



REDUCTION IN HOUSEWORK DUE TO DISABILITY

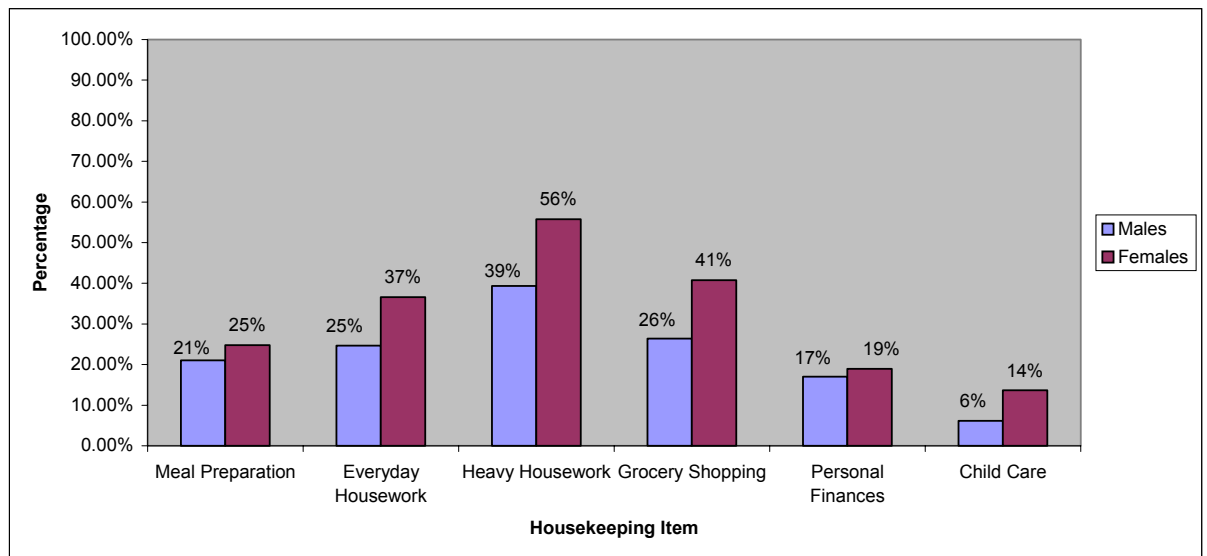
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In assessing housekeeping capacity claims, we usually have the plaintiff fill out a *Diary of Household Activities*.¹ In this *Diary*, we ask the claimant to assess how much (in percentage terms) of each task s/he can no longer do given his/her impairments.

There is data available to estimate the impairment in housekeeping activity. Statistics Canada's *Participation and Activity Limitation Survey 2001* surveyed a population that consisted of all persons who reported disabilities and who were living in Canada at the time of the 2001 Census. Individuals classified as disabled are those whose activities are limited because of a condition or health problem.

As part of the survey, individuals were asked whether they require help with meal preparation, everyday housework (such as dusting and tidying up), heavy housework (such as spring cleaning or yard work), shopping for groceries, personal finances (such as making bank transactions or paying bills) and childcare² as a result of their condition. Figure 1 below shows the percentage of males and females (average all ages) who require additional assistance with these housekeeping duties as a result of their condition.

Figure 1: Proportion requiring assistance with housework due to disability (2001 PALS)



Source: Statistics Canada's Participation and Activity Limitation Survey (PALS) 2001, Catalogue No. 82M0023GPE, Variable Name C1, C5, C9, C13, and C22, Collection Name AC1, AC5, AC9, AC13 and AC22.

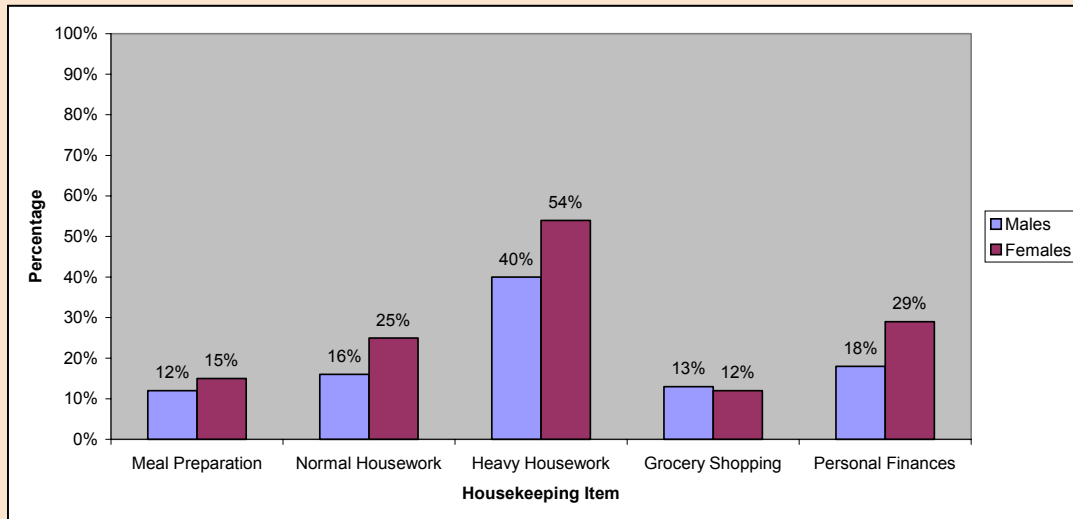
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¹ For a copy of the *Diary of Household Activities*, go to www.browneconomic.com > Products and services > Checklists and Diaries > click on "Diaries" on the left-hand menu. Alternatively, for on-line estimates, click on "Housekeeping (pay per use)" from the home page at www.browneconomic.com and click "Launch calculator" from the left-hand menu to fill out a shortened version of the *Diary*.

² Individuals who answered "not applicable" when asked if they require help with childcare services were not included in our analysis.

As shown in Figure 1, page 1, females require more assistance with housekeeping duties as a result of their condition than males. For both males and females, more individuals required assistance with heavy housework than with any other housekeeping service (nearly 40% for males and 56% for females). More than twice as many females required help for childcare services than males (14% for females versus 6% for males). For comparison, Figure 2 below shows the percentage reduction in housework due to disability from the 1991 *Health and Activity Limitation Survey* (HALS).

Figure 2: Percentage Reduction in Housework Due to Disability (HALS)

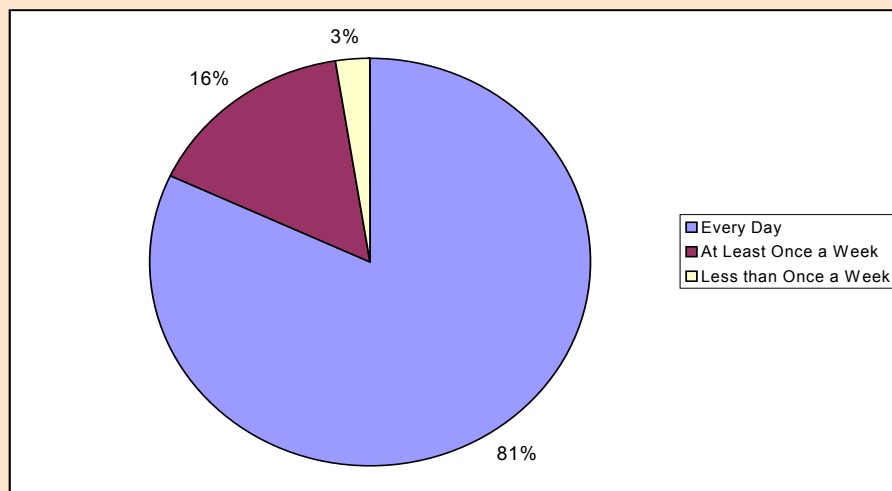


Source: Statistics Canada's 1991 *Health and Activity Limitation Survey*.

Figure 1 and Figure 2 show that one-sixth to one-quarter of people either can't do meal preparation or need help; one-quarter to a third need help or can't do normal housework; 40% of males and 55% of females either need help or can't do heavy housework; but fewer men and women need help or can't do shopping, personal finances or child care (6 to 29%).

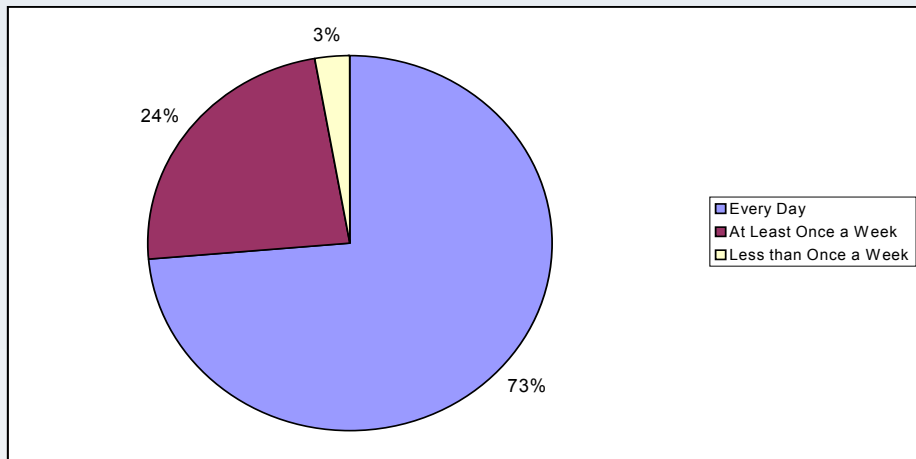
Statistics Canada's *Participation and Activity Limitation Survey 2001* also shows the amount of help individuals require from family members living with them. For example, the figures below show how often family members living with disabled individuals help them with housekeeping activities.

Figure 3: How Often Does Family Living With You Help You With Preparing Meals?



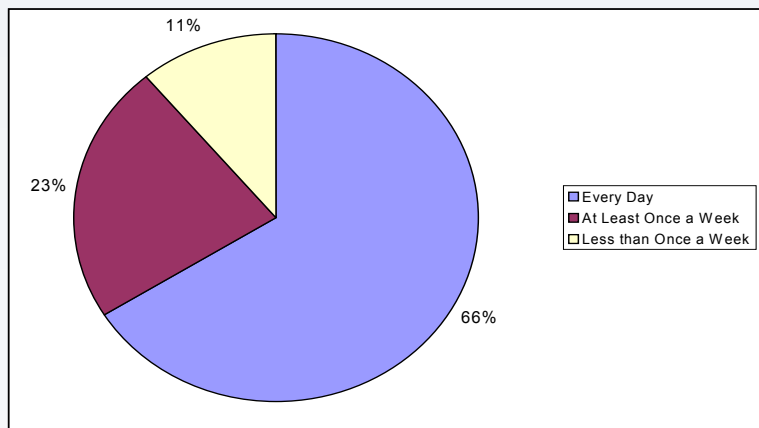
Source: Statistics Canada's *Participation and Activity Limitation Survey (PALS) 2001*, Catalogue No. 82M0023GPE, Variable Name C3AA, Collection Name AC3AA

Figure 4: How Often Does Family Living With You Help You With Everyday Housework?



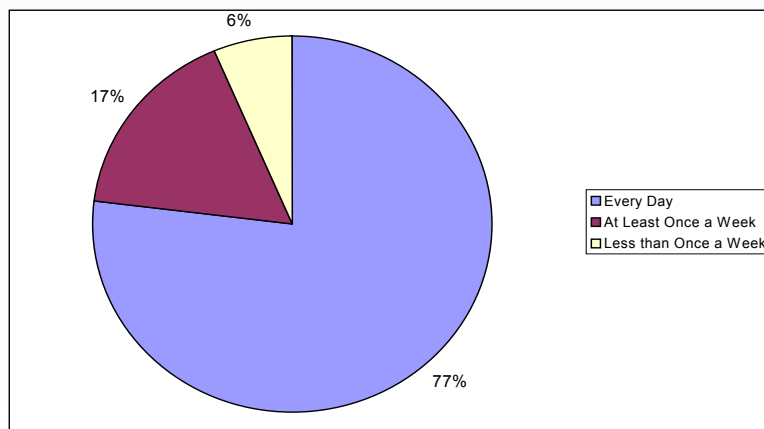
Source: Statistics Canada's Participation and Activity Limitation Survey (PALS) 2001, Catalogue No. 82M0023GPE, Variable Name C7AA, Collection Name AC7AA

Figure 5: How Often Does Family Living With You Help You With Heavy Housework?



Source: Statistics Canada's Participation and Activity Limitation Survey (PALS) 2001, Catalogue No. 82M0023GPE, Variable Name C11AA, Collection Name AC11AA

Figure 6: How Often Does Family Living With You Help You With Child Care?

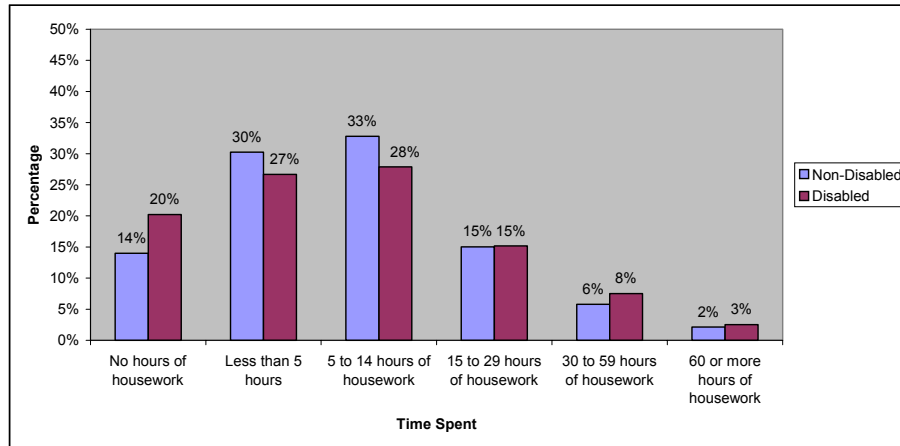


Source: Statistics Canada's Participation and Activity Limitation Survey (PALS) 2001, Catalogue No. 82M0023GPE, Variable Name C24AA, Collection Name AC24AA

As shown in the figures, page 3, the majority of individuals with disabilities who receive help from family living with them receive help with housekeeping duties every day. The highest percentage is for individuals receiving assistance with preparing meals. 81% of individuals with disabilities receive help preparing meals from family living with them.

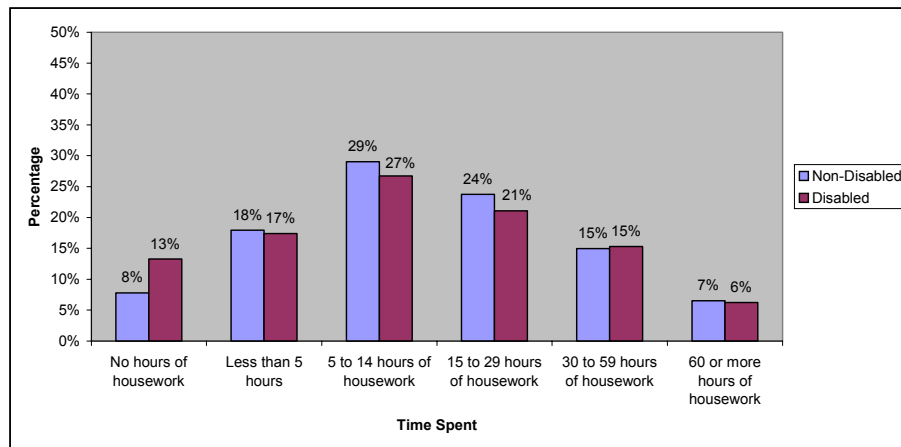
Statistics Canada’s *Participation and Activity Limitation Survey 2001* also shows the amount of time individuals spend on unpaid housework in general. The figures below compare the amount of time spent on unpaid housework by disabled individuals versus non-disabled individuals.

Figure 7: Number of Hours Spent on Housework - Males



Source: Statistics Canada's Participation and Activity Limitation Survey (PALS) 2001, Catalogue No. 82M0023GPE, Variable Name UPHWKP, Collection Name UPHWKP

Figure 8: Number of Hours Spent on Housework - Females



Source: Statistics Canada's Participation and Activity Limitation Survey (PALS) 2001, Catalogue No. 82M0023GPE, Variable Name UPHWKP, Collection Name UPHWKP

As shown in the figures above, on average the majority of both non-disabled males and females spend 5 to 14 hours on unpaid housework (33% and 29% respectively). Not surprisingly, a larger percentage of disabled men and women spend no hours on housework than those who are non-disabled (20% versus 14% for men and 13% versus 8% for women). However, the data also shows when the number of hours spent on unpaid housework increases, the number of hours spent by disabled versus non-disabled individuals is relatively equal. This may be because disabled individuals have more time to do housework if they can longer work, or have to work part-time rather than full-time because of their disabilities. For example, 2% of non-disabled men spend 60 or more hours on unpaid housework compared with 3% of disabled men. Similarly, 7% of non-disabled women and 6% of disabled women spend 60 or more hours on unpaid housework.

UPDATING NON-PECUNIARY AWARDS FOR INFLATION (JANUARY 2007, CANADA)

Year of Accident/ Year of Settlement or Trial	"Inflationary" Factors*	Non-Pecuniary Damages - Sample Awards				
		\$10,000	\$25,000	\$50,000	\$75,000	\$100,000
January 2006-January 2007	1.012	\$10,123	\$25,307	\$50,614	\$75,921	\$101,227
Avg. 2005-January 2007	1.015	\$10,149	\$25,373	\$50,746	\$76,119	\$101,493
Avg. 2004-January 2007	1.037	\$10,369	\$25,923	\$51,846	\$77,769	\$103,692
Avg. 2003-January 2007	1.056	\$10,564	\$26,410	\$52,821	\$79,231	\$105,642
Avg. 2002-January 2007	1.085	\$10,854	\$27,136	\$54,272	\$81,408	\$108,544
Avg. 2001-January 2007	1.110	\$11,100	\$27,749	\$55,498	\$83,247	\$110,997
Avg. 2000-January 2007	1.138	\$11,383	\$28,458	\$56,916	\$85,374	\$113,833
Avg. 1999-January 2007	1.169	\$11,692	\$29,231	\$58,462	\$87,692	\$116,923
Avg. 1998-January 2007	1.190	\$11,897	\$29,742	\$59,484	\$89,227	\$118,969
Avg. 1997-January 2007	1.201	\$12,007	\$30,019	\$60,037	\$90,056	\$120,074
Avg. 1996-January 2007	1.220	\$12,200	\$30,500	\$61,001	\$91,501	\$122,002
Avg. 1995-January 2007	1.240	\$12,399	\$30,998	\$61,996	\$92,994	\$123,992
Avg. 1994-January 2007	1.267	\$12,667	\$31,667	\$63,333	\$95,000	\$126,667
Avg. 1993-January 2007	1.269	\$12,692	\$31,729	\$63,458	\$95,187	\$126,916
Avg. 1992-January 2007	1.292	\$12,920	\$32,300	\$64,600	\$96,900	\$129,200
Avg. 1991-January 2007	1.312	\$13,117	\$32,792	\$65,584	\$98,376	\$131,168
Avg. 1990-January 2007	1.385	\$13,848	\$34,620	\$69,239	\$103,859	\$138,478
Avg. 1989-January 2007	1.452	\$14,517	\$36,292	\$72,584	\$108,876	\$145,169
Avg. 1988-January 2007	1.524	\$15,236	\$38,090	\$76,179	\$114,269	\$152,358
Avg. 1987-January 2007	1.585	\$15,853	\$39,632	\$79,264	\$118,896	\$158,528
Avg. 1986-January 2007	1.654	\$16,543	\$41,357	\$82,714	\$124,072	\$165,429
Avg. 1985-January 2007	1.723	\$17,227	\$43,067	\$86,133	\$129,200	\$172,267
Avg. 1984-January 2007	1.792	\$17,920	\$44,799	\$89,598	\$134,397	\$179,196
Avg. 1983-January 2007	1.870	\$18,698	\$46,744	\$93,488	\$140,232	\$186,975
Avg. 1982-January 2007	1.979	\$19,786	\$49,464	\$98,928	\$148,392	\$197,856
Avg. 1981-January 2007	2.194	\$21,935	\$54,839	\$109,677	\$164,516	\$219,355
Avg. 1980-January 2007	2.463	\$24,629	\$61,572	\$123,144	\$184,716	\$246,288
Avg. 1979-January 2007	2.713	\$27,132	\$67,830	\$135,660	\$203,490	\$271,320
Jan. 1978-January 2007	3.094	\$30,936	\$77,339	\$154,678	\$232,017	\$309,356

\$79,264 = \$50,000 x 1.585 represents the dollar equivalent in January 2007 of \$50,000 based on inflation increases since 1987. Similarly, \$309,356 (= \$100,000 x 3.094) represents the dollar equivalent in January 2007 of \$100,000 in 1978 based on inflationary increases since 1978.

* Source: Statistics Canada, Consumer Price Index, monthly CPI release

Consumer Price Index		Unemployment Rate	
From Jan. 2006 to Jan. 2007* (rates of inflation)		For the month of Jan. 2007	
Canada:	1.2%	Canada:	6.2%
Vancouver:	2.6%	Vancouver:	4.8%
Toronto:	0.3%	Toronto:	6.6%
Edmonton:	3.0%	Edmonton:	3.8%
Calgary:	4.6%	Calgary:	2.6%
Halifax:	0.9%	Halifax:	4.4%
St. John's, NF:	1.1%	St. John's, NF:	7.7%
Saint John, NB:	0.3%	Saint John, NB:	5.9%
Charlottetown:	1.2%	Charlottetown:	10.7%

* Based on 12-month rolling average. Source: Statistics Canada

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