

# What We Heard: Survey

Inclusion Canada's Consultations on The Canada Disability Benefit

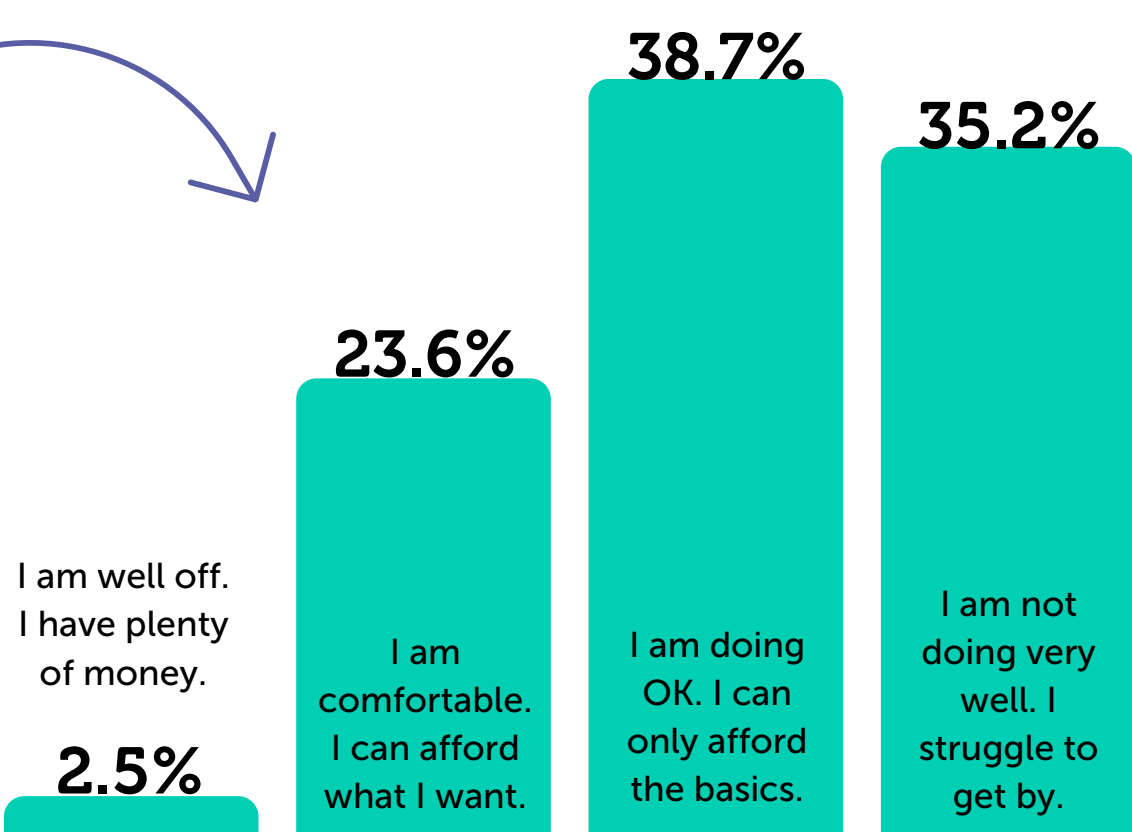
## About The Survey

In October 2022, as part of the Disability Inclusion Action Plan (DIAP) consultation, we had a survey with the other organizations working on the DIAP consultation project. We did this because we wanted to ask even more people with disabilities what they thought about the Canada Disability Benefit. Over 1,200 people from across Canada answered the survey.

The survey had 9 questions about the Canada Disability Benefit.

## What did we hear?

**Do you have enough money to live on each month?**

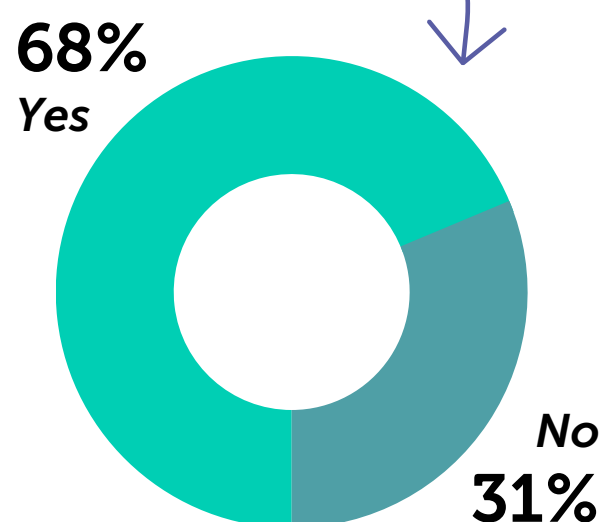


**79%** of people said it was important that the Canada Disability Benefit recognize the importance of the extra cost of disability.

## Have you experienced poverty?

**"No, I haven't Experienced Poverty, But..."**

Approximately 68% of people who answered the survey said they had experienced poverty. 31% of people said they hadn't experienced poverty, But, they felt they were just "one thing" away from it. Many people said they might experience poverty in the future.



We asked the survey participants to explain and describe their experiences with disability poverty. Here are the top five things they talked about:

- 1) Isolation
- 2) Basic Needs Aren't Met
- 3) Stress & Mental Health Challenges
- 4) No Financial Independence, Feeling Dependent on Other People
- 5) Feelings of Shame, Embarrassment, and Dehumanization

Different people experience poverty differently. Things like race, sexual orientation, gender, or personal identity can affect poverty. We asked the survey participants to describe their experiences.

Here are the five things they talked about:

1. Sex, Gender, Gender Identity or Expression & Sexual Orientation
2. Family Status & Support
3. Race
4. Immigration Status
5. Weight

They [others in my community] cannot even speak of their experiences and every consultation and survey excludes them as they cannot read/speak English or French.

When it comes to seeking accommodations or help by social systems, I am often confronted with racist staff that think I'm trying to lie or take advantage of the system.

I am happily married but even if I weren't I would be unable to leave my husband. If my husband ever got tired of carrying the whole financial load of our family I would be homeless.

"Being queer and disabled can be very scary. There are still stigmas attached to both facets of my lived experience."

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Inclusion Canada