

Dear Ruby Gullon,

Thank you for your Freedom of Information (Fol) request received on 18 August. You asked:

*Could you please advise on the following:*

*- How many disabled people are home-based workers?*

*- How many disabled people struggle to get employment due to the location or design of the workplace? That is, how many disabled people do not apply for certain jobs or cannot maintain a job because of the commute or lack of accessibility in the workplace?*

*- What percentage of workplaces (offices and service providers) are DDA compliant?*

**DWP Response:**

I confirm that we hold some of the recorded information to respond to your request.

In response to your first question on “How many disabled people are home-based workers?” please see the table below.

Number and percentage of people in employment<sup>3</sup> who are based at home by disability status, 2013 to 2020, UK

Quarter	Disabled <sup>4</sup>			Not Disabled <sup>4</sup>		
	Total <sup>3</sup>	Based at home <sup>5</sup>		Total <sup>3</sup>	Based at home <sup>5</sup>	
		Number	%		Number	%
Apr-Jun 13	2,897,000	444,000	15.3%	25,768,000	3,183,000	12.4%
Apr-Jun 14	3,025,000	476,000	15.7%	26,377,000	3,276,000	12.4%
Apr-Jun 15	3,257,000	493,000	15.1%	26,526,000	3,258,000	12.3%
Apr-Jun 16	3,393,000	526,000	15.5%	26,917,000	3,376,000	12.5%
Apr-Jun 17	3,497,000	509,000	14.5%	27,219,000	3,246,000	11.9%
Apr-Jun 18	3,805,000	532,000	14.0%	27,134,000	3,333,000	12.3%
Apr-Jun 19	4,051,000	573,000	14.1%	27,188,000	3,476,000	12.8%
Apr-Jun 20	4,148,000	689,000	16.6%	27,296,000	4,454,000	16.3%

Source: Office for National Statistics, Labour Force Survey

1. Numbers are rounded to the nearest 1000
2. Data is subject to sampling variation and is not seasonally adjusted.
3. In employment refers to people, aged 16-64, who either: did paid work in the reference week (as an employee or self-employed); had a job that they were temporarily away from; were placed with employers on government-supported training and employment
4. Disability status is based on the GSS Harmonised Standard, aligned with the core Equality Act definition
5. Based at home includes people in employment who, in their main job, work from home, work in the same grounds or buildings as home or work in different places but use home as a base

You may be interested to know that the Office for National Statistics recently published an article on [Coronavirus and homeworking in the UK](#). This does not include a breakdown by disability status and focuses on whether people did any work from home during the reference week rather than whether they are normally based at home.

We do not hold any data that directly answers your second question about how many disabled people have not applied or could not maintain a job because of the location or design of the workplace.

However, previous surveys, have looked at relevant barriers to employment among disabled people such as transport and physical environment. This includes the Life Opportunities Survey (Wave One, 2009-2011), which asked about barriers to employment for adults, with figures available by employment status and impairment status. Barriers covered included difficulty with transport, getting into buildings, using facilities, and lack of special aids or equipment. The [full results](#) are available online.

Regarding your third question (what percentage of workplaces are DDA compliant), we do not hold any data that answers this question.

The Disability Discrimination Act 1995 (DDA) applies in Northern Ireland only, and as such the Northern Ireland Executive or Equalities Commission for Northern Ireland may be able to assist with your query. The DDA has now been repealed and replaced by the Equality Act 2010 in Great Britain; if you would like to know more about compliance with this piece of legislation, you may wish to refer to the Equalities and Human Rights Commission.

If you have any queries about this letter, please contact me quoting the reference number above.

Yours sincerely,

DWP Central Fol Team

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#### **Your right to complain under the Freedom of Information Act**

If you are not happy with this response you may request an internal review by e-mailing [freedom-of-information-request@dwp.gov.uk](mailto:freedom-of-information-request@dwp.gov.uk) or by writing to DWP, Central Fol Team, Caxton House, Tothill Street, SW1H 9NA. Any review request should be submitted within two months of the date of this letter.

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner's Office for a decision. Generally, the Commissioner cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted our own complaints procedure. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: The Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow Cheshire SK9 5AF

Web: [ico.org.uk/Global/contact\\_us](https://ico.org.uk/Global/contact_us) or telephone 0303 123 1113 or 01625 545745