

Equality bulletin number 24 – Disability and  
Housing Executive Tenants

March 2010

# Disability and Housing Executive Tenants

## Background

The second and third waves of the 2009 Continuous Tenants Omnibus Survey (CTOS) included a range of questions on health and disability. This bulletin highlights key findings from 2009 and also provides some trend analysis with information from the 2007 and 2008 surveys. Information is provided on the incidence and type of disability across a range of equality categories including Religion, Ethnic Origin, Marital Status, Age and Gender.

## Overview of the 2009 CTOS

Of the estimated 87,326 tenant households at 2009 a total of 54,843 households (63%) have one or more members with a health problem and/or a disability. The total estimated number of household members with a health problem and/or a disability was approximately 68,066, (i.e. 37%) of the estimated 184,740 residents in NIHE occupied stock in 2009.

Of the 68,066 household members with a health problem and/or a disability in 2009; 56% have a health problem/illness; 20% have a disability which limits activities and 24% have both health problems and a disability.

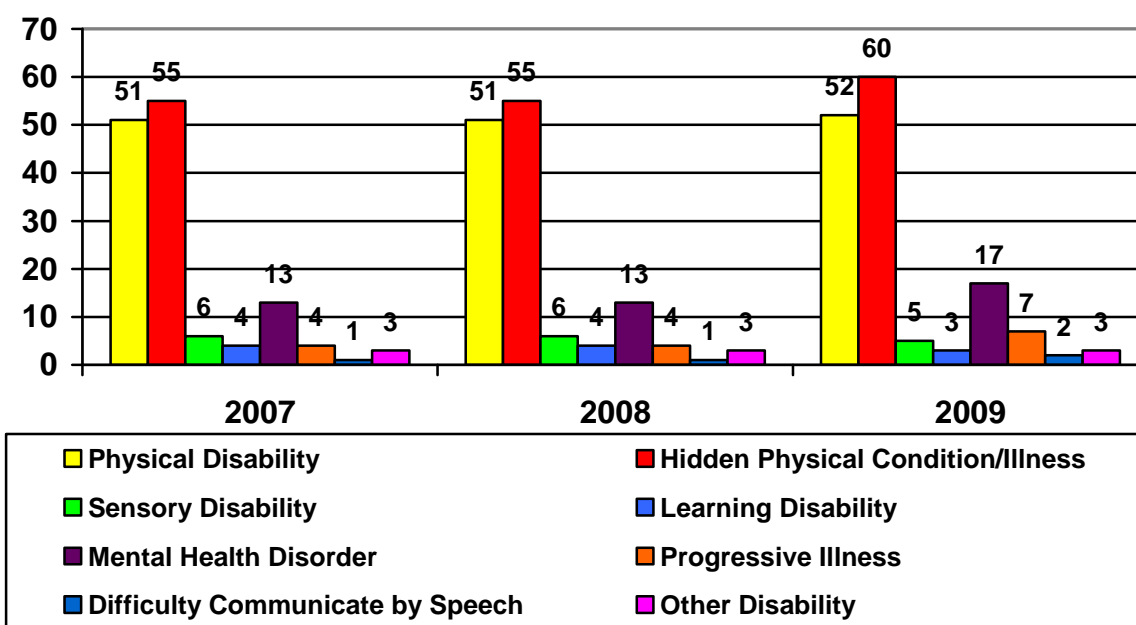
## Main findings from the 2009 CTOS

The following table highlights how respondents to the CTOS categorised the disability and/or health problem that members of their household had in 2009. Numbers are shown in percentages and are broken down by NIHE area.

	NI	Belfast	South East	South	North East	West
	2009	2009	2009	2009	2009	2009
Physical Disability (mobility)	52%	55%	63%	48%	45%	46%
Hidden physical condition/ illness	60%	62%	56%	58%	69%	52%
Sensory disability (including sight and hearing)	5%	7%	6%	3%	3%	4%
Learning Disability	3%	4%	4%	3%	3%	3%
Mental Health disorder	17%	26%	22%	9%	9%	12%
Progressive illness	7%	4%	7%	5%	14%	3%
Difficulty communicating by speech	2%	2%	2%	1%	1%	2%
Other Disability	2%	2%	2%	2%	0%	3%

The percentages highlighted in yellow show areas with the highest percentages of household members with disability and/or health problems in 2009.

**NI % Breakdown of Disabilities / Health Problems Experienced by Household Members Between 2007 & 2009**



- Between 55% and 60% of household members with disabilities and / or health problems were highlighted as having a hidden physical condition / illness in each of the three years.
- Between 51% and 52% of household members with disabilities and / or health problems were highlighted as having a physical disability in each of the three years.
- In 2007 and 2008, 13% of household members with disabilities and / or health problems indicated that they had a mental health disorder. In 2009 there was a slight increase to 17%.

Other key findings from the 2009 CTOS include:

Of the estimated 68,066 household members with a particular disability and/or health problem:

- 71% were Household Reference Persons (HRP), 15% were the HRP's partner and 13% were children.
- 7% were under 16 years old, 4% were between 16 and 24 years old, 44% were between 25 and 59 years old and 45% were 60+ years old.
- 57% are female and 43% are male.
- 28% were married (first married), 33% were single (never married), 17% widowed, 12% divorced and 8% separated.
- 31% have a helper or carer. Helpers or carers tend to be a child (22%), other non relative (21%), spouse/partner (20%) and the respondents themselves (17%).
- 2% have had a difficulty, 86% have had no difficulty and 11% have never tried to access Housing Executive services.
- 63% of household members were permanently sick/disabled or retired from work.

Of the estimated 54,843 households with one or more members with a health problem and/or disability:

- 56% were Protestant households and 37% were Catholic households. The remaining households were of mixed religion (2%), of no religious affiliation (3%) or refused (2%). This mirrors the overall breakdown of household religion in the CTOS.
- 99.7% were of white ethnic origin.
- 55% lived in a house, 30% lived in a bungalow/cottage and 15% lived in a flat, maisonette or split level dwelling.
- 58% have a gross household income of £10,400 or less per annum.
- 28% are lone older households, 18% are lone adult households and 18% are two older person households.

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