30-34.

Table 8.2 Percent Distribution of the Disabled by Five Year Age group, Cambodia, 2008

Age Group		Pe	rcentage of Disa	bled Population	n	
	Both Se	exes	Mal	e	Fer	nale
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Total	192,538	100	108,468	100	84,070	100
0 - 4	7,952	4.13	4,281	3.95	3,671	4.37
5 - 9	11,201	5.82	6,233	5.75	4,968	5.91
10 - 14	14,775	7.67	8,609	7.94	6,166	7.33
15 - 19	17,865	9.27	10,163	9.37	7,702	9.17
20 - 24	16,270	8.45	9,128	8.42	7,142	8.50
25 - 29	14,596	7.58	8,075	7.44	6,521	7.76
30 - 34	9,526	4.95	5,394	4.97	4,132	4.91
35 - 39	14,350	7.45	8,936	8.24	5,414	6.44
40 - 44	15,493	8.05	9,800	9.03	5,693	6.77
45 - 49	15,888	8.25	10,345	9.53	5,543	6.59
50 - 54	13,013	6.76	7,811	7.20	5,202	6.19
55 - 59	10,581	5.50	5,790	5.34	4,791	5.70
60 - 64	7,911	4.11	3,999	3.69	3,912	4.65
65 - 69	7,173	3.73	3,405	3.14	3,768	4.48
70 - 74	6,284	3.26	2,742	2.53	3,542	4.21
75+	9,660	5.02	3,757	3.46	5,903	7.02

This is due to decline in fertility and high mortality during the Khmer Rouge Period. Among the disabled population, children (0-14) constitute 17.62 percent as against 33.7 percent among the general population. The median age of the disabled population works out to 35.28 years. This is much higher than that of the general population (20.96). The disabled population in Cambodia may, therefore, be described as an "old population".

It is observed from Table 8.3 that under disability since birth, the age group 15-29 has the highest proportions of the disabled in all the categories except visual disability. In the case of disability in seeing since birth the highest proportion (36.34 percent) is among children in the age group 0-14. Under disability after birth also the highest proportions are noted in the age group 15-29 except in respect of hearing handicap and disability in movement. In general, those who suffer from different physical handicaps are mostly in the age group cohort 15-29 which represents people born during the troubled years 1979-1993 following the Khmer Rouge regime. Disability in hearing and in movement acquired after birth are more prevalent among elders aged 60 and more (35.52 percent) and among those in the age group 45-59 (29.21 percent) respectively. Following the age group 15-29, children in the age group 0-14 have a high proportion of mentally ill persons since birth (Table 8.3).

Table 8.3 Percent distribution of Disabled Persons in each Category of Disability by sex and Five year Age group, Cambodia 2008

	Mental	(19)		17,060	100	15.73	30.81	22.74	17.81	12.91		8,991	100	16.82	33.12	23.72	16.54	9.80		8,069	100	14.51	28.23	21.65	19.22	16.20
	nl -9voM ment	(18)		66,421	100	9.15	18.50	23.92	29.21	19.22		44,018	100	8.45	17.64	26.87	32.26	14.78		22,403	100	10.53	20.19	18.13	23.22	010
Disabled after Birth	nI Baring	(11)		9,304	100	11.18	16.63	16.29	20.38	35.52		4,394	100	14.06	19.21	15.95	18.25	32.52		4,910	100	8.59	14.32	16.60	22.28	1000
sabled a	урееср Пп	(16)		5,709	100	24.26	39.38	16.92	11.23	8.22		2,916	100	25.96	39.99	16.02	10.56	7.48		2,793	100	22.48	38.74	17.87	11.92	000
Di	nI gniss2	(15)		32,893	100	11.01	22.95	20.11	21.62	24.31	,	16,870	100	12.14	24.22	22.19	22.44	19.02		16,023	100	9.82	21.62	17.92	20.77	00.00
	Total	(14)		131,387	100	11.27	21.99	21.97	24.42	20.35		77,189	100	11.21	21.81	24.45	26.66	15.86		54,198	100	11.35	22.23	18.44	21.23	
0	Mental	(13)		7,172	100	30.83	40.30	16.52	9.61	2.75		3,711	100	32.69	42.60	15.12	7.71	1.89		3,461	100	28.84	37.82	18.03	11.64	17 0
•	nl -9voM inem	(12)		12,212	100	28.32	32.28	18.28	14.45	6.67	-	6,902	100	29.01	32.25	18.44	14.72	5.58		5,310	100	27.42	32.32	18.06	14.11	010
ce Birth	nI gnirasH	(11)		5,957	100	15.93	36.70	22.14	15.36	9.87	,	2,976	100	18.62	37.67	21.98	12.70	9.04		2,981	100	13.25	35.73	22.31	18.01	0101
Disabled since Birth	урееср Пп	(10)	Sexes	10,994	100	31.69	40.51	15.47	8.19	4.14	Males	5,833	100	33.76	40.96	14.66	7.17	3.46	Females	5,161	100	29.35	40.01	16.39	9.34	00 7
Dis	nI gnioo2	6)	Both	24,816	100	36.34	25.68	16.38	12.59	9.01	Σ	11,857	100	39.90	27.09	16.14	10.69	6.18	Fe	12,959	100	33.08	24.38	16.61	14.33	717
0	Total	8		61,151	100	31.27	32.45	17.18	12.09	7.02		31,279	100	33.47	33.66	16.81	10.76	5.30		29,872	100	28.96	31.18	17.56	13.48	0.01
	Mental	(7)		24,232	100	20.20	33.62	20.90	15.38	9.90		12,702	100	21.45	35.89	21.21	13.96	7.49		11,530	100	18.81	31.11	20.56	16.95	בע כו
ed	ni -9voM inem	9)		78,633	100	12.13	20.64	23.05	26.92	17.27		50,920	100	11.24	19.62	25.73	29.88	13.54		27,713	100	13.77	22.51	18.11	21.47	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,
Total Disabled	In Hearing	(5)		15,261	100	13.03	24.46	18.58	18.42	25.51		7,370	100	15.90	26.66	18.39	16.01	23.04		7,891	100	10.35	22.41	18.76	20.67	00.00
Tot	Speech In	(4)		16,703	100	29.15	40.12	15.97	9.23	5.53		8,749	100	31.16	40.63	15.11	8.30	4.80		7,954	100	26.94	39.56	16.91	10.25	100
	nI gnise <i>S</i>	(3)		57,709	100	21.90	24.12	18.51	17.74	17.73		28,727	100	23.60	25.40	19.69	17.59	13.72		28,982	100	20.22	22.86	17.33	17.89	01.10
	Total	(2)		192,538	100	17.62	25.31	20.45	20.51	16.12		108,468	100	17.63	25.23	22.25	22.08	12.82		84,070	100	17.61	25.41	18.13	18.48	1000
	Age Group	(1)		No. of Disabled	Total	0 -14	15-29	30 -44	45 - 59	+09		No. of Disabled	Total	0 -14	15 -29	30 -44	45 - 59	+09		No. of Disabled	Total	0 -14	15 - 29	30 -44	45 - 59	

8.4 Literacy and Educational Levels

As may be seen from Table 8.4, the general literacy rate among the disabled population is 62.25 percent (70.54 for males and 51.48 for females), which is much lower than that of the general population (78.35 for both sexes, 83.99 for males and 73.10 for females). Moreover the gap between the male and female literacy rates is much higher in the case of the disabled population.

Table 8.4 Literacy Rates of Disabled Population aged 7 and over by Sex, Cambodia 2008

Category	Popu	lation Ageo	i 7 +	Litera	ate Popula	ation		tage of Lit pulation*	
	BS	M	F	BS	M	F	BS	M	F
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
All Disabled	180,259	101,853	78,406	112,194	71,835	40,359	62.25	70.54	51.48
Disabled since birth	52,390	26,607	25,783	31,660	17,151	14,509	60.46	64.49	56.30
Disabled after birth	127,869	75,246	52,623	80,534	54,684	25,850	62.98	72.68	49.13

Note: *Excluding literacy not reported

The adult literacy rates at the national level computed from the 2008 Census priority Tables E3 and E4 (not published here) are: 62.39 for both sexes, 71.72 for males and 50.36 for females. These are also much lower than the corresponding rates for the general population (77.59 for both sexes; 85.08 for males; and 70.86 for females).

Among the literate population, those who have completed Primary level of education (21.76 percent) and Lower secondary level (15.50 percent) (see Table 8.5) are lower than the corresponding levels of education of the general population (29 percent and 17 percent respectively). Those who have the qualification of Secondary School/Baccalaureate level and beyond constitute hardly 2 percent. The literacy and educational levels of female disabled persons are generally lower than those of male disabled population. Special efforts are therefore needed to improve the literacy and educational levels of the handicapped, both males and females.

Table 8.5 Percent distribution of Literate Disabled Persons by Level of Education and Sex, Cambodia 2008

						Educational Level of Literate Population* (Percent)	evel of Liter	ate Populatio	n* (Percent)			
Category	of Literate Persons	Total	None	Primary Not Completed	Primary	Lower	Secondary School/ Bacca- laureate	Technical Diploma Pre- Secondary	Technical Diploma Post- Secondary	Under Graduate	Graduate Degree Holder	Other
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(9)	(7)	(8)	(6)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)
						Both Sexes						
All Disabled persons	112,194	100	14.04	46.54	21.76	15.50	0.71	0.21	0.30	0.18	0.38	0.39
Disabled since birth	31,660	100	33.37	35.78	15.00	13.22	0.85	0.23	0.35	0.19	0.40	0.61
Disabled after birth	80,534	100	6.44	50.76	24.41	16.40	99.0	0.20	0.28	0.17	0.38	0.30
						Males						
All Disabled	71,835	100	10.25	45.92	23.96	17.50	0.79	0.23	0.33	0.19	0.47	0.36
Disabled since birth	17,151	100	27.89	36.79	16.57	15.61	1.03	0:30	0.36	0.26	0.56	0.64
Disabled after birth	54,684	100	4.71	48.78	26.28	18.09	0.71	0.21	0.32	0.18	0.44	0.28
						Females						
All Disabled	40,359	100	20.78	47.64	17.83	11.94	0.58	0.17	0.25	0.15	0.23	0.43
Disabled since birth	14,509	100	39.84	34.59	13.14	10.38	0.64	0.16	0.35	0.12	0.21	0.57
Disabled after birth	25,850	100	10.08	54.96	20.46	12.81	0.55	0.18	0.19	0.16	0.25	0.34
	*											

Note: *Excluding Not reported educational level

8.5 Economic Activity Rates

The crude economic activity rate of the disabled persons (55.26) is slightly higher than that of the general population (52.65). The male economic active rates are generally higher than those of females. The economic activity rates of the population disabled after birth are generally higher than those of the population disabled since birth except in old ages (60+) (Tables 8.6 to 8.8).

Table 8.6 Percent distribution of Disabled Persons (both since birth and after birth) in each Sex and Broad Age group by Main Activity, Cambodia 2008

Broad Age group	Number	Total	Employed	Unemployed	Economically Inactive
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
		J	Both Sexes		
Total	192,538	100	52.36	3.99	44.74
0 -14	33,928	100	3.92	0.57	95.51
15 -59	127,582	100	68.09	5.41	26.50
60+	31,028	100	40.65	1.86	57.49
			Males		
Total	108,468	100	57.79	4.44	39.42
0 - 14	19,123	100	3.91	0.57	95.52
15 - 59	75,442	100	72.53	5.85	21.62
60+	13,903	100	51.92	2.11	45.97
			Females		
Total	84,070	100	45.35	3.40	51.60
0 - 14	14,805	100	3.94	0.57	95.49
15 - 59	52,140	100	61.66	4.78	33.57
60+	17,125	100	31.50	1.66	66.84

Table 8.7 Percent distribution of Disabled Persons (since birth) in each Sex and Broad Age group by Main Activity, Cambodia 2008

Broad Age group	Number	Total	Employed	Unemployed	Economically Inactive
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
		I	Both Sexes		
Total	61,151	100	42.72	4.48	52.80
0 - 14	19,120	100	3.32	0.55	96.12
15 - 59	37,740	100	61.73	6.47	31.80
60+	4,291	100	51.06	4.52	44.42
			Males		
Total	31,279	100	43.19	4.24	52.58
0 - 14	10,469	100	3.18	0.55	96.27
15 - 59	19,151	100	63.53	6.17	30.30
60+	1,659	100	60.88	5.12	34.00
			Females		
Total	29,872	100	42.23	4.74	53.03
0 - 14	8,651	100	3.49	0.55	95.95
15 - 59	18,589	100	59.88	6.77	33.35
60+	2,632	100	44.87	4.14	50.99

Table 8.8 Percent distribution of Disabled Persons (after birth) in each Sex and Broad Age group by Main Activity, Cambodia 2008

Broad Age group	Number	Total	Employed	Unemployed	Economically Inactive
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
		В	oth Sexes	•	
Total	131,387	100	56.84	2.17	40.99
0 - 14	14,808	100	4.69	0.59	94.72
15 - 59	89,842	100	70.76	2.65	26.60
60+	26,737	100	38.98	1.44	59.58
			Males		
Total	77,189	100	63.71	2.21	34.09
0 - 14	8,654	100	4.78	0.59	94.63
15 - 59	56,291	100	75.59	2.57	21.84
60+	12,244	100	50.71	1.70	47.59
]	Females		
Total	54,198	100	47.07	2.12	50.81
0 - 14	6,154	100	4.57	0.58	94.85
15 - 59	33,551	100	62.64	2.79	34.57
60+	14,493	100	29.07	1.21	69.72

Table 8.9 Economic Activity Rates of Disabled Population of Age 15-64 by Sex and Urban-Rural Residence Cambodia, 2008

ixesidence (Cambuula, 2006		
Residence and Sex	Number of Disabled	Number of economically Active Population	Economic Activity Rates
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
	Can	nbodia Total	
Both Sexes	135,493	96,573	71.28
Males	79,441	60,181	75.76
Females	56,052	36,392	64.93
		Urban	
Both Sexes	21,452	12,764	59.50
Males	12,383	8,149	65.81
Females	9,069	4,615	50.89
		Rural	
Both Sexes	114,041	83,809	73.49
Males	67,058	52,032	77.59
Females	46,983	31,777	67.64

The economic activity rate of 71.28 of the disabled population in the working age group 15-64 (Table 8.9) is less than the national average of 79.95. These rates for males and females in the general population are 81.57 and 78.47 respectively.

The above analysis reveals that the disabled population deserves special attention in education, employment and health care. The census statistics when analyzed further will go a long way in providing useful data for the successful implementation of the schemes for the welfare of the physically challenged population.