

# The European Year of People with Disabilities 2003

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**Notes for the reader:**

1. The following are the abbreviations for Member States used in the tables in this report:

<b>B</b>	Belgium
<b>DK</b>	Denmark
<b>D WEST</b>	'Old' Länder/Western Germany
<b>D TOTAL</b>	Germany
<b>D EAST</b>	'New' Länder/Eastern Germany
<b>GR</b>	Greece
<b>E</b>	Spain
<b>F</b>	France
<b>IRL</b>	Ireland
<b>I</b>	Italy
<b>L</b>	Luxembourg
<b>NL</b>	Netherlands
<b>A</b>	Austria
<b>P</b>	Portugal
<b>FIN</b>	Finland
<b>S</b>	Sweden
<b>UK</b>	United Kingdom

The distinction between the old and new German Länder has been maintained in the Eurobarometer since 1990. This is because marked differences of opinion between these two parts of the country are still evident.

2. The abbreviation used for the whole of the European Union is EU15.
3. It should also be noted that percentages may total more than 100% because of the rounding up of figures or where questions allow for more than one response.
4. Data from this survey are analysed on both a country-by-country basis and a socio-demographic one. As will be seen, the major variations appear in the first sector with substantial differences being seen among EU Member States.

On the analysis of socio-demographic data, only those statistics which are out of line with the general pattern or which show a noteworthy trend are mentioned.

Accordingly, where figures relating to such factors as gender, age or educational level show minimal variation, these will not be mentioned.

5. For the sake of presentation and brevity, those who have been educated until age 20 or beyond will also be referred to as 'the most educated' or 'those who had received the most education' while those whose education had ended at age 15 or younger will be referred to as 'the least educated' or 'those who had the least education'.

Similarly, those people aged 15 to 24 may be referred to as the 'youngest age group' or 'the youngest' while those aged 55 or more as the 'oldest age group' or 'oldest'.

Also, the phrase 'rural area or village' may also be expressed as 'country' and 'large town' as 'city'.

**'2003 is the European Year of People with Disabilities. The year will drive progress towards achieving equal rights for people with disabilities. Across Europe attention will be focused on the many areas of European society where barriers and discrimination still exist for the one in ten Europeans with a disability'.**

**The stated aim of EYPD, according to its website**  
[http://www.eypd2003.org/eypd/whatwhyhow\\_en.jsp#what](http://www.eypd2003.org/eypd/whatwhyhow_en.jsp#what)



## Introduction

The European Union declared 2003 the European Year of People with Disabilities in order to raise awareness about the situation of its millions of disabled citizens. It is currently estimated that at least 10 per cent of the EU population will be affected at some point in their life by a disability. The EYPD campaign launched at EU level and in the Member States aimed to increase the awareness amongst the wider population of the rights of disabled people to participate fully in society and to make people more aware of what disability means.

One of the key challenges of the EYPD campaign was to promote a wider understanding and acceptance of the main disability issues. In order to measure in part the success of this campaign, the European Commission commissioned a series of questions about the EYPD campaign and disability issues in the Eurobarometer survey.

Accordingly, this report looks at EU citizens' views about disability issues with the starting point being that 2003 is the European Year of People with Disabilities (EYPD).

Views are assessed across the European Union and results are based on a European Union level (where relevant), on a country-by-country level and a socio-demographic analysis which attempts to highlight both the similarities and differences by such varied factors as gender, age, education, occupation, etc.

The main data making up this report were gathered between 1 and 30 September 2003 and are part of wave 60.0 of the Standard Eurobarometer. Details of the technical specifications of the survey are included in the Annexes to this document.

This survey comprised seven questions and a copy of the questionnaire is also included in the Annexes.

For comparative purposes and to detect medium-term trends in European Union citizens' views, reference is also made in certain questions to the findings of a similar piece of research (Eurobarometer 54.2) conducted in Winter 2000.<sup>1</sup>

Comparisons are made on the broad views of respondents to the last three questions.

This report first assesses EU citizens' knowledge of the fact that 2003 is the EYPD and, if they were aware of this, how they obtained this information.

Respondents were then asked if they knew of the purpose of this pan-European initiative.

A list of potential benefits brought to disabled people by the EYPD was then detailed and respondents were asked which of these they considered had been fulfilled.

The perceived rights of disabled people in relation to employment analysed next with particular reference to rights to a job, rights to training, discrimination, adapted working conditions and sheltered workshops.

The 'closeness' of respondents to this social phenomenon is assessed by finding out what percentage of them knew any people whose activities were limited in any way by a long-lasting illness, disability or infirmity and, if so, from which part of their professional or domestic life these people originated.

Respondents were then taken through a comprehensive list of disabilities and their 'awareness' of these conditions was assessed.

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<sup>1</sup> Eurobarometer 54.2 Attitudes of Europeans to Disability available at:  
[http://europa.eu.int/comm/employment\\_social/disability/index\\_en.html](http://europa.eu.int/comm/employment_social/disability/index_en.html)

Lastly, respondents were asked to estimate the percentage of their country's population who had a disability of any kind.

Throughout this survey, it will become increasingly apparent that fundamental variations in attitude are usually based upon a country-by-country view rather than on a particular socio-demographic characteristic such as gender, age, education or occupation although sub-divisions based upon potentially linked aspects such as education, occupation and income do emerge.

Accordingly, full details of the country-by-country analysis are provided in tabular form with a written commentary on the key elements and trends contained therein.

Socio-demographic data are presented in written rather than tabular form due to the fact that there are considerably fewer notable variations and these are best exemplified on an individual textual basis.

## 1. Awareness of the European Year of People with Disabilities (EYPD)

### Q. 84 a) Are you aware that 2003 is the European Year of People with Disabilities?

#### EU15 analysis

In September 2003, three months before the end of its programme, one-third of those polled across the European Union (33%) were aware of the fact that 2003 was the European Year of People with Disabilities (EYPD). There was a 'don't know' figure of only 3% across the fifteen Member States.

Considering the other high-profile media issues in 2003 and the relatively small budget allocated to the EYPD, this awareness level is positive.

#### Country analysis

	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>Don't know</b>
B	31	67	2
DK	39	60	0
D WEST	35	61	4
D TOTAL	35	61	4
D EAST	34	62	4
GR	34	65	1
E	33	64	3
F	32	65	3
IRL	73	25	3
I	34	62	5
L	70	30	1
NL	39	60	1
A	55	41	4
P	41	57	2
FIN	36	62	1
S	34	65	2
UK	21	78	1
EU15	33	64	3

Prominent within the group who were aware that 2003 was EYPD, were 73% of Irish, 70% of Luxembourgers and 55% of Austrians.

Throughout this report, the Irish figures will show a very high level of awareness which is probably due to the fact that the Special Olympics International Summer Games were held in that country during 2003 and this event and the whole issue of disabilities received considerable exposure.

The country that was least aware of this initiative was the UK where only 21% of the population were aware.

### **Socio-demographic analysis**

Younger people were less aware of this fact than their older counterparts so, while only 23% of those aged 15 to 24 knew that 2003 was the EYPD, this was knowledge held by 38% of those aged 55 or more.

Education also had an influence on this awareness and 41% of those educated to age 20 or beyond knew that 2003 was the EYPD as opposed to just 31% of those who had left school aged 15 or younger.

There was also a noticeable difference by occupation where 47% of managers were aware of this fact as opposed to only 28% of manual workers and 23% of students.

Income levels also had an effect on awareness with just 30% of those at the lowest level aware of the EYPD compared with 38% of those at the other end of the scale.

**Q. 84 b) (IF YES) How did you find out? (multiple answers possible)**

	<b>B</b>	<b>DK</b>	<b>D WEST</b>	<b>D TOTAL</b>	<b>D EAST</b>	<b>GR</b>	<b>E</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>IRL</b>	<b>I</b>	<b>L</b>	<b>NL</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>FIN</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>UK</b>	<b>EU15</b>
<b>Family Member</b>	11	7	5	7	12	3	6	9	14	7	8	9	10	5	6	8	11	8
<b>Friend</b>	3	3	4	5	6	5	10	12	14	6	8	4	9	6	5	6	12	7
<b>Acquaintance</b>	4	3	9	9	11	6	6	8	10	3	7	6	12	4	8	6	7	7
<b>Trade Union</b>	0	4	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	2	0	3	0	3	1
<b>NGO</b>	2	1	2	2	2	1	3	2	3	3	6	3	5	2	1	1	1	2
<b>Soc.Rep. Disabled</b>	8	8	13	12	9	2	3	11	11	7	7	10	10	4	16	9	10	9
<b>Other Assoc.</b>	2	4	3	4	6	1	2	6	6	6	3	7	4	3	3	8	5	4
<b>Nat/Local Authority</b>	4	7	4	5	5	1	2	12	6	8	5	7	7	2	3	7	4	6
<b>Media</b>	79	83	85	85	86	90	86	83	80	79	85	80	85	88	82	76	57	81
<b>Internet</b>	1	1	3	3	3	1	2	2	1	4	3	3	4	2	4	2	2	2
<b>EU Public'n</b>	1	1	2	2	4	0	0	1	3	1	6	3	1	1	1	1	0	1
<b>Event</b>	7	2	6	6	7	1	1	8	19	4	9	6	7	2	4	7	3	5
<b>Other</b>	5	4	2	2	3	5	1	5	6	4	2	3	2	4	5	5	10	4
<b>Don't Know</b>	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	1	1	0	1	3	1

## **EU15 analysis**

The survey then examines the sources of information from which this 33% of the total poll became aware of the EYPD.

Of this group, by far the most important source of information was the media - cited by an average of 81% of those polled across the EU15.

## **Country analysis**

The Irish figure for identifying the media as this main source, at 85%, although four percentage points greater than the EU15 average, might have been expected to have been higher because of that country's hosting of the Special Olympics International Summer Games. However, very high ratings covering the other potential information sources meant that the Irish also received information from a friend and event publicity. From these two major sources, the Irish percentages were higher than any other country and at least twice as high as the EU15 average.

A very low percentage of UK citizens obtained this information through the media. The figure of 57% is some nineteen percentage points beneath the next lowest figure, well below the 81% EU average and dwarfed by figures of 88% in Portugal and 90% in Greece.

Two alternative scenarios for this divergence could be that either the subject received relatively little UK media exposure or it may reflect UK citizens' media habits, or a mixture of both.

## **Socio-demographic analysis**

On a socio-demographic basis, no major variations were identified except that people who would be more likely to have high levels of social contact (e.g. students) were more likely to receive this information through a friend than those who were, for example, retired. In this example, the figures were 11% for students and 5% for the retired compared with an EU15 average of 7%.

Looking at new technology, with information being provided over the Internet, while the EU15 average was just 2%, high figures of 7% were recorded for students compared with just 1% for house persons and the retired.

## **Conclusion**

Considering the fact that these levels of awareness were achieved after nine months of the EYPD's operation and that the initiative was conducted on a relatively modest budget, the figures show good results.

From a standing start, awareness of the EYPD was found in one out of every three EU15 citizens polled. Amongst those with higher levels of education, the awareness figure rises to 41% among those educated to age 20 or beyond.

The media across the Union were the prime driving force in building this level of awareness.

## 2. The purpose of the European Year of People with Disabilities

**Q. 85 In your opinion, what is the purpose of the European Year of People with Disabilities? (MAX. 2 ANSWERS)**

	B	DK	D WEST	D TOTAL	D EAST	GR	E	F	IRL	I	L	NL	A	P	FIN	S	UK	EU15
<b>To raise money for disabled people</b>	26	23	17	18	22	27	23	36	19	32	21	23	23	29	20	12	19	25
<b>To increase understanding disability issues</b>	55	65	59	59	56	41	41	48	60	49	72	68	59	35	49	80	56	53
<b>To promote rights of people with disabilities</b>	32	47	44	45	49	54	45	33	45	49	33	24	42	32	53	53	40	42
<b>To give a more positive image of people with disabilities</b>	24	29	28	27	23	20	14	22	27	12	20	33	21	18	29	19	21	21
<b>To show that people with disabilities face many types of discrimination</b>	17	15	18	18	19	17	22	26	9	14	24	19	26	24	11	20	10	18
<b>Other</b>	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	1	0	0	1	1
<b>Don't Know</b>	7	3	8	7	6	7	9	7	4	7	1	6	4	14	7	2	13	8

## **EU15 analysis**

53% of the total poll believed that the purpose of the EYPD was to increase understanding of disability issues. This is a highly positive result because that this was one of the key aims of the exercise.

The next most popular suggestion (42%) was that the purpose of the EYPD was to promote the rights of people with disabilities. Again, this is a welcome finding as this was a complementary aim of the EYPD.

25% of the EU15 poll believed the reason behind the Year was to raise funds for disabled people.

21% believed the Year was intended to give a more positive view of people with disabilities.

8% of EU15 citizens said they did not know what was the purpose of the EYPD.

## **Country analysis**

While more than half (53%) of EU citizens believed that the purpose of the EYPD was to increase understanding on disability issues, this average figure conceals a wide variation on a country-by-country basis. Only 35% of the Portuguese believe this to be the main reason, while this belief is held by 80% of Swedes and 72% of Luxembourgers.

That the purpose of the EYPD was to promote the rights of people with disabilities was a view which had a particularly strong following in Greece, Finland and Sweden with 53% or more of those polled believing this to be the case.

On the other hand, this was an attitude held by less than a quarter (24%) of Dutch people.

The view that the purpose of the Year was fund raising for disabled people was particularly prevalent in France where 36% of those polled viewed it as the prime purpose, while only 12% of Swedes saw this as being the EYPD's main objective.

The belief that the year was designed to give a more positive view of people with disabilities received strong support in the Netherlands (33%) and in Finland (29%).

Against an EU15 average of 8% who said they did not know the reason were high percentages of Portuguese (14%) and UK citizens (13%).

## **Socio-demographic analysis**

The level of education had a noticeable bearing on perceived purposes of the EYPD. 29% of those with the least level of education believed the purpose was to raise money for disabled people compared with an EU15 average of 25% and a figure of 20% for those with the highest level of education.

Conversely, while, on average, 53% of EU citizens believed the purpose was to increase understanding of disability issues, this was a view held by only 45% of those educated up to age 15 compared with 61% of those educated the longest.

47% of managers believed (correctly) the purpose was to promote the rights of people with disabilities compared with only 38% of house persons holding this view. The EU15 average was 42%.



There was a small but noticeable variation according to political orientation. While 44% of those on the political left believed (again, correctly) the purpose of the year was to promote the rights of people with disabilities, this was a view held by only 37% of those on the political right.

Conversely, 26% of those on the right thought the purpose of the year was to raise money for disabled people as opposed to only 22% of those on the left.

This was also seen as the purpose of the year in question by 31% of those on the lowest income compared with just 21% of those enjoying larger incomes.

## **Conclusion**

Council Decision 2001/903/EC on the EYPD<sup>2</sup> states that its primary objective is 'to raise awareness of the rights of people with disabilities to protection against discrimination and to full and equal enjoyment of their rights'.

It is gratifying to note that the two most cited potential purposes of the EYPD contained the key elements of the Council Decision.

Accordingly, 53% of all EU citizens believed the purpose of the Year was to increase understanding, while 42% of them believed it was to promote the rights of people with disabilities.

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<sup>2</sup> Official Journal L 335 of 19.12.2001.  
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### 3. EYPD: contribution to improvements to quality of life of people with disabilities

**Q. 86 The European Year of People with Disabilities may have contributed to improvements in the quality of life of people with disabilities in (OUR COUNTRY). For each of the following, could you please tell me if you tend to agree or tend to disagree.**

**Q.86.1 The European Year of People with Disabilities has contributed to informing people about difficulties faced by people with disabilities in their daily life.**

#### EU15 analysis

Six out of ten (61%) of EU15 citizens polled on this question believed that the EYPD had contributed to informing people about difficulties faced by people with disabilities in their daily life while 17% tended to disagree and 22% did not know.

#### Country analysis

	Tend to agree	Tend to disagree	Don't know
B	58	19	23
DK	59	17	24
D WEST	65	14	21
D TOTAL	66	14	20
D EAST	70	13	17
GR	57	20	22
E	67	14	19
F	64	17	19
IRL	81	6	13
I	61	23	16
L	81	13	6
NL	54	26	19
A	75	13	12
P	66	15	19
FIN	68	14	18
S	55	19	26
UK	45	17	38
EU15	61	17	22

This sentiment was particularly felt by the Irish and Luxembourgers where 81% of each country's poll tended to agree with the statement. A relatively high figure of 75% was also noted in Austria.

At the other end of the spectrum only 45% of the UK sample tended to agree with this statement. In addition, in the UK, while the number of people tending to disagree with the statement was in line with the EU15 average at 17%, 38% of those polled were in the 'don't know' camp compared with a figure of only 6% in Luxembourg.

It will be noted in several parts of this report that the level of knowledge on the 'factual' issues relating to disabled people are little-known in the UK and generate a high quotient of 'don't knows' to many questions of this type.

Notable among those who tended to disagree were 26% of the Dutch.

**Q. 86.2 The European Year of People with Disabilities has paved the way towards really getting the same rights for people with disabilities as everyone else.**

**EU15 analysis**

Just over half the EU citizens polled (51%) tended to agree that the EYPD had paved the way towards obtaining the same rights for people with disabilities.

27% of Union citizens had no opinion on this issue while 22% tended to disagree.

**Country analysis**

	<b>Tend to agree</b>	<b>Tend to disagree</b>	<b>Don't know</b>
B	49	24	27
DK	46	25	30
D WEST	44	27	29
D TOTAL	45	27	28
D EAST	49	27	24
GR	52	24	24
E	61	18	21
F	55	20	25
IRL	72	11	17
I	52	27	21
L	64	26	11
NL	42	35	23
A	62	22	16
P	47	27	27
FIN	58	21	21
S	49	21	30
UK	46	13	42
EU15	51	22	27

While this benefit of the EYPD was identified by 72% of the Irish poll, this was a sentiment held by only 42% of Dutch and 45% of Germans.

This issue produced a high level of 'don't knows' (42%) in the UK.

This extremely high level of 'don't knows' in the UK data obscures an interesting statistic. When this 'don't know' group is removed from the figures and the views of those actually expressing an opinion are analysed, it can be seen that 78% of the UK sample tend to agree with this proposition compared with the EU15 average of 69%. In fact, on this issue, the UK net figure is the second highest in the EU with only the Irish (87%) being ahead.

**Q. 86.3 The European Year of People with Disabilities has improved access to public places (buildings and transport) for physically disabled people.**

**EU15 analysis**

While 26% of those polled did not know whether this improvement in access had taken place and a similar percentage tended to disagree, virtually half (48%) of the poll tended to agree that this benefit to physically disabled people had been caused by the EYPD.

**Country analysis**

	<b>Tend to agree</b>	<b>Tend to disagree</b>	<b>Don't know</b>
B	52	25	23
DK	40	30	30
D WEST	48	24	28
D TOTAL	49	23	28
D EAST	54	21	25
GR	50	29	22
E	50	28	22
F	51	28	21
IRL	68	18	15
I	43	34	23
L	55	34	12
NL	49	31	21
A	61	23	16
P	34	37	29
FIN	47	31	23
S	49	30	31
UK	46	13	41
EU15	48	26	26

Yet again, Ireland was in the vanguard of positive reaction and 68% of that country's poll tended to agree with this point.

In Portugal, however, the figure reached only 34% - just over a third of those polled - and 37% tended to disagree with this opinion.

**Socio-demographic analysis**

There were only minor variations on a socio-demographic basis.

**Q. 86.4 The European Year of People with Disabilities has improved access to public places (buildings and transport) for intellectually disabled people.**

**EU15 analysis**

There was a noticeable variation in the question of access when dealing with intellectually disabled people rather than those who disability was physical.

Whereas, as detailed in the previous question (86.3), 48% of those polled believed that access had improved for physically disabled people, when the question related to those whose disability was intellectual, the figure reduces to just 38%.

**Country analysis**

	<b>Tend to agree</b>	<b>Tend to disagree</b>	<b>Don't know</b>
B	41	31	28
DK	30	33	37
D WEST	38	29	33
D TOTAL	39	28	33
D EAST	44	25	31
GR	42	34	25
E	47	28	25
F	39	33	29
IRL	62	19	19
I	32	39	30
L	45	39	17
NL	39	33	28
A	54	26	20
P	31	38	31
FIN	39	35	26
S	26	36	38
UK	37	16	48
EU15	38	30	32

In those countries where the whole concept of the EYPD appears to have been embraced with a high degree of enthusiasm, and figures of 62% and 54% are recorded in Ireland and Austria, only 26% of Swedes and 30% of Danes tended to agree that improved access had been achieved for this group.

Of the 30% of the poll who tended to disagree, high figures of 39% were observed in Italy and Luxembourg and 38% in Portugal.

Virtually half the UK poll (48%) had no view on this matter.

### **Socio-demographic analysis**

Once again, the variations on a country-by-country basis are substantial, while on a socio-demographic basis they are minimal. The strong implication behind these figures is that the variations are driven to a considerably greater extent by country demographics and that in a country where a very high percentage of those polled may hold a particular opinion within that figure there are not substantial variations by gender, age, educational level, etc.

Accordingly, when the country figures are aggregated, the socio-demographic figures average out to create the minimal variations usually seen in this data set.

As an example of this, in this particular question, there is a range from 26% (Sweden) to 62% (Ireland) of countries' population tending to agree with the motion.

The substantial country-by-country variation can be compared with the pan-European breakdown on a socio-demographic basis when, in response to the same question, minimal variations were seen by gender (male: 39%/female: 38%; by age (youngest 39%/oldest 39%); educational (40% least educated/35% most educated); and by all occupations a range of between 35% and 40%.

**Q. 86.5 The European Year of People with Disabilities has helped physically disabled people to exercise the same rights of access to services as other people.**

**EU15 analysis**

On average, nearly half (47%) of those polled across the Union tended to agree with this statement, while 31% said they did not know.

A further 23% tended to disagree with this statement.

**Country analysis**

	<b>Tend to agree</b>	<b>Tend to disagree</b>	<b>Don't know</b>
B	46	24	30
DK	41	24	35
D WEST	45	23	32
D TOTAL	46	23	31
D EAST	52	22	27
GR	47	30	23
E	51	23	27
F	50	23	27
IRL	67	14	19
I	46	26	28
L	53	29	18
NL	47	28	26
A	60	20	20
P	37	32	31
FIN	51	26	23
S	39	27	34
UK	41	12	47
EU15	47	23	31

Once again, Ireland and Austria were the two nations that had the most positive view on physically disabled people's rights of access to services. These figures were 67% and 60% respectively and were considerably above the 39% recorded in Sweden and an even lower 37% in Portugal.

Amongst the figures from countries making up the 31% of those polled who said they did not know, were extreme figures from Luxembourg (18%) and the UK (47%). Perhaps because it is less easy to recognise intellectually disabled people than those with a physical disability, noticeably fewer European Union citizens tended to agree that intellectually disabled rather than physically disabled people had been helped to exercise the same rights of access to services.

The Irish figure (61%), again, was at the top of the ranking which compares markedly with the Swedish figure of only 28%.

**Socio-demographic analysis**

No significant variations were observed by socio-demographic categories.

**Q. 86.6 The European Year of People with Disabilities has helped intellectually disabled people to exercise the same rights of access to services as other people.**

**EU15 analysis**

Reflecting a similar pattern to questions 86.3 and 86.4, there was less support for the proposition that the EYPD had helped the intellectually disabled in this area.

Accordingly, while, as shown in Q 86.5, 47% of EU citizens believed the EYPD had helped physically disabled people to exercise the same rights of access to services as other people, this figure falls to 39% when intellectually disabled people are the focus of the question.

The complex nature of this question generates a high average level (34%) of 'don't knows' across the EU.

**Country analysis**

	<b>Tend to agree</b>	<b>Tend to disagree</b>	<b>Don't know</b>
B	37	29	35
DK	32	29	40
D WEST	35	30	36
D TOTAL	37	29	35
D EAST	45	25	30
GR	40	34	26
E	49	22	28
F	40	29	31
IRL	61	16	23
I	35	34	32
L	47	34	19
NL	40	30	30
A	48	28	24
P	33	34	33
FIN	44	31	25
S	28	34	38
UK	37	14	50
EU15	39	27	34

The EU15 average figure of 39% of those tending to agree again contains large variations on a country-by-country basis with the by now familiar high percentage from Ireland (61%) and much smaller figures including 28% from Sweden, 32% from Denmark and 33% from Portugal.

Once again, the UK figure at 50% is the highest recorded in the 'don't know' category.



### **Socio-demographic analysis**

While the EU15 average indicated that 27% of those polled tended to disagree with this statement, there was a variation based upon levels of education with the view being held by 34% of the most educated but only 23% of those who had left school aged 15 or less.

Similarly, while only 25% of house persons tended to disagree with this motion, this figure increases to 35% for managers.

Apart from these variations by education and occupation, no other noticeable variations emerged in the socio-demographic data.

**Q. 86.7 The European Year of People with Disabilities has improved access to employment for people with physical disabilities.**

**EU15 analysis**

The notion that the EYPD has improved access to employment for people with physical disabilities was accepted by 42% of those polled across the EU15.

There was, however, a large block (31%) of 'don't knows' in relation to this question, as well as more than a quarter (27%) of Union citizens tending to disagree.

**Country analysis**

	<b>Tend to agree</b>	<b>Tend to disagree</b>	<b>Don't know</b>
B	39	28	34
DK	39	26	36
D WEST	41	29	29
D TOTAL	41	30	29
D EAST	39	34	26
GR	46	31	23
E	49	24	27
F	47	25	28
IRL	62	16	21
I	38	32	30
L	54	28	18
NL	42	32	26
A	53	24	22
P	30	41	30
FIN	40	35	25
S	35	31	34
UK	40	13	46
EU15	42	27	31

This question generated the familiar high Irish support level of 62% compared with a considerably smaller figure of 30% from Portugal.

Portugal also had the highest level of those polled (41%) tending to disagree with this proposition.

The UK figures were not only noticeable for the regular high levels of 'don't knows' (in this case, 46% compared with an EU 15 average of 31%) but also for a very low percentage (13%) of those tending to disagree.

On a net basis (i.e. excluding the 'don't knows'), the UK's 'tend to agree' figures came out at 75% compared with an EU15 average of 61%.

**Socio-demographic analysis**

No significant variations were observed by socio-demographic categories.

**Q. 86.8 The European Year of People with Disabilities has improved access to employment for people with intellectual disabilities.**

**EU15 analysis**

Once again, there is noticeable divergence of opinion which tends to show that the EYPD has had a stronger influence on improving aspects of the lives of people with physical disabilities rather than of those whose disabilities were of an intellectual nature.

Accordingly, while 42% of those polled across the European Union tend to agree that the EYPD has improved this form of access for those with physical disabilities, the figure again falls by 9% to 33% when the group under consideration are those with intellectual disabilities.

The 'don't know' factor on this issue became the largest response category with 35% of those polled across the fifteen Member States not expressing an opinion.

**Country analysis**

	<b>Tend to agree</b>	<b>Tend to disagree</b>	<b>Don't know</b>
B	29	34	36
DK	30	30	40
D WEST	30	36	34
D TOTAL	31	36	34
D EAST	34	37	30
GR	38	36	26
E	45	27	28
F	34	33	33
IRL	56	20	25
I	28	40	32
L	46	34	21
NL	34	37	29
A	46	30	24
P	26	41	33
FIN	31	42	27
S	25	36	38
UK	33	15	52
EU15	33	32	35

The most positive view on the issue in this question was held in Ireland (56%) while figures of 26% and 25% were noted in Portugal and Sweden.

The UK contribution to the high 35% EU15 'don't know' factor was a substantial 52% which, on a net basis, made the British 'tend to agree' figure the third largest score from a Member State at 75% with net figures of 84% in Ireland and 76% in Austria.

**Socio-demographic analysis**

No significant variations were observed by socio-demographic categories except that those with the highest level of education were more likely to disagree with this proposition than those who had received the lowest level of education with figures of 39% and 28% respectively compared with the EU15 average of 32%.

**Q. 86.9 The European Year of People with Disabilities has improved access to standard educational systems for people with physical disabilities.**

**EU15 analysis**

45% of EU15 citizens tended to agree that the EYPD had improved access to standard educational systems for people with physical disabilities.

Once again, there was a high 'don't know' factor with a third of Union citizens expressing no opinion on this issue.

**Country analysis**

	<b>Tend to agree</b>	<b>Tend to disagree</b>	<b>Don't know</b>
B	41	25	35
DK	36	25	40
D WEST	43	24	33
D TOTAL	43	23	34
D EAST	43	21	35
GR	52	22	26
E	52	19	29
F	48	23	29
IRL	65	13	22
I	45	26	30
L	52	29	20
NL	45	26	29
A	59	18	23
P	36	32	32
FIN	49	26	25
S	39	23	38
UK	38	13	49
EU15	45	22	33

This sentiment was held by more than half the population of Ireland (65%), Austria (59%) and Greece, Spain and Luxembourg (52%).

Less convinced were the citizens of Portugal and Denmark where this view was held by only 36% of those polled.

The level of 'don't knows' was particularly high in the UK (49%) and Denmark (40%).

**Socio-demographic analysis**

No significant variations were observed by socio-demographic categories except that amongst the 'don't knows', once again, this was a response given by a larger proportion of people receiving the lowest level of education (36%) than those whose education had continued to age 20 or beyond where the comparable figure was only 30%.

**Q. 86.10 The European Year of People with Disabilities increased understanding of physical disability issues.**

**EU15 analysis**

On average, more than half of the EU15 sample taking part in this survey felt that the EYPD had increased people's understanding of physical disability issues.

Once again, there was a high percentage of 'don't knows' across the Union with more than one in four citizens (29%) expressing no opinion on this issue.

**Country analysis**

	<b>Tend to agree</b>	<b>Tend to disagree</b>	<b>Don't know</b>
B	50	20	30
DK	49	18	33
D WEST	51	20	29
D TOTAL	52	20	29
D EAST	54	19	27
GR	55	20	25
E	57	18	25
F	53	21	27
IRL	78	7	15
I	51	24	25
L	66	20	14
NL	53	23	24
A	67	16	17
P	47	26	28
FIN	63	16	22
S	52	18	30
UK	41	14	45
EU15	51	19	29

In Ireland, host of the Special Olympics International Summer Games, this sentiment was felt by more than three-quarters (78%) of those polled and figures in excess of 60% were noted in Austria (67%), Luxembourg (66%) and Finland (63%).

Once again, the UK was the country with the highest level of 'don't knows' (45%) and also was the Member State where the smallest percentage (41%) tended to agree on this point.

**Socio-demographic analysis**

No significant variations were observed by socio-demographic categories.

**Q. 86.11 The European Year of People with Disabilities has increased understanding of intellectual disability issues.**

**EU15 analysis**

There were fewer people who tended to agree that the EYPD had increased the understanding of intellectual disabilities compared with a similar proposition relating to physical disabilities with figures of 45% and 51% respectively.

Nearly a third (32%) of those polled across the EU had no opinion on this issue.

**Country analysis**

	<b>Tend to agree</b>	<b>Tend to disagree</b>	<b>Don't know</b>
B	46	30	31
DK	42	22	37
D WEST	44	25	31
D TOTAL	45	24	30
D EAST	51	20	29
GR	50	24	26
E	56	18	26
F	43	27	30
IRL	71	11	18
I	43	31	27
L	60	26	15
NL	49	24	27
A	59	21	20
P	43	29	28
FIN	55	23	23
S	39	26	35
UK	34	17	50
EU15	45	24	32

The highest figures were, yet again, noted in Ireland (71%), Luxembourg (60%) and Austria (59%).

The lowest number of people tending to agree with the proposition was once again to be found in the UK (34%). The UK also had by far the highest percentage of 'don't knows' with half those polled (50%) not expressing an opinion compared with figures as low as 15% in Luxembourg and 18% in Ireland.

**Socio-demographic analysis**

No significant variations were observed by socio-demographic categories.

**Q. 86.12 The European Year of People with Disabilities has increased media coverage of physical disability issues.**

**EU15 analysis**

Slightly more than half (51%) of the total EU15 poll tended to agree with this proposition but there was a large percentage (27%) who did not express an opinion as well as a more vociferous group making up 22% of the sample who tended to disagree that media coverage of physical disability issues had increased.

**Country analysis**

	<b>Tend to agree</b>	<b>Tend to disagree</b>	<b>Don't know</b>
B	53	21	27
DK	48	23	29
D WEST	52	21	27
D TOTAL	53	22	26
D EAST	54	23	23
GR	55	22	23
E	59	18	24
F	55	22	23
IRL	78	8	14
I	55	23	23
L	66	21	13
NL	50	27	23
A	65	19	16
P	46	24	30
FIN	55	24	21
S	41	27	32
UK	36	22	42
EU15	51	22	27

Once more, Irish opinion was strongly in support of this statement (78%) and only 8% tended to disagree compared with the EU15 average of 51% and figures as low as 36% in the UK.

Amongst those countries showing a higher than average level of agreement with this statement were two-thirds of Luxembourgers and Austrians, together with 59% of Spaniards.

**Socio-demographic analysis**

No significant variations were observed by socio-demographic categories.

**Q. 86.13 The European Year of People with Disabilities has increased media coverage of intellectual disability issues.****EU15 analysis**

As has been seen on all issues where comparisons are made between the figures relating to intellectual and physical disabilities, there is a difference (usually in the region of five percentage points) in people's reactions to these issues.

Accordingly, 45% of EU15 citizens believed that the EYPD had increased media coverage of intellectual disability issues compared with 51% when the issue related to physical disability.

30% of EU citizens had no opinion on this while a quarter tended to disagree.

**Country analysis**

	<b>Tend to agree</b>	<b>Tend to disagree</b>	<b>Don't know</b>
B	48	23	29
DK	43	27	30
D WEST	44	26	30
D TOTAL	46	25	29
D EAST	51	25	25
GR	50	27	24
E	57	18	25
F	46	28	26
IRL	73	11	16
I	47	28	26
L	60	26	15
NL	43	32	25
A	61	21	18
P	46	25	30
FIN	49	29	22
S	34	31	35
UK	32	23	46
EU15	45	25	30

Against the EU15 45% average tending to agree with this, in addition to the group of three (Ireland, Austria and Luxembourg) who consistently have a positive/convicted attitude on these issues, there were noticeably higher than average figures from Spain (57%).

This proposition also produced a regional variation in the German statistics with this belief being supported by 51% of East Germans but only 44% of West Germans.

Once again, the UK figures showed the lowest percentage of those tending to agree (32%) and the highest levels of 'don't knows' with 46% of those polled taking this view.

The Swedes (31%) and the Dutch (32%) were the countries where the level of disagreement was noticeably higher than the EU15 average of 25%.

**Socio-demographic analysis**

No significant variations were observed by socio-demographic categories.



## Conclusion

From the figures above and the table below, it can be seen that the EYPD had a broad beneficial effect with respect to a number of issues.

Citizens were, however, less certain of the results when it came to people with intellectual disabilities where there was a marked increase in the 'don't know' factor.

It is worthwhile pulling together the responses on an EU15 basis to the 13 parts of Question 86 into one table so as to see the ranking of the perceived importance of factors influencing the quality of life of people with disabilities. The table below presents this as a league table by percentages of respondents who tended to agree and also shows the 'don't know' factor – both figures on an EU15 basis.

Socio-demographic variables appear to have virtually no influence on these figures.

<b>Rank</b>	<b>Subject</b>	<b>Tend to agree</b>	<b>Don't know</b>
1	Contributed to informing people about difficulties faced by people with disabilities in their daily life	61%	22%
2=	Paved the way towards really getting the same rights for people with disabilities as everyone else	51%	27%
2=	Increased understanding of physical disability issues	51%	29%
2=	Has increased media coverage of physical disability issues	51%	27%
5	Improved access to public places (buildings and transport) for physically disabled people	48%	26%
6	Helped physically disabled people to exercise the same rights of access to services as other people	47%	31%
7=	Improved access to standard educational systems for people with physical disabilities	45%	33%
7=	Increased understanding of intellectual disability issues	45%	32%
7=	Has increased media coverage of intellectual disability issues	45%	30%
10	Improved access to employment for people with physical disabilities	42%	31%
11	Helped intellectually disabled people to exercise the same rights of access to services as other people	39%	34%
12	Improved access to public places (buildings and transport) for intellectually disabled people	38%	32%
13	Improved access to employment for people with intellectual disabilities	33%	35%

#### 4. Attitudes towards people with disabilities and work

**Q. 87 I am going to read you some statements about people with disabilities and work. Please answer yes or no to the following statements.**

**Q. 87.1 People with disabilities have the same legal right as anybody else to a job.**

##### EU15 analysis

Across the European Union this 'right to work' was a view held by 85% of those polled.

##### Country analysis

	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>Don't know</b>
B	84	10	6
DK	86	8	6
D WEST	83	8	9
D TOTAL	84	8	9
D EAST	86	7	7
GR	81	10	10
E	83	11	7
F	87	8	5
IRL	89	6	6
I	84	7	8
L	88	8	4
NL	88	9	4
A	75	14	11
P	83	11	6
FIN	94	4	2
S	89	6	5
UK	88	6	6
EU15	85	8	7

More than nine out of ten (94%) of the Finnish poll believed that people with disabilities had the same legal right as anyone else to a job.

The sole country where the figure was less than 80% was Austria where only 75% of those polled held this belief.

Relatively high figures for those tending to disagree with this statement were noted in Austria where the figure reached 14%.

There was a relatively high level of 'don't knows' in Greece and Austria.

The low level of awareness which distinguished the UK responses in the previous question and produced 'don't know' factors as high as 51% from that country's poll has disappeared in this question.

This is perhaps because the response is based upon personal feeling rather than awareness of events at which the UK often lags behind the rest of the EU if 'don't know' scores are a valid indicator in this report.

### **Socio-demographic analysis**

No significant variations were observed by socio-demographic categories except that older people, more educated people and people on higher incomes were marginally more likely to support this view, as were managers compared with the unemployed.

**Q. 87.2 People with disabilities have the same legal right as anybody else to take part in training.****EU15 analysis**

The belief that people with disabilities had the same legal right as anyone else to take part in training gained the support of 87% of the poll across the European Union and minimal figures were observed in the 'don't know' (7%) and 'no' (6%) categories.

**Country analysis**

	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>Don't know</b>
B	89	5	6
DK	92	5	3
D WEST	86	6	9
D TOTAL	86	6	8
D EAST	88	5	7
GR	85	5	10
E	81	11	9
F	90	4	6
IRL	91	4	6
I	87	5	8
L	92	5	3
NL	92	6	2
A	78	11	11
P	82	10	8
FIN	97	2	2
S	95	3	2
UK	89	3	8
EU15	87	6	7

In Finland, the 'yes' figure was 97% while at the other end of the scale the Iberian figures were relatively low with 81% in Spain and 82% in Portugal. However, the lowest figure in the EU was the 78% recorded in Austria.

These last three mentioned countries were also the only countries with double-digit figures amongst those who did not believe that people with disabilities have the same legal right as anybody else to take part in training.

**Socio-demographic analysis**

No significant variations were observed by socio-demographic categories except that 91% of those with a higher level of education held this view compared with just 85% of those who had left school aged 15 years or younger.

**Q. 87.3 There are European laws against discrimination in the workplace on the grounds of disability.**

Council Directive 2000/78/EC of 27 November 2000 establishing a general framework for equal treatment in employment and occupation (OJ L 303 of 2.12.2000) was due to be transposed into national law by Member States by 2 December 2003. The purpose of this Directive is to lay down a general framework for combating discrimination on the grounds of religion or belief, disability, age or sexual orientation as regards employment and occupation, with a view to putting into effect in the Member States the principle of equal treatment. Member States may, if necessary, have an additional period of 3 years from 2.12.2003 to implement the provisions of this Directive on age and disability discrimination.

**EU15 analysis**

Although 30% of EU15 citizens did not know whether this European legislation existed, amongst those actually expressing an opinion, 91% of those polled believed these laws existed.

**Country analysis**

	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>Don't know</b>
B	54	9	37
DK	61	7	32
D WEST	60	6	34
D TOTAL	59	6	35
D EAST	54	9	38
GR	60	8	33
E	62	7	31
F	70	5	26
IRL	77	2	21
I	55	7	39
L	78	8	14
NL	67	8	25
A	63	9	28
P	62	13	25
FIN	68	4	28
S	68	6	26
UK	74	5	21
EU15	63	6	30

78% of Luxembourgish, 77% of the Irish and 74% of the UK polls believed these laws existed compared with only 54% of Belgians and 55% of Italians.

A relatively high percentage of the Portuguese poll (13%) thought that there was no European legislation against discrimination in this area.

**Socio-demographic analysis**

A noticeably larger percentage (69%) of those educated to age 20 or above believed this legislation was in force compared with just 58% of those whose education had ended aged 15 or younger.

This divergence was repeated when responses to the question were analysed by occupation. While 73% of managers believed these laws existed and 22% did not know, figures for the retired were 58% and 36% respectively.

While there was virtually no variation by political affiliation or place of residence, 70% of those on the highest income as opposed to 61% of those on the lowest believed these laws were in place.

**Q. 87.4 In general, employers make the necessary changes in the workplace to employ disabled people.**

**EU15 analysis**

Although 43% of EU15 citizens believed employers acted in this way, more than a third (35%) held the contrary view and 21% did not know.

**Country analysis**

	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>Don't know</b>
B	27	52	21
DK	29	58	14
D WEST	49	28	23
D TOTAL	46	30	23
D EAST	38	38	24
GR	31	54	15
E	35	38	27
F	51	33	17
IRL	57	26	18
I	37	34	28
L	59	30	11
NL	44	41	15
A	47	31	22
P	22	63	15
FIN	32	54	14
S	34	50	16
UK	53	28	19
EU15	43	35	21

Making up the 43% average of EU15 citizens believing that, in general, employers made the necessary changes in the workplace to employ disabled people was a wide variety of responses ranging from 22% in Portugal and 27% in Belgium to 59% in Luxembourg and 57% in Ireland.

Similar large variations in numbers were noted amongst those taking the contrary view who did not believe that employers made these changes. While this was a view held, on average, by 35% of EU citizens, it was a view only subscribed to by 26% of the Irish and 30% of Germans and Luxembourgers.

However, the Portuguese, the Danes and the Greeks and Finns all had more than half of their sample believing that this was not the situation and figures of 63%, 58% and 54% respectively were recorded in these countries.

High 'don't know' figures were recorded in Spain (27%) and Italy (28%).

**Socio-demographic analysis**

No significant variations were observed by socio-demographic categories.

**Q. 87.5 People with severe physical or intellectual disabilities should only work in sheltered workshops.****EU15 analysis**

More than half (53%) of Union citizens believed that people with severe physical or intellectual disabilities should only work in sheltered workshops.

While 18% had no view on this issue, nearly one-third (29%) believed the working environment should not be so restricted.

**Country analysis**

	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>Don't know</b>
B	51	34	15
DK	39	53	9
D WEST	61	23	17
D TOTAL	63	22	16
D EAST	70	19	11
GR	72	16	12
E	47	28	25
F	65	18	17
IRL	45	38	18
I	53	25	22
L	69	23	8
NL	40	52	9
A	68	20	12
P	67	20	14
FIN	45	43	13
S	36	49	16
UK	32	46	22
EU15	53	29	18

Hidden within the EU15 average of people agreeing with this statement was a marked polarity of views. While only 32% of the UK poll subscribed to this opinion, this figure was less than half the figure from Greece (72%), Luxembourg (69%), Austria (68%) and France (65%).

There was a noticeable variation in the breakdown of the German figures in that the average of 63% agreeing that these people should only work in sheltered workshops was made up of 70% of those in the New Länder but only 61% of those in the Old Länder.

Variation in attitude was also a strong feature on a country-by-country basis when analysing the numbers of EU citizens who believed that people with severe intellectual or physical disabilities should not be limited to only working in sheltered workshops.

While this average figure across the EU15 was 29%, its constituent parts ranged from 16% in Greece to more than half (53%) of the Danes polled.

This wide spread of EU opinion was further reflected in the 'don't know' figures which stretched from 8% in Luxembourg to 25% in Spain.



## **Socio-demographic analysis**

In addition to the substantial country-by-country variations seen above, there was a wide variety of responses on a socio-demographic basis.

As respondents' ages increased so too did agreement with this statement.

Accordingly, 50% of the youngest group gave it their support compared with 58% of those aged 55 or more.

On the other hand, time spent in education had a diminishing effect on agreement with this proposition. While 58% of those educated to age 15 or less were in agreement, this figure decreases to 50% for those whose education had continued to age 20 or more.

There were also noticeable variations by occupation. 50% of managers and 51% of other white-collar workers and manual workers gave this proposition their support while the figure from the retired rose to 59%.

Political orientation also had a similar effect with support being seen from 59% of those on the political right compared with only 50% from the left.

This wide diversity was again seen in the results of the poll based on income. At the lowest end of the income scale, 59% of those polled agreed with the proposition compared with only 48% of those at the highest end of the income scale.

## **Conclusion**

EU citizens were very firmly in support of the right of disabled persons to work and receive training with figures of 85% or more supporting this.

When the issue of awareness of legislation was raised, there was a large (30%) 'don't know' factor. However, this obscured the fact that of those expressing an opinion, 91% had a positive view.

Less support (43%) was given to the notion that employers made changes in their working environments to cater for the requirements of disabled people.

While 53% of the EU15 poll believed disabled people should work in sheltered workshops, it is not possible to break down this figure to assess whether the reasoning is to protect these people from the risk of accident in a non-protected environment or other reasons.

## 5. Knowing people whose activities are limited by long-lasting illness, disability or infirmity

**Q. 88 Do you personally know anyone who has any long-lasting illness, disability or infirmity that limits their activities in any way? (IF YES) Who are they?**

		B	DK	D WEST	D TOTAL	D EAST	GR	E	F	IRL	I	Lu	NL	A	P	FIN	S	UK	EU15
<b>No</b>	2000	39	29	42	43	46	51	40	44	32	37	46	26	44	46	25	25	39	40
	2003	38	29	36	38	42	42	32	41	27	31	31	24	47	34	21	25	37	35
<b>Yes, a family member</b>	2000	23	42	21	21	20	14	26	25	22	15	20	44	22	23	24	35	34	25
	2003	17	35	18	19	20	11	20	24	18	15	26	35	17	19	20	27	31	22
<b>Yes, a friend</b>	2000	16	20	14	13	10	8	15	17	16	17	11	19	11	10	21	23	18	16
	2003	13	19	15	14	10	11	17	14	19	15	14	16	11	18	18	23	24	17
<b>Yes, an acquaintance</b>	2000	22	19	25	24	20	16	22	15	17	27	19	21	24	13	32	26	6	20
	2003	24	21	31	30	26	20	35	21	22	36	29	26	25	25	39	27	9	26
<b>Yes, a neighbour</b>	2000	7	7	14	14	11	10	13	6	17	4	4	7	14	13	13	9	6	9
	2003	8	7	11	11	8	7	17	8	23	7	4	6	10	15	10	7	7	10
<b>Yes, a colleague</b>	2000	3	6	6	6	4	2	3	4	2	3	6	9	6	3	7	7	2	4
	2003	5	8	6	5	3	1	3	3	4	3	8	8	6	3	7	9	4	4
<b>Yes, a client</b>	2000	3	3	4	4	3	1	3	4	1	33	4	4	6	2	7	4	2	3
	2003	3	3	3	3	2	0	1	2	1	2	4	4	2	1	7	3	3	2
<b>Yes, a pupil at school</b>	2000	2	3	2	2	1	2	1	1	1	1	4	2	4	1	4	5	1	2
	2003	2	4	3	3	1	1	1	2	3	2	6	4	4	1	7	7	2	2
<b>Yes, a student at university</b>	2000	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	2	0	1	2	3	1	2	1	0	1
	2003	1	3	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	0	1	1	2	1
<b>Yes, others</b>	2000	9	5	7	7	7	3	2	4	6	7	6	6	5	5	12	12	3	5
	2003	9	8	6	6	5	5	2	6	6	6	9	7	9	5	22	16	2	6
<b>Yes, I am disabled</b>	2000	4	5	8	8	7	2	5	5	3	1	3	7	4	3	11	6	8	5
	2003	5	7	5	6	7	2	3	3	2	1	3	7	5	3	9	6	9	5
<b>Don't know</b>	2000	2	0	3	2	1	2	1	3	7	1	2	1	2	0	1	1	3	2
	2003	1	0	2	2	1	6	1	0	2	1	1	3	2	1	1	1	0	1

**Q. 88 Do you personally know anyone who has any long-lasting illness, disability or infirmity that limits their activities in any way? (IF YES) Who are they?**

**EU15 analysis**

In the 2003 survey, there were fewer people who did not know anyone who had a long-lasting illness, disability or infirmity limiting their activities in any way than there were in the previous survey in 2000.

While in 2000, 40% of those polled did not know anyone who fitted this description, the figure had fallen to 35% in the 2003 poll so 12% more people now knew somebody in this category.

There was a marked increase in the number of respondents' acquaintances with any of these conditions and this group increased from 20% to 26% across the European Union.

While a slight increase from 16% to 17% was seen across the EU15 for the incidence of these conditions amongst friends, there was an interesting decrease in the figures relating to family members which fell from 25% to 22% across the Union.

**Country analysis**

In the area of having acquaintances who were disabled, particularly large increases were seen between the two polls in Germany (24% to 30%), Spain (22% to 35%), Luxembourg (19% to 29%) and Portugal (13% to 25%).

This is now the largest area of contact with people with disabilities.

Notable declines were observed in Denmark (42% to 35%), the Netherlands (44% to 35%), Spain (26% to 20%) and Sweden (35% to 27%).

Against the trend, there was an increase from 20% to 26% in the Luxembourg figures.

**Socio-demographic analysis**

From a socio-demographic point of view, there were no noticeable trends by education or income amongst those who knew somebody who had been affected in this way.

However, as age increased so, naturally, did the likelihood of meeting somebody with the defined conditions. Accordingly, while only 55% of those aged 15 to 24 fell within this category, there is a noticeable increase to 69% amongst those aged 55 or more.

As a corollary to this, there is a notable increase in the figures that categorise the relationship with the affected person so only 19% of the youngest group will have an acquaintance suffering in this way compared with 28% of those in the oldest age group. Similar ratios of 18%-25% are seen when the person in question is a member of their own family.

## **6. Awareness of various types of disabilities**

### **Q.89 How aware are you of the various types of disabilities? Would you say you are fairly aware or fairly unaware of the various types of disabilities?**

Editor's note: This question looks in detail at 21 medical conditions described as disabilities and assesses people's awareness/knowledge of them. Nuances in the translation of the question into different languages in different Member States create a relatively wide spectrum of opinion on a country-by-country basis.

As this subject relates to a level of knowledge and awareness of a multitude of medical conditions, a factor which produces a highly consistent level of results on a socio-demographic basis is the respondents' level of education which itself has a seemingly strong correlation with income and occupation.

Accordingly, the general awareness level of a well-paid, well-educated manager will be considerably higher than that of a lowly paid manual worker with a low level of education.

To avoid unnecessary repetition of this proposition, in the analysis of these 21 questions, this socio-demographic premise will be indicated by the phrase 'the educational attainment, salary level and occupation of respondents is in line with the proposition outlined in the introduction to Question 89.

Unless otherwise stated, figures cited refer to the more recent 2003 survey.

**Q. 89.1 Visual Disabilities****EU15 analysis**

In 2000, average European opinion was equally split between those who were fairly aware and fairly unaware on the question of visual disabilities (48/49). However, three years later, awareness was considerably greater in that 62% of Union citizens were fairly aware of visual disabilities while only 35% were not.

**Country analysis**

	Fairly aware		Fairly unaware		Don't know	
	2000	2003	2000	2003	2000	2003
B	44	50	52	48	4	1
DK	33	51	61	48	6	1
D WEST	47	64	48	33	5	3
D TOTAL	48	64	47	33	5	3
D EAST	49	62	47	35	4	3
GR	42	65	57	34	1	1
E	38	50	60	42	2	8
F	49	56	51	42	1	1
IRL	51	87	45	12	4	1
I	33	40	63	59	4	2
L	47	64	51	33	3	3
NL	57	72	40	27	3	1
A	85	92	12	7	2	1
P	40	57	58	43	2	0
FIN	56	73	42	26	2	1
S	48	71	50	28	2	1
UK	66	91	30	8	4	1
EU15	48	62	49	35	3	2

In the 2003 poll, very high figures were noted in Austria (92%) and the UK (91%). This latter figure merits extra attention because it shows a growth of some twenty five percentage points since the 2000 survey.

The Austrian figure, on the other hand, had risen by a much more modest seven percentage points.

The Irish figures also showed a substantial increase rising from 51% in 2000 to 87% in 2003.

At the other end of the scale, the Italian figure was 40% in 2003 – a relatively small increase on 33% recorded three years previously.

The overall level of 'don't knows' was negligible in both surveys and showed a small but declining trend with the exception of Spain where the figure rose from 2% to 8%.

**Socio-demographic analysis**

People living in cities (67%) were more likely to be aware of this disability than those living in the country (61%).

The educational attainment, salary level and occupation of respondents is in line with the proposition outlined in the introduction to Question 89.

## Q.89.2 Hearing Impairments

### EU15 analysis

The issue of hearing impairments produced a marked increase across the Union among those who were fairly aware of this disability rising by a quarter from 46% in 2000 to 59% in 2003.

### Country analysis

	Fairly aware		Fairly unaware		Don't know	
	2000	2003	2000	2003	2000	2003
B	45	50	51	49	5	1
DK	35	55	57	43	7	1
D WEST	42	56	52	40	6	4
D TOTAL	42	55	53	41	6	4
D EAST	43	55	53	42	5	3
GR	38	60	61	39	1	0
E	33	41	65	50	2	9
F	47	57	52	42	1	1
IRL	52	87	44	12	4	1
I	30	36	66	61	5	3
L	39	60	58	38	3	2
NL	63	73	34	27	3	1
A	84	90	14	10	2	1
P	37	54	62	46	2	0
FIN	53	71	45	28	2	1
S	54	72	44	27	2	1
UK	66	90	31	9	3	1
EU15	46	59	51	39	4	3

The UK and Ireland showed substantial increases with figures rising from 66% to 90% in the former and from 52% to 87% in the latter.

The Austrian figures were at the top of the scale at 90% although their rise from 84% in 2000 was relatively small.

Relatively low levels of awareness were noted in Italy (36%) and Spain (41%).

Spain again, had a high 'don't know' figure three times the EU15 average at 9%.

### Socio-demographic analysis

While 52% of those aged between 15 and 24 were aware of this disability, the figure rises to 62% for those aged 55 or more.

The educational attainment, salary level and occupation of respondents is in line with the proposition outlined in the introduction to Question 89.

**Q. 89.3 Neuromuscular Impairments****EU15 analysis**

European awareness of neuromuscular impairments, although less than for the two more commonplace disabilities already reviewed reached one in three (34%) of EU citizens who considered themselves fairly aware about this issue – up substantially from the 25% recorded three years previously.

**Country analysis**

	Fairly aware		Fairly unaware		Don't know	
	2000	2003	2000	2003	2000	2003
B	20	19	72	77	7	4
DK	10	16	70	73	20	11
D WEST	21	28	70	66	9	6
D TOTAL	21	27	70	66	9	6
D EAST	20	26	71	66	9	7
GR	18	37	79	62	3	2
E	15	23	81	64	4	13
F	30	32	69	66	2	3
IRL	17	45	77	47	6	8
I	23	31	69	65	8	4
L	27	49	68	48	5	3
NL	36	43	57	54	7	3
A	38	46	53	50	9	5
P	18	24	77	75	5	1
FIN	27	29	67	68	6	2
S	27	35	66	60	8	5
UK	32	59	57	35	11	6
EU15	25	34	68	60	7	6

In countries such as Greece, Luxembourg, the UK, Ireland and Austria substantial increases in awareness levels were seen.

Particularly low levels of awareness were noted in Denmark (16%) and Belgium (19%). In fact, in Belgium, the figures showed a slight decrease over the period in question.

The Spanish 'don't know' figure, as in the previous two instances, showed a marked increase rising by more than 200% from the 2000 data.

**Socio-demographic analysis**

Once again, older people were more aware of this disability than younger people with 37% of the most senior age band compared with only 29% of 15 to 24 year olds.

The educational attainment, salary level and occupation of respondents is in line with the proposition outlined in the introduction to Question 89.

**Q. 89.4 Skeletal impairments****EU15 analysis**

The general level of awareness of skeletal impairments rose appreciably across the European Union with an average figure up from 29% in 2000 to 37% in 2003.

**Country analysis**

	Fairly aware		Fairly unaware		Don't know	
	2000	2003	2000	2003	2000	2003
B	24	24	69	74	6	2
DK	24	40	63	55	13	5
D WEST	26	35	65	60	9	6
D TOTAL	26	35	66	60	8	6
D EAST	25	37	67	58	8	5
GR	21	37	76	62	3	11
E	26	33	70	55	4	12
F	29	30	69	68	2	2
IRL	14	35	80	54	6	11
I	26	31	67	67	7	2
L	33	54	62	44	5	2
NL	44	47	49	50	7	3
A	73	77	22	20	5	3
P	27	32	68	67	6	1
FIN	63	68	34	30	3	2
S	28	34	67	63	5	3
UK	33	53	56	40	11	7
EU15	29	37	64	58	7	5

Making up the EU15 average figure are some substantial variations in numbers. For example, while in a year which saw interest and awareness of these issues increase sharply in Ireland, that country's percentage, although more than doubling from 14% to 35% was still less than half the 77% recorded by the Austrian sample in 2003. High figures were also seen in Finland, although the three-year increase from 63% to 68% was relatively small.

At the other end of the scale, awareness of skeletal impairments was claimed by only 24% of Belgians – an identical figure to that recorded in the year 2000.

A substantial increase in 'don't knows' from 4% to 12% was, again, noted in Spain and these figures in Greece increased from 3% to 11%.

Marked reductions in 'don't know' statistics were seen in Denmark and the UK.

**Socio-demographic analysis**

42% of people aged 55 or more were aware of this condition compared with only 31% of those aged between 15 and 24.

There was also an appreciable gap between the figures for the retired (42%) and students (33%).

The educational attainment, salary level and occupation of respondents is in line with the proposition outlined in the introduction to Question 89.



**Q. 89.5 Cerebral Palsy****EU15 analysis**

In 2000, 65% of EU15 citizens were fairly unaware of cerebral palsy compared with 28% who claimed awareness. Over the three-year period, this 'awareness gap' of thirty-seven percentage points more than halved so that this was now a disability which was known to 40% of EU citizens.

**Country analysis**

	Fairly aware		Fairly unaware		Don't know	
	2000	2003	2000	2003	2000	2003
B	27	28	67	70	7	2
DK	14	22	66	68	20	10
D WEST	24	33	66	60	10	7
D TOTAL	24	33	66	61	10	6
D EAST	25	33	67	62	8	5
GR	25	42	73	57	2	1
E	20	30	76	59	4	11
F	28	33	71	65	2	2
IRL	31	67	64	30	5	3
I	19	24	72	73	9	4
L	39	60	57	38	5	2
NL	51	63	45	35	5	2
A	64	68	31	29	5	3
P	25	32	69	67	6	1
FIN	36	34	59	64	4	2
S	32	45	63	52	5	3
UK	40	74	52	23	8	3
EU15	28	40	65	56	7	5

Particularly high levels of awareness of this condition were seen in the UK (74%) and figures of 68% were noted in Austria and 67% in Ireland.

It is interesting to note that the UK and Irish figures show a substantial increase in awareness over the three-year period with percentage point gains of thirty-four and thirty-six respectively.

Over the same period, the Austrian figure had risen but by a much smaller margin of four percentage points.

Once again, a substantial increase in the 'don't know' factor in Denmark was noted, as was a large increase in the Spanish figures in this respect.

**Socio-demographic analysis**

Once again, older people had a higher level of awareness than their younger counterparts and cerebral palsy was known to 43% of those aged 55 or more compared with only one-third of those aged between 15 and 24.

This disability was also known to a relatively high number of house persons (44%).

The educational attainment, salary level and occupation of respondents is in line with the proposition outlined in the introduction to Question 89.

**Q. 89.6 Spinal Cord injury****EU15 analysis**

Awareness of this disability increased by nearly a half over the three-year period from 25% to 37% with a corresponding reduction in the 'unaware' and 'don't know' figures.

**Country analysis**

	Fairly aware		Fairly unaware		Don't know	
	2000	2003	2000	2003	2000	2003
B	28	27	66	70	6	3
DK	15	25	66	67	19	9
D WEST	21	31	69	63	10	6
D TOTAL	21	30	69	64	10	6
D EAST	21	26	70	69	9	6
GR	16	33	81	67	3	1
E	19	27	77	60	4	13
F	24	31	74	67	2	2
IRL	33	68	62	29	5	3
I	18	26	73	70	9	5
L	33	54	62	43	5	2
NL	29	36	64	60	7	4
A	69	75	27	22	5	3
P	17	23	77	75	6	2
FIN	29	34	66	64	5	3
S	24	35	72	61	5	4
UK	40	73	53	25	7	3
EU15	25	37	68	58	7	5

High awareness levels were noted in Austria (75%) and the UK (73%) while in Portugal, Denmark and Italy, only 23%, 25% and 26% respectively of those polled were fairly aware of this condition.

Once more, Spanish 'don't know' figures showed a substantial increase from 4% to 13% against a declining EU15 trend (7% to 5%).

**Socio-demographic analysis**

No major trends or variations were noted by gender or age in connection with this disability.

The educational attainment, salary level and occupation of respondents is in line with the proposition outlined on in the introduction to Question 89.

**Q. 89.7 Head Injury (Cerebral vascular accident)****EU15 analysis**

The EU15 average figures rose by eleven percentage points from 25% to 36% between the two surveys with a corresponding fall in both the 'fairly unaware' category and the 'don't know' category.

**Country analysis**

	Fairly aware		Fairly unaware		Don't know	
	2000	2003	2000	2003	2000	2003
B	28	32	64	66	7	2
DK	24	37	61	56	16	7
D WEST	11	17	77	75	11	8
D TOTAL	11	17	77	76	11	8
D EAST	11	13	77	79	12	8
GR	21	37	76	62	3	1
E	16	25	79	62	5	13
F	33	36	65	62	2	2
IRL	32	68	64	29	5	3
I	18	25	73	71	9	4
L	32	54	64	44	4	2
NL	36	44	58	52	6	3
A	56	66	39	31	6	3
P	19	26	75	72	6	2
FIN	42	47	53	51	5	2
S	24	32	71	64	5	4
UK	41	74	52	24	7	2
EU15	25	36	68	59	7	5

Awareness figures in Ireland rose sharply from 32% to 68% as they did in the UK from 41% to 74% over the period between these two surveys.

Particularly low levels of awareness were noted in Germany where the figure was only 17% in 2003. Although higher, the figures for Spain (25%), Italy (25%) and Portugal (26%) were also still well below the EU15 average.

An increasing and relatively high level of 'don't knows' was again observed in Spain.

**Socio-demographic analysis**

The educational attainment, salary level and occupation of respondents is in line with the proposition outlined in the introduction to Question 89.

**Q. 89.8 Stroke (cerebral vascular accident)****EU15 analysis**

Awareness of the stroke was relatively high compared with the previous five types of disability discussed in this report and also showed a marked increase over the past three years. Accordingly, more than half (53%) of the EU15 sample was fairly aware of its existence compared with just 43% three years previously.

**Country analysis**

	Fairly aware		Fairly unaware		Don't know	
	2000	2003	2000	2003	2000	2003
B	33	37	61	61	6	1
DK	46	58	45	39	9	3
D WEST	40	53	54	43	6	4
D TOTAL	40	52	53	44	6	4
D EAST	42	47	52	49	6	4
GR	56	73	43	26	1	0
E	42	44	56	47	3	10
F	32	36	66	63	2	2
IRL	55	87	42	12	4	1
I	30	37	63	60	7	3
L	47	60	47	38	5	2
NL	49	62	46	35	5	2
A	80	81	17	17	4	2
P	14	19	79	79	7	2
FIN	36	42	59	56	5	2
S	50	60	47	38	3	2
UK	66	88	30	11	4	1
EU15	43	53	53	44	5	3

The EU15 average figure of 53%, however, masks a wide range of figures ranging from 88% in the UK and 87% in Ireland to percentages as small as 19% in Portugal.

Unlike the great majority of Member States in this part of the survey which showed substantial growth in awareness, the Austrian figure showed only a minimal increase from 80% to 81%.

**Socio-demographic analysis**

While the EU15 average of awareness of this disability was 53%, the figure for those aged 55 or more reached 57% - some fourteen percentage points higher than the 43% recorded by 15 to 24 year olds.

Managers and house persons also had higher than average awareness levels at 57%.

While there were virtually no variations between awareness level in the country or the city, those on the highest income levels (57%) had noticeably greater levels of awareness of this condition than people at the other end of the income scale where the figure reached only 48%.

**Q. 89.9 Loss of Limbs****EU15 analysis**

Across the European Union, awareness of this particular disability had risen from a third (33%) of those polled to nearly half (46%) over the three-year period.

**Country analysis**

	Fairly aware		Fairly unaware		Don't know	
	2000	2003	2000	2003	2000	2003
B	30	34	65	64	5	2
DK	23	31	61	61	16	8
D WEST	31	43	61	51	9	6
D TOTAL	32	43	60	52	8	5
D EAST	34	42	59	53	7	5
GR	28	49	70	50	2	1
E	27	38	70	52	4	10
F	35	40	63	57	3	3
IRL	41	74	55	25	5	2
I	24	30	69	67	7	4
L	35	56	61	42	5	2
NL	33	43	61	55	6	3
A	69	73	27	25	4	2
P	34	38	62	60	4	2
FIN	47	58	49	40	4	2
S	33	44	62	53	5	3
UK	45	81	48	18	7	1
EU15	33	46	61	50	6	4

Within the 46% EU15 average of those who were fairly aware is a wide range of figures going from 30% in Italy and 31% in Denmark to 73% in Austria, 74% in Ireland and 81% in the UK.

Particularly large increases were noted in the Irish and UK figures with increases from 41% to 74% and 45% to 81% respectively.

Once again, the Spanish produced a high percentage in the 'don't know' category.

**Socio-demographic analysis**

There were no discernible patterns on this issue by age or education.

Manual workers were the occupational group who were most aware of this disability with a figure of 50% compared with only 43% among the self-employed.

While there were minimal variations by place of residence, the figures relating to income level showed an unusual pattern in that while 42% of those on the lowest income level were fairly aware of this disability compared with 50% on the highest income level, the greatest level of awareness (51%) was seen in the two income levels between these two extreme bands.

**Q. 89.10 Multiple Sclerosis****EU15 analysis**

Across the EU15, the awareness level of multiple sclerosis (MS) increased by a third from 33% to 44% over the three years in question.

**Country analysis**

	Fairly aware		Fairly unaware		Don't know	
	2000	2003	2000	2003	2000	2003
B	35	41	59	58	6	1
DK	30	38	58	55	13	7
D WEST	25	36	67	60	8	5
D TOTAL	24	34	68	61	8	5
D EAST	21	27	70	68	9	5
GR	24	43	74	56	3	1
E	21	26	75	61	5	13
F	39	46	59	52	2	2
IRL	41	74	54	24	5	2
I	27	34	66	64	8	3
L	39	57	57	41	5	2
NL	46	54	47	43	7	3
A	55	62	39	35	6	3
P	12	22	81	75	7	2
FIN	40	45	56	54	4	2
S	36	48	58	50	6	2
UK	49	78	45	20	6	2
EU15	33	44	61	52	6	4

Substantial increases in awareness were once again noted in the UK where the figures rose from 49% to 78%. A similar pattern was seen in Ireland where the figures jumped from 41% to 74%.

Countries with the lowest level of awareness of this condition were Portugal and Spain. In Portugal, although the awareness level had practically doubled from 12% to 22%, MS was still a medical condition of which only one in five was fairly aware. The comparable figure in Spain was 26%.

There was a noticeable variation between the two parts of Germany in that, although awareness levels had increased in both, the growth in West Germany from 25% to 36% was substantially greater than that seen in East Germany where there was an increase from 21% to 27%.

The Spanish figures once again feature prominently in the 'don't know' statistics.

**Socio-demographic analysis**

There was a noticeable increase in awareness of this disability with age. While, in 2003, only 35% of respondents aged 15 to 24 were aware of this disability, the figure increases to 47% for those aged 55 or more.

The educational attainment, salary level and occupation of respondents is in line with the proposition outlined in the introduction to Question 89.

**Q.89.11 Muscular Dystrophy****EU15 analysis**

The level of awareness in this disability increased from less than one in four (23%) in 2000 to more than one in three (34%) in the three years between these two polls.

**Country analysis**

	Fairly aware		Fairly unaware		Don't know	
	2000	2003	2000	2003	2000	2003
B	19	17	72	80	9	3
DK	23	34	61	60	16	6
D WEST	20	30	72	65	8	5
D TOTAL	20	29	72	65	8	5
D EAST	19	28	72	66	9	6
GR	17	32	80	66	4	1
E	14	22	80	63	6	16
F	20	21	78	76	3	3
IRL	20	45	74	48	5	7
I	26	34	67	63	8	3
L	33	52	62	46	5	2
NL	30	41	62	56	8	3
A	54	65	40	33	6	3
P	13	21	80	77	8	2
FIN	28	32	67	66	5	3
S	16	19	73	75	12	6
UK	31	64	60	32	9	4
EU15	23	34	70	61	7	5

There was a wide divergence in the levels of awareness of muscular dystrophy in the 34% European Union average. In 2003, 65% of Austrians, 64% of UK citizens and 52% of Luxembourgers were fairly aware of this disability and all these countries had shown increases in their figures since 2000. In fact, in the UK, the level of awareness had more than doubled. A two-fold increase was also observed in Ireland (20% to 45%).

At the other end of the scale, a fall in awareness from 19% to 17% was observed in Belgium.

In this particular question, the Spanish 'don't know' factor rose to 16% - a ten percentage point increase on the 2000 figures.

**Socio-demographic analysis**

Age, once again, was a factor in the level of awareness for this disability with figures of 26% among 15 to 24 year old people and 35% for those aged 55 or more.

The educational attainment, salary level and occupation of respondents is in line with the proposition outlined in the introduction to Question 89.

**Q. 89.12 Arthritis****EU15 analysis**

There was a 12% increase across the Union among those being fairly aware of arthritis from 54% in 2000 to 61% in 2003.

**Country analysis**

	Fairly aware		Fairly unaware		Don't know	
	2000	2003	2000	2003	2000	2003
B	42	47	53	51	6	2
DK	55	67	40	31	5	2
D WEST	53	58	42	38	6	4
D TOTAL	52	58	43	38	5	3
D EAST	50	59	46	38	4	3
GR	45	65	53	35	1	1
E	48	50	50	41	3	9
F	46	55	52	43	2	2
IRL	73	92	24	7	3	1
I	41	46	54	51	5	3
L	55	66	42	32	3	3
NL	67	79	29	20	4	1
A	61	68	34	29	5	3
P	33	41	61	58	6	2
FIN	65	70	32	29	3	2
S	39	46	55	52	6	3
UK	83	92	14	7	3	1
EU15	54	61	43	36	4	3

This medical condition was very well-known in both the UK and Ireland where 92% of those polled were aware of it. The Irish figure also showed a marked increase from the 73% observed in 2000.

At the other end of the scale, only 41% of Portuguese were in this category as were only 46% of Swedes and 47% of Belgians.

In fact, less than half of Belgians, Italians, Swedes and Portuguese were fairly aware of this disability.

**Socio-demographic analysis**

Women were noticeably more aware of this disability than men with figures of 65% compared with 57%.

Age was also a determining factor with awareness levels rising as age increased.

Accordingly, while the awareness level was at 48% for those aged 15 to 24, it increased to 68 for those aged 55 or more.

Educational level, place of residence or income level had no noticeable effect or showed a trend in these results.

There were wide variations in the percentage levels of those who were fairly aware of arthritis when looked at by occupation. While amongst students this figure was only 47% and managers matched the EU15 average at 61%, particularly high figures of 68% were seen amongst house persons and the retired.



**Q. 89.13 Asthma****EU15 analysis**

European Union citizens' awareness of asthma was relatively high with more than two-thirds (67%) being aware of the disability in 2003. This is an increase of nine percentage points over the three-year period between the two surveys.

**Country analysis**

	Fairly aware		Fairly unaware		Don't know	
	2000	2003	2000	2003	2000	2003
B	59	62	37	37	4	1
DK	59	66	35	32	6	2
D WEST	48	58	47	38	5	4
D TOTAL	48	58	47	38	5	4
D EAST	47	57	48	40	5	3
GR	51	67	48	32	2	1
E	50	54	48	39	2	7
F	66	71	32	28	2	1
IRL	74	90	23	9	3	1
I	42	48	58	50	4	2
L	63	78	34	20	3	2
NL	72	82	25	18	3	1
A	80	87	17	12	3	2
P	54	58	43	42	3	1
FIN	76	84	23	16	1	1
S	70	80	29	19	1	1
UK	79	93	19	7	3	1
EU15	58	67	39	31	3	2

In Ireland and the UK, the condition was known to 90% or more of those polled.

High figures were also noted in the 2003 survey in Austria (87%), Finland (84%) and the Netherlands (82%).

Italy was the only country where less than half the sample (48%) was fairly aware of the condition.

**Socio-demographic analysis**

There were no noticeable variations or trends by gender, age or income.

Higher levels of education led to an increased awareness with figures of 62% amongst those who had left school aged 15 or younger compared with 69% whose education had continued to age 20 or beyond.

This disability had a relatively high level of awareness amongst house persons at 71%.

**Q. 89.14 Cancer****EU15 analysis**

More than two-thirds (69%) of EU15 citizens were aware of cancer – an increase of more than 10% since the 2000 poll.

**Country analysis**

	Fairly aware		Fairly unaware		Don't know	
	2000	2003	2000	2003	2000	2003
B	61	71	35	29	4	1
DK	58	70	37	28	6	2
D WEST	46	58	49	38	5	4
D TOTAL	46	59	49	37	5	4
D EAST	48	61	48	36	4	3
GR	62	78	37	22	1	0
E	51	53	48	40	2	7
F	71	77	28	23	1	1
IRL	71	91	27	9	2	1
I	51	54	45	45	4	2
L	72	80	27	19	2	2
NL	77	87	20	13	2	0
A	86	89	11	10	3	2
P	57	57	41	43	3	1
FIN	67	75	32	24	2	1
S	66	76	32	23	2	1
UK	78	91	19	8	3	1
EU15	61	69	36	29	3	2

Once again, high figures were observed in the levels of awareness in Ireland and the UK with 91% of those polled being fairly aware of cancer. High percentages were also noted in Austria (89%) and the Netherlands (87%).

At the other end of the scale, relatively low figures were observed in Spain (53%), Italy (54%) and Portugal (57%).

The Portuguese had the only figures which had not shown an increase over the three-year period between polls.

**Socio-demographic analysis**

Increased educational levels and age both led to higher levels of awareness of this medical condition.

Compared with the EU15 average of 69%, high figures were also noted amongst house persons (74%).

**Q. 89.15 Diabetes****EU15 analysis**

Showing a ten percentage point increase over the data gathered in 2000, two-thirds (68%) of European Union citizens polled claimed they were fairly aware of the disability of diabetes.

**Country analysis**

	Fairly aware		Fairly unaware		Don't know	
	2000	2003	2000	2003	2000	2003
B	59	64	37	36	4	1
DK	49	62	43	35	8	2
D WEST	50	62	45	34	6	4
D TOTAL	51	64	44	33	5	3
D EAST	54	68	42	30	4	3
GR	47	69	52	31	2	1
E	50	56	48	37	2	7
F	64	73	35	26	1	1
IRL	60	86	37	13	4	1
I	47	50	49	48	4	2
L	65	76	33	22	2	2
NL	70	81	27	19	3	0
A	80	85	17	13	3	2
P	61	63	37	36	3	1
FIN	76	83	23	16	1	1
S	70	80	29	20	1	1
UK	72	90	25	9	3	1
EU15	58	68	39	30	3	2

In six countries (the UK, Ireland, Austria, Finland, the Netherlands and Sweden), this figure was 80% or more.

Awareness of diabetes in the UK rose from 72% to 90% and an even greater percentage increase was noted in Ireland where the figures moved from 60% to 86%.

The lowest levels of awareness were seen in Italy (50%) and Spain (56%).

**Socio-demographic analysis**

Women were noticeably better aware of this disability than men with figures of 71% and 65% respectively.

Awareness also rose appreciably with age from 61% amongst the youngest group to 72% amongst the oldest.

House persons also had a high level of awareness (74%) compared with only 64% amongst the self-employed.

There was little marked variation by income level, place of residence or education level.

**Q. 89.16 Epilepsy****EU15 analysis**

46% of EU citizens were fairly aware of epilepsy in 2003 – a noticeable increase from the 36% figure in 2000.

**Country analysis**

	Fairly aware		Fairly unaware		Don't know	
	2000	2003	2000	2003	2000	2003
B	41	45	54	53	6	2
DK	33	44	56	51	12	5
D WEST	20	28	71	67	10	5
D TOTAL	21	28	70	67	9	5
D EAST	23	28	68	67	8	5
GR	32	51	65	48	3	1
E	28	33	69	57	3	11
F	43	46	56	53	2	1
IRL	47	79	50	21	4	1
I	25	32	68	65	7	3
L	42	63	55	35	3	2
NL	46	61	49	38	5	1
A	61	67	35	30	4	3
P	36	38	61	60	4	1
FIN	51	59	46	40	3	2
S	44	57	53	42	3	2
UK	58	85	38	14	4	1
EU15	36	46	59	51	5	4

Figures as varied as 28% in Germany, 46% in France and 85% in the UK made up the EU15 average.

Notable increases in levels of awareness were observed in Greece (32% to 51%), Ireland (47% to 79%), Luxembourg (42% to 63%) and the UK (58% to 85%).

**Socio-demographic analysis.**

While there were no major variations by gender or age amongst those who were fairly aware of this condition, the figures based upon educational attainment varied between 40% for those who had left school aged 15 or younger and 50% for those whose education and continued to age 20 and beyond.

House persons (51%) and managers (49%) had higher than average figures based upon occupation while a relatively low 41% was noted amongst the retired.

Higher income levels also produced an increase in awareness from 42% at the lowest level to 48% at the other end of the scale.

**Q. 89.17 Brain Injury****EU15 analysis**

There was a noticeable increase in the level of awareness of the disability of brain injury across the EU15 with the average figure rising by forty percent from 25% to 36%.

**Country analysis**

	Fairly aware		Fairly unaware		Don't know	
	2000	2003	2000	2003	2000	2003
B	28	31	66	67	6	2
DK	25	36	60	60	15	7
D WEST	14	20	75	73	11	7
D TOTAL	14	20	76	74	11	7
D EAST	13	18	77	76	10	6
GR	19	35	79	64	2	1
E	20	28	77	60	4	12
F	30	32	68	66	2	3
IRL	36	69	60	29	4	2
I	17	25	74	71	9	4
L	26	52	69	45	5	3
NL	40	51	54	48	6	1
A	50	63	44	34	7	4
P	25	29	70	69	5	1
FIN	31	36	65	61	4	3
S	29	38	66	59	5	3
UK	37	73	56	25	7	2
EU15	25	36	69	60	7	5

There were major increases in levels of awareness in Ireland (36% to 69%), Luxembourg (26% to 52%) and the UK (37% to 73%).

In Belgium, where the percentage of those being fairly aware of this disability rose from 28% to 31%, there was also, contrary to all other EU Member States a slight increase in the number of those who were fairly unaware.

In the 'don't know' category, the Spanish figures showed, once again, a substantial increase from 4% to 12%.

Relatively high 'don't know' figures were also noted in Denmark and Germany although these were substantially lower than the figures recorded in 2000.

**Socio-demographic analysis**

On brain injury there are no major variations or trends by gender, age or place of residence.

The educational attainment, salary level and occupation of respondents is in line with the proposition outlined in the introduction to Question 89.

**Q. 89.18 Alzheimer's Disease****EU15 analysis**

There was a major increase in EU citizens' awareness of Alzheimer's disease in the three years between the 2000 and 2003 surveys with figures rising from 37% to 51%.

**Country analysis**

	Fairly aware		Fairly unaware		Don't know	
	2000	2003	2000	2003	2000	2003
B	39	47	56	53	5	1
DK	22	36	63	58	16	6
D WEST	28	40	64	56	8	5
D TOTAL	27	39	65	57	8	5
D EAST	24	36	68	60	8	4
GR	22	48	76	52	3	1
E	32	41	65	50	3	10
F	52	59	46	39	1	2
IRL	49	81	46	18	4	1
I	26	34	66	63	8	3
L	49	68	47	30	4	2
NL	47	59	47	39	6	2
A	63	74	32	24	5	2
P	21	30	75	69	5	1
FIN	44	49	52	49	4	2
S	39	53	56	45	5	2
UK	51	81	44	17	5	2
EU15	37	51	57	46	6	3

Substantial increases were noted in the awareness of Alzheimers in Ireland (49% to 81%), the UK (51% to 81%) and Luxembourg (49% to 68%).

The Greek figure for awareness of this disability showed an increase of more than 100% rising from 22% to 48%.

**Socio-demographic analysis**

Respondents at the upper end of the age range were more aware of Alzheimer's disease and 54% of those aged 55 or more were aware of it compared with only 43% of those aged between 15 and 24.

The educational attainment, salary level and occupation of respondents is in line with the proposition outlined in the introduction to Question 89.

**Q. 89.19 Parkinson's Disease****EU15 analysis**

Over the three-year period between 2000 and 2003, there was a twelve percentage point increase in the level of awareness relating to Parkinson's disease with virtually half (47%) of EU15 citizens being aware of this disability.

**Country analysis**

	Fairly aware		Fairly unaware		Don't know	
	2000	2003	2000	2003	2000	2003
B	39	47	56	52	5	1
DK	25	38	61	56	14	6
D WEST	24	35	67	60	9	5
D TOTAL	23	32	68	62	9	5
D EAST	19	28	72	67	10	5
GR	33	52	65	47	3	1
E	31	38	66	52	3	10
F	48	52	51	47	2	1
IRL	38	72	57	26	5	2
I	28	34	64	63	8	2
L	41	64	54	33	5	3
NL	45	56	49	42	6	2
A	59	72	36	26	6	2
P	22	28	73	70	4	1
FIN	43	49	52	49	5	2
S	35	51	60	48	5	2
UK	48	78	47	20	6	2
EU15	35	47	59	49	6	3

The average EU15 figure again conceals major variations in awareness levels across the European Union. For example, only 28% of the Portuguese were fairly aware of this condition and figures of 32% in Germany and 34% in Italy were also at this end of the awareness spectrum.

At the other extreme were high figures from the UK (78%) and Austria and Ireland (72%). This Irish figure showed a substantial increase from the 38% awareness level recorded just three years previously.

**Socio-demographic analysis**

As in the previous question, there was a noticeable increase in awareness with age. 40% of people aged 15-24 were fairly aware of Parkinson's disease compared with 51% of those aged 55 or more.

51% of house persons were fairly aware of this condition compared with only 42% of the unemployed.

Awareness also increased with educational level and income.

**Q. 89.20 Mental Retardation****EU15 analysis**

The level of awareness of this disability rose by nine percentage points between 2000 and 2003 from 35% to 44%.

**Country analysis**

	Fairly aware		Fairly unaware		Don't know	
	2000	2003	2000	2003	2000	2003
B	35	38	59	60	6	2
DK	27	34	59	60	14	7
D WEST	18	27	73	66	10	7
D TOTAL	18	27	72	66	10	7
D EAST	22	26	70	68	9	6
GR	33	49	66	51	2	1
E	36	41	61	50	4	8
F	40	42	58	56	2	2
IRL	47	75	48	23	5	2
I	27	32	66	65	7	3
L	36	59	58	38	6	3
NL	54	59	41	40	5	2
A	65	72	31	24	4	3
P	39	42	59	57	3	1
FIN	62	61	36	37	2	2
S	40	49	56	48	4	2
UK	47	77	47	21	6	2
EU15	35	44	60	52	6	4

Once again, substantial increases were seen in the level of awareness in Ireland (47% to 75%), the UK (47% to 77%) and Greece (33% to 49%).

The only EU Member State where the figures showed a decline (albeit a small one) was Finland where the figure decreased from 62% to 61% - figures that are, however, well above the EU15 averages for both the years in question.

**Socio-demographic analysis**

There were no clear patterns or trends that emerged by gender, age, place of residence or occupation, although, yet again, 49% of those educated to age 20 or beyond were fairly aware of this disability compared with just 40% of those who had left school aged 15 or less.

A higher income level, once again, led to higher awareness with 49% of those at the top end of the scale being fairly aware of the condition compared with only 41% of those at the other end of the scale.



**Q. 89.21 Psychiatric Disabilities****EU15 analysis**

Across the European Union, the average level of awareness of psychiatric disabilities increased by more ten percentage points from 31% to 41% over the three-year period between the two surveys.

**Country analysis**

	Fairly aware		Fairly unaware		Don't know	
	2000	2003	2000	2003	2000	2003
B	27	32	65	65	8	3
DK	33	43	56	51	12	6
D WEST	19	31	72	62	9	7
D TOTAL	20	31	71	63	9	7
D EAST	22	32	70	63	9	5
GR	32	47	67	53	2	1
E	29	35	67	55	4	10
F	34	34	64	63	2	2
IRL	40	73	55	25	6	2
I	20	25	72	71	9	4
L	36	55	59	43	6	3
NL	39	50	54	48	7	2
A	59	66	36	30	5	4
P	29	32	67	66	4	2
FIN	42	43	54	53	4	4
S	39	49	57	48	4	3
UK	45	77	49	22	6	2
EU15	31	41	63	55	6	4

Individual figures again show a considerable variation in levels of awareness across the European Union in making up the 41% EU15 average.

In 2003, while only 25% of Italians were fairly aware of psychiatric disabilities and relatively low figures of 31% were recorded in Germany, at the other end of the scale, were figures as high as 73% in Ireland and 77% in the UK.

The French figure showed no change between these two surveys remaining constant at 34% and thereby finding itself well below the EU15 2003 average.

**Socio-demographic analysis**

There was a small variation of four percentage points between male and female awareness of psychiatric disabilities with 39% of men being fairly aware compared with 43% of women.

There were no clear trends by age but those educated to the highest level were noticeably more aware of the condition than those who had left school aged 15 or less with respective figures of 46% and 36%.

No clear patterns emerged by age, occupation or place of residence.

## 7. Estimates as to disability levels in respondents' countries

**Q.90 What percentage of the population in (OUR COUNTRY) do you think has a disability of any kind?**

	< 1%		1-4%		5-9%		10-14%		15-19%		20%+		Don't know	
	2000	2003	2000	2003	2000	2003	2000	2003	2000	2003	2000	2003	2000	2003
B	2	<b>2</b>	14	<b>12</b>	18	<b>17</b>	21	<b>17</b>	11	<b>9</b>	17	<b>24</b>	17	<b>19</b>
DK	2	<b>1</b>	15	<b>10</b>	23	<b>20</b>	21	<b>20</b>	10	<b>11</b>	21	<b>31</b>	17	<b>19</b>
D WEST	2	<b>3</b>	8	<b>12</b>	24	<b>20</b>	24	<b>22</b>	12	<b>12</b>	22	<b>21</b>	9	<b>10</b>
D TOTAL	2	<b>2</b>	9	<b>12</b>	23	<b>21</b>	23	<b>21</b>	12	<b>13</b>	22	<b>21</b>	9	<b>10</b>
D EAST	2	<b>1</b>	13	<b>11</b>	22	<b>21</b>	20	<b>18</b>	14	<b>15</b>	21	<b>23</b>	9	<b>11</b>
GR	3	<b>1</b>	9	<b>9</b>	15	<b>19</b>	12	<b>16</b>	7	<b>9</b>	14	<b>13</b>	41	<b>34</b>
E	2	<b>2</b>	11	<b>13</b>	15	<b>14</b>	13	<b>12</b>	8	<b>6</b>	18	<b>8</b>	39	<b>44</b>
F	2	<b>4</b>	14	<b>12</b>	20	<b>21</b>	16	<b>20</b>	10	<b>8</b>	18	<b>15</b>	20	<b>21</b>
IRL	3	<b>3</b>	13	<b>12</b>	17	<b>13</b>	16	<b>16</b>	7	<b>9</b>	18	<b>21</b>	25	<b>25</b>
I	2	<b>1</b>	14	<b>13</b>	18	<b>17</b>	16	<b>16</b>	11	<b>8</b>	14	<b>17</b>	26	<b>29</b>
L	2	<b>3</b>	13	<b>16</b>	23	<b>26</b>	18	<b>18</b>	11	<b>10</b>	19	<b>15</b>	15	<b>14</b>
NL	1	<b>1</b>	8	<b>10</b>	15	<b>16</b>	18	<b>18</b>	13	<b>14</b>	35	<b>35</b>	8	<b>7</b>
A	4	<b>3</b>	14	<b>11</b>	24	<b>17</b>	19	<b>20</b>	13	<b>12</b>	16	<b>22</b>	11	<b>15</b>
P	1	<b>2</b>	9	<b>11</b>	15	<b>12</b>	18	<b>11</b>	9	<b>8</b>	16	<b>18</b>	33	<b>38</b>
FIN	3	<b>1</b>	11	<b>13</b>	22	<b>21</b>	18	<b>22</b>	10	<b>9</b>	27	<b>24</b>	10	<b>10</b>
S	0	<b>1</b>	8	<b>8</b>	14	<b>17</b>	19	<b>20</b>	13	<b>13</b>	40	<b>35</b>	5	<b>7</b>
UK	1	<b>1</b>	5	<b>6</b>	8	<b>10</b>	13	<b>15</b>	10	<b>12</b>	45	<b>42</b>	16	<b>12</b>
<b>EU15</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>

Editor's note: It should be noted that the question upon which the results of the 2000 survey were based relates only to those people with a physical disability and, therefore, although interesting in their own right, cannot and should not be compared with the figures in 2003 which took a much broader view of this issue.

This written analysis accordingly refers only to the results of the 2003 survey.

## Country analysis

This question was posed to respondents after they had been asked specific questions relating to their levels of awareness of twenty-one specifically defined disabilities.

It is therefore perhaps unsurprising with a prompt list of this dimension and a seven-choice option that respondents' ability to make an accurate estimate of the percentage of people in their country affected by any one of these conditions was compromised.

Respondents' choices included 'don't know' as well as percentage bands as to what proportion of their country's population they believed had a disability of any kind. Looking for broad patterns within these figures, four large groups emerge – the 'don't knows', 5%-9%, 10%-14% and 20% or more. These, in 2003, accounted for 76% of the total poll.

20% of EU15 citizens chose the option of saying that they did not know and this 'don't know' factor was particularly high in Spain (44%), Portugal (38%) and Greece (34%).

The Dutch, Swedes, Danes, Finns and Germans, however, were all relatively confident about estimating the percentage in their respective countries and in none of these five states did the 'don't know' factor exceed 10%.

The largest choice of EU15 citizens was made by the 22% who believed that the proportion of citizens in their country with a disability was 20% or more. Once again, this average statistic conceals a wide variety of figures ranging from 8% in Spain to 35% in the Netherlands and Sweden and 42% in the UK.

Across the European Union, 17% of those polled believed that the percentage of their citizens with a disability of any kind was a figure between 5% and 9%. Higher than average figures were seen in this group from Luxembourg (26%) and Germany, France and Finland which all recorded figures of 21%.

A further 17% of EU citizens estimated the percentage of their citizens with a disability of any kind to be in the range of 10% to 14%. Once again, this average figure's constituent data ranged from 11% in Portugal and 12% in Spain to 22% in Finland.

While 11% of EU citizens believed the percentage figure was between 1% and 4%, 10% believed it was between 15% and 19%, while an even smaller 3% believed the figure was less than 1%.

## Socio-demographic analysis

The wide spread of opinion demonstrated in the estimates on a country-by-country basis are amplified when a socio-demographic analysis is undertaken.

What ultimately appears to be little more than a guessing game generates no clear patterns or trends on a socio-demographic basis except that 26% of women as opposed to 18% of men believe that more than 20% of the population has a disability of some kind.

## **ANNEXES**

## ANNEX I: ENGLISH QUESTIONNAIRE

### ASK ALL

Let's move to the end of the questionnaire by talking about people with disabilities.

- Q.84. a) Are you aware that 2003 is the European Year of People with Disabilities?  
(INT.: USE OFFICIAL NAME IN EACH COUNTRY)
- Yes ..... 1 GO TO Q.84.b.  
 No ..... 2 GO TO Q.85.  
 DK..... 3 GO TO Q.85.

EB60.0 - NEW

### IF CODE 1 IN Q.84.a., OTHERS GO TO Q.85.

- b) (IF YES) How did you find out? (SHOW CARD - READ OUT - MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE)
- Through a member of your family ..... 1,  
 Through a friend ..... 2,  
 Through an acquaintance ..... 3,  
 Through a trade union ..... 4,  
 Through an NGO (Non Governmental organisation) ..... 5,  
 Through an organisation or association representative of people with disabilities ..... 6,  
 Through another organisation or association ..... 7,  
 Through national, regional or local authorities ..... 8,  
 Through the media (TV, radio, written press) ..... 9,  
 Through the Internet ..... 10,  
 Through European Union publications ..... 11,  
 Through an event organised for this occasion ..... 12,  
 Other(s) (SPONTANEOUS) ..... 13,  
 DK ..... 14,

EB60.0 - NEW

### ASK ALL

- Q.85. In your opinion, what is the purpose of the European Year of People with Disabilities?  
(SHOW CARD - READ OUT - 2 ANSWERS MAX.)
- To raise money for disabled people ..... 1,  
 To increase understanding of disability issues ..... 2,  
 To promote the rights of people with disabilities ..... 3,  
 To give a more positive image of people with disabilities ..... 4,  
 To show that people with disabilities face many types of discrimination ..... 5,  
 Other (SPONTANEOUS) ..... 6,  
 DK ..... 7,

EB60.0 - NEW

Q.86. The European Year of People with Disabilities may have contributed to improvements in the quality of life of people with disabilities in (OUR COUNTRY). For each of the following, could you please tell me if you tend to agree or tend to disagree. (SHOW CARD)

	READ OUT	TEND TO AGREE	TEND TO DISAGREE	DK
1	The European Year of People with Disabilities has contributed to informing people about difficulties faced by people with disabilities in their daily life	1	2	3
2	The European Year of People with Disabilities has paved the way towards really getting the same rights for people with disabilities as everyone else	1	2	3
3	The European Year of People with Disabilities has improved access to public places (buildings and transport) for physically disabled people	1	2	3
4	The European Year of People with Disabilities has improved access to public places (buildings and transport) for intellectually disabled people	1	2	3
5	The European Year of People with Disabilities has helped physically disabled people to exercise the same rights of access to services as other people	1	2	3
6	The European Year of People with Disabilities has helped intellectually disabled people to exercise the same rights of access to services as other people	1	2	3
7	The European Year of People with Disabilities has improved access to employment for people with physical disabilities	1	2	3
8	The European Year of People with Disabilities has improved access to employment for people with intellectual disabilities	1	2	3
9	The European Year of People with Disabilities has improved access to standard educational systems for people with physical disabilities	1	2	3
10	The European Year of People with Disabilities has increased understanding of physical disability issues	1	2	3
11	The European Year of People with Disabilities has increased understanding of intellectual disability issues	1	2	3
12	The European Year of People with Disabilities has increased media coverage of physical disability issues	1	2	3
13	The European Year of People with Disabilities has increased media coverage of intellectual disability issues	1	2	3

EB60.0 - NEW

Q.87. I am going to read you some statements about people with disabilities and work. Please answer yes or no to the following statements.

	READ OUT	YES	NO	DK
1	People with disabilities have the same legal right as anybody else to a job	1	2	3
2	People with disabilities have the same legal right as anybody else to take part in training	1	2	3
3	There are European laws against discrimination in the workplace on the grounds of disability	1	2	3
4	In general, employers make the necessary changes in the workplace to employ disabled people	1	2	3
5	People with severe physical or intellectual disabilities should only work in sheltered workshops	1	2	3

EB60.0 - NEW

Q.88. Do you personally know anyone who has any long-lasting illness, disability or infirmity that limits their activities in any way? (IF YES) Who are they? (SHOW CARD - MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE)

- No..... 1,
- Yes, a member(s) of your family..... 2,
- Yes, friend(s)..... 3,
- Yes, an acquaintance(s)..... 4,
- Yes, a neighbour(s)..... 5,
- Yes, a colleague(s)..... 6,
- Yes, a client(s) ..... 7,
- Yes, pupil(s) at school..... 8,
- Yes, student(s) at University ..... 9,
- Yes, other(s)..... 10,
- Yes, I regard myself as a disabled person ..... 11,
- DK ..... 12,

EB54.2 - Q.49.a. - TREND

Q.89. How aware are you of the various types of disabilities? Would you say you are fairly aware or fairly unaware of the various types of disabilities?

	READ OUT	FAIRLY AWARE	FAIRLY UNAWARE	DK
1	Visual disabilities	1	2	3
2	Hearing impairments	1	2	3
3	Neuromuscular impairments	1	2	3
4	Skeletal impairments	1	2	3
5	Cerebral palsy	1	2	3
6	Spinal cord injury	1	2	3
7	Head injury (cerebral vascular accident)	1	2	3
8	Stroke (cerebral vascular accident)	1	2	3
9	Loss of limbs	1	2	3
10	Multiple sclerosis	1	2	3
11	Muscular dystrophy	1	2	3
12	Arthritis	1	2	3
13	Asthma	1	2	3
14	Cancer	1	2	3
15	Diabetes	1	2	3
16	Epilepsy	1	2	3
17	Brain injury	1	2	3
18	Alzheimer's disease	1	2	3
19	Parkinson's disease	1	2	3
20	Mental retardation	1	2	3
21	Psychiatric disabilities	1	2	3

EB54.2. - Q.54. - TREND



Q.90. What percentage of the population in (OUR COUNTRY) do you think has a disability of any kind? (INT.: DO NOT SHOW CARD - DO NOT READ OUT - ONE ANSWER ONLY) (M)

Less than 1% .....	1
1-4%.....	2
5-9%.....	3
10-14%.....	4
15-19%.....	5
20% or more.....	6
DK .....	7

EB54.2. - Q.55. - TREND MODIFIED

## ANNEX II: TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS STANDARD EUROBAROMETER 60.0

Between 1<sup>st</sup> September 2003 and 30<sup>th</sup> September 2003, the European Opinion Research Group, a consortium of Market and Public Opinion Research agencies, made out of INRA in Belgium – I.C.O. and GfK Worldwide, carried out wave 60.0 of the standard Eurobarometer, on request of the EUROPEAN COMMISSION, Directorate-General Press and Communication, Opinion Polls.

The Standard EUROBAROMETER 60.0 covers the population of the respective nationalities of the European Union Member States, aged 15 years and over, resident in each of the Member States. The basic sample design applied in all Member States is a multi-stage, random (probability) one. In each EU country, a number of sampling points was drawn with probability proportional to population size (for a total coverage of the country) and to population density.

For doing so, the points were drawn systematically from each of the "administrative regional units", after stratification by individual unit and type of area. They thus represent the whole territory of the Member States according to the EUROSTAT NUTS 2 (or equivalent) and according to the distribution of the resident population of the respective EU-nationalities in terms of metropolitan, urban and rural areas. In each of the selected sampling points, a starting address was drawn, at random. Further addresses were selected as every N<sup>th</sup> address by standard random route procedures, from the initial address. In each household, the respondent was drawn, at random. All interviews were face-to-face in people's home and in the appropriate national language.

<u>COUNTRIES</u>	<u>INSTITUTES</u>	<u>N° INTERVIEWS</u>	<u>FIELDWORK DATES</u>	<u>POPULATION 15+ (x.000)</u>
Belgium	INRA BELGIUM	1030	1/10 – 30/10	8,458
Denmark	GfK DENMARK	1000	1/10 – 30/10	4,355
Germany (East)	INRA DEUTSCHLAND	1014	1/10 – 19/10	13,164
Germany (West)	INRA DEUTSCHLAND	1043	2/10 – 19/10	56,319
Greece	MARKET ANALYSIS	1000	6/10 – 30/10	8,899
Spain	INRA ESPAÑA	1000	8/10 – 29/10	34,239
France	CSA-TMO	1051	1/10 – 22/10	47,936
Ireland	LANSDOWNE Market Research	1001	1/10 – 28/10	3,004
Italy	INRA Demoskopoea	1000	2/10 – 28/10	49,531
Luxembourg	ILRes	606	1/10 – 30/10	357
The Netherlands	INTOMART	1023	1/10 – 30/10	13,010
Austria	SPECTRA	1031	2/10 – 28/10	6,770
Portugal	METRIS	1000	4/10 – 25/10	8,620
Finland	MDC MARKETING RESEARCH	1011	1/10 – 30/10	4,245
Sweden	GfK SVERIGE	1000	1/10 – 30/10	7,252
Great Britain	MARTIN HAMBLIN LTD	1004	1/10 – 30/10	46,370
Northern Ireland	ULSTER MARKETING SURVEYS	310	2/10 – 24/10	1,314
	TOTAL NUMBER OF INTERVIEWS	16124		

For each country a comparison between the sample and the universe was carried out. The Universe description was derived from Eurostat population data or from national statistics. For all EU member-countries a national weighting procedure, using marginal and intercellular weighting, was carried out based on this Universe description. As such in all countries, minimum gender, age, region NUTS 2 were introduced in the iteration procedure. For international weighting (i.e. EU averages), INRA (EUROPE) applies the official population figures as provided by EUROSTAT or national statistic offices. The total population figures for input in this post-weighting procedure are listed above.

The results of the Eurobarometer studies are reported in the form of tables, datafiles and analyses. Per question a table of results is given with the full question text in English, French and German. The results are expressed as a percentage of the total. The results of the Eurobarometer surveys are analysed and made available through the Directorate-General Press and Communication, Opinion Polls of the European Commission, rue de la Loi 200, B-1049 Brussels. The results are published on the Internet server of the European Commission: [http://europa.eu.int/comm/public\\_opinion/](http://europa.eu.int/comm/public_opinion/). All Eurobarometer datafiles are stored at the Zentral Archiv (Universität Köln, Bachemer Strasse, 40, D-50869 Köln-Lindenthal), available through the CESSDA Database <http://www.nsd.uib.no/cessda/europe.html>. They are at the disposal of all institutes members of the European Consortium for Political Research (Essex), of the Inter-University Consortium for Political and Social Research (Michigan) and of all those interested in social science research.

Readers are reminded that survey results are estimations, the accuracy of which, everything being equal, rests upon the sample size and upon the observed percentage. With samples of about 1,000 interviews, the real percentages vary within the following confidence limits:

Observed percentages	10% or 90%	20% or 80%	30% or 70%	40% or 60%	50%
Confidence limits	± 1.9%	± 2.5%	± 2.7%	± 3.0%	± 3.1%

**STANDARD EUROBAROMETER 60.0  
CO-OPERATING AGENCIES AND RESEARCH EXECUTIVES**

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