

Disability Situation Analysis Challenges and Barriers for People with Disability in Indonesia

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Some 15 per cent of the world's population (one billion people) experience some form of disability, with a higher prevalence in developing countries. People with disability usually are at higher risk of experiencing limited opportunity to access education and educational facilities, poorer nutrition and health outcomes, lower levels of employment and higher poverty rates.¹ People with disability also experience various barriers to social and economic inclusion in society.

Quantitative information gathered from the National Socio-Economic Survey (Susenas) March 2019 found that more than 9 per cent of Indonesia's population have disability (23.3 million).² People with disability still face challenges in accessing different basic services such as birth certificates, education, social protection including health insurance, and difficulties in entering the labour market and employment.

Developing countries continue to work towards guaranteeing more inclusiveness for people with disability by:

- ensuring an enabling and easily accessible environment;
- shifting the policy perspective from charity and segregated solutions (such as residential or special schools) towards human rights and social justice;
- equalising opportunities and full inclusion and participation of people with disability in society; and
- recognising that disability is caused by both physical and environmental factors.³

Barriers to accessing basic services should be removed to enable people with disability in Indonesia to fully participate in society. These include better access to education—especially early childhood and secondary education. Access to social protection schemes should be expanded, especially the non-contributory schemes—such as ASPD (*Asistensi Sosial Penyandang Disabilitas: Social Assistance for Persons with Disability*) as well as a disability grants under the Indonesia Conditional Cash Transfer Program (*Program Keluarga Harapan: PKH*) which currently cover around 22,500 individuals and 300,000 individuals respectively.⁴ The current non-contributory social protection schemes that are tax-funded by the government cover less than 1 per cent of the total population of people with disability.

¹ World Bank. 2019. <https://www.worldbank.org/en/topic/disability>

² Susenas 2019. TNP2K 2020 calculation.

³ WHO and World Bank. 2011. "World Report on Disability." https://www.unicef.org/protection/World_report_on_disability_eng.pdf

⁴ Ministry of Social Affairs (MoSA). 2019.

Access to the labour market and employment for people with disability also needs to be increased. Central and local government, the private sector, and the overall community need to work together to provide better opportunities for people with disability to better participate in the labour market and earn better wages. As described in this analysis in detail, only 46.6 per cent of people with disability participate in the labour market and many of those are working in the informal sector for low wages.

Indonesia also needs to consider different concessions for people with disability so they have the maximum and full experience in society. Different strategies such as creating service providers (like those that are found in developed countries) that can provide information on, and be a point of referral to, health, education, and social protection services, to relevant training, courses or potential jobs need to be made available and easily accessible for people with disability in Indonesia. These strategies should be part of the mandate for both national and local government to realise the objectives of Law No. 8/2016 on People with Disability.

1. BACKGROUND

People with disability in Indonesia are not only at great economic and financial risk but are also facing great challenges in accessing health and education facilities and services, social protection, and in entering the labour market. In 2018, the Indonesia National Socio-Economic Survey (Susenas) included the Washington Group Disability Questions Set⁵ which aims to provide the most updated information on the disability situation and profile in Indonesia.

According to Susenas March 2019, slightly more than 9 per cent (around 23.3 million individuals) of the Indonesian population experience disabilities, with 2.2 per cent (approximately 5.7 million) experiencing severe disability. These numbers are similar to another available disability dataset—the 2015 intercensal population survey (SUPAS)⁶—that found nearly 9 per cent of the population with moderate or severe disability, and the IFLS of 2014 that found just over 10 per cent of the population aged 15 years and over experience difficulties with basic activities of daily living.⁷

Although Indonesia ratified the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD) in 2011 through the issuance of Law No. 19/2011 and has passed the Disability Law (Law No. 8/2016), very few policies have been implemented and little practical progress has been made to

ensure the rights of people with disability. People with disability have the right to access various basic services such as health, education, employment, and social protection without discrimination. Unfortunately, at the moment, access to these basic services tends to be limited for various reasons—for example: (i) limited data and information related to the disability situation in Indonesia; and (ii) the surrounding environment is not yet easily accessible to enable and accommodate the needs of people with disability.

Since 2018, the National Team for the Acceleration of Poverty Reduction (Tim Nasional Percepatan Penanggulangan Kemiskinan: TNP2K) has been advocating for the expansion of social protection schemes. This is especially the case with non-contributory/social assistance that should specifically target people with disability with meaningful concessions to ensure their rights and improve access—not only to social protection schemes, but also to better health and education facilities and services, civic life, and labour market participation.⁸

This disability analysis attempts to present the most updated quantitative information on people with disability in Indonesia. It also maps and identifies potential opportunities and gaps in the policy response to ensure better access to health, education, social protection, and the labour market.

⁵ The Washington Group Question Sets are designed to provide common definitions, concepts, standards, and methodologies in the production of statistics on people with and without disability. The question sets are designed to identify the population that is at a greater risk than the general population of experiencing restrictions on social participation, for example in education, employment, or civic life. The sets are aimed at providing comparable data cross-nationally for populations living in a variety of cultures with varying economic resources. The objective is to identify people with similar types and levels of limitation in basic actions, regardless of their nationality or culture.

⁶ SUPAS (Survei Penduduk Antar Sensus) defines people with disability as having physical, mental, intellectual, or sensory limitations that in the long term can make it difficult for them to participate fully and effectively based on equal rights. SUPAS assesses the severity of disability by following the Washington Group disability question sets.

⁷ IFLS: Indonesia Family Life Survey.

⁸ TNP2K 2019: Policy Brief Inclusive Social Protection for People with Disability in Indonesia

2. DISABILITY ANALYSIS

Indonesia has a variety of data sources that can be used as a basis for better understanding the situation related to people with disability. These include Susenas (predominantly Susenas March 2018 and March 2019); SUPAS 2015; Labour Force Survey/ Sakernas; IFLS; the National Basic Health Research/ Rikesdas; and the Unified Database/UDB/*Data Terpadu*).

Unfortunately, the existing data and profiles of people with disability still use different concepts and definitions so they cannot be immediately juxtaposed between one dataset and another. However, for the past few years, Indonesia has adapted questions related to people with disability from the Washington Group Short Sets of Disability Questions for

Susenas, Sakernas, and SUPAS (2015), as well as for the ongoing Population Census of 2020. This information should ideally be a starting point and reference which is consistent with the concept of disability based on the UNCRPD.

3. DISABILITY PROFILE IN INDONESIA

Based on the latest Susenas of March 2019 (Table 1), about 9 per cent (23.3 million individuals) of the population have a disability. 55.5 per cent (approximately 12.9 million) are female and 44.5 per cent are male (10.4 million). Of these 23.3 million individuals, around 9.9 million are in the bottom 40 per cent of socioeconomic welfare. Approximately 12 million of the 23.3 million (51.3 per cent) people with disability live in urban areas.

Table 1. Distribution of People with Disability (PwD)

Age Group	Susenas March 2019			SUPAS 2015		
	Total Population	People with Disability	% of PwD	Total Population	People with Disability	% of PwD
2-6 years	23,595,255	585,892	2.5	24,063,555	1,047,703	4.4
7-18 years	55,597,139	780,558	1.4	38,230,392	622,106	1.6
19-59 years	152,911,587	11,195,246	7.3	162,732,512	9,549,485	5.9
60+ years	25,649,285	10,739,821	41.9	21,609,716	9,888,281	45.8
Total	257,753,266	23,301,517	9.0	246,636,175	21,107,575	8.6

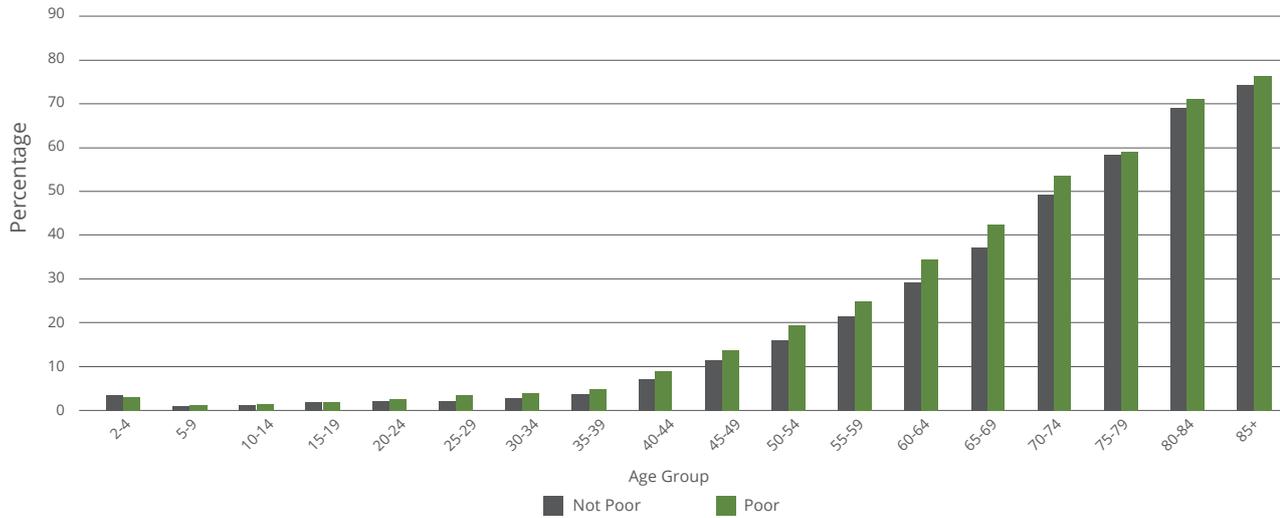
Source: Susenas March 2019 and SUPAS 2015, as calculated by author 2020.

There is a correlation between disability prevalence and poverty status, especially for those above 60 years of age (Figure 1). Poor households are unable to afford proper health treatment for their household

members with disability since the households with one or more members with disability tend to have higher expenses—around 30 per cent more, on average—compared to households without any.⁹

⁹TNP2K. 2019. "The Future of the Social Protection System in Indonesia: Social Protection for All.

Figure 1: Disability Prevalance and Economic Status in Indonesia (by Age)



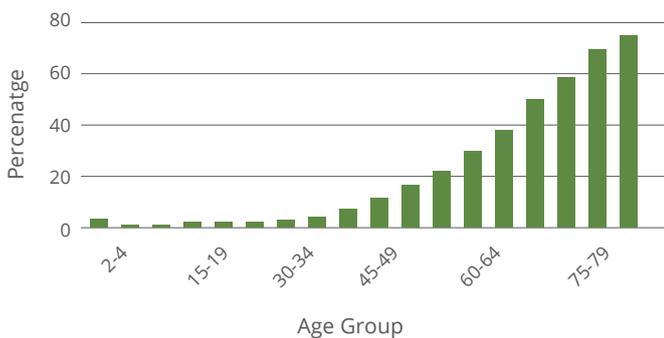
Source: Susenas March 2019, as calculated by author 2020.

Furthermore, Susenas March 2019 also reveals that the elderly (aged 60 years or older) have the highest prevalence of people with disability at close to 42 per cent. The prevalence for the productive age group (aged 19-59 years) and for children (aged 2-6 years) are

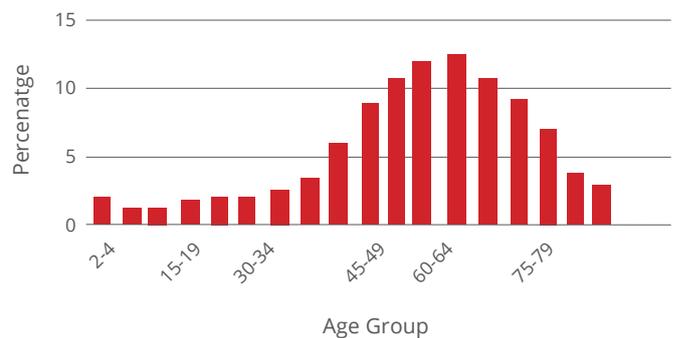
only 7.3 and 2.5 per cent, respectively.¹⁰ As is evident from Figure 2, the distribution of people with disability is skewed towards people of working age (19-59 years) and the elderly.

Figure 2: Disability Prevalance and Distribution (by Age)

Prevalance of People with Disability (%)



Distribution of People with Disability (%)



Source: Susenas March 2019, as calculated by author 2020.

¹⁰ Susenas March 2019, calculate by TNP2K 2020

Around 58.8 per cent of people with disability have one disability and the remaining 41.2 per cent are identified as having multiple disabilities (Table 2). Of the 23.3 million people with disability, 17.6 million are

considered to have a moderate level of disability (75.4 per cent) while 5.7 million are severely disabled (24.6 per cent).

Table 2: People with Disability Based on the Severity of Disability and Disability Category

Severity	All population		Bottom 40% of Income		Disability category	All population		Bottom 40% of Income	
	Total Number	%	Total Number	%		Total Number	%	Total number	%
Severe	5,729,969	24.6	2,810,174	28.3	Single	13,708,781	58.8	5,372,872	54.2
Moderate	17,571,548	75.4	7,110,585	71.7	Multiple	9,592,736	41.2	4,547,887	45.8
Total	23,301,517	100	9,920,759	100	Total	23,301,517	100	9,920,759	100

Source: Susenas March 2019, as calculated by author 2020.

4. ACCESS TO EDUCATION, HEALTH, AND SOCIAL PROTECTION OF PEOPLE WITH DISABILITY

4.1 Access to Birth Certificates

Indonesia continues to make considerable progress to ensure that all children have access to a birth certificate. Many efforts have been implemented by the national and local governments to make birth certificates easily accessible for all. Of the total 74.8 million children 2-17 years of age, 89 per cent already have access to birth certificates (83.5 per cent for those in the poorest 40 per cent). As for the 1.3 million children of the same age group who have disability, 1.1 million (84.6 per cent) have access to a birth certificate.¹¹

4.2 Access to Education

The Government of Indonesia (GoI) has been making various efforts aimed at increasing access to, and the quality and equity of, education for all citizens. With 20 per cent of the national budget being allocated

to education each year, the enrolment rate for primary and junior secondary school continues to increase—with the Net Enrolment Rate/NER (*Angka Partisipasi Murni: APM*) reaching almost 98 per cent and 79 per cent respectively.¹²

More work still needs to be done by the GoI nationally, however, so more children of 2 to 10 years of age are able to participate in pre-school education. Of the 52.5 million children in this age demographic and 24.5 million in the bottom 40 per cent by income, only 45.6 per cent and 41.7 per cent (respectively) are currently/ have been participating in pre-school education (Table 3).¹³

The pre-school participation rate for the same age bracket of children with disability is lower than the national rate. Of the 789,933 children with disability in the 2-10 years age range, only 237,370 (or 30 per cent) are, or have formerly been, enrolled in pre-school. This represents less than 1 per cent of the total population of this age cohort who are current or former participants in pre-school education.¹⁴

Table 3: Pre-School Enrolment Profile of Children with Disability 2-10 Years of Age

Pre-school enrolment	National population		Bottom 40% population		National PwD population		Bottom 40% PwD population	
	Number of population	%	Number of population	%	Number of population	%	Number of population	%
Currently enrolled/ formerly enrolled	23,941,840	45.6	10,239,596	41.7	237,370	30.0	98,311	27.3
Never enrolled	28,536,391	54.4	14,298,993	58.3	552,563	70.0	261,748	72.7
Total	52,478,231	100.0	24,538,589	100.0	789,933	100.0	360,059	100.0

Source: Susenas March 2019, as calculated by author 2020.

¹¹ Susenas 2018, as calculated by TNP2K 2019.

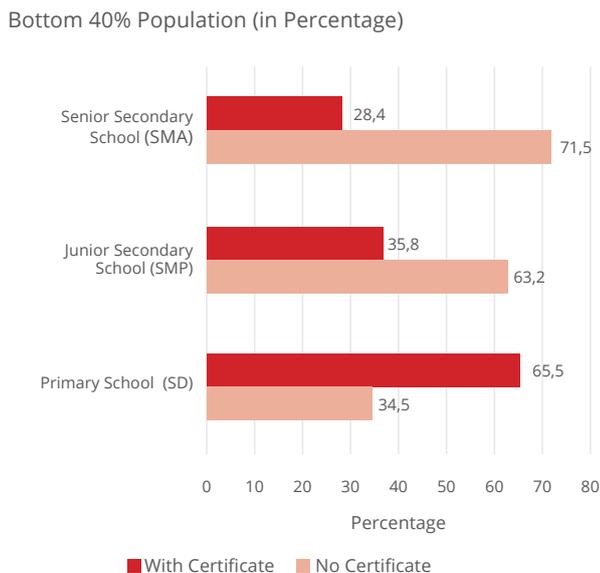
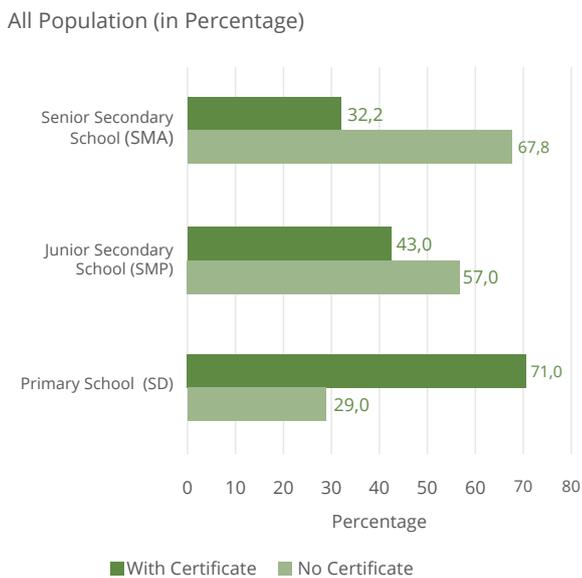
¹² <https://www.bps.go.id/linkTableDinamis/view/id/1052>

¹³ Susenas March 2019, as calculated by author 2020.

¹⁴ Ibid.

Information from Susenas (Figure 3) also reveals that, of 23.3 million people with disability, 71 per cent have a primary level certificate, but only 43 per cent and 32.2 per cent have a junior secondary and senior secondary certificate respectively. The corresponding figures for the bottom 40 per cent by income (9.9 million individuals) are 65.5 per cent with a primary level certificate, 36.8 per cent with a junior secondary certificate, and 28.4 per cent with a senior secondary certificate respectively.

Figure 3: Primary, Junior Secondary, and Senior Secondary Certificates Ownership of People with Disability

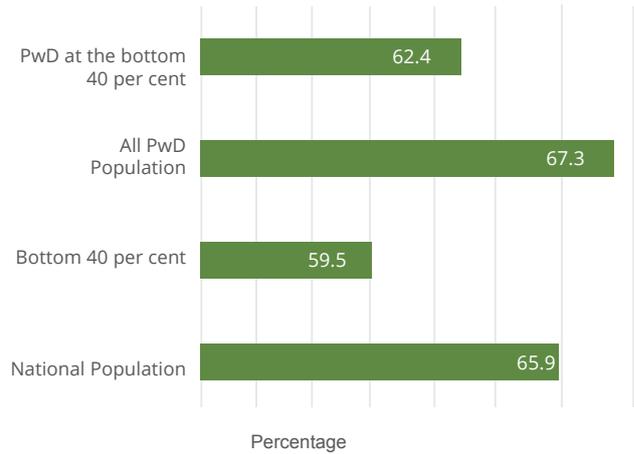


Source: Susenas March 2019, as calculated by author 2020.

4.3 Health Insurance and Individual Social Protection Benefits

Susenas (March 2019) found that, of the 23.3 million people with disability, 67.3 per cent have access to health insurance (public and private). For those from the bottom 40 per cent, approximately 62.4 per cent have access to either public or private health insurance, with the remaining 37.6 per cent having no access to health insurance (Figure 4).¹⁵

Figure 4: Access to Health Insurance (Public and Private)



Source: Susenas March 2019, as calculated by author 2020.

In terms of access to individual social protection (especially for the National Health Insurance scheme), more than 220 million individuals (85 per cent) had joined the National Health Insurance program (*Jaminan Kesehatan Nasional: JKN*) by 2019. Approximately 130 million of them are part of the non-contributory program (*JKN-PBI/Penerima Bantuan Iuran*) where their contributions are being financed by the national and local governments through the state and local budget (APBN and APBD).^{16,17}

While only 38.1 per cent of people with disability are beneficiaries of JKN-PBI, this rises to 46.2 per cent (of the population of 9.9 million) for those in the bottom 40 per cent. The remaining 53.8 per cent who are supposedly entitled to receive the benefit of JKN-PBI still have no access to the program (Table 4). These figures indicate that, overall, JKN-PBI coverage for people with disability is less than one-half the coverage for the population overall.

¹⁵ Ibid.

¹⁶ <https://www.bpjs-kesehatan.go.id/bpjs/>

¹⁷ State Budget/APBN: Anggaran Pendapatan dan Belanja Nasional; Local Budget/APBD: Anggaran Pendapatan dan Belanja Daerah.

Table 4: Access to the Non-Contributory National Health Insurance Scheme (JKN-PBI) by People with Disability

PwD with access to JKN-PBI	National population		Bottom 40% population	
	Number of PwD	%	Number of PwD	%
JKN-PBI beneficiaries	8,874,338	38.1	4,579,957	46.2
Non JKN-PBI beneficiaries	14,427,179	61.9	5,340,802	53.8
Total	23,301,517	100	9,920,759	100

Source: Susenas March 2019, as calculated by author 2020.

Furthermore, only 11.7 per cent of the 780,558 children with disability 7-18 years of age are beneficiaries of the Education Cash Transfer Program (known as *Program Indonesia Pintar*: PIP). Of the 338,406 children with disability in the same age group from the bottom 40 per cent by income, 16.8 per cent are beneficiaries of PIP. This shows that children with disability still lack access to education support in the form of cash transfers.

Table 5: Access to PIP by Children with Disability of 7-18 years of age

Children aged 7-18 years with disability	National population		Bottom 40% population	
	Number of children	%	Number of children	%
Receiving PIP	91,806	11.7	57,011	16.8
Not receiving PIP	688,752	88.3	281,395	83.2
Total	780,558	100	338,406	100

Source: Susenas March 2019, as calculated by author 2020.

5. LABOUR MARKET EXPERIENCE FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITY

5.1 Labour Market Participation Data

Indonesia's labour market has been progressing remarkably well in recent years with the unemployment rate down to a record low of 5.0 per cent in February 2019—with around 6.8 million unemployed.¹⁸ This progress seems to have had a positive influence on the availability of jobs for people with disability, however, their unemployment rate tends to fluctuate from time to time, with the lowest unemployment rate (2.5 per cent) in August 2018.¹⁹

To capture the labour market condition of people with disability, it is better to look at the long-term trend of employment measures, rather than at year-to-year changes of these measures, as suggested by Manning.²⁰ Between February 2016 to February 2019, close to 500,000 jobs were created, while the population of people with disability aged 15 years and over who participate in the labour market decreased by around 1.4 million people²¹. In the same period, the unemployment rate of people with disability fell 1.4 percentage point from 4.2% to 2.8%. This implies that the reduction in the unemployment rate of people with disability was due to the people with disability who exited the labour market rather than the increase of jobs available for people with disability.²²

The above illustration shows that the labour market situation of people with disability is not reflected in the unemployment rate. This is especially true since many workers with disability tend to shift between short-term work opportunities and then exit the labour force, particularly since these workers are most likely to be discouraged workers who are only marginally attached to the labour force.

¹⁸ Sakernas 2019, calculated by author 2020.

¹⁹ Ibid.

²⁰ Manning, 2006

²¹ Sakernas February 2016 and 2019, calculated by author 2020.

²² Ibid.

Table 6: Key Labour Market Indicators (2016-19)

Key Indicators	Feb-19	Aug-18	Feb-18	Aug-17	Feb-17	Aug-16	Feb-16
Population aged 15 years and above (millions)	196.5	194.8	193.5	192.1	190.6	189.1	187.6
PwD aged 15 years and above (millions)	18.3	18.2	18.1	18.0	19.1	19.7	20.0
PwD aged 15 years and above who participate in labour market (millions)	8.5	8.1	8.0	8.0	9.4	9.2	9.9
Employed PwD (millions)	8.3	7.9	7.8	7.7	9.1	8.9	9.5
Unemployed PwD (millions)	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.4
PwD aged 15 years and above who do not participate in labour market (millions)	9.8	10.1	10.1	10.0	9.6	10.5	10.1
National labour force participation rate (%)	69.3	67.3	69.2	66.7	69.0	66.3	68.1
PwD aged 15 years and above labour force participation rate (%)	46.6	44.3	44.4	44.4	49.5	46.8	49.7
National unemployment rate (%)	5.0	5.3	5.4	5.5	5.3	5.6	5.5
PwD unemployment rate (%)	2.8	2.5	3.1	3.6	3.7	3.1	4.2

Source: Sakernas 2016-19, calculated by author 2020.

There are disparate labour market outcomes for workers with disability, particularly for men and women, youth and older workers, and urban and rural dwellers. Table 7 below presents selected statistics for these groups of workers. It shows that the labour force participation rate of women was estimated at 36.9 per cent in February 2019, while the labour force participation rate of men was 58.9 per cent in the same period. These figures were significantly lower than the national figures of 55.5 per cent and 83.2 per cent for women and men respectively. The unemployment rate is higher in rural than urban areas, the converse of the national figure. The highest unemployment rate was found in the youth demographic (aged 15-24 years) at 17.4 per cent in February 2019.²³

Uneven outcomes between people with disability and the national labour force tend to be even more pronounced in terms of working hours and job formality status. Some 7.3 per cent of people with disability employed in rural areas worked less than 35

hours per week in February 2019, while 5.2 per cent employed in urban areas worked less than 35 hours per week in the same period. For the national labour force overall, 4.6 per cent of employed people in urban areas worked less than 35 hours per week, while 10 per cent of those in rural areas worked less than the normal 35 hours per week.²⁴ As described above, the majority of people with disability work in the informal sector. If this situation continues, and there are no changes in policies to increase employment opportunities for people with disabilities, it will be challenging for people with disabilities to improve their economic well-being.

²³ Sakernas 2019, calculated by author 2020.

²⁴ Ibid.

Table 7: Selected Key Labour Market Indicators (2016-19)

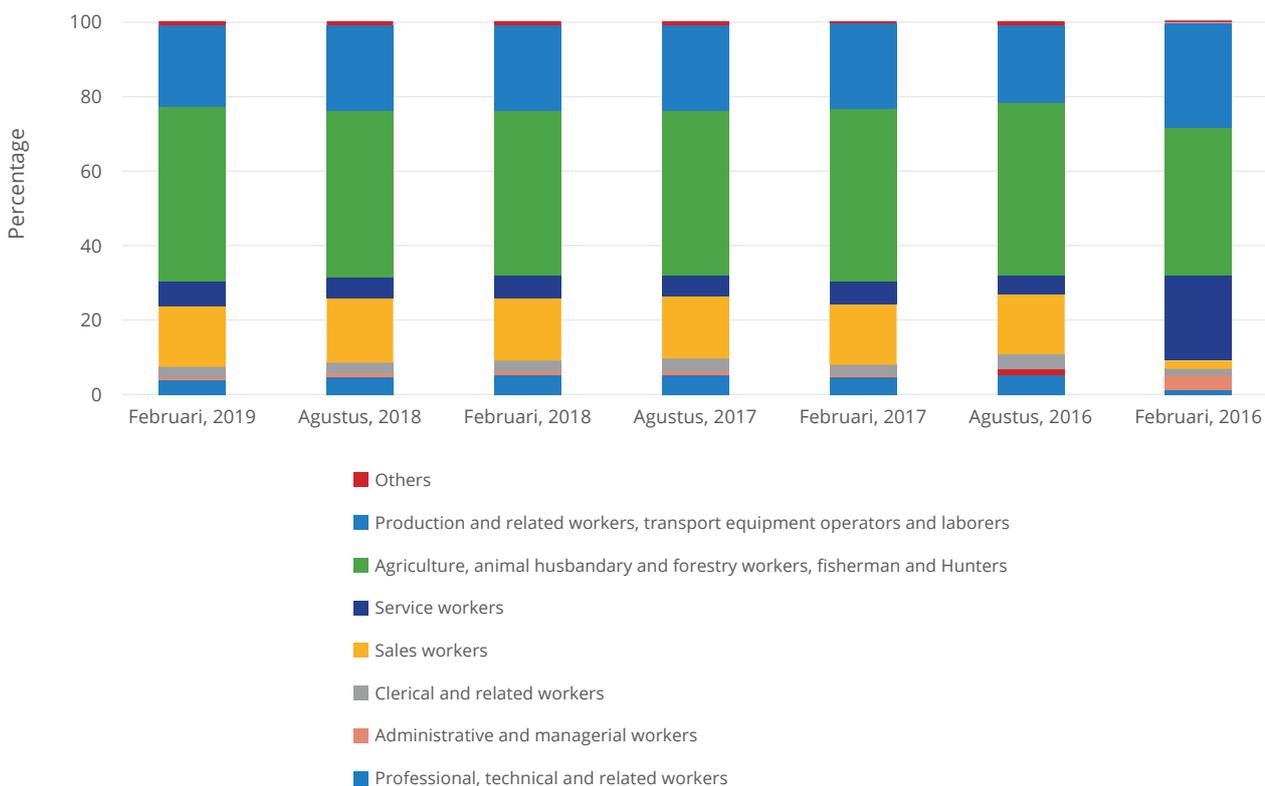
Key Indicators	Feb-19	Aug-18	Feb-18	Aug-17	Feb-17	Aug-16	Feb-16
PwD labour force participation rate (%)							
Men	58.9	58.3	58.8	59.2	63.6	60.9	60.9
Women	36.9	32.7	32.5	32.2	37.8	33.4	33.4
Urban	41.4	39.6	40.3	40.9	44.8	41.6	41.6
Rural	51.8	49.1	48.6	48.0	54.2	50.2	50.2
PwD unemployment rate (%)							
15-24 yrs	17.4	24.9	25.6	26.4	20.5	21.6	21.6
25-59 yrs	2.7	2.6	2.9	3.2	3.5	3.0	3.0
60+ yrs	2.1	0.8	1.7	2.7	2.8	1.9	1.9
Employed PwD with <35 working hours per week (%)							
Urban	5.2	4.2	4.3	4.4	5.7	4.8	4.8
Rural	7.3	6.4	7.1	7.7	7.4	6.7	6.7
PwD working in informal sector (%)							
Men	66.0	64.9	64.0	63.1	64.2	62.9	62.9
Women	69.6	68.9	69.2	69.4	69.7	66.7	66.7
Urban	52.5	51.5	51.0	50.5	50.1	49.9	49.9
Rural	79.0	78.6	78.5	78.4	79.6	76.4	76.4

Source: Sakernas February 2019, calculated by author.

As mentioned above, the majority of people with disability work in the informal sector with a large percentage working in the agricultural sector or as labourers, and this condition was pervasive throughout the analysis periods (Figure 5). Additionally, there was also a shift in employment choices for people with disabilities in 2016 where sales workers increased significantly, and service workers declined. This choice does not seem to have changed much in the next 3 years period. The trends of selected key labour market indicators and occupational choice of people with disability highlights

the need for better strategies to increase their labour force participation, better support to access decent jobs, especially for the young, and the promotion of productive employment in rural areas to encourage a more inclusive growth process.

Figure 5: People with Disability Occupational Choices (2016-19)



Source: Sakernas February 2019, calculated by author.

5.2 Educational Data on Labour Force Participation by People with Disability

Indonesia has dramatically increased rates of school enrolment and is now close to achieving universal literacy among the youth population. Figure 6 provides an overview of education attainment by age group for people with disability in the labour force. It illustrates that the supply of workers with disability with more years of schooling and higher levels of education is increasing, however, the composition of the labour force continues to be dominated by workers with lower levels of education.

In particular, it is more common to have people with disability aged over 60 years who did not finish their primary education or do not have any education at all. Those aged below 60 years are more likely to have completed basic education (up to senior

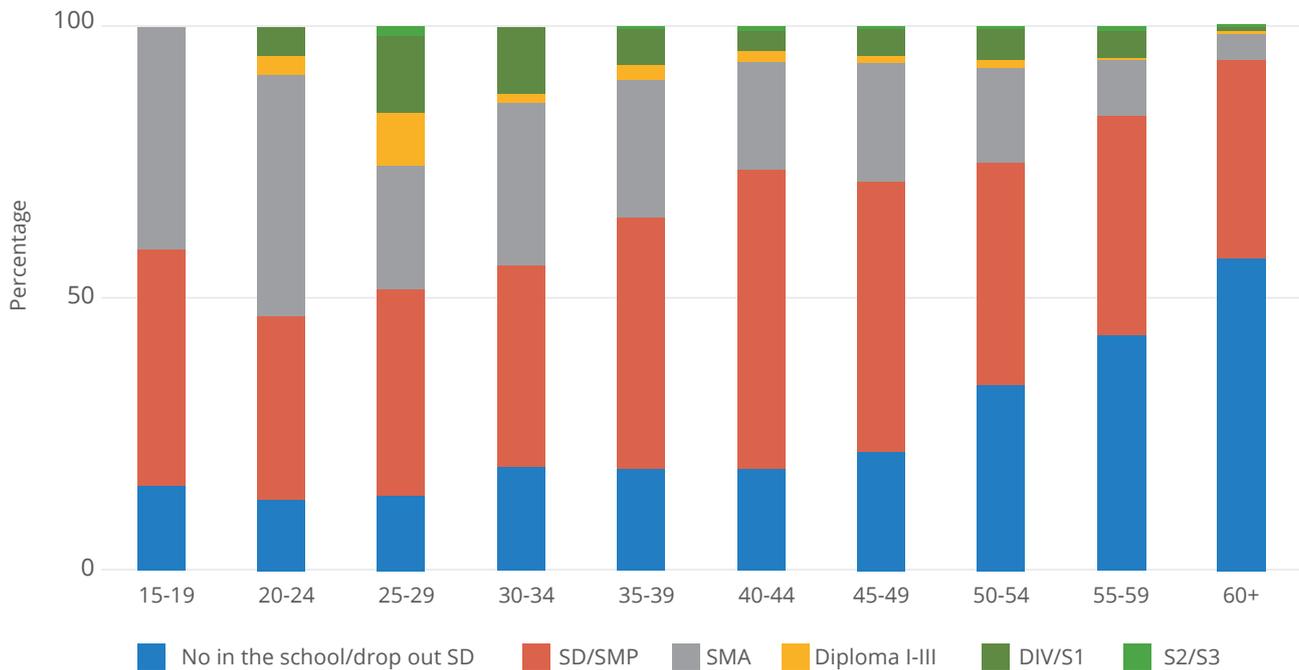
high school). Those aged 25-34 years have the highest rates of undergraduate completion and some have completed a graduate (S2/S3) education.²⁵

The data in Figure 6 illustrates that the trends in educational attainment for people with disability are improving, even though the overall condition is still disheartening—with the low levels of education of the mature-age population remaining the main challenge. In addition, there are still many young people who report a primary/junior secondary level (SD/SMP) attainment as their highest level of education, entailing a need for a continuous focus on school retention rates.²⁶

²⁵ Sakernas February 2019, calculated by author 2020.

²⁶ Ibid.

Figure 6: Education Attainment by Age Groups for PwD Labour Force (February 2019)



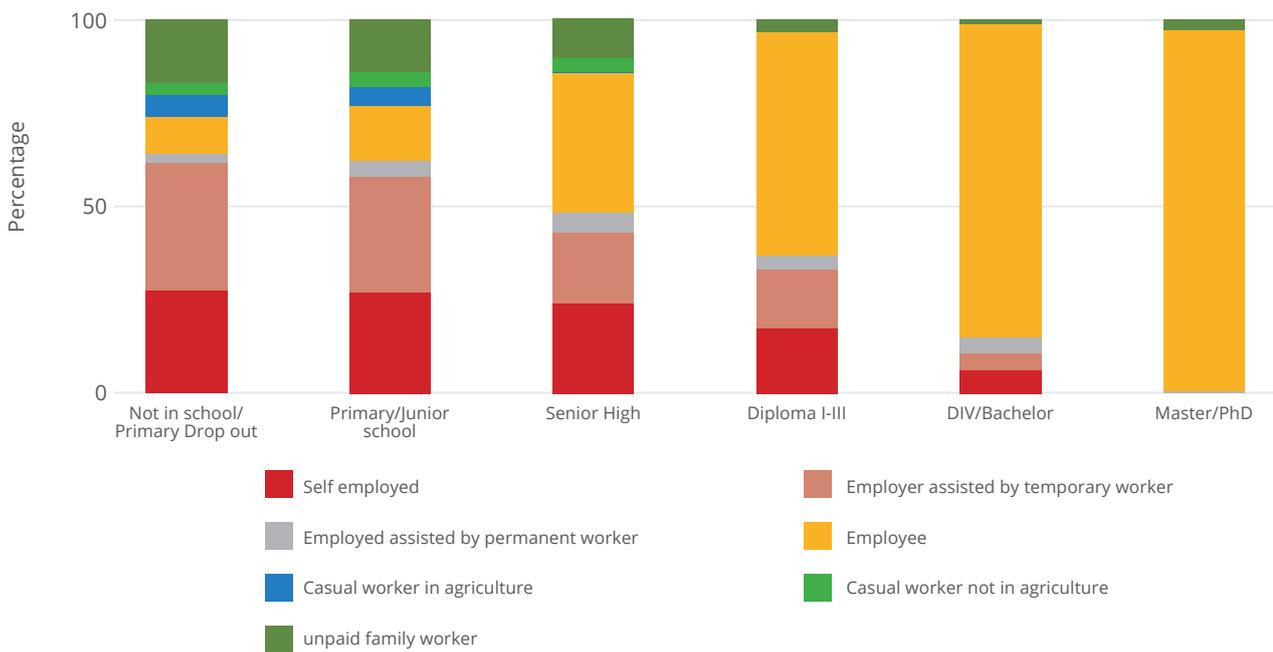
Source: Sakernas February 2019, calculated by author.

The percentage of people with disability nominating employee as their employment status rises dramatically with education (Figure 7). Workers who have completed high school are twice as likely to move into permanent, full-time employment that pays above the minimum wage when compared to those with junior high school or below. Workers with post-secondary qualifications were 3.5 to 4.5 times more likely to move into such employment than those with junior high school or below.²⁷

This situation highlights challenges for the inclusiveness of growth, with certain segments of the labour force likely to be cycling between temporary jobs and with limited opportunity to transition into more secure employment. Interventions to promote the movement of unskilled and low-skilled workers into quality jobs may, therefore, be needed, not only for the labour force with disability but also to the general labour force.

²⁷ Ibid.

Figure 7: People with Disability Status of Employment by Level of Education Attainment



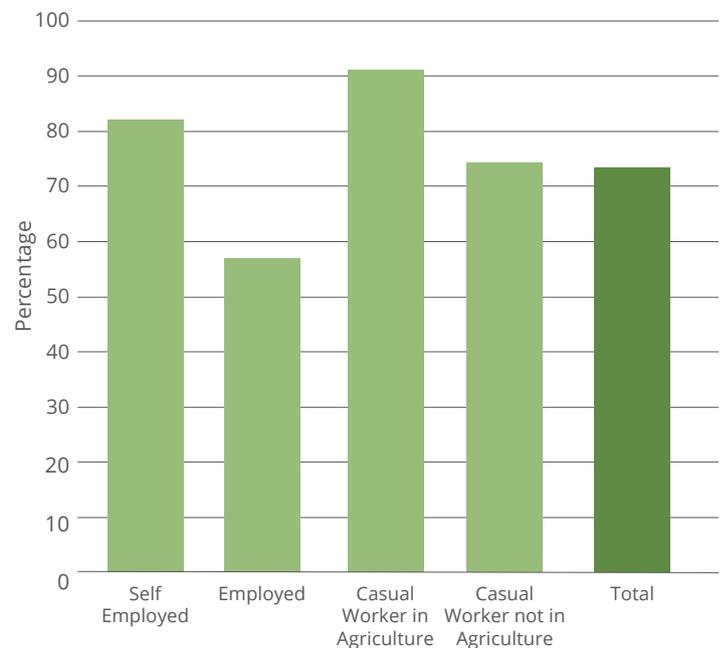
Sumber: Sakernas Februari 2019, dikalkulasi oleh penulis pada 2020

5.3 Wage Data on Labour Force Participation by People with Disability

Across four types of employment status where Sakernas collected wage/income information, the majority of workers with disability earned less than the provincial minimum wage in February 2019. Those who were categorised as casual workers in agriculture and self-employed have lower earnings than regular employees (Figure 8). Within the same period, the average monthly wage of casual employees in agriculture was Rp 0.8 million, casual employees not in agriculture was Rp 1.3 million and self-employed workers was Rp 1.4 million, while regular employees earned Rp 2.1 million on average. The average wage of regular employees was, therefore, 2.6 times higher than that of causal employees in agriculture.²⁸

In terms of median wages, the median monthly wage for casual employees in agriculture was Rp 0.7 million, for casual employees not in agriculture Rp 1.2 million, self-employed workers was Rp 1.0 million, while median earnings for regular employees was Rp 1.5 million. Furthermore, the earnings of casual employees in agriculture have been relatively stagnant over the period, while earnings for regular employees have increased.

Figure 8: Percentage of Workers with Disability Earning Less than the Provincial Minimum Wage by Employment Status



Source: Sakernas February 2019, calculated by author.

²⁸ Ibid.

In particular, over the last decade, economic development in Indonesia has been associated with industries that require higher skill levels than in previous periods. As the economy has developed, its demand for a more highly skilled labour force has continued. This may provide some explanation as to why educated workers have wage premiums, despite the increasing supply of such workers.

In contrast, a worker with a low level of skills is becoming less likely to meet the requisites for the new jobs that are being created and less likely to meet the expectations of employers. These workers have faced downward pressure on their wages. Without substantial investments in education, the chance of workers with low skills gaining quality employment becomes less likely as the economy further develops.

6. Conclusion

The GoI continues to work on progressing a better policy and program framework to support people with disability, however, there is still much work that needs to be done. Indonesia needs to be able to ensure the full rights of, and reduce barriers both socially and economically for, one of its most marginalised groups—people with disability—not only so they have better access to the country's basic facilities and services, but also to realise a more equal, inclusive, and cohesive society in the near future. Furthermore, there is scope to increase the availability of friendly infrastructure of people with disability, as well as provisions of assistive devices such as hearing aids, mobility aids, sign language translators, etc. Disability issues are cross-sectoral, so prioritisation by ministries across the economic, health, education and culture portfolios, among others, is important.

The 2019 expansion of the PKH is an important step towards broader coverage of people with disability access to social protection. An issue, however, is that the severely disabled persons do not receive PKH support if their family income exceeds the threshold level for the scheme, even though their situation may be dire. There is also debate over whether additional PKH funds for the severely disabled do enough to help to increase the autonomy of people with disability, given that the funds are transferred to the family rather than directly to the person with the disability (Burke & Siyaranamual, 2019). Over time, a broader support system through social protection with a more focused on vulnerable people with disability needs to be introduced.

Access to Basic Services (Birth Certificates and Education) and to Social Protection (Health Insurance and PIP)

- Good progress has been made by the government to ensure children with disability (2-17 years of age) have access to birth certificates (about 84.6 per cent of the total 1.3 million children). Unfortunately, access to a pre-school level education for children with disability is very low compared to the national number (around 1 per cent or only 237,370 children from the total of 23.3 million children nationally who are or have been enrolled in pre-school).
- In addition, access of people with disability to primary, junior secondary, and senior secondary level certificates is also low compared to the national level, especially for the junior and senior secondary school where only 43 per cent and 32.2 per cent (out of the total number of people with disability) have junior and senior secondary level certificates respectively. These percentages indicate that education access, for both facilities and services need to better accommodate children and every individual with disability in the near future.
- In terms of access to the National Health Insurance, as indicated by Susenas, 67 per cent of people with disability have some access to either public or private insurance. Unfortunately, however, almost 33 per cent of this population are still without access to any health insurance.
- Nationally, PIP has been provided to almost 20 million children of 6-21 years old who are registered in formal or non-formal schools. Nonetheless, PIP has only reached approximately 11.7 per cent of the 780,558 children with disability in the 7-18 age group, and approximately 16.8 per cent of the 338,406 children with disability from the bottom 40 per cent.
- It can, therefore, be concluded that access to social protection, especially health insurance and education transfers, needs to be improved to reach more people with disability.

Access to the Labour Market and Employment

- As described in the previous section, despite remarkable progress in Indonesia's labour market with an unemployment rate of 5 per cent in February 2019, this progress has not had any positive influence on jobs availability for people with disability.
- Of the 18.3 million people with disability aged 15 years and above, only 8.5 million (46 per cent) participate in the labour market and the remaining 9.8 million do not participate in the labour market.
- Different groups of people with disability (men and women, youth and older workers, as well as urban and rural groups) also have disparate labour market outcomes. The labour force participation rate of women with disability is lower (only 37 per cent) than that of men with disability (59 per cent) as of February 2019. These rates are also lower than the national labour force participation rates.
- Access to the labour market and employment for people with disability continues to be uneven for both job formality status and working hours compared to the national numbers. Some 7.3 per cent of people with disability in rural areas and 5.2 per cent in urban areas work less than 35 hours per week. For the national labour force overall, 4.6 per cent of workers in urban areas and 10 per cent of workers in rural areas work less than 35 hours per week.
- A majority of people with disability who are in employment work in the informal sector—especially in the agriculture sector and as labourers—and this condition is consistent throughout the analysis periods.

Based on several quantitative analyses of the disability situation in Indonesia utilising the latest national surveys (particularly Susenas March 2019 and Sakernas February 2019), it can, therefore, be concluded that **despite the fact that there has been continuous progress for the Indonesia population in basic access to facilities and services, social protection, and labour market and employment, this progress has not yet been matched by Indonesia's most marginalised group—people with disability.**

More comprehensive efforts are needed to ensure that all people with disability in Indonesia can better access their basic rights as citizens. Existing policies and programs related to people with disability need to be gradually and systematically expanded and strengthened by: (i) improving infrastructure that is more friendly to them; (ii) extending useful concessions such as inclusive education, comprehensive health care and insurance; and (iii) expanding opportunities for disability groups in various labour markets and employment.

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