COVID-19 DISABILITY SURVEY
NOVEMBER 25, 2020
INTERIM REPORT
1. INFORMATION ABOUT SURVEY RESPONDENTS:

Total number of respondents = 553
- 78% people who identify as a person with a disability
- 15% parents/caregivers of a child with a disability
- 15% other (e.g., roommate, family member of a person with a disability)
[Values don’t add to 100% because some people identified as a person with a disability as well as a parent/other]

Gender
- Respondents: 22% Men; 60% Women; 18% other/prefer not to answer/did not answer
- Children: Boy = 52%, Girl = 32%, Prefer not to answer/did not answer = 16%

Respondents’ Age
- Average age was 49 years; Range: 18-91 years

Children’s Age
(report by respondents who identified as a parent/caregiver of a child with a disability)
- Median = 13 yrs; Range 1-47 years
Other disabilities reported (for respondents and children):
- Neurological
- Chronic fatigue and/or pain
- Digestive
- COPD
- Fibromyalgia
- ADHD
- Epilepsy
- Down's Syndrome
- Immune disorders
- Sensory impairment
2. IMPACT OF COVID ON EMPLOYMENT

### WHICH PROVINCE OR TERRITORY DO YOU LIVE IN?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Province</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alberta</td>
<td>11.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>British Columbia</td>
<td>34.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manitoba</td>
<td>1.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NFLD &amp; Labrador</td>
<td>1.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Brunswick</td>
<td>1.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North West Territories</td>
<td>0.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nova Scotia</td>
<td>2.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ontario</td>
<td>32.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PEI</td>
<td>0.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quebec</td>
<td>1.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saskatchewan</td>
<td>0.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yukon</td>
<td>0.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Missing</td>
<td>14.1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Laid off 11.6%
- Hours reduced 16.3%
- Furloughed 6.3%
- No change 65.8%
Other worries/stressors:
- Housing/ homelessness
- Suicide, loneliness, abandonment
- Social interactions
- Access to services, medical support & care
- Government support
- Child’s schooling
- Death of loved ones
- General anxiety / world stability
- Transportation safety and hygiene

NOTE: the # of respondents varies for each question because not all respondents answered every question
### Table: Needs and Unmet Needs of Canadians with Disabilities During the COVID Pandemic

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Need</th>
<th>% who have this need now</th>
<th>% of people with the need who say that BEFORE COVID, it was met 'not at all' or 'very little'</th>
<th>% of people with the need who say now it's met 'not at all' or 'very little'</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Housing</td>
<td>30.6</td>
<td>45.4</td>
<td>53.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attendant Care</td>
<td>17.7</td>
<td>28.9</td>
<td>53.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Income Support</td>
<td>58.7</td>
<td>37.8</td>
<td>59.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assistive devices</td>
<td>46.7</td>
<td>36.7</td>
<td>58.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transportation</td>
<td>36.7</td>
<td>34.0</td>
<td>63.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Specialized health care</td>
<td>48.7</td>
<td>33.0</td>
<td>64.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General health care</td>
<td>56.0</td>
<td>18.6</td>
<td>50.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emotional counseling</td>
<td>58.3</td>
<td>46.0</td>
<td>71.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Case management</td>
<td>30.9</td>
<td>55.4</td>
<td>73.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peer support</td>
<td>46.5</td>
<td>40.5</td>
<td>66.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rec and leisure programs</td>
<td>62.7</td>
<td>34.0</td>
<td>79.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Access to food, groceries...</td>
<td>46.5</td>
<td>26.5</td>
<td>53.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Internet, tech etc</td>
<td>33.8</td>
<td>25.2</td>
<td>31.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accessible websites media</td>
<td>27.6</td>
<td>26.1</td>
<td>33.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>25.7</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Other needs:
- Drug / medical coverage
- Government support
- Financial planning
- Delivery of food / grocery / medicine
- Supplies of clothing / cleaning products / proper PPE & other COVID-related materials
- Household chores and personal care support
- Supporting children's needs
TO WHAT EXTENT ARE YOU ABLE TO WEAR PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT (E.G. FACE MASK, GLOVES...) INDEPENDENTLY?

TO WHAT EXTENT ARE YOU ABLE TO PRACTICE SAFE PHYSICAL DISTANCING WHEN OUTSIDE OF YOUR HOME?
WHERE DO YOU GET YOUR INFORMATION ON THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC?

COVID IMPACT ON WELLBEING

HOW WELL DO YOU FEEL YOU AND YOUR FAMILY ARE COPING WITH THE DAY-TO-DAY DEMANDS AND CHANGES RELATED TO COVID-19?
HAS THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC NEGATIVELY IMPACTED YOUR MENTAL HEALTH?

![Bar chart showing the impact of COVID-19 on mental health.](chart1.png)

 HOW HAVE THE FOLLOWING HEALTH HABITS CHANGED SINCE THE START OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC?

![Bar chart showing changes in health habits.](chart2.png)

- Exercise / Physical Activity
  - 49.1% No change
  - 23.1% Negative change
  - 19.2% Positive change
  - 8.6% Does not participate in exercise & sport
- Child’s physical activity
  - 34.3% No change
  - 13.4% Negative change
  - 9.0% Positive change
  - 43.3% Does not participate in exercise & sport
- Eating
  - 54.3% No change
  - 30.0% Negative change
  - 15.5% Positive change
- Child’s eating
  - 44.1% No change
  - 39.7% Negative change
  - 16.2% Positive change
- Smoking use habits
  - 54.8% No change
  - 21.0% Negative change
  - 24.2% Positive change
- Cannabis use habits
  - 46.2% No change
  - 9.8% Negative change
  - 44.1% Positive change
- Alcohol consumption
  - 36.0% No change
  - 19.7% Negative change
  - 19.7% Positive change
  - 36.0% Does not participate in exercise & sport
The COVID-19 Disability Survey was developed by the Abilities Centre and The Canadian Disability Participation Project. The following project partners contributed survey questions:

Rick Hansen Foundation
Canadian Autism Spectrum Disorder Association
Canadian Labour Congress
COVID-19 Disability Working Group for the British Columbia Ministry of Social Development and Poverty Reduction