



Mental Health Reform

Promoting Improved Mental Health Services

Welcome

Fiona Coyle, CEO

About the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities

Information Session, 31st March 2021



www.mentalhealthreform.ie | info@mentalhealthreform.ie

Today's Session

What We'll Talk About

1. Overview of the UNCRPD
2. UNCRPD and Mental Health
3. The Reporting Process
4. Our response to the initial state report
5. What happens next?



The session will include

Presentations

**Questions &
Answers**

**Irish Sign
Language**



What is the UNCRPD?



Rights and Principles for disabled people

Human Rights Treaty

50 articles

Article 27-Work and Employment



Ireland and the UNCRPD

Ireland adopted the UNCRPD in 2018



DISABILITY FEDERATION OF IRELAND

DISABILITY PROFILE: IRELAND¹



Type of Disability

People in Ireland reported having the following types of disabilities and conditions:



AGE

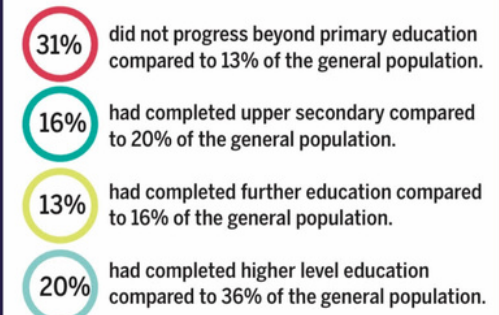
Their age profile is:

| | |
|-------|---------|
| 0-14 | 59,086 |
| 15-24 | 53,465 |
| 25-44 | 123,638 |
| 45-64 | 182,554 |
| 65+ | 224,388 |



EDUCATION²

In 2016, only 13% of people who have a disability were in education compared to 19% of the general population in Ireland.³ For those whose education had finished:⁴



EMPLOYMENT

22% of people who have a disability were at work compared to 53% of the general population.

TRANSPORT

24% of people who have a disability did not have access to a car or van compared to 12% of the general population.

HOUSING

15% of people who have a disability lived in social housing compared to 9% of the general population.⁵



UNCRPD and Mental Health

Mental distress

Mental illness

Psychiatric illness

**LANGUAGE
MATTERS**

Anxiety disorder

Bipolar

Mental health
problems

Mental disability



Mental Health Reform
Promoting Improved Mental Health Services



Psychosocial disability explained



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A stylized illustration on the left side of the slide. At the top, a large yellow sun with a textured surface and a bright pink outline is partially obscured by a dark blue shape. The sun is surrounded by numerous small, light yellow dots, suggesting falling snow or rain. Below the sun, there are several colorful, rounded shapes in shades of yellow, pink, and orange, representing people or abstract figures.

The Reporting Process

Ireland's first state report

Consultations

Shadow Reports

UN Committee



Our submission

SPEAK OUT FOR MENTAL HEALTH

Mental Health Reform are hosting two facilitated open forums to look at the lived experience of psychosocial disability under the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

All are welcome to join.

- **23rd February, 10:30 AM - 12:30 PM**
- **24th February, 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM**

**RSVP: email Elisa at
eodonovan@mentalhealthreform.ie**



Deadline
5.00pm on 09 April 2021



Mental Health Reform's Submission

The topics we're highlighting



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Background

1. Draft Government UNCRPD Report
2. MHR held 2 consultations
3. Done in our role as DPCN partner



Deadline
5.00pm on 09 April 2021



5 Main Headings

Note: Topics overlap

1. Work
2. Education
3. Health
4. Access to Justice
5. Government Support



Work

1. Reluctance to disclose difficulties
2. What happens after disclosure
3. Flexible working is needed
4. Finding help is difficult





Education

1. Effect of missed chances
2. Supports needed for engagement
3. Pressure on students to self advocate
4. Pressure to train & retrain
5. Education as empowerment



Health

1. Access to healthcare
2. Advance Healthcare Directives
3. Diagnosis and referral
4. Waiting lists
5. Trauma oriented / culturally sensitive services
6. Multidisciplinary approach
7. Information & referrals
8. Continuity of Care
9. Geographic issues
10. Service provision (outsourcing, budgeting etc)
11. Barriers to accessing services



Access to Justice

Equal Recognition Before the Law

Access to career paths

Law reform is slow

Credibility

Unenforced rights

Supports

Impact of unmet rights





Government Supports

1. General comments
2. Financial supports
3. Support to part-time, distance & flexible education options
4. Early intervention
5. Supported working environments
6. Using education & training to tackle stigma
7. Top-level commitment & consistency
8. Signposting, information giving, practical supports



Deadline
5.00pm on 09 April 2021

Key Focus

1. Lived experience differs from the account in the report
2. Practical barriers exist and must be tackled



What next?

Deadline
5.00pm on 9th April 2021

Written Submission

Email to disability_policy@equality.gov.ie

Other Formats

A submission in any other format, every effort will be made to facilitate these, you can contact disability_policy@equality.gov.ie



Staying Informed

Our UNCRPD web page:
mentalhealthreform.ie



Disability Participation
Consultation Network



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Mental Health Reform Governing Members



Mental Health Reform Associate Members

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