

B2 – The employment rates of disabled people, by main impairment type

Baseline and Trends: Baseline year – 2005. Between 2005 and 2008, the employment rates for most of the impairment types have seen significant improvements. However, the employment rates for people with mental illness, phobias or panic has remained substantially lower (at just over 10%) than the employment rate for most types of impairment throughout the period.

Employment Rates by Main Impairment Type

	2002		2003		2004		2005		2006		2007		2008	
	Low 95%	High 95%	Low 95%	High 95%	Low 95%	High 95%	Low 95%	High 95%	Low 95%	High 95%	Low 95%	High 95%	Low 95%	High 95%
Arms, hands	38.9%	46.7%	42.1%	50.0%	42.7%	50.5%	45.5%	53.5%	42.2%	50.2%	45.2%	52.9%	42.4%	50.4%
Legs or feet	32.3%	37.4%	36.3%	41.5%	38.0%	43.7%	38.8%	44.4%	37.2%	42.7%	39.3%	45.1%	39.1%	45.1%
Back or neck	36.0%	40.2%	38.6%	43.0%	37.8%	42.3%	35.9%	40.5%	40.1%	44.9%	39.0%	44.0%	40.5%	45.6%
Difficulty in seeing	28.3%	43.5%	24.0%	39.4%	34.0%	49.9%	31.2%	47.9%	31.0%	46.9%	39.5%	56.0%	39.2%	55.2%
Difficulty in hearing	47.1%	64.2%	50.2%	66.9%	49.6%	67.4%	50.7%	70.6%	49.3%	67.2%	49.3%	67.2%	48.3%	67.3%
Speech impediment	9.9%	65.1%	16.3%	67.7%	5.0%	53.8%	2.3%	51.8%	2.1%	48.4%	8.4%	58.1%	2.8%	60.0%
Skin conditions, allergies	63.8%	78.6%	62.9%	76.6%	56.2%	71.8%	59.3%	74.7%	62.4%	79.0%	52.2%	69.1%	61.8%	76.8%
Chest, breathing problems	59.9%	64.8%	59.5%	64.5%	59.6%	64.9%	61.3%	66.7%	61.7%	67.0%	60.0%	65.5%	60.0%	65.5%
Heart, blood pressure, circulation	47.6%	52.5%	50.6%	55.8%	53.5%	58.6%	54.4%	59.5%	56.2%	61.4%	57.5%	62.7%	56.7%	62.1%
Stomach, liver, kidney, digestion	49.6%	57.9%	44.1%	52.3%	50.6%	58.9%	51.2%	59.3%	55.9%	63.8%	47.0%	55.3%	53.9%	62.3%
Diabetes	61.9%	69.1%	61.9%	69.1%	64.2%	71.0%	63.1%	69.9%	65.2%	71.9%	62.5%	69.7%	67.8%	74.4%
Depression, bad nerves	20.5%	26.6%	19.1%	24.8%	18.0%	23.5%	20.4%	26.3%	20.4%	26.3%	21.0%	27.0%	23.3%	29.5%
Epilepsy	39.1%	50.9%	34.9%	47.5%	28.7%	40.8%	42.5%	55.2%	35.8%	48.4%	30.7%	44.2%	34.6%	46.9%
Learning difficulties	9.1%	18.3%	12.9%	23.2%	16.0%	26.9%	13.6%	23.4%	8.7%	18.0%	10.2%	20.1%	14.7%	25.2%
Mental illness, phobia, panics	8.7%	15.2%	8.3%	15.2%	9.3%	16.4%	6.6%	12.6%	8.2%	14.7%	8.4%	14.4%	9.8%	16.1%
Progressive illness	34.9%	42.5%	37.0%	44.9%	40.3%	48.0%	40.4%	48.0%	33.9%	41.5%	40.0%	47.5%	37.7%	45.4%
Other problems, disabilities	50.5%	56.7%	48.7%	55.0%	51.1%	57.5%	52.1%	58.4%	51.9%	58.2%	51.3%	57.4%	51.8%	58.2%

Definition: The data covers all working age adults (males aged 16-64, females aged 16-59) who report they are in employment (including self employment). Respondents who report a current disability consistent with the Disability Discrimination Act are defined as disabled. Respondents who experience multiple difficulties are asked to identify their main area of difficulty. Data is for Great Britain.

Note: All previously published Labour Force Survey figures have slightly changed due to the recent re-weighting of the survey population. Figures over time are very volatile due to small sample sizes. From this year on, due to small sample sizes for particular impairment types, we are reporting solely 95% confidence intervals.

Data Source: Labour Force Survey, Q2