



## Expert meeting on statistics on children

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# SOCIAL INCLUSION: A NEW SURVEY ON CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES AND THEIR FAMILIES

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## Starting point ...

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- NSOs are **required to fulfil the information needs** of policymakers by measuring the level of social inclusion of children with disabilities.
- In Italy the available data **does not provide an exhaustive picture** of children's social inclusion.
- **Associations of people** with disabilities are also calling for a **broader representation** of the living conditions, needs and barriers that prevent children with disabilities from exercising their rights on an equal basis with other children.
- **Families stressed the need to capture the difficulties** they faced and the complexity and burden of caring for children with disabilities.

## Aims of presentation

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Share the main features of the survey

Questionnaire collect information on social inclusion of children with disabilities and on any difficulties their families may encounter.

Use of a new disability register to build a sample based on the demographic structure of the population with disabilities.

Integration between administrative information (disability certification) and international disability measurement tools.

# The questionnaire (1)

For each student: information on the level of school and social inclusion, difficulties in the diagnostic paths to obtain a final diagnosis, type of social and health services provided to families and any access difficulties.

Regarding families: socio-demographic and economic information in order to describe the family context and the workload of caring for a child with disabilities.

**Thematic Areas:** Health - *Diagnostic path* - Use of services - *Work flexibility and childcare burden* – School inclusion - Social participation - Socio-demographic information on each family member

## The questionnaire (2)

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### Information on:

Children with disabilities

Children without disabilities

**Sample size: 40.000 students**

20.000 with disabilities

20.000 without disabilities

**Administered by:**  
CAWI and CATI

The survey is  
planned for April  
2024

Different pathways are provided within the seven thematic areas and filters lead to the relevant questions and appropriate answer categories for the two samples.

The primary caregiver of the child (with or without disabilities) is the survey respondent.

# The Sample

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**First time that a sample on disability is designed starting from a list of persons with disabilities.**

The list was obtained by combining two administrative data sources of the National Institute for Social Security:

- 1) Disability Certification Register
- 2) Disability Pension Beneficiaries Register

Merging these two data sources made it possible to retrieve people certified before 2010 who were recipients of disability pensions.

The list is based on a medical approach to disability.

# International measures (1)

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Three different international survey tools are used in the questionnaire:

GALI

CFM

The inclusion of the international measures has two objectives:

- To analyse the functioning of the population with a standardized scale of measurement.
- To compare data based on perceived and self-reported survey measures with the results of the medical approach.

## International measures (2)

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Index for inclusion:  
developing learning  
and participation in  
schools. (T. Booth,  
M. Ainscow)

The items from “Index for inclusion” measure the level of inclusion in school using the parent's subjective point of view on specific aspects, such as the relationship with teachers, curricular and learning support, and peers relations.



# Conclusions (1)

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UNCRPD, literature, international survey tools as well as the collaboration with national disability associations were crucial in identifying the main areas, and within them the specific aspects to be investigated.

The new sample design will make it possible to obtain more accurate estimates and to evaluate the presence of any distortions in the assessments coming from other population surveys.

## Conclusions (2)

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The control sample of students without disabilities is meant to highlight persistent disparities and specific difficulties of children with disabilities and their families, **without** taking into account **disservices** that affect all families in equal measure.

The use of GALI and CFM, ICF biopsychosocial approach, makes it possible to compare the two sub-populations detected by these different measures with those having a disability certificate, identified by the medical approach.

Survey data will be disaggregated: - by status of disability  
- by type of functioning limitations.

# Thank you for attention

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