



# European Semester 2022-2023 country fiche on disability equality

Denmark

*January 2023*

**EUROPEAN COMMISSION**

Directorate-General for Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion

Directorate D — Social Rights and Inclusion

Unit D3 — Disability & Inclusion

*European Commission*

*B-1049 Brussels*

# European Semester 2022-2023 country fiche on disability equality

With comparative data Annex provided by EDE

## Denmark

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European Disability Expertise (EDE) provides independent scientific support to the Commission's policy unit responsible for disability issues. It aims to mainstream disability equality in EU policy processes, including implementation of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

This country report has been prepared as input for the European Semester in 2022<sup>1</sup> and has been developed under Contract VC/2020/0273 with the European Commission.

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<sup>1</sup> For an introduction to the Semester process, see:  
<https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/policies/european-semester/how-european-semester-works/>.

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Manuscript completed in January 2023

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Luxembourg: Publications Office of the European Union, 2023

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## **1 Executive summary and recommendations**

### **1.1 Key points and main challenges for Denmark in 2022**

#### **Disability and the labour market**

Employment in general in Denmark has progressed over many years, and the same applies to the employment of persons with disabilities. In recent years, there has been an inverse relationship between employment and the disability gap, so that increasing employment is linked to a decreasing disability gap. Research into disability and employment has also developed in recent years, which actively contributes to the success of several of the pilot projects that are underway.

#### **Disability, social policies and healthcare**

A reform of social assistance has reduced poverty for families without work, so that fewer children will grow up in poverty. A historical investigation into the conditions of special care before 1980 has shown that a number of citizens have received undignified treatment and this has given rise to questions as to whether they should receive an apology. Inequality in health has come into focus and it turns out, among other things, that people with mental disorders have a significantly lower life expectancy than the general population.

#### **Disability, education and skills**

A number of reforms from the 2010s in the field of education now appear to have had mixed results. Thus, from 2012, it was decided to include more students with disabilities in regular primary school education, but a new study shows that fewer are actually included, exactly the opposite of the intention. On the other hand, it appears at the same time that the teachers feel better able to include students with disabilities. This is especially clear when it comes to dyslexia. Other studies show that students with disabilities have many difficulties which may have to do with reforms in this area.

#### **Investment priorities for inclusion and accessibility**

Almost a decade has passed since the Danish Government drew up an action plan for disability policy, so it is difficult to identify official priorities for inclusion and accessibility. Based on the UN CRPD, the Institute for Human Rights has designed a Disability Barometer, which measures the situation of persons with disabilities every four years, and this situation has now been assessed three times. These measurements show that in some respects development is going in the desired direction, while in several other areas, such as education and exposure to violence, it is going in the opposite direction to the desired one. The Disability Barometer can thus direct attention to the areas where special efforts are therefore required, and thus help form the background for work on a new action plan for disability policy.

## 1.2 Recommendations for Denmark

These recommendations are built on the evidence and analysis presented in the following sections of our report.

**Recommendation:** Reconsider the problem of inclusion in primary schools.

**Rationale:** There are now so many studies and experience with efforts to increase inclusion in primary schools in the 2010s that it is time to look at it in context and draw general conclusions with a view to designing a more experience-based and research-based approach. It is necessary to collect the experience gained in the past decade, to look more pragmatically at the problem and to consider what we need to do to move forward, taking an approach that is less economically centred and less focused on the principles. There are signs that efforts have been most successful in certain areas, such as dyslexia. Perhaps it is the right approach to take one disability at a time and find the right solution.

**Recommendation:** Place greater emphasis on prevention, recovery and outreach teams in the future to strengthen psychiatry, rather than continuing to invest in hospital treatment and medicine.

**Rationale:** There is a general expectation of an expansion of psychiatry in the coming years. Even if many argue that there is a lack of beds in psychiatry and places in outpatient treatment, and many examples can be given that this is the case, addressing the problems earlier and in people's home surroundings provides better and more humane community treatment. The experiences of Norway and the Netherlands, which have carried out reforms of psychiatry in the previous decades, is relevant to take into account in this connection.

**Recommendation:** Continue research-supported policy developments in the area of disability and employment

**Rationale:** For the first time in two decades, the disability gap in employment is decreasing. This success has included evidenced based evaluation of experiments in new approaches with a completely different emphasis, from which we are beginning to see positive results. There is every reason to continue this work, which has proven so promising.

## 2 Mainstreaming disability equality in the 2022 Semester documents

### 2.1 Country Report (CR) and Country Specific Recommendation (CSR)

The following key points highlight where a disability perspective was considered, or should be considered, in the CR/CSR. We address the most relevant of these in the next sections.

The 2022 CR observes that:

At 16.8 % in 2020, the rate of people at risk of poverty or social exclusion is relatively low compared to the EU average of 21.9 %, although certain groups, and in particular young people, migrants and persons with disabilities, face barriers to accessing the labour market and a higher risk of poverty.

This satisfaction with the general situation in Denmark, which obscures the relatively poor situation for persons with disabilities, has characterised the attitude of the Danish authorities for a number of years. It has also resulted in the Government not presenting new disability policy action plans in the past eight years. The most recent one was the disability policy action plan from 2013.<sup>2</sup> The Institute for Human Rights (*Institut for Menneskerettigheder* – IMR) has called for a new disability policy action plan.<sup>3</sup>

The CSR for Denmark does not refer directly to disability, although some of its key recommendations may have a high degree of relevance for persons with disabilities, such as:

- targeted support for households most vulnerable to energy price hikes, among whom persons with disabilities are likely to be over-represented;
- investment in the green and digital transition, which may provide opportunities to increase accessibility;
- investment in the construction of affordable housing, which should also be inclusive and accessible housing;
- implementation of the Recovery and Resilience Plan (RRP) and previous CSRs (see below).

There were no new recommendations addressing labour market policies.

### 2.2 National Reform Programme (NRP) and Recovery and Resilience Plan (RRP)

The following key points highlight where the situation of persons with disabilities or disability policies is relevant to the NRP/RRP. We analyse the most relevant of these in the next sections.

There was no specific detail on disability policies in the 2022 NRP, apart from a general statement on p 23:

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<sup>2</sup> See: <https://sm.dk/media/8319/handicappolitisk-handlingsplan-2013-et-samfund-for-alle.pdf>.

<sup>3</sup> See: <https://menneskeret.dk/udgivelser/national-handicappolitisk-handlingsplan>.

Danish citizens have access to a range of social services that support vulnerable citizens and citizens with permanent physical or mental disabilities. Such services are in place to ensure necessary help as well as to contribute to individual progression and to create favourable conditions for making individuals capable of mastering their own lives.

Since the NRP and RRP do not problematise the situation of persons with disabilities and the national disability policy, it does not figure in the CSR either. Similarly, there is no direct reference to disability in the summary of RRP measures, although there may be implications for persons with disabilities in the plans to digitalise small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), public administration and the healthcare system.

As reported last year, the RRP does not mention disability other than in the appendix on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG). Nevertheless, at least three points merit attention to disability mainstreaming.

- 1.5 Gender equality and equal opportunities for all. The section is framed in relation to gender, yet there is significant inequality in relation to disability.
- 2.1 Strengthen the resilience of the healthcare system. In this section, ‘vulnerable groups’ are mentioned only in the introduction, yet several groups of persons with disabilities face major barriers in relation to the health system.
- 2.6 Digitalisation. It would be appropriate to point out that the use of artificial intelligence is an opportunity to develop assistive and accessible technologies of a completely new kind and that research in this area has the potential to enrich research into digitalisation.

In the appendix on the SDGs, disability is mentioned four times.

- Reduced inequality (SDG10). The 2018 general law against discrimination on the basis of disability was amended in 2021 to oblige schools and daycare facilities for children to make reasonable adjustments to their buildings and access conditions, so that children with disabilities were not prevented from participating. A law from 2020 also obliged the municipalities to start preparations when a child with a disability turns 16, so that before the age of 18 the transition from the law on children to the law on adults is in place.
- The section on poverty (SDG1) mentions that persons with disabilities are guaranteed equal access to health, and that a fund has been established with the aim of getting more persons with disabilities into work.
- In the section on clean water and sanitation (SDG6) it is mentioned that Denmark has rules that ensure that there are toilets for persons with disabilities.
- In the section on sustainable cities and communities (SDG11) it is mentioned that a lot is being done to ensure persons with disabilities have access to the natural environment.

### **2.3 Semester links to CRPD and national disability action plans**

It is important that Semester plans align with national disability strategy. In Denmark, this refers to the Policy Statement and Action Plan for Disability Policy (2013, 2014, 2016). A disability action plan was developed in 2013 and reviewed in 2014. A

Disability Policy Statement was published by the Ministry of Social Affairs and the Interior in 2016. In 2019 the Department of Human Rights recommended the Government to introduce a national disability action plan, following widespread demands from civil society. This National Action Plan is not mentioned in the 2022 NRP.

The following sections highlight relevant recommendations arising from participation in the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD). The last UN CRPD Committee recommendations to Denmark were in 2014, the most recent submission by Denmark was in 2020 and the most recent response from the Committee was the 2019 List of Issues.

As mentioned in Section 2.1, the Institute for Human Rights has called for a new disability policy action plan.<sup>4</sup> The Institute for Human Rights has developed a Disability Barometer,<sup>5</sup> which every four years measures the situation of persons with disabilities in relation to the UN CRPD. There have now been three measurements, so that you can follow the situation for the past two four-year periods.

A broadly composed group of around 20 people, which includes organisations of persons with disabilities, state and local authorities and researchers in the relevant fields, developed the Institute for Human Rights Disability Barometer. In a series of meetings held in 2014-2015, they identified the ten most important areas in which we can examine the UN CRPD with studies, and for each of these areas found the most suitable indicator in studies that run regularly.

The Institute for Human Rights has thus created an instrument which will be a natural starting point for an assessment of the development of conditions for persons with disabilities and thus for a new disability policy action plan. I will also use the IMR Disability Barometer as a starting point for this report.

Section 7.4 shows the results regarding the main indicators from the Disability Barometer. On the website [handicapbarometer.dk](https://handicapbarometer.dk), you can also find most figures broken down by gender and by ethnicity, and in a number of cases the Barometer indicates them separately for physical and intellectual disability, and for severe and moderate disability.

There have been a number of initiatives and events during the year which call into question a fundamental contradiction in Danish disability policy.

Danish disability policy contains a contradiction between rights expressed in the CRPD and an economic-administrative responsibility of the municipality to implement them, based on specific assessments. This structure should strengthen financial responsibility in the municipality. In a time of scarce resources, the contradiction between the two considerations emerges more strongly. It has shown itself in several areas.

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<sup>4</sup> See: <https://menneskeret.dk/udgivelser/national-handicappolitisk-handlingsplan>.

<sup>5</sup> See: <https://handicapbarometer.dk/>.

In March 2022, the National Audit Office published a report<sup>6</sup> on management in the area of disability issues. It contained harsh criticism both of the administration by the municipalities and of the supervision by the Ministry of Social Affairs. There are too many errors in decision-making, especially regarding help for parents of children with disabilities, visits to residential facilities and the use of force, and the municipalities lack the relevant data about their citizens.

In May 2021, the Social Affairs and Senior Citizens Committee of the Folketing issued a report<sup>7</sup> on moving responsibility for disability issues away from the municipalities, in connection with a citizens' proposal along these lines. They rejected the proposal in June, but it obtained support from a large number of parties. The Danish Association of the Physically Disabled (*Dansk Handicap Forbund* – DHF), which at the same time presented the proposal 'Disability issues from scratch', believes that this creates a momentum for change.<sup>8</sup>

The Danish Disability Council (*Det Centrale Handicapråd* – DCH), which in the 1980s and 1990s was the driving force in the mainstreaming of disability policy, has found a new cause in organising and supporting the municipal disability councils and giving them materials to work with.<sup>9</sup> The DCH has also launched a survey<sup>10</sup> to gauge citizens' satisfaction with the efforts and formulated recommendations based on this survey.

There are also other issues, such as the fact that EUR 15 million has been set aside from the so-called social reserve for projects with the aim of strengthening legal certainty in the disability area,<sup>11</sup> and that there has been an effort to get impartial citizen's advisers in most of the municipalities.<sup>12</sup>

Taken together, these points give the impression of a build-up of pressure for something to happen regarding the basic policy structures in the area of disability issues.

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<sup>6</sup> See: <https://rigsrevisionen.dk/revisionsager-arkiv/2022/mar/beretning-om-forvaltningen-af-handicapomraadet>.

<sup>7</sup> See: [https://www.ft.dk/ripdf/samling/20201/beslutningsforslag/b139/20201\\_b139\\_betaenkning.pdf](https://www.ft.dk/ripdf/samling/20201/beslutningsforslag/b139/20201_b139_betaenkning.pdf).

<sup>8</sup> See: <https://danskhandicapforbund.dk/da/nyheder/betaenkning-abner-omfattende-reform-af-handicapomradet/#gsc.tab=0>.

<sup>9</sup> See: <https://dch.dk/nyheder/nyhed/guide-til-god-start-er-sendt-ud-til-kommunale-handicapråd>, <https://dch.dk/kommunale-handicapråd/pjecer-kommunale-handicapråd>.

<sup>10</sup> See: <https://dch.dk/nyheder/pressemeddelelse/centrale-handicapråd-er-fortsat-stor-tillidskloeft>.

<sup>11</sup> See: <https://www.regeringen.dk/aktuelt/publikationer-og-aftaletekster/aftale-om-udmoentning-af-reserven-til-foranstaltninger-paa-social-sundheds-og-arbejdsmarkedsomraadet-2020-2023/>.

<sup>12</sup> See: <https://handicap.dk/nyheder/78-kommuner-vil-2022-have-uvildig-borgerraadgiver>.

### **3 Disability and the labour market – analysis of the situation and the effectiveness of policies**

In 2014, the UN CRPD Committee made the following recommendations to Denmark:

[Article 27 UN CRPD](#) addresses 'Work and employment'.

'59. The Committee recommends that the State party take all necessary measures to significantly increase, as soon as possible, the percentage of persons with disabilities working in the open labour market, including amendments to the general labour legislation so that it imposes clear obligations on employers to afford reasonable accommodation to employees with disabilities.'

The most recent CRPD development is the 2019 List of Issues and the State's submission in 2020.

#### **3.1 Summary of the labour market situation of persons with disabilities**

According to the Social Scoreboard indicator, cited in the Semester package, the disability employment gap in Denmark means it is considered as being among the 'Best performers'. In the Institute for Human Rights Disability Barometer, the employment indicator also shows that the level of employment has increased and the disability gap has decreased in both of the previous four-year periods.

Data from EU-SILC indicate an employment rate for persons with disabilities in Denmark of 59.5 % in 2020, compared to 79.9 % for other persons. This results in an estimated disability employment gap of approximately 18 percentage points (estimated EU27 average gap 24.5, see Tables 2-4) or an employment chances ratio of 0.7. Statistics published on the Eurostat database indicate a disability employment gap of 18.1 percentage points in 2020, using a slightly different methodology, and falling to just 7.9 points in 2021. As this indication is less than half the gap in any other Member State it should be treated with caution or critically reviewed.<sup>13</sup>

The same data indicate unemployment rates of 11.8 % and 5.4 %, respectively in 2020 (see Tables 5-7) and the economic activity rate for persons with disabilities in Denmark was 67.4 %, compared to 84.5 % for other persons (see Tables 8-10). The respective tables in the Annex break down these indications by gender and age.

Due to the impact of the COVID-19 crisis on employment in 2020-2021, some caution is needed when interpreting trend data.

National surveys give a similar result. In 2019, a new series of annual mapping of disability and employment was initiated, which is part of a broad policy agreement from 2018 that more people who experience a severe disability should be in work by 2025.<sup>14</sup> The annual surveys include approximately 14 000 respondents and recall similar

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<sup>13</sup> Eurostat, Disability employment gap by level of activity limitation and sex (source EU-SILC), 2022, [https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/databrowser/view/hlth\\_dlm200/default/table](https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/databrowser/view/hlth_dlm200/default/table).

<sup>14</sup> See: <https://www.regeringen.dk/nyheder/2018/nyt-udspil-skal-hjaelpe-tusindvis-af-borgere-med-handicap-i-arbejde/>.

surveys in the period 2002-2016, so it is possible to follow the development over a longer period.

The national surveys on disability and employment have so far run for 2019 and 2020. The survey in 2019<sup>15</sup> shows an employment rate for persons with disabilities of 58 %, while it is 84 % for other persons. This gives a disability gap of 26 percentage points. This figure is quite a bit higher than the figure mentioned above from EU-SILC. It builds on a much broader base of material, but since EU-SILC has the same format in all EU countries, it is probably still better to use it for comparisons between countries.

When we look at the development in earlier years, a clear pattern emerges. In the years 2008 to 2012, employment fell, and in that period the employment gap grew. In the period 2012 to 2019, employment increased and during those years the employment gap decreased. There appears to be a clear connection between the two figures, in that when employment increases, the employment gap decreases and when employment falls, the employment gap increases.

The results from 2020<sup>16</sup> reflect the fact that the COVID-19 pandemic was underway, which reduced employment for persons with disabilities. The employment rate for persons without disabilities was 84 %, just like the year before, but the employment rate for persons with disabilities had dropped to 55 %, so the employment gap had thus grown from 26 to 29 percentage points. The reason why employment did not fall for the first group was an active employment policy.

It may be that employment fell for the group with disabilities because COVID-19 threatened this group to such an extent that it was not safe to go to work. However, a role may also be played by the fact that persons with disabilities lose their jobs more easily during a crisis than persons without disabilities, and that it can be more difficult for them to get a new job.

For the group of persons with more severe disabilities, we find the same development from 2019 to 2020. In 2019, 37 % of this group was in work, while in 2020 only 34 % were in work. This is a decrease of 2.5 percentage points. However, it is worth noting that this reduction covers the fact that the proportion of persons with severe disabilities who were in ordinary employment fell by 5 percentage points, while the proportion of persons with severe disabilities who were in flex jobs (with less working time and corresponding wage subsidy) increased by 2.5 percentage points.

Thus, it was only the establishment of more flex jobs that prevented the employment of persons with severe disabilities from falling even more during the pandemic than was the case.

Employment has a connection to workforce participation (economic activity). Among persons with disabilities, 55 % were in work in 2020, but 40 % were outside the labour force (thus not looking for work), typically because they received a disability pension. 5 % of the group was unemployed. For the group with severe disabilities, 34 % were in work, while 63 % were outside the labour force, and thus only 3 % of the group were

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<sup>15</sup> See: <https://www.vive.dk/da/udgivelser/handicap-og-beskaeftigelse-2019-15458/>.

<sup>16</sup> See: <https://www.vive.dk/da/udgivelser/handicap-og-beskaeftigelse-2020-16632/>.

unemployed. In the group without disabilities, 84 % were in work and 11 % outside the workforce, i.e. 5 % unemployed.

The surveys also shed light on employers' attitudes towards employing persons with disabilities. For example, 19 % of personnel managers answer that they have a great deal of misgivings about hiring a person with a disability if they have more sick days than other employees have. However, if there is no support from the public sector, this figure rises to 44 % of managers with a high level of concerns. A similar result emerges if the question concerns a person with a disability who works more slowly than others do.

The attitude is, however, slightly more positive if it is about the employment requiring minor adjustments in the workplace. In that case, only 9 % of personnel managers have a high degree of concern, with 26 % if the question presupposes that the employer themselves must pay for these minor adjustments.

The Disability Barometer also shows that employment is the only one of the ten indicators that shows progress over the eight years that the Barometer has so far been running.

### **3.2 Analysis of labour market policies relevant to the Semester**

For reference, see the 2022 National Reform Programme, the Recovery and Resilience Plan for Denmark and the Policy Statement and Action Plan for Disability Policy (2013, 2014, 2016).

As mentioned in Section 2, there are signs that there may be a breakthrough in national policy with regard to the employment of persons with disabilities. Since the country first embarked on a policy of creating a greater supply of labour, successive governments have worked to increase the employment of persons with disabilities. Now, however, there is new research that can contribute to this development,<sup>17</sup> and the focus is turning from concentrating on national schemes to an increased interest in concrete initiatives to increase employment at local level. The interest in increasing the employment of persons with disabilities is also evident in the fact that the Danish Disability Council and some disability organisations have focused on it.

The Danish Disability Council has thus taken the initiative for an analysis of the financial gain for society of increasing the employment of persons with disabilities.<sup>18</sup> This report, by Cowi, shows that if a policy succeeds in moving 6 800 persons with disabilities from disability pension to ordinary employment, it will yield EUR 1.87 billion over ten years in socio-economic gain. If the same group works in flex jobs instead of regular employment, the gain will be EUR 6.99 million (DKK 0.52 billion).

The Danish Disability Council has also taken the initiative to investigate what opportunities there may be for persons with disabilities to invest in homeworking. The

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<sup>17</sup> Bredgaard, T., Amby, F., Holt, H. and Thuesen, F. (eds. 2020), *Handicap og beskæftigelse, fra barrierer til broer* (Disability and employment, from barriers to bridges), Copenhagen, Djøf Forlag.

<sup>18</sup> See: <https://dch.dk/nyheder/pressemeddelelse/ny-rapport-139-mia-samfundsoekonomisk-gevinst-ved-faa-6800-flere-mennesker>.

COVID-19 crisis has inspired this study, where many workplaces closed completely or partially for longer periods and many people had to work from home. A number of companies have used the experiences from this time to increase the scope of homeworking. It has therefore been reasonable to imagine that this increase in homeworking could also create conditions for more persons with disabilities to work.

A study carried out by Epinion<sup>19</sup> shows that there is a more positive attitude towards homeworking in the Danish labour market after the COVID-19 experiences, but it also shows that this does not mean to the same extent that it will be easier for persons with disabilities to get a job. Epinion has asked supervisors, and while 59 % of those surveyed say it is likely they would hire a person who works from home, only 31 % would hire a person with a physical disability and only 20 % would hire a person with a mental disability who works from home. The experiences of working from home during the COVID-19 pandemic have meant that for 20 % of the managers questioned, the probability that they would hire a person with a physical disability who works from home has increased, whereas for the other 78 % it has not increased.

The shortage of labour is the starting point for the Danish Employers' Association and Danish disability organisations joining forces to propose eight joint initiatives to get more persons with disabilities into jobs.<sup>20</sup> The eight initiatives concern: (1) an advisory function on the employment of persons with disabilities; (2) guaranteeing aids in advance; (3) making it easier to keep aids when transitioning to a new job; (4) a job portal for unemployed persons with disabilities; (5) a screening of all unemployed persons for disabilities; (6) easier access to retain employees using flex jobs; (7) interventions to offer qualified help by job centres to help people obtain flex jobs and (8) better knowledge of interventions available towards helping unemployed workers in flex jobs.

Finally, it is worth mentioning that disability organisations are getting more and more involved in projects with the aim of increasing the employment of persons with disabilities. As a striking example, we can mention the projects that the Danish Association of the Physically Disabled is involved in in the programme 'A more inclusive labour market', comprising four projects in nine municipalities. During 2021, these projects have helped 308 persons with disabilities into work. Some of these people had never had a job before or had been out of work for more than 15 years.<sup>21</sup>

Two researchers in the field have evaluated the programme, 'A more inclusive labour market' in an article in the newspaper *Altinget*.<sup>22</sup> The projects in the programme all build on an initial screening of the unemployed person, that is, they ask people to what extent they have a disability, and then assign a personal job broker with knowledge of the various schemes and with good knowledge of the local labour market.

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<sup>19</sup> See: <https://dch.dk/nyheder/nyhed/ny-undersogelse-viser-er-bedre-muligheder-hjemmearbejde-efter-corona-bare-ikke>.

<sup>20</sup> See: <https://handicap.dk/politik/dhs-politiske-temaer/beskaeftigelsespolitik/flere-med-handicap-job>.

<sup>21</sup> See: <https://danskhandicapforbund.dk/da/nyheder/succes-pa-arbejdsmarkedet-screeninger-og-viden-om-handicap-abner-doren-til-job/#gsc.tab=0>.

<sup>22</sup> See: <https://www.altinget.dk/artikel/forskere-screening-i-jobcentrene-kan-med-de-rettehensyn-aktivere-ledige-med-handicap-som-vaerdifuld-arbejdsreserve>.

This method has the effect that almost half of unemployed people find work, most citizens find it to be a meaningful and targeted process and the municipality's caseworkers gain a deeper understanding of disabilities and their significance. Based on the evaluation and experiences from other countries, the researchers have a number of recommendations with regard to using the learning from these experiences.

Firstly, they warn against a nationwide rollout becoming the subject of a new public management system that compares the results of different job centres. Secondly, they warn against making a direct link between categories of citizens and rights to certain benefits or services. They should select the means based on a conversation with the individual about the consequences of their disability. Thirdly, they recommend that the job centres strengthen their knowledge of disability.

#### **4 Disability, social policies and healthcare – analysis of the situation and the effectiveness of policies**

In 2014, the UN CRPD Committee made the following recommendations to Denmark:

[Article 28 UN CRPD](#) addresses ‘Adequate standard of living and social protection’.

‘There was no recommendation on Article 28.’

[Article 19 UN CRPD](#) addresses ‘Living independently in the community’.

‘43. The Committee recommends that the State party end the use of State-guaranteed loans to build institution-like residences for persons with disabilities; that it amend the legislation on social services so that persons with disabilities may freely choose where and with whom they live, while enjoying the necessary assistance to live independently; and that it take measures to close existing institution-like residences and to prevent the forced relocation of persons with disabilities, in order to avoid isolation from the community.’

[Article 25 UN CRPD](#) addresses ‘Health’.

‘The Committee recommends that the State party ensure that persons with disabilities, in particular persons with psychosocial disabilities, have equal access to the highest attainable standard of health, including by providing adequate and accessible health services needed by persons with disabilities, and by providing training to health professionals and officials in the public health authorities, including on the right to free and informed consent.’

The most recent CRPD development is the 2019 List of Issues and the State’s submission in 2020.

##### **4.1 Summary of the social situation of persons with disabilities**

Data from EU-SILC indicate the poverty risk rate for working age persons with disabilities in Denmark was 15.3 % in 2020, compared to 11.9 % for other persons of similar age – an estimated disability poverty gap of approximately 3 percentage points (see Table 14). For people aged over 65, the disability poverty gap was -0.3 points (10.7 % for older persons with disabilities and 11.0 % for other persons of similar age). The tables in the Annex also indicate the respective rates of risk of poverty or social exclusion and break these down by gender as well as age. Recently updated data from Eurostat shows the relative risk for the working age disabled population rising to 16.5 % and 10.7 % for the older age group in 2021.<sup>23</sup>

For persons with disabilities of working age in Denmark (aged 18-64) the risk of poverty before social transfers was 38.5 % and 15.3 % after transfers in 2020. The in-work poverty rate for persons with disabilities in this age range was 6.1 % (6.3 % in the revised database, and rising to 7.6 % in 2021).<sup>24</sup>

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<sup>23</sup> Eurostat, People at risk of poverty by level of activity limitation, sex and age, 2022, [https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/databrowser/view/HLTH\\_DPE020\\_custom\\_3348056](https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/databrowser/view/HLTH_DPE020_custom_3348056).

<sup>24</sup> Eurostat, In-work at-risk-of-poverty rate by level of activity limitation, sex and age, 2022, [https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/databrowser/view/HLTH\\_DPE050\\_custom\\_3394174](https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/databrowser/view/HLTH_DPE050_custom_3394174).

Of interest to health policy are the data on self-reported unmet needs for medical examination (too expensive or too far to travel or waiting list). Disability equality gaps are evident here too and, on this basis, the rate for persons with disabilities in Denmark was 3.7 %, compared to 0.7 % for other persons.

In this connection, the report from the 2020 wave of the national survey on living conditions for persons with disabilities (SHILD)<sup>25</sup> is relevant. This report has received comments from Disabled People's Organisations Denmark,<sup>26</sup> who say that it makes discouraging reading.

At the same time, there has been an update of the Institute for Human Rights Disability Barometer,<sup>27</sup> which draws a large part of its material from this study. Among the ten indicators in the Disability Barometer, two are about social conditions and two cover health.

The social ones are Indicator 3, the right to an independent life, and Indicator 9, social security. Indicator 3 measures the availability of bus and train travel and shows that accessibility decreased in 2012-2016 and 2016-2020, and the disability gap grew over both periods. Indicator 9 shows that almost a quarter of the group of persons with disabilities have experienced financial deprivation, which is unchanged from 2016 to 2020, while the proportion of persons without disabilities who have experienced financial deprivation has increased. Therefore, the disability gap has decreased.

The health indicators are Indicator 4, use of coercion in psychiatry, and Indicator 7, life expectancy with mental illness. The first increased over the period, both in the absolute number of uses of coercion and in the proportion of patients exposed to this. In addition, in the first period, 2012-2016, there is a change from belt constraints to forced medication. Indicator 7 only appears for 2020, but another determinant of health, severe overweight, shows growth throughout the period, and a growing disability gap.

Although the National Reform Programme does not mention these facts, it is possible that they are related to the reform policy. Over the past three decades, Denmark has carried out one of the most far-reaching reform programmes in Europe, with extensive use of New Public Management methods. Political science has given this policy the name 'the competition state'. The competition state has entailed economic benefits. Nevertheless, it should be pointed out that, when it comes to disability policy, reforms that streamline all functions in society easily overlook the fact that there are persons with disabilities for whom it is necessary to make a special effort if they are not to be lost in the process of development.

The Government has initiated a Historical Inquiry into the conditions of those placed in special welfare institutions during the period 1933-1980,<sup>28</sup> which documents serious failures and abuse towards the people who were subject to state special welfare in the period 1933 to 1980. Because of this report, the Government must decide whether the

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<sup>25</sup> See: <https://www.vive.dk/da/udgivelser/mennesker-med-handicap-16726/>.

<sup>26</sup> See: <https://handicap.dk/nyheder/ny-rapport-er-nedslaaende-laesning>.

<sup>27</sup> See: <https://handicapbarometer.dk/>.

<sup>28</sup> See: <https://www.svendborgmuseum.dk/visforsorgnyhedermtemplate/1217-historisk-udredning-klar-efter-to-ars-arbejde>.

living survivors of the abuses should receive an apology. The chairperson of DHF has stated that the people affected by the inhumane conditions need recognition and an apology.<sup>29</sup>

In the area of health, the topic of health equality has been in focus. A new report by the University of Southern Denmark (*Syddansk Universitet* – SDU) shows that the life expectancy of persons with intellectual disabilities is 20 years shorter than the average.<sup>30</sup> For those under 30, the mortality rate is 10 times higher. Both the risk of dying from an illness and the risk of dying from an accident are higher for this group. Frequent causes of death are circulatory diseases and cancer, diseases of the respiratory organs and diseases of the nervous system. The study uses national register data.

Another SDU study, also based on register data, shows that women with disabilities or mental illness get screening for breast cancer less often than other people do.<sup>31</sup> In the group of people with dementia, intellectual disabilities or schizophrenia, 25 % get screening, while the figure is 62 % for others. For other functional impairments, the figure is also quite low. The study does not say anything about the reason why so few of these women are screened.

## 4.2 Analysis of social policies relevant to the Semester

For reference, see the 2022 National Reform Programme, the Recovery and Resilience Plan for Denmark and the Policy statement and Action Plan for Disability Policy (2013, 2014, 2016).

A political agreement on a new social assistance system<sup>32</sup> from June 2022 will, among other things, help with child poverty. Broadly speaking, this means that the relief for families with children (implemented temporarily when the Government took office) has now become permanent. Thus, the austerity measures implemented by the previous Government were cancelled.

The Government places greater emphasis on fewer children living in poverty, while the previous Government placed greater emphasis on it being worthwhile to work, as well as on a large part of child family allowances going to families of ethnic origin other than Danish.

The Government has also carried out an evaluation of specialised social interventions directed towards persons with disabilities,<sup>33</sup> which includes social and health services in relation to disability. Based on this evaluation, they present a plan for specialist service planning until 2030 with the aim that there must be a professional and competent basis for the help offered.

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<sup>29</sup> See: <https://danskhandicapforbund.dk/da/nyheder/rapport-om-udviklingen-af-forholdene-mennesker-med-handicap-forpligter-vi-er-ikke-faerdige-endnu1/#gsc.tab=0>.

<sup>30</sup> See: <https://handicap.dk/nyheder/ny-rapport-mennesker-med-udviklingshandicap-lever-20-aar-kortere>.

<sup>31</sup> See: [https://www.sdu.dk/da/sif/ugens\\_tal/12\\_2022](https://www.sdu.dk/da/sif/ugens_tal/12_2022).

<sup>32</sup> See: <https://bm.dk/media/21095/aftaetekst-kontanthjaelp.pdf>.

<sup>33</sup> See: <https://sm.dk/publikationer/2022/maj/et-liv-med-ligevaerdige-muligheder>.

The new collective agreement for general practitioners also focuses on inequality in health.<sup>34</sup> Some of the main elements include less inequality in health, coherence between sectors, easy access to video and telephone consultations, and better medical coverage in peripheral areas. In this regard, the agreement involves a health check for citizens in residential care facilities.<sup>35</sup>

The Government has entered into a broad political agreement on health reform.<sup>36</sup> The idea is to supplement recent years' investments in specialised treatment in large hospitals, with an initiative from 20-25 local hospitals and greater emphasis on preventive interventions and general practice. They will also seek to make the healthcare system more robust.

The draft contains a national quality plan with quality requirements and recommendations for persons with chronic diseases, which will mean greater coherence in interventions against chronic disorders such as COPD and diabetes. It also contains better use of data in the nearby healthcare system and goals for more treatment in people's own homes, where digital solutions must make the healthcare system more accessible and flexible.

Finally, experiences during the COVID-19 pandemic meant, among other things, that the authorities pay more attention to loneliness as a health risk. This has led the DaneAge Association (*Ældre Sagen*), the Red Cross and 89 other organisations to come together to draw up a series of recommendations for a national strategy to tackle loneliness.<sup>37</sup>

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<sup>34</sup> See: <https://www.laeger.dk/PLO/OK22>.

<sup>35</sup> See: <https://www.danskindustri.dk/brancher/di-service/nyheder/nyhedsarkiv/nyheder/2021/12/ny-aftale-sundhedstjek-til-borgere-pa-botilbud/>.

<sup>36</sup> See: <https://sum.dk/temaer/sundhedsreformen>.

<sup>37</sup> See: <https://via.ritzau.dk/pressemeddelelse/nu-far-danmark-sin-forste-nationale-strategi-mod-ensomhed?publisherId=13559230&releaselId=13636868>.

## **5 Disability, education and skills – analysis of the situation and the effectiveness of policies**

In 2014, the UN CRPD Committee made the following recommendations to Denmark:

[Article 24 UN CRPD](#) addresses 'Education'.

'53. The Committee recommends that the State party amend its legislation to ensure the inclusion of all children with disabilities in the mainstream education system, with adequate support and accommodation, in particular through the provision of adequate training to teachers and other employees in the school system in all parts of the Kingdom of Denmark, in order to ensure quality education for pupils with disabilities. The State party should take measures to address discrepancies in accomplishment rates between pupils with and without disabilities at all levels of education.

55. The Committee recommends that the State party amend its legislation to ensure that all children with disabilities can submit a complaint to an independent authority if they do not receive adequate educational support.'

The most recent CRPD development is the 2019 List of Issues and the State's submission in 2020.

### **5.1 Summary of the educational situation of persons with disabilities**

The EU-SILC 2020 estimates concerning educational attainment should be treated with caution due to relatively wide confidence intervals but they consistently indicate disability equality gaps (an average of 2-3 years provides a more stable indication). Table 16 indicates early school leaving rates disaggregated by disability status in Denmark. Young people with disabilities (aged 18-24) tend to leave school early significantly more than non-disabled peers of the same age groups (and this is reinforced by widening the sample size to age 18-29). Table 17 shows completion rates of tertiary education disaggregated by disability and age group. Persons with disabilities (aged 30-34) are less likely to complete tertiary education than their peers (and this is reinforced in the wider age range 30-39).

The Institute for Human Rights Disability Barometer measures the situation of education for persons with disabilities. The main indicator is about how many people receive an education that gives them access to a profession and this reveals a significant difference between persons with and without disabilities. While the figure increased throughout the period 2012-2020 for persons without disabilities, we see for the group with disabilities a decrease in the first part of the period, while there was a slightly smaller increase in the second part. The disability gap has thus become almost twice as large. The other indicators for education show the same picture, most pronounced for persons with severe physical and mental disabilities.

The background to this picture is possibly the fact that in the first part of the period covered, a series of reforms were introduced, which should serve to make the programmes more efficient and get more students through them more quickly. Although these measures were not about disability, they may well have had the effect of making it more difficult for persons with disabilities to complete their education.

For more than a decade now, the most important determinant of policy on disability and education has been the measures taken in the 2010s to increase the level of inclusion in primary schools. The evaluations of these initiatives reveal varying results along the way and the latest evaluation of inclusive learning environments and social pedagogical assistance<sup>38</sup> prepared by VIVE (Danish Centre for Social Science Research) for the Ministry of Education shows mixed results.

Thus, the proportion of pupils included in mainstream education has fallen, whereas the policy intended to achieve the opposite. While the inclusion rate was 95.5 % in the 2014/15 school year, it was only 94.7 % in the 2019/20 school year. Three quarters of the segregated students are boys. In addition, 10.9 % of students in the final years of school receive support in general education, while 7.5 % have an unmet need for support.

There are also results that indicate there is greater attention to disability. Teachers identify significantly more dyslexic children and assess that they have the skills to meet their needs better than previously. The same applies to teachers' assessments in a number of other areas. Many more teachers consider that they have the skills to meet special needs than before the reform. However, over half of teachers still believe that they do not have these skills.

New studies show differences in education depending on disability. An analysis from VIVE (Danish Centre for Social Science Research)<sup>39</sup> defines, based on register data from the National Patient Register, nine groups of children with functional impairments in order to shed light on what impairment means for their education. It turns out that children in these groups get lower grades in Danish and Mathematics, have lower attendance levels and perform worse than other children.

A large proportion of the children receive education in regular classes. The children who attend special classes and special schools are, in particular, children with developmental disorders, autism spectrum disorder and multiple disabilities. The type of functional impairment is usually the background for the special provision.

A report from the Danish Agency for Education and Research from February 2022<sup>40</sup> shows that students with disabilities have a greater dropout rate from their studies than other students. This applies especially to students with mental disabilities, despite the fact that there is a special disability supplement to the study support provided. Students with mental disabilities are the largest recipient group. The study also shows that students with disabilities do worse; they spend less time on their studies and have a higher unemployment rate after they have finished their studies. The investigation was part of an agreement between the Government and the majority of the

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<sup>38</sup> See: <https://www.uvm.dk/aktuelt/nyheder/uvm/2022/mar/220329-nye-rapporter-evaluerer-inklusionsomraadet>.

<sup>39</sup> See: <https://www.vive.dk/da/udgivelser/uddannelsesresultater-og-moenstre-for-boern-og-unge-med-funktionsnedsaettelser-15314/>.

<sup>40</sup> See: [Bedre vilkår for studerende med funktionsnedsættelser — Uddannelses- og Forskningsministeriet \(ufm.dk\)](#).

opposition<sup>41</sup> to set aside EUR 3.9 million to improve conditions for students with disabilities.

The ‘Social policy statement 2019’<sup>42</sup> also touches on the education of children and young people with disabilities. It shows that many fewer young people with disabilities receive secondary education compared to young people without disabilities, that many fewer young people with disabilities are in education or work compared to other young people, and many more receive social assistance.

## 5.2 Analysis of education policies relevant to the Semester

For reference, see the 2022 National Reform Programme, the Recovery and Resilience Plan for Denmark and the Policy statement and Action Plan for Disability Policy (2013, 2014, 2016).

A 2019 study of young people with disabilities in education from the think tank Perspektiv<sup>43</sup> resulted in the following ten recommendations: (1) More accessible educational materials; (2) Rethink physical accessibility at educational institutions; (3) Include students with disabilities in social communities; (4) Upskill student guidance and other parties; (5) Better and ongoing guidance on support options; (6) Possibility of a holistic study plan; (7) Better exemption options; (8) Possibility of entering a relevant internship programme for students with functional impairments; (9) Better options for disability allowance for study support; (10) Remove progress incentives.

The Danish Disability Council has become involved in the issue of education for persons with disabilities, as it has taken the initiative to analyse the social and economic consequences of good education for persons with disabilities. This analysis was undertaken by Cowi and, based on this analysis, a public consultation was carried out. The Cowi analysis<sup>44</sup> shows that great socio-economic benefits can be gained from better education for persons with disabilities. It concludes that, seen over a working life, the country may gain EUR 160 million by lifting 1 % of young people with a mental or cognitive disability up a level in education; this corresponds to 1 330 people. From a purely budgetary point of view, the gain will be a third of this amount.

Based on input from employees, students and disability organisations, the Danish universities have drawn up recommendations in relation to the exemptions they grant on grounds of functional impairment.<sup>45</sup> The purpose of these is to create uniform rules and make it easier for students to apply for exemptions.

The recommendations are about earlier clarification of needs and exemption options, a better accessible collection of information and guidance, clear guidelines for

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<sup>41</sup> See: [Ny aftale om indsats for elever og studerende med handicap | Børne- og Undervisningsministeriet \(uvm.dk\)](#).

<sup>42</sup> See: <https://im.dk/publikationer/2020/jan/socialpolitisk-redegoerelse-2019>, p. 184 and p. 189.

<sup>43</sup> See: <https://sumh.dk/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/Noedvendigt-for-nogle-godt-for-alle-rapport.pdf>.

<sup>44</sup> See: <https://dch.dk/nyheder/pressemeddelelse/er-milliarder-hente-ved-sikre-god-uddannelse-til-mennesker-med-handicap>.

<sup>45</sup> See: <https://dkuni.dk/faelles/anbefalinger-vedr-dispensation-paa-baggrund-af-funktionsnedsaettelse/>.

applications and requirements for documentation, reducing the need to apply for exemptions, and cooperation on common definitions.

A new development in the school area are the so-called online schools, for example [onlinefag.dk](https://www.onlinefag.dk).<sup>46</sup> In TV2 East Jutland's description of the school, it appears that the Autism Association welcomes it because it solves a problem for many children with autism or ADHD, who find it difficult to go to school with many other children, but who are happy to learn something. The first online schools were already operating before the COVID-19 pandemic, but the experiences from the pandemic have meant that there has been more impetus in their development.

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<sup>46</sup> See: <https://www.tv2ostjylland.dk/syddjurs/sascha-laver-oestjyllands-foerste-onlineskole>.

## 6 Investment priorities in relation to disability

The previous sections do not cover the indicators from the Institute for Human Rights Disability Barometer about transport, discrimination, exposure to violence and political participation. For the first three of these indicators, there is a clear disability gap, while there is no difference in political participation for persons with and without disabilities.

The indicator for bus and train accessibility says that this has been falling steadily over the past eight years, a little more for persons with disabilities, so that the disability gap is increasing slightly. The indicator thus shows decreasing accessibility, both in absolute and relative terms. There is therefore a basis for working towards increased accessibility of transport, but the CR does not address this topic.

The indicator for discrimination shows that the experience of being discriminated against has gradually increased over the past eight years, but so that the disability gap is getting a little smaller. A closer analysis shows that it is only women, with or without disabilities, who have experienced increasing discrimination throughout the period, and that it is for women that the disability gap narrows.

The indicator for violence shows that the general level of violence is decreasing, but in the period 2012-2016 it has been increasing for persons with disabilities, so that the disability gap has become significantly larger and the level of violence over all the years 2012-2020 has not decreased for persons with disabilities. A problem of violence has thus developed for persons with disabilities in the years 2012-2016, which has remained constant in the years 2016-2020.

The indicator for participation in elections indicates that persons with disabilities, like the rest of the population, have a high turnout. However, there is a disability gap, with only 80 % of persons with disabilities taking part in the last parliamentary election, compared to 86 % of other people. They cannot calculate this indicator before 2020.

This article has previously mentioned the Rummelig imidt project,<sup>47</sup> which worked to create job openings for people at the edges of the labour market. The project worked, among other things, with business networks, citizen-directed courses, social economy, circular economy and public social procurement.

The project has now been completed and evaluated.<sup>48</sup> The evaluation finds that it has strengthened the prerequisites for participating citizens to get closer to the labour market, and strengthened the companies' prerequisites for taking social responsibility. In this connection, we should take into account that several of the project's target groups had a difficult starting point. The project has even exceeded several of the set impact targets. However, the evaluation also mentions that it is likely that some of the citizens lost their jobs again during the COVID-19 pandemic.

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<sup>47</sup> See: <https://www.rummeligimidt.dk/>.

<sup>48</sup> See: [https://0c673b7e-5d3b-456e-9f76-75cd4fc88101.usfiles.com/ugd/0c673b\\_6a08ea22d1b34e8c8380e2bbc23007d5.pdf](https://0c673b7e-5d3b-456e-9f76-75cd4fc88101.usfiles.com/ugd/0c673b_6a08ea22d1b34e8c8380e2bbc23007d5.pdf).

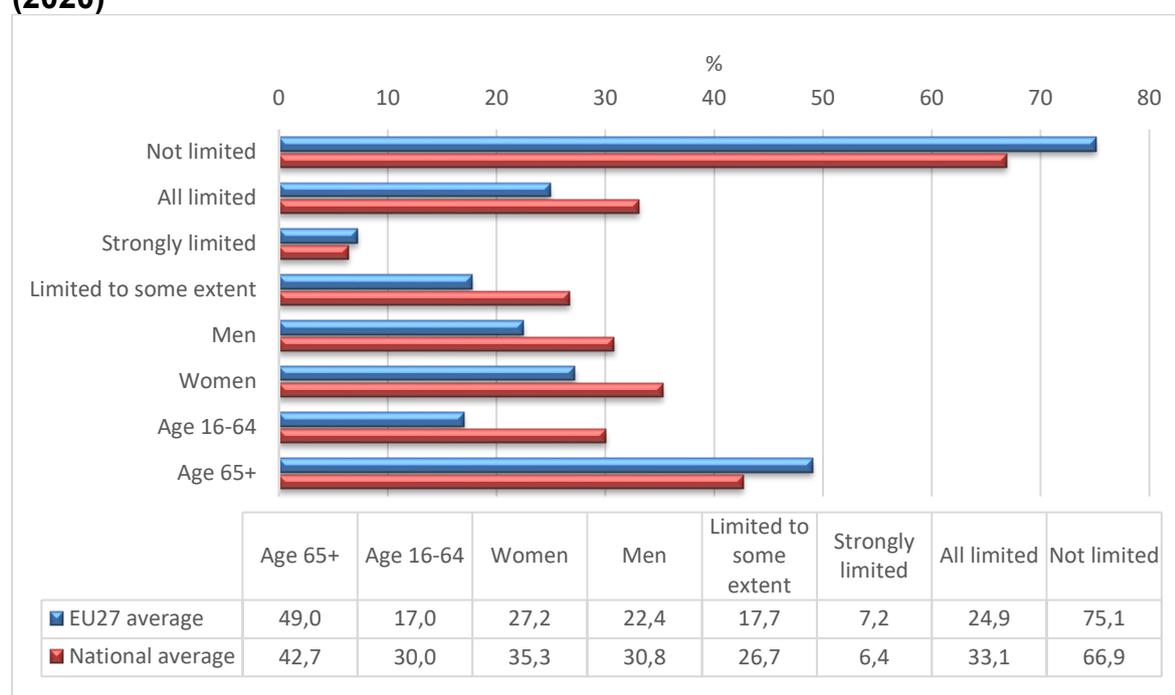
## 7 Annex: disability data relevant to the Semester

See also disability data published in the Eurostat database<sup>49</sup> and statistical reports.<sup>50</sup>

Unless specified, the summary statistics are drawn from the most recent EU-SILC data available to researchers from Eurostat. The EU-SILC sample includes people living in private households and does not include people living in institutions (congregative households). The sampling methods vary somewhat in each country.

The proxy used to identify persons with disabilities (impairments) is whether ‘for at least the past 6 months’ the respondent reports that they have been ‘limited because of a health problem in activities people usually do’.<sup>51</sup>

**Table 1: Self-reported ‘activity limitations’ as a proxy for impairment / disability (2020)**



Source: EU-SILC 2020 Release April 2022

In subsequent tables, these data are used to indicate ‘disability’ equality gaps and trends relevant to the analytical sections – for the labour market, social policies and healthcare, and education – by comparing outcomes for persons who report and do not report ‘activity limitations’.<sup>52</sup> National estimates for Denmark are compared with EU27 mean averages for the most recent year.<sup>53</sup>

<sup>49</sup> Eurostat Health Database: <https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/health/data/database>.

<sup>50</sup> Eurostat (2019) Disability Statistics: [https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/statistics-explained/index.php?title=Disability\\_statistics](https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/statistics-explained/index.php?title=Disability_statistics).

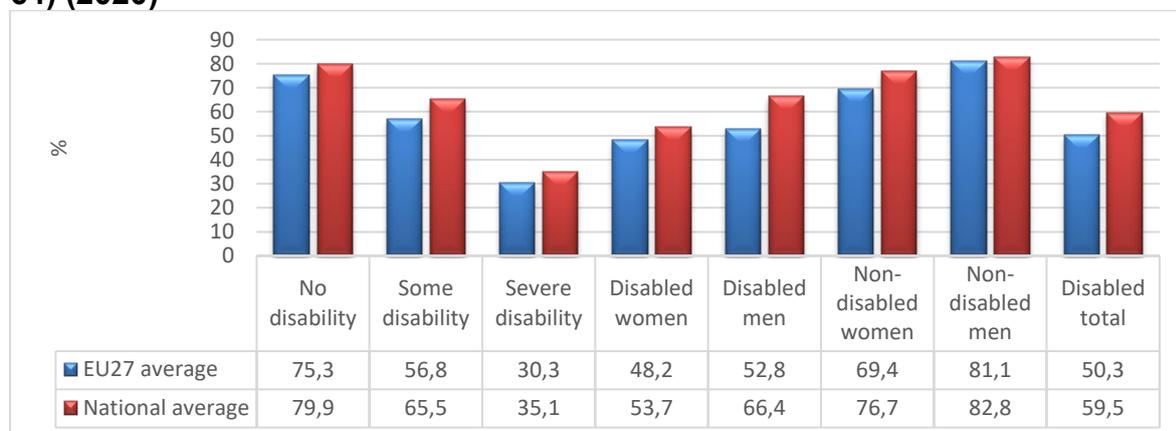
<sup>51</sup> The EU-SILC survey questions are contained in the Minimum European Health Module (MEHM), [https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/statistics-explained/index.php?title=Special:WhatLinksHere/Glossary:Minimum\\_European\\_Health\\_Module\\_\(MEHM\)](https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/statistics-explained/index.php?title=Special:WhatLinksHere/Glossary:Minimum_European_Health_Module_(MEHM)).

<sup>52</sup> This methodology was developed in the annual statistical reports of ANED, available at: <http://www.disability-europe.net/theme/statistical-indicators>.

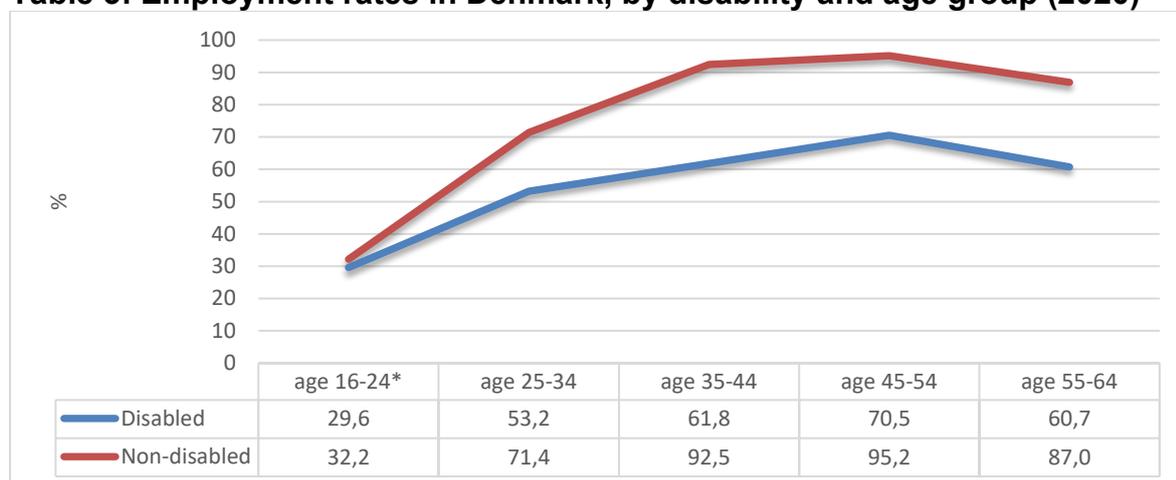
<sup>53</sup> The exit of the United Kingdom from the EU changed the EU average. EU27 averages have also been affected by time series breaks in other large countries, such as Germany.

## 7.1 Data relevant to disability and the labour market

**Table 2: EU and Denmark employment rates, by disability and gender (aged 20-64) (2020)**



**Table 3: Employment rates in Denmark, by disability and age group (2020)**



**Table 4: National trends in employment rates, by disability status (aged 20-64)**

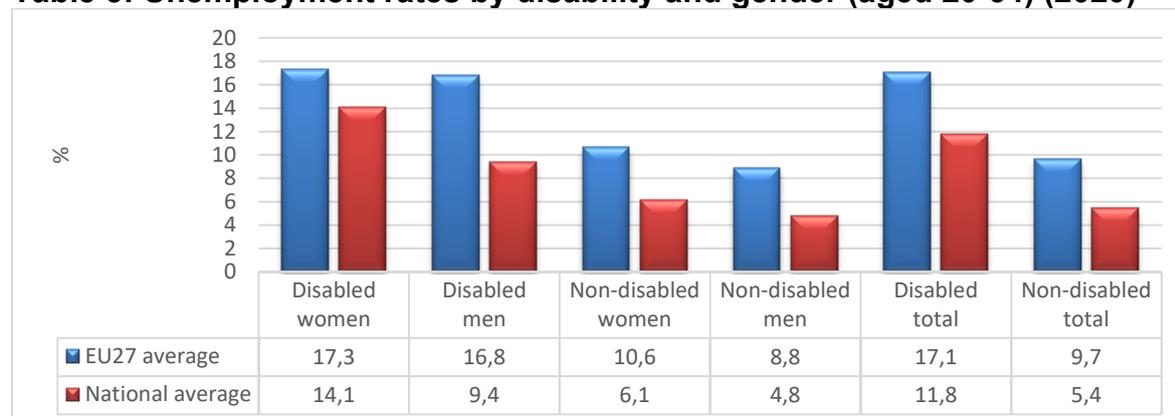


Source: EU-SILC 2020 Release April 2022 (and preceding UDBs)

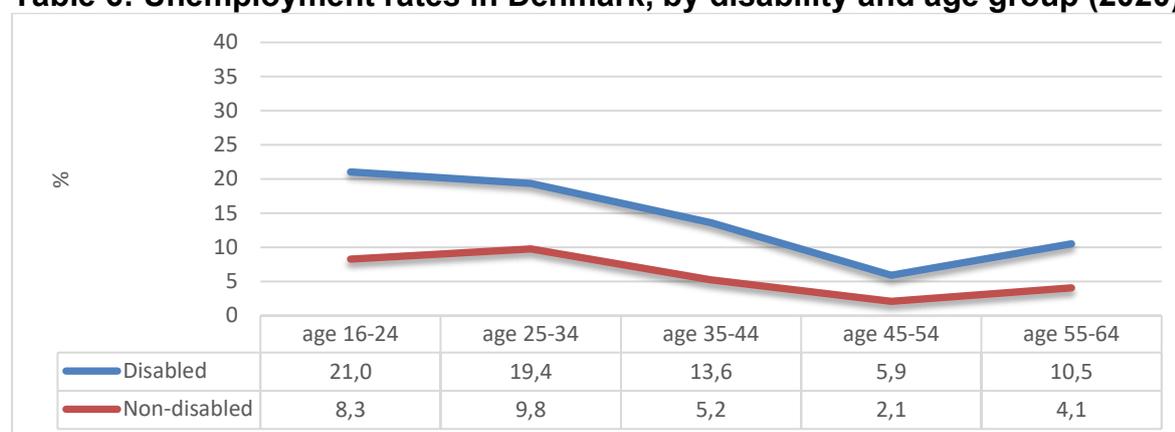
Note: Microdata concerning employment status were not available for Germany and Italy in this data release, which affects the EU27 average (which is therefore estimated).

## 7.1.1 Unemployment

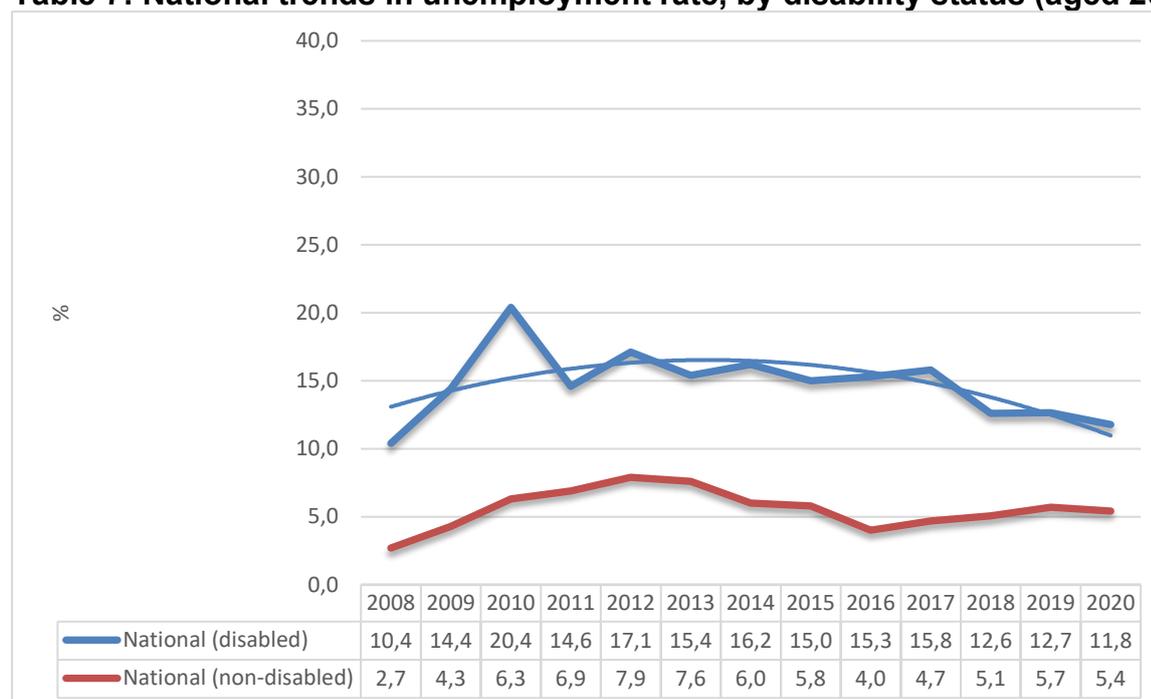
**Table 5: Unemployment rates by disability and gender (aged 20-64) (2020)**



**Table 6: Unemployment rates in Denmark, by disability and age group (2020)**



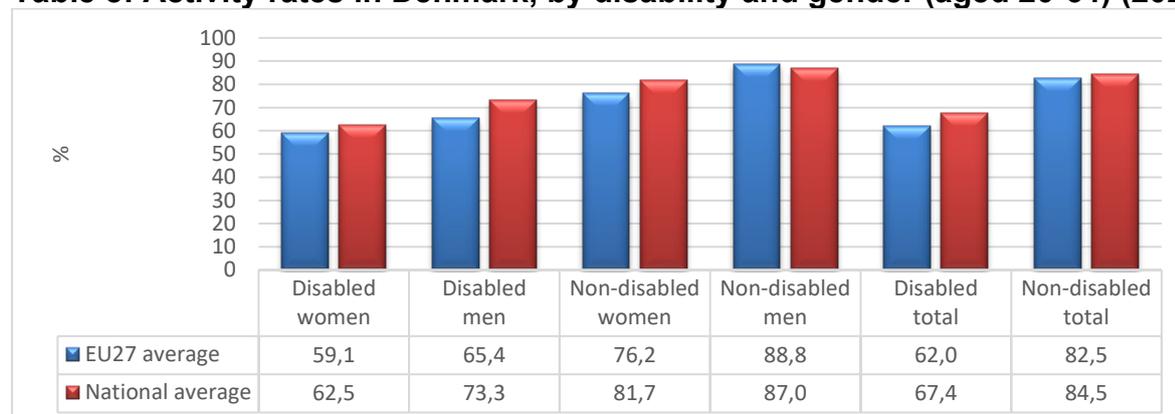
**Table 7: National trends in unemployment rate, by disability status (aged 20-64)**



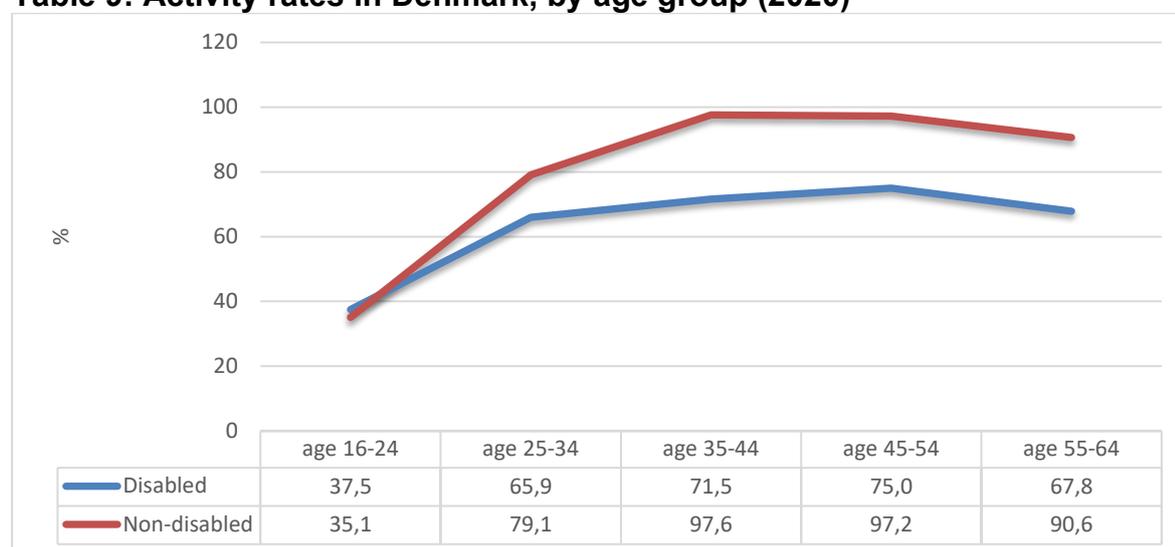
Source: EU-SILC 2020 Release April 2022 (and preceding UDBs)

## 7.1.2 Economic activity

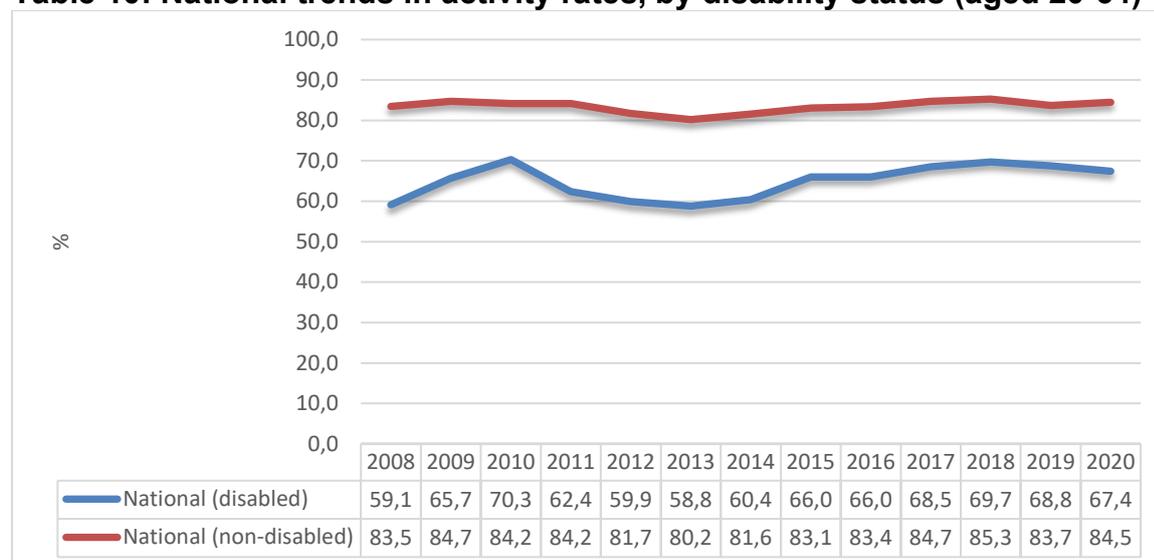
**Table 8: Activity rates in Denmark, by disability and gender (aged 20-64) (2020)**



**Table 9: Activity rates in Denmark, by age group (2020)**



**Table 10: National trends in activity rates, by disability status (aged 20-64)**

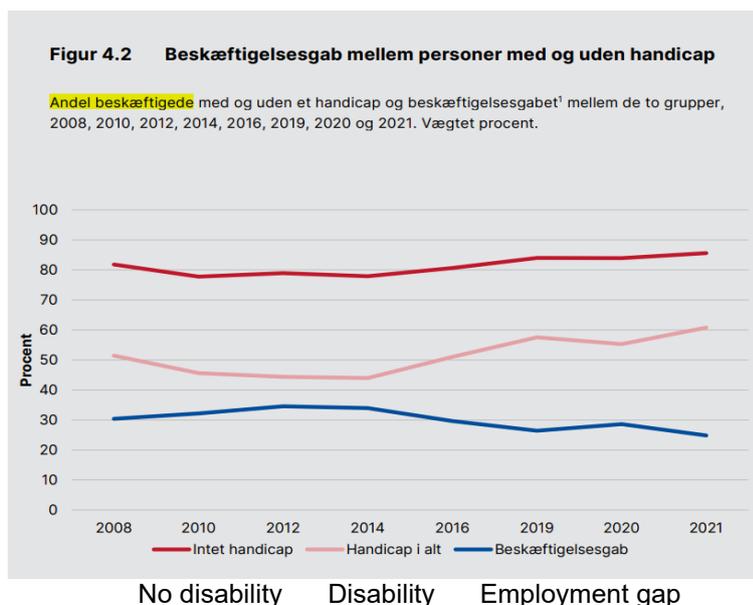


Source: EU-SILC 2020 Release April 2022 (and preceding UDBs)

### 7.1.3 Alternative sources of labour market data in Denmark

Disability data are not yet available from the core European Labour Force Survey but labour market indicators for Denmark were disaggregated from *ad hoc* modules conducted in 2001 and 2011. These can be found in the Eurostat disability database.<sup>54</sup>

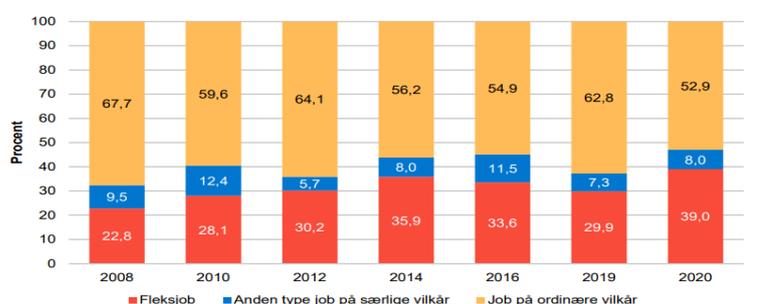
Proportion employed with and without disabilities and the employment gap between the two groups, 2008, 2010, 2012, 2014, 2016, 2019, 2020 and 2021. Weighted percentage.



Source: Larsen, Jakobsen, Mikkelsen: *Handicap og beskæftigelse 2021*<sup>55</sup>

Employed persons with severe disabilities categorised by whether they have a job on special terms in the form of a flex job or another type of job on special terms or a job on ordinary terms, 2008, 2010, 2012, 2014, 2016, 2019 and 2020. Weighted percentage.

**Figur 3.6** Beskæftigede med større handicap fordelt på, om de har et job på særlige vilkår i form af et fleksjob eller en anden type job på særlige vilkår eller et job på ordinære vilkår. 2008, 2010, 2012, 2014, 2016, 2019 og 2020. Vægtet procent



Flex job    Other type of job on special terms    Jobs on ordinary terms

Source: Larsen, Jakobsen, Mikkelsen: *Handicap og beskæftigelse 2020*<sup>56</sup>

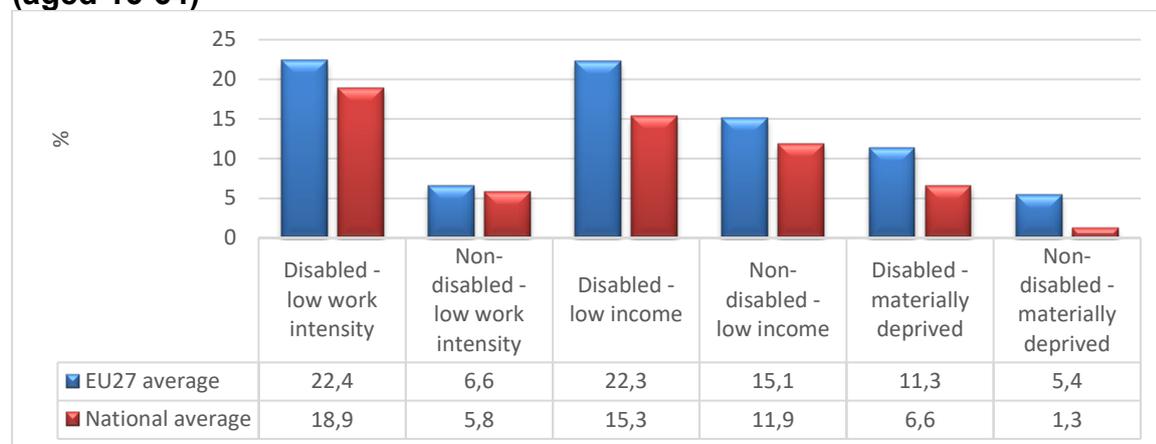
<sup>54</sup> Eurostat Health Database: <https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/health/data/database>.

<sup>55</sup> See: <https://www.vive.dk/da/udgivelser/handicap-og-beskaeftigelse-2021-18275/>.

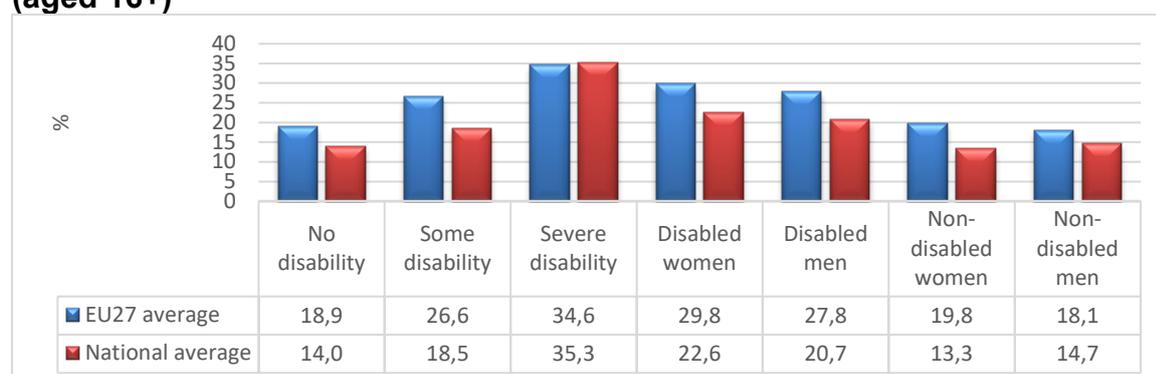
<sup>56</sup> See: <https://www.vive.dk/da/udgivelser/handicap-og-beskaeftigelse-2020-16632/>.

## 7.2 EU data relevant to disability, social policies and healthcare (2020)

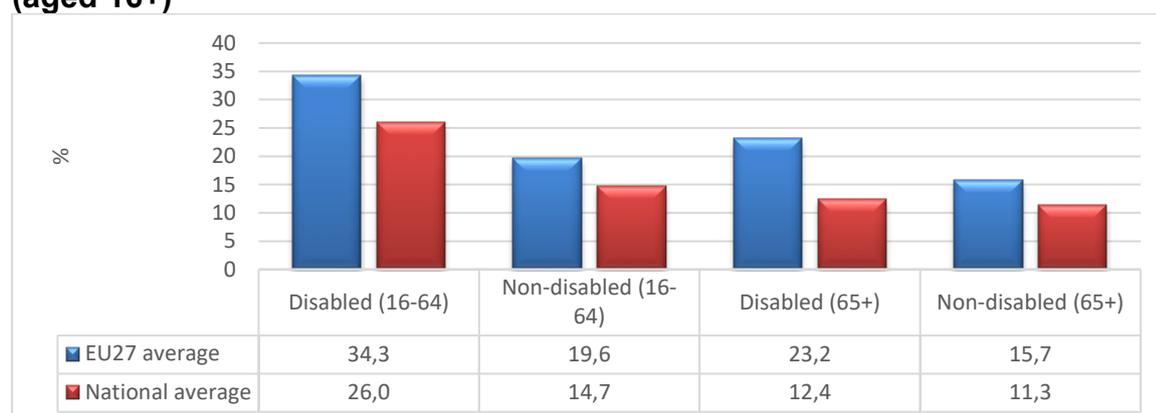
**Table 11: People at risk of poverty or social exclusion, by disability and risk (aged 16-64)<sup>57</sup>**



**Table 12: People at risk of poverty or social exclusion, by disability and gender (aged 16+)**

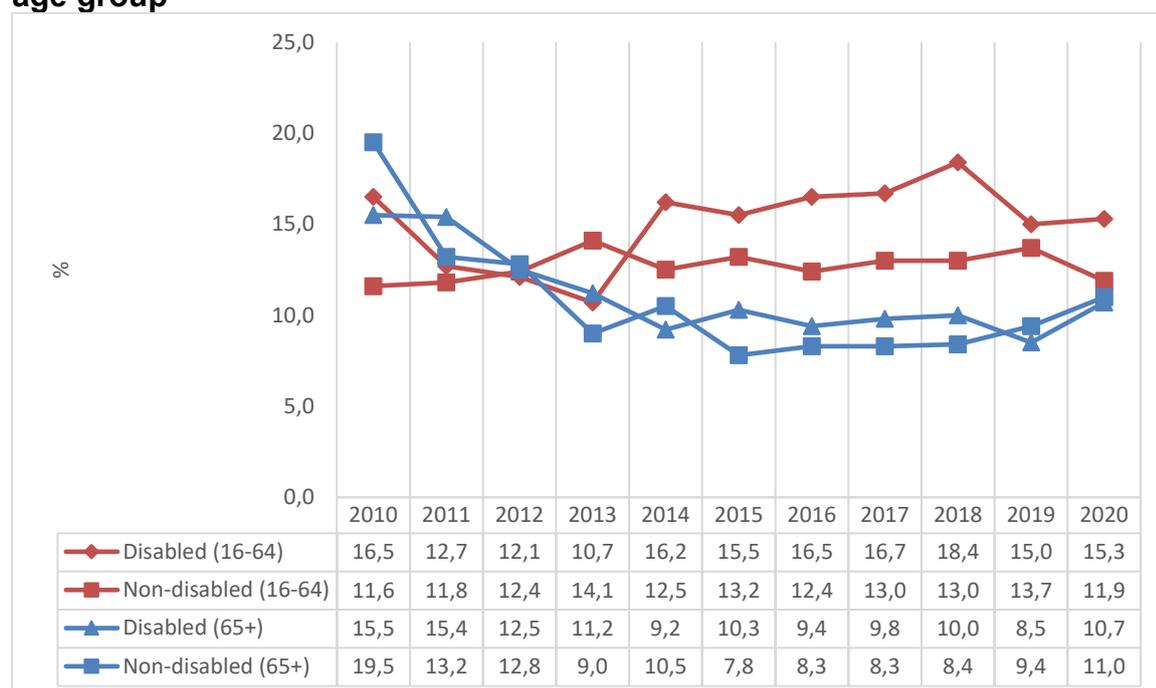


**Table 13: Overall risk of household poverty or exclusion by disability and age (aged 16+)**



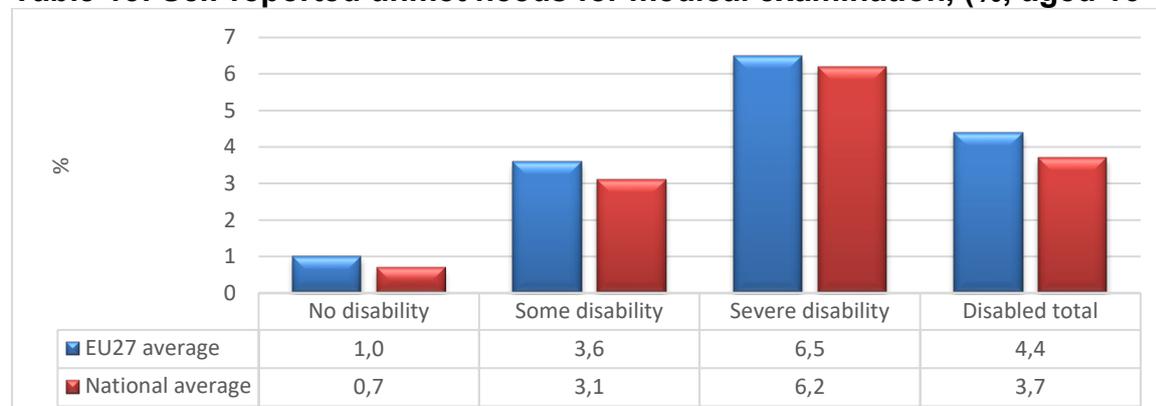
Source: EU-SILC 2020 Release April 2022 (and previous UDB)

<sup>57</sup> Aged 16-59 for Low work intensity.

**Table 14: Trends in the risk of poverty after social transfers, by disability and age group**

Source: Eurostat Health Database [hlth\_dpe020] – People at risk of poverty

Note: This table shows national trends in financial poverty risk, rather than the general AROPE indicator (which is not as comparable between age groups due to the effect of paid employment); the survey does not distinguish 'activity limitation' for children under 16.

**Table 15: Self-reported unmet needs for medical examination, (% , aged 16+)**

Source: Eurostat Health Database [hlth\_dh030] – 'Too expensive or too far to travel or waiting list'

Note: EU mean averages are also skewed by high values in a minority of countries within disability groups but median averages for the total disability and no disability groups in 2020 are consistent with the three-year mean values.

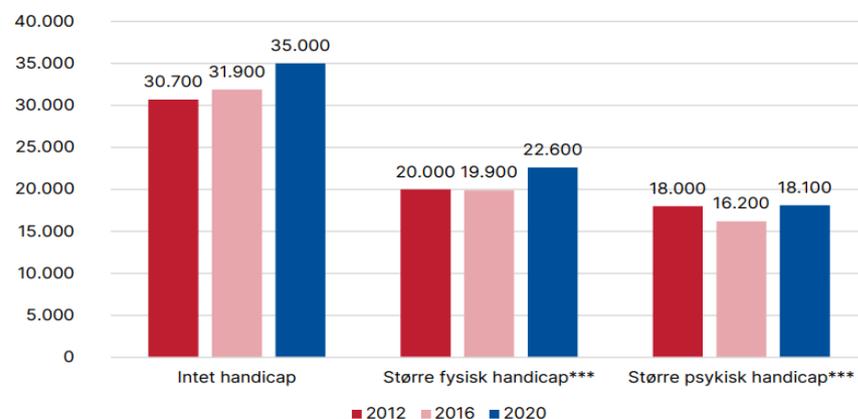
### 7.2.1 Alternative sources of poverty or healthcare data in Denmark

The EU-SILC data provide a comprehensive and reliable source concerning poverty and social exclusion rates. In addition to the summary tables presented so far, the Eurostat disability database also contains breakdowns concerning disability and poverty before and after social transfers, as well as in-work-poverty.<sup>58</sup>

<sup>58</sup> Eurostat Health Database: <https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/health/data/database>.

Average self-reported monthly income in DKK. Shown for type of disability and for people without disability and age. 25-60 years old. 2012-2020.

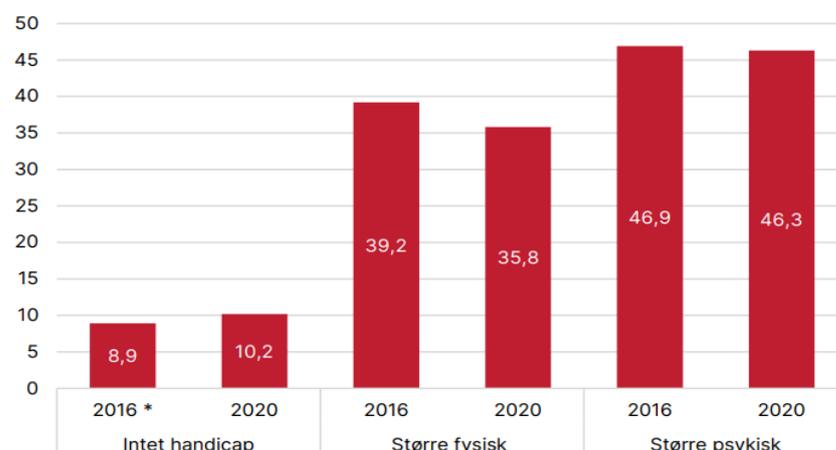
**Figur 6.18** Gennemsnitlig selvrapporteret månedlig indkomst. Særskilt for type af handicap og for mennesker uden handicap og år. 25-60-årige. 2012-2020. Kroner.



No disability      Severe physical disability      Severe intellectual disability

Source: Amilon, Østergaard, Olsen: *Mennesker med handicap*<sup>59</sup>

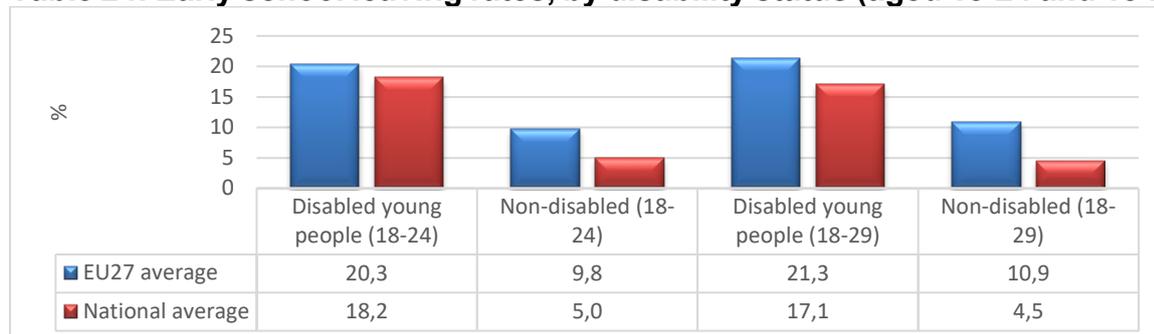
**Figur 6.20** Respondenter i alderen 25-60 år, fordelt efter hvorvidt der inden for de sidste 3 år har været perioder, hvor de af økonomiske årsager har været hindret i at leve et almindeligt liv. Særskilt for type af handicap og for mennesker uden handicap. 2016 og 2020. Procent



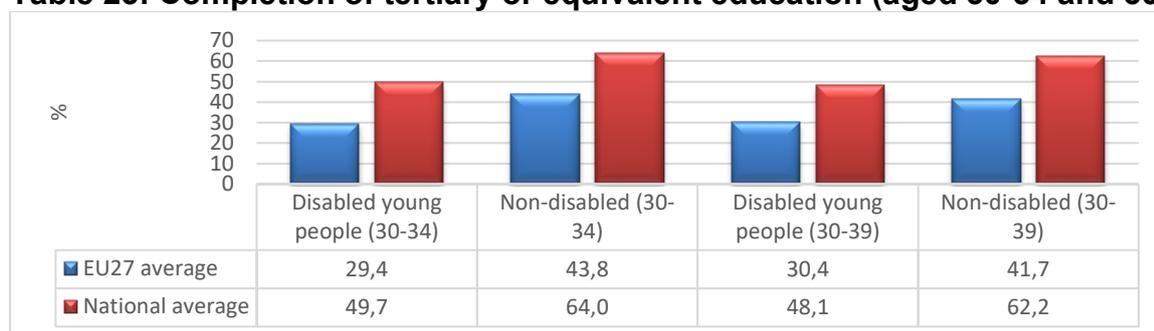
<sup>59</sup> See: <https://www.vive.dk/da/udgivelser/mennesker-med-handicap-16726/>.

### 7.3 EU data relevant to disability and education

**Table 24: Early school leaving rates, by disability status (aged 18-24 and 18-29)<sup>60</sup>**



**Table 25: Completion of tertiary or equivalent education (aged 30-34 and 30-39)**



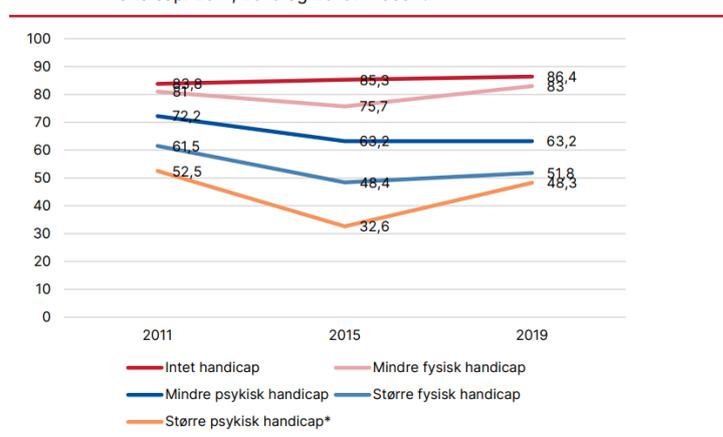
Source: EU-SILC 2020 Release April 2022 (and preceding UDBs)

Note: Confidence intervals for the disability group are large and reliability low (due to the small sample size in the target age group). An average of several years may be needed to establish trends or to compare breakdowns by gender.

#### 7.3.1 Alternative sources of education data in Denmark

Respondents aged 30-40 who have education resulting in a qualification. Shown separately for types and degrees of disability as well as for persons without disabilities. 2011, 2015 and 2019.

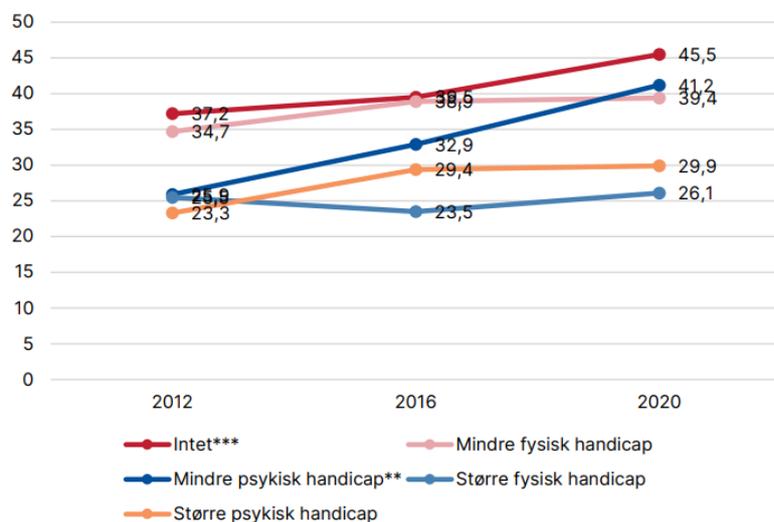
**Figur 5.2** Respondenter i alderen 30-40 år, der har en kompetencegivende uddannelse. Særskilt for handicaptyper og -grader samt for mennesker uden handicap. 2011, 2015 og 2019. Procent.



<sup>60</sup> There was a change from ISCED 1997 to ISCED 2011 qualification definitions in 2014, although some Member States continued to use the older definition after this time.

Respondents aged 16-25 who have completed secondary education (STX, HHX, HTX, HG and HF). 2012, 2016 and 2020. As percentages.

**Figur 5.3** Respondenter i alderen 16-25 år, der har færdiggjort en gymnasial uddannelse (STX, HHX, HTX, HG og HF). 2012, 2016 og 2020. Procent.



No disability	Moderate physical disability
Moderate intellectual disability	Severe physical disability
Severe intellectual disability	

Source: Amilon, Østergaard, Olsen: *Mennesker med handicap*<sup>61</sup>

<sup>61</sup> See: <https://www.vive.dk/da/udgivelser/mennesker-med-handicap-16726/>.

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