An Overview of PALS 2006

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Overview of Presentation

- **Overview of PALS**
  - Conceptual framework, survey design, methodology

- **Dissemination Plans**

- **Changes in the Disability Rates Since 2001**
  - Disability rates are on the rise
  - Age standardisation and changing perceptions

- **The Prevalence of Disability in Canada**

- **Questions?**
Information is the foundation for action on disability issues

- Governments require information to guide disability policy
- The experience of Canadians with disabilities as captured in national surveys provides essential information
  - For tracking progress
  - For accountability and reporting to Canadians
  - For policy and program development
- The Participation and Activity Limitation Survey (PALS) is Canada’s principal national survey focusing on persons with disabilities.
Goals for the 2006 PALS Survey

# 1: Time series compatibility with PALS 2001
   • The 2001 data was not comparable to HALS 1991

#2: Addition of subject matter content to reflect topics of emerging interest
Stratified random sample post-censal design
  • Census disability filter questions

Target population
  • children (under 15) and adults (15 years and over) living in households in the 10 provinces and the territories who reported an activity limitation in the census

Sample of 39,000 adults, 9,000 children from the YES sample in the 2006 Census

Response rate of 75.0%

Weights profiled using most recent Census
  • Post-stratified for non-response
Major Changes from 2001

- Addition of the Territories and some collective dwellings
- Update of aids, assistive devices
- Correction of flow issues with employment
- Some new content including:
  - Care received
  - Internet use
  - Health Utility Index
  - Work related training
  - Impact on the family of a child with a disability
  - Child care
  - Special education
Dissemination Plans

- **Staged release**
  - **December 3, 2007 – Disability rates**
    - Analytic document
    - Technical/methodological report
    - Tables
  - **May 2008 – Pals survey contents**
    - Aids and assistive devices and special education
    - Preliminary RDC file
  - **July 2008 – Employment**
  - **August 2008 – Sub-provincial disability rates**
  - **September 2008 – Income**
    - Final RDC file
The Prevalence of Disability in Canada
Activity Limitations are More Prevalent Among Older Canadians, PALS 2006

Source: Statistics Canada, Participation Activity Limitation Survey, 2006
Adult Women Report Higher Disability Rates than Men, PALS 2006

Source: Statistics Canada, Participation Activity Limitation Survey, 2006
Growth in Disability Rates between 2001 and 2006

Canadian Population Continues to Age

Age Standardised Disability Rate

The Number of Persons Reporting a Mild Disability Increased by the Greatest Amount

Provincial and Territorial Age Distributions Impact the Disability Rates

Questions??
For more information, please contact:

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Thank you!