

National Ability Supports
System (NASS)

**NASS Regional Bulletin
for CHO 8 – Laois/Offaly,
Longford/Westmeath,
Louth/Meath,
2020**

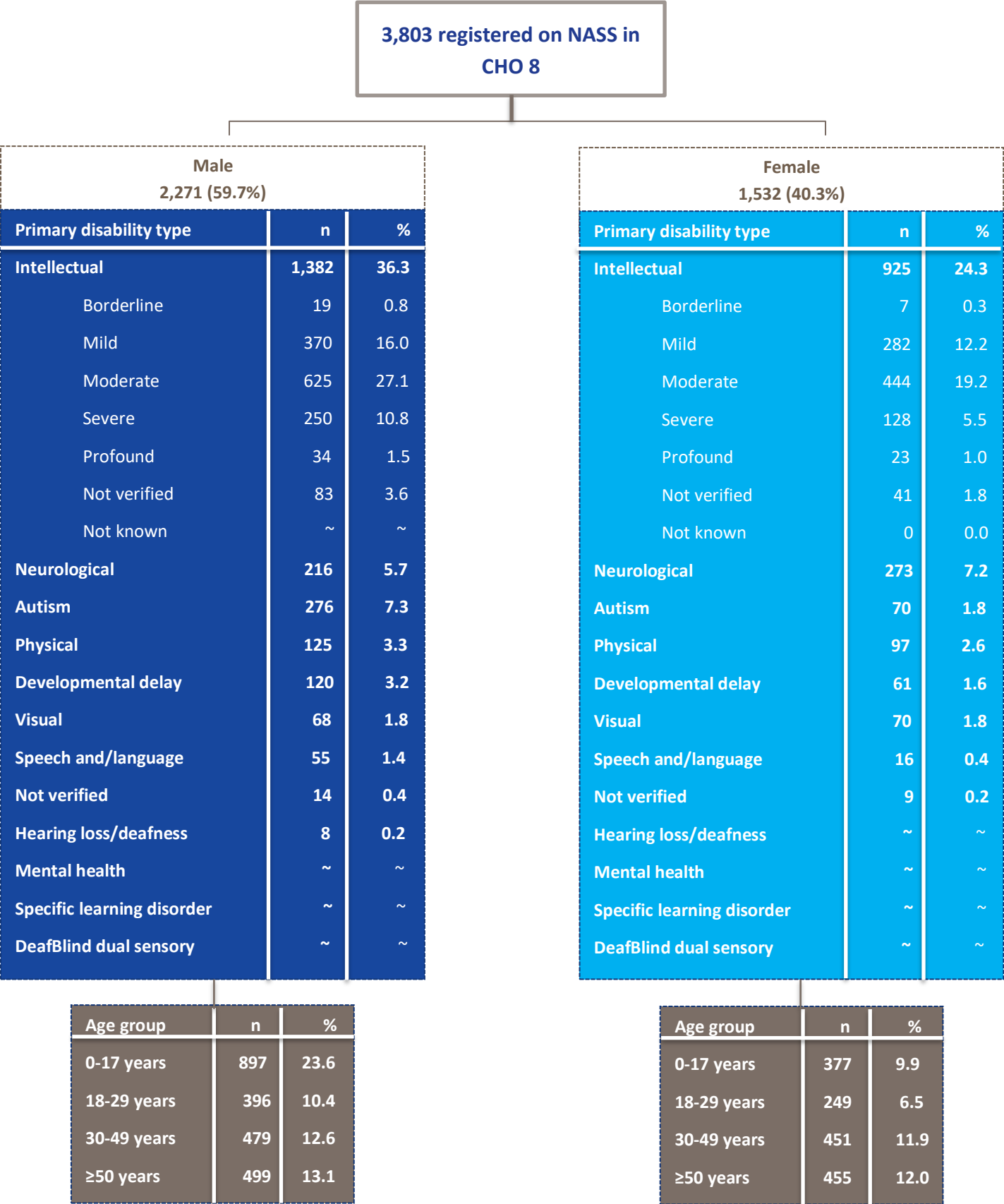
1.1 Demographic profile

In 2020, there were 3,803 people registered on the National Ability Supports System (NASS) as receiving their main service in Community Health Organisation (CHO) 8. There were more males (2,271, 60%) than females (1,532, 40%) registered in CHO 8. Most service users were aged 0-17 years (1,274, 34%), followed by over 50 years (954, 25%), 30-49 years (930, 25%) and 18-29 years (645, 17%) (Figure 1).

The majority of those registered in CHO 8 had an intellectual disability (ID) (2,307, 61%), followed by a neurological disability (489, 13%) and autism (346, 9%). Figure 1 shows the breakdown of primary disability type by sex.

A total of 1,610 service users recorded at least one additional disability of which physical (731) and speech and/or language (615) disabilities were the most common.

Figure 1 Profile of the population registered on NASS in CHO 8, NASS 2020



~ To protect against the risk of indirect identification of individuals, values in cells containing less than five cases have been suppressed.

Occupational status

Twenty-two percent (843) of service users were students/pupils, 15% (575) were unable to work due to their disability and 13% (503) attended a training/day programme. The occupational status was not known for 28% of service users.

Ethnicity or cultural background

Sixty-five percent (2,484) of service users identified as Irish. The ethnicity or cultural background was not known for 29% of service users.

Living arrangements

Seventy-three percent (2,756) of service users in CHO 8 lived with family, 20% (771) lived in a residential setting and did not provide further details of who they were living with and 5% (190) lived alone.

Living accommodation

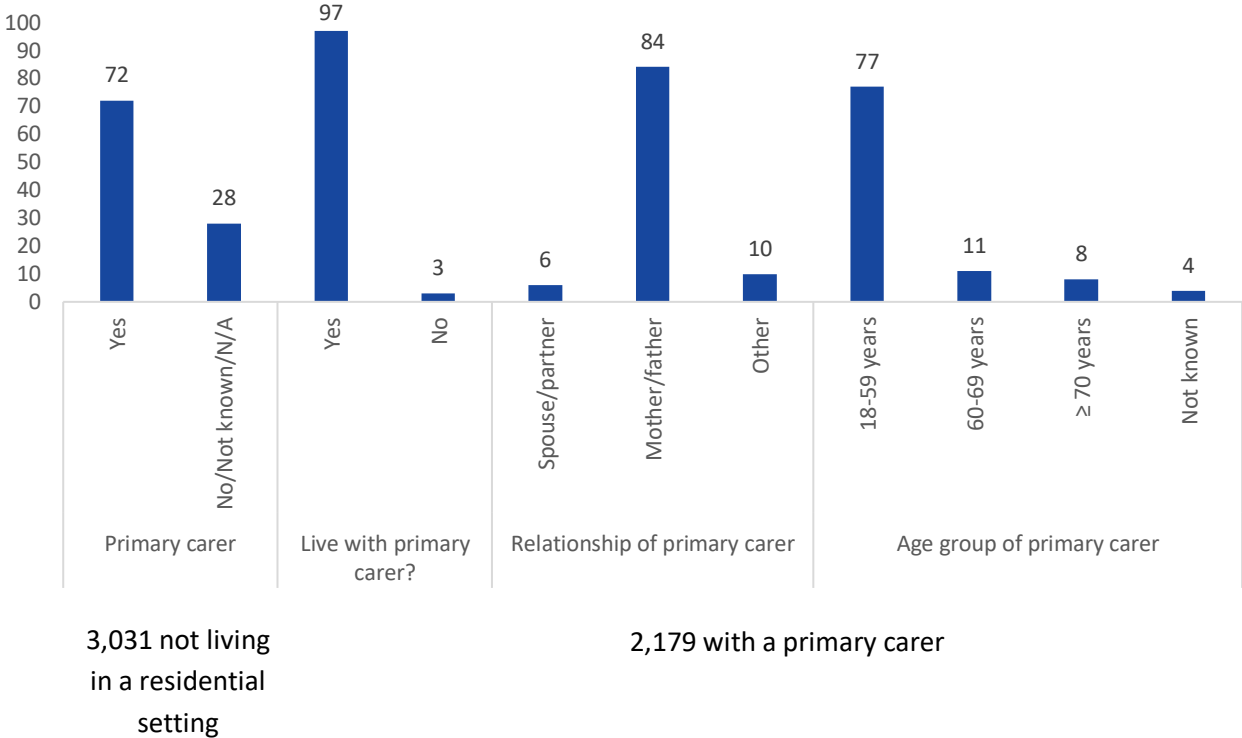
Thirty-six percent (1,385) lived in private accommodation which was owner occupied, 20% (772) service users lived in a residential setting, 6% (241) lived in accommodation which was rented from a county council/public authority/service provider and 3% (116) lived in accommodation which was rented on the open market. Living accommodation information was not known for 33% of service users.

1.2 Primary Carer

Seventy-two percent of service users in CHO 8 who do not reside in a residential setting have a primary carer. Of these, 97% live with their primary carer and 84% of primary carers are a parent (Figure 2). Primary carers were mostly aged between 18-59 years (77%, 1,682), 11% (247) were aged between 60-69 years and 8% (179) were aged 70 years and over. Age was not known for 4% (71) of primary carers.

In terms of service user age, 93% (1,234) of those aged 18 years or less had a primary carer, 58% (750) of those aged 19-54 years had a primary carer, and 47% (195) of service users aged 55 and over had a primary carer.

Figure 2 Primary carer information for service users in CHO 8, NASS 2020



1.3 World Health Organisation Disability Assessment Schedule V.2 (WHODAS 2.0)

The WHODAS 2.0 was not completed for those aged under 16 years or those whose primary disability type is intellectual. The percentages presented below are based on those who completed the WHODAS 2.0 (744 out of 805 eligible service users):

The areas of greatest difficulty were walking long distances (561, 75%), standing for long periods (540, 73%) and household responsibilities (511, 69%). For the majority (658, 88%), difficulties due to their disability resulted in an overall interference with their life.

1.3 Services

Table 1 summarises service provision and need for service within CHO 8. In 2020:

- 20% (767) of service users accessed a total of 768 residential services. Of these, 378 service users resided in a residential house in the community (1-4 residents) and 288 service users resided in a community group home (5-9 residents). 107 enhancements were required to existing residential services and 135 new residential places are required now or within the next five years.
- 64% (2,449) of service users accessed a total of 2,555 day service places. Of these, 1,273 places were in a day programme, 437 were in a mainstream school and 369 were in a special school.

381 enhancements were required to existing day programmes and 294 new places are required now or within the next five years.

- 8% (307) of service users accessed 313 overnight respite places. This amounted to 4,287 respite nights being accessed. 150 new overnight respite places are required now or within the next five years.
- 17% (635) of service users accessed a total of 699 supports for daily living. Of these, 295 were home support (including supported self-directed living support) and 182 were transport services. 140 enhancements were required to existing supports for daily living and 130 new supports for daily living are required now or within the next five years.
- 65% (2,489) of service users accessed a total of 5,889 specialist supports. Figure 3 shows the ten most accessed specialist supports. 1,894 enhancements were required to existing specialist support services and 1,294 new specialist supports are required now or within the next five years.

Table 1 Summary of service provision in CHO 8, NASS 2020

	Places currently accessed	Enhancement required to current services	Unmet need for places	People accessing a service	
	n	n	n	n	%
Total population				3,803	100
Residential setting	768	107	135	767	20.2
Day service	2,555	381	294	2,449	64.4
Day respite	20	12	38	20	0.5
Overnight respite	313	191	150	307	8.1
Supports for daily living	699	140	130	635	16.7
Specialist supports	5,889	1,894	1,294	2,489	65.4

Figure 3 Ten most accessed specialist supports, enhancements required and unmet need for places in CHO 8, NASS 2020

