

## PRESS RELEASE

No 258 of December 5, 2011

### Employment of disabled people

*Labour Force Survey ad hoc module - the second quarter of 2011*

*addressed to persons aged 15-64 years*

*For a correct interpretation of results, please see the  
Methodological notes on page 4 of this Press Release*

**Almost two thirds of people with longstanding health problems or functional limitations faced one or more restrictions in working activities.**

**The employment rate of disabled people in the second quarter of 2011 was 23.9%, much lower than the one for people without disabilities (64.8%).**

**The unemployment rate for people with disabilities was in the second quarter of 2011 9.1%, 1.7 p.p higher than the value recorded for people without disabilities.**

**30.1% of employed persons with disabilities received one or more types of special assistance in order to help them to work. Almost two thirds (64.0%) of people with disabilities, not in employment (unemployed or inactive persons), would need one or more special support measures in order to be able to work.**

**In the second quarter of 2011, out of the 14622 thou. persons in the target population of the survey, 63.0% belonged to age group 25-54 years, 58.5% lived in urban area and 50.4% were women. Of these, 2703 thou. persons - representing 18.5% - had, according their own statements, longstanding health problems or functional limitations - sensory, physical or mental (measured by the difficulty to perform some basic activities).**

### Limitations in working activities

**Out of the total number of 2703 thou. persons with health problems or functional limitations, 1693 thou. (62.6%) were limited in one or several ways in working activities; these limitations refers to:**

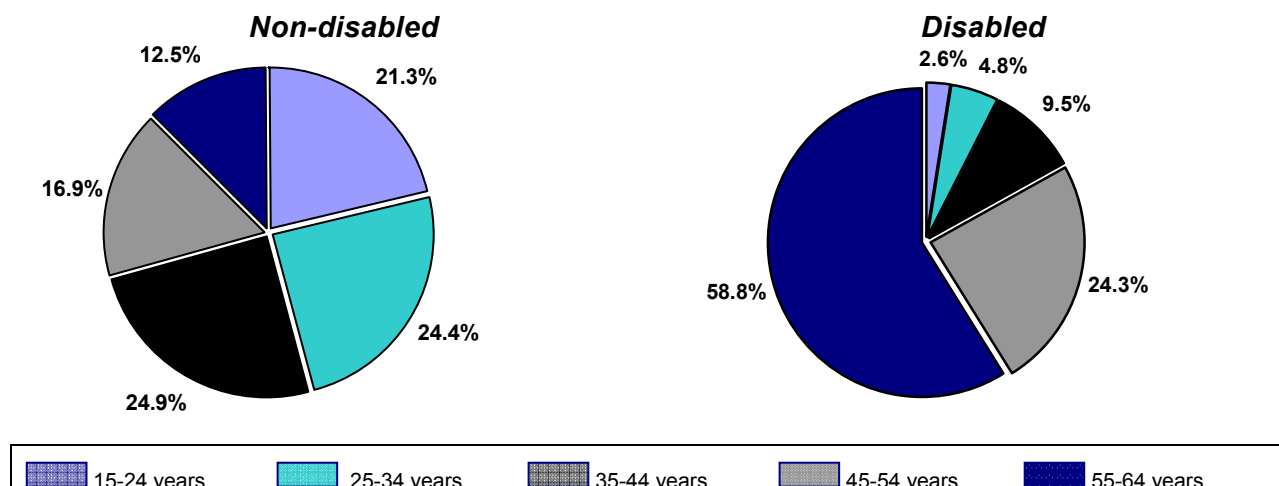
- type of work they could do;
- number of hours they could work;
- transportation to and from work;

**while for the remaining persons, the existence of health problems or functional limitations had no impact on working life.**

**These people, whose professional activity is limited in one or several ways because of health problems or functional limitations, will be referred to as "persons with disabilities in employment."**

Persons 45 years and over accounted for 83.1% of the population with disabilities in employment, while young people aged 15-24 accounts for only 2.6%. In comparison, non-disabled population<sup>1</sup> had a more balanced distribution on age groups, with slightly higher values in the range of age groups 25-44 years.

**Figure 1 – Disabled and non-disabled population by age groups**



Given the cause of working limitation, it may be noticed that, out of the 1693 thou. persons with disabilities in employment:

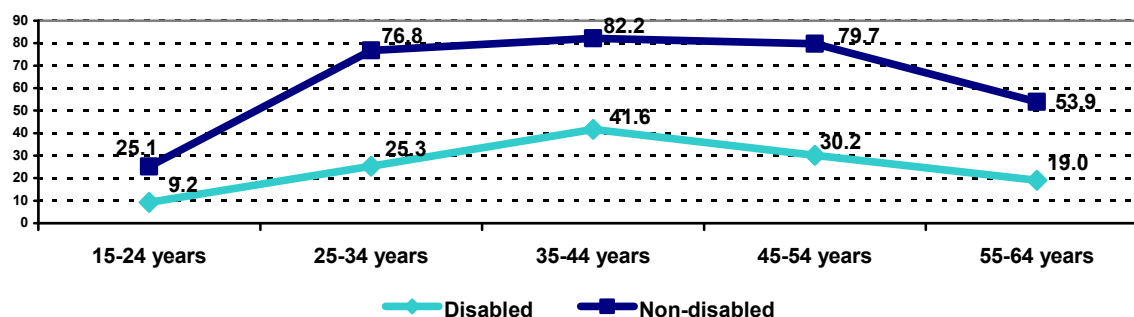
- **1041 thou. people (61.5%) were limited in work due to both, health problems and functional limitations**
- **for 575 thou. people (representing just over one third - 34.0%) health problems were the exclusive cause of work limitations;**
- **76 thou. people (4.6%) stated as the cause of restrictions in work, exclusively functional limitations.**

## Participation in economic activity of persons with disabilities in employment

Out of the 1693 thou persons with disabilities in employment, **405 thou. were employed** while **40 thou. were ILO unemployed**. Almost three quarters (73.7%) were not-economically active persons.

The employment rate of disabled people was, in the second quarter of 2011, 23.9%, much lower than the one for non-disabled persons (64.8%).

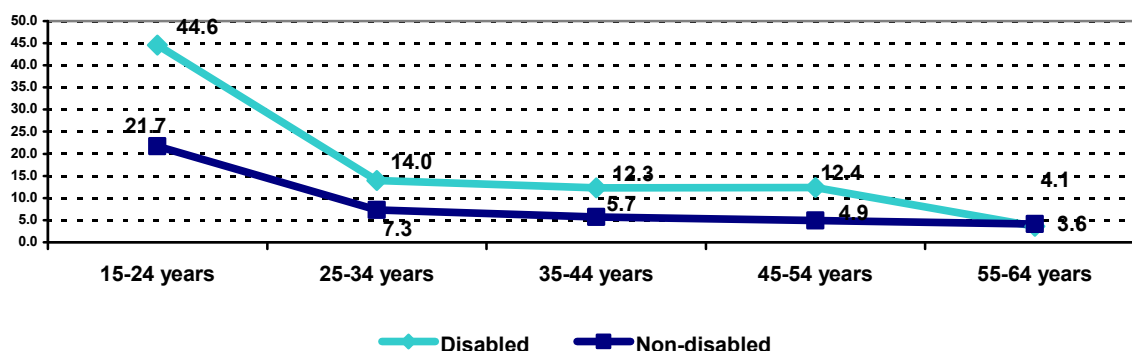
**Figure 2 – Employment rate of disabled and non-disabled people**



<sup>1</sup> Persons with longstanding health problems or functional limitations but not limited in work as well as persons with no health problem or functional limitation

The unemployment rate for people with disabilities was, in the second quarter 2011, 9.1%, 1.7 p.p. higher the value recorded for people without disabilities. The largest difference between the two rates may be noticed for young people aged 15-24 (44.6% for young people with disabilities as compared to 21.7% for those without disabilities).

**Figure 3 – Unemployment rate for disabled and non-disabled people**



Out of the 1247 thou non-economically active persons with disabilities, 64.1% were aged 55 - 64 years, 60.2% were women and 65.1% lived in urban areas.

## Special assistance for people with disabilities

Out of the 405 thou employed persons with disabilities, only 122 thou. (representing 30.1%) actually received at the workplace one or more types of special assistance in order to help them work. They benefited of<sup>2</sup>:

- personal assistance, in the sense of help / support in work - 22.4% of employed persons with disabilities;
- special equipments or workplace adaptations - 2.9% of employed persons with disabilities;
- special working arrangements (sedentary work, working at home, flexible hours of work, etc.) – 14.4% of employed persons with disabilities.

Almost two thirds (64.0%) of the 1287 thou persons with disabilities, not in employment (unemployed or inactive persons) declared that they would need one or more special support measures in order to be able to work:

- 43.4% would need personal assistance
- 28.9% would need special equipments workplace adaptations
- 59.0% would need special working arrangements.

<sup>2</sup> Each type of special assistance was tested separately; consequently a person may receive one, two or even all three types of special assistance. For this reason, the three categories are not additive.

## METHODOLOGICAL NOTES

1. The data source is the ad-hoc module "Employment of disabled people" - attached to the Household Labour Force Survey in the second quarter of 2011. The main objective of the module is to offer information on the situation of disabled people on the labour market and compare it to the one for non-disabled.
2. Employment comprises all persons aged 15 years and over who carried out an economic activity producing goods or services of at least one hour<sup>3</sup> during the reference period (one week), in order to get income as salary, payment in kind or other benefits. Beginning with 2011, self-employed and contributing family workers from agriculture are considered as employed persons only if they are the owners of agricultural production (not necessarily of lands) achieved and they meet one of the following conditions:
  - The agricultural production is intended, even partially, to sale or to barter agreements;
  - The agricultural production is exclusively intended to self-consumption if it accounts for a significant part<sup>4</sup> of household's total consumption.Employment is not comprising the persons who:
  - Carry out minor agricultural activities<sup>5</sup>, for recreation, hobby or in view to obtain, additionally, food goods which do not represent a significant part of household's total consumption;
  - Carry out agricultural activities (whose duration exceeds 10 hours/weekly), the agricultural production being exclusively intended for self-consumption, but it does not represent a significant part of household's total consumption.
3. **Employment rate** represents the weight of employed persons of age group x in total population of the same age group x.
4. **ILO<sup>1)</sup> unemployed** are **persons** aged 15-74 years old who in the reference period fulfill the following conditions: (i) have no job and do not carry out an activity in order to get income; (ii) are looking for a job, in the last 4 weeks; are available to start work in the next two weeks.
5. **ILO unemployment rate** represents the ratio of ILO unemployed of age group x in economically active population of age group x.
6. **Longstanding health problems refers to health condition or disease that has lasted or are likely to last for at least 6 months.** The main characteristic of a longstanding health problem is that it is permanent and generally, require a long period of time for supervision, observation and treatment.
7. **Functional limitations** - physical sensory or mental - were identified by a set of questions related to difficulties in performing certain basic activities. Thus, there has been tested to the difficulties, in seeing, hearing, walking and climbing, mobility, difficulties in changing posture, lifting, transporting and handling objects, memory difficulties, concentration and communication.
8. **Persons disabled in employment are persons having longstanding health problems or functional limitations which impose person's limitation work.** Types of work limitations are:
  - type of work they can do;
  - number of hours they can work;
  - transportation to and from work.The new concept of disability, as it is defined by International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health (biopsychosocial concept) was implemented in the survey in a restricted form due to the limited number of questions. For this reason, the aim of the module is not to measure the prevalence of disability in the population.

Additional information could be obtained from the statistical publication „Employment of disabled people“, issuing deadline December 22, 2011.

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<sup>3</sup> At least 15 hours for self-employed and contributing family workers from agriculture – previously to 2011.

<sup>4</sup> At least 50% of household's total consumption.

<sup>5</sup> Whose duration, in the reference week, do not exceed 10 hours

<sup>1)</sup> According with the **International Labour Office** criteria.

**Table 1. Disabled persons by the cause of work limitations by age groups***- persons -*

	Total	cause of work limitations:		
		health problems, exclusively	difficulties in basic activities, only	both, health problems and difficulties in basic activities
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1692610</b>	<b>575141</b>	<b>75978</b>	<b>1041491</b>
<i>Age groups</i>				
15-24 years	43282	9905	*	31703
25-34 years	81369	19464	*	58264
35-44 years	161673	52939	11274	97460
45-54 years	411050	161668	17392	231989
55-64 years	995236	331165	41996	622075
<i>Sex</i>				
Male	704641	243015	32061	429565
Female	987969	332126	43917	611926
<i>Urban/rural area</i>				
Urban	995030	334718	36861	623451
Rural	697580	240423	39116	418041
<i>Level of education</i>				
Superior	75252	31018	*	40492
Medium	927358	341961	39968	545429
Low	689999	202162	32267	455570
<i>Labour status</i>				
Economically active	445734	192289	34024	219421
of which:				
Employed persons	405238	179213	31469	194555
ILO unemployed	40496	13076	*	24866
Inactive persons	1246876	382852	41954	822070

**Table 2. Disabled people by type of work limitation***- persons -*

	TOTAL	TYPE OF WORK LIMITATION <sup>6</sup>		
		Working programme	type of activity	transportation to and from work
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1692610</b>	<b>1458809</b>	<b>1592726</b>	<b>947428</b>
<b>Economically active</b>	<b>445734</b>	<b>277701</b>	<b>398663</b>	<b>127901</b>
of which:				
Employed persons	405238	249608	362814	115323
LO unemployed	40496	28093	35849	12578
<b>Inactive persons</b>	<b>1246876</b>	<b>1181108</b>	<b>1194063</b>	<b>819527</b>
of which:				
Pupils and students	6669	*	*	*
Housewives	130010	114682	120988	74649
Pensioners	998566	956903	962547	656321
Other inactive persons	111630	105246	104620	85488

<sup>6</sup> Each type of work limitation was tested separately; consequently a person may encounter one, two or even all three types of work limitations. For this reason, the three categories are not additive.