

CHAPTER 9

DISABILITY

9.0. Introduction

Zambia has been collecting disability data in all the four censuses of 1969, 1980, 1990 and 2000. In collecting information for the past four censuses 1969, 1980, 1990, and 2000, categories used are shown in Table 9.1. During the 2000 Census of population and housing, data collected on disability included eight categories, unlike the 1990 Census where only five categories were captured. This was in recognition of the varying degrees of disability. The increase in the number of disability categories in the 2000 Census was also aimed at capturing more persons with disability who were left out in the previous censuses such as those who are partially sighted and hard of hearing.

Persons with disabilities have the same rights as other citizens to opportunities for self-actualization and participation in the economic and social development of this country. Information on persons with disabilities is important for addressing barriers that limit their enjoyment of these human rights and their integration into the mainstream of society.

Table 9.1: Disability Categories used in Censuses 1969 - 2000

| 1969 | 1980 | 1990 | 2000 |
|--|---|---|--|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Blind2. Deaf and/or mute3. Loss of limb4. Sick | <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Blind2. Deaf and/or mute3. Crippled, or loss of limb4. Mentally Retarded5. Sick6. Combination of two or more categories | <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Blind2. Deaf-Dumb3. Crippled4. Mentally Retarded5. Multiple Disabilities | <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Blind2. Partially sighted3. Deaf/Dumb4. Hard of Hearing5. Mentally ill6. Ex- Mental7. Mentally Retarded8. Physically Handicapped |

Source: CSO, 1969, 1980, 1990 and 2000 Censuses of Population and Housing

The International Classification of Functioning (ICF), Disability and Health provide a theoretical framework for classifying health related human functioning. The ICF provides standardized concepts that provide a standardized classification framework for data compilation. The use of a common framework also contributes to greater comparability of data at the national and international levels and makes it relevant to various users (UN, 2001).

Among the principles of the ICF is neutrality; i.e. classifying disabilities in a neutral language with no use of negative terms. In this chapter, however, some terms used may not be neutral but have been used as was done during data collection. However, effort has been made to provide in brackets the neutral terms that are internationally accepted as will be observed in this and provincial chapters on disability.

9.1. Concepts and Definitions

According to the 2000 Census definition, disability refers to a person who is limited in the kind or amount of activities that he or she can do because of on-going difficulties due to a long term physical, mental or health problem. This is in line with the National Policy on Disability which defines disability as any restriction or lack of ability to perform any action in the manner or within the range considered 'normal' for a human being and would or would not entail the use of supportive and auxiliary aids (World Health Organization).

Types of Disability

- Blind (Visually Impaired)- complete loss of sight
- Partially sighted- loss of one eye or poor sight but not complete blindness
- Deaf/Dumb (speech impaired)- complete loss of sense of hearing/speech
- Hard of Hearing- Partial loss of sense of hearing but not complete loss
- Mentally ill- A disorder related to the individuals mental state or state of mind

- Ex-mental- a person that suffered from mental disorder before but is now rehabilitated or undergoing rehabilitation
- Mentally retarded- a person that is very slow to learn or has deficiency of mental intellect
- Physically handicapped (Physically disabled)- A person with a physical impairment relating to the loss of bodily stature

Causes of Disability

- Congenital/Prenatal- disabilities which one is born with
- Disease/illness- e.g. Leprosy, Polio, cataract, etc
- Injury/Accident/Trauma- road accidents, injuries from accidental falls, fire, etc
- Other - e.g. unsuccessful medical operation, wrongful application/misuse of traditional and conventional medicine

9.2. Limitations of Data on Disability

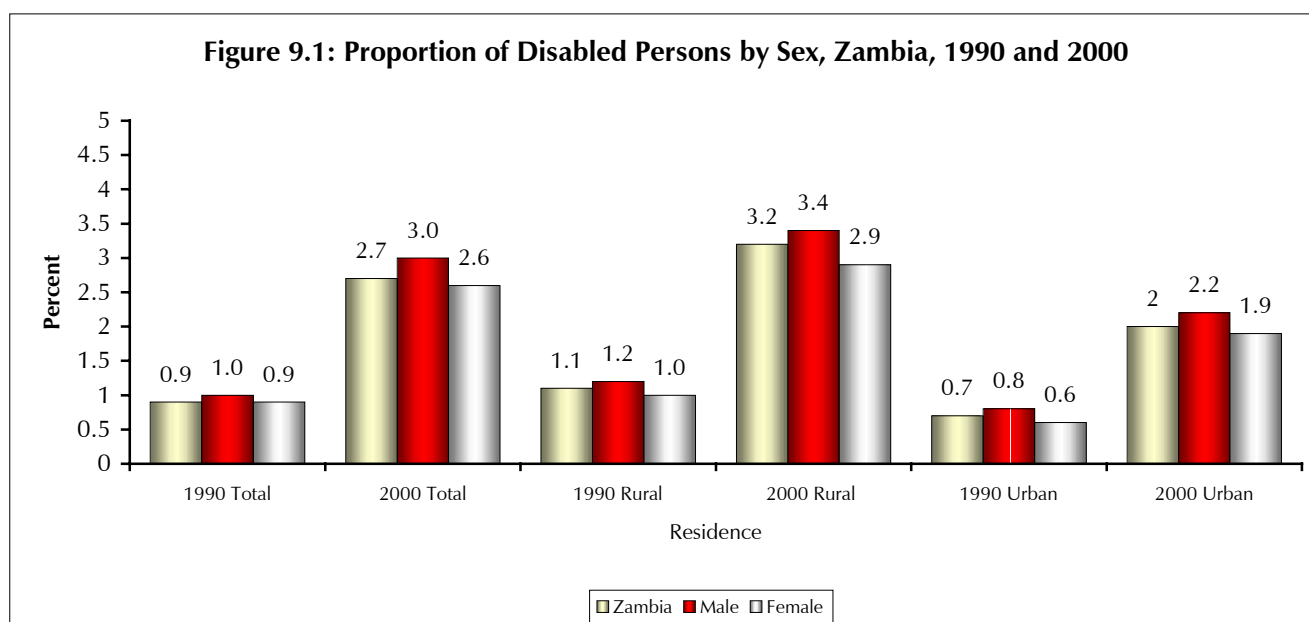
Policy makers and planners require data on disabled persons. Information needs are more than just basic counts of the number of people with disabilities but also on the quality of life of people living with disabilities.

The categories employed in the current census, however, do not take into account the international definitions of disabilities, which include variations in the intensity of disability, such as the loss of feelings in fingers (UN, 1996).

Detailed data on disability can only be included in a specialized survey. Census data on disability are collected mainly to study the socio-economic situations of these individuals. Since the census is a large exercise, which includes a lot of topics, it becomes difficult to include a lot of questions on one topic.

9.3. Proportion of the Disabled to the Total Population

Out of a 2000 Census of Population and Housing total population of 9.3 million, 256,690 are disabled; a proportion of 2.7 percent of the total population. This proportion is an increase over the 1990 census when only 0.9 percent of the total population were disabled. An examination of the proportions of the disabled between the two censuses may indicate that there has been an increase in the prevalence of disability between 1990 and 2000. The observed increase may be largely caused by the increase in the categories and coverage of the disabled (See Figure 9.1).



A comparison of the provinces shows that Western Province has the largest proportion of persons with disabilities. About 4 percent of the population of Western Province is disabled. This is followed by Luapula, in which 3.6 percent of the population is disabled. In Copperbelt, only 0.4 percent of the population is disabled.

Rural-urban differentials exist in terms of proportions of persons with disabilities. Of the total rural population, 3.3 percent is disabled compared to 2.1 in urban areas.

Table 9.2: Proportion of Disabled Persons by Province, Sex and Residence, Zambia, 1990 and 2000

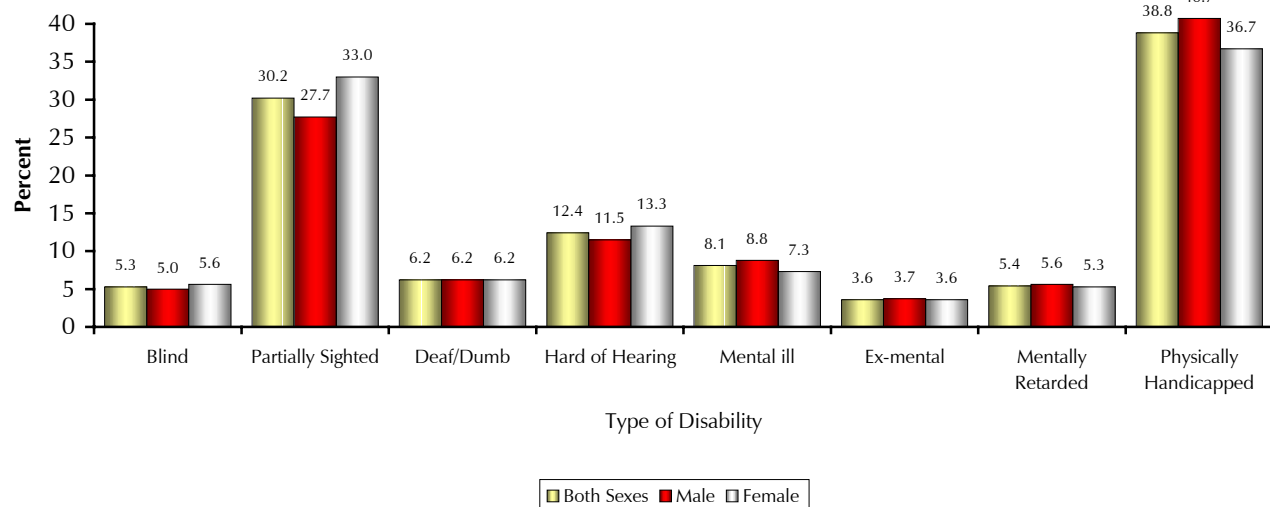
| Province and sex | Total Population | | | Proportion of the Disabled (%) | | |
|-------------------|------------------|-----------|-----------|--------------------------------|-------|-------|
| | Zambia | Rural | Urban | Zambia | Rural | Urban |
| Zambia Total 1990 | 7,383,097 | 4,477,814 | 2,905,283 | 0.9 | 1.1 | 0.7 |
| Male | 3,617,577 | 2,163,761 | 1,453,816 | 1.0 | 1.2 | 0.8 |
| Female | 3,765,520 | 2,314,053 | 1,451,467 | 0.9 | 1.0 | 0.6 |
| Zambia Total 2000 | 9,337,425 | 5,990,356 | 3,347,069 | 2.7 | 3.2 | 0.2 |
| Male | 4,594,290 | 2,931,551 | 1,662,739 | 3.0 | 3.4 | 2.2 |
| Female | 4,743,135 | 3,058,805 | 1,684,330 | 2.6 | 2.9 | 1.9 |
| 2000 | | | | | | |
| Central total | 957,288 | 725,100 | 232,188 | 2.5 | 2.7 | 2.0 |
| Male | 475,952 | 361,434 | 114,518 | 2.8 | 2.9 | 2.2 |
| Female | 481,336 | 363,666 | 117,670 | 2.3 | 2.5 | 1.9 |
| Copperbelt total | 1,527,294 | 290,724 | 1,236,570 | 2.3 | 3.5 | 2.0 |
| Male | 764,550 | 147,506 | 617,044 | 2.5 | 3.8 | 2.2 |
| Female | 762,744 | 143,218 | 619,526 | 2.1 | 3.1 | 1.9 |
| Eastern total | 1,226,767 | 1,118,004 | 108,763 | 3.1 | 3.2 | 2.0 |
| Male | 597,526 | 544,503 | 53,023 | 3.3 | 3.4 | 2.2 |
| Female | 629,241 | 573,501 | 55,740 | 2.9 | 3.0 | 1.7 |
| Luapula total | 729,828 | 616,846 | 112,982 | 3.4 | 3.4 | 3.2 |
| Male | 355,827 | 300,831 | 54,996 | 3.6 | 3.6 | 3.5 |
| Female | 374,001 | 316,015 | 57,986 | 3.2 | 3.2 | 2.9 |
| Lusaka total | 1,341,167 | 238,483 | 1,102,684 | 1.9 | 2.8 | 1.7 |
| Male | 672,087 | 120,679 | 551,408 | 2.1 | 3.0 | 1.9 |
| Female | 669,080 | 117,804 | 551,276 | 1.8 | 2.6 | 1.6 |
| Northern total | 1,174,316 | 1,011,727 | 162,589 | 3.2 | 3.1 | 3.5 |
| Male | 573,347 | 494,071 | 79,276 | 3.4 | 3.3 | 3.7 |
| Female | 600,969 | 517,656 | 83,313 | 2.9 | 2.9 | 3.3 |
| North western | 539,822 | 468,796 | 71,026 | 2.8 | 2.9 | 1.9 |
| Male | 265,084 | 230,334 | 34,750 | 3.1 | 3.3 | 2.1 |
| Female | 274,738 | 238,462 | 36,276 | 2.4 | 2.5 | 1.6 |
| Southern total | 1,132,810 | 892,141 | 240,669 | 2.6 | 2.8 | 1.7 |
| Male | 553,657 | 434,542 | 119,115 | 2.8 | 3.0 | 1.8 |
| Female | 579,153 | 457,599 | 121,554 | 2.4 | 2.6 | 1.6 |
| Western total | 708,133 | 628,535 | 79,598 | 3.8 | 4.1 | 2.0 |
| Male | 336,260 | 297,651 | 38,609 | 4.1 | 4.3 | 2.1 |
| Female | 371,873 | 330,884 | 40,989 | 3.6 | 3.9 | 1.9 |

Source: CSO, 1990 and 2000 Censuses of Population and Housing

9.4. Types of Disability

The distribution of disabled persons by type of disability is shown in Table 9.3. The table shows that out of a total of 256,690 disabled persons in Zambia, 52.8 percent are male and 47.2 percent female. The residential distribution shows that 26 percent are in urban areas and 74 percent in rural areas.

Figure 9.2: Percent Distribution of the Disabled Persons by Type of Disability, Zambia 2000



As mentioned earlier, the types of disability include the blind (visually impaired), partially sighted, deaf/dumb (hearing/speech impaired), hard of hearing, mentally ill, ex-mental, mentally retarded and the physically handicapped. Figure 9.2 shows that the physically handicapped form the largest proportion of the disabled persons. These form 38.8 percent of the total disabled persons. The second most common disability is partial sight, which was reported by 30.2 percent of the disabled population. Some disability categories such as blindness (5.3 percent), ex-mental (3.6 percent) and mental retardation (5.4 percent) are less common (See Table 9.3 for details).

Table 9.3: Percent Distribution of the Disabled Persons by Type of Disability, Sex, Residence and Zambia, 2000

| Residence /Sex/ Province | Total Number | Type of Disability | | | | | | | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------|--------------------|----------------------|---------------|--------------------|------------|-----------|--------------------|---------------------------|
| | | Blind | Partially Sighted | Deaf/ Dumb | Hard of Hearing | Mental ill | Ex-mental | Mental Retarded | Physically Handicapped |
| Zambia Total | | | | | | | | | |
| Both Sexes | 256,690 | 5.3 | 30.2 | 6.2 | 12.4 | 8.1 | 3.6 | 5.4 | 38.8 |
| Male | 135,613 | 5.0 | 27.7 | 6.2 | 11.5 | 8.8 | 3.7 | 5.6 | 40.7 |
| Female | 121,077 | 5.6 | 33.0 | 6.2 | 13.3 | 7.3 | 3.6 | 5.3 | 36.7 |
| Rural | | | | | | | | | |
| Both Sexes | 188,945 | 5.3 | 29.2 | 6.2 | 12.9 | 8.0 | 3.4 | 5.1 | 39.5 |
| Male | 99,289 | 5.0 | 26.8 | 6.1 | 12.0 | 8.7 | 3.5 | 5.3 | 41.2 |
| Female | 89,656 | 5.7 | 31.8 | 6.2 | 13.8 | 7.2 | 3.3 | 4.9 | 37.7 |
| Urban | | | | | | | | | |
| Both Sexes | 67,745 | 5.2 | 33.1 | 6.4 | 10.9 | 8.4 | 4.3 | 6.3 | 36.8 |
| Male | 36,324 | 5.0 | 30.1 | 6.4 | 10.1 | 9.1 | 4.2 | 6.2 | 39.3 |
| Female | 31,421 | 5.4 | 36.5 | 6.4 | 11.9 | 7.6 | 4.4 | 6.5 | 33.9 |
| Provinces | | | | | | | | | |
| Central | 24,379 | 4.0 | 32.0 | 5.4 | 12.7 | 7.0 | 2.3 | 4.6 | 38.0 |
| Copperbelt | 35,433 | 5.2 | 32.0 | 5.9 | 10.6 | 8.1 | 3.3 | 5.9 | 39.1 |
| Eastern | 37,691 | 3.6 | 24.8 | 6.1 | 12.1 | 9.3 | 3.8 | 6.1 | 40.3 |
| Luapula | 24,669 | 7.3 | 30.6 | 7.5 | 12.7 | 9.1 | 4.9 | 6.5 | 37.8 |
| Lusaka | 25,963 | 2.9 | 34.9 | 4.4 | 8.8 | 6.1 | 3.3 | 5.2 | 33.8 |
| Northern | 37,008 | 7.0 | 32.2 | 7.7 | 15.3 | 9.6 | 5.1 | 6.4 | 36.9 |
| North western | 14,963 | 3.6 | 23.6 | 5.1 | 11.6 | 6.4 | 2.7 | 4.1 | 46.6 |
| Southern | 29,404 | 6.5 | 27.7 | 7.2 | 11.6 | 8.7 | 3.4 | 5.0 | 43.5 |
| Western | 27,180 | 6.9 | 32.8 | 5.6 | 15.2 | 6.9 | 3.1 | 3.8 | 35.9 |

Note: It is worth noting that the percentages will not necessarily add up to 100 because some persons reported more than one disability.

Table 9.3 also shows that there are more male than female persons with disabilities; (135,613 against 121,077). The pattern of the disabled regarding the more common and less common disabilities for the male and female is similar to that of the total disabled persons. This pattern is also similar across provinces although proportions vary slightly. For instance, Luapula (7.3 percent), Northern (7.0 percent) and Western (6.9 percent) provinces have higher proportion of the blind compared to provinces such as Lusaka (2.9 percent), Eastern (3.6 percent) and North-Western (3.6 percent). Partial sightedness is most common in Lusaka Province (35 percent) and least in North-Western (24 percent) province. The proportion of the deaf and dumb ranges from 4.4 percent in Lusaka to 7.7 percent in Northern Province while that of the hard of hearing ranges from 8.8 percent in Lusaka to 15.3 percent in Northern province. A comparison of the provinces as regards the physically handicapped shows that it is most common in Northwestern province with 47 percent and least in Lusaka with 34 percent.

9.5. Age Structure of the Disabled

The age structure of the disabled is shown in Table 9.4. Data shows that the number of the disabled increases with increasing age up to age group 10-14 at which it reaches the peak and then it starts declining up to age group 55-59. After this age group, the numbers fluctuate. Across age groups 0-4 to 55-59, the largest proportion of the disabled is physically handicapped (disabled) closely followed by the partially sighted. For the older age groups, the largest proportion is partially sighted closely followed by the physically handicapped (disabled).

Table 9.4: Percent Distribution of the Disabled Persons by Type of Disability and Age, Zambia, 2000

| Age group | Type of Disability | | | | | | | | |
|--------------|--------------------|-------|-------------------|-----------|-----------------|--------------|-----------|-------------------|------------------------|
| | Total | Blind | Partially Sighted | Deaf/Dumb | Hard of Hearing | Mentally ill | Ex Mental | Mentally Retarded | Physically Handicapped |
| 0 – 4 | 13,343 | 6.4 | 20.3 | 13.1 | 13.9 | 11.1 | 7.6 | 8.7 | 41.5 |
| 5 – 9 | 18,386 | 4.0 | 18.7 | 13.5 | 16.5 | 9.8 | 5.4 | 7.7 | 35.7 |
| 10 – 14 | 19,309 | 3.9 | 19.4 | 12.4 | 16.3 | 11.1 | 5.2 | 9.2 | 35.9 |
| 15 – 19 | 18,848 | 3.8 | 21.3 | 9.1 | 12.5 | 11.7 | 4.7 | 9.4 | 38.2 |
| 20 – 24 | 18,883 | 3.7 | 21.4 | 7.1 | 10.3 | 11.7 | 4.6 | 8.3 | 40.3 |
| 25 – 29 | 18,768 | 3.3 | 22.0 | 5.8 | 9.8 | 12.8 | 4.6 | 7.3 | 40.9 |
| 30 – 34 | 18,286 | 3.8 | 23.4 | 5.3 | 9.3 | 10.3 | 4.3 | 5.9 | 44.1 |
| 35 – 39 | 16,283 | 4.0 | 26.6 | 4.3 | 9.3 | 9.4 | 3.9 | 5.3 | 42.8 |
| 40 – 44 | 15,260 | 3.9 | 31.5 | 3.7 | 8.9 | 7.7 | 3.4 | 4.1 | 41.4 |
| 45 – 49 | 14,278 | 4.0 | 36.9 | 3.3 | 8.8 | 6.7 | 2.8 | 3.6 | 39.5 |
| 50 – 54 | 14,985 | 4.5 | 38.9 | 3.1 | 9.4 | 5.1 | 2.4 | 3.1 | 39.3 |
| 55 – 59 | 12,573 | 6.1 | 38.5 | 2.9 | 10.7 | 4.2 | 1.8 | 2.6 | 39.6 |
| 60 – 64 | 14,204 | 6.5 | 42.6 | 2.8 | 12.4 | 3.6 | 1.7 | 2.0 | 37.8 |
| 65 – 69 | 12,781 | 7.3 | 42.7 | 2.7 | 13.0 | 3.6 | 1.6 | 1.8 | 38.0 |
| 70 – 74 | 11,215 | 8.8 | 46.4 | 2.7 | 15.1 | 3.0 | 1.4 | 1.7 | 36.1 |
| 75+ | 19,288 | 12.6 | 49.1 | 3.3 | 20.3 | 2.3 | 1.0 | 1.7 | 31.0 |
| Total | 256,690 | 5.3 | 30.2 | 6.2 | 12.4 | 8.1 | 3.6 | 5.4 | 38.8 |

9.6. Causes of Disability

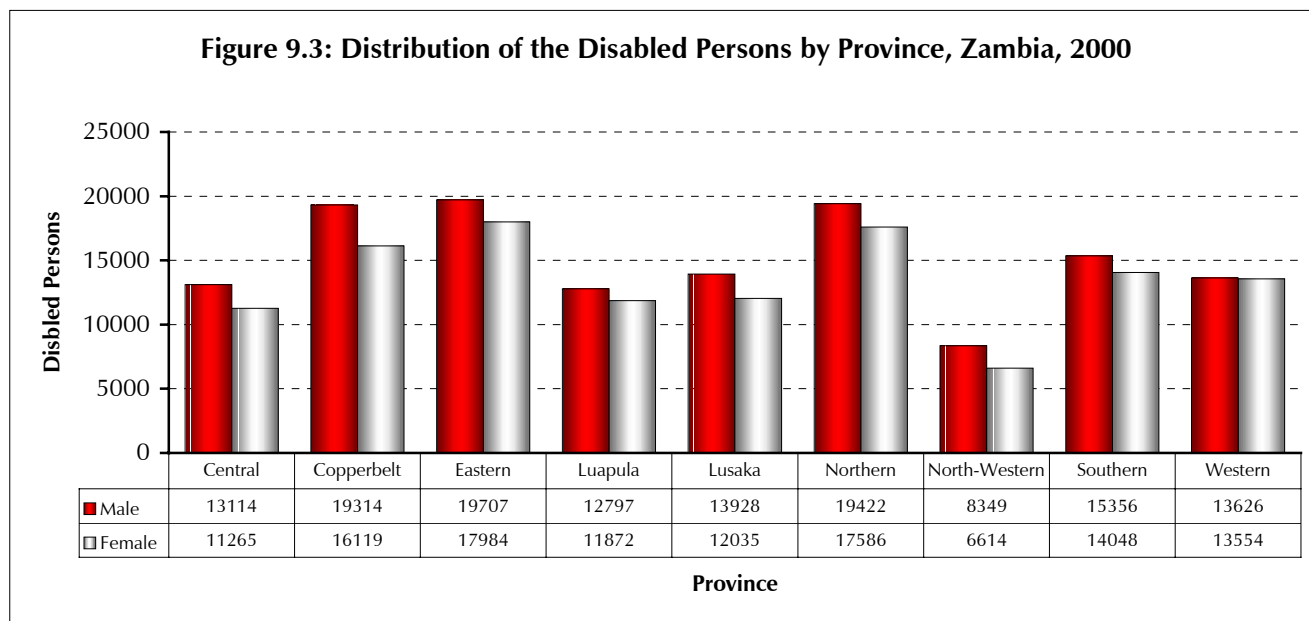
The various causes of disability were categorized as pre-natal, disease, injury, other and unknown. Of these, the most common cause is disease, which was reported by 38.9 percent of the disabled population. Prenatal causes were reported by 13.7 percent, injury causes by 17.2 percent, and other by 9 percent while 20 percent reported that they did not know the cause of their disability.

Some causes of disability affect females more than males. These include disease and other causes. Injuries are more common among males than females while proportions of males and females reporting prenatal causes are the same.

Table 9.5: Percent Distribution of the Disabled by Cause, Sex and Province, Zambia, 2000

| Cause of Disability | Total | Province | | | | | | | | |
|------------------------|---------|----------|------------|---------|---------|--------|----------|-----------|----------|---------|
| | | Central | Copperbelt | Eastern | Luapula | Lusaka | Northern | N/Western | Southern | Western |
| Both Sexes | 256,690 | 24,379 | 35,433 | 37,691 | 24,669 | 25,963 | 37,008 | 14,963 | 29,404 | 27,180 |
| Total Percent | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Congenital/pre-natal | 13.7 | 12.0 | 12.9 | 13.5 | 15.6 | 12.6 | 16.8 | 11.2 | 15.9 | 10.6 |
| Disease/illness | 38.9 | 36.1 | 32.6 | 39.7 | 40.8 | 30.8 | 38.8 | 40.0 | 38.9 | 54.1 |
| Injury/accident/trauma | 17.2 | 16.6 | 20.5 | 17.3 | 17.1 | 16.5 | 17.1 | 20.0 | 18.1 | 11.6 |
| Other | 9.3 | 9.5 | 10.4 | 8.3 | 9.6 | 12.8 | 10.0 | 8.4 | 7.6 | 7.0 |
| Unknown | 20.2 | 22.9 | 21.1 | 19.0 | 21.2 | 23.6 | 19.9 | 18.5 | 18.1 | 17.6 |
| Male | 135,613 | 13,114 | 19,314 | 19,707 | 12,797 | 13,928 | 19,422 | 8,349 | 15,356 | 13,626 |
| Total Percent | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Congenital/pre-natal | 13.7 | 12.0 | 12.8 | 13.5 | 15.3 | 12.6 | 17.0 | 11.0 | 16.2 | 10.9 |
| Disease/illness | 36.3 | 33.7 | 29.7 | 37.2 | 39.2 | 29.4 | 35.9 | 36.8 | 35.9 | 51.6 |
| Injury/accident/trauma | 20.7 | 20.3 | 24.6 | 21.0 | 19.8 | 20.3 | 20.5 | 23.9 | 21.5 | 14.4 |
| Other | 8.9 | 9.1 | 10.1 | 7.5 | 9.4 | 12.5 | 9.5 | 8.2 | 7.1 | 6.7 |
| Unknown | 19.4 | 22.1 | 19.8 | 18.5 | 20.5 | 22.0 | 19.1 | 18.0 | 17.7 | 17.4 |
| Female | 121,077 | 11,265 | 16,119 | 17,984 | 11,872 | 12,035 | 17,586 | 6,614 | 14,048 | 13,554 |
| Total Percent | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Congenital/pre-natal | 13.7 | 12.0 | 13.0 | 13.6 | 16.0 | 12.7 | 16.6 | 11.5 | 15.5 | 10.3 |
| Disease/illness | 41.9 | 38.9 | 36.1 | 42.5 | 42.5 | 32.4 | 42.1 | 44.1 | 42.1 | 56.7 |
| Injury/accident/trauma | 13.2 | 12.3 | 15.7 | 13.4 | 14.2 | 12.2 | 13.4 | 15.1 | 14.4 | 8.7 |
| Other | 9.7 | 10.0 | 10.8 | 9.1 | 9.8 | 13.1 | 10.5 | 8.6 | 8.1 | 7.3 |
| Unknown | 21.0 | 23.8 | 22.7 | 19.5 | 22.0 | 25.4 | 20.8 | 19.2 | 18.7 | 17.8 |

Note: It is worth noting that the percentages will not necessarily add up to 100 because some persons reported more than one cause of disability.



Almost 39 percent of the disabled population cited disease as a cause of their disability in Zambia. Among the provinces, Western has the largest proportion of 54 percent while Lusaka has the least proportion with 31 percent reporting disease as a cause of disability. In all provinces a larger proportion of the disabled females cited disease as a cause of their disability than their male counterparts. This implies that disabilities are preventable and efforts towards prevention can significantly contribute to reduction of disabilities.

9.7. Education Levels of the Disabled

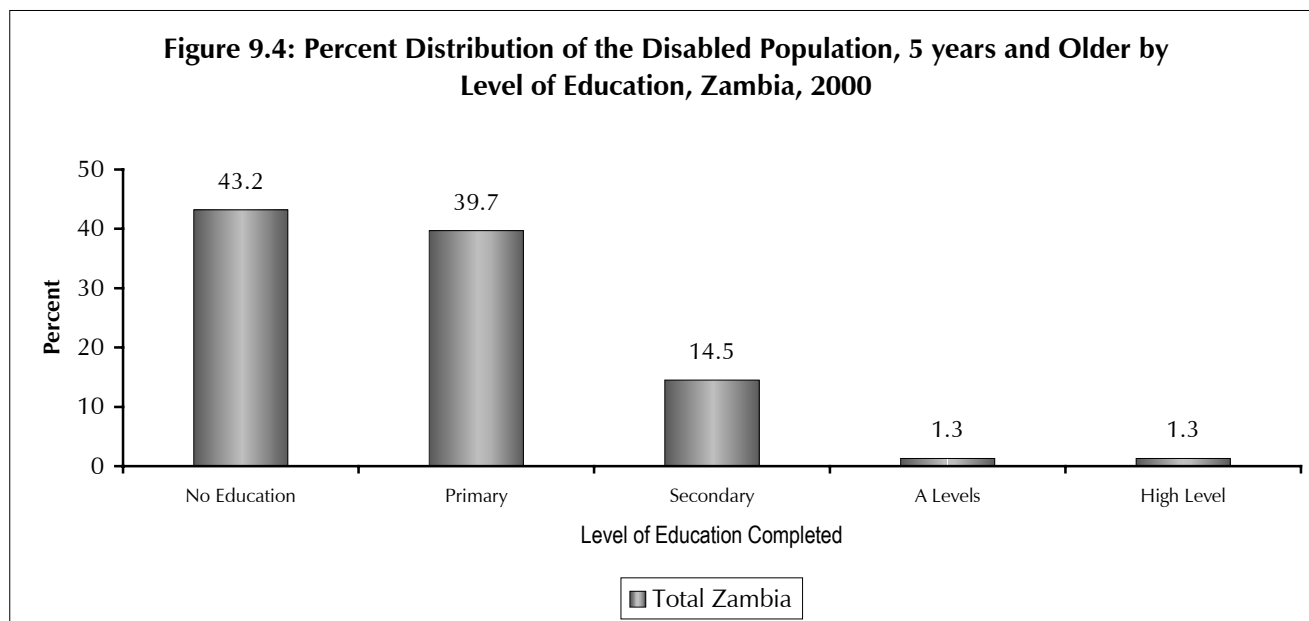
The role of education in the development of the nation and lives of its citizens has been clearly stated under chapter five on education in the report. Educational needs of persons with disabilities including any impediments should therefore continue to be addressed to ensure that more persons with disabilities become educated.

The percent distribution of disabled persons five years and above by type of disability and level of education is shown in Table 9.6 and Figure 9.4. About two in five disabled persons have never attended school and another two in five have only completed primary education.

The proportion of those who have never attended school is highest among the deaf/dumb (62.3 percent). The highest proportion of those who completed higher education was among the partially sighted.

Table 9.6: Percent Distribution of the Disabled Population, 5 years and Older by Type of Disability and Level of Education, Zambia, 2000

| Type of Disability | Level of Education Completed | | | | | | |
|------------------------|------------------------------|---------------|--------------|---------|-----------|----------|--------------|
| | Total Number | Total Percent | No Education | Primary | Secondary | A Levels | Higher Level |
| Blind | 12,754 | 100.0 | 57.0 | 29.8 | 11.0 | 0.8 | 1.3 |
| Partially Sighted | 74,882 | 100.0 | 39.6 | 40.7 | 15.6 | 2.2 | 1.8 |
| Deaf/Dumb | 14,233 | 100.0 | 62.3 | 28.1 | 8.2 | 0.4 | 1.0 |
| Hard of Hearing | 29,886 | 100.0 | 48.9 | 40.1 | 9.4 | 0.6 | 1.0 |
| Mentally Ill | 19,345 | 100.0 | 51.2 | 33.3 | 13.9 | 0.5 | 1.1 |
| Ex-Mental | 8,341 | 100.0 | 40.2 | 41.7 | 16.0 | 0.6 | 1.5 |
| Mentally Retarded | 12,810 | 100.0 | 53.6 | 34.9 | 10.1 | 0.4 | 1.1 |
| Physically Handicapped | 94,085 | 100.0 | 39.4 | 42.8 | 15.5 | 1.1 | 1.2 |
| Total | 243,347 | 100.0 | 43.2 | 39.7 | 14.5 | 1.3 | 1.3 |

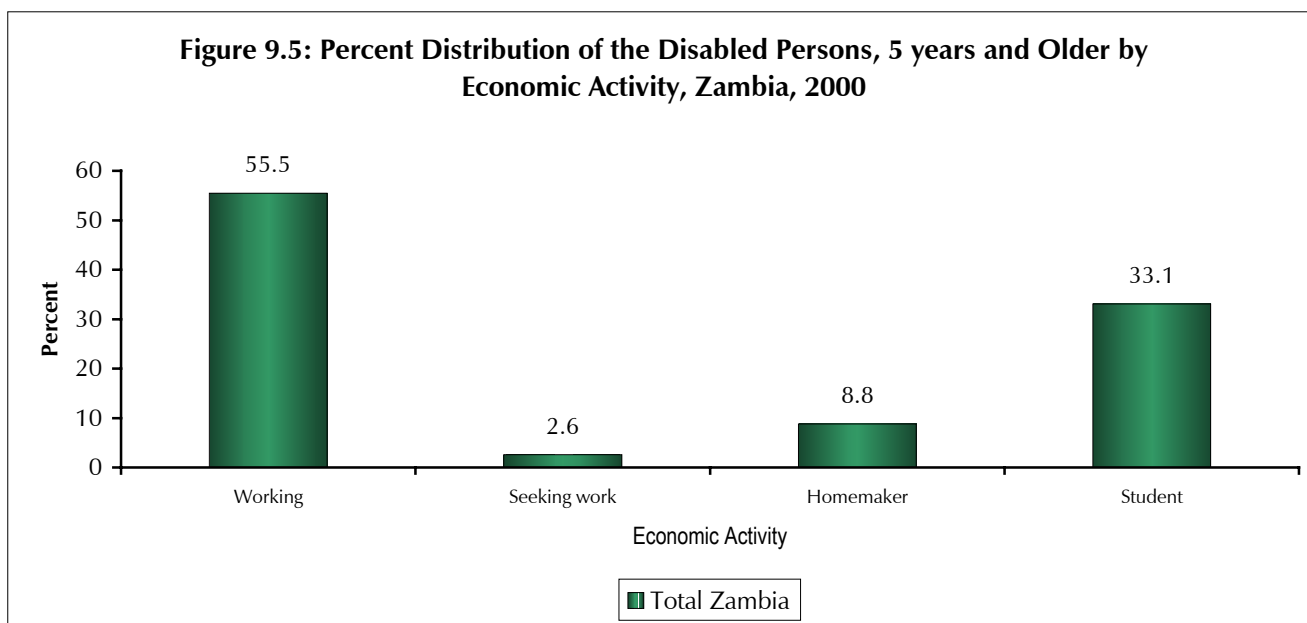


9.8. Economic Activity of the Disabled

Table 9.7 and Figure 9.5 show the economic activities of the disabled persons. The working age population of persons with disabilities is 194,039. Of these, over half (55.5 percent) are working and one third are students. Among the blind, mentally ill and mentally retarded, the majority are students while for the rest of the disability categories, the majority are working followed by students.

Table 9.7: Percent Distribution of the Disabled Persons, 12 years and older by Type of Disability and Economic Activity, Zambia, 2000

| Usual Economic Activity | Type of Disability | | | | | | | | |
|-------------------------|--------------------|--------|-------------------|-----------|-----------------|--------------|-----------|-------------------|------------------------|
| | Total | Blind | Partially Sighted | Deaf/Dumb | Hard of Hearing | Mentally ill | Ex Mental | Mentally Retarded | Physically Handicapped |
| Working | 55.5 | 28.6 | 62.5 | 47.5 | 57.5 | 30.8 | 51.2 | 38.8 | 56.6 |
| Seeking work | 2.6 | 1.7 | 2.5 | 2.7 | 2.1 | 2.5 | 3.3 | 3.1 | 2.6 |
| Homemaker | 8.8 | 6.9 | 8.1 | 13.3 | 10.8 | 8.3 | 13.7 | 11.9 | 8.6 |
| Student | 33.1 | 62.8 | 26.9 | 36.4 | 29.6 | 58.4 | 31.8 | 46.3 | 32.2 |
| Percent Total | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Total Number | 194,039 | 10,586 | 61,570 | 9,557 | 22,798 | 15,307 | 6,080 | 9,736 | 76,256 |



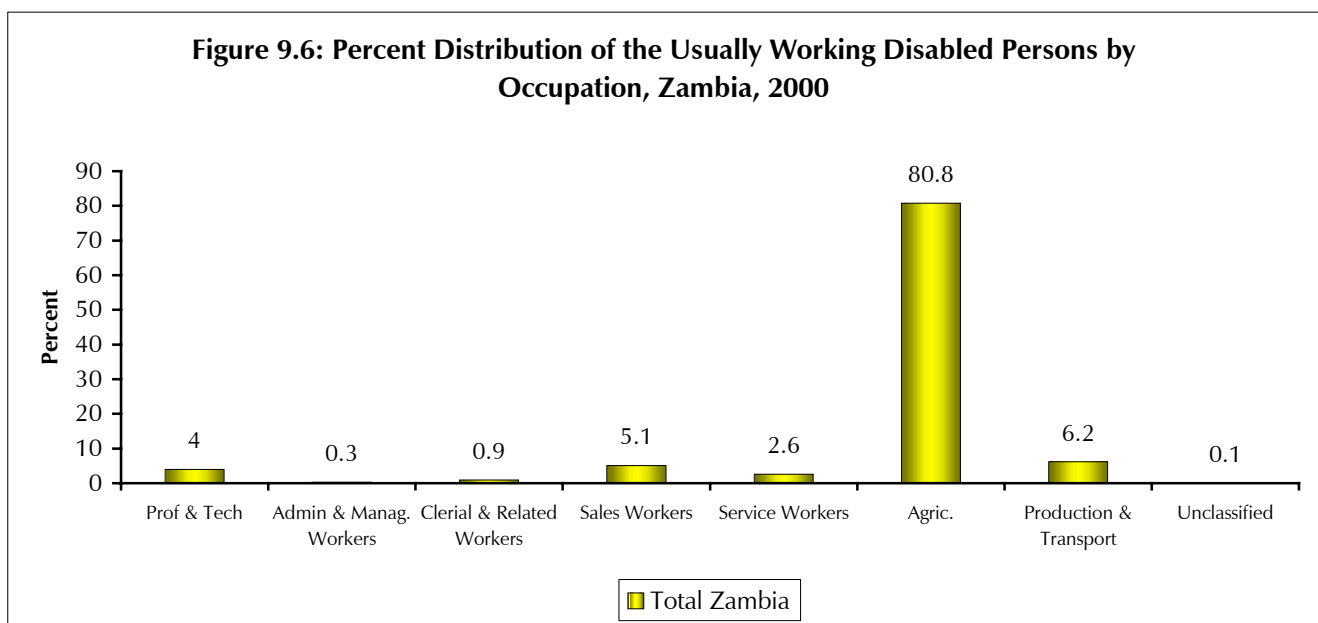
9.9. Occupation of the Disabled

Data on occupation of the disabled persons was also collected during the 2000 Census and is presented in Table 9.8 and Figure 9.6. The data show that the most common occupation among the disabled is agriculture. Sales, production and transportation are also fairly common occupations.

Table 9.8: Percent Distribution of the Usually Working Disabled Persons by Type of Disability and Occupation, Zambia, 2000

| Type of Disability | Occupation | | | | | | | | | |
|------------------------|------------|---------------|-------------|------------------------|----------------------------|---------------|-----------------|--------|--------------------------|--------------|
| | Total No. | Percent Total | Prof & Tech | Admin & manag. Workers | Clerical & Related Workers | Sales Workers | Service Workers | Agric. | Production and Transport | Unclassified |
| Blind | 2,876 | 100.0 | 3.8 | 0.3 | 3.2 | 5.0 | 2.9 | 77.5 | 7.2 | 0.1 |
| Partially Sighted | 37,083 | 100.0 | 6.0 | 0.5 | 1.0 | 5.1 | 2.5 | 79.0 | 5.6 | 0.2 |
| Deaf/Dumb | 4,352 | 100.0 | 1.7 | 0.0 | 0.5 | 4.1 | 2.4 | 86.1 | 5.1 | 0.1 |
| Hard of Hearing | 12,632 | 100.0 | 1.7 | 0.1 | 0.4 | 3.7 | 2.2 | 86.8 | 5.0 | 0.1 |
| Mentally ill | 4,501 | 100.0 | 1.8 | 0.0 | 0.6 | 4.4 | 2.2 | 85.8 | 5.0 | 0.1 |
| Ex Mental | 3,006 | 100.0 | 2.9 | 0.0 | 0.7 | 8.2 | 3.2 | 78.9 | 5.8 | 0.2 |
| Mentally Retarded | 3,611 | 100.0 | 1.6 | 0.0 | 0.7 | 4.0 | 3.0 | 85.6 | 4.9 | 0.1 |
| Physically Handicapped | 41,499 | 100.0 | 3.6 | 0.2 | 0.8 | 5.6 | 2.9 | 79.3 | 7.5 | 0.1 |
| Total | 109,560 | 100.0 | 4.0 | 0.3 | 0.9 | 5.1 | 2.6 | 80.8 | 6.2 | 0.1 |

Figure 9.6: Percent Distribution of the Usually Working Disabled Persons by Occupation, Zambia, 2000



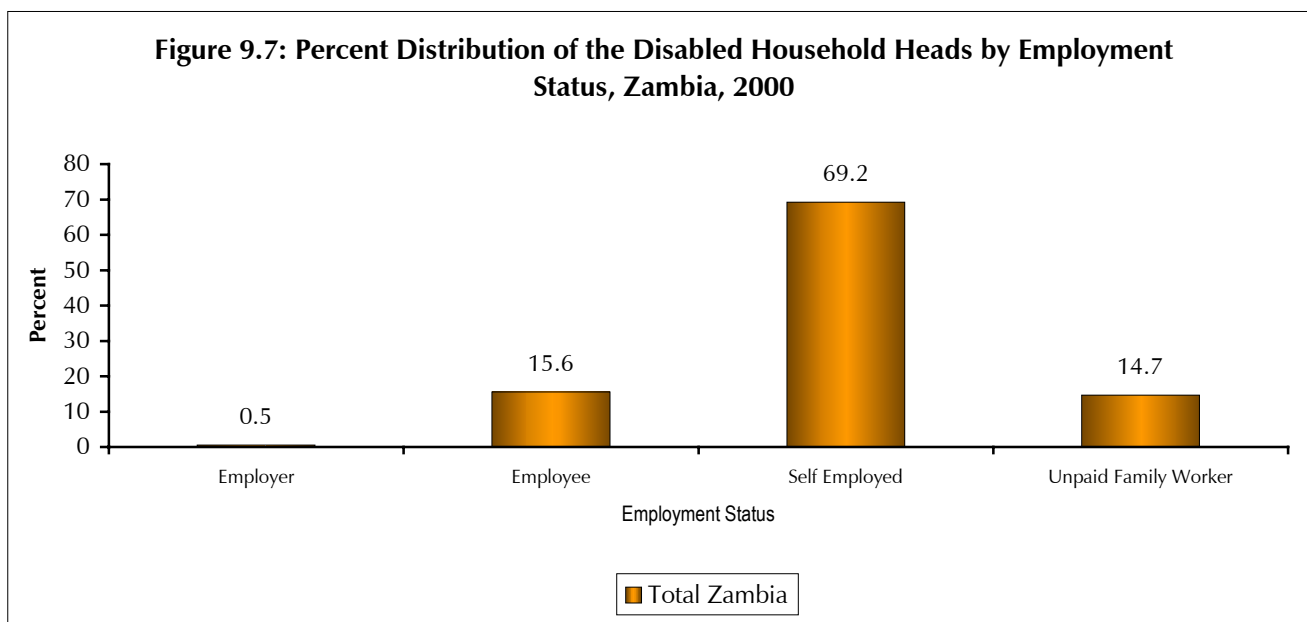
9.10. Employment Status of Household Heads with Disabilities

Table 9.9 and Figure 9.7 show the percent distribution of the disabled household heads by type of disability and employment status. Amongst all categories of disability, the largest proportion of the household heads are self-employed (69%) while the least proportion are employers (0.5%).

Table 9.9: Percent Distribution of the Disabled Household Heads by Type of Disability and Employment Status, Zambia, 2000

| Type of Disability | Employment status | | | | | |
|------------------------|-------------------|---------------|----------|----------|---------------|----------------------|
| | Total Number | Percent Total | Employer | Employee | Self Employed | Unpaid Family Worker |
| Blind | 1,871 | 100.0 | 0.6 | 18.6 | 67.7 | 13.1 |
| Partially Sighted | 7,509 | 100.0 | 0.3 | 7.5 | 73.1 | 19.1 |
| Deaf/Dumb | 1,789 | 100.0 | 0.5 | 13.3 | 69.1 | 17.0 |
| Hard of Hearing | 5,837 | 100.0 | 0.4 | 11.2 | 72.4 | 16.1 |
| Mentally Ill | 1,521 | 100.0 | 0.0 | 9.4 | 73.5 | 17.1 |
| Ex-Mental | 2,334 | 100.0 | 0.6 | 9.7 | 75.7 | 14.0 |
| Mentally Retarded | 1,935 | 100.0 | 0.4 | 10.6 | 71.9 | 17.1 |
| Physically Handicapped | 25,233 | 100.0 | 0.5 | 16.4 | 68.8 | 14.4 |
| Total Population | 66,173 | 100.0 | 0.5 | 15.6 | 69.2 | 14.7 |

Figure 9.7: Percent Distribution of the Disabled Household Heads by Employment Status, Zambia, 2000

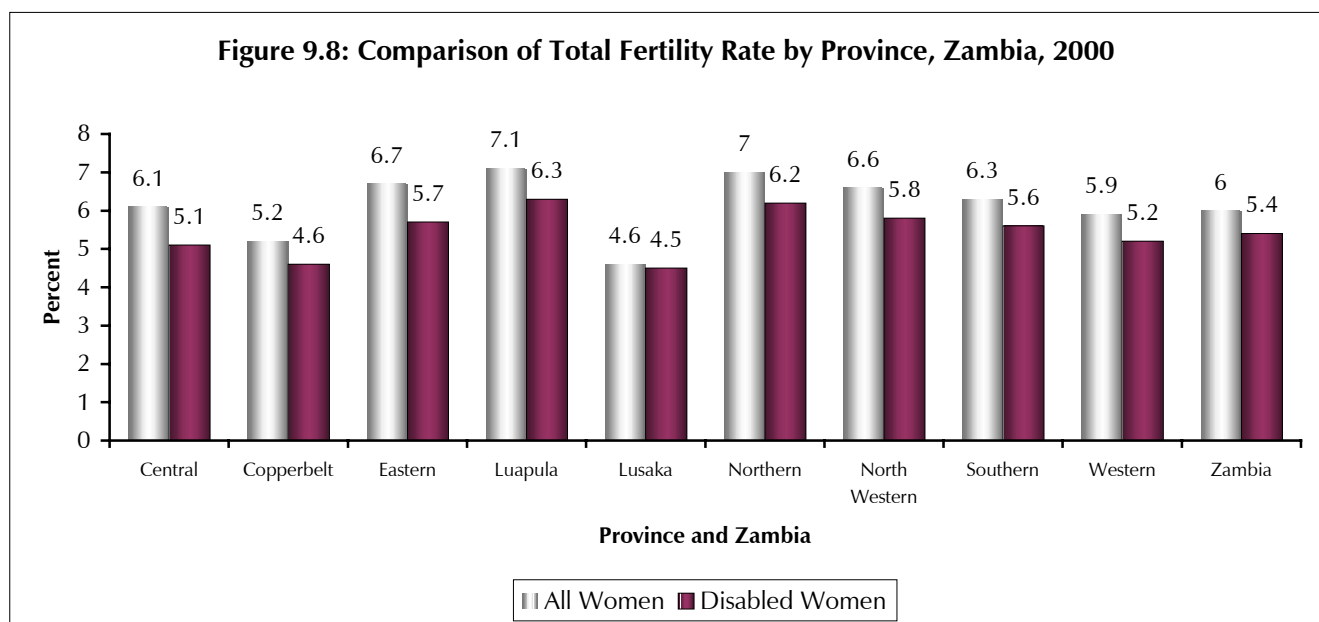


9.11 Fertility Levels among Women with Disabilities

Table 9.10 and Figure 9.8 compare the Total Fertility Rates (TFRs) of all women with that of the women with disabilities. The TFR for the women with disabilities is 5.4, less than the national average, which stands at 6.0 percent. The pattern of a lower fertility among the disabled women compared to the provincial average is similar across provinces. Due to the small numbers of persons with disabilities for the various disability categories, it has not been possible to compute the TFRs for the various disability categories.

Table 9.10: Total Fertility and Disability, Zambia, 2000

| Province | Total Fertility Rate for all women | Total Fertility Rate for disabled women |
|---------------|------------------------------------|---|
| Central | 6.1 | 5.1 |
| Copperbelt | 5.2 | 4.6 |
| Eastern | 6.7 | 5.7 |
| Luapula | 7.1 | 6.3 |
| Lusaka | 4.6 | 4.5 |
| Northern | 7.0 | 6.2 |
| Northwestern | 6.6 | 5.8 |
| Southern | 6.3 | 5.6 |
| Western | 5.9 | 5.2 |
| Zambia | 6.0 | 5.4 |



9.12. Summary

Out of the total population of Zambia, 2.7 percent is disabled. The proportion of the disabled persons is higher in rural than urban areas. Among the provinces, Western has the largest proportion of the disabled (3.8 percent) while Lusaka has the least with 1.9 percent. There are more disabled male (53 percent) than female (47 percent).

Physical disability is the most common type of disability affecting about 39 percent of the disabled population while the ex mentally ill persons make up the smallest proportion of 4 percent.

Disease is the most common cause of disability reported by about 39 percent of the disabled population. Prenatal causes were reported by 13.7 percent, injury by 17.2 percent, and other by 9 percent while 20 percent reported that they did not know the cause of their disability. Injury as a cause of disability is more commonly reported by males than females while disease is more common among females than males. Among the provinces, Western reported the largest proportion of the disabled citing disease as a cause of their disability with 54 percent while Lusaka has the least with 31 percent.

About two fifths of the disabled have never been to school and another two fifths have completed primary education. Amongst all categories of disability, the largest proportions of the disabled persons are self-employed. The least proportion is among the employers. The most common occupation among the disabled is agriculture, which takes up about 81 percent.