



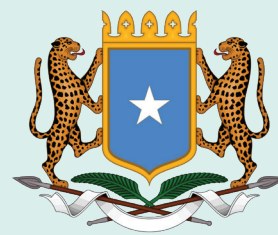
Somalia National Bureau of Statistics

# NATIONAL DISABILITY REPORT

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2024





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## Preface

With the successful completion of the Somali Integrated Household Budget Survey (SIHBS-2022), a landmark initiative spanning over three decades, the Somali National Bureau of Statistics (SNBS) is pleased to present a comprehensive report elucidating the status of individuals with disabilities. Leveraging the wealth of data from the SIHBS-2022, this report seeks to establish a foundational understanding of disability demographics in Somalia, offering crucial insights into the prevalence and patterns of disability across diverse regions and demographic groups.

This analytical endeavour is of paramount importance in shaping robust public policies and facilitating the effective implementation, monitoring, and evaluation of government programs within the framework of Somalia's strategic development plans. It underscores our unwavering commitment to comprehending and addressing the unique needs and challenges faced by individuals with disabilities—a segment of our population deserving focused attention and support.

In harmony with Somalia's commitment to inclusive development, this report contributes to ongoing efforts to enhance the welfare of all citizens, with a particular focus on those with disabilities. By providing policymakers with evidence-based insights, it empowers them to assess the efficacy of existing and future development policies and programs.

A noteworthy discovery arising from this analysis is the prevalence of disability in the adult population of Somalia, standing at 11.7 percent. This statistic offers a clear perspective on the extent of disability within the nation, serving as a crucial guide for shaping interventions and policies in this domain.

The development of this report entailed extensive research and analysis, drawing from a diverse array of data sources and expert contributions. The SNBS staff dedicated significant time and effort to ensure that this report offers a comprehensive and accurate portrayal of the state of disability in Somalia.

Our deepest gratitude extends to all who contributed to this monumental project. The unswerving dedication of the SNBS staff in collating and analysing data and drafting the report, along with the invaluable input from various stakeholders, has been instrumental in creating this report. Additionally, the SNBS acknowledges with immense appreciation the financial and technical support provided by our development partners, including the World Bank. Their expertise and guidance have played a pivotal role in enriching this report and ensuring its relevance to our national context.



**Sharmarke Mohamed Farah**

Director General

Somalia National Bureau of Statistics

## Acknowledgment

The successful completion of the disability report in Somalia represents a significant achievement in our ongoing commitment to understanding and addressing the needs of individuals with disabilities in the country. This milestone has been realized through a collaborative effort, bolstered by substantial technical and financial assistance from our valued development partners.

Special thanks are also due to Mr. Abdirahman Omar Dahir, Deputy Director-General, for his invaluable guidance and support. The dedicated technical team, led by Mr. Said Abdilahi Abdi, Director of Social Statistics, and Mohamed Abdinur Mohamed, Coordinator of the Somali Integrated Statistics and Economic Planning Capacity Project (SISEPCB), comprises key members such as Abdulghani Elmi Mohamed and Liban Bile Mohamud, who played instrumental roles in the meticulous analysis and compilation of the report. We extend our gratitude to the entire staff of the Somali National Bureau of Statistics (SNBS) for their unwavering commitment and support. We also wish to acknowledge the pivotal role played by Fartun Ali Abdirahman, General Secretary of the National Disability Agency.

Our heartfelt appreciation is extended, foremost, to the World Bank Group for their unwavering support throughout the project. We would like to recognize and express our sincere gratitude to key contributors, including Aphichoke Kotikula, Matthieu Rouyer and Heather G. Moylan for their pivotal roles in reviewing this comprehensive report.

This report not only symbolizes our collective endeavours but also serves as a poignant testament to the resilience and challenges faced by individuals with disabilities in Somalia. It underscores the commitment of the Federal Government of Somalia to enhancing their living conditions within the ever-evolving socio-economic landscape.





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## ABBREVIATIONS

<b>CRPD</b>	Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities
<b>FDS</b>	Federal Government Somalia
<b>MLSA</b>	Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs in Somalia
<b>MWHR</b>	Ministry of Women and Human Rights
<b>NDA</b>	National disability Agency
<b>NDP</b>	National Development Plan
<b>NSU</b>	Non-Standard Measurement Units
<b>OPD</b>	Organizations of Persons with Disabilities
<b>PSUs</b>	Primary Sampling Units
<b>PWD</b>	Persons with disabilities
<b>SDGs</b>	Sustainable Development Goals
<b>SIHBS</b>	Somali Integrated Household Budget Survey
<b>SNBS</b>	Somalia National Bureau of Statistics
<b>SSUs</b>	Secondary Sampling Units
<b>SSUs</b>	Secondary Sampling Units
<b>UNDP</b>	United Nations Development Programme
<b>UNPRPD</b>	United Nations Partnership on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities
<b>USUs</b>	Ultimate Sampling Units
<b>WB</b>	World Bank
<b>WGC</b>	Washington Group Questionnaire
<b>WHO</b>	World Health Organization



# CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION

Disability is part of the human condition. Almost everyone will be temporarily or permanently impaired at some point in life, and those who survive to old age will experience increasing difficulties in functioning. Most extended families have a disabled member, and many non-disabled people take responsibility for supporting and caring for their relatives and friends with disabilities. Every epoch has faced the moral and political issue of how best to include and support people with disabilities. This issue will become more acute as the demographics of societies change and more people live to an old age.

Globally, many people with disabilities do not have equal access to health care, education, and employment opportunities, do not receive the disability-related services that they require, and experience exclusion from everyday life activities. Following the entry into force of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD), disability is increasingly understood as a human rights issue. Disability is also an important development issue with an increasing body of evidence showing that persons with disabilities experience worse socioeconomic outcomes and poverty than persons without disabilities. Globally, disability is a significant issue in global population, accounting for approximately 15 percent, according to the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR). Disability is not only a distinct characteristic but also a factor that intersects with other identity characteristics and social determinants such as gender, age, and socioeconomic status (United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR), 2023, p. 22).

People with disabilities in Somalia are marginalized in all aspects of humanitarian response, including economic, social, and cultural rights. They are among the most vulnerable members of communities due to social stigma, inaccessibility, marginalization, and discrimination, and they have poorer health, lower educational attainment, fewer economic opportunities than physically abled or fully mobile people due to a lack of access to a variety of services. Similarly, families of persons with disabilities frequently face barriers because of stigma and a lack of services and opportunities for their family members with disabilities. Many children with disabilities do not attend schools and are kept at home, out of sight. Children and adults with disabilities are stigmatized, segregated, and given derogatory and collective names. The conflict exacerbates the barriers that children with disabilities face, and girls and IDPs with disabilities are disproportionately affected.

To improve the socio-economic and environmental status of people with disabilities, the government of Somalia has laid down legal frameworks and policies and implemented or oversaw social protection and development programmes, as outlined below:

The Provisional Constitution of the Federal Republic of Somalia provides equal rights before the law for persons with disabilities and prohibits the state from discriminating against persons with disabilities. It's Article 11 states that (1) All citizens, regardless of sex, religion, social or economic status, political opinion, clan, disability, occupation, birth or dialect shall have equal rights and duties before the law. (2) Discrimination is deemed to occur if the effect of an action impairs or

restricts a person's rights, even if the actor did not intend this effect. (3) The State must not discriminate against any person based on age, race, colour, tribe, ethnicity, culture, dialect, gender, birth, disability, religion, political opinion, occupation, or wealth. (4) All State programs, such as laws, or political and administrative actions that are designed to achieve full equality for individuals or groups who are disadvantaged, or who have suffered from discrimination in the past, shall be deemed to be not discriminatory.

A law that established a National Disability Agency was enacted in December 2018 with the mandate to develop livelihood and vocational skills training centres to enable persons with disabilities to have access to economic opportunities. Consequently, a National Disability Agency (NDA), was formed in 2021 as part of the Government's legislative response to the ratification of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. The mandate of the NDA includes facilitating PWDs' access to assistive devices and technology as well as facilitating skill training for PWDs for them to access economic opportunities such as start-up capital and financing from financial institutions through Public Private Partnerships. Five Commissioners with disabilities were appointed by Prime Ministerial Decree Lr. 122 on January 21, 2021. Comprising (3 Women and 2 Men), Chair (Men) Deputy Chair (Women), General Secretary (Men) and two members.

As part of its efforts to make education services free and accessible primary education for all Somali children, the Federal Government of Somalia led by the Ministry of Education has developed and adopted many education reforms, policies and regulations, such as the Education Sector Strategic Plan (ESSP) (2018- 2020), National Education Policy (2020), Special Educational Needs Disability and Inclusive Education Policy (SEND & IE) (2018).

The Shock Responsive Safety Net for Human Capital Project (SNHCP) in 2020 targeted a cohort of 200,000 beneficiary households, who were entitled to three years of benefits. The most vulnerable and under-represented members of the communities were encouraged to participate. Specific attention was paid to age, gender, disability, and clan representation from across the community. The criteria for selection of the beneficiary households are listed in ranked priorities; the first criteria for inclusion are the households with children under the age of five. Other households that are given priority include those with persons with disabilities, malnourished pregnant and lactating women, a high dependency ratio to the sole breadwinner, a lack of or limited livelihood assets, child-headed households, a lack of a breadwinner, etc.

SAGAL Social Transfers for vulnerable Somali people is a project designed to improve the resilience of households to conflict and climate-related shocks and disasters targeting 44,221 households, or 265,326 individuals with a focus on internally displaced persons (IDPs), returnees and host communities. In line with the UN Convention on Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD), the project will ensure mainstreaming by including people with special needs such as people living with disabilities.

Against this backdrop, accurate and reliable disability statistics are vital for assessing, evaluating, and monitoring the implementation of the above outlined international and national frameworks, development plans and programmes as well as designing appropriate policies, programmes and budgets, and effectively targeting obstacles to the integration of persons with disabilities in society.

In response to the demand for accurate and reliable disability statistics, the Somalia National Bureau of Statistics prepared the first national disability report of its kind, which provides disability statistics that enable policymaking to be evidence-based to support the realization of the rights of persons with disabilities.

## 1.1 Objectives

The primary objective of the national disability report is to provide evidence-based information that can be used to develop or monitor laws, policies, strategies and programmes for empowering people with disabilities. Specific objectives include the following:

1. To assess socio-economic conditions of people with disabilities including literacy, educational attainment labour force participation, employment, etc
2. To provide evidence to inform and guide policies, national development plan, national strategies for empowering people with disabilities.
3. To support evidence-based policy making towards improved working opportunities for people with disabilities

## 1.2 Methodology

This report adopts the Washington Group Guidelines as a methodological reference for generating disability statistics. In terms of difficulty functioning, the 'difficulty' can be operationalized through a range of descriptors from no difficulty at all, through some difficulty and a lot of difficulty to completely unable to carry out the action. Each of these descriptors represents a cut-off

or threshold in the determination of a final disability identifier; for example, to define those with and without disability. These levels of functioning are also represented in the response categories to the Washington Group (WG) Short Set on Functioning (WG-SS).

1. Do you have difficulty seeing even if wearing glasses?
2. Do you have difficulty hearing even if using a hearing aid?
3. Do you have difficulty walking or climbing stairs?
4. Do you have difficulty remembering or concentrating?
5. Do you have difficulty with (self-care such as) washing all over or dressing?
6. Using your usual language, do you have difficulty communicating (for example understanding or being understood by others)?

The value options used for each of the WG-SS questions are:

- a) No difficulty
- b) Yes, some difficulty
- c) Yes, a lot of difficulty
- d) Cannot do at all
- e) Refused
- f) Not ascertained
- g) Don't know

Disability prevalence is not a single statistic but can be calculated at various thresholds depending on the purposes of both data collection and reporting. Considering the tremendous barriers and challenges encountered by people with disabilities on a daily basis in Somalia, including an inaccessible physical environment, a severe shortage of assistive devices and mobility aids, limited access to educational and employment opportunities, and the lack of a financial support system, it was chosen to use the disability identifier (I). Thus, people with disability are defined here as those who answered at least one of the six questions with SOME DIFFICULTY, A LOT OF DIFFICULTY, or CANNOT DO AT ALL.

### 1.2.1 Data

The national disability report relies on data collected from the Somalia Integrated Household Budget Survey (SIHBS), conducted by the Somalia National Bureau of Statistics in 2022 and disseminated in 2023. SIHBS was designed to provide a representative sample of 7,212 households to estimate various indicators representative at the national level, regionally, and place of residence (rural, urban, and nomadic areas). The Somali Integrated Household Budget Survey (SIHBS) notably featured the six questions from the Washington Group Short Set.

### 1.2.2 Limitation of the report

All the indicators of this report are based on population aged 18 years and above which means the findings of this report doesn't reflect the prevalence of disability for the entire population, but rather reflects the proportion of adults who have difficulty functioning with regard to the Washington Group (WG) Short Set on Functioning (WG-SS).

## 1.3 Outline of the report

The report is structured as follows: Chapter 1 serves as an introduction, providing a comprehensive overview of the context and insights into the techniques employed to gather and analyse the data and setting the stage for the subsequent chapters. Chapter 2 provides information on prevalence of disability across socio-demographic characteristics. Chapter 3 is about literacy and educational attainment, comparing those with and without disability. Chapter 4 tackles economic activity status of persons with disability as well as their access to financial services and communication technology. Finally, Chapter 5 covers conclusion and recommendations.

## CHAPTER TWO: PREVALENCE OF DISABILITY

Prevalence of disability is the percentages of adults with any type of disability (hearing, vision, cognition, mobility, self-care) (Zhao et al., 2019, p. 22).

Table 2.1 represents the prevalence of disability in the population (18+ years) by age, sex, and place of residence. The overall prevalence of disability in the population aged 18 years and above is 11.7 percent. Women have a slightly higher prevalence of disability at 12.6 percent compared to men at 10.5 percent.

Analysis by age shows that the prevalence of disability increases with age from 4.0 percent in the age group (18-29) to 65.5 percent in those aged (80 and above) (Figure 2.1).

Figure 2.2 shows that the place of residence appears to have an influence on disability prevalence, with rural areas reporting a higher prevalence of 13.5 percent, compared to urban areas at 11.3 percent and nomadic areas at 9.8 percent.

Figure 2.1 Prevalence of disability by age

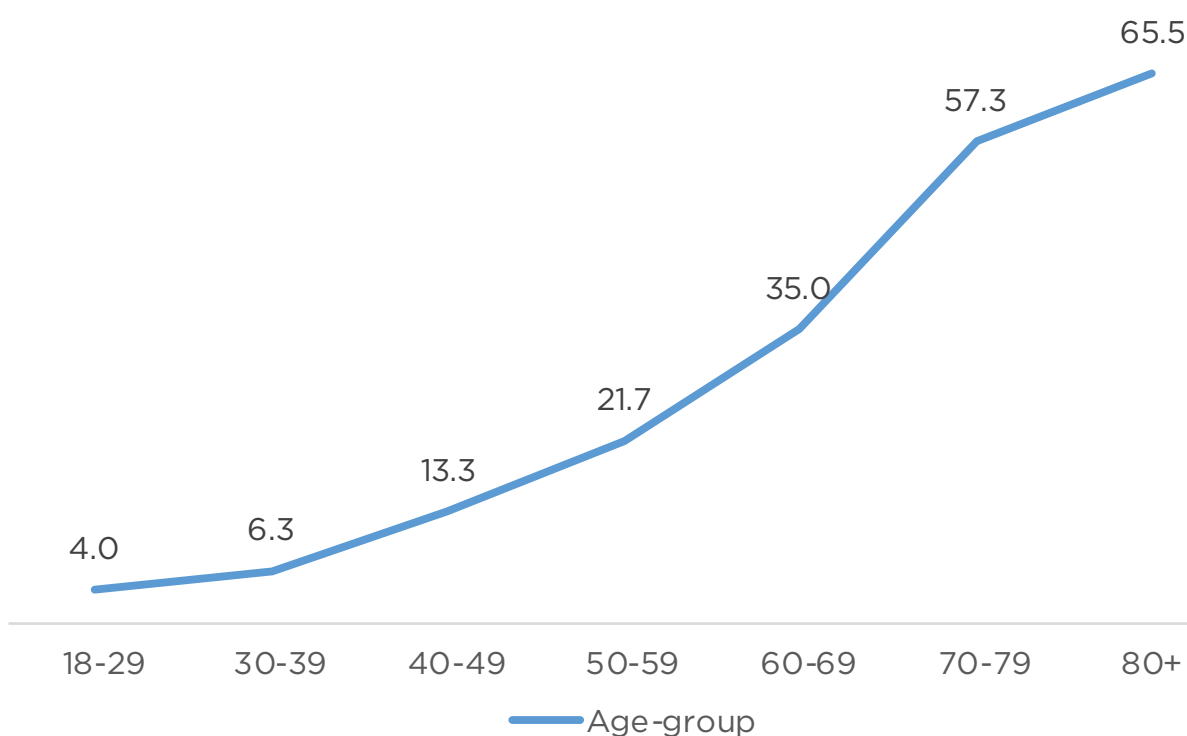


Figure 2.2 Prevalence of disability by place of residence

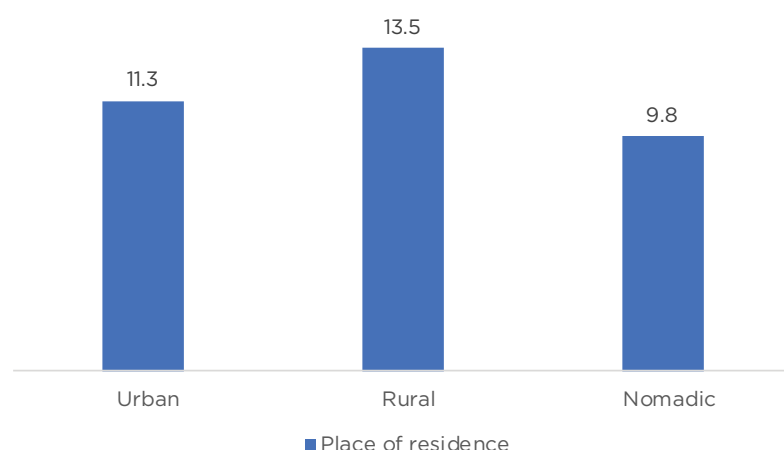


Table 2.1 Prevalence of disability by background characteristics

Percentage of the population (18+) years by background characteristics

Background Characteristics	With disability	Without disability	Total
<b>Age-group</b>			
18-29	4.0	96.0	100.0
30-39	6.3	93.7	100.0
40-49	13.3	86.7	100.0
50-59	21.7	78.3	100.0
60-69	35.0	65.0	100.0
70-79	57.3	42.7	100.0
80+	65.5	34.5	100.0
<b>Sex</b>			
Women	12.6	87.4	100.0
Men	10.5	89.5	100.0
<b>Place of residence</b>			
Urban	11.3	88.7	100.0
Rural	13.5	86.5	100.0
Nomadic	9.8	90.2	100.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>11.7</b>	<b>88.4</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Table 2.2 presents the proportion of individuals with disabilities, categorized by type of disability and sex. Overall, sight and walking disabilities are the most prevalent. In terms of sex, all disability types are more prevalent among women than men. For instance, women reported sight and walking disabilities at rates of 6.9 percent and 6.8 percent respectively compared with rates of 5.1 percent for sight disabilities and 5.0 percent for walking disabilities among men.

Table 2.2 Proportion of persons with disabilities, by type of disability and sex

Type of Disability	Female	Male	Total
Seeing	6.9	5.1	6.1
Hearing	4.1	2.7	3.5
Walking	6.8	5.0	6.0
Focusing	3.1	2.4	2.8
Selfcaring	2.6	2.0	2.3
Communicating	2.3	2.2	2.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>12.6</b>	<b>10.5</b>	<b>11.6</b>

Table 2.3 shows the proportion of persons with disabilities, by type of disability and place of residence. The data reveals notable differences in disability prevalence across these locations. Specifically, the rural population exhibits the highest rates of disability, with walking disabilities being most prevalent at 7.5 percent, followed by sight disabilities at 7.0 percent. In contrast, the urban population shows lower prevalence rates, with sight disabilities at 5.8 percent and walking disabilities at 5.6 percent. The nomadic community reports the lowest overall disability rates, with sight and walking disabilities at 5.5 percent and 5.4 percent respectively.

Table 2.3 Proportion of persons with disabilities, by type of disability and location

Type of Disability	Place of residence		
	Urban	Rural	Nomadic
Seeing	5.8	7.0	5.5
Hearing	3.1	4.4	3.5
Walking	5.6	7.5	5.4
Focusing	2.9	3.1	1.6
Selfcaring	2.3	2.9	1.5
Communicating	2.3	2.5	1.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>11.3</b>	<b>13.5</b>	<b>9.8</b>



## CHAPTER THREE: LITERACY AND EDUCATION

Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 4 calls for “inclusive and quality education for all”. Persons with a disability are among the population groups most likely to suffer from exclusion from education. They are therefore the focus of efforts by the United Nations and other organizations involved in the monitoring of progress for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development that include the development of methodological standards, the compilation and dissemination of disability statistics, and the strengthening of national statistical capacity.

The right to education is strongly supported in the newly ratified Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UN, 2006) where Article 24 states that “States Parties shall ensure an inclusive education system at all levels and lifelong learning ...” Although the right to education is primarily framed as a school-based issue for children, certain articles of the Convention are linked to adult literacy and Article 24 itself refers to ‘youth and adults’. (UN Declaration 2006) The ability to exercise these rights is directly related to the mastery of literacy skills.

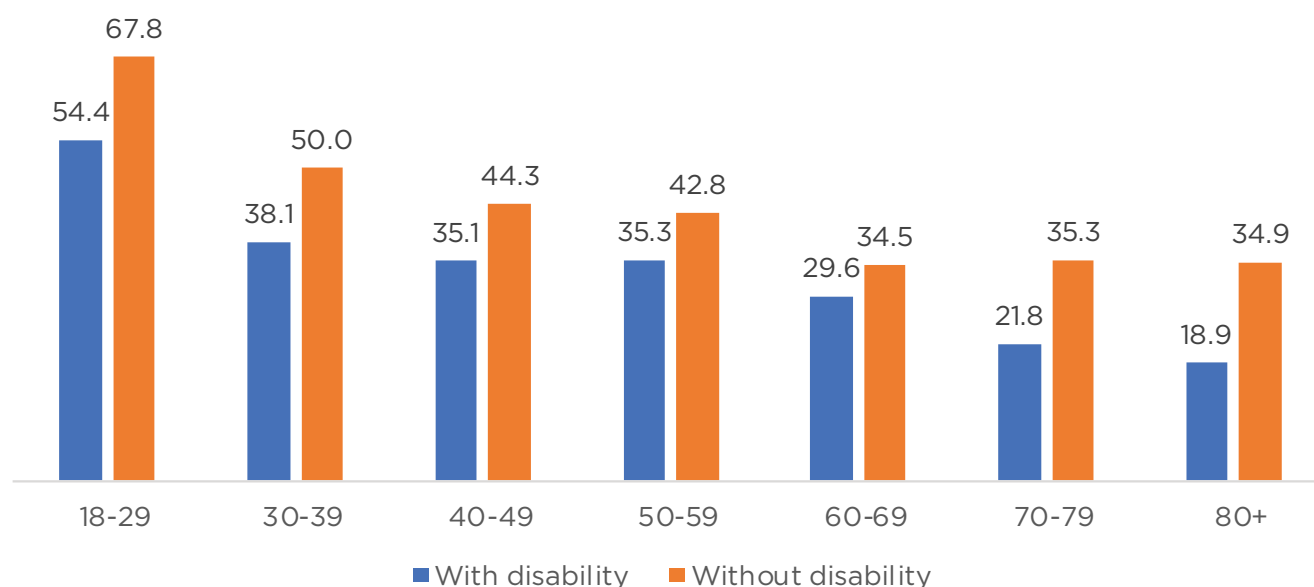
This chapter focuses on analysing the literacy rate and education attainment among the population aged 18 and over, based on disability status, age group, sex, and place of residence. Furthermore, it aims to compare the literacy rate and education attainment between individuals with and without disabilities.

### 3.1 Literacy Status of Persons with Disability in Somalia

This section examines the literacy rate among individuals with and without disability status. Table 3.1 shows that there is a wide disparity of literacy rate between individuals with and without disability. The literacy rate of individuals with disabilities are lower compared to their those without disabilities at 34.1 percent and 56.0 percent, respectively. It is also noteworthy that the proportion of literacy rate is higher for men than women regardless of their disability status.

Generally, the literacy rate of individuals with disabilities are quite lower than those without disabilities of the same age groups. It also reported that the rate of literacy tends to decrease as age increases. Among individuals with disabilities, the highest literacy rate is reported for persons aged 18–29 years, with a percentage of 54.4 percent and the lowest literacy rates are reported to those aged 80 years and above at 18.9 percent. Similarly, among individuals without disabilities, the literacy rates also follow a similar trend (Figure 3.1).

Figure 3.1 Percentage of literacy rate with disability status by age group



Analysis by sex indicates that there is a striking difference of literacy rate of individuals with and without disability. The level of literacy rate of women with disabilities are lower than women without disabilities at 25.7 percent and 47.1 percent, respectively. Similar pattern is also observed for men whereby the proportion of men with disabilities have lower literacy rate compared to those without disabilities at 46.1 percent and 66.4 percent, respectively (Figure 3.2).

As displayed by Figure 3.2, the literacy rate of persons with disabilities are much lower than those without disabilities irrespectively of their place of residence. Among adults with disabilities, urban areas have the highest literacy rated at 39.8 percent, followed by rural areas at 26.7 percent and the lowest is reported in nomadic areas at 16.1 percent.

Figure 3.2 Percentage of literacy rate with disability status by sex and place of residence

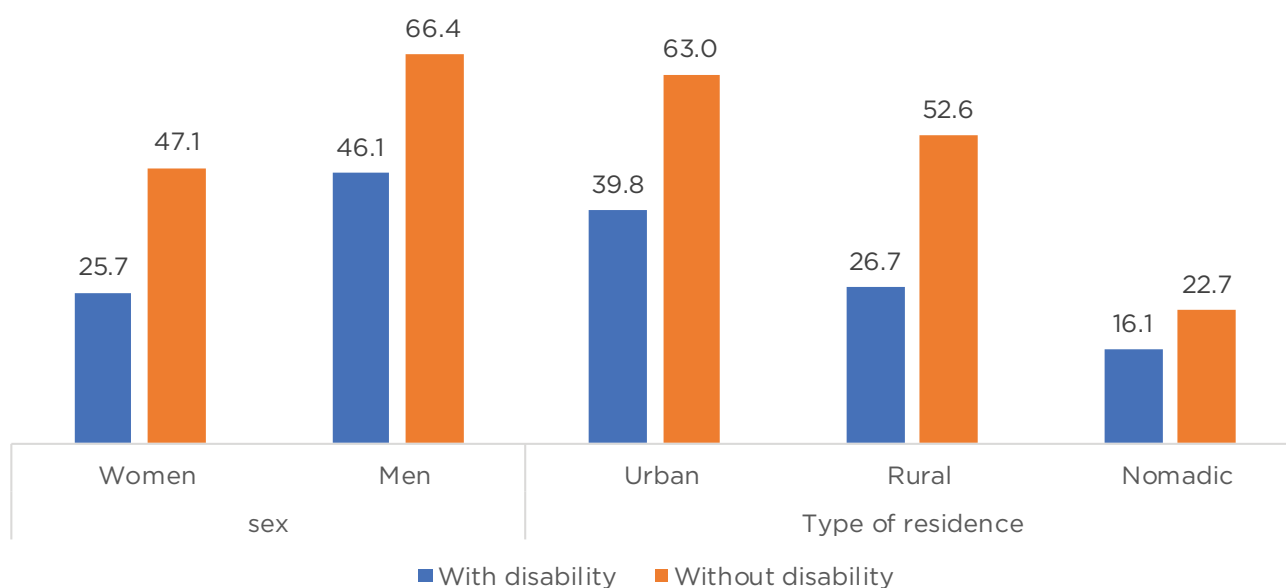


Table 3.1 Literacy rate by disability status

Percentage of literacy rate population (18+) years by background characteristics		
Background Characteristics	With disability	Without disability
<b>Age-group</b>		
18-29	54.4	67.8
30-39	38.1	50.0
40-49	35.1	44.3
50-59	35.3	42.8
60-69	29.6	34.5
70-79	21.8	35.3
80+	18.9	34.9
<b>Sex</b>		
Women	25.7	47.1
Men	46.1	66.4
<b>Type of residence</b>		
Urban	39.8	63.0
Rural	26.7	52.6
Nomadic	16.1	22.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>34.1</b>	<b>56.0</b>

### 3.2 Educational attainments with disability status

Education attainment serves as a crucial indicator of social and economic development, as it empowers individuals, with disability, reduces poverty, and contributes to economic growth within societies (Moodley, 2016). This section provides information about the educational attainment of persons with and without disabilities who are aged 18 years or older by age, sex, and place of residence. Table 3.2 shows that there is a striking difference of educational attainment between individuals with and without disability. Indeed, 80.6 percent of adults with disabilities have had no formal education compared to 62.6 percent of those without disability. Among persons with disabilities, 9.7 percent have received primary education, 6.4 percent have received secondary education, and only 3.3 percent have attained higher education.

Generally, as the age increases, the proportion of persons who have never gone to school rises. Among individuals with disabilities, the highest proportion of no formal education is reported for persons aged 70-79 years, with a percentage of 93.3 percent and the lowest proportions are reported for those aged 18-29 years at 62.5 percent (Table 3.2).

There is a wide gender disparity in educational attainment of persons aged 18 years above irrespective of their disability status as shown in Table 3.2. Among individuals with disabilities, 86.4 percent of women have never been school compared to 72.4 percent of men with no education. Similarly, only one percent of women have received higher education compared to 6.6 percent of men (Figure 3.3).

As indicated by Table 3.2, place of residence also has influence on educational attainment of individuals regardless of their disability status. Among persons with disabilities, individuals living in urban areas tend to have higher levels of educational attainment compared with those living in rural or nomadic areas. 8.9 percent of persons with disabilities in urban area have completed secondary education compared to 1.8 percent and 2.4 percent of those living rural and nomadic areas respectively. On the other hand, 96.0 percent, and 87.3 percent of persons with disabilities in nomadic and rural areas respectively have no formal education compared to 75.6 percent of those living in urban areas.

Figure 3.3 Percentage distribution of educational attainment by disability status

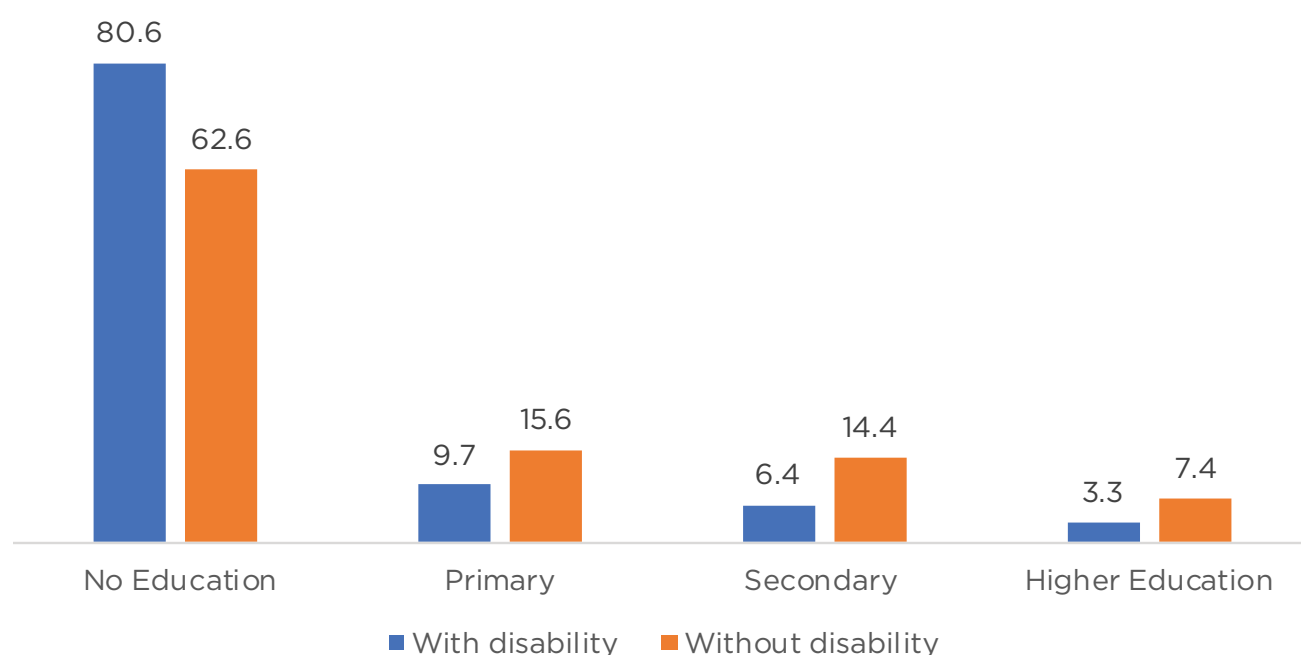


Table 3.2 Educational attainment by disability status

Percentage of the distribution of Educational Attainment population (18+) years by background characteristics

Background Characteristics	With Disability				Total
	No Education	Primary	Secondary	Higher Education	
Age-group					
18-29	62.5	14.1	14.2	9.2	100.0
30-39	78.5	11.7	5.4	4.4	100.0
40-49	79.1	12.1	7.9	0.9	100.0
50-59	76.3	11.8	7.0	5.0	100.0
60-69	87.8	6.5	3.8	1.9	100.0
70-79	93.3	4.2	1.4	1.1	100.0
80+	91.2	5.4	3.4	0.0	100.0
Sex					
Women	86.4	7.5	5.1	1.0	100.0
Men	72.4	12.8	8.2	6.6	100.0
Type of residence					
Urban	75.6	10.7	8.9	4.9	100.0
Rural	87.3	10.0	1.8	0.9	100.0
Nomadic	96.0	1.6	2.4	0.0	100.0
Total	80.6	9.7	6.4	3.3	100.0

Without Disability					
<b>Age-group</b>					
18-29	48.9	18.8	21.3	11.1	100.0
30-39	70.4	14.6	9.4	5.6	100.0
40-49	77.1	13.4	6.7	2.8	100.0
50-59	78.8	8.7	9.8	2.7	100.0
60-69	79.2	10.8	6.4	3.6	100.0
70-79	85.1	6.3	5.7	2.9	100.0
80+	89.0	7.4	1.0	2.7	100.0
<b>Sex</b>					
Women	70.5	14.6	9.9	5.0	100.0
Men	53.6	16.7	19.5	10.2	100.0
<b>Type of residence</b>					
Urban	55.1	16.9	18.0	10.0	100.0
Rural	69.4	17.1	10.2	3.3	100.0
Nomadic	92.7	5.6	1.4	0.3	100.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>62.6</b>	<b>15.6</b>	<b>14.4</b>	<b>7.4</b>	<b>100.0</b>

## CHAPTER FOUR: ECONOMIC ACTIVITY STATUS OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITY

Statistical data plays a crucial role in understanding various aspects of a nation's economy, including the labour market. It stands for valuable insights into economic activities and helps shed light on key factors such as employment trends and workforce composition. For analysis in this chapter, the focus is specifically on the current economic activities, financial bank accounts, and mobile ownership of individuals aged 18 years or older.

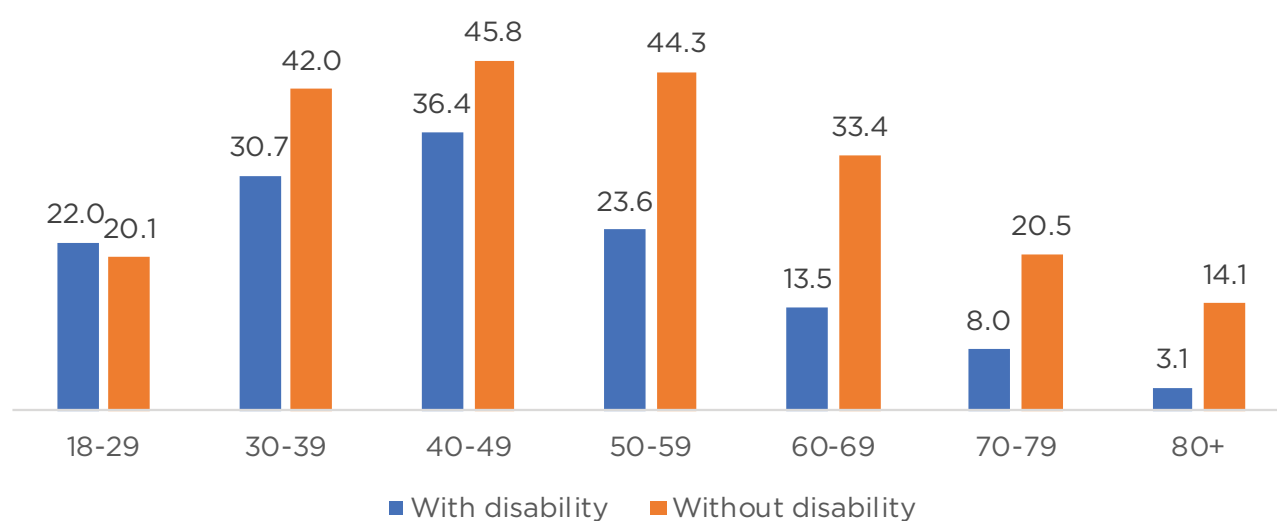
### 4.1 Labour force participation rate by disability status

Table 4.1 provides information about labour force participation rate of the population (18+) years by age, sex, and place of residence. Overall, the labour force participation rate for individuals with disabilities is lower than for those without disabilities at 20.7 percent and 31.7 percent, respectively.

Figure 4.1 shows that the labour force participation rate for individuals with disabilities is consistently lower compared to those without disabilities across all age groups which indicates that individuals with disabilities face greater challenges and barriers when it comes to taking part in the labour force. The wider discrepancies in labour force participation rates between individuals with and without disabilities exist in the age groups (50-59) years and (60-49) years with percentage difference points at 20.7 percent and 19.9 percent, respectively. This suggests that individuals with disabilities in this age range encounter significant obstacles in accessing employment opportunities. Among persons with disabilities, the labour force participation rate increases before the age of 50 years and then gradually decreases for the older ages. The highest labour force participation rates for persons with disabilities are reported for the age groups (30-39) years and (40-49) years at 30.7 percent and 36.4 percent, respectively.



Figure 4.1 Labour force participation rate by disability status and age



Analysis by gender indicates that the labour force participation rates for individuals with disabilities are lower than those without disabilities for both men and women, but the difference is much more pronounced for the former. Indeed, the percentage difference points of the labour force participation rates for men with and without disabilities is 19.3 percent, compared with a difference of 2.7 percentage points for women. Nonetheless, the labour force participation rate for men is consistently surpassing that of their women counterparts irrespective of disability status, which means women are more likely to be inactive compared to men in the labour market (Figure 4.2). Among individuals with disabilities, the gender disparity is also apparent with

higher labour participation rates for men compared to their women counterparts at 28.1 percent and 15.4 percent respectively.

Findings from Figure 4.2 reveals that the labour force participation rate for persons with disabilities is much lower compared to those without disabilities in urban and rural areas. For instance, the percentage difference points between individuals with and without disabilities in urban and rural areas are 12.1 percent and 13.9 percent, respectively. Among persons with disabilities, there is a lower labour force participation rates for persons with disabilities in nomadic areas at 15.3 percent compared to those living in urban and rural areas at 21.5 percent and 20.5 percent, respectively.

Figure 4.2 Labour force participation rate by disability status, sex and place of residence

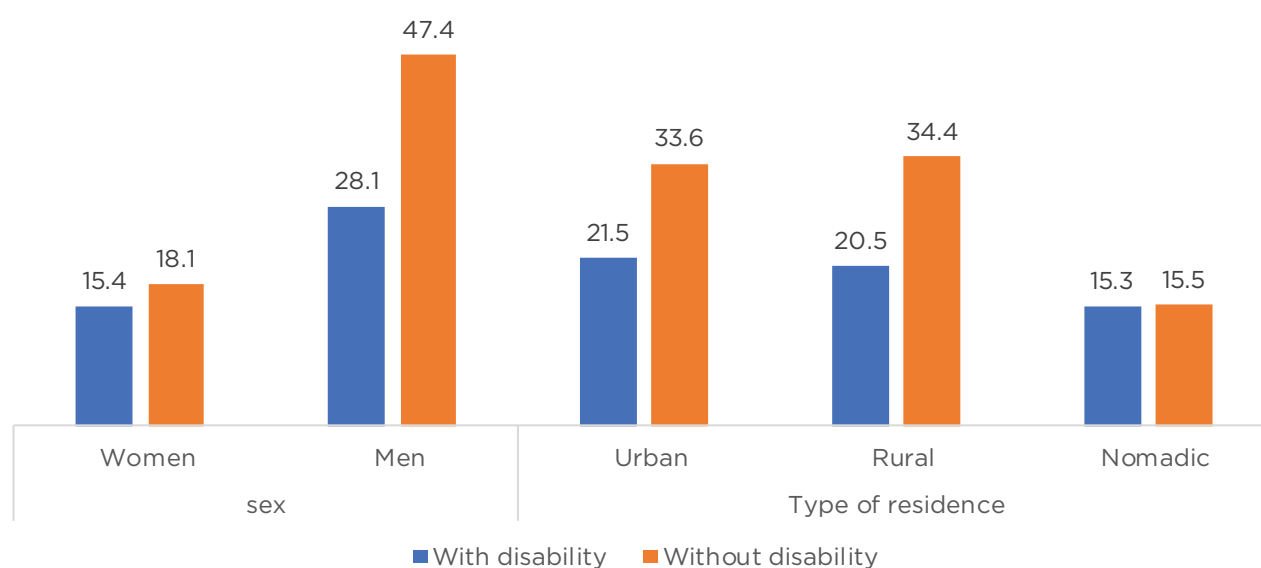


Table 4.1 Labour force participation rate by disability status

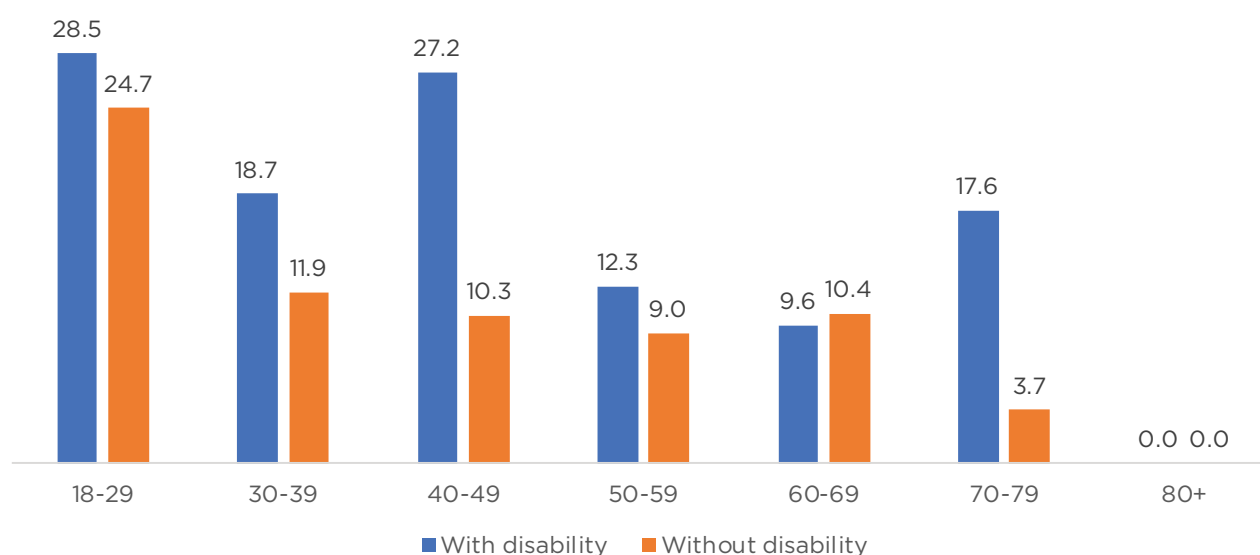
Labour force participation rate for the population aged 18 years and above by background characteristics		
Background Characteristics	With disability	Without disability
<b>Age-group</b>		
18-29	22.0	20.1
30-39	30.7	42.0
40-49	36.4	45.8
50-59	23.6	44.3
60-69	13.5	33.4
70-79	8.0	20.5
80+	3.1	14.1
<b>Sex</b>		
Women	15.4	18.1
Men	28.1	47.4
<b>Type of residence</b>		
Urban	21.5	33.6
Rural	20.5	34.4
Nomadic	15.3	15.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>20.7</b>	<b>31.7</b>

## 4.2 Unemployment rate by disability status

Table 4.2 presents the unemployment rates with and without disability by age, sex, and type of residence. The table shows that individuals with disabilities have higher unemployment rates compared to those without disabilities. Overall, the unemployment rate for individuals with disabilities is 20.3 percent compared to 14.8 percent for those without disabilities.

Unemployment rates for individuals with disabilities are higher across all age groups compared to individuals without disabilities. This suggests that adults with disabilities face more barriers and challenges when it comes to securing employment opportunities. The highest gaps in unemployment rates difference between individuals with and without disabilities are in the age groups (40-49) and (70-79) at 16.9 and 13.9 percentage points respectively (Figure 4.3).

Figure 4.3 Unemployment rate with disability status by age



According to gender, individuals with disabilities have higher unemployment rates than those without disabilities. For example, the percentage difference points of an unemployment rates between men with and without disabilities is 6.4 percent. The gender discrepancy is also visible among people with disabilities, with men having slightly lower unemployment rates than women, at 19.4 percent and 21.3 percent, respectively (Figure 4.4).

Figure 4.4 shows that the place of residence appears to have an influence on unemployment rates regardless of disability status, with urban areas reporting a higher prevalence of unemployment compared to rural and

nomadic areas. Furthermore, persons with disabilities report consistently higher unemployment rates than those without disabilities across places of residence. For example, people with disabilities in urban areas have an unemployment rate of 23.2 percent compared with 17.6 percent for those without disabilities. Similarly, unemployment rates for persons with disabilities in rural areas are higher than for those without disabilities at 14.2 percent and 9.3 percent. Finally, the starkest discrepancy in unemployment rate for people with disabilities is found in nomadic areas, with 14.6 percent of adults with disabilities unemployed, compared with only 3.6 percent of those without disabilities.

Figure 4.4 Unemployment rate with disability status by sex and place of residence

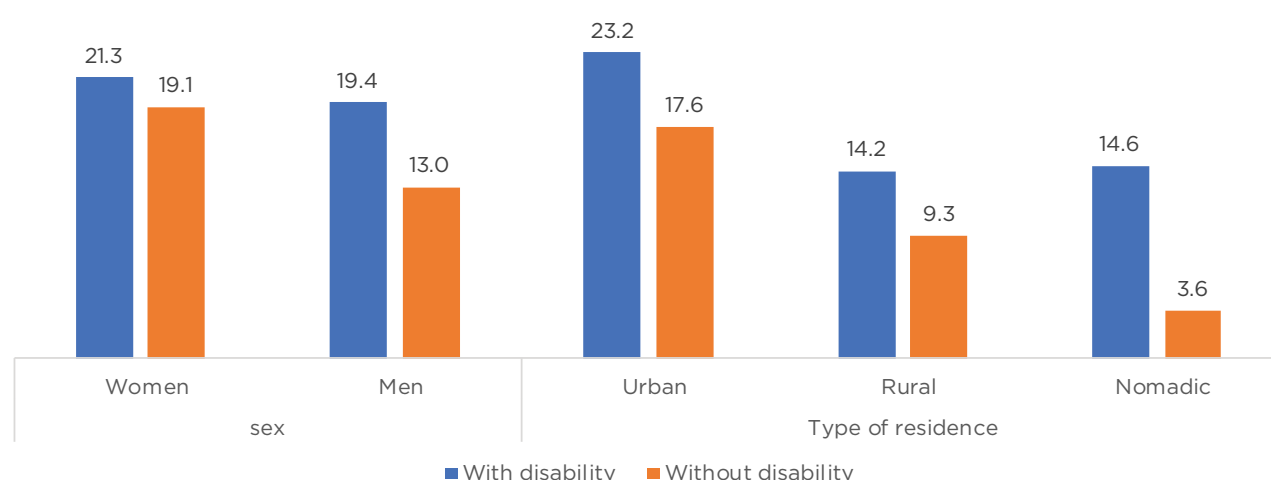


Table 4.2 Unemployment rate by disability status

Unemployment rate for the population aged 18 years and above by background characteristics

Background Characteristics	With disability	Without disability
<b>Age-group</b>		
18-29	28.5	24.7
30-39	18.7	11.9
40-49	27.2	10.3
50-59	12.3	9.0
60-69	9.6	10.4
70-79	17.6	3.7
80+	0.0	0.0
<b>Sex</b>		
Women	21.3	19.1
Men	19.4	13.0
<b>Type of residence</b>		
Urban	23.2	17.6
Rural	14.2	9.3
Nomadic	14.6	3.6
<b>Total</b>	<b>20.3</b>	<b>14.8</b>

### 4.3 Financial bank account by disability status

Table 4.3 shows the percentage of individuals with access to financial bank accounts by disability status, age, sex, and place of residence. Overall, the ownership of financial bank accounts is very low for the population aged 18 years and above regardless of their disability status. The proportion of adults with disabilities who have bank accounts is slightly lower than those without disabilities at 7.9 percent and 9.8 percent, respectively. Men have higher percentages of financial bank account

compared to women regardless of their disability status. Among adults with disabilities, men also have higher percentages of financial bank accounts than their women counterparts at 10.3 percent and 6.1 percent, respectively.

Figure 4.5 shows that urban residents report higher rates of bank account ownership compared to rural or nomadic residents irrespective of disability status. 9.6 percent of individuals with disabilities in urban areas and 11.7 percent of individuals without disabilities have a bank account.

Figure 4.5 Percentage of the population with financial bank account by place of residence

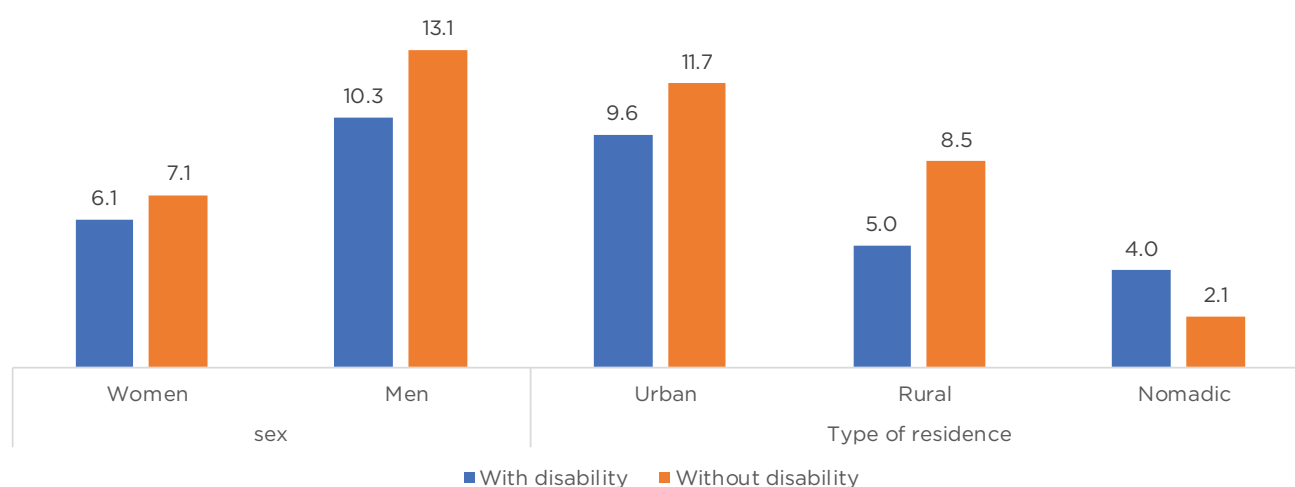


Table 4.3 Bank account by disability status

Percentage of the population (18+) years with bank account by background characteristics

Background Characteristics	With disability	Without disability
<b>Age-group</b>		
18-29	9.8	8.5
30-39	11.7	10.5
40-49	9.3	13.5
50-59	9.9	10.4
60-69	5.0	9.6
70-79	2.9	6.5
80+	5.5	5.4
<b>Sex</b>		
Women	6.1	7.1
Men	10.3	13.1
<b>Type of residence</b>		
Urban	9.6	11.7
Rural	5.0	8.5
Nomadic	4.0	2.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>7.9</b>	<b>9.8</b>

#### 4.4 Mobile phone by disability status

Table 4.4 presents mobile phone ownership among individuals aged 18 years and over by age, gender, and place of residence. Generally, ownership of mobile phones is common in the country due to limited use Somali notes (Shillings) and frequency use of mobile financial transactions in the country. Overall, mobile phone ownership rate is lower for individuals with disabilities compared to those without disabilities, at 79.2 percent and 92.1 percent, respectively.

Analysis by age shows that mobile phone ownership increases with age. The highest percentage differences between individuals with and without disabilities are in the age groups (70-79) and 80 years and above at 19.6 and 19.5 percentage points respectively (Figure 4.6).

There is a wide gender disparity in mobile phone ownership for persons with and without disabilities (Figure 4.7). Women with disabilities have a lower mobile phone ownership at 77.8 percent compared to women without disabilities at 91.6 percent. Among men, the ownership of mobiles for those with disabilities is 81.2 percent compared to those without disabilities at 92.6 percent.

As indicated by Figure 4.7, mobile phone ownership for persons with disabilities is lower compared to those without disabilities across urban, rural and nomadic areas. the highest difference between individuals with and without disabilities are in urban and rural areas at 13.6 and 13.7 percentage points respectively. Among persons with disabilities, there is much less variation of mobile ownership for persons across urban, rural and nomadic areas, notably compared to those without disabilities.

Figure 4.6 Percentage of the population with mobile phone by age

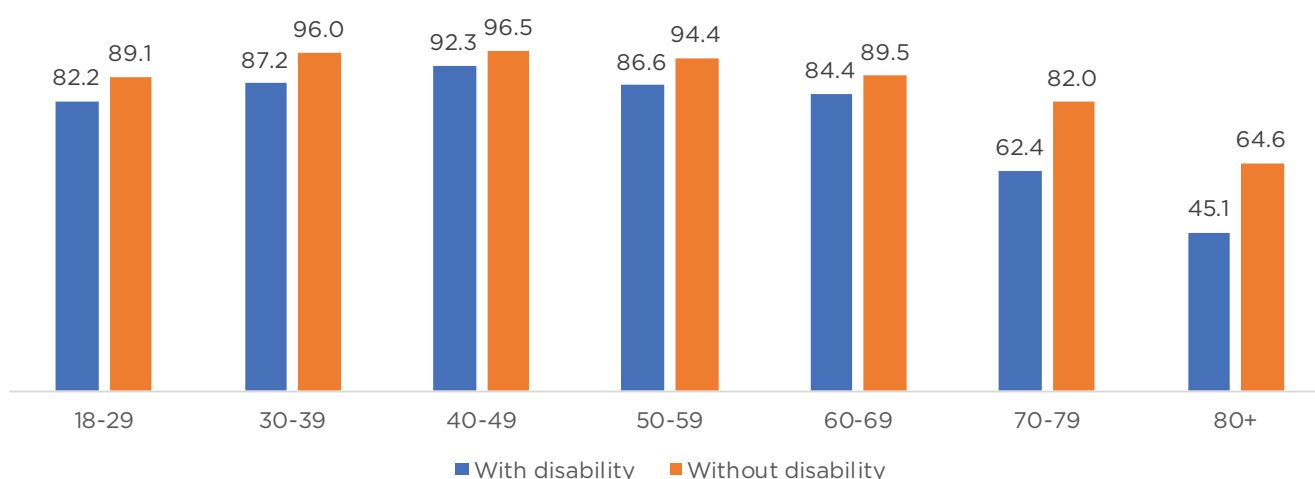


Figure 4.7 Percentage of the population with mobile phones by sex and place residence

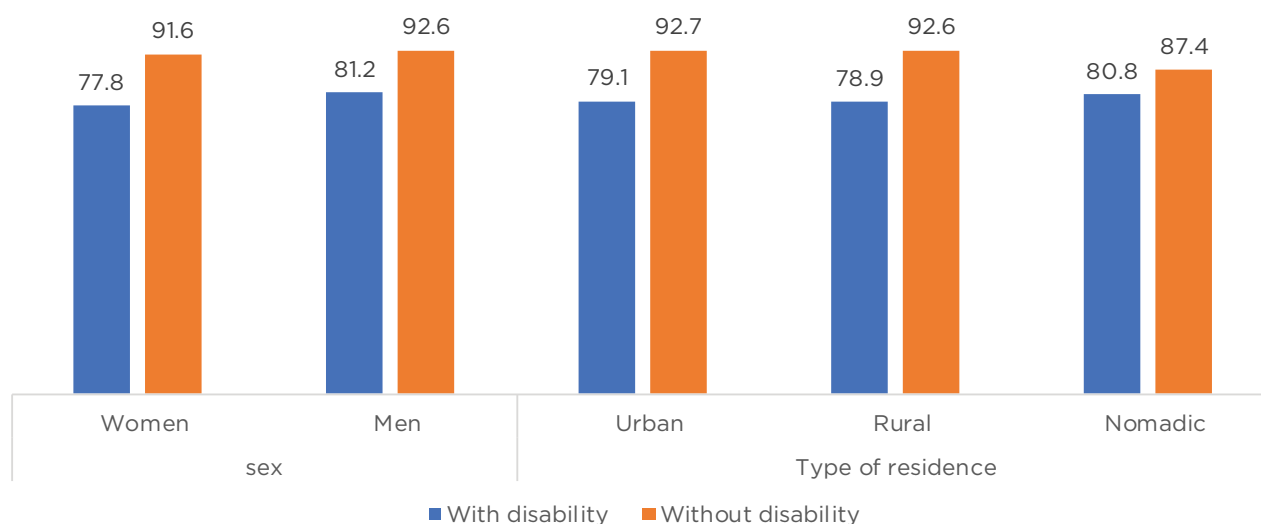


Table 4.4 Mobile Phone by disability status

Percentage of the population (18+) years with mobile phone by background characteristics

Background Characteristics	With disability	Without disability
<b>Age-group</b>		
18-29	82.2	89.1
30-39	87.2	96.0
40-49	92.3	96.5
50-59	86.6	94.4
60-69	84.4	89.5
70-79	62.4	82.0
80+	45.1	64.6
<b>Sex</b>		
Women	77.8	91.6
Men	81.2	92.6
<b>Type of residence</b>		
Urban	79.1	92.7
Rural	78.9	92.6
Nomadic	80.8	87.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>79.2</b>	<b>92.1</b>

## 4.5 Mobile Bank by disability status

Table 4.5 presents mobile bank use among the population aged 18 years and older, comparing individuals with and without disabilities. Overall, 74.3 percent of individuals with disabilities and 88.6 percent of individuals without disabilities use mobile banking services.

In terms of age groups, Figure 4.8 shows that the usage of mobile banking is high across all age groups. There is a trend of increasing mobile banking usage with age, regardless of disability status. However, there is a decline in mobile banking usage after 60 years old. The percentage is slightly lower for individuals with disabilities compared to those without disabilities in each age group. The highest differences between individuals with and without disabilities are in the age groups (70-79) and (80+) at 20.1 and 19.7 percentage points respectively.

With regard to gender, the utilization of mobile banking services is very high in Somalia, with men having a slightly higher percentage of usage compared to women, regardless of disability status. Women with disabilities have a lower mobile bank usage at 72.9 percent compared to women without disabilities at 87.8 percent. Similarly, among men, the mobile bank usage for those with disabilities is 76.3 percent compared with 89.5 percent for those without disabilities (Figure 4.9).

As indicated by Figure 4.9, the utilization of mobile banking services for persons with disabilities is lower compared than for those without disabilities in urban, rural and nomadic areas. The highest percentage difference points between individuals with and without disabilities are in urban and rural areas at 15.0 and 15.4 percentage points respectively.



Figure 4.8 Percentage of the population with mobile bank by age

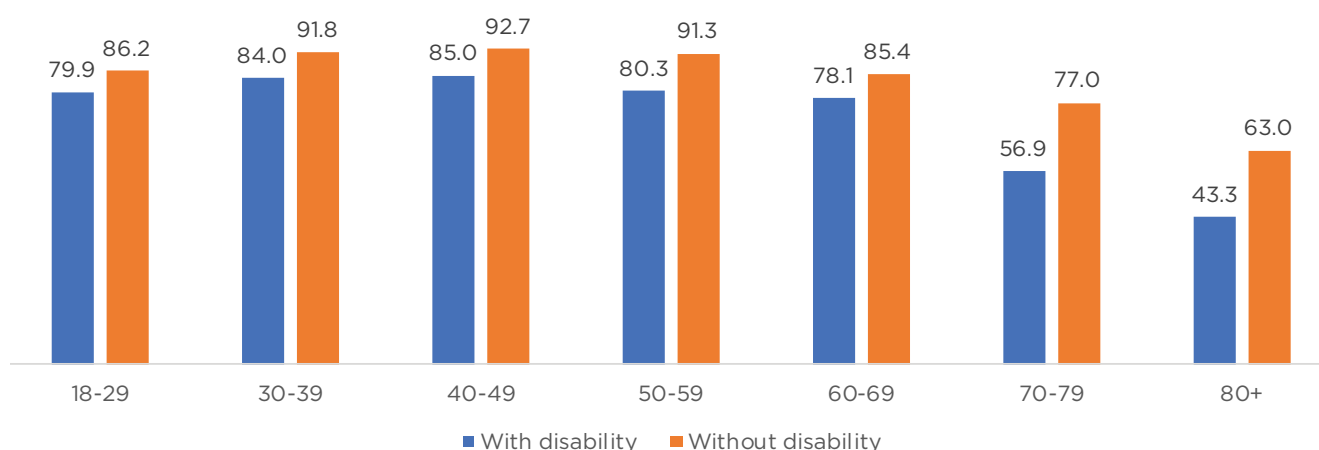


Figure 4.9 Percentage of the population with mobile bank by sex and place of residence

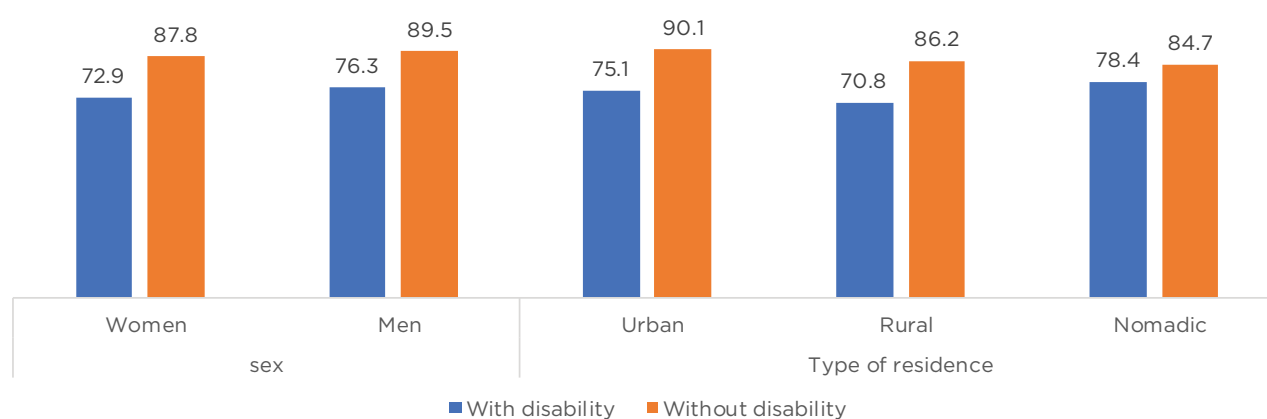


Table 4.5 Mobile Bank by disability status

Percentage of the population with mobile bank (18+) years by background characteristics

Background Characteristics	With disability	Without disability
<b>Age-group</b>		
18-29	79.9	86.2
30-39	84.0	91.8
40-49	85.0	92.7
50-59	80.3	91.3
60-69	78.1	85.4
70-79	56.9	77.0
80+	43.3	63.0
<b>Sex</b>		
Women	72.9	87.8
Men	76.3	89.5
<b>Type of residence</b>		
Urban	75.1	90.1
Rural	70.8	86.2
Nomadic	78.4	84.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>74.3</b>	<b>88.6</b>

## CHAPTER FIVE: CONCLUSION

People with disabilities in Somalia are marginalized in all aspects of humanitarian response, including economic, social, and cultural rights. The report highlights the prevalence of disabilities and key challenges faced by individuals in various domains such as literacy and education and economical activities (employment, labour market).

The overall prevalence of disability in the population aged 18 years and above is 11.7 percent which highlights the importance of addressing disability as a development concern. This closely aligns with the World Health Organization Report of 2015, which stated the global disability prevalence rate was around 15 percent.

Women have a slightly higher prevalence of disability at 12.6 percent compared to men at 10.5 percent. Place of residence appears to have an influence on disability prevalence, with rural areas reporting a higher prevalence of 13.5 percent, compared to urban areas at 11.3 percent and nomadic areas at 9.8 percent.

The literacy rate of individuals with disabilities are lower compared to their those without disabilities at 34.1 percent and 56.0 percent, respectively. There is also a striking difference of educational attainment between individuals with and without disability with 80.6 percent of adults with disabilities have had no formal education compared to 62.6 percent of those without disability.

Persons with disabilities have higher unemployment rates compared to those without disabilities at 20.3 percent and 14.8 percent, respectively. Unemployment

rates for individuals with disabilities are higher across all age groups compared to individuals without disabilities. This suggests that adults with disabilities face more barriers and challenges when it comes to securing employment opportunities.

Overall, mobile phone ownership rate is lower for individuals with disabilities compared to those without disabilities, at 79.2 percent and 92.1 percent, respectively. Regarding mobile banking, 74.3 percent of individuals with disabilities and 88.6 percent of individuals without disabilities use mobile banking services.

Therefore, the prevalence of disability is significant, as showed by this report, highlights the challenges faced by individuals with disabilities in various aspects of life. Addressing these challenges requires collaborative efforts from the government, civil society organizations, and the international community.

It is crucial for Somalia to continue working towards implementing the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and developing comprehensive strategies to address the specific needs and challenges faced by individuals with disabilities. This includes initiatives such as promoting inclusive education, creating employment opportunities, and strengthening social support systems.

By prioritizing disability inclusion, Somalia can foster an environment that enables persons with disabilities to fully participate in society, contribute to the country's development, and exercise their rights on an equal basis with others.

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Somalia National Bureau of Statistics