

2001 Participation and Activity Limitation Survey: Issue 4—Profile of the Housing Conditions of Canadians Aged 15 Years and Older with an Emotional/Psychological Disability

INTRODUCTION

This *Research Highlight* is one in a series which examines the housing conditions and characteristics of Canadians with disabilities.

It focuses on those who are aged 15 years and older who report having an emotional/psychological disability. Data used in this highlight are from the 2001 Participation and Activity Limitation Survey (2001 PALS). PALS is Canada's principal national survey focusing on people with disabilities. It provides information on the prevalence and severity of certain types of disability, on the use of and unmet need for supports, and on participation in various everyday activities.

DEFINITIONS

Population with Disabilities Examined in this Highlight

This highlight examines the population 15 years of age and older only. The data presented here and in subsequent highlights will differ from the first issue in this series, which was based on the 2001 Census, because of some key differences between the 2001 Census and 2001 PALS with respect to identifying people with disabilities. The 2001 PALS identifies an estimated 945,000 fewer people aged 15 years and older with a disability than did the 2001 Census. This is because some individuals who responded "Yes" to the

Census disability questions responded "No" to the more detailed questions on the 2001 PALS related to specific types of disabilities. It is also due to differences in the geographic coverage — the 2001 Census includes the people living in the territories and in First Nations communities but these areas and their populations are excluded from the 2001 PALS.

Disability in the 2001 PALS

The 2001 PALS asks about specific domains of functioning in which one may experience ongoing difficulties doing activities and identifies 10 specific types of disabilities (as well as an "unknown"¹ category):

- Mobility
- Agility
- Seeing
- Hearing
- Speaking/communicating
- Developmental
- Learning
- Memory
- Emotional/psychological
- Pain

¹ People who answer "Yes" to one of the questions on general limitations and "No" to the specific disability-type questions are classified as having "nature of disability unknown."

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The 2001 PALS includes three ways to look at disability characteristics: type(s) of disability that an individual reports, number of types of disabilities that an individual reports, and a severity measure that includes the nature and extent of the individual's disability across all the types of disabilities reported by the individual.

Emotional/Psychological Disability

In the 2001 PALS, an individual with an emotional/psychological disability is someone who is limited in the amount or kinds of activities he/she can do due to the presence of an emotional, psychological or psychiatric condition that has lasted or is expected to last six months or more.

Core Housing Need

Households² are considered to be in core housing need if they do not live in and do not have sufficient income to access acceptable housing. The term "acceptable housing" refers to housing that is in adequate physical condition, of suitable size and affordable.

- Adequate dwellings are those reported by their residents as not requiring any major repairs.
- Suitable dwellings have enough bedrooms for the size and make-up of resident households, according to the National Occupancy Standard (NOS) requirements.³
- Affordable dwellings cost less than 30% of before-tax household income.⁴

A household is said to be in core housing need if its housing falls below at least one of the adequacy, suitability or affordability standards and it would have to spend 30% or more of its before-tax income to pay the median rent of alternative local housing.

When discussing core housing need, household data exclude farm, band and reserve households (for which shelter costs are not collected by the census). It also excludes households with shelter costs that equal or exceed their income, or incomes of zero or less.

FINDINGS

Persons with an Emotional/Psychological Disability Aged 15 Years and Older

Among persons who report having a disability, an about 15% (or 517,700) have an emotional/psychological disability (see Table 1).

Table 1 Number and percent of persons aged 15 years and older living in households, by type of disability, 2001

	Number	(%)*
All types of disabilities	3,352,300	100.0%
Hearing	1,013,700	30.2%
Seeing	586,800	17.5%
Speaking/ Communicating	356,300	10.6%
Mobility/agility	2,692,800	80.3%
Pain	2,332,300	69.6%
Learning	442,000	13.2%
Memory	414,900	12.4%
Developmental	117,000	3.5%
Emotional/Psychological	517,700	15.4%
Unknown	94,400	2.8%

*Percentages add to more than 100% because people can report more than one disability.
Source: 2001 PALS

² Refers to all private households. People living in collective dwellings (see Statistics Canada, 2001 Census Dictionary, Cat. No. 92-378-XIE, pages 190-193) are excluded by definition.

³ According to the NOS, enough bedrooms means one bedroom for each cohabitation adult couple; unattached household member 18 years of age and over; same-sex pair of children under age 18; and additional boy or girl in the family, unless there are two opposite-sex siblings under 5 years of age, in which case they are expected to share a bedroom. A household of one individual can occupy a bachelor unit (i.e., a unit with no bedroom).

⁴ Shelter costs include the following:

- For renters, rent and payments for electricity, fuel, water and other municipal services; and
- For owners, mortgage payments (principal and interest), property taxes, and any condominium fees, along with payments for electricity, fuel, water and other municipal services. Costs associated with maintenance and repairs are not considered part of shelter costs.

Income data collected by the 2001 Census refer to the calendar year preceding the Census, while shelter cost data are for 2001.

Geography

The incidence of emotional/psychological disability varies among the ten provinces, with the highest rate in Ontario and British Columbia (both at 17%), and the lowest rate in Saskatchewan (at 11%) (see Table 2).

Table 2 Number of persons aged 15 years and older with an emotional/psychological disability and relative to any type of disability, Canada and the provinces, 2001

Geography	Persons aged 15 years and older		% with an emotional/psychological disability
	with any type of disability	with an emotional/psychological disability	
CANADA	3,352,300	517,700	15.4%
Newfoundland and Labrador	57,500	7,900	13.7%
Prince Edward Island	17,500	2,000	11.4%
Nova Scotia	144,300	20,200	14.0%
New Brunswick	97,500	11,200	11.5%
Quebec	560,100	80,000	14.3%
Ontario	1,413,900	238,300	16.9%
Manitoba	133,400	15,200	11.4%
Saskatchewan	110,100	12,200	11.1%
Alberta	320,200	46,800	14.6%
British Columbia	497,700	83,900	16.9%

Source: 2001 PALS

Age and Gender

Persons with an emotional/psychological disability are much younger than those reporting any type of disability, with an average age of 50 years, compared to 59 years, and this is true for both males and females.

Overall, the percentage of females with disabilities with an emotional/psychological disability is higher than for males (16%, compared to 15%) (see Table 3). However, in the youngest age group (15 to 24 years), males are more likely to report this disability type than females (24%, compared to 22%).

Table 3 Number and percent of persons aged 15 years and older with an emotional/psychological disability and relative to any type of disability, sex and age group, 2001

Sex	Age group	Persons aged 15 years and older		% with an emotional/psychological disability
		with any type of disability	with an emotional/psychological disability	
Both sexes	15 years and older	3,352,300	517,700	15.4%
	15 - 24 years	148,000	33,500	22.6%
	25 - 44 years	618,300	156,000	25.2%
	45 - 64 years	1,162,700	236,100	20.3%
	65 years and older	1,423,200	92,200	6.5%
Male	15 years and older	1,487,800	220,700	14.8%
	15 - 24 years	73,000	17,300	23.7%
	25 - 44 years	283,900	64,900	22.9%
	45 - 64 years	541,400	99,600	18.4%
	65 years and older	589,500	38,900	6.6%
Female	15 years and older	1,864,500	297,100	15.9%
	15 - 24 years	75,000	16,200	21.6%
	25 - 44 years	334,400	91,000	27.2%
	45 - 64 years	621,300	136,500	22.0%
	65 years and older	833,700	53,300	6.4%

Source: 2001 PALS

Presence of Other Types of Disabilities

Persons with an emotional/psychological disability are much more likely to report learning (36%) and memory (34%) disabilities than the total population with disabilities (13% and 12%, respectively). Persons with an emotional/psychological disability are also more likely than persons with any type of disability to report a speaking/communicating disability (23%, compared to 11%) (see Tables 4 and 1).

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About 82% (or 423,000) of people with an emotional/psychological disability also report having a mobility/agility disability and 78% (or 405,100) report a limitation in their activity due to pain (see Table 4).

Table 4 Distribution of persons aged 15 years and older with an emotional/psychological disability, by type of other disability, 2001

Type of disability	Distribution of those with an emotional/psychological disability by other disability type	
	(#)	(%)*
Emotional/Psychological	517,700	100.0%
Learning	187,800	36.3%
Mobility/agility	423,000	81.7%
Seeing	117,500	22.7%
Hearing	141,500	27.3%
Speaking/communicating	116,900	22.6%
Developmental	49,500	9.6%
Memory	178,300	34.4%
Pain	405,100	78.2%
* Percentages add to more than 100% because people can report more than one other disability. Source: 2001 PALS		

People with an emotional/psychological disability are more likely (at 86%) to report having two or more additional types of disabilities than the population with any type of disability (at 54%). When asked to describe the main condition or health problem that causes their limitation in activity, the majority (71%) of people with an emotional/psychological disability attribute it to other conditions such as mobility/agility, hearing and/or seeing, while 29% describe mental disorders as the primary cause of their limitation.

Severity of Disability

About 76% (or 395,400) of persons with an emotional/psychological disability have a severe or very severe disability, compared to 41% of persons with any type of disability (see Table 5). Since the severity of disability can be linked to having more than one disability, this finding is consistent with previous findings that individuals who have an emotional/psychological disability are more likely to report multiple types of disabilities than those individuals who report any type of disability.

Table 5 Number and percent of persons aged 15 years and older with emotional or any type of disability by severity of disability, 2001

Severity of disability	Persons aged 15 years and older with any type of disability		an emotional/psychological disability	
	(#)	(%)	(#)	(%)
Total	3,352,300	100.0%	517,700	100.0%
Mild	1,134,800	33.9%	40,300	7.8%
Moderate	838,800	25.0%	82,000	15.8%
Severe	903,500	27.0%	186,400	36.0%
Very severe	475,100	14.2%	209,000	40.4%
Source: 2001 PALS				

There are differences when these data are examined by age, the most significant of which occurs among persons aged 15 to 24 years. In this young age group, 60% (or 20,200 persons) with an emotional/psychological disability have a severe or very severe disability, twice the proportion of those aged 15 to 24 reporting any disability (30%).

Persons aged 15 to 24 years with an emotional/psychological disability are more likely to report multiple disabilities than persons from the same age group with any type of disability (89%, compared to 72%).

Table 6 Number and percent of persons aged 15 years and older living in a household in core housing need, by disability status, Canada and the provinces, 2001

Geography	Persons aged 15 years and older living in a household in core housing need					
	with an emotional/psychological disability		with any type of disability		without disabilities	
	(#)	(%)	(#)	(%)	(#)	(%)
Canada	117,400	22.7%	563,900	16.8%	1,757,000	9.1%
Newfoundland and Labrador	1,900	24.1%	10,700	18.5%	35,900	10.3%
Prince Edward Island	300	15.0%	2,500	14.5%	6,600	7.8%
Nova Scotia	4,700	23.3%	25,100	17.4%	55,000	9.6%
New Brunswick	2,300	20.5%	11,700	12.0%	31,800	6.7%
Quebec	16,000	20.0%	89,200	15.9%	376,300	7.4%
Ontario	51,600	21.7%	247,800	17.5%	772,900	10.5%
Manitoba	2,700	17.8%	17,300	13.0%	40,600	6.6%
Saskatchewan	2,600	21.3%	12,400	11.3%	31,100	6.4%
Alberta	9,100	19.4%	45,100	14.1%	124,800	7.1%
British Columbia	26,000	31.0%	102,000	20.5%	282,100	11.2%

Source: 2001 PALS

Housing Characteristics of Persons with an Emotional/Psychological Disability who are Living in a Household in Core Housing Need

At the Canada level, 23% of persons aged 15 years and older with an emotional/psychological disability live in a household in core housing need, higher than the incidence among people without disabilities (9%) and among people with any type of disability (17%) (see Table 6). The rate varies significantly among the provinces, with the lowest incidence in Prince Edward Island (at 15%) and the highest in British Columbia (at 31%).

Urban/Rural

The probability of living in a household in core housing need is significantly higher in urban areas (24%) than in rural areas (16%) for persons with an emotional/psychological disability. These incidence rates are higher than for persons with any type of disability (17% in urban areas, 13% in rural areas) and for persons without disabilities (10% in urban areas, 6% in rural areas).

Tenure

The incidence of core housing need is much higher for renters than for owners, regardless of disability status. More than one-third (37%) of persons with an emotional/psychological

disability who live in rental accommodations are living in a household in core need, compared to 12% of persons with an emotional/psychological disability who live in dwellings owned by a member of the family (see Table 7).

People with an emotional/psychological disability living in rental housing are more likely to live in a household in core housing need (at 37%) than people without disabilities (at 21%). For those living in housing that is owned, the incidence is higher for people with an emotional/psychological disability (at 12%) than for people without disabilities (at 5%) (see Table 7).

Table 7 Number and percent of persons aged 15 years and older living in a household in core housing need, by disability status and tenure, 2001.

Tenure	Persons aged 15 years and older living in a household in core housing need					
	with an emotional/psychological disability		with any type of disability		without disabilities	
	(#)	(%)	(#)	(%)	(#)	(%)
Canada total	117,400	22.7%	563,900	16.8%	1,757,000	9.1%
Owned by a member of the family	36,300	12.1%	202,300	8.9%	673,500	4.8%
Rented	81,100	37.2%	361,600	33.6%	1,083,400	21.1%

Source: 2001 PALS

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Table 8 Number and percent of persons aged 15 years and older living in a household in core housing need, by disability status, sex and age group, 2001

Sex	Age group	Persons aged 15 years and older who are living in a household in core housing need					
		with an emotional/psychological disability		with any type of disability		without disabilities	
		(#)	(%)	(#)	(%)	(#)	(%)
Both sexes	15 years and older	117,400	100.0%	563,900	100.0%	1,757,000	100.0%
	15 to 24	7,500	6.4%	26,500	4.7%	386,100	22.0%
	25 to 44	43,600	37.1%	120,700	21.4%	755,200	43.0%
	45 to 64	48,800	41.6%	199,200	35.3%	402,000	22.9%
	65 and older	17,500	14.9%	217,500	38.6%	213,700	12.2%
Males	15 years and older	52,100	100.0%	211,800	100.0%	745,100	100.0%
	15 to 24	3,300	6.3%	11,500	5.4%	182,200	24.5%
	25 to 44	18,700	35.9%	51,900	24.5%	317,200	42.6%
	45 to 64	22,800	43.8%	90,300	42.6%	181,200	24.3%
	65 and older	7,300	14.0%	58,100	27.4%	64,600	8.7%
Females	15 years and older	65,300	100.0%	352,000	100.0%	1,011,800	100.0%
	15 to 24	4,200	6.4%	15,100	4.3%	204,000	20.2%
	25 to 44	24,900	38.1%	68,700	19.5%	438,000	43.3%
	45 to 64	26,100	40.0%	108,900	30.9%	220,800	21.8%
	65 and older	10,200	15.6%	159,400	45.3%	149,100	14.7%

Source: 2001 PALS

Demographic and Socio-Economic Characteristics of Persons Aged 15 Years and Older with an Emotional/Psychological Disability Living in a Household in Core Housing Need

Age and Gender

Females account for over half (56%, or 65,300) of those with an emotional/psychological disability who are living in a household in core housing need, compared to 62% of the population who report any type of disability and 58% of the population without disabilities.

Just under half (44%, or 51,100) of people with an emotional/psychological disability who live in a household in core housing need are under 45 years of age, compared to 26% of persons reporting any type of disability and 65% of persons without disabilities (see Table 8).

While females with an emotional/psychological disability who are living in a household in core need tend to be slightly younger than males, the age distributions are fairly similar, with the largest difference occurring in persons aged 45 to 64 years — 44% for males and 40% for females.

Table 9 Number and percent of persons aged 15 years and older living in a household in core housing need, by disability status and living arrangement, 2001

Living arrangements	Persons aged 15 and older who are living in a household in core housing need					
	with an emotional/psychological disability		with any type of disability		without disabilities	
	(#)	(%)	(#)	(%)	(#)	(%)
All types of living arrangements	1 17,400	100.0%	563,900	100.0%	1,757,000	100.0%
Living alone	48,500	41.3%	261,900	46.4%	370,300	21.1%
Non family person, living with others	9,700	8.3%	38,500	6.8%	125,800	7.2%
Lone parent family	28,300	24.1%	89,300	15.8%	407,400	23.2%
Family without children	15,200	12.9%	103,200	18.3%	241,000	13.7%
Family with children	15,700	13.4%	70,900	12.6%	612,300	34.8%

Source: 2001 PALS

Living Arrangements

About 41% (or 48,500) of persons with an emotional/psychological disability who are living in core housing need live alone, lower than for those with any type of disability (at 46%) but considerably higher than for those without disabilities (at 21%) (see Table 9).

Just under half (48%, or 3,600) of young people aged 15 to 24 years with an emotional/psychological disability living in a household in core housing need live in a lone-parent family compared to 39% of people in the same age group without disabilities. Almost half (46%) of persons aged 45 to 64 years with an emotional/psychological disability in core need live alone, compared to 26% of people without disabilities.

Immigrant Status

Among persons aged 15 and older with an emotional/psychological disability, 13% (or 15,700) are immigrants who arrived in Canada before 1992 and 3% (or 3,600) are immigrants who arrived in Canada between 1992 and 2001. Both these proportions are considerably smaller than among persons without disabilities — 20% and 17%, respectively (see Table 10).

Table 10 Number and percent of persons aged 15 years and older living in a household in core housing need, by disability status and immigrant status, 2001

Immigrant status	Persons aged 15 and older who are living in core housing need					
	with an emotional/psychological disability		with any type of disability		without disabilities	
	(#)	(%)	(#)	(%)	(#)	(%)
Canada total	1 17,400	100.0%	563,900	100.0%	1,757,000	100.0%
Non-immigrant	98,100	83.6%	426,500	75.6%	1,106,900	63.0%
Immigrant 1992 to 2001	3,600	3.1%	15,700	2.8%	304,700	17.3%
Immigrant before 1992	15,700	13.4%	121,700	21.6%	345,400	19.7%

Source: 2001 PALS

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Household Income

Regardless of disability status, the great majority of persons living in a household in core housing need have low incomes: 89% of people with an emotional/psychological disability are in the lowest income quintile, as are 77% of those without disabilities. The rest (or almost the rest) live in households in the second lowest income quintile (see Table 11).

For the purpose of this analysis, the pre-tax household income of Canadian households with at least one person aged 15 years and older were assessed and divided into five equally sized income groups or quintiles ranging from low- income to high-income.

High Income:	\$96,936 or more
Upper Income:	\$67,812 - 96,935
Middle Income:	\$46,896 - \$67,811
Moderate Income:	\$27,418 - \$46,895
Low Income:	Less than \$27,418

Sources of Personal Income

About 20% (or 22,900) persons with an emotional/psychological disability living in a household in core housing need report wages and salaries as a source of personal income, compared to almost half (48% or 843,100) of persons without disabilities (see Table 12). A smaller percentage of persons with an emotional/psychological disability living in a household in core housing need report self-employment as a source of income (at 3%) than do persons without disabilities (at 7%).

A large percentage of individuals living in a household in core housing need report some income from government sources (including Old Age Security, Guaranteed Income Supplement, benefits from Canada or Quebec Pension Plan, benefits from Employment Insurance, provincial income supplements and welfare payments). 92% of people with an emotional/psychological disability living in a household in core need have income from government sources, which is higher than the proportion of people without disabilities (at 82%).

Table 11 Number and percent of persons aged 15 years and older living in a household in core housing need, by disability status and household income quintile, 2001

Household Income - Quintiles	Persons aged 15 years and older who are living in a household in core housing need					
	with an emotional/psychological disability		with any type of disability		without disabilities	
	(#)	(%)	(#)	(%)	(#)	(%)
Canada total	117,400	100.0%	563,900	100.0%	1,757,000	100.0%
High, Upper, Middle (\$46,896 or more)	*	*	*	*	27,200	1.5%
Moderate (\$27,418-\$46,895)	12,900	11.0%	59,000	10.5%	383,100	21.8%
Low (less than \$27,418)	104,500	89.0%	501,500	88.9%	1,346,600	76.6%
* Number suppressed because of sample size. Source: 2001 PALS						

Table 12 Number and percent of persons aged 15 years and older living in a household in core housing need, by disability status and sources of personal income, 2001

Sources of personal income	Persons aged 15 years and older who are living in a household in core housing need					
	with an emotional/psychological disability		with any type of disability		without disabilities	
	(#)	(%)	(#)	(%)	(#)	(%)
Canada total	117,400	100.0%	563,900	100.0%	1,757,700	100.0%
Wages and salaries	22,900	19.5%	93,800	16.6%	843,100	48.0%
Income from self-employment	2,900	2.5%	20,500	3.6%	128,400	7.3%
Income from Government	107,800	91.8%	532,300	94.4%	1,434,500	81.6%
Other income, such as retirement pensions, dividends and interest on bonds, deposits and savings, alimony, child support, scholarships, etc.	7,000	6.0%	28,500	5.1%	121,100	6.9%

Percentages add to greater than 100% because people report all sources of personal income.
Source: 2001 PALS

Level of Education

People with an emotional/psychological disability living in core housing need have a pattern of educational attainment that is generally similar to people without disabilities; the main difference is in type of post-secondary education.

Among persons with an emotional/psychological disability living in a household in core housing need, 43% have not completed high school compared to 40% of persons without disabilities (see Table 13). However, persons with an emotional/psychological disability are more likely to attend

non-university programs (28%) than persons without disabilities (22%) and less likely to achieve at least a bachelor's degree at university (6%) than persons without disabilities (11%).

Although the overall incidence of core housing need is 23% for people with an emotional/psychological disability, there is variation when one looks at the incidence by age and highest level of education. Among persons aged 25 to 44 years who report less than high school graduation, the incidence is 29%, slightly higher than the incidence for persons aged 45 to 64 years (23%).

Table 13 Number and percent of persons aged 15 years and older living in a household in core housing need, by disability status and highest level of education, 2001

Highest level of education	Persons aged 15 and older who are living in a household in core housing need					
	with an emotional/psychological disability		Incidence of Core housing need (%)	without disabilities		Incidence of Core housing need (%)
	(#)	(%)		(#)	(%)	
Canada total	117,400	100.0%	22.7%	1,757,000	100.0%	9.1%
Less than high school graduation	50,300	42.8%	23.8%	708,000	40.3%	13.2%
Secondary school graduation certificate	13,600	11.6%	21.4%	247,400	14.1%	8.7%
Trades certificate or diploma	2,400	2.0%	16.8%	53,300	3.0%	8.0%
Other non-university	33,200	28.3%	23.9%	378,900	21.6%	7.5%
University but no degree	11,100	9.5%	22.9%	173,600	9.9%	8.3%
At least bachelor degree	6,900	5.9%	16.8%	195,800	11.1%	6.0%

Source: 2001 PALS

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Health Status

About 60% of persons with an emotional/psychological disability living in a household in core housing need consider their general health status to be “fair” or “poor,” compared to 48% of individuals with any type of disability living in a household in core housing need (see Table 14).

The great majority (82% or 57,300) of individuals with an emotional/psychological disability who are living in a household in core housing need who say their health is “fair” are aged 25 to 64 years, as compared to 34% of persons with any type of disability.

Overall about 35% of persons with an emotional/psychological disability who are living in core housing need say their general health is “good” or better, but there are significant differences when the number of disabilities reported by the individual is examined. While 84% or 4,100 persons with an emotional/psychological disability as their only disability view their health as “good” or better, this proportion drops dramatically as the number of disabilities reported by the individual increases. For example, among persons reporting four other disabilities, the proportion drops to 25%.

Table 14 Number and percent of persons aged 15 years and older with disabilities living in a household in core housing need, by type of disability and general health status

General health status	Persons aged 15 and older who are living in a household in core housing need			
	with an emotional/psychological disability		with any type of disability	
	(#)	(%)	(#)	(%)
Canada total	117,400	100.0%	563,900	100.0%
Excellent	1,600	1.4%	21,300	3.8%
Very good	10,000	8.5%	92,000	16.3%
Good	29,400	25.0%	157,100	27.9%
Fair	39,200	33.4%	174,300	30.9%
Poor	30,900	26.3%	95,400	16.9%
Not stated, refusal or don't know	6,300	5.4%	23,900	4.2%
Source: 2001 PALS				

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

Persons with an Emotional/Psychological Disability Aged 15 and Older

General Characteristics

- Whereas 15% of Canadians with disabilities aged 15 years and older report having an emotional/psychological disability, the proportion varies among the provinces, with the lowest in Saskatchewan at 11% and the highest in Ontario and British Columbia at 17%.
- The percentage of females with an emotional/psychological disability is higher than for males — 16%, compared to 15%.
- Persons with an emotional/psychological disability are much more likely to report memory and learning disabilities than the total population with disabilities.
- About 76% of persons with an emotional/psychological disability are classified as having a severe or very severe disability, compared to 41% among persons reporting any type of disability.

Persons Aged 15 and Older with an Emotional/Psychological Disability Living in a Household in Core Housing Need

Housing Characteristics

- At the Canada level, 23% of persons aged 15 years and older with an emotional/psychological disability live in a household in core housing need. The lowest incidence is in Prince Edward Island at 15% and the highest is in British Columbia at 31%.
- The incidence of core housing need for persons with an emotional/psychological disability living in rental housing is higher than the incidence for persons without disabilities (37% compared to 21%).
- The incidence of core housing need for persons with an emotional/psychological disability living in housing that is owned is higher than among persons without disabilities (12%, compared to 5%).

Demographic and Socio-Economic Characteristics

- 56% of people aged 15 years and older with an emotional/psychological disability who are living in a household in core housing need are female.
- 44% of people with an emotional/psychological disability living in core housing need are under 45 years of age, compared to 65% of persons without disabilities.
- About 41% of persons with an emotional/psychological disability who are living in a household in core housing need live alone.
- 16% of persons with an emotional/psychological disability are immigrants, compared to 37% of persons without disabilities.
- 89% of persons with an emotional/psychological disability living in a household in core housing need had a household before-tax income in the lowest income quintile (less than \$27,418).
- 20% of persons with an emotional/psychological disability living in a household in core housing need report wages and salaries as a source of personal income, compared to 48% of those without disabilities.
- Persons with an emotional/psychological disability and who live in core housing need are less likely to report having at least a bachelor's degree than those individuals without disabilities who are living in core housing need (6% versus 11%, respectively).
- 60% of persons aged 15 and older with an emotional/psychological disability who live in a household in core housing need report a health status of "fair" or "poor", compared to 48% of persons with any type of disability.

Research Highlight

2001 Participation and Activity Limitation Survey: Issue 4

Profile of the Housing Conditions of Canadians Aged 15 Years and Older with an Emotional/Psychological Disability

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Under Part IX of the *National Housing Act*, the Government of Canada provides funds to CMHC to conduct research into the social, economic and technical aspects of housing and related fields, and to undertake the publishing and distribution of the results of this research.

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