



Coronavirus and People with Learning Disabilities Study

What we know about

Risks and COVID-19

July 2021

What is this study about?



This study is about coronavirus (also called COVID-19) and people with learning disabilities.



We talked to nearly 600 adults with learning disabilities. We talked to people living in England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland.



Nearly 300 family carers or paid supporters of people with severe or profound multiple learning disabilities also gave us information.



This report is about what we have found so far.

It is about what we found in May and June.

COVID-19 and people with learning disabilities



COVID-19 can be worse for people with some health conditions.

Nearly 4 in 10 people with learning disabilities we spoke to had health conditions that would be a worry if the person had COVID-19.

Nearly 8 in 10 people with severe and profound learning disabilities had health conditions that would be a worry if the person had COVID-19.



About 1 in 10 people with learning disabilities had had COVID-19.



Long-COVID is an illness after COVID-19. It lasts a long time.

Some people with learning disabilities could have Long-COVID.



Less than 1 in 10 people with learning disabilities were supported by or living with someone who had had COVID-19 in the last month.

Staying safe at home:



More than 9 out of 10 people with learning disabilities had had at least one dose of the vaccine.



More than 3 out of 10 people with learning disabilities we spoke to had had two doses of the vaccine.



2 out of 10 people with learning disabilities had been tested for COVID-19 in the last month.



Paid support staff or family members were using masks, gloves and aprons for nearly 7 out of 10 people with learning disabilities we spoke to.

Paid support staff or family members were using masks, gloves and aprons for 4 out of 10 people with severe and profound learning disabilities.



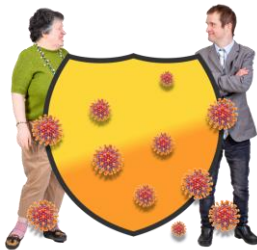
6 out of 10 people with learning disabilities we spoke to who were living in services had some limits on people visiting them.

Nearly 9 out of 10 people with severe and profound learning disabilities had restrictions on people visiting them.

Self-isolate for 14 days



Less than 1 in 10 of people with learning disabilities had self-isolated in the last month.



Less than 1 in 10 of people with learning disabilities we spoke to were shielding.

Around 4 in 10 people with severe and profound learning disabilities were shielding.

Staying safe out of the home

Around 1 in 10 people with learning disabilities we spoke to were worried a lot about getting COVID-19.



Around 3 in 10 people with learning disabilities we spoke to were worried a lot about family and friends getting COVID-19.

Nearly 2 in 10 people with learning disabilities we spoke to were worried a lot that they would give someone COVID-19.



1 in 10 people with learning disabilities we spoke to were worried a lot about going out.

Some people with learning disabilities do NOT need to wear masks.



2 out of 10 people with learning disabilities we spoke to did NOT have to wear a mask.

Around 6 out of 10 people with severe and profound learning disabilities did NOT have to wear a mask.



9 out of 10 people with learning disabilities we spoke to wore a face mask in shops and on buses and trains.

Nearly 6 out of 10 people with severe and profound learning disabilities wore a face mask in shops and on buses and trains.

Going out of the house

People with learning disabilities we spoke to:

In the last week...



Nearly 8 out of 10 people with learning disabilities we spoke to left the house to exercise outdoors.



Nearly 8 out of 10 people with learning disabilities we spoke to left the house to go shopping for food and medicine.



Nearly 6 out of 10 people with learning disabilities we spoke to left the house to go to a park.



Nearly 4 out of 10 people with learning disabilities we spoke to left the house to get a takeaway.



More than 3 out of 10 people with learning disabilities we spoke to left the house to get a bus or train.

Going out of the house

People with severe and profound learning disabilities:

In the last week...



Around 6 out of 10 people with severe and profound learning disabilities left the house to go in a car.



Nearly 6 out of 10 people with severe and profound learning disabilities left the house to go to a park.



Nearly 3 out of 10 people with severe and profound learning disabilities left the house to exercise outdoors.



Nearly 3 out of 10 people with severe and profound learning disabilities left the house to go shopping for food and medicine.



Around 1 out of 10 people with severe and profound learning disabilities left the house to go to a hairdresser or a barber.

What happens next?



We want to find out more about people with learning disabilities and COVID-19.

| July | | | | | | |
|------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Thu | Fri | Sat | Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 |
| 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 |
| 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 |
| 29 | 30 | 31 | | | | |

We will talk to people again from July.

Research team contact details

England

Sue Caton:

Email: s.caton@mmu.ac.uk

Telephone: 07425 374068



Northern Ireland

Peter Mulhall:

Email: p.mulhall@ulster.ac.uk

Telephone: 028 90366318



Scotland

Roseann Maguire:

Email: Roseann.Maguire@glasgow.ac.uk

Telephone: 0141 211 3902



Wales

Edward Oloidi:

Email: edward.oloidi@southwales.ac.uk

Telephone: 01443 483 042

