



Africa Polling Institute (API) and  
National Bureau of Statistics (NBS)

# NATIONAL DISABILITY DATA IN NIGERIA

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Supported by



FORD  
FOUNDATION

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Africa Polling Institute (API)  
Centre Court, 46 Crescent, CITEC, 4th Avenue,  
Gwarinpa, Abuja, Nigeria

Email: [info@aficapolling.org](mailto:info@aficapolling.org) / [aficapolling@gmail.com](mailto:aficapolling@gmail.com)  
Website: [www.aficapolling.org](http://www.aficapolling.org)

## ABOUT API

Africa Polling Institute (API) is an independent, non-profit and non-partisan opinion research think-tank, which conducts opinion polls, surveys, social research and evaluation studies at the intersection of democracy, governance, economic conditions, markets and public life; in order to support better public policy, practice and advocacy in sub-Saharan Africa.

API was established on the belief that citizens participation in democratic governance can deepen the continent's democratic experience, strengthen public institutions and promote social inclusion and national cohesion. Consequently, the Institute utilizes opinion research as a tool to advance citizens participation and inclusion in governance. API is independent of governments, political parties, commercial interests, trade unions and other interest groups.

Our vision is to become a leading opinion research think-tank in Africa, championing “good governance” by promoting access to credible research data and evidence to support state and non-state actors.

Our mission is to promote the conduct and dissemination of credible Africa-led and Africa-owned opinion polls, surveys, social research and evaluation studies to inform better decisions, public policy, practice and advocacy.

# Foreword



The National Bureau of Statistics is delighted by the release of this report. This report is the culmination of the hard work and commitment of the Africa Polling Institute (API), and the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS). API has been a partner of the NBS for years and this report is just one product of several years of partnership.

All over the world, the number of people experiencing disability is on the increase, due to a rise in chronic health conditions and population ageing. As these numbers grow, people with disability are increasingly subject to multiple violations of their rights, discrimination on multiple fronts and being excluded from planning, budgeting and resource allocation, and access to proper healthcare and health-related strategies. These issues are even more rampant in developing countries, where disability is prevalent. The resultant effect is that people with disabilities are more likely to experience adverse socio-economic outcomes compared to persons without any form of disability.

As global awareness of disability-inclusive development is increasing, each country must play their part in ensuring the full integration of persons with disabilities into

societies. The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development undoubtedly states that disability should not be a criterion for lack of access to the realization of human rights. The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) framework includes seven targets which refer to persons with disabilities, and six further targets for persons in vulnerable conditions, which include persons with disabilities. These outcomes can only be achieved through evidence-based planning and decision-making, which specifically includes people living with disabilities as part of the demographic. This is the importance of gathering disaggregated data on persons with disability. Gathering this data is also essential to human rights, from the standpoint of meeting requirements of non-discrimination and ensuring access to equal opportunities.

In 2019, the Discrimination Against Persons with Disabilities (Prohibition) Act, 2018 was signed into law by President Muhammadu Buhari. This was perhaps one of the most important steps taken toward protecting and recognising the rights of persons with disabilities in Nigeria. This report, which provides detailed data on persons with disability, is an excellent way of taking that step further in Nigeria's journey of bringing disability issues to the fore. Rather than as an addendum to household surveys which usually cover a broad range of subjects, this report focuses solely on and disaggregates data by disability. When put to good use, this report ought to form the bedrock on which policies and decisions that concern persons with disabilities are developed. This report will be a valuable tool for developing policies across Nigeria, so that people with disability are properly included in planning, budgeting and allocation of resources, and granted access to opportunities that ensure that they live a normal life. It would also be a useful tool for monitoring and tracking progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals, ensuring that no one is left behind.

At the National Bureau of Statistics, we stand ready to continue to collaborate with willing partners, to ensure that we contribute our quota to ensuring the fulfilment of agenda 2030, the National Development Plan, as well as other development plans in Nigeria.

**Mr S.A Adeniran**  
**Statistician-General of the Federation**  
**National Bureau of Statistics (NBS)**

# Preface



This report – ***“National Disability Data in Nigeria”*** is a key component of the Nigeria Disability Research Project. With support from Ford Foundation, Africa Polling Institute (API) collaborated with the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) to gather disaggregated data on persons with disabilities in Nigeria.

The key objective of the collaboration between the NBS and API is to develop a reservoir of data for PWDs in Nigeria. It was noticed that Nigeria does not have sufficient unified data that represents the needs of the PWD, hence it becomes imperative to develop indigenous national data that will serve as the benchmark for PWD studies and policies in Nigeria going forward.

The national disability data in Nigeria report, supported by Ford Foundation is intended to contribute toward Nigeria's commitment to the actualization of the Sustainable Development Goals 2030 and a disability-inclusive development plan.

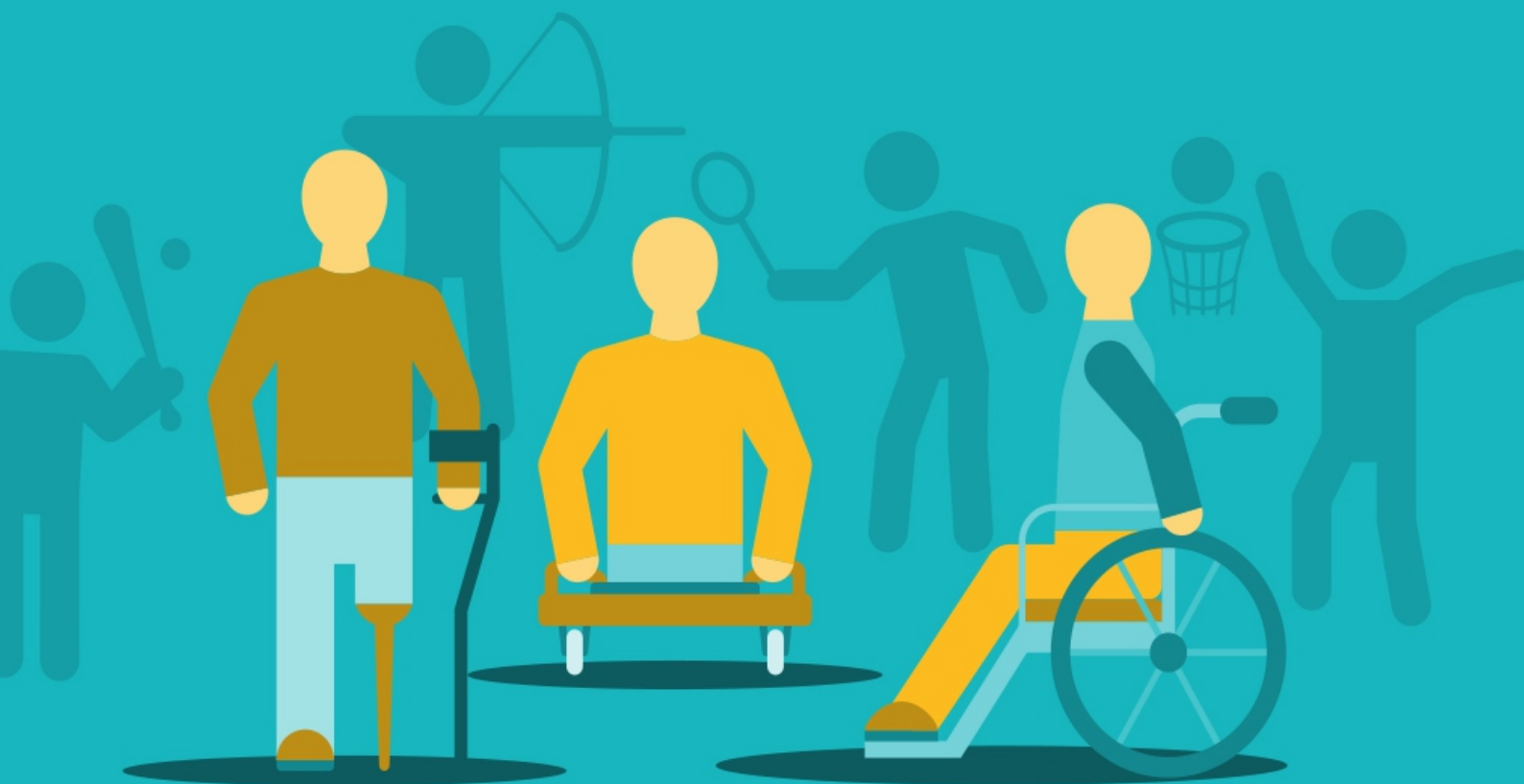
The institute is grateful to the NBS for their contribution to developing an appropriate methodology, as well as the design of the survey. Their wealth of experience was employed in various settings which ensured the timely collection of data for a large sample size of this nature.


Lastly, we want to sincerely appreciate our Donor, Ford Foundation for their support in ensuring progress is made towards producing disability-disaggregated data in Nigeria.

**Professor Bell Ihua (PhD Kent)**

Executive Director, Africa Polling Institute (API)

# Executive Summary





In January 2019, President Buhari signed the Discrimination Against Persons with Disabilities (Prohibition) Act, 2018 into law. The law targets the prohibition of discrimination against Persons with Disabilities (PWDs), imposition of a five-year transitional plan of the overall public structures and automobiles, imposes fines and prison sentences against contraveners and seeks employment of 5% of PWDs in public organisations, among others. The overall aim of the act is to protect the rights of PWDs and enhance the functionality of the PWDs thereby promoting a more inclusive society in Nigeria. The projected outcome is a win-win strategy where PWDs can live freely, exercise their rights and contribute to national productivity and income as everyone else irrespective of their disability. However, a lack of data limits the success and sustainability of the 2018 Act and more inclusive society in Nigeria.


A more disability-inclusive society is imperative for pro-poor growth in Nigeria particularly when PWD have a higher chance of experiencing extreme poverty than those without disability in Nigeria. Yet, Nigeria lacks census data on the disability population and its prevalence rate. While national data such as the 2006 Census and the 2018 National Demographic and Health Survey (DHS) report an estimate of disability prevalence rate of approximately 2% (LINKS, 2021), experts opine that the data underestimates the actual population size of PWDs in Nigeria (WHO, 2011; Haruna, 2017; LINKS, 2021).

Despite the lack of recent census data on the disability populace including the disability type, location of the PWDs per state, and actual needs of the PWDs, the Nigerian government enacted the 2018 disability Act. According to the 2018 disability Act, all public organizations must reserve 5% of job positions for PWDs to improve their employability, productivity and welfare, yet there is no recent data on the number of


unemployed PWDs per every 36 states and the Federal Capital Territory (FCT) Abuja. Similarly, the 2018 Act's establishment of the National Commission for Persons with Disabilities (NCPWD) seeks that PWDs have access to healthcare, housing and education, however, there is no national estimate of PWD with poor access to these facilities across the states to inform the type of access to be provided (including those with multiple disabilities) by the NCPWD or public organisations nor indicators designed to monitor and evaluate the policy implementation across the states for instance.

Further analysis of the 2018 disability Act shows that it recognizes a few real-life challenges and “adverse socio-economic outcomes such as less education, poorer health outcomes, lower levels of employment, and higher poverty rates” (The World Bank, 2022). However, it does not capture other challenges facing PWDs such as poverty, increasing the “risk of disability through malnutrition, ...unsafe working conditions, a polluted environment, and lack of access to safe water and sanitation” (The World Bank, 2022). Other challenges not captured in the Act are poor career progression at workplaces, risk of earning lower wages, lack of information to opportunities and poor access to assistive technology necessary to aid their functionality like others in the society.

PWDs in Nigeria are thus at a higher risk of being poor and excluded in the society amidst the lack of data to inform the various problems and degrees of challenges facing the group, resource distribution and their actual representation in the labour force. Nevertheless, the challenges facing PWDs are only capturable through data to inform viable policy initiatives, sustainable strategy and resource distribution to address the day-to-day dilemmas experienced by PWDs. As such, data becomes an imperative tool to facilitate a more inclusive society while







enhancing PWDs functionality and productivity and aiding the Nigerian government to achieve the United Nation's SDG 8 of a more inclusive society including PWD.

It is against this premise that Africa Polling Institute (API) collaborated with the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) through the support of the Ford Foundation. API supported the survey by providing disability indicators to NBS to aid the data collection of PWDs at the national level in Nigeria. The study exposes the current realities of PWDs in Nigeria.

## Findings

This survey has established the current demographic profile of PWDs in Nigeria.

### *PWDs with more than a Disability*

Assessing the proportion of PWDs with more than one disability across the 36 states including the FCT sheds light on the state with the highest number of PWDs with at least two disabilities and provides hindsight on future resource allocation to aid the provision of accessible facilities and initiatives for the group of PWDs in Nigeria. From the findings, only 5% of the PWDs have difficulty seeing, 1% have difficulty in hearing and 3% have difficulty walking or climbing a hill or steep in Nigeria. There is no significant difference in the findings across the demographics.

### *Proportion of PWDs*

Estimating the proportion of PWDs exposes the different forms of disabilities to inform the provision of relevant initiatives or technologies to aid the functionality and productivity of the group. Furthermore, it informs the provision of access to public facilities in each state based on each disability. From the findings, more than 9 in 10 of the PWDs have difficulty in seeing,

hearing and walking or climbing a hill or steep in Nigeria. This finding is similar across the demographics.


### *PWDs with Employment Problems*


Employment through income generation is pivotal in improving human welfare, so assessing the employment challenges facing PWDs is imperative to inform establishing viable policies to address the problem. From the findings, the PWDs mostly seek help in locating appropriate jobs (32%), particularly from the residents in the Rural areas (34%) and South-South (44%) and North West (33%) zones. Also, the PWDs seek help in furthering their education/training/skills (23%), particularly in the South-South (29%) and South West (28%) zones. 15% of the PWDs seek availability of assistive technology particularly in the South-South (19%) followed by North Central (16%) and South West (15%).

### *PWDs with Access to an assistive technology*

Assessing PWDs' access to assistive technology would establish the inclusive gap in the full functionality and productivity between those with access and those without access to assistive technology in Nigeria. The finding seeks to inform policy recommendations for the reformation of the 2018 Act to make provision of assistive technology for the PWDs without access to enhance inclusion in the country.

From the findings, more than 8 in 10 of the PWDs cannot afford to get medical glasses and at least 9 in 10 of the PWDs cannot afford a hearing aid and walking or climbing equipment/assistance, respectively. Disaggregation reveals that the PWDs with poor access to medical glasses are highest among the Female (90%) than Male (85%), rural (89%) than urban (80%) residents, and South-South (91%) and North Central (90%) residents than other zones. Similarly, at least 9 in 10 of the PWDs across the geo-political zones cannot afford hearing aid and the





proportion is highest in the South West (100%) where all the PWDs cannot afford them.

Furthermore, more than 9 in 10 of the PWDs cannot afford equipment or assistance for walking or climbing in the geo-political zones. 97% of the PWDs in North East, North West and North Central cannot afford the equipment or assistance for walking or climbing, respectively. For the Southern zone, 95% of the South East residents, 94% of the South-South residents and 98% of the South West residents cannot afford the equipment or assistance for walking or climbing.

#### ***PWDs with a dwelling structure***

Accessing the dwelling structure of the PWDs accommodation is intended to inform the actual need of the PWDs following the 2018 Disability Act. The findings show that more than 7 in 10 of the own their accommodation while only 16% live in rented accommodation and 10% live freely in their accommodations. The PWDs with accommodation ownership are highest among the rural residents (82%) than urban residents (52%) and the Northern zone where at least 8 in 10 of the PWDs own their houses compared to the Southern zones. Nevertheless, home ownership is highest in the South East (87%) within the Southern zones. While rented accommodation is more prominent among the South West (37%) and South-South (23%) residents. Regarding accommodation suitability, 44% live in unsuitable accommodation, particularly the South-South (50%), North Central (49%) and North East (47%) residents.

#### ***PWDs with access to financial support***

Access to financial support is imperative for inclusion, particularly for the PWDs in society. More than 7 in 10 of the PWDs receive financial support from family members and friends while 27% do not receive support, particularly among the

South-South (39%) residents. Regarding support from the government, while only 13% receive support, 86% do not receive government support, particularly in the Southern zone most especially South-South residents (92%).

#### ***Transportation plight suffered by PWDs***


Following the 2018 Disability Act seeking more accessible automobiles for PWD, the survey investigates other major transportation challenges facing PWD in society. From the findings, the survey discovers that most of the PWDs are concerned about the poor road signs (49%), particularly in the North West (62%) and South West (58%) zones. 35% of the PWDs are concerned about the lack of accessible transport particularly in the North Central (50%). 25% expressed concern for the attitude of transport officers, particularly in the South West (47%) zone. Regarding poor pedestrian paths, 13% of the PWDs particularly among the Female (31%) than Male (9%) expressed concerns over the challenge. In addition, it is mostly the South East participants (19%) that complained about the problem compared to other participants residing in other zones.

#### ***PWDs as victims of psychological Abuse***

Regarding psychological abuse, the survey reveals that at least 6 in 10 of the PWDs experience psychological problems particularly sexual and gender-based violence (89%), violence (83%), abuse (79%), neglect (74%) and discrimination (70%).

#### ***Human Right and access to community facilities***


Regarding the PWDs' fundamental rights and access to facilities, 52% do not have access to public institutions. For participation in political activities, 43% of the PWDs do not participate. Similarly, more than 3 in 10 of the PWDs do not participate in sporting activities.





# Methodology





This disability study establishes the demographic profile and living conditions of PWDs in Nigeria using the Multidimensional Poverty Indicators, an internationally comparable measure of acute poverty for over 100 developing countries. It was developed by Oxford Poverty & Human Development Initiative (OPHI) in collaboration with UNDP's Human Development Report Office.

## **Sample Design**

The National frame of EAs demarcated for the 2006 Housing and Population Census was used in the selection of the study units after which a household listing exercise was carried out in all the selected EAs of study. This provided an updated sampling frame from which households were selected for interviews.

The sample was designed to be representative across 109 senatorial districts, 36 states and FCT Abuja. 34 enumeration areas (EAs) were selected per senatorial district, giving a total of 3,774 EAs. The design was a two-stage stratification process:

- ▣ The first stage involved the selection of the 3,774 EAs.
- ▣ The second stage was the selection of the household. 15 households per EA. This resulted in the selection of 1,530 households per state, giving a total of 56,610 households nationally.

## **Pilot Test**

A pilot test was carried out in four states—two states from the northern part (Kano and Plateau) and 2 states from the southern part (Akwa Ibom & Lagos) of

Nigeria. Two teams were constituted per state, comprising a supervisor and four enumerators per team, resulting in a total of 40 enumerators for the pilot test.

## **Training for Main Survey**


For the main survey, the training of field staff took place in November 2021 in each of the 36 states and FCT Abuja. Four teams were constituted per state comprising a supervisor, three enumerators and one measurer per team, resulting in 740 enumerators nationally.

## **Data quality**

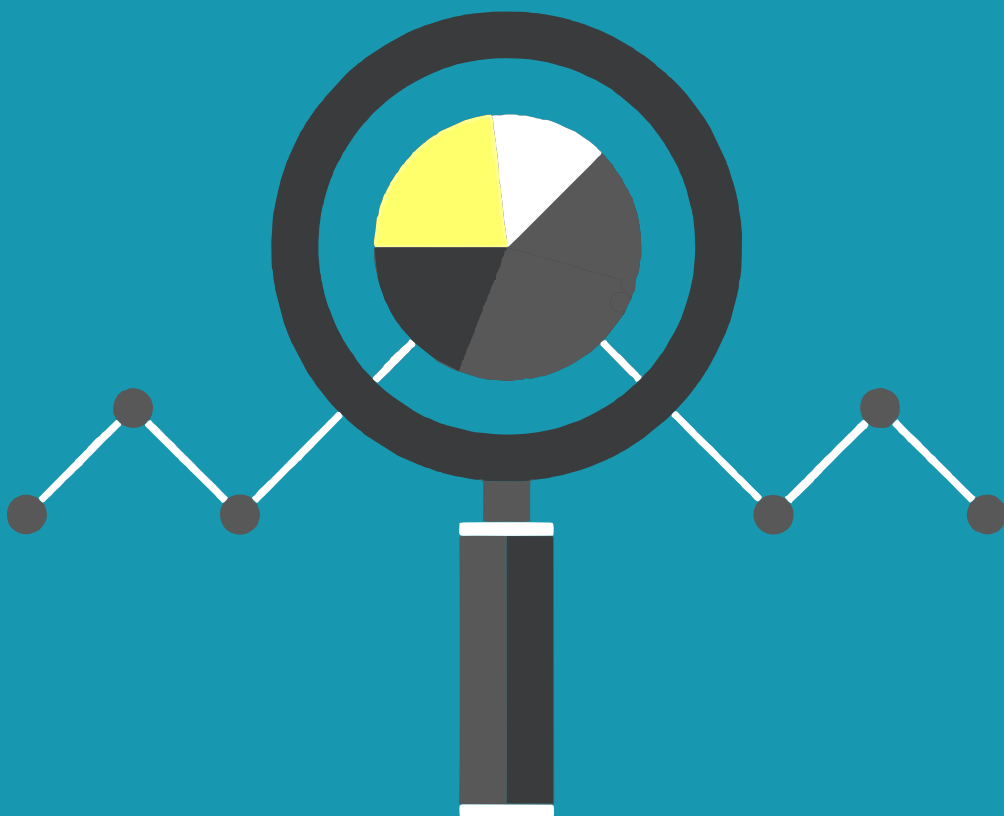
The interview was conducted using the Census and Survey Processing System (CSPPro) and Computer Assisted Personal Interviewing (CAPI) data entry. A team of data quality protocols were established for real-time online data checks comprising:

- ▣ An Administrator who ensured the connectivity of the CAPI devices to the server and monitored downloading and uploading of data to and from enumerators in the field.
- ▣ 18 data editors, each responsible for two states each, to check errors on the data downloaded from the server and communicate to the enumerators for any corrections/feedback required.
- ▣ A data cleaning team for cleaning data in CSPPro and Stata before analysis and table generation.

Finally, all COVID-19 protocols were duly observed by enumerators, with face masks and hand sanitisers used at all times during and after each interview in the field.



# Key Findings



## 2.0 Key Findings

Chapter 2.0 presents a tabular and descriptive analysis of the current circumstances of Persons with disabilities (PWDs) including the proportion of people with at least two disabilities, people with no employment /under-employment, psychological problems, financial support, etc.

### 2.1 The Demographic statistics of Persons with more than one Disability

Drawing from the survey findings, Table 1 below presents the current proportion of participants with at least two disabilities across the 36 states including FCT Abuja Nigeria. Most of the participants living with more than a disability reside in the Southern region particularly in Lagos state (9.1%) and Rivers state (8.9%) compared to the remaining 34 states and FCT Abuja. While only a small proportion resides in the Northern region, particularly in Borno state (0.8%), Kwara state (1.0%), Yobe state (1.0%) and Zamfara state (1.0%).

**Table 1: Proportion of Persons with more than one disability**

		Disability	
		Proportion of Persons with more than one disability	
		Count	Column N %
A1. State	Abia	90,367	2.2
	Adamawa	77,691	1.9
	Akwa Ibom	240,875	6.0
	Anambra	182,426	4.5
	Bauchi	59,586	1.5
	Bayelsa	129,543	3.2
	Benue	82,001	2.0
	Borno	32,136	0.8
	Cross River	176,360	4.4
	Delta	119,148	2.9
	Ebonyi	102,765	2.5
	Edo	144,258	3.6
	Ekiti	69,150	1.7
	Enugu	176,318	4.4
	Gombe	49,858	1.2
	Imo	245,137	6.1
	Jigawa	65,289	1.6
	Kaduna	182,664	4.5
	Kano	73,996	1.8
	Katsina	63,615	1.6
	Kebbi	29,550	0.7
	Kogi	70,103	1.7
	Kwara	39,712	1.0
	Lagos	369,157	9.1
	Nasarawa	43,849	1.1
	Niger	74,507	1.8
	Ogun	69,577	1.7
	Ondo	53,566	1.3
	Osun	112,060	2.8

	Oyo	137,735	3.4
	Plateau	95,818	2.4
	Rivers	359,066	8.9
	Sokoto	55,907	1.4
	Taraba	45,895	1.1
	Yobe	39,439	1.0
	Zamfara	39,112	1.0
	FCT Abuja	44,730	1.1
	<b>Total</b>	<b>4,042,966</b>	<b>100.0</b>

## 2.2 Proportion of Persons with Disability

When conducting a disability study, it is imperative to identify the different forms of disability evident in the country of study to inform appropriate policies and initiatives. This study thus asked the participants to indicate their disability status and the findings are presented in Table 2 below. From the findings, only 5% of the participants possess difficulty in seeing, 1% possess difficulty in hearing and 3% have difficulty in walking or climbing a hill or steep with no significant variation across the demographics.

**Table 2: Proportion of persons with Disability**

	National	Sex		Urbanization		Geo-Political Zone					
		Male	Female	Urban	Rural	North Central	North East	North West	South East	South South	South West
	<b>Difficulty in Seeing</b>										
Yes	<b>5%</b>	5%	8%	5%	5%	4%	4%	3%	7%	10%	4%
No	<b>95%</b>	95%	92%	95%	95%	96%	96%	97%	93%	90%	96%
	<b>Difficulty in Hearing</b>										
Yes	<b>1%</b>	1%	2%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	2%	2%	1%
No	<b>99%</b>	99%	98%	99%	99%	99%	99%	99%	98%	98%	99%
	<b>Difficulty in Walking or Climbing a Hill/Step</b>										
Yes	<b>3%</b>	3%	6%	3%	4%	3%	3%	3%	5%	6%	2%
No	<b>97%</b>	97%	94%	97%	96%	97%	97%	97%	95%	94%	98%

## 2.3 PWDs with no Employment / under-employment / Unsatisfactory

The survey assesses the extent of PWDs' employability and the satisfaction derived from the workplace in Nigeria. The findings reveal that at least 3 in 10 PWDs mostly need help in locating suitable jobs, particularly in the Rural areas and South-South zone, respectively. At least 2 in 10 PWDs need help in getting higher qualifications/training/skills, particularly in South-South (29%) and South West (28%) zones. PWDs that cannot walk are predominant in the South East zone compared to the remaining geo-political zones. While the 2018 Act targets creating 5% employment opportunities and better accessible public facilities, it fails to target other important needs of the PWDs as highlighted above.

**Table 3: Proportion with no employment / under-employment / unsatisfactory employment**

	National	Sex		Urbanization		Geo-Political Zone					
		Male	Female	Urban	Rural	North Central	North East	North West	South East	South South	South West
Help in locating appropriate jobs	<b>32%</b>	32%	33%	28%	34%	26%	26%	33%	21%	44%	21%
Getting higher qualifications/training/skills	<b>23%</b>	23%	25%	24%	23%	14%	24%	16%	19%	29%	28%
Availability of special equipment or assistive devices	<b>15%</b>	15%	15%	14%	15%	16%	8%	10%	13%	19%	15%
Availability of suitable transportation to and from the workplace	<b>13%</b>	12%	13%	14%	12%	6%	16%	17%	8%	14%	14%
Availability of a more accommodating workplace	<b>12%</b>	13%	12%	18%	10%	7%	11%	13%	15%	12%	16%
Availability of more flexible work schedules or work tasks arrangements	<b>9%</b>	9%	7%	7%	9%	5%	5%	6%	11%	10%	11%
More positive attitudes towards persons with disabilities	<b>8%</b>	8%	10%	9%	8%	10%	13%	8%	6%	7%	10%
Cannot walk at all	<b>7%</b>	7%	7%	8%	6%	5%	6%	6%	10%	7%	7%

## 2.4 Access to an Assistive Technology

The survey seeks to assess the level of access to assistive technology among PWDs in Nigeria to inform policy recommendation design.

### 2.4.1 Affordability of an Assistive Technology for their Disability

The absence of assistive technology often excludes and isolates PWDs and traps the people in poverty thus worsening the diseases and disability state of PWDs in society. It is against this premise that the survey assesses the proportion of PWDs that can afford an assistive technology for their disability to inform necessary policy and initiatives recommendation. The survey findings reveal that majority of PWDs cannot afford to buy assistive technology to aid their disability. More than 8 in 10 PWDs cannot afford to get medical glasses (87%), more than 9 in 10 PWDs cannot afford to get a hearing aid (96%) and exactly 9 in 10 PWDs cannot afford to get equipment or assistance for walking or climbing.

Disaggregation shows that the PWDs that cannot afford to buy medical glasses are highest amongst the Females (90%) than Males (85%); Rural (89%) than Urban (80%); and South-South (91%) and North Central (90%) than other geo-political zones. PWDs that cannot afford to buy hearing aids are highest in the South West (100%); and the PWDs that cannot afford to buy assistive equipment or assistance for walking or climbing are highest among the Females (93%), Rural areas (91%) and the Southern zones, respectively. From the findings, the large proportion shows that the participants probably fall in the 'poor' category and are excluded from functioning like everyone else in Nigeria.



**Table 4: Proportion of PWDs that can afford an assistive technology for their disability**

	National	Sex		Urbanization		Geo-Political Zone					
		Male	Female	Urban	Rural	North Central	North East	North West	South East	South South	South West
	Afford to get medical glasses										
Yes	13%	15%	10%	20%	11%	10%	18%	12%	14%	9%	22%
No	87%	85%	90%	80%	89%	90%	82%	88%	86%	91%	78%
	Afford to get a hearing aid										
Yes	4%	5%	3%	3%	5%	9%	7%	3%	3%	5%	0%
No	96%	95%	97%	97%	95%	91%	93%	97%	97%	95%	100%
	Afford to get equipment or assistance for walking or climbing										
Yes	10%	13%	7%	13%	9%	10%	17%	12%	9%	9%	10%
No	90%	87%	93%	87%	91%	90%	83%	88%	91%	91%	90%

#### 2.4.2 PWDs with walking difficulty and have Access to Assistive Technology

Further analysis reveals that more than half of the PWDs with walking difficulty do not have access to assistive technology. From the findings, PWDs do not have access to walking sticks (58%), white canes (88%), crutches (89%) and an average of approximately 93% of PWDs do not have access to the remaining assistive technologies including club foot braces, fall detectors and walkers.

**Table 5: Proportion of PWDs with walking difficulty but have access to assistive technology**

	National			
	Full Access	Partial Access	No Access at all	Don't know/refused
Walking Sticks	25%	16%	58%	1%
White Canes (Folding type / non-folding type)	4%	6%	88%	2%
Crutches	4%	5%	89%	2%
Wheelchairs, manual basic type/push type	3%	3%	92%	2%
Club foot braces	2%	4%	92%	2%
Fall detectors	2%	3%	93%	2%
Orthoses lower limbs / spinal/upper limbs	2%	3%	92%	3%
Prostheses, lower limbs (artificial legs)	2%	3%	93%	2%
Standing frames	2%	3%	93%	2%
Therapeutic footwear	2%	3%	93%	2%
Walkers (Adjustable)	2%	3%	93%	2%
Wheelchairs, powered/electrical	2%	2%	93%	3%
Rollators	1%	2%	94%	3%
Walking frames (With either ferrules or two tips and two castors)	1%	4%	93%	2%

### 2.4.3 Persons with vision difficulty but have access to assistive technology

From the survey findings, the majority of PWDs with vision difficulties do not have access to assistive technology. More than 8 in 10 of the participants do not have access to watches, spectacles, audio players with DAISY capability, captioning TV and many other important assistive devices to aid their reading abilities. This finding implies that such people are limited in reading abilities and excluded from gaining employment and acquiring education, thereby socially excluded in society from attaining the same heights as PWDs that possess the assistive devices.

**Table 6 Persons with vision difficulty but have access to assistive technology**

	National			
	Full Access	Partial Access	No Access at all	Don't know/refused
Watches, talking / touching	6%	4%	88%	2%
Spectacles	4%	5%	89%	2%
Audio players with DAISY capability	3%	5%	89%	3%
Captioning TV	3%	4%	90%	3%
Magnifiers, optical	3%	3%	92%	2%
Braille displays (note-takers)	2%	3%	92%	3%
Braille writing equipment	2%	3%	92%	3%
Magnifiers, digital handheld	2%	3%	93%	2%
Recorders (Dictaphone)	2%	2%	93%	3%
Screen readers	2%	3%	92%	3%

### 2.4.4 Persons with hearing difficulty with access to assistive technology

About if persons with hearing difficulty have access to assistive technology, it is evident that the majority of the PWDs sampled do not have access. According to the findings, while more than 8 in 10 PWDs with hearing difficulty do not have access to alarms, more than 9 in 10 PWDs do not have access to deaf-blind communicators, direct auditory input systems, gesture-to-voice technology and hearing aids and accessories. There is no significant difference in the disaggregated data. The findings thus imply that PWDs with hearing difficulty that possesses such assistive devices may possess a better functionality opportunity over those that cannot afford it, thereby further limiting their full potential to function at the workplace, school and other life activities from poor access to assistive devices.

**Table 7: Persons with hearing difficulty with access to assistive technology**

	National	Sex		Urbanization		Geo-Political Zone					
		Male	Female	Urban	Rural	North Central	North East	North West	South East	South South	South West
	Alarms										
Full Access	5%	6%	4%	6%	5%	4%	4%	13%	3%	4%	3%
Partial Access	7%	9%	3%	12%	6%	2%	10%	9%	6%	5%	13%
No Access at all	87%	85%	90%	77%	89%	94%	85%	78%	90%	91%	77%
Don't know/refused	1%	%	3%	5%	%	0%	1%	0%	1%	%	7%
	Deafblind communicators										
Full Access	2%	3%	1%	3%	2%	3%	0%	7%	1%	2%	1%
Partial Access	3%	4%	1%	5%	3%	1%	5%	5%	3%	3%	0%
No Access at all	94%	92%	97%	91%	94%	96%	93%	88%	94%	94%	99%
Don't know/refused	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	0%	2%	0%	2%	1%	0%
	Direct auditory input systems										
Full Access	2%	2%	1%	1%	2%	0%	0%	4%	1%	1%	2%
Partial Access	2%	3%	1%	5%	2%	3%	5%	5%	0%	2%	2%
No Access at all	94%	93%	97%	93%	94%	96%	93%	86%	96%	97%	95%
Don't know/refused	2%	2%	1%	1%	2%	1%	2%	5%	3%	0%	1%
	Gesture to voice technology										
Full Access	2%	2%	1%	1%	2%	0%	0%	4%	2%	1%	2%
Partial Access	2%	3%	1%	4%	2%	3%	5%	3%	1%	2%	0%
No Access at all	94%	94%	95%	89%	95%	96%	94%	91%	94%	96%	92%
Don't know/refused	2%	2%	3%	6%	1%	1%	2%	1%	3%	1%	6%
	Hearing Aids and accessories										
Full Access	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	0%	0%	4%	0%	1%	2%
Partial Access	2%	3%	2%	1%	3%	0%	5%	1%	4%	2%	0%
No Access at all	95%	94%	96%	94%	95%	99%	93%	94%	94%	96%	94%
Don't know/refused	2%	2%	1%	4%	1%	1%	2%	1%	2%	1%	4%

#### 2.4.5 PWDs with communication difficulty with access to assistive technology

From the survey findings, a total of 17% of the PWDs with communication difficulty – this includes 8% with full access and 9% with partial access - have access to communication equipment compared to 80% that do not. Regarding communication software, only 11% have access including 4% that have full access and 7% with partial access while 87% do not have access to the device. For video communication devices, only 4% have full access, 6% have partial access while 87% have no access at all. There is no significant difference in the disaggregated data. This finding is a clear indication that the functionality of PWDs with communication difficulty may be hampered at the workplace, school and other life activities currently thereby inhibiting their full potential functionality like PWDs that possess such assistive technology in society.

**Table 8: PWDs with communication difficulty with access to assistive technology**

	National	Sex		Urbanization		Geo-Political Zone					
		Male	Female	Urban	Rural	North Central	North East	North West	South East	South South	South West
	Communication equipment										
Full Access	8%	10%	5%	11%	8%	3%	1%	27%	5%	4%	14%
Partial Access	9%	9%	7%	5%	9%	3%	16%	13%	9%	4%	10%
No Access at all	80%	78%	86%	79%	81%	90%	78%	60%	83%	92%	68%
Don't know/refused	3%	3%	2%	5%	2%	4%	5%	0%	3%	0%	8%
	Communication software										
Full Access	4%	6%	2%	3%	5%	0%	0%	19%	1%	3%	3%
Partial Access	7%	9%	2%	10%	6%	3%	13%	15%	7%	2%	8%
No Access at all	87%	82%	94%	83%	87%	94%	84%	66%	89%	95%	80%
Don't know/refused	2%	3%	2%	4%	2%	3%	3%	0%	3%	0%	9%
	Video communication devices										
Full Access	4%	5%	2%	2%	5%	0%	0%	21%	1%	3%	0%
Partial Access	6%	8%	2%	11%	5%	3%	11%	14%	5%	2%	8%
No Access at all	87%	83%	93%	83%	87%	94%	86%	66%	90%	96%	83%
Don't know/refused	3%	3%	2%	4%	2%	3%	3%	0%	4%	0%	9%

#### 2.4.6 Persons with cognition, self-care, and upper body difficulty with assistive technology

The survey findings uncovered the proportion of PWDs with cognition, self-care and upper body difficulty in possession of assistive technology. From the findings, the survey discovered that while 89% do not have access, less than 1 in 10 of the PWDs with cognition, self-care and upper body difficulty have access to incontinence products/absorbents. Out of 8% with access, only 2% have full access to the device. Disaggregation shows that most of the North West have full access (12%) and partial access (18%) to incontinence products/absorbents.

For access to a keyboard and mouse emulation software and accessories, the survey findings reveal that only 1% have full access while more than 9 in 10 PWDs with cognition, self-care and upper body difficulty do not have access to the devices. Disaggregation shows that North West (15%) have more partial access than other zones.

Regarding access to a personal digital assistant, only 5% have access including 1% with full access and 4% with partial access while 92% do not have access to the device. Disaggregation shows that North West (16%) have more partial access than other zones.

Regarding access to recorders (Dictaphone), only 5% have access including 1% with full access and 4% with partial access while 92% do not have access to the device. Disaggregation shows that North West (14%) have more partial access than other zones.

Regarding access to simplified mobile phones, 18% have access out of which 8% have full access and 10% have partial access to the device. A total of 81% do not have access to the device while 2% refused to answer/do not know.

**Table 9: PWDs with cognition, self-care, and upper body difficulty with assistive technology**

	National	Sex		Urbanization		Geo-Political Zone					
		Male	Female	Urban	Rural	North Central	North East	North West	South East	South South	South West
	Incontinence products, absorbent										
Full Access	2%	3%	1%	2%	2%	1%	0%	12%	0%	1%	0%
Partial Access	6%	7%	4%	6%	6%	7%	9%	18%	2%	3%	4%
No Access at all	89%	88%	93%	91%	89%	90%	90%	67%	94%	94%	95%
Don't know/refused	2%	3%	2%	1%	3%	2%	1%	4%	4%	1%	1%
	Keyboard and mouse emulation software and accessories										
Full Access	1%	2%	%	2%	1%	0%	0%	8%	0%	1%	0%
Partial Access	4%	6%	%	4%	4%	1%	8%	15%	2%	0%	3%
No Access at all	92%	89%	98%	92%	92%	97%	91%	74%	94%	97%	95%
Don't know/refused	2%	3%	1%	2%	2%	2%	1%	2%	4%	2%	2%
	Personal Digital Assistant (PDA)										
Full Access	1%	2%	1%	2%	1%	0%	0%	7%	0%	2%	0%
Partial Access	4%	6%	1%	3%	5%	1%	8%	16%	2%	1%	2%
No Access at all	92%	90%	97%	93%	92%	97%	91%	75%	94%	95%	96%
Don't know/refused	2%	3%	1%	2%	2%	2%	1%	2%	4%	2%	2%
	Recorders (Dictaphone)										
Full Access	1%	2%	%	2%	1%	0%	0%	9%	0%	1%	0%
Partial Access	4%	6%	%	2%	5%	4%	9%	14%	1%	%	2%
No Access at all	92%	89%	98%	94%	91%	94%	88%	72%	95%	98%	96%
Don't know/refused	3%	3%	1%	2%	3%	2%	3%	5%	4%	1%	2%
	Simplified mobile phones										
Full Access	8%	9%	5%	10%	7%	5%	9%	14%	5%	10%	2%
Partial Access	10%	11%	6%	10%	10%	7%	15%	18%	6%	9%	10%
No Access at all	81%	78%	87%	78%	82%	87%	73%	67%	86%	80%	88%
Don't know/refused	2%	2%	1%	2%	2%	1%	3%	1%	3%	1%	1%

## 2.5 Dwelling Structure

Although the 2018 Act proposes that NCPWD provides PWDs with access to accommodation, however, this survey investigates if accommodation is a problem, particularly its suitability for the PWDs. The survey thus investigates the state of PWD accommodation and found that more than 7 in 10 of the PWDs own their accommodation compared to 16% that live in rented accommodation. Furthermore, 82% of rural residents live in their accommodation compared to 52% of urban residents. Rented accommodation is mostly common among the urban residents (39%) and South West residents (37%) compared with rural and other zones respectively. It is obvious that most of the PWDs do not have accommodation problems as portrayed in the Act, but rather need more suitable accommodation.

Furthermore, 56% of the PWDs live in suitable accommodation while 44% of the PWDs live in unsuitable accommodation. Suitable accommodation is mostly reported among the South East (64%) and North West (62%) residents compared to other zones. Unsuitable accommodation is mostly evident in the South-South zone (50%).

Table 10: Dwelling Structure

	National	Sex		Urbanization		Geo-Political Zone					
		Male	Female	Urban	Rural	North Central	North East	North West	South East	South South	South West
	Dwelling Structure										
Own	74%	75%	70%	52%	82%	80%	80%	86%	87%	62%	50%
Free	10%	10%	11%	9%	11%	10%	9%	8%	4%	15%	13%
Rented	16%	15%	19%	39%	8%	10%	11%	6%	9%	23%	37%
	Dwelling Suitability										
Suitable	56%	57%	54%	59%	55%	51%	53%	62%	64%	50%	56%
Unsuitable	44%	43%	46%	41%	45%	49%	47%	38%	36%	50%	44%

## 2.6 PWDs' access to Financial Support

People with disability often need social support particularly financial support to manage and overcome the diverse challenges they may be experiencing on a day-to-day basis. Monetary support to PWDs is a key resource necessary to meet basic human needs such as food, clothing, shelter, health and transportation, and lack of income exposes or worsens PWDs' vulnerability to poverty, diseases and exclusion in society. Considering the importance of financial support to PWDs, this survey establishes if PWDs in Nigeria are beneficiaries of financial support from friends and families and the government.

It is obvious from the findings that the PWDs mostly receive financial support from family members and friends than the government. 72% of PWDs claim that they enjoy monetary support from family and friends, and only 13% of PWDs enjoy financial support from the Nigerian government. Beneficiaries from family members and friends are mostly predominant amongst the Rural residents and those residing in South East (84%) and North West (81%). On the other hand, government monetary beneficiaries are mostly reported among the Male PWDs (15%) than Female PWDs (9%), North East (21%) than other geo-political zones. Southern PWDs receive the least monetary support compared to Northern PWDs in Nigeria. Although the Federal government has enacted discrimination against PWDs, however, more needs to be done. This is by providing additional financial support to PWDs and averting personal development and productivity gaps between PWDs and others since lack of finance may limit PWDs' functionality in society.



Table 11: Financial Support

	National	Sex		Urbanization		Geo-Political Zone					
		Male	Female	Urban	Rural	North Central	North East	North West	South East	South South	South West
Support from Family members and Friends											
Very supportive	42%	42%	41%	45%	41%	45%	30%	48%	51%	31%	50%
Somewhat supportive	30%	29%	32%	24%	32%	24%	36%	33%	33%	30%	26%
Not supportive	27%	28%	26%	30%	26%	30%	33%	19%	16%	39%	22%
Don't know/ Refused	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	%	%	%	2%
Support from Government											
Very supportive	5%	6%	4%	6%	5%	4%	5%	13%	4%	4%	3%
Somewhat supportive	8%	9%	5%	7%	8%	11%	16%	15%	7%	4%	3%
Not supportive	86%	84%	90%	87%	86%	84%	76%	71%	89%	92%	94%
Don't know/ Refused	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	3%	1%	%	%	%

## 2.7 Transportation plight experienced by PWDs

Since the enactment of the Discrimination Against Persons with Disabilities Act in 2018, the survey seeks to assess the current state of ease of transportation for PWDs in Nigeria. From the survey findings, the most significant transportation issue is poor signage (49%) followed by lack of accessible transport (35%) and the attitude of transport officers (25%). Poor road signage was mostly indicated by PWDs residing in the North West geo-political zone (62%) while South East (20%) have the least complaint. Lack of accessible transport was mostly reported in the Northern zone, particularly by North Central PWDs (50%) than in the Southern zone. The attitude of the transport officers is reportedly a major problem in the Southern zone particularly in the South West zone (47%) compared to the Northern zone. Regarding poor pedestrian paths, 13% of the PWDs particularly among the Female (31%) than Male (9%) and mostly the South East (19%) participants compared to other zones mostly expressed concerns over the challenge. The findings thus indicate that transportation is still a major issue for PWDs in Nigeria.

Table 12: Transportation Plight

	National	Sex		Urbanization		Geo-Political Zone					
		Male	Female	Urban	Rural	North Central	North East	North West	South East	South South	South West
Poor road signs	49%	50%	44%	49%	48%	49%	49%	62%	20%	52%	58%
Lack of accessible transport	35%	35%	33%	32%	37%	50%	38%	29%	44%	35%	10%
The attitude of transport officers	25%	24%	27%	33%	20%	6%	34%	11%	35%	31%	47%
The attitude of the commuters	14%	13%	17%	13%	15%	5%	0%	9%	11%	23%	32%
Poor pedestrian paths	13%	9%	31%	14%	13%	13%	10%	12%	19%	9%	17%
Don't know/ Refused	6%	8%	2%	5%	7%	7%	18%	9%	8%	2%	0%

## 2.8 PWDs' access to support Staff

The survey investigates PWDs' access to support staff and finds that most of the PWDs have never had access. An average of 85% of the PWDs do not have access to all the supports outlined in the table below. Out of all the various supports, PWDs mostly receive Nursing care (23%). The findings depict a huge inequality gap between those with access and those without access to support staff thereby limiting the full functionality of those without access in the country. PWDs lacking the support of staff may stem from income constraints and low welfare support from the government and other institutions.

Table 13: Access to support Staff

	National				
	Never	Sometimes	Often	Always	Not Applicable
Sign language interpreter	86%	3%	%	1%	10%
Audiologist	88%	1%	%	%	11%
Speech and language therapist	87%	2%	%	%	11%
Occupational therapist	87%	2%	%	%	11%
Guidance counsellor	86%	4%	1%	1%	8%
Psychologist	89%	2%	%	%	9%
Vocational Instructor	89%	2%	%	%	9%
Nurse	68%	23%	2%	2%	5%
Care-giver	70%	17%	3%	5%	5%
Cleaner	78%	10%	2%	4%	6%
Guard	84%	7%	1%	2%	6%
Play Therapist	89%	2%	%	%	9%
Driver	85%	7%	1%	1%	6%
Mobility instructor	89%	3%	1%	1%	6%
Physiotherapists	91%	2%	%	%	7%
Resource room staff	90%	2%	%	%	8%
Adaptive sport officer	90%	1%	%	%	9%
Note taker	89%	3%	%	%	8%

## 2.9 PWDs as victims of psychological Abuse

PWDs are mostly likely to fall victim to violence, rape and discrimination. To protect PWDs, the Federal government on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of January 2018 passed into law the Discrimination Against Persons with Disabilities (Prohibition) Act to protect PWDs from discrimination and have access to public facilities in Nigeria. It is against this premise that the survey assesses the proportion of PWDs as victims of psychological challenges and the findings reveal that at least 6 in 10 PWDs have never experienced this problem. However, other PWDs have experienced Trauma (40%), Discrimination (30%), Low self-esteem (34%), Abuse (21%), Violence (17%), Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (11%) and Neglect (26%) with a record of variation in the psychological experience, respectively. It is thus evident that PWDs are victims of different forms of abuse and the government needs to sensitize the public on the psychological effects on PWD victims while imposing fines on abusers in Nigeria. In addition, facilitating counselling and medical support for PWDs experiencing psychological abuse/problems would reduce low self-esteem and the traumatic effects on the victims.

**Table 14: Psychological Problems**

	National				
	Never	Sometimes	Rarely	Often	Always
Trauma	60%	24%	12%	3%	1%
Discrimination	70%	17%	10%	2%	1%
Low self-esteem	66%	21%	9%	3%	1%
Abuse	79%	12%	7%	2%	%
Violence	83%	9%	7%	1%	%
Sexual and Gender-Based Violence	89%	5%	5%	1%	%
Neglect	74%	17%	6%	2%	1%

## 2.10 Self-Determination

The survey further investigates PWDs' self-determination in Nigeria. The findings reveal that most of the PWDs enjoy self-determination compared to others. While only 22% of the PWDs have full access to information, 70% have partial access. More than 8 in 10 participants significantly enjoy the freedom of movement (88%), freedom of choice (82%), freedom of worship/religion (88%) and right to set up own family and to be a parent (88%) compared with those with partial and no access at all. While 60% possess the freedom of dating and intimacy with persons of choice, 21% have partial access while 19% are completely limited.

**Table 15: Self-Determination**

	National			
	Full Access	Partial Access	No Access at all	Don't know/refused
Access to Information	22%	70%	8%	0%
Freedom of Movement	88%	12%	0%	0%
Freedom of Choice	82%	18%	0%	0%
Freedom of Worship / Religion	88%	12%	0%	0%
Right to set up own family and to be a parent	88%	12%	0%	0%
Freedom of dating and intimacy with persons of choice	60%	21%	19%	0%

## 2.11: Human Right and Access to Community Facilities

Furthermore, the survey investigates the inclusion of PWDs' at the community level, particularly access to public institutions, access to markets and stores, etc.

### 2.11.1 Access to Public Institutions

From the findings, only 48% (full access – 22%; partial access – 26%) of the PWDs have access while 52% do not have access to public institutions.

### 2.11.2 Access to Markets and Stores

Regarding access to markets and stores, the findings reveal that more than 7 in 10 of the PWDs have access, more than 1 in 10 of the PWDs have partial access while 16% have no access at all.

### 2.11.3 Dignity and Respect

From the findings, all the participants enjoy dignity and respect in the community. Out of all the participants, the dignity and respect of 74% of the PWDs have not been compromised.

### 2.11.4 Equal Rights and Social Justice

From the findings, more than 7 in 10 of the PWDs enjoy complete equal rights and social justice unlike 26% of the PWDs that enjoy limited rights and justice at the community level.

### 2.11.5 Access to Recreational Facilities

Most of the participants have access to recreational facilities in the communities. From the findings, 81% of the PWDs have access out of which only 22% have full access compared to 59% with partial access.

**Table 16a: Human Right and Access to Community Facilities**

	National			
	Full Access	Partial Access	No Access at all	Don't know/refused
Access to public institutions	22%	26%	52%	0%
Access to markets and stores	72%	12%	16%	0%
Dignity and respect	74%	26%	0%	0%
Equal rights and Social Justice	74%	26%	0%	0%
Access to recreational facilities	22%	59%	19%	0%

#### 2.11.6 Participation in Community Development

From the findings, 84% of the PWDs partake in community development including 45% that sometimes do and 39% that always participate.

#### 2.11.7 Participation in Political Activities

The survey seeks to assess the level of inclusion in political activities at the community level to inform the creation of actionable initiatives to improve the political participation of PWDs in the country. From the findings, only 43% of the PWDs do not participate in political activities compared to 57% that do participate.

#### 2.11.8 Participation in Sporting Activities

To assess the state of inclusion in sporting activities, the survey discovered that 33% of the PWDs have never participated compared to 51% that sometimes participate and 16% that often participate.

**Table 16b: Human Right and Access to Community Facilities**

	National			
	Never	Sometimes	Often	Always
Participate in community development	16%	45%	0%	39%
Participate in political activities	43%	18%	0%	39%
Participate in sporting activities	33%	51%	16%	0%



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### **Centre Court,**

46 Crescent, CITEC, 4th Avenue,  
Gwarinpa, Abuja, Nigeria.

 [www.africapolling.org](http://www.africapolling.org)

 [info@africapolling.org](mailto:info@africapolling.org)

 +234 (0)806 484 1888

    @africapolling