

# Pity versus power?

## Citizens' views on people with disabilities

#### Methodology

Data are from the third round of Sauti za Wananchi, Africa's first nationally-representative high-frequency mobile phone survey. Data were collected from 1,763 respondents across Kenya between 21 April and 23 May 2016

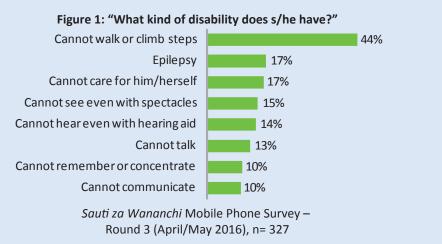
## Fact 1: 2 out of 10 households (19%) have a member with a disability

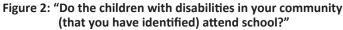
After hearing a comprehensive definition, 3% of individual citizens report having a disability<sup>1</sup>. This is similar to the results of the 2008 Kenya National Survey for Persons with Disabilities, which found that, 4.6% of Kenyans experience some form of disability<sup>2</sup>.

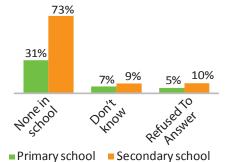
In addition, 19% of citizens report having someone in their household with a disability<sup>3</sup>. Impaired mobility - being unable to walk or climb steps - is the most commonly cited type of disability, reported by 44% of citizens.

## Fact 2: 3 out of 10 (31%) citizens say that children with disabilities are not in school.

Access to school can be a major challenge for children with some form of disability. About 31% of citizens report that none of the children with disabilities in their community attend primary school, while 73% report the same for secondary school. When asked to speculate why children with disabilities are not enrolled or drop out of school, citizens mention the expense of schooling (50%) and parents not wanting to take their children to school (29%)<sup>4</sup>.







Sauti za Wananchi Mobile Phone Survey – Round 3 (April/May 2016), n= 803

- 1 Sauti za Wananchi Mobile Phone Survey Round 3 (April/May 2016).
- 2 "Kenya National Survey for Persons with Disabilities." National Coordinating Agency for Population and Development and Kenya National Bureau of Statistics, 2008
- 3 Sauti za Wananchi Mobile Phone Survey Round 3 (April/May 2016).
- 4 Ibid

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### Fact 3: 5 out of 10 citizens (47%) believe that people with disabilities can access health services

When asked about access to basic services, citizens are confident that people with disabilities can access health services (47%). In general, a substantial number of Kenyans think that people with disabilities have access to appropriate and accessible services and facilities: public transport (45%), information in useable formats (43%), and buildings / housing (36%).

## Figure 3: Do citizens believe that people with disabilities have access to appropriate services and facilities? (% saying "YES")

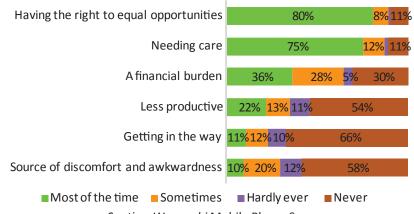


Sauti za Wananchi Mobile Phone Survey - Round 3 (April/May 2016), n= 1,763

# Fact 4: 4 out of 10 citizens (36%) think of persons with disabilities as a financial burden to their families

Although a large majority of Kenyans think that people with disabilities have the right to equal opportunities (80%), a similar number also think they need to be cared for (75%). And 36% see people with disabilities as a financial burden to their families.

#### Figure 4: Citizens views on people with disabilities



Sauti za Wananchi Mobile Phone Survey – Round 3 (April/May 2016). n= 1,763

#### Fact 5: 9 out of 10 citizens think Figure 5: "Could a disabled person be..." that people with disabilities can be (% saying "YES") religious leaders or MPs A religious leader 95% Kenyans appear positive about the roles that people with disabilities can play in A successful business owner 94% society. Some 9 out of 10 citizens stated Your child's teacher 94% that they think people with disabilities be religious leaders (95%), can Your boss 93% successful business owners (94%), and school teachers (94%). A community leader 92% A health worker 89% Your Member of Parliament 86% **Your spouse** 85% Sauti za Wananchi Mobile Phone Survey – Round 3 (April/May 2016). n= 1,763