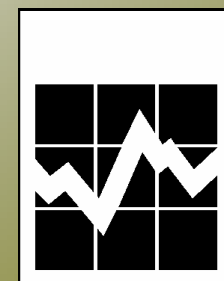


# An Overview of PALS 2006

**Susan Stobert**



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- **Overview of PALS**
  - Conceptual framework, survey design, methodology
- **Dissemination Plans**
- **Changes in the Disability Rates Since 2001**
  - Disability rates are on the rise
  - Age standardisation and changing perceptions
- **The Prevalence of Disability in Canada**
- **Questions?**





## Information is the foundation for action on disability issues

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



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# Goals for the 2006 PALS Survey

## **# 1: Time series compatibility with PALS 2001**

- The 2001 data was not comparable to HALS 1991

## **#2: Addition of subject matter content to reflect topics of emerging interest**



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# PALS 2006 Sample Design

- **Stratified random sample post-censal design**
  - Census disability filter questions
- **Target population**
  - children (under 15) and adults (15 years and over) living in households in the 10 provinces and the territories who reported an activity limitation in the census
- **Sample of 39,000 adults, 9,000 children from the YES sample in the 2006 Census**
- **Response rate of 75.0%**
- **Weights profiled using most recent Census**
  - Post-stratified for non-response



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# Major Changes from 2001

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



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- **Staged release**
- **December 3, 2007 – Disability rates**
  - Analytic document
  - Technical/methodological report
  - Tables
- **May 2008 – Pals survey contents**
  - Aids and assistive devices and special education
  - Preliminary RDC file
- **July 2008 – Employment**
- **August 2008 – Sub-provincial disability rates**
- **September 2008 – Income**
  - Final RDC file





# The Prevalence of Disability in Canada

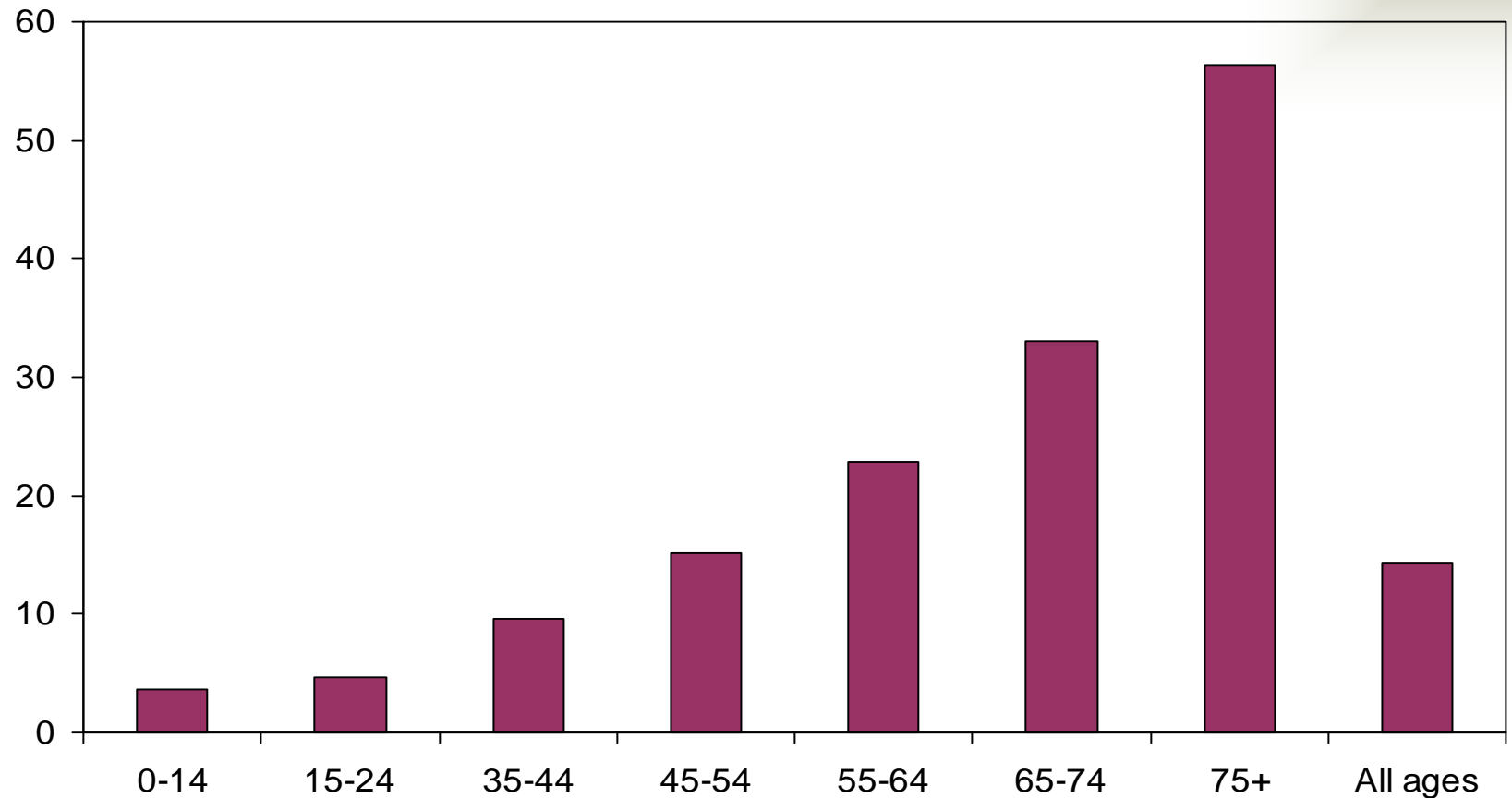


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# Activity Limitations are More Prevalent Among Older Canadians, PALS 2006



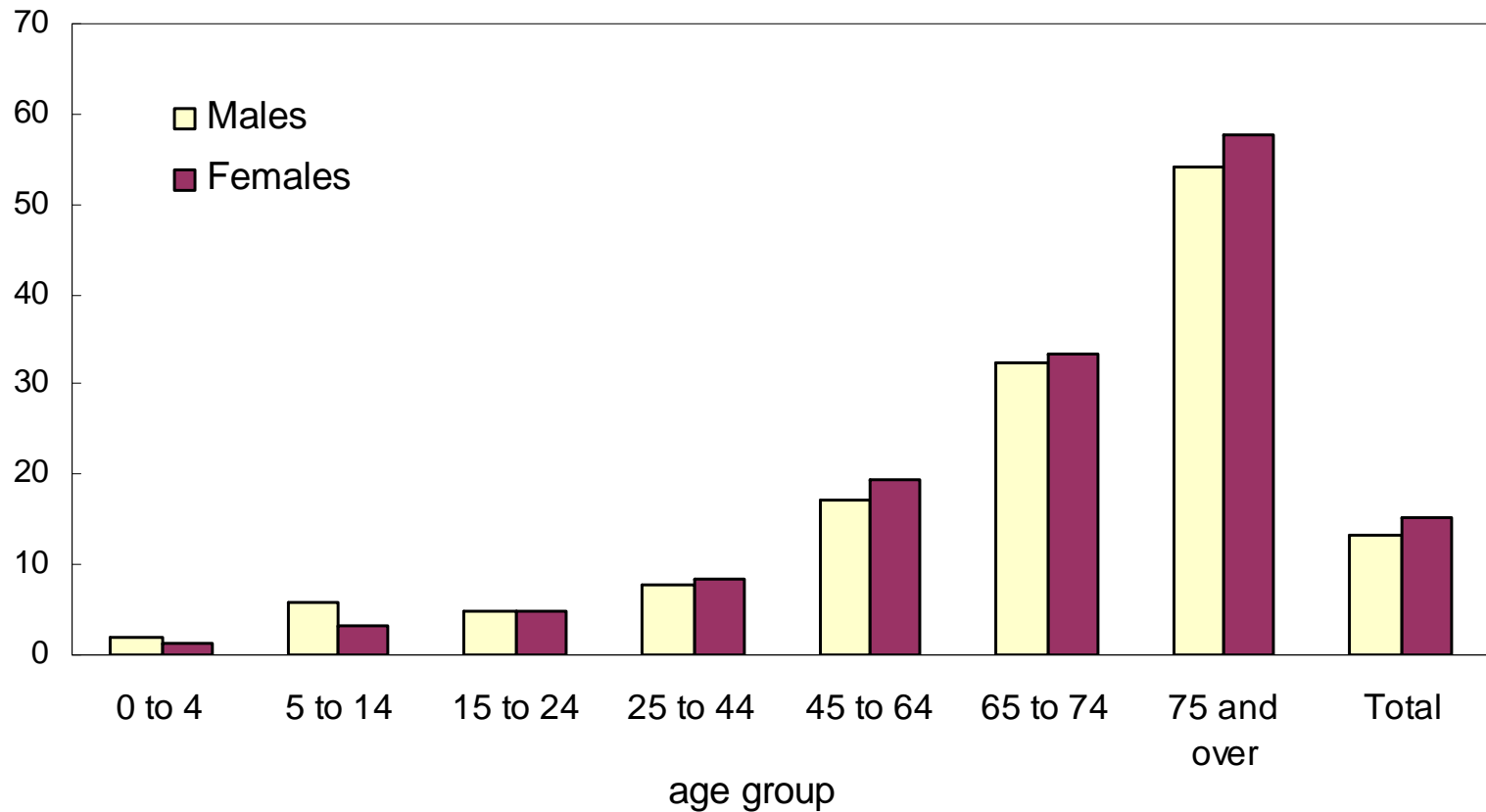
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Source: Statistics Canada, Participation Activity Limitation Survey, 2006

# Adult Women Report Higher Disability Rates than Men, PALS 2006

percentage



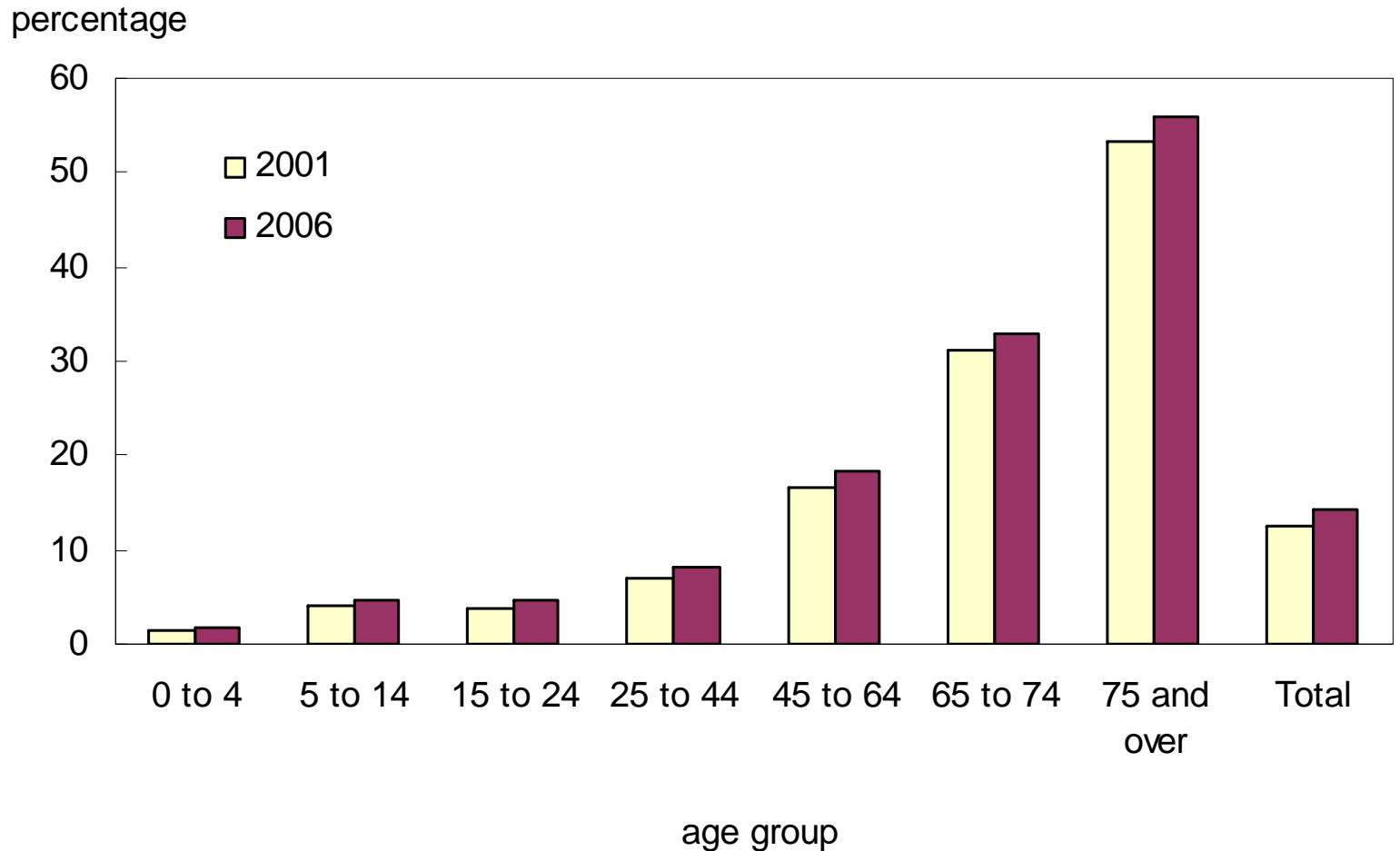
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Source: Statistics Canada, Participation Activity Limitation Survey, 2006



# Growth in Disability Rates between 2001 and 2006



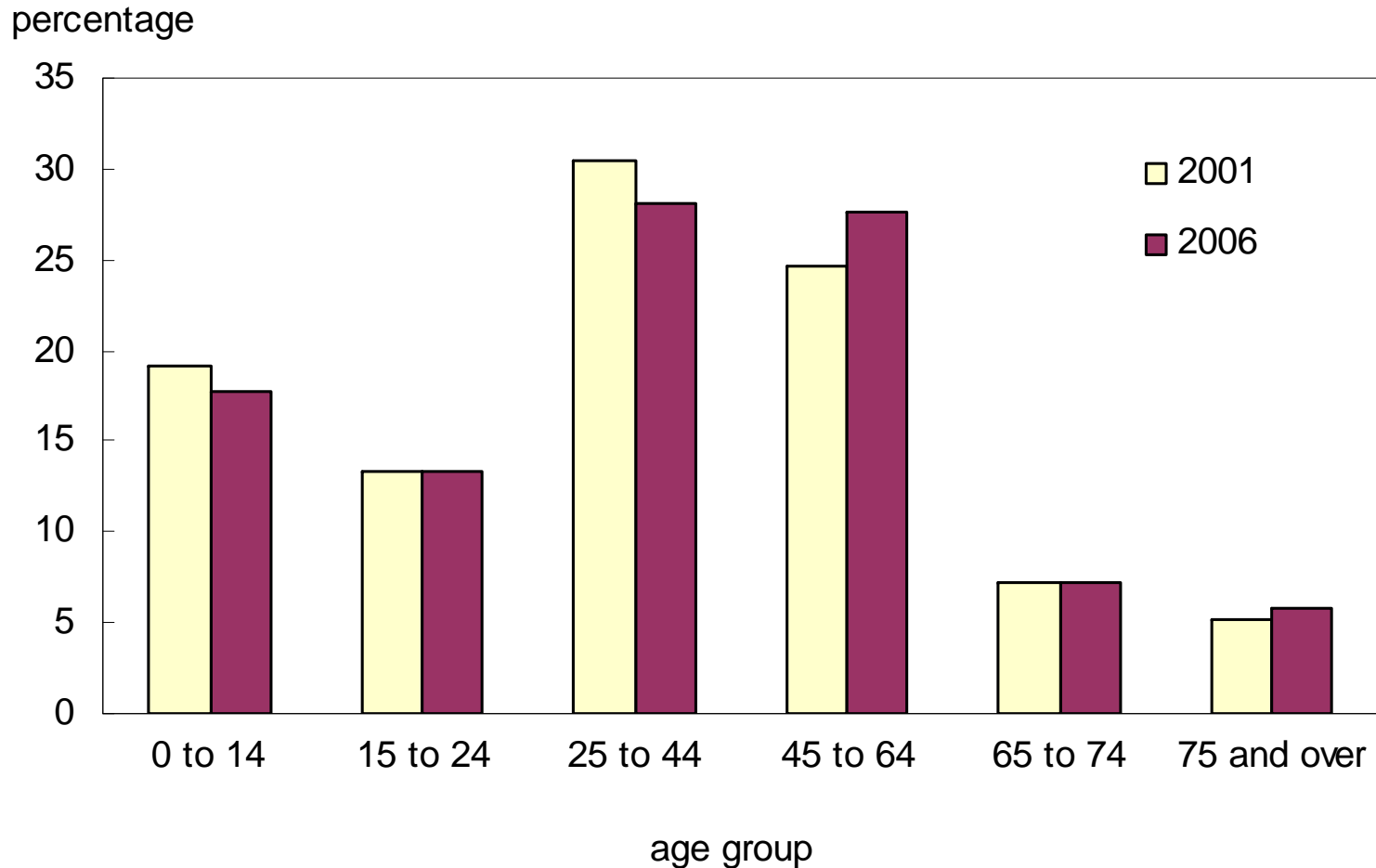
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Source: Statistics Canada, Participation Activity Limitation Survey, 2001 & 2006



# Canadian Population Continues to Age



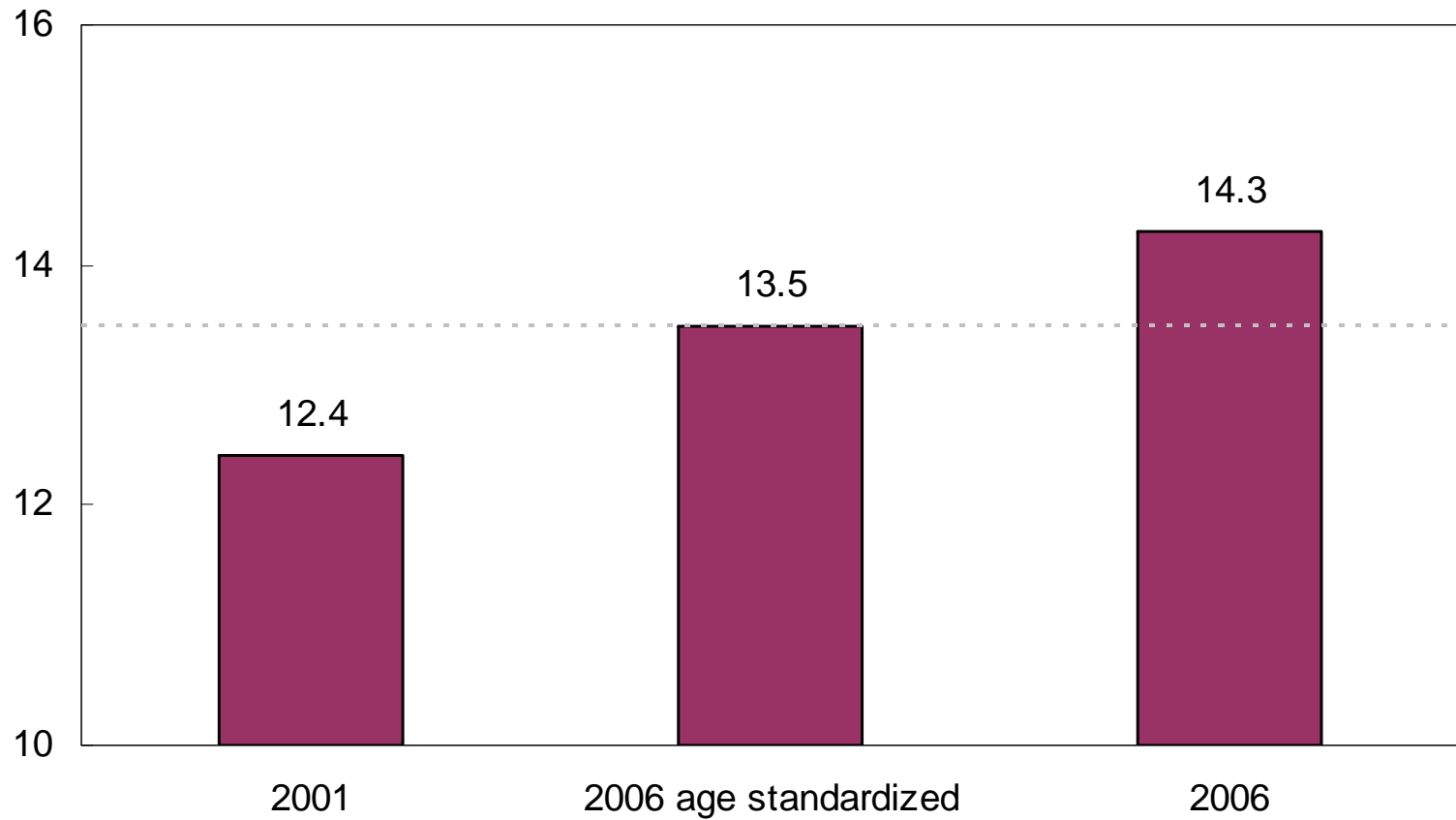
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Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Population, 2001 & 2006

# Age Standardised Disability Rate

percentage



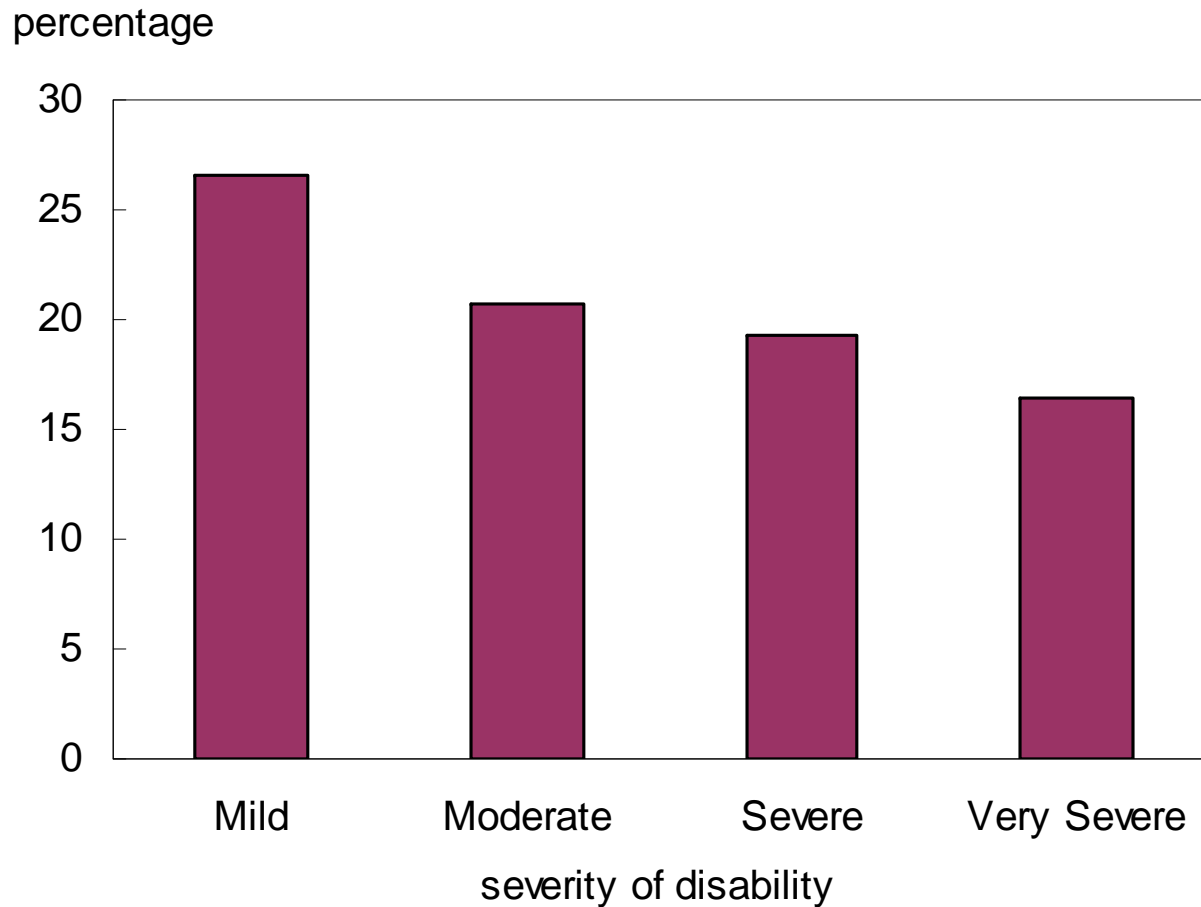
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Source: Statistics Canada, Participation Activity Limitation Survey, 2001 & 2006



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



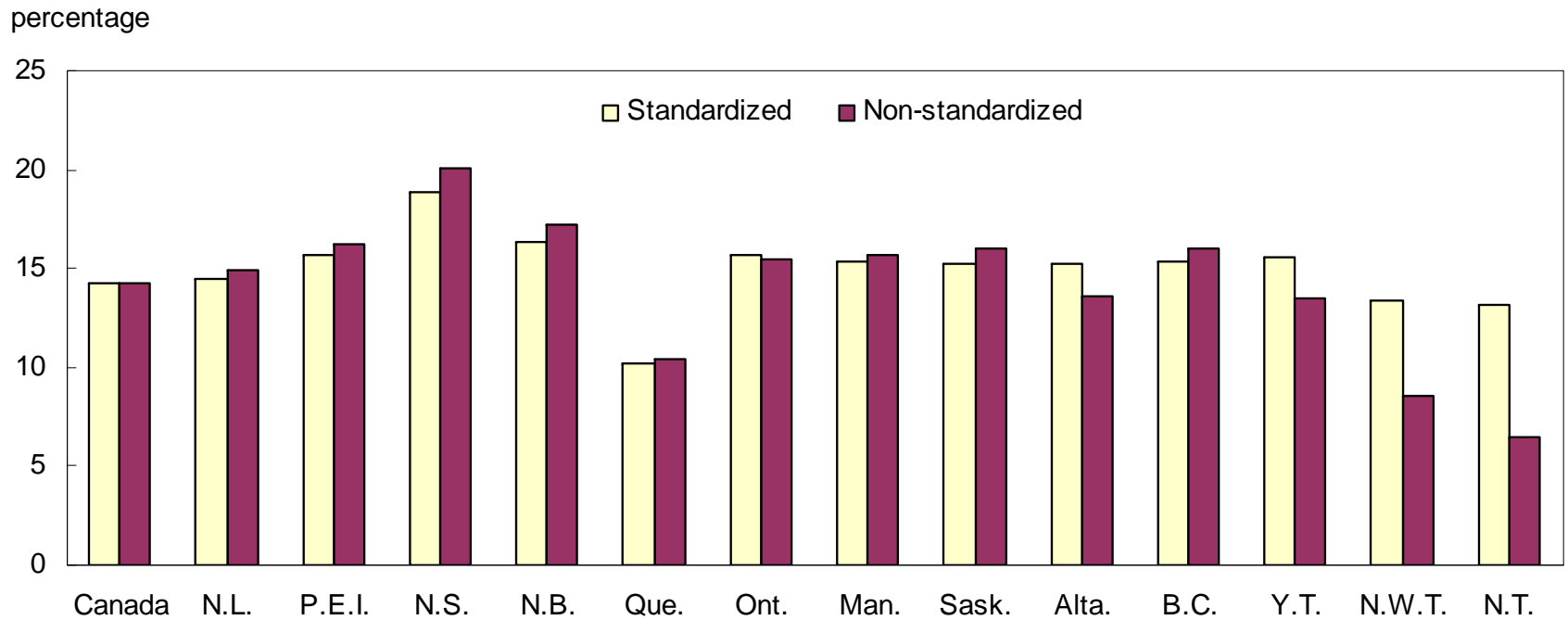
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Source: Statistics Canada, Participation Activity Limitation Survey, 2001 & 2006



# Provincial and Territorial Age Distributions Impact the Disability Rates



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Source: Statistics Canada, Participation Activity Limitation Survey, 2001 & 2006



**Questions??**



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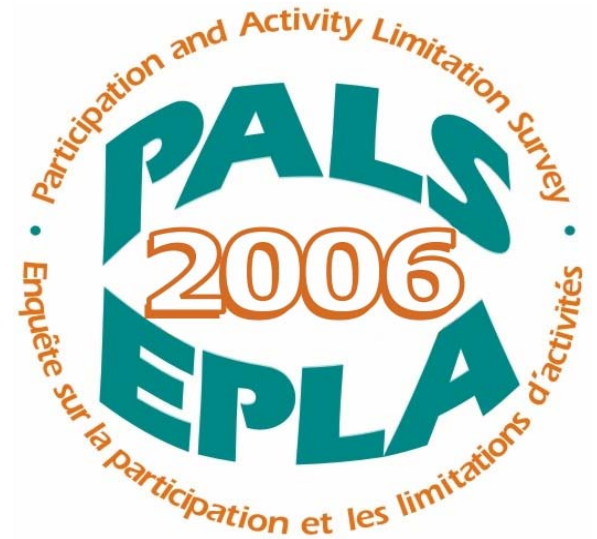
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**For more information, please  
contact:**

**Susan Stobert  
Manager, PALS  
Statistics Canada  
(613) 951-2544**

**[susan.stobert@statcan.ca](mailto:susan.stobert@statcan.ca)**



**Thank you!**



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